



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

22 January 2006

Third Sunday of Epiphany

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 Communion

9.30am St Mark's Church -Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard

11.00am Putnoe Heights—Morning Worship

Preacher -Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt

Intercessions - Mrs Betty Wyatt

29 January 2006

8.30 Service of Holy Communion Both churches

**9.30am St Mark's Church – Holy Communion with
Prayer for Christian Healing**

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights –Holy Communion

Preacher –Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen

Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

Reading 1 : Malachi 3: 1-5

Reading 2 : Hebrews 2: 14 -18

Reading 3 : Luke 2: 22-40

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Mary Stokes in memory of George and Doris Curness, loving parents of Mary Stokes and June Cook.

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

O Beauty, so ancient and so new!
Late have I loved you
though you were always with me.
You call to my heart.
You burst through my deafness.
You scatter my blindness.
I draw breath at your fragrance.
My heart pants for you.
My soul hungers for you.
You touch me and I am consumed
at the thought of your peace.

St Augustine, 354-430

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 - 5pm)

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

Children's and Youth Worker-Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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. 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 400987
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 24 January Revd. Joan Crossley. Betty Wyatt 350188.
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 7 February Joining with Women's Fellowship Revd. G Goringe .. 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 24January 2006 The History of Jaffa Orchard Community Café Jenny Roberts & Afaf Musallam. 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 25 January 2006 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 .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 St Mark's- 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs K Sage 771525

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 3 Thursday each month. 1 Thursday as from January 2006 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

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 8 February 2006

Circuit Meeting 16 March 2006

St Mark's Leadership Team - 2006 24 April, 6 June, 12 September

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 28 February, 2 Sunningdale Walk

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management - 26 Feb, 15 May, 17 July 2006

Putnoe Church Council 6 February 2006

Pastoral Group Meeting - 6 February 2006 2.00pm
Churchyard Committee -

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting- 18 January 2006 7.30p.m. at 14 Flint Way..

Partnership Council - 24 January 2006

Brickhill Parish Council - 12th January

Joint Deanery Circuit 18 January 2006

Annual Congregational Meeting 7 May 2006

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 8 Feb, 26 April, 28 June

Calendar dates appear also on our church website www.ThisChurch.com.

Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.

Bible Notes

Epiphany 3 Year B

Verse of Scripture Matthew 18: 18-20

'Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Loving God, through your Son you have called us to repent of our sin, to believe the good news, and to celebrate the coming of your kingdom. Grant that we may hear the call to discipleship and gladly proclaim the gospel to a waiting world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading –Genesis 14: 17-20

After Abram returned from defeating Kedorlaomer and the kings allied with him, the king of Sodom came out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine. He was priest of God Most High, and he blessed Abram, saying, "Blessed be Abram by God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. And blessed be God Most High, who delivered your enemies into your hand." Then Abram gave him a tenth of everything. (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading—Revelation 19: 1-10

Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of the saints.) Then the angel said to me, "Write: 'Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!' " And he added, "These are the true words of God." At this I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me. "Do not do it! I am a fellow-servant with you and with your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy." **All: Thanks be to God**

Third Reading John 2: 1-11

On the third day a wedding took place at Cana in Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine was gone, Jesus' mother said to him, "They have no more wine." "Dear woman, why do you involve me?" Jesus replied, "My time has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Nearby stood six stone water jars, the kind used by the Jews for ceremonial washing, each holding from twenty to thirty gallons. Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water"; so they filled them to the brim. Then he told them, "Now draw some out and take it to the master of the banquet." They did so, and the master of the banquet tasted the water that had been turned into wine. He did not realize where it had come from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. Then he called the bridegroom aside and said, "Everyone brings out the choice wine first and then the cheaper wine after the guests have had too much to drink; but you have saved the best till now." This, the first of his miraculous signs, Jesus performed in Cana of Galilee. He thus revealed his glory, and his disciples put their faith in him. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of his glory, that he may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Hymns (Please distribute Morning Worship and Mission Praise)

1. As the deer 37
2. Give me oil in my lamp 167
3. The Kingdom of God 651
4. All Praise to our redeeming lord 19
5. To God be the glory 708

Meditation For the week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Irish Churches inspire peace prayers in Unity week

Count to seventy-seven, slowly, and for each digit counted, pray for the strength to forgive someone who has wronged you: one practical step on the tough road to reconciliation, suggested in the worship resources launched this week and prepared by Churches Together in Britain and Ireland for the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The Churches in Ireland proposed the theme of reconciliation which will be followed by Churches throughout the world during the annual focus on unity in January 2006.

