



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

24 September 2006
Ordinary 25

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



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30 Holy Communion at both Churches
9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship
Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mrs Delia Shephard
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Alan Cooper
Intercessions - Ministers

October 1st - Harvest Festival

8.30 Holy Communion at both Churches
9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership - Ian Farthing and Janet Day
Intercessions - Mrs A Holden
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship with
Baptism of Richa Audrey Jones
Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
Leadership Team -
Intercessions -

Reading 1 : Numbers 11: 4 - 6, 10 - 16, 24 - 29.

Reading 2 : James 5: 13-20

Reading 3 : Mark 9: 38-50

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Veta Hudson Rae to celebrate her birthday and that of her grandson Samuel.

The Flowers at St Mark's have been given this week in celebration of the wedding of

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

A Prayer for Sunday

Grant to us, O Lord, fullness of faith, firmness of hope and fervency of love. For the sake of the gospel may we sit loosely to our wealth and daily embrace you in the poor of the world. As we rejoice in your generosity so may we give ourselves in the service of others; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thomas More, 1478-1535

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

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

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.
Home 344536 Crossley@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
309175 Mobile 07973 113861 vicar@thisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership News is also archived on our church website www.ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 12 noon Monday & Friday

9am - 5pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

8.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634**

(See website for more details)

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

Mini-Strikers Sport for Children at Putnoe aged 2-4 years. Contact Andy Carey 01908 313751 or 07766 142754, or www.ministrikers.co.uk

12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box Putnoe Heights church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz on 01234 302349

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

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

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

4.15 - 6.00pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Penny Fulham 406045

7.30pm Sugarcraft Guild meets first Monday every month at St. Mark's Mrs Pauline Parrott 768419

7.15 m Guides -St. Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091

7.15pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights Church. Contact Karen Simpson 244970

7.30pm Creative Needles at Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next 16 October Mrs. Judith Stanton. 823313

7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567.

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

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework) at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

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

9.30am -12.30 & 4 - 9pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg 351223

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

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 26 Sept. Mrs. M. Walsh For more

details contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting . contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. For details of next meeting contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

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

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

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

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

7.30pm Dog and Puppy Training at Putnoe Heights. Contact Lynn Southwell 07974 743240

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting Oct.3 Harvest Meal Contact Madge Walsh 359088

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

Wednesday

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

9.30am - Body Control Pilates at Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787.

9.00 a.m. Clubhouse at St Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.

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

10am Sewing & Chat Putnoe Heights Contact Valerie Russell 01462 815966

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

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. For details of next meeting 4 October contact Putnoe 365630

1 - 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

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

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

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

Thursday

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

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

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

1.30pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444

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

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

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

2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

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

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

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Helga Nash 218521

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

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

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992

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

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

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

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

Friday

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

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

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights Contact Eve Whitehead 356875

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

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

Saturday

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

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

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe. 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

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

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

6—7.30pm T.X.T for 13 + fortnightly , join us for fellowship , debate & discussion at Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council , 11 October

Circuit Meeting - 28 September 7.30 Priory

St Mark's Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 26 September

St Mark's Church Management Meeting -

12.30pm 11 October, 6 December

Putnoe Heights Church Management -

Putnoe Church Council 9 October

Pastoral Group Meeting - 26 September 11am.

Churchyard Committee - 29 November 11am.

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting -

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

Partnership Council -

Brickhill Parish Council - 12 Oct,30 Nov

Deanery Meeting , 14 September, 16 November

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth -

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

Ordinary 25

Verse of Scripture

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful! Their delight is in the law of the Lord, and they meditate on his law day and night. Psalm 1

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Merciful God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as pass our understanding. Pour into our hearts such love towards you that we,

loving you above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Methodist Worship*

'Whoever welcomes
one of these little
children in my
name welcomes
me..'
Mark 9:37



First Bible Reading - Proverbs 31: 10-31

A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family and portions for her servant girls. She considers a field and buys it out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - James 3: 13 to 4:3, 7-8

Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show it by his good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbour bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, of the devil. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace raise a harvest of righteousness. When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. Submit yourselves, then, to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

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

Third Reading - Mark 9: 30-37

They left that place and passed through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were, because he was teaching his disciples. He said to them, "The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into the hands of men. They will kill him, and after three days he will rise." But they did not understand what he meant and were afraid to ask him about it. They came to Capernaum. When he was in the house, he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" But they kept quiet because on the way they had argued about who was the greatest. Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

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

Post Communion Prayer

God of all mercy, in this eucharist you have set aside our sins and given us your healing: grant that we who are made whole in Christ may bring that healing to this broken world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Morning Worship)

1. Dear Lord and Father of mankind 111
2. For I am building a people of power 151
3. God is building a house 184
4. Make me a channel of your peace 456
5. Now thank we all our God 486

Commentary Mark 9. 30-37

Jesus called the Twelve and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must be the very last, and the servant of all." He took a little child and had him stand among them. Taking him in his arms, he said to them, "Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me does not welcome me but the one who sent me."

