



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

1 October 2006  
Ordinary 26

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 at both Churches**

**9.30am St Mark's Church - Harvest Festival  
Family Worship**

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership - Ian Farthing and Janet Day

Intercessions - Mrs A Holden

**11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship** with

Baptism of Richa Audrey Jones

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss

Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

## October 8

**8.30 Holy Communion at both Churches**

**9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship**

Preacher - Mr Peter Ledger

Leadership - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott

**11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship**

Preacher - Mr Peter Ledger

Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley

Intercessions - Mr Tim Wilkes

**Reading 1 : Genesis 2: 18-24**

**Reading 2 : Hebrews 1: 1-4 & 2: 5-12**

**Reading 3 : Mark 10: 2-16**

## Thank You

The Flowers at St Mark's have been given this week by Vera Tippet with thanks for her family And by Karen Newman & Richard Pratt to celebrate their wedding.

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).

## A Prayer for Harvest Festival Sunday



Lord of creation,  
whose glory is all around  
and within us:

open our eyes to your wonders,  
that we may serve you with reverence  
and know your peace at our lives' end,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

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

## 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** - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

**Treasurer** Mr Ian 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** - Mrs Janet Day 295592

**Treasurer** - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@thisischurch.com

**Gift Aid Administrator** Mr Jim Williams 360605

# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school** Mrs Janet Smith 326685

**8.30 - 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.

**Mini-Strikers Sport for Children** at Putnoe aged 2-4 years. Contact Andy Carey 01908 313751 or 07766 142754, or [www.ministrikers.co.uk](http://www.ministrikers.co.uk)

**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

**2.30 - 4.30pm** Bedford Arts Society at Putnoe Heights contact Malcolm Smith on 01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)

**4pm Monday Club** at St. Marks for 3—8 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments , between 4 & 5 Bible story, craft activities & songs. Lots of fun. Contact Liz 302349

**4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness.** Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock 01908 565044

**4.15 - 6.00pm 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 16 October 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. Helen Folbigg 351223

**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 3 October Harvest Festival. Contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting . contact 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. For details of next meeting contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

**3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.

**6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne 783129

**7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit** at St. Mark's. Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.

**Tuesday - 7pm-9pm MT Karate** [all ages] at Putnoe Heights. Please contact Karen King 07941 264885

**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. Next meeting Oct.3 Harvest Meal Contact Madge Walsh 359088

**8.30pm St Mark's Church Qi Gong.** Contact Mrs D Steele 356384

## Wednesday

**9.30am Childminding Support Group** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs S Longman 313949

**9.30am - Body Control Pilates** at Putnoe Heights. 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

**10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation** meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights - For details of next meeting Contact Audrey Hancock 365915.

**Luncheon Club** at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. For details of next meeting 4 October contact 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** at Putnoe Heights . Mrs Webster 856966

**4.15pm - 6pm Kumon Maths** at Putnoe Heights Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

**6.00 pm Brownies** at St Mark's. Mrs Carol Warden 219731

**6.15pm - 7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation** at Putnoe

Heights. Please contact Racheall Monton 01234 297138

**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 Badminton Club** at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

#### 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

**1.30pm - 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 302349

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

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

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

**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 Helga Nash 218521

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

**7pm Street Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Curtis Ritchie 349255 or 07984 525147

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

**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** at Putnoe Bible Studies every 2 Thursday– Pastor Tarr 360188

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

#### Friday

**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.

Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

**2pm U3A Gardening Group** at Putnoe Heights

Contact Eve Whitehead 356875

**7 - 10pm Bedford Arts Society** meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Contact Malcolm Smith 01234 400741

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

#### Saturday

**9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe.

Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

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

**5 - 7pm Bethesda Church** . Contact Pastor Denis Baka 07944 749357

**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

**6-7.30pm T.N.T.** for 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. At Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349.