Commentary

In the Gospel of Mark Jesus begins his ministry with an exorcism. In John's Gospel today we read of Jesus turning water into wine. We know that the Gospel writers didn't just throw their material together, it is compiled very carefully to make a theological point. So why did John begin the ministry of Jesus in his Gospel by showing Jesus provide excess alcohol at a party?

On one level it might even seem frivolous and irresponsible of Jesus, however the shortage of alcohol at a wedding would have been a serious embarrassment and more than just an inconvenience. At a wedding you were supposed to provide plentiful food and wine. Weddings were celebrated for seven days. People came and went, it was a community event and to run short of wine would have been a serious embarrassment for the host parents and the newlyweds. It would have spoiled the occasion for them and the community.

Nevertheless water into wine was nothing like as dramatic as raising Lazarus. Why doesn't John begin with a better miracle? Part of the answer might be that whilst Jesus is performing a miraculous event, and wouldn't we all like to be able to do this kind of party trick, yet there is more going on than manufacture of wine. John calls this is a 'sign', and in it lies the key to understanding the whole of the Gospel of John. Weddings were poignant, they spoke of God's coming kingdom. It would be helpful to consider some important phrases used by John.

We must remember that the wedding took place 'on the third day'. It is impossible to read these few short words without thinking of the great third day event of Jesus death and resurrection. The Gospel of John is full of symbolism and this is just one example. Jesus told Nathanael that he would see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man. The fulfilment of that promise begins with the sign of Jesus this week at the wedding feast in Cana of Galilee, but we are already pointed towards a more significant event. To those who were willing to believe the glory of Jesus is shown. The event points to something and those who are willing to see can perceive beyond the mere physical representation.

Another phrase recorded by John is interesting, Jesus says "My hour has not yet come."

This prepares us for the fact that there is a more important event to take place, it is the hour of his glorification—the hour of his death, resurrection, and ascension. It is almost as though John is reminding the reader, 'you ain't seen nothing yet!'

The words of Mary are important as well. She tells the servants 'Do whatever he tells you.'

Mary makes the plea that complete trust can be put in Jesus without disappointment. Mary is confident that Jesus is able to make things right.

Finally we need to remember how the miracle, or sign, took place. Jesus took the stone water jars used for the Jewish purification and demands that they should be full. Jews regarded seven as a perfect or complete number, and six was incomplete. This could be seen as a criticism of Judaism, most clearly a point is being made about the incomplete nature of Judaism without Jesus. The amount of water held by each jar is translated as twenty or thirty gallons. The total amount of water, 120-180 gallons, was huge. Only a small amount of water was needed for purification, so this is a sign of great generosity and of the overwhelming grace through Jesus. Remember that it is John who tells us that Jesus, has come "so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life" (3:16). There is enough of Jesus generosity to go round for everybody. Thank God. *Charles Royden*

*He turns our water into wine, we offer ourselves and
he makes of us what we might never think possible.*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead Week of Prayer of Christian Unity

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity involves Christian communities across the world and from almost every denomination. The materials used in the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are prepared each year jointly by the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and the Roman Catholic Church's Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity. It is traditionally celebrated over the eight days of 18-25 January, although other dates are sometimes chosen in the Southern hemisphere. The Week lasts for 8 days (which is why it was originally called an Octave of Prayer), and covers the period from the feast of St Peter to the feast of St Paul. The theme for 2006 is taken from Matthew 18:20 "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them".

Lord Jesus, we thank you for your presence among us, strengthening and encouraging us on our way. Make us aware of your presence in us and responsive to your promptings in all that we do. Grant us the wisdom and humility to recognize your presence in our brothers and sisters. Make us truly one, O Lord. Amen

O King of the Friday, whose limbs were stretched on the Cross, O Lord who did suffer
The bruises, the wounds, the loss, we stretch ourselves beneath the shield of thy might,
some fruit from the tree of thy pass fall on us this night! (Ancient Irish Prayer)