Charlie reminded us, in his sermon last week, that Jesus consistently confounded the expectations of his followers. The power of Jesus' message was in its challenge to the power struggles within any society and its overriding compassion for all. These days we would perhaps say that the Disciples had "power-issues". Some of them were looking for a payback for all their devotion, either when Jesus came into his kingdom on earth or in heaven. The passage from the Gospel today challenges expectations about who has importance in God's pecking order. The passage comes directly after some of the disciples; Peter, James and John had been allowed to witness the powerful vision of the Transfiguration. Perhaps they came back thinking that this honour had made them into an elite group of specially chosen disciples with more authority than their fellows? They all saw that Jesus had power and perhaps they were hoping that they would take some of that authority to themselves?

The disciples were wrangling about this behind Jesus' back, and were ashamed to own up when he asked them what they had been discussing. It is touching that they attempted to hide their shameful ambitions from the Lord, who always knew what was in the hearts of men and women. The subject of power and ambition was central to Jesus' mission and so he gathered the followers around him for a formal session of teaching, as any Rabbi would his disciples. Jesus subverted the whole notion of ambition by saying that true power came only through willingness to serve. This idea must have come as a blow for the disciples, who were, mostly from a poor and fairly humble background. It must also have seemed like nonsense. Why would someone who could be first in the pecking order choose to be like a servant? Servants are at the command of others, they have to obey and always get little consideration. They are vulnerable and can be promoted or dismissed at will. Was this the role that Jesus was suggesting for his followers? I expect their hearts sank. But this overturning of the laws of ambition is in fact a liberation, if we could only do it! It would be that we could love others and work for them without waiting for the reward. We could abandon the desire to be important, knowing that we are truly valued by God. When Jesus drew the small child into the circle of his followers, he was picking out a representative of the most disempowered, humble group in society.

The Lord said, when you welcome one of the weak and vulnerable, you welcome me. Jesus was asking them to do something very difficult: to see God in everyone. The challenge to recognise God in every person is a spiritual discipline: it demands that we see the importance of the tattooed scary skinhead on

the street, the tiresome boys who throws stones at cars, the rude bus conductor and so on. Might Jesus be in these awful-seeming people, as well as in nice, friendly ones? Might these people be the ones in whom we welcome Christ? What a challenge! What a privilege! *Joan Crossley*

Meditation

Last week I was sent a lovely present. Bunyan Meeting Free Church in the centre of town have put together a book about their church, the Bunyan Museum and Library. This little book is a masterpiece of clarity: it explains Bunyan's life and times in very accessible language. On the inside of the back page are just a few sentences explaining Bunyan's theology and philosophy. Amongst other things, Bunyan embraced the idea that the Christian should trust in only in Christ and the Gospel, and warned that this would inevitably mean being at odds with the world and its evil ways. Bunyan certainly carried over his thinking into his own life, rejecting the established church and all its apparatus of power. He was willing to suffer loneliness and poverty, separation and sorrow in order to stick to his beliefs. The challenge for us is: are we being too easily conformed to this world and its standards? What should we be resisting or attempting to remake in the image of God? *Joan Crossley*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening into the house and gate of heaven, to enter into that gate and dwell in that house, where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling, but one equal light, no noise more silence, but one equal music; no fears nor hopes but one equal possession; no ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity; in the habitations of thy glory and dominion, world without end. Amen

Lord Jesus Christ, you have said that you are the Way the Truth and the Life. Suffer us not to stray from you, who are the Way, nor to distrust you, who are the Truth, not to rest in anything other than you, who are the Life, Amen. (Desiderius Erasmus)

The Martha and Mary prayer. Lord, there are those who are good leaders, those with gifts to speak and make decisions; those who are good listeners, and those who quietly care; those whose work is little noticed, but without which our church would be the poorer. Take all our gifts, Lord, and use them for your glory. Amen (Adapted from a prayer by Margaret Wilson, MU Anthology of Public Prayers)

Let us Pray - O God, light of the minds that know you, life of the souls that love you, and strength of the hearts that seek you - bless the words of our lips and the meditations of our hearts. We ask it in Jesus' name. Amen

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

Lord Jesus, you calmed the raging storm and tamed the surging sea—calm the tempest of indecision and cure the seasickness within our souls. Forgive our faint-heartedness. Grant us not just the courage to do the right thing, but also the wisdom to figure out just what that right thing is. Reassure us, Lord, that even if the right course of action hurts us in the short run, that you will ultimately reward our faithfulness and keep us safe.