**6—7.30pm T.X.T** for 13 + fortnightly , join us for fellowship , debate & discussion at Putnoe. Ring

## Diary Dates

**St Mark's Church Council** , 11 October  
**Circuit Meeting** -

**St Mark's Leadership Team –**

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -**

21 November

**St Mark's Church Management Meeting** -

12.30pm 11 October, 6 December

**Putnoe Heights Church Management -**

**Putnoe Church Council** 9 October

**Pastoral Group Meeting –**

**Churchyard Committee** - 29 November 11am.

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting –**

Wednesday 18 October at 7.30pm at 14 Flint Way. .

**Partnership Council -**

**Brickhill Parish Council** - 12 Oct,30 Nov

**Deanery Meeting** , 16 November

**Putnoe Heights Children & Youth -**

**Calendar dates appear on our church website  
www.ThisChurch.com. Please advise St Mark's  
Church Office of the dates of your meetings.**

# Harvest Festival

## Verse of Scripture

The land has yielded its harvest:

God, our God has blessed us. Psalm 67:6

## Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Lord of creation, whose glory is all around and within us: open our eyes to your wonders, that we may serve you with reverence and know your peace at our lives' end, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## First Bible Reading - Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble with them began to crave other food, and again the Israelites started wailing and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we ate in Egypt at no cost--also the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions and garlic. But now we have lost our appetite; we never see anything but this manna!"

Moses heard the people of every family wailing, each at the entrance to his tent. The LORD became exceedingly angry, and Moses was troubled. He asked the LORD, "Why have you brought this trouble on your servant? What have I done to displease you that you put the burden of all these people on me?"

Did I conceive all these people? Did I give them birth? Why do you tell me to carry them in my arms, as a nurse carries an infant, to the land you promised on oath to their forefathers? Where can I get meat for all these people? They keep wailing to me, 'Give us meat to eat!' I cannot carry all these people by myself; the burden is too heavy for me. If this is how you are going to treat me, put me to death right now--if I have found favour in your eyes--and do not let me face my own ruin."

The LORD said to Moses: "Bring me seventy of Israel's elders who are known to you as leaders and officials among the people. Have them come to the Tent of Meeting, that they may stand there with you.

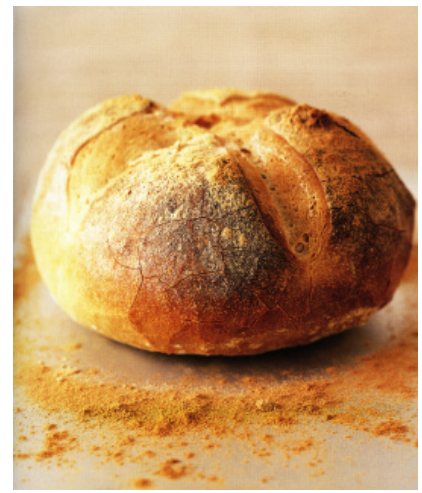
So Moses went out and told the people what the LORD had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the Tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took of the Spirit that was on him and put the Spirit on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied, but they did not do so again. However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the Tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp. A young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!" But Moses replied, "Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!"

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

## Second Reading - James 5:13-20

Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. My brothers, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his way will save him from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)



**Give us this day  
our daily bread.....**

### **Third Reading - Mark 9:38-50**

"Teacher," said John, "we saw a man driving out demons in your name and we told him to stop, because he was not one of us." "Do not stop him," Jesus said. "No one who does a miracle in my name can in the next moment say anything bad about me, for whoever is not against us is for us. I tell you the truth, anyone who gives you a cup of water in my name because you belong to Christ will certainly not lose his reward. "And if anyone causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone tied around his neck. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life maimed than with two hands to go into hell, where the fire never goes out. And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than to have two feet and be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, where 'their worm does not die, and the fire is not quenched.' Everyone will be salted with fire. "Salt is good, but if it loses its saltiness, how can you make it salty again? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with each other."