God of holy peace, we are accustomed to the darkness of our world, accustomed to tragedy, sorrow, worry. Like the shepherds sitting in the darkness, expecting nothing, we are familiar with dim hope. Yet we brood over our troubled lives and wicked world, wondering when you will come in power to bring peace to all hearts and lands. Break the grip of darkness; let your peace dawn in our hearts! Look with favour upon your people; grant your blessing. Should angels bring clear messages for our lives, let us with wonder accept your news of love as the generous gift it is. *Diane Karay in Pocket Prayers for Peace and Justice*

Help us, O Lord, never to nurse the grievance that separates us from you and from one another. Grant us grace to forgive those who have wronged us. May we know that no sin is so great that it cannot be confessed; no wound so deep it cannot be healed, and no sinner so lost that grace cannot bring them home. *William Booth*

Lord Jesus Christ,
you call us together in faith and love.
Breathe again the new life
of your Holy Spirit among us,
that we may hear your Holy Word,
pray in your name,
seek unity among Christians
and share more fully in your way of life.
All glory and honour be yours
with the Father, and the Holy Spirit,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Right Being Wrong

Christians often argue about what they believe.

Some believe one doctrine, some another.
One group strives to convince other groups
That it alone possesses the truth.

Yet God alone possesses the truth,
Because God alone is the truth.
On earth we see only glimpses, hints;
Our knowledge of truth is partial.

So the different groups who argue
May all be right and all be wrong;
Right in seeing one part of the truth;
Wrong in claiming the whole.

Celtic Parables

Confirmation/Membership Course 2006 We shall be holding a five week course for those wishing to be Confirmed or admitted to full Methodist church membership. Bishop Richard will be coming to conduct the Confirmations on Sunday March 12th. Neil will perform the Methodist section of the service. We already have a number of people, young and more mature, wishing to take part. But there are still places available The classes will be held on Sunday mornings during the 11am service at Putnoe. The first class will begin on **29 January**. We begin with a brief history of the Anglican and Methodist traditions. Where are they similar and what defines them? We will also talk about the identity of the partnership. (Neil and Joan)

5 February 'So why do you want to be confirmed/ admitted to Membership' (Neil)

12 February 'What difference does being a Christian make?'

19 February Using and understanding the Bible.

26 February Prepared for change.

12 March Confirmation and admission service 11am Putnoe.

News, Views and Information

Footprints Sunday 22 January 2pm Meet at Clapham (Shopping Parade) for 4mile circular walk through Clapham Park, across the golf course and Twinwoods with good views across the Ouse Valley. Further details from Sue 407264

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

Flower arranging We have recently lost two of our flower arranging team at St Mark's & urgently need to find new people to take their places. If you'd like to 'have a go', or discuss what is involved please have a word with any of the team members. We will happily have shadowing or arrange practical sessions. Now is not the time to be hiding your lights under bushels! Contact Marion 303254

Craft Club '06. There will be a monthly session at 23 Orwell Close, 7.30pm, to which you can bring your own craft work, perhaps with a view to producing items for the Craft Fayre or to learn a technique you wish to tackle. Card making with iris folding is on the agenda for the first meeting on January 24. Materials will be provided for this, with a small nominal charge. All welcome. (Bring diaries for further dates.) Contact Marion 303254

TNT will start on the 29th January with a craft evening. We are short of leaders and helpers for TNT and if anyone would like to help once a fortnight during term time then please contact Neil.

Highfield - There will be a meeting following the service on Sunday 22nd January in order to make arrangements for the services we conduct at Highfield Residential Care Home in the coming months. These services are held at 2.30pm each third Sunday in the month and are greatly appreciated by the residents. New helpers are always welcome and if you would like to join us please come along to the meeting. Vera Pearson

Teddy Bear Services 5th February Can you lend a hand?

Putnoe only Teddy parachute helpers needed following the service. No experience needed. Full training will be given!! We are also looking for a few volunteers to help with Teddy Bear biscuit icing to help keep young (and not so young) busy whilst the sale of unwanted gifts is going on. Any donations of tube icing would be appreciated.

Putnoe & St Mark's we are looking for some volunteers to make "Teddy Bear cakes" to be

enjoyed with coffee after both services. See Liz or Carolyn

Unwanted gift sale please if possible bring your priced items to Church on the 5th February. Proceeds to Church funds. Liz/Carolyn

Storybox Plus I hope to run a February half term holiday Storybox Plus for the 4 - 10 year old age group. This would run at St Mark's on Thursday and at Putnoe on Monday between 1 - 2.30pm immediately after young Storybox service. If you would be interested to lend a hand for this one off please see Liz.

