



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

23 March 2008
Easter Sunday



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday
on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
Church. On the 2nd & 4th Sunday at St Mark's

9.30am St Mark's –Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper
Intercessions– Mrs Pat Leusby

11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team - Mrs Sam Ware
Intercessions -Mrs Sue Allen

30 March - Second Sunday of Easter

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mrs Linda Parry
Intercessions – Mrs Margaret Appleton

11.00am Putnoe Heights – Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team –Mr Lawrence Wyatt
Intercessions - Ministers

Bible Readings. 1. Acts 2: 14a,22-32,
2.1 Peter 1: 3-9 3. John 20: 19-31

Thank You

The flowers in St. Mark's are given by Brian and Janet Ibberson to celebrate the baptism of their second precious granddaughter, Gwendolyn Edith Brooker and by Mrs Mingard in memory of her husband Charles.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as 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) or add your name to the rota in the foyers.

Prayer for Sunday

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.



**You are risen, let trumpets proclaim,
You are risen,, let sun brightly flame,
You are risen, dark night is past
You are risen, hope will now last,
You are risen, let us not dread,
You are risen, back from the dead,
You are risen, Lord of the skies,
You are risen - help us to rise!**

Thank you to those who have worked to decorate and prepare our churches for Easter Worship

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

8.30-5.30pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

9.00am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

10.45am U3A Playreading St Mark's C Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

1.45pm U3A History Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. ☎ David Fowler 824474

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Margo Needham 843747

4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew ☎826190

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner ☎07720712735

6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week every month Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week each month . Next meeting 17 March Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's.

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

10am -Bedford Arts Society starting at St Mark's on the 11th September. ☎Mrs Brown 771676

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Tuesday of the month Mrs Berman ☎364723

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

2-5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 1 April 'Journey to Jerusalem' Rev. Martin Hounfield. No meeting on 25 March Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's alternate weeks. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs

Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's alternate weeks. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917582468.

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group

St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515

7.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week of the month. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting March 25th -Recycling- Liza Maguire..Audrey Wilkins☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.15am Paint Tots St Mark's Jacqui Hanahan ☎824475

9.30am Childminding Support Group Putnoe Heights.

Mrs S Longman ☎313949

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎07973174430.

9.00am Clubhouse at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation Putnoe Heights Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 9th April 2008 Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

12.30pm Men's Fellowship Lunch St Mark's 2nd week each month. Chris Izzard ☎212164

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

1.45 Scots Society Whist monthly .All welcome Nancy Barr 268147

2pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 3rd week of the month Ken Silvester☎400584

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster ☎856966

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton ☎01234 297138

6.30pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

7pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 4th Wednesday of the month. Ken Silvester ☎400584

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. . Sylvia Woods ☎365095

7.00pm Yoga St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎Loxley 347073

7.00pm U3A Sky at Night 2nd Wednesday of the month.

Mr Farish ☎824984

7.45pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome.

Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's,
1st ,3rd & 5th Wednesday. Next meeting 2 April 2008
Graham ☎406359 or Alan 345312.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st
week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights in the
quiet room. Sylvia Cohen ☎343424

*Request for prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the
information table.*

9.40am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-
school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Lena Holland ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play weekly at St.Mark's. A group for
Mums & toddlers. £1.75 for first child. More details from St.
Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm-3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic. St. Mark's ☎267444

12pm Storybox weekly at St Mark's welcome the under
5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm
for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and
singing . Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson☎
325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's

Mr C Hill ☎772922

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights

Nina Ovenden☎825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th
week of the month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.00pm British Cardiac Patients Assoc.at Putnoe bi
monthly Mrs.E. marriot 303834

7.30pm Bedford Senior Chess Club St Mark's Mr P
Housden ☎376597

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's
3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs C Smith ☎344544

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week
each month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th
week Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's 1st and 3rd week Next
meeting Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

**9.30-12.30pm & 12.30 - 2.30pm U3A Photography
Group** St Marks 4th week Joyce Fildes ☎353086

9.00am Clubhouse St. Mark's for those with Learning
Disabilities. Karen Bywater ☎315460.

1.30pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact
Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve
Whitehead ☎356875

**6.30pm –7.30pm Line Dancing. Beginners 7-8pm
Improvers** St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

7pm Bedford Arts Society fortnightly Putnoe Heights
from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

7pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church.

Contact PC Dave Hawkey ☎349179

7.45pm Astrology Group St Mark's as from 11th January.

Mr Kenworthy ☎402792

Saturday

9.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe

Esther Sancto ☎295862 or ☎07917 582468

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing.