Thank You Lord

Thank you Lord that I can see so many are blind.

Thank you Lord that I can hear so many are deaf.

Thank you Lord that I can walk so many are crippled.

Thank you Lord that I have food so many are starving.

Thank you Lord that I have shelter so many are homeless.

Thank you Lord for the touch of a friendly hand so many are lonely.

Thank you Lord for the Cross you share with me and for all your blessings so many deserve them better.

Help me Lord always to be mindful. Amen

News and Information

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

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

Sunday morning coffee/tea at Putnoe Heights. A big thank you to Claire Peck who has offered to take over the role of co-ordinating the rota of helpers and organising supplies. Also to Jenny Snelson who has joined the team of helpers. More helpers are still needed. The greater the number the lesser the work. For further details contact Claire Peck .

Prayer walk. 30 September. Contact Paul Field on paulfield1@ntlworld.com or Ken Cherry on kingdom.harvest@ntlworld.com.

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

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

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

Piano in need of good home. If interested contact Vera Pearson 270237.

AGM of Friends, Volunteer & Associates of BECHAR (Bedford Concern for Homeless & Rootless) takes place on 28 September at 8pm at Prebend Day Centre. Please reply by 21.9.06 by form or e-mail admin@prebendcentre.org.uk

Rotas for October - December are now ready for collection at Putnoe. For readers and those leading intercessions if you are unable to make the dates given could you please swap with someone else on the list and alter the master plan in the church office. Alan Bayliss

Methodist Church to host debate on air travel and climate change

Methodist Church House in London will host a public debate on the role of air travel in causing climate change on Thursday 28 September. The announcement comes the day after Richard Branson committed to spend £1.6 billion in profits from his airline to address climate change.

The event is being organised by the Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility (ECCR), and will feature speakers from the Airport Operators Association, the Aviation Environment Federation and Transport 2000. The meeting is open to all, but those wishing to attend are asked to register their interest with the ECCR.

Yesterday Richard Branson committed to invest £1.6 billion over the next 10 years in renewable energy, the money coming from profits generated by his rail and airline businesses. Air travel is growing thanks to low-cost airlines, but at considerable cost to the environment. The debate will ask if future jet technologies will ease the problem, or if curbs on air travel will be necessary in the future. The debate will bring together speakers from the aviation, corporate and non-profit sectors and an audience of ethical investors, corporate responsibility practitioners, faith groups and other interested parties.

Steve Hucklesby, Methodist Secretary for International Affairs, said, "Richard Branson is to be congratulated for his desire to address climate change. He is right – we must wean ourselves off fossil fuels. But we must also accept that if we are to address the challenge that Al Gore has outlined with the film An inconvenient truth we must get serious about setting absolute targets for carbon emissions. Alternative fuels can only play a part.

"Low cost air travel comes at a high cost to the environment. Short haul flights create 4 to 5 times as much carbon as an equivalent journey by train. The reality is that the rapid and continuing growth in air travel is contributing to environmental disaster."

All are welcome, and those wishing to attend should email miles.litvinoff@eccr.org.uk. The debate will begin at 4:30 on Thursday, 28 September.

Bedford Festival of Music, Speech & Dance

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

TNT for 9-12's & TXT for 13+ will launch at Putnoe on 17 September from 6-7.30pm. Please come along for this planning meeting. If you would like to join or help with these two new exciting groups. See Joan or Liz for more details.

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

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

Putnoe Harvest Lunch Sunday 1 October at 1pm Tickets now available from Putnoe Office or Leadership[team. Adults £5, £2.50 child under 10. Soft drinks included, bring your own wine.

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

Sue Allen's Team ' The Chemical Sisters' thank all their sponsors in the Barford Bypass Challenge. When all sponsor money is collected we shall have be able to donate £750 to St.John's Moggerhanger

Peter and Valerie Littleford invite you to their Macmillan Coffee morning on Friday, September 29th from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. at 1, Bindon Abbey, Riverfield.

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

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

Circuit Meeting at Priory Methodist Church this Thursday 28 September at 7.30pm

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

Nova Property Services

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Rest In Peace

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

Duncan Cairns

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 Derek Gerald Pilcher will take place on Tuesday 26 September at 2.00pm. Royden