



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

19 February 2006

## Second Sunday before Lent

Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both  
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of  
England

### Church Services Today

**8.30 Holy Communion** both churches  
**9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion**  
 Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
 Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard  
 Intercessions - Mrs Pat Leusby  
**11.00am Putnoe Heights -Holy Communion**  
 Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman  
 Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley  
 Intercessions - Ministers

**26 February 2006**

**8.30 Service of Holy Communion** Both churches  
**9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship**  
 Preacher - Revd Charles Royden  
 Leadership - Mr Ian Farthing  
 Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs  
**11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship**  
 Preacher – Revd Charles Royden  
 Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss  
 Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

**Reading 1 : 2 Kings 2:1-12**  
**Reading 2 2 Corinthians 4: 3-6**  
**Reading 3 : Mark 9: 2-9**

### Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Madge Walsh in memory of her husband.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights).

### Prayer for Sunday

In an act of will, O God,  
 I place myself in your presence.  
 In an act of faith  
 I open myself to your light.  
 In an act of silence, O Lord,  
 I rest in your glory.  
 In an act of love, O Lord,  
 I put myself in your hands.

*Dorothy Kerin, 1889 -1963*

### Contact Details

**The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman**  
 107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR  
 266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com  
 (Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

**The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM**  
 (Day off Friday)  
 12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE  
 326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

**The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley** (Day off Friday)  
 30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.  
 Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

**The Reverend Charles Royden** (Day off Thursday)  
 The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY  
 309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

**Partnership Youth and Children's Worker**  
 Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

#### For Data Protection Purposes

Please note that any items submitted for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on our website.

### Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com  
 Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved, housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.  
 Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.

### Putnoe Heights Church Centre

**Open 9am - 12 noon Monday & Friday**  
**9am - 5pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday**  
**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Mr Barry Snelson 365630  
**Leadership Team** - Mrs Sue Allen 407264  
**Treasurer** Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428  
 Treasurerph@Thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** - Mr John Hitt 404186  
**Junior Church Co-ordinator** - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

### St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5.00pm)

**Tel/fax & Answering Service** 342613 office@thisischurch.com  
**Centre Manager** Miss Wendy Rider 342613  
**Leadership Team** - Mr Ian Farthing 210892  
**Treasurer** - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com  
**Gift Aid Administrator** Mr Jim Williams 360605

Partnership News is also archived on our church website  
[www.ThisisChurch.com](http://www.ThisisChurch.com)

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

- 9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school** Mrs Janet Smith 326685
- 9.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school** Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634  
(See website for more details)
- 9.00 am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
- 12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box** Putnoe Heights church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz on 01234 302349
- 4pm Story Box Plus** at St. Marks for 4 -11 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments & games, then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church the 1st Sunday of each month. Lots of fun. Free. Contact Liz 302349
- 4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock 01908 565044
- 4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
- 6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
- 6.15 pm Brownies** Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045
- 7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild** meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott 768419
- 7.15 m Guides** -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
- 7.15pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights Church. Contact Karen Simpson 244970
- 7.30pm Creative Needles** at Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.
- 7.30pm Whist Drive** - At St Mark's each month the next 20 February Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313
- 7.30pm Housegroup** 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.
- 8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit'** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field 404976

## Tuesday

- 9.30am Candlewicking** (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203
- 10.00am Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230
- 1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime** at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828
- 9.30am -12.30 & 4 - 9pm Slimming World** at St. Mark's. Val Careless 345213.
- 2.00pm Library Walk W.I.** at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Contact Morag Tompkins 356895
- 2 - 5pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next meeting 21February Meal & Flowers Betty Wyatt 350188.
- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 28February Slides of Norway Mr.G. Brown Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets

- fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
- 2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Mary Stubbs 406784.
- 3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance.** Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.
- 6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne 783129
- 6.45pm Guides** at Putnoe Heights. Emma Holloway 293792
- 7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit** at St. Mark's. Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.
- 7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club** meets fortnightly at St Mark's. Carol Houghton 346718
- 7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr on 360188 or 07866775515
- 7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly.at 7.45pm Next meeting 21st February Talk about Orient Express. Madge Walsh 359088
- 8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing group) - Mr F Steele 355937