Kate Howard ☎01234 782414

1.30pm Young Embroiders bi monthly Terry Fletcher Tel
357198

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger
☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's
with crèche for under 3's

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for
the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for
our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd.
Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

6pm T.N.T. Putnoe. For 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us
for fellowship, fun, games & outings .Next meeting 10
February Liz ☎302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 17th June ,
18 November

St Mark's Leadership Team – 7th April,13 May

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team – May 12th

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Committee –
21st April

Putnoe Heights Management Meetings 14th April
and 14th July.

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting - .

19 May, 11 July, 9 September, 12 November all at
12 noon

Putnoe Church Council - 16 June,6 October.

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee - 11 June

Putnoe Heights Mission Group –Weds 26th
March, 7.30 at 14 Flint Way

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Deanery Meeting - 12 June, 18 September,13
November

Circuit Meeting - , 12 June

Woodland Burial Trustees - Sunday 6th April 2008
in the Wren Room at 3.30pm

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–

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



Easter Sunday

Opening Verse - Matthew 28

"Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said.

Collect Prayer for the Day

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you

in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory; to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity. Amen

First Bible Reading - Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favouritism but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. You know what has happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached— how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power, and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him. "We are witnesses of everything he did in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They killed him by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him from the dead on the third day and caused him to be seen. He was not seen by all the people, but by witnesses whom God had already chosen—by us who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." (This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Bible Reading - Colossians 3:1-4

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. (This is the word of the Lord - **All: Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - Matthew 28: 1-10 Glory to Christ our saviour

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb. There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men. The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you." So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

(Reader: This is the Gospel of Christ, **All: Praise to Christ our Lord**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ: you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation; give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King to the Glory of God the Father. **Amen**

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms, Holy Communion Books & Baptism at St Mark's)

1. Christ the Lord is risen today 193 (Tune:Easter Hymn)
2. Low in the Grave 202 (Tune: Christ Arose)
3. Now the green blade riseth 204
4. Joyful Joyful *On Partnership News* (Tune:Ode to Joy)

Commentary

John Bunyan was imprisoned in the 17th century for refusing to sign a document affirming the Anglican statement of faith. While in prison, he wrote the classic allegory, "The Pilgrim's Progress." Many of us think that the journey of faith is only about getting to the point where Christ converts your soul and raises you from the death of unbelief. Bunyan knew what all Christians eventually learn, though, that despair and discouragement are graves that Christians must be delivered from, too. In one beautiful passage, Christian and his travelling companion Hopeful are awaiting certain death in Doubting Castle. They are praying through the night when all at once Christian sees the Easter light break forth in his heart: "What a fool am I thus to lie in a stinking dungeon when I may as well walk at liberty. I have a key in my bosom called Promise that will, I am persuaded, open any lock in Doubting Castle." And so it did for Christian and Hopeful as they escape the grave of despair by the key of the risen Christ. Whatever discouragement you may face, Easter is God's promise to you of his resurrected power.

Prayers for Sunday and week ahead

Risen Lord Jesus, victorious over death, in compassion for your troubled friends, you appeared in many places that they might dare again to trust. In a world full of so much fear, strengthen us also with signs of your presence. Meet us on the way so that we might be no longer afraid. Free us from everything that would lead us to doubt your love for us and for the world and inspire our witness to the joy and the hope of your resurrection. Amen.

Risen Lord: There is so much we don't understand. We celebrate on this Easter morning the glory of your victory over death and with it the blessed assurance that, through you, we now have access to the kingdom of heaven. We are joyous. But we are also confused. What does it mean in our lives this news of a resurrected Lord? How are we, in the twenty-first century, affected by it? In what ways are we changed? What will tomorrow bring? Just as Mary, in her discovery of the empty tomb, was so focused on the issues of her life that she failed to recognize you standing before her, we too, struggle with seeing your presence in our lives. You are the Risen Lord and we sing loud hosannas in celebration of this but then we return home and focus on the issues that fill our days. Lord, we pray that you open our eyes and our hearts to your love and glory. Create in us a spirit that focuses only on you. Transform our hearts and send us off into the world to do your work. Rise again, Lord, in our hearts so we can truly become the children of God we have been created to be. It is through the glory of the empty tomb we pray. Amen.

