



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

26 March 2006

Mothering Sunday

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



Church of
England

Church Services Today

8.30 Holy Communion both churches
9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship
 Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
 Leadership Team - Farthing/Day
 Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
 Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
 Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt
 Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

2nd April

8.30 Service of Holy Communion
9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship
 Preacher - Rev Dr Joan Crossley
 