



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

22 May 2005

Trinity Sunday - Christian Aid Week

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 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - The Rev Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mrs Iris Perry

Intercessions - Mrs Pat Leusby

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Neil Bramble-Chapman

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper

Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss

29 May

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion

with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team -

Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

We welcome Lesley Rochford who will speak in our services. (See page 8 for details)

Thank You

The Flowers at St Mark's this week have been given in memory of George and Doris Street on the first anniversary of George's death.

Flowers have also been given at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church by Doris Wilson in memory of her sister Stella Fensome

The Flowers in the chapel this week are in memory of Freda Whitton, Gill Robinson's mum who died on the 18 May 2000.

Prayer for Sunday

Almighty and eternal God,
you have revealed yourself as
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the perfect unity of love.
Hold us firm in this faith, that we may know you
in all your ways and evermore rejoice
in your eternal glory,
who are three Persons in one God,
now and forever. Amen.
(Church of S. India)

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 News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - www.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 - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Elizabeth Wyatt 350188

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 304058

St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613 wendy@thisischurch.com

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Pre-school (See website for more details) Mrs Janet Smith 326685 (Putnoe Heights) or Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634** (St. Mark's).

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

10.00am Supple Strength at Putnoe Heights. Contact Louise Woodcock 270302

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box at Putnoe Heights. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from.

4.15 - 5.45pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms R.Mistry 01908 392698

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 400987

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Contact 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. Mrs C Cannon 404319

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next one 20 June St. Mark's Contact 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. Contact Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Contact Mrs Stileman 822230

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. Contact Geraldine Skeel 406828

12 noon - 10.00 pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Sessions start at 12, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm Contact Val Careless 345213.

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Next meeting May Contact Morag Tompkins 356895

1.30pm Body Control Pilates at Putnoe Heights. Contact Stephanie Smith 357787

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 24 May Mrs. Willis—Salvation Army. Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 24 May - Members Afternoon Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

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

6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights. Contact Emma Holloway 293792

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

7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club meets at St Mark's. Contact Carol Houghton 346718

7.30pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746

7.45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Next meeting May 24 'Living and working with books' Meets fortnightly. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing group) - Contact Mr F Steele 355937

Wednesday

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

9.30am Bedford U3A at Putnoe Heights meets bi-monthly. Next meeting . Contact Jenny Coggins 266379

10.00 am Day Care Centre St Mark's for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

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

12 - 1pm Total Body Toning at Putnoe Heights Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Height meets fortnightly. Next meeting 25 May 2005 Contact Putnoe Heights 365630

1.30 - 4.00pm. Bridge Club for the Retired at St. Mark's. Contact Mrs Truss Boyce 781133

4.15pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 07711 687449

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

7.00pm Bunyan Bridge at St. Mark's Contact Brian Sallows 407725

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting . Contact Sylvia Woods 365095

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Contact Pam Holley 771964

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. Contact 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.*

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Contact Karen Simpson 244970

10.30am - 12.00am Fledglings at St Mark's
2.00pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's Contact 267444

12pm Story box at St Mark's. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

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

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

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

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

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights. A drama group for 4-9year olds. Meets 4-5pm, drinks from 3.30pm

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's. Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Heights . Contact Helga Nash 218521

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Height. Contact Pat Stidolph 345247

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

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

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd Thursday of the month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525
7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St Mark's 3rd Thursday each month. Contact Mr John Broadhouse 740271

Friday

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

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

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

7. 30pm Bibleway Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 376841

6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes at St. Mark's. Contact Mrs L. Laton 365601

Saturday

9.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle 01234 782414

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting 26 March Contact Kathleen Sage 771525

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

Sunday

1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 309881 Mob. 07891095746

6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens) meet fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

Church Calendar

Church Diary Dates

Partnership Council 22nd June
St Mark's Church Council 15 June, 12 October
Circuit Men's Fellowship Lunch on the 18th May
St Mark's Leadership Team -Weds 6th July
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team July 21
St Mark's Church Management Meeting
 24 May, 11 July, 12 September, 2 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm
Putnoe Heights Management

Putnoe Church Council
 13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005
Pastoral Group Meeting - 19 September 2.00pm
Church yard Committee - 27 May -10.00am
Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting
 Wednesday 8 June 7.30 p.m. at 14 Flint Way.
Methodist Circuit Meeting 22 June
Joint Deanery Circuit Meeting 18 January
Deanery Synod 15 September