(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

The earth is filled with the gifts of the Lord: wine, and oil, and bread, to strengthen and cheer our hearts. Psalm 104:13,15

### **Hymns** (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Morning Worship)

1. Come, ye thankful people, come 355
2. We eat the plants that grow from the seed,(Tune: Country Garden)
3. Praise and thanksgiving 350 (Tune Bunessan)
4. Praise God for the harvest 351 (Tune: Stowey)
5. We plough the fields, and scatter 352

### **Commentary**

Harvest can be a bit of a back slapping exercise. Didn't we do well, we grew all these wonderful things and then we went all around the world and collected the most amazing things produced in other countries. We can refrigerate and freeze, we can put things in cans and ensure that we have as much as we want, almost whenever we want it.

Harvest is rightly a time when we thank God for the abundance of the harvest. We should be grateful for all manner of things, from the field and the sea, but also the work of those associated with factory, mine, school and many other areas of life

But this year I would like us to reflect upon the cost of turning out increased production and greater yields. Harvest is a time for thinking about all that has been produced, but we need to reflect upon the cost of production as well.

When the world was created God gave to us a solemn responsibility to care and he put boundaries upon the actions of the people he created. The story of Adam in a garden is a simple one but it has a powerful message. God gave Adam and Eve much to do, he expected them to work, but he commanded that they should not eat of the tree. There were boundaries placed upon their behaviour. Just because they were able to eat, did not mean that they should.

Today we are faced with the same choices. We are expected by God to work, yet there are restrictions placed upon what we should do. Our farming methods, our industrial progress, our economic systems - all of these have a price. Other people around the world sometimes suffer as a result of our consumption. There is a growing weight of evidence that the activities of human beings are having quite dramatic effects upon our climate as well as the old familiar problems of pollution.

Harvest is a wonderful time of year, but now perhaps more than ever before, it is a time when we need to also ask ourselves whether our greed has produced real need. If the cost of world development is global warming and the associated weather problems, then we have to dedicate ourselves to thinking how we are going to help those people who will suffer from the worst effects of flood and famine.

As Christians we need to understand the terrible cost of our harvesting of the world resources. There has been terrible damage done to the earth over the past years and our capability to do lasting damage increases every year. We have destroyed forests all over the world, and the removal of trees has caused erosion which has washed away topsoil which took thousands of years to form. Many of the worlds rivers

and lakes are drying up as we extract water without thought of the consequences for aquatic life or local human need.

Our intensive factory farming methods can cause lasting damage to the environment. Often the damage done by the use of insecticides and chemicals is not properly considered. Our desire for cheap fuel to power our increased production and satisfy consumerism, has produced acid rain and global warming which may have drastic consequences.

It is against this background that we need to be reminded of the cost of the harvest. Christians need to responsibly engage and share in thinking through the potential costs of supposed gains in production. The answers are as difficult as the questions posed and as Christians we can never jump on bandwagons or suggest simplistic solutions. However what is clear is that just because our technology or science is able to do something, doesn't mean we should allow it to happen. There are trees with forbidden fruit and the voice of Christian people should be heard whenever it is proposed that society should eat from them. *Charles Royden*

## **Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead**

"My sisters the birds, much are you beholden to God your Creator, and always and in every place should you praise him. He has given you the freedom to fly wherever you wish and he has clothed you so fully. Moreover he preserved your kind in the ark of Noah so that you might not die out. Again, you are beholden to him for the very air that he has given to you. Furthermore, you do not sow nor reap yet God feeds you and gives you rivers and fountains from which you drink, He gives you mountains and valleys as places of refuge and the tall trees in which to build your nests. Because you do not know how to sew or spin, God clothes you and your young: you can see how much God loves you in that he gives you so much. Guard yourselves therefore my sisters the birds from the sin of ingratitude and be ever mindful to give praise to God." *From The Little Flowers of St. Francis.*