## Wednesday

- 9.30am Childminding Support Group** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949
- 9.30am - Body Control Pilates.** Stephanie Smith 357787.
- 9.00 a.m. Clubhouse** at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.
- 10.00 am Holy Communion** at St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
- 10am Sewing & Chat** Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966
- Luncheon Club** at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 22 February Putnoe 365630
- 1 - 3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights .
- 1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired** at St. Mark's. Mrs Truss Boyce 781133
- 2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit.** Mrs Webster 856966
- 4.15pm - Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
- 6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe** Mr James 07711 687449
- 6.00 pm Brownies** at St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden 219731
- 7.00pm Bunyan Bridge** at St. Mark's. Brian Sallows 407725
- 7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society** meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting . Sylvia Woods 365095
- 7pm Putnoe Guild** meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073
- 7.45pm Kick Boxing** Junior classes at St Mark's. Contact Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890
- 7.45pm Badminton Club** at Putnoe Heights - all

welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

**8.45-9.45pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing group) starting Mr F Steele 355937

### Thursday

**9.30am Thursday Prayer Group** at Putnoe Heights in the quiet room. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the information table.*

**9.30am Jo Jingles** at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips 01582 485333

**9.45am Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

**1.00pm - 3.00pm Clinic** at St. Mark's 267444

**12pm Story box** St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 1234 302349

**1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime** at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828

**1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.** Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

**2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club.** Gerald Palmer 345991

**2.30 Bedford Arts Society** at St. Mark's. Celia Maddison 782901

**2pm U3A Indoor Games** at Putnoe Heights. Radmila Dancer 404811

**4.00 Story box Plus** at Putnoe Heights for 4-11 year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun And it's free! Liz Spavins 302349

**5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery.** St Mark's Foyer.

**6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.**

Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

**6.15pm Brownies** at Putnoe Heights. Helga Nash 218521

**7.00pm Club 2000** at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992

**6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club.** St. Mark's Mr & Mrs Pike 823795

**7.30pm - 11.00pm Bedford Senior Chess Club** at St Mark's Mr P Housden 376597

**7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild** at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442

**7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church** Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr 360188

**7.45pm. Housegroup-** Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Betty Wyatt 350188

**8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle** meets at St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr John Broadhouse 740271

### Friday

**9.30am U3A Exercise** at Putnoe Heights. Carole Maunder 301325

**9.00 am Clubhouse** at St. Mark's for those with

Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.

**1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

**6pm Self Defence** at Putnoe. Mr James 0771 687449 or 07810 234890

**7. 30pm Bibleway** Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 360188

**7.30pm Youth Club for age 13-18** at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Gina Carruthers 349179

### Saturday

**9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

**10.00am - 1.00pm Theatre Train** at St Mark's - dancing acting, singing. - Kate Randle 01234 782414

**2.30pm Calligraphy Group** at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting. Philip Jones 350295

**7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge** at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

### Sunday

**Junior Church with crèche for under 3's**

**9.30 - 10.30 at St.Mark's**

**11-12 at Putnoe Heights.**

**1 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth Church** at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515 **6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens)** meet fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council** 14 June, 11 Oct

**Circuit Meeting** 16 Mar 2006

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 21 Feb, 24 Apr, 6 June, 12 Sept

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** - 20 February, **2 Sunningdale Walk**