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

Bible Notes - Trinity Sunday

(Trinity Sunday Year A)

Verse of Scripture Isaiah Chapter 40:28

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the LORD will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Father God, you have created all things and through Christ revealed your salvation in all the world. Give us a vision of your glory and by your Holy Spirit fill us with life and love that we may praise and serve you through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

First Reading –Genesis 1:2 - 2: 4a

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning--the first day. And God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water." So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse "sky." And there was evening, and there was morning--the second day. And God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear." And it was so. God called the dry ground "land," and the gathered waters he called "seas." And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let the land produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds." And it was so. The land produced vegetation: plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the third day. And God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark seasons and days and years, and let them be lights in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth." And it was so. God made two great lights--the greater light to govern the day and the lesser light to govern the night. He also made the stars. God set them in the expanse of the sky to give light on the earth, to govern the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening, and there was morning--the fourth day. And God said, "Let the water teem with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky." So God created the great creatures of the sea and every living and moving thing with which the water teems, according to their kinds, and every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them and said, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the water in the seas, and let the birds increase on the earth." And there was evening, and there was morning--the fifth day. And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that move along the ground, and wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. Thus the heavens and the earth were completed in all their vast array. By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing; so on the seventh day he rested from all his work. And God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work of creating that he had done. This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God.**)

Second Reading - 2 Corinthians 13: 11-13

Finally, brothers, good-bye. Aim for perfection, listen to my appeal, be of one mind, live in peace. And the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints

send their greetings. May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

(This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - Matthew 28: 16-20

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (This is the word of the Lord—**Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promise of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory: through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms)

1. Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty! 7
2. As the deer pants for the water. Mission Praise 37 (on notices)
3. Thou whose almighty word. 29
4. Father, Son and Holy Ghost. 791
5. Lord thy Church on earth is seeking. 774

Commentary

"When I first started studying Theology at Westminster College in Oxford, we were taught a course called "God of Creation and Redemption". The course concerned Systematic Theology, which seeks to give a rational and orderly account of the content of Christian belief and ethics. It was a very comprehensive course and covered God's acts of Creation at the beginning of time and His continuing Re-creation through the redemptive work of Jesus Christ and we also explored the work of the Holy Spirit. So the Trinity was an important part of our studies. Looking back on the course now, one criticism I would level at it is that it should have had the words "and Sanctification", in the title, to include the ministry of the Holy Spirit too.

The Gospel passage we read today is extremely important in many ways as it speaks of the Great Commission of Jesus to his disciples, to preach the Gospel to all people and all nations. It is also significant in that it mentions baptism in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. This is an early Trinitarian formula, expressing that God has three aspect or persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who are different, yet one.

Now it is extremely difficult to explain the Trinity and to put the whole Doctrine of the Trinity into a few words would be to do it a gross injustice. However, the doctrine of the Trinity reminds us that there is more to God than we may initially perceive and that as we may come to know God through Jesus Christ, we may also grow in our understanding of the Father as we journey in Faith and we may also grow in holiness through the Sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit.

Trinitarian thought will continue to baffle and confound, but the Trinity is a central Doctrine of the Christian Faith, expressing God's multifaceted Love and involvement in the whole of Creation." *Neil Bramble Chapman*

Meditation

Bishop Richard Chartres, writing on the Holy Trinity

"You can't have a God. If you have, possess a God, if you talk about My God, my own little possession that helps me, my asset, then what you have is not the true and living God, father of our Lord Jesus Christ, but an Idol, a God made in our own image. And, brothers and sisters, much of the history of religion, even in the Christian Religion, is an attempt to make Gods of ourselves, by launching ego-projections into the middle distance - plop - and then having an affair with that ego-projection. That's what religion has been, so very often."

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Thanks be to you, Lord God of all creation. You have commanded your angels to keep us in all our ways. Send your angel to always be a fiery pillar before me, a guiding star above me, a smooth path beneath me, today, tonight and forever. Amen.