"For this I thank you, that you have created me in your image, and placed your wonders under my hands, so that I may know them and rejoice in the works of your Creation. I pray to you, eternal God, give me understanding and wisdom, that I might not misuse your creation but make use of it only for my needs, for the good of my neighbour, myself and my family. Give me gratitude for all your gifts, so that my mind does not say: 'This is mine, I have bought it. I will possess it alone. I am noble with it, majestic and beautiful; It belongs to me because of this honour and glory.' All this comes from the devil and the grievous fall of Adam." *Jacob Boehme. The Way to Christ.*

Lord, may I love all thy creation, the whole and every grain of sand in it. May I love the animals: thou hast given them the rudiments of thought and joy untroubled. Let me not harass them; let me not deprive them of their happiness; let me not work against thy intent. For I acknowledge unto thee that all is like an ocean - flowing and blending - and that to withhold any measure of from anything in thy universe is to withhold that same measure from thee. *(Adapted from The Brothers Karamazov by Dostoevsky.)*

## **The origins of Harvest Festival**

Harvest Festival is a very popular Christian festival, but you will not find it in the Book of Common prayer because it is actually quite a recent addition to the Christian year.

Since Saxon times and throughout the Middle Ages in England there was a tradition of Lammas (Loaf Mass) held on August 1. A loaf of bread made from the first of the wheat to be harvested and milled was brought to the church on the Lammas Day (August 1) each year to be dedicated in the mass.

In the Reformation it was instructed by George Herbert that the communion should be taken 'afore and after harvest.' A special prayer of thanksgiving for an abundant harvest was first officially provided for use after the General Thanksgiving in 1796.

In 1843 the Reverend R. S. Hawker, revived the Lammas custom on the first Sunday in October, creating a special service to celebrate the bringing in of the crops. He used bread made from the first ripe corn for the sacrament. He intended to make a Christian occasion of the traditional pagan festival of Harvest Home. His parishioners in Morwenstow in Cornwall enjoyed it so much that they insisted on having another "Harvest" Festival the following year. The idea soon caught on in rapidly industrialising Victorian Britain where increasing numbers of people were being cut off from the cycle of nature by living in the expanding cities.



# News and Information

**Barn Dance** 4 November 6pm at Putnoe. Suitable for all ages. Tickets £3 each or £10 for a 'family' of 4 Sausage & Mash with veggie option. Bring your own drinks. Raffle. Book early. Tickets from Putnoe Office or see Liz

**Piano lessons:** I have a few vacancies for new pupils for the coming year. Beginners and all ages welcome! Please contact me if you are interested. Adrian Quarry 409612.

**Network Craft Day** at Priory Methodist Church on Saturday 21 October at 9.45am. Please contact Pam Seymour 305695 for information and booking form. Forms to be returned no later than 10th October.

**Massive Christian Book Sale.** Fri 6 October (4.00 - 7.30pm) Sat 7 October (9.30am - 4.00pm) Russell Park Christian Centre, Denmark Street, Bedford.MK40 3TJ

**Bedford Bamberg Association** are holding "A Musical evening with food" at St Mark's Church Centre on 13th October at 7.30pm. Tickets £8.00 Why not come, you will be very welcome. Please contact June Paull - 01234 360812.

**Bedford Festival of Music, Speech & Dance** 3-10 March 2007. If any of our young people from the Partnership would like to enter the Bible Reading, to continue the success of this year, could they please see Liz as we need to register shortly.

**Putnoe Office** We are delighted to say that from Monday 2 October the office will be open from 9 - 5 Monday to Friday. A big thank you to all volunteers, new and established for making this possible. Joan

**Triathlon.** Dave Allan will be taking part in a triathlon on 1 October, in Bedford Park. He will be swimming 400m, a 25k cycle and a 5k run. If you would like to sponsor him please contact the office at Putnoe.

**Youth Groups.** We had a very successful planning evening for the revamped TNT group and the new group for 12 + young people. We have planned a programme of events and would welcome volunteer help one Sunday evening a month. Contact Joan 344536.