Delphine and Frank Coleman express their thanks for the good wishes and flowers etc given to them on the occasion of their Diamond Wedding Anniversary. This was celebrated in conjunction with Delphine's 80th birthday with all the family.

Vigil for Norman Kember - There will be a vigil for the Christian peace activists kidnapped in Iraq, Norman Kember and his three companions. The vigil will take place on Wednesday February 1st, from 11am -1pm at the John Bunyan Memorial Statue. There is no need to attend for the whole two hours—you will be welcome even if only for a few minutes.

Mission Group Meeting Friday 20 January at Putnoe Heights. Please note change of date. Sylvia Cohen 343424.

Sit William Harpur House

There will be a service of Holy Communion at William Harpur House on Monday 30 January at 10.00am. All residents will be welcome at the service as well as other elderly residents who live in Brickhill who would like to attend.

Partnership Council This Week at Putnoe on Tuesday at 7.30pm

Nova Property Services

17 Stratford Way, Lower Shelton
Tel: 01234 766056 Fax: 01234 767827
office@novapropertyservices.co.uk

Nova Property Services provides first class building services for your home.

Carpentry, decorating, new bathrooms & kitchens, UPVC Cladding and guttering, patios etc.

Now is an excellent time to consider a new extension Call Dave Allen now for a free quotation
Nova - for all your property needs

ABC together Annual Service –Sunday 22nd January 6pm in Elstow Abbey. The preacher will be The Bishop of St Albans.

Holiday 2006 April 3 to 7 based in Scarborough. Outings will include a trip around Scarborough and its bays, visits to Pickering and Whitby with a trip across the North York Moors and a day visit to York. Cost £270 per person to include the trips and coach travel from Bedford and return. Same coach all week using the same friendly and helpful driver as on previous holidays. Unlike some coach tours there are no changes involved. Full portering and courier escorting is provided. Half-board accommodation is at the well-appointed Crown Hotel on the South Cliff. All rooms have en-suite and tea-coffee making facilities. There are some single rooms available on a first come first served basis at a supplement of £30 for the holiday. This is a trip suitable for everyone with every allowance made for those with limited mobility. We would extend a warm welcome to everyone in the circuit (and other friends) to join us. We can assure you of a good time! Please contact us for further details and a booking form as soon as possible. Pauline and John Bassill (telephone Bedford 771976)

Concert by Ouse Valley Singers at All Saints Church Milton Ernest on Saturday 4 February 2006 at 7.30pm. In aid of the Friends of All Saints Appeal to repair & improve the church. Tickets £5 including light refreshments from John Brown 823469

Putnoe Heights New Year Lunch. Many thanks to all who supported the lunch, those who shopped, cooked, washed up and laundered tablecloths - and those who came to eat. A profit of £491.25 will enable us to make a donation of £250 to the Mildmay Charity and put the balance into Church Funds. On the subject of tablecloths - we are still missing two

from many months ago - are they in your airing cupboard?

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. If you would like to support Mildmay please could you take an envelope with details of how to give from either church office after the service or during the week. Including a contribution from St Mark's church, 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 in this country and abroad. Thank you for your support. If you would like to be on Mildmay's mailing list so that you can receive regular updates please let the church office know. If you would like to support a child through Mildmay, please take the relevant form from the back of the churches.

Delfina

Mobile Hairdresser for you and your family

Fully qualified stylist
15 years salon experience
10% reduction for seniors

For appointment please call Delfina

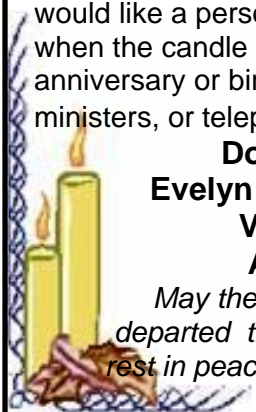
Telephone: 01234 314817
Mobile: 07941 455772

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.

Douglas Bland
Evelyn May Ingram
Valerie Hall
Arthur Meli

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

The funeral of Douglas Bland will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 17 January at 9.15am *Royden*
The funeral of Christine Wadner will take place at St Mark's Church at 3.15pm on Friday 3 February
The funeral of Barbara Mary Husband will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 27 January at 12.15pm
The funeral of Mrs Valerie Gilbert will take place on Friday 27 January at 10.00am