Praying the Trinity

1. God as Creator

As Christians we cannot believe that the world was the work of anybody other than our God. We look at it and it is marvellous and we believe that God made it. But it is more than a belief in some thing which we read. When we look at creation we feel God and his creating power. Today we give thanks to God

Thank you God our Father that you have made all things and made them well

That you have given to us all things richly to enjoy

For the beauty and the bounty of this fair earth

and for the creating power alive in this universe which make all things new.

For this we thank you God

But forgive us when in pride, or selfishness or anger we misuse your gifts

2. God as Jesus who died for us

We read about Jesus but when we read the story it isn't just a story, it comes across to us as powerfully as if it happened yesterday. We read that Jesus lived and walked this earth, we remember the history of his birth, but there is more than that, we feel the life of Christ today, we seek daily to bear his cross and to live his risen life

Thank you Jesus for your redeeming power.

That you loved us and gave yourself for us:

That you gave your life a ransom for many, a ransom for us.

That you were obedient to death, even the death of the cross.

We thank you O Christ

Forgive us if we treat your love lightly as a little thing, and if we ever fail to try to love you as you love us

3. God as the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit calls us to be God's people, joins us together as one body in the name of Jesus. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit working in our lives that we know God. It is the Holy Spirit who draws us on in the Christian life.

Thank you Holy Spirit for the guidance you have given to us. For the knowledge you have brought to us.

For your continual upholding, strengthening, protecting power

We thank you Holy Spirit of God

Forgive us when we try to live the Christian life alone and have failed to seek the divine help which we might have had from you.

A Confession for Christian Aid Week

For our incapacity to feel the sufferings of others, and our tendency to live comfortably with injustice,

God, forgive us.

For the self-righteousness which denies guilt, and the self-interest which strangles compassion,

God, forgive us.

For those who live their lives in careless unconcern Who cry 'Peace, peace' when there is no peace,

We ask your mercy.

For our failings in community, our lack of understanding,

We ask your mercy.

For our lack of forgiveness, openness, sensitivity,

God, forgive us.

For the times we were too eager to be better than others,

When we are too rushed to care, when we are too tired to bother, when we don't really listen,

When we are too quick to act from motives other than love,

God, forgive us.

Holy Spirit of God, light a flame within me, burning for justice, glowing with kindness, shining with hope for the end of poverty and the peace of all people in this ever-turning world. **Amen.**

(Christian Aid/Peter Graystone)

News, Views and Information

Putnoe Heights Junior Church and Storybox Plus Summer Outing. We hope to go to Thurleigh Farm Centre, leaving from Putnoe Heights Church at 12 noon, on either 3 or 10 July, taking a picnic for "Wacky Woods". Kids £3.75 Adults £3.25 Family £13.50 (2 adults and 2 kids). Please let Liz Spavins know a.s.a.p. which date you would prefer or for more details call Liz on 302349.

TNT is cancelled on 29th May because so many members are away for half term. We will go swimming on another day.

Junior church The "help" rota is now on the notice board. Please sign up if you would like to join us one Sunday. Our 10+ group will be in the small hall led by Joan, Neil and other "Guest Leaders" and the younger ones will be in the large hall with Liz Spavins, John Barrow and Holly Webber.

Sunflower Competition Remember to bring your planted seed to the Fun Run to see whose flower has grown the best.

Fun Run and Teddy Bear's Picnic! TODAY! 22 May at Mowsbury Park, our 5km Fun Run followed by a BBQ, Bring a Teddy to the Teddy Bear's Picnic, 4pm. We are in need of prizes to offer our heroic participants. Sponsorship and entry forms are now available in St Mark's church office.

Putnoe Saturday Morning cleaning—We are desperately short of volunteers for this rota at present. Most teams are down to two persons and if one of those cannot attend, the situation becomes very difficult. It is not a very arduous duty and is usually completed in less than 45 minutes on a Saturday morning once every 6 weeks. We would love to have new members—perhaps some of the hardworking young adults we now have in the congregation might be willing to give up a little time once every six weeks? Full training will be given! If you can help please see Peter or Joy or ring 261736.

Boot Sale May 30th—The Church will be very grateful for unwanted bric-a-brac, books, toys. Electrical goods, old tools, curtains etc for the Church Stall. Thank you. Traybakes for the refreshments also gratefully received.