**Bring & Buy Cake Stall** at Putnoe Harvest Festival at 12noon on Sunday 1 October in aid of Church Funds.

**Sharing the Harvest Celebrations.** After the Harvest lunch at Putnoe, we intend to take a group of singers round to Puttenham. Meet in the Hall, leave at 2.30. Joan

**Valerie and Peter Littleford** would like to thank all members of St Mark's and Putnoe Heights who helped to make their Macmillan Coffee Morning on Friday 29th September such a success - a very pleasing total of £95 was raised. Many thanks indeed.

**Veta Hudson Rae** is now recuperating at home after surgery and is doing well. She would like to thank all the kind people who have prayed for her and sent flowers and cards during her time in hospital.

**Dear Vicar and Parishioners,** I check your Lectionary Readings and carefully constructed Intercessions every week and wish to pass on my sincere thanks to your ministry team. My name is Henriette Guest, and I live in Queensland, Australia - not far from the capital, Brisbane, and a hop-step-and a jump from Australia Zoo where, this week, we farewelled it's founder, Steve Irwin, who at just 44 yrs of age, was killed by a stingray while filming off the reef coast. Steve had a passion for wildlife conservation and became world-renowned for his 'over the top' antics and enthusiasm for caring for all God's creatures "great and small". His fabulous Australia Zoo can be seen on the website [www.australiazoo.com.au](http://www.australiazoo.com.au). It is located not far from where I live, so I had the opportunity to attend his memorial service with 5,000 others which paid tribute to this man who loved life and cared so much about educating everyone around the world through films and presentations to appreciate the world we live in and its creatures. Please pray for Terri, his wife, and their children Bindi (8) and Bob (2) who mourn his loss, and for the crocodiles who shed a tear, koala bears, cockatoos, kangaroos and emus too. May he Rest in Peace, and may the work of Australia Zoo and all conservationists, marine biologists, botanists, veterinarians, environmentalists and ecologists be acknowledged and supported. Keep up the wonderful work through your regular website, and I pray that God will bless you abundantly. Shalom, Henriette Guest.

**Tesco Sports Vouchers** are being collected by St Mark's Preschool. Vouchers can be handed into the Office. Thank you Helen

**Scripture Union Job Vacancy.** We are looking for somebody to encourage and assist Christians teaching in our local schools, liaise with churches, etc. 16 hours per week, salary £7k. To start January 2007. Contact Actios Office, c/o Church Walk, High Street, St Neots, Cambs. 01480 377140

**Highfield Care Home.** A group from St. Mark's hold a short service at Highfield on the 3rd Sunday of each month. This group is badly in need of extra support. If you would be willing to help with these services, perhaps you would like to join us on Sunday 15 October at 2.30p.m. at Highfield for our Harvest Festival service. For further information please contact Vera Pearson, Lance Mason or Doris Cooper. Many thanks.

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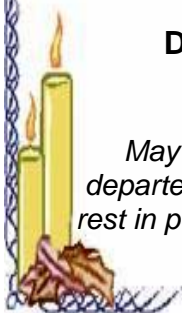
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## Rest In Peace

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.

**Derek Gerald Pilcher  
Dillon James Yuill**

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



**Charity Concert** in aid of Bedford Mencap at Priory Methodist Church 7.30 p.m. Saturday 21st October. Tickets £8 (£5 for children and those with a learning disability) from Mike Bonney Tel. 781254.

## Sir William Harpur House

There will be a service of Holy Communion on Monday 2 October at 10.00am led by The Reverend Charles Royden. All members of the community are invited to share in this service.

**Fashion Show by 'La Moda'** in aid of NSPCC. At Putnoe Heights on Thursday 5 October at 7.30pm. Admission £5

## Belief. Bedford Ecumenical Lay Institute for Education and Faith

Course leaflets are available in the foyer with details of some excellent sessions.

The courses are held at St Andrew's Church in Bedford. Please take a leaflet and consider joining one of the courses this autumn

*Joan Crossley*

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## Rest in Peace



The funeral of **Branco Stanojev** will take place at Bedford Cremaorium at 10.45 on 4th October. (Crossley)