**St Mark's Church Management Meeting**

**All meetings to start 7.00pm**

**Putnoe Heights Management** - 27 Feb, 15 May, 17 July 2006

**Putnoe Church Council** 12 June, 9 Oct

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 6 Feb 2006 2.00pm

**Churchyard Committee** -

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting-**

**Partnership Council** - 19 Sept

**Brickhill Parish Council** - 23 Feb, 23 Mar, 27 Apr,

**Joint Deanery Circuit**

**Annual Congregational Meeting** 7 May 2006

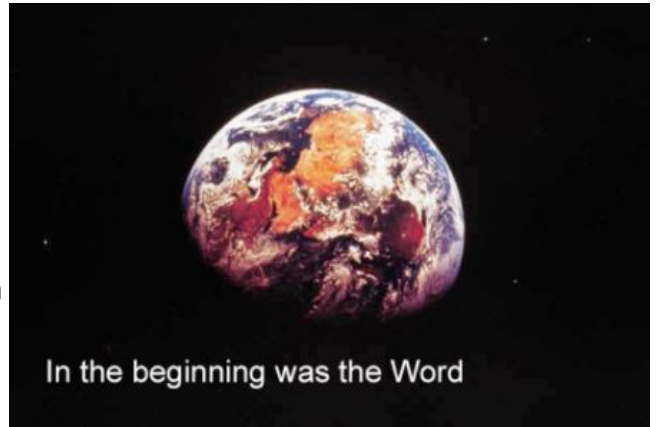
**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth** - 26 Apr, 28 June

**Calendar dates appear on our church website [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com). Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.**

# Bible Notes

## Second Sunday

### Before Lent Year B



#### Verse of Scripture Psalm 103 v 17

From everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear Him.

#### A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Almighty God, give us reverence for all creation and respect for every person, that we may mirror your likeness in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

#### First Reading - Proverbs 8: 1 and 22-31

Does not wisdom call out? Does not understanding raise her voice? "The LORD brought me forth as the first of his works, before his deeds of old; I was appointed from eternity, from the beginning, before the world began. When there were no oceans, I was given birth, when there were no springs abounding with water; before the mountains were settled in place, before the hills, I was given birth, before he made the earth or its fields or any of the dust of the world. I was there when he set the heavens in place, when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep, when he established the clouds above and fixed securely the fountains of the deep, when he gave the sea its boundary so the waters would not overstep his command, and when he marked out the foundations of the earth. Then I was the craftsman at his side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

#### Second Reading - Colossians 1: 15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross. (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

#### Third Reading - John 1: 1-14 ( When the Gospel is announced. **All: Glory to Christ our Saviour.**)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, but the darkness has not understood it. There came a man who was sent from God; his name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all men might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. The true light that gives light to every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth. (Reader : This is the Gospel of Christ. **All: Praise to Christ our Lord.**)

#### Post Communion Prayer

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth

be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

### **Commentary Who Calls the Changes?**

The Gospel of John is quite different in character from the other three synoptic gospels. It is highly literary and symbolic. Nor does it follow the same order or reproduce the same stories as the synoptic gospels. It lacks certain key features found in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke, such as the journey to Jerusalem, the discourse on the Mount of Olives, the Sermon on the Mount, the Transfiguration, and it also contains no parables. It begins with a magnificent prologue which not only states the major themes of the gospel, it summaries the whole gospel too. The prologue proclaims Jesus as the pre-existent and incarnate Word of God who has revealed the Father to us and picks up a theme which will be echoed throughout the entire gospel, the deity of Christ. From first verse to last, it presents Jesus as the Son of God. And it presents us with a challenge; a challenge which demands a response. John presents Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God, who is to be believed in order that one might *right now* pass from death to life. We have a choice which we must make.

More clearly than in any other gospel John presents us with a new world order, the old is past, the new has begun. Ours is the choice to make, between the old world and the new. As people on God's earth we can choose to be part of this new creation, or we can decline. We can choose to absorb and reflect the light or we can remain in darkness. We can choose to listen to the word or we can be deaf to it. We can choose to be part of the new reality or we can ignore it. Even in the first few verses of John's gospel it is clear that the story that's about to unfold is not just about a man called Jesus; it's about God's fresh intervention in His world and the fundamental changes that brings.

The message we have for those around us is therefore not just a story about a man called Jesus, it's about God's involvement in His world through the incarnation of His triune nature and through us. In John, Jesus is presented as the link between heaven and earth. Our role as God's ambassadors on earth is to be the go between people who link the spiritual realm of the Father with the temporal world we now live in. We are being recreated and we are part of the recreation process. We are inextricably linked with God's creative, interventional redeeming work.

The Christological hymn of the epistle reading from Colossians, which is sometimes thought to be the basis for the first verses of John's gospel, speaks of God having all His fullness dwell in Christ and through Him to reconcile all things to Himself. Through Christ and in Christ we are linked back to our Father God in heaven. The divide which once was is now no longer. Sometimes we can dilute the Christian gospel to a message which is reduced to a philosophy of just being nice to one another. If the gospels were just a story about Jesus this approach may be valid. But they are not, and God's intervention in His world through the creative Word of His Son invites us to a much more life changing experience. *Sam Cappleman.*

### **Hymns** (Please distribute Mission Praise & Holy Communion )

1. Thou whose almighty word 699
2. All earth was dark 8
3. O Immortal, invisible 327
4. Love divine, all loves excelling 449

### **Meditation**

If Matthew's Jesus resembles Moses and Luke's Jesus resembles a Greek philosopher or a semi-divine hero, John's Jesus resembles the Jewish ideal of heavenly Wisdom. Some Jewish works written several hundred years before John's gospel portrayed Wisdom as God's heavenly consort. This Wisdom, pictured as a beautiful woman, lived with God and participated in creation. Another part of the myth regarding her was that she descended to earth to impart divine knowledge to human beings. But she was rejected and so returned to God. Whilst we may not agree with the ideas of the early Jewish writers, the reading from Proverbs reflects the concept of wisdom participating in God's first works, His creation, being, 'the

craftsman at God's side' in the creative process. This concept too finds parallels in John's gospel as we see Jesus, the Word, being with God from the beginning and through whom all things were made.  
*Sam Cappleman*

### **Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead.**

O God of everlasting love, who is eternally creating and forgiving, pardon and recreate us, and make us one with you in your new creation. **Amen**

Holy Spirit, mighty wind of God, inhabit our darkness, brood over our abyss, and speak to our chaos; that we may breathe with your new life and share your creation in the power of Jesus Christ. **Amen**

The church is His body, He is its head. He takes His place in heaven at your right hand, where we worship you with all of your creation, Creator, Redeemer, and life giving Spirit. **Amen**

May God who clothes the lilies and feeds the birds of the sky, who leads the lambs to pasture and the deer to water, who multiplies the loaves and fishes and changed water into wine, lead us, feed us, multiply us and change us to reflect the glory of our Creator through all eternity; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among us and remain with us always.

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### **The Diocese of St Albans: Hope for the Environment**

The Bishop of St Albans is encouraging local initiatives and is hosting a conference to encourage, resource and inspire people in the Diocese of St Albans to live more sustainably. The conference is part of a series organised by The Conservation Foundation and David Shreeve, its Director, will be Chairing the day. The day is open to all and members of all the Churches and faith communities in the Diocese are most welcome.

#### **“Kyoto Local: Concern into Action” Environment Conference** 13th July 2006, St Albans Abbey

This conference will provide people throughout the Hertfordshire and Bedfordshire with an opportunity to explore together what sustainable living means today.

Speakers will address major concerns facing the environment, such as managing the countryside to encourage biodiversity, local authority management of environmental issues, energy policy and balance, and theological perspectives on the environment.

In the afternoon workshops will explore eco-efficiency, food production and consumption, and cleaning the environment. The emphasis of these workshops will be to provide information and resources for people who want to do something to help the environment.

Voluntary and other organisations involved in these areas will be on hand with market stalls to provide information, encouragement and advice.

Registration for the conference will begin in spring 2006.

The next steps ...

- i) Register your interest in the conference. Email Ruth Lampard: [environment@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:environment@stalbans.anglican.org).
- ii) Put 13th July 2006 in your diary.
- iii) Encourage your Church and your friends to do the same.

Further information is available from Revd Ruth Lampard at [environment@stalbans.anglican.org](mailto:environment@stalbans.anglican.org) or on 01462 457 552. Website: [www.stalbans.anglican.org/churchandsociety/environment.htm](http://www.stalbans.anglican.org/churchandsociety/environment.htm).

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**Drop in Sunday Worship** A vicar in Hillingdon has introduced "come-and-go" worship on Sunday mornings, to give members of the congregation more flexibility. The Revd Rob Harrison, Vicar of St John's, Hillingdon, said that the new-look Sunday, which started this month, gave worshippers a chance to pick and choose each week. The service starts at 9 a.m., with a rolling programme of half-hour slots, ending with a lunch at 12.30 p.m. The programme ranges from the Book of Common Prayer to modern worship slots. "When we decided on this, we had a unanimous PCC vote, and, at the first debriefing last week, we decided it was already a gain, not a loss. We've already had people who admitted that their Sunday was so busy they would not have come to church, but felt they could now, as it was easier to slot in and out," He said that members of the congregation still came to their usual Sunday-service times; so there was a feeling of continuity. Running the services was not a headache, as, he said, it was far easier to involve lay people. *Copy C Times*

# News, Views and Information

**St.Mark's Church Preschool** are saving Sainsbury's Active Kids 06 vouchers & would like your help. If you have any vouchers please could you bring them to the office. Thank you in advance Helen Harpin Head of Preschool.

**In April Tuesday Club** are having a talk about East Anglian Air Ambulance Service. This organisation can make use of old or unwanted Mobile phones. If you have any please take them to St. Mark's or Putnoe Heights Church Office.

**Ebay. 'One man's rubbish is another man's treasure'** Something to sell in your garage? Let me advertise it on Ebay for auction. Anything from a cup and saucer to a motor car. Items can be for spares or repair. Ebay auctions are advertised worldwide, all you pay for is a small selling fee and 15% of the sale price towards packing. If you items do not sell, then all you pay is the advertising fee which includes a colour photo. Call Dave or Janet 01234 401184 Mobile 07788 862609

**Thank you to everyone** who has supported our mission project with Mildmay. We will continue this project until the end of February so there's still time to contribute as an individual or as a group if you haven't done so far. The total we have raised so far is around £2500 which is truly amazing. Lets see what we can do to increase this total and further relieve the lives of adults and children suffering from the effects of HIV AIDS. Sam

**Holy Communion** will be held at William Harpur House at 10.00am on the first Monday of every month in the Main Lounge. Members of the community are very welcome to attend.

**Volunteer decorators** required at Putnoe Heights. We shall be decorating Meeting Room 3 on Monday 20 February hoping to finish on Wednesday 22 February, starting at 8.30 am. Offers of help please to Alan Cooper or Sue Allen.

**Mary Mother of Nowhere**—a powerful evocation of Mary and her son Jesus portrayed by an actress from Bethlehem. Tanushka Marah gives a magnificent performance. Suitable for audiences of 16 and over. Bowen West theatre ,Saturday 4 March at 8pm. Followed by a free, optional post-show discussion chaired by Revd Stephen Heap of the De Montford University Chaplaincy. To book a seat for the show contact the theatre 01234 219333. Tickets are £10 and £7 with concessions at £8 and £5.

**Ash Wednesday.** There will be a service of Holy Communion with imposition of ashes in the Chapel at St Mark's at 7.30pm, all are welcome.

**Storybox at St Marks** Thursday lunchtime  
We are looking for a least one more pair to help out with the catering approximately once every 5/6 weeks. If you would like to join us please speak to Liz . 20 children came to Storybox and 15 to Storybox plus this week at St Mark's. This is fantastic news, please offer your support. *Charles Royden*

**Putnoe Junior Church** The "help" rota is now on the notice board in the welcome area. If you would like to join us one Sunday and see what we get up to please put your name down. We look forward to welcoming you. Thanks Liz and Sam

**Teddy Bear Service.** If your bear refused to go home with you on Sunday, don't worry Carolyn & I tempted them out with honey & they are being carefully looked after until you reclaim them !!!

**Storybox at both churches.** If you would like to join either of our story telling teams after Easter please speak to Liz. You would be asked to tell a short, simple Bible based story to under 5's approx. once every 2/3 months.

**Lent Course 2006** - This year the Lent Course will be held on Sundays at St Mark's. The first session on 'Belief and Unbelief' will take place on Sunday 5th March at 4pm and will be led by Professor Colin Russell, Professor Emeritus at the Open University. Other speakers will be Liz MacFarlane M.A., Joan Crossley and Paul Crossley.

**Greetings cards.** Marion Prior's handmade cards are available from St. Mark's book/card stall. Orders taken for special events. All proceeds to the church.

**Holy Communion** will be held at William Harpur House at 10.00am on the first Monday of every month in the Main Lounge. Members of the community are very welcome to attend.

**Hannah Cappleman** is going out to Kisizzi later this year as one of her medical school electives. We welcome her this morning and invite her to say a few words about her forthcoming visit to Africa.

**Leadership Teams.** Each of our Leadership teams will meet this week, Putnoe on Monday and St Mark's on Tuesday. If you have any matters which you would like discussed, please contact a member of the Leadership Team.

**Women's World Day of Prayer** Friday 3 March. 2pm at St. Luke's Church, Bedford - Speaker Revd. Dr. Joan Crossley. 7.30pm at St. Mary's Church Goldington speaker Revd. Janet Wootton Further deals from Kathie Longden 345760. All welcome

**To Celebrate** Peter's 70th birthday, Gwen & Peter invite friends from both churches to 'Open House' at 6 Repton Close for a chat, tea, coffee etc. from 10.30-12.30 or 2- 4pm on Monday 6 March. Please no presents, but a box will be available for voluntary donations towards the continuing specialised work at St. John's Hospice.

**Putnoe Heights Financial Update** It was reported to Church Council last week that regular offertory giving has increased and we are on track to meet our target of £38000. The Leadership Team are very grateful for the response of the congregation. Thank you to the Lunch Club for their recent donation of £100. Sale of gifts and cakes etc at the Teddy Bear service raised in excess of £220 - thank you to all those who contributed with items to sell or bought items on the day.

**Volunteer Decorators Required** at Putnoe Heights. We shall be decorating Meeting Room 3 on Monday 20 February hoping to finish on Wednesday 22 February, starting at 8.30 am. Offers of help please to Alan Cooper or Sue Allen.

**Mildmay Fundraising Event** at St. Mark's Church on Friday 24 February at 7.30pm. Student Keyboard Ensemble performing music from the 60's. Tickets £3 Available from St. Mark's Office or see Janet Day or Ian Farthing. Donation of raffle prizes would be appreciated.

**Thank you to everyone** who has supported our mission project with Mildmay. We will continue this project until the end of February so there's still time to contribute as an individual or as a group if you haven't done so far. The total we have raised so far is around £2500 which is truly amazing. Lets see what we can do to increase this total and further relieve the lives of adults and children suffering from the effects of HIV AIDS. Sam

### Brickhill Parish Council News

#### **Should Brickhill become a no cold calling zone?**

A new campaign by the County Council Trading Standards Dept could help Brickhill residents and deter unwanted callers. Backed by police response to intercept cold callers, signs would be located in Brickhill as a warning and deterrent. Please let the Parish Clerk Delia Shephard know your view by phone 01234 328365 or Email [clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@brickhillparishcouncil.gov.uk).

**There is an allotments open day** on Saturday 25 March 10am—12 noon. Come and see your allotment site and you may wish to get involved in having a plot yourself.

**Brickhill Community Clean Up** Come and join us on Saturday 25 February 10am to 12 noon. Meet near Brickhill Community Centre. Equipment will be provided, ring Brickhill Parish Council 328365 for more information or just turn up to help with litter picking. Together we can make a difference.

**Help wanted.** Copies of the latest Parish Council News are available now for delivery. This edition has a full page advertisement for the new all day care at St Mark's Pre-school. Please help if you have time, copies in foyer.

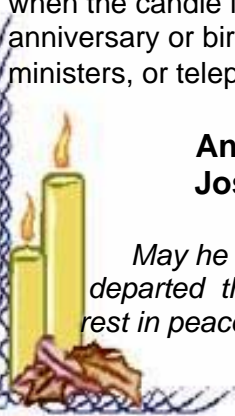
**Next Parish Council Meeting** 23 February 7.45pm at St Mark's

#### **Rest In Peace**

On the Sunday following a funeral service we remember in church those who have died. We light a candle to symbolise the light of Christ which eternally shines and brings hope. If you would like a person remembered in our service when the candle is lit, perhaps on an anniversary or birthday, please inform the ministers, or telephone the church office.

**Ann Valerie Brown  
Joseph Cowie Jack**

*May the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God, rest in peace and rise in glory. Amen.'*



#### **Rest in Peace**

Forthcoming funerals to be taken by our Ministers

*There are no funerals this coming week*