Lost Property Did anyone inadvertently pick up a lady's black jacket after the service at Putnoe Heights on Sunday May 8th. It was hanging on a peg near to the kitchen, but was missing shortly after the end of the service. Please telephone the Church Office, or myself on 327219. *Margaret Massey.*"

Service to celebrate the work of St Ethelreda's. Tuesday 31st May 6pm at St' Paul's Church. If you

would like to go, then please Contact :- Hannah Potter 352675.

St Mark's Church membership forms are available on the table in the entrance. Please complete and return to the church office, leadership team or one of the ministers. Thank you.

Notelets depicting an original painting of St Mark's Church, by Peter Coppenhall, are on sale at 25p each from the book stall.

St Mark's Annual Congregational Meeting. Leadership Team Annual Report Copies are available to collect this morning from the entrance table. **Minutes** - These are also now available for collection

We are always grateful for donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate 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).

Footprints - Pinchmill Islands walk Sunday 29th May. Meet at Sharnbrook Mill 2.30 p.m. for a 4 mile circular walk. John and Sally Gunning - phone 305925.

Footprints Weekend in Colchester 16—18 September 2005. There are still two twin rooms available, non-walkers welcome to join us in this pleasant area of 'Constable Country.' Further details from Sue Allen 407264

Mission Groups News (Putnoe Heights) £360 has been sent to Faith in Action Orphan Support Scheme, providing goats to give additional income and nutrition to families raising orphans. Please take time to read the letter of acknowledgement on the notice board.

Network Spring District Day Monday 6 June at Chesham Methodist Church. The theme "Building Bridges" will be led by Connexional President, Elaine Turner. A coach leaves from Priory Methodist Church at 8.30am, the cost is £10. To book a place please contact Elaine MacKirdy tel: 360271 as soon as possible and no later than 27 May.

Tuesday Club would like to thank everybody who supported their Charity Evening. We have sent £303 to the Primrose Appeal Fund.

Partnership Review. Copies of the Partnership Review by The Reverend Stephen Heap are available this morning for members of the Joint Policy Group.

Christian Aid Week

Christian Aid has its 60th birthday this year. We are celebrating it with joy that millions of people in the poorest parts of the world have been able to turn their lives around. Vital to this has been campaigning, giving and praying in the churches of the UK and Ireland. But it is also scandalous that, after all this time, the rules that govern international trade still trap poor people in poverty.

This is how your donation can make a difference this Christian Aid Week

£66 maintains one girl at the Bridge School in India for a month, giving her a chance of education that otherwise would not be available.

£112 buys a water tank for a Peruvian village. This means that the villagers can get water without having to walk to the nearest stream which could be over 2 km away.

£5 buys five chickens, helping to restore a family's livelihood in Mozambique.

£66 will pay for the internet connection for a computer school for children orphaned by HIV/AIDS in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

£11 will buy the network card to access the internet, so students can train in computer programming.

A Christian Aid Prayer

Gracious Father, who sent your Holy Spirit so that all the world might know your goodness; grant us such gifts as we need to seek good news for the poor, peace for those who live in fear, and justice for all people; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

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.

Rosemary Ann Brown

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



A Hymn for Sunday

As the deer pants for the water,
so my soul longs after You.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.

*You alone are my strength, my shield,
to You alone may my spirit yield.
You alone are my heart's desire
and I long to worship You.*

I want You more than gold or silver,
only You can satisfy.
You alone are the real joy-giver
and the apple of my eye.

You're my Friend and You're my Brother,
even though You are a king.
I love You more than any other,
so much more than anything.

Christian Aid Blessing

May God the Father
bless us with hearts of compassion;
may Jesus Christ
bless us with a vision of a world transformed;
may the Holy Spirit
bless us with gifts to use in God's service;
and so may each of us rejoice
to know the goodness of the Lord,
now and evermore. Amen.

Welcome

We welcome to our service today Lesley Rochford. Lesley is a trained nurse who paid her own fare to go to Banda Aceh when she saw the devastation caused by the Tsunami. We thought it particularly appropriate for Lesley to make a contribution to our services at the end of Christians Aid week, a time when we are considering those less fortunate than ourselves. Lesley has kindly brought a number of pictures which she took during her stay.

Forthcoming Funerals

to be conducted by our ministers

The funeral of Dennis Owen King will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday 26th May at 4pm.
(Joan Crossley)

The funeral of Roy Harding will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 1 June at 10.00am
(Charles Royden)