Easter Message

Christ triumphant The really good news gospel - the Easter message from the Methodist President Revd Dr Martyn Atkins, President of the Methodist Conference, says;

Donald English used to say that death and resurrection is not simply what happened to Jesus but is the deep movement God implants in all creation. The Christian God is a God of death and resurrection. Like many I have been challenged by poignant examples of death - its reality and hard consequences - and blessed by wonderful examples of resurrection - and the hope and joy it brings. I will never forget a conversation with a Sierra Leonian man, bearing the scars of the rebel war in the 1990's so powerfully depicted in the recent film Blood Diamond. He thanked me fervently for bringing the gospel to his land - he talked to me as if I was one of those first Methodist missionaries to West Africa! He explained with deep emotion how he had received Christ quite recently, in the war years, and this coming to faith had enabled him to begin to forgive those who mutilated him - and, as I learned a little later, killed his wife. I was moved to tears. In all his pain and lasting disability he knew that Jesus was alive, and there was hope in his life. He knew in a deep way that the gospel of Christ truly is good news. More recently, when in Uganda with MRDF, I met Christian folk who have so little, who live with the reality and proximity of death and suffering

in a way I do not, yet who remind me more than most of the life and hope of Christian faith. Death and resurrection belong together. Or I think of some friends who have died in recent times. They knew their prognosis. They lived with the stark consequences of their impending death, for themselves and especially their loved ones. And at just the time when hope might be most lacking in these dear people and those who love them, they talk of the nearness of Christ, the wonderful love and forgiveness of God, the comfort of their faith, their trust in Jesus, the salvation he freely gave and their hope of heaven. In the most traumatic situations of life, it is often those going through them who embody and make clear that the Christian gospel truly is good news. Death and resurrection is also evident in the life of our churches. I was at Walworth Methodist Church some weeks ago. A church with a venerable past, 'Clubland' had a great ministry among local youths and others in that London neighbourhood. But there came a time when almost all signs of life disappeared, and a long three days of darkness ensued. But resurrection has come and new life bursts out everywhere. Methodist Christians, young and old, many (originally) from various parts of West Africa and beyond, share life and worship that exudes the good news gospel. Our world lives with death and resurrection in many ways and in many places. An 'average' news broadcast gives cause to both weep and rejoice. In places of death and darkness we must continue to weep with those who weep and 'look for the morning' as people of resurrection faith and hope. With those who rejoice in life and hope we must celebrate and point to God, the giver of it all. Our Easter faith is not death or resurrection, it is death and resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus is not a reversal of death. It is much more than that. The risen Jesus is known by the scars of crucifixion. He is the Living One Who Died. But now he is alive forever. And, marvellously, he stands today with this needy world in the reality of death and the promise of new life. This ministry he shares with us, his Easter People Church, a people bearing the marks of both death and new life. A people who know and live out the profound truth that death and resurrection life both lie deep in the purposes of God, in whom all things will be well. Alleluia!"

Easter Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen

He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Let us pray

Glory to you, O God:

you raised Jesus from the grave,

bringing us victory over death and giving us eternal life

Glory to you,

O Christ: for us and for our salvation you overcame death

and opened the gate to everlasting life

Glory to you, O Holy Spirit:

you lead us into the truth and breathe new life into us.

Glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit now and for ever. Amen.

Eternal God, who made Easter night to shine with the brightness of your one true light: set us aflame with the fire of your love, and bring us to the radiance of your heavenly glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Christ yesterday and today, the beginning and the end, Alpha and Omega, all time belongs to him, and all ages; to him be glory and power, through every age and for ever. **Amen.**

By his holy and glorious wounds may Christ our Lord guard and keep us. **Amen**

The Easter Paschal Candle is lit, saying

Minister: May the light of Christ, rising in glory banish all darkness
from our hearts and minds

The light of Christ

All: Thanks be to God

Climate Change Please take time to look at the display at the back of the church at St Mark's. Feel free to make any comments / suggestions as to what we can do as a church.

Lunch Club at Putnoe Heights would like to set up a list of drivers who could be called upon occasionally when regular drivers are unavailable due to holiday absence etc. If you could help in this way, please inform the Putnoe Church Office.

District Women's Network Spring Craft Day 2008 on 3rd May. 9.45am to 4.15pm at Priory Methodist Church. Booking Forms from Pam Seymour. Tel: 305695, to be returned by 23rd April.

Cassie - lively 5 year old German Shepherd dog needs a new home. Not suitable for children under 10 years old. Contact Donna on 0782 553 5103

Music at St Andrew's Church Saturday 10 May 2008 at 8.00pm. Ruth Palmer - violin Young Classical Brit Award Winner 2007 with Joseph Middleton - piano Winner of the Wigmore Hall International Pianist's Prize 2007
Strawberries and cream, and a glass of sparkling wine will be served on the Vicarage lawn during the interval (£2) Concert tickets: £7 (£5 concessions) from: St Andrew's Church Centre Office, tel: 01234 216881

Tower Trips, Displays, Teas. Saturday 12 and Sunday 13 April. Open weekend at All Saints Church, Odell. 2.00pm - 5.30pm. Take a trip up the tower for fantastic views across the Ouse Valley. Browse displays and archives. Tea and cakes. Join us for a special service on the Sunday evening at 6.00pm. Help raise money for our 'Tea and Toilet Project.'

Nominations for Putnoe Heights Church Council Please complete nomination form available from welcome area or office. Return by Sunday 13th April. Annual Congregational Meeting Sunday 20th April 12 noon.

Footprints Sunday 6th April. Meet at the Equestrian Centre, Keysoe (follow brown sign from B660) at 2.30pm for 3-4 mile circular walk including visit to the woodland burial site. Further details from Sue & Gerry (407264)

Putnoe Heights Coffee Morning Sat. 5th April 10.00-12noon hosted by the Young People's Group at the home of Sam Ware 1 Welbeck Gardens. Cakes and raffle. Proceeds to Mission Funds. All welcome. Offers of/requests for transport to Sylvia Cohen 343424.



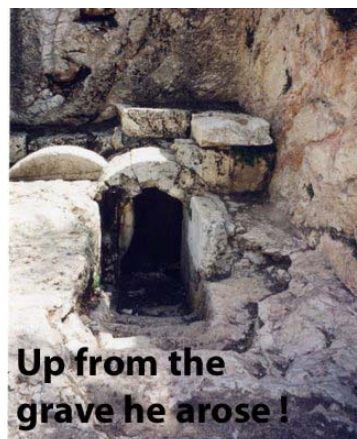
Brickhill Parish Council are campaigning to keep Brickhill Drive Post Office open. It has been revealed that the post office are minded to close it down. Visits by Post Office Inspectors will start soon, they will visit Brickhill, walk around and consider the locality. As a part of their campaign, the Parish Council encourages Brickhill residents to sign their petition, put posters up in your window and write letters of support. More details are available now from St Mark's.

Car Boot Sale—Monday 24th March
St Mark's Car Boot sale opens on Monday. Offers of good quality Bric-a-brac gratefully received and also tray bakes for refreshments.

Putnoe Grant Award. We were delighted this week to hear news that Putnoe Heights Church Centre has been awarded £80,000 by WREN towards the extension of the kitchen and hall. This is excellent news and the Leadership Team hope that we will be able to proceed with the work this summer.

Stations of the Cross Slides on Website

Some people have asked for the slides from the Station of the Cross service at St Mark's to be made available. The pictures begin with the Upper Room in Jerusalem, a walk up the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, a view from the Citadel wall in Jerusalem which looks first to walled Bethlehem and then to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre which stands over the place of crucifixion. The series then continues with a walk along the Via Dolorosa from Lion Gate. They can be viewed as pdf file or Powerpoint.



Up from the grave he arose !

Hazeldene Heights Preschool. Come & share in the activities with the children in our Preschool at Putnoe Heights. Please talk to Linda Hoar if you can spare a few hours each month or would like to know more about the group. Your help would be greatly appreciated. Linda Hoar 782717

Overnight stay in Theatreland? Small studio flat for overnight stays close to Covent Garden. Sleeps two. £80 per night. Phone Bedford 346820

Bark Available from St Mark's, we appreciate a donation of about 50p a bag.

Confirmations. We will be preparing people for a joint Methodist/ Anglican Confirmation on June 1st. If you are interested in joining the Confirmation classes, (Sundays in May) please see Charlie or Joan.

Rota for the next quarter is on show today. St Mark's rota can now be downloaded from our church website and we hope to have Putnoe posted soon.

St Mark's Coffee Shop Change

With the lighter nights it has been decided to move the time of the coffee shop a little latter, it is now open 2.30pm until 5.00pm

Women's Network

Circuit Easter Offering Service on 27th April at 6.30pm at Priory Methodist Church. All Welcome.

Putnoe Storybox (12.00-1.00) and Storybox plus (1.15 - 2.45) Holiday Specials, Monday 31st March at Putnoe. All welcome please let Liz know if you have children who would like to join us for April Fool Fun!!! Normal sessions restart again at Putnoe Monday 7th April.

Easter Hymn

- 1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
Hail thee as the sun above!
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day.
- 2 All thy works with joy surround thee,
Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee,
Centre of unbroken praise;
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flowering meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in thee.
- 3 Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living,
Ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou the Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.
- 4 Mortals join the mighty chorus,
Which the morning stars recall;
Father-love is reigning o'er us,
Kindred love binds each to all;
Ever singing march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife;
Joyful music lifts us sunward
In the triumph song of life.

Ode to Joy

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.

Bert Allott

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



Rest in Peace

The funeral of Millicent Meads (Millie) will take place at St Mark's Church on Wednesday 26th March at 3.30pm *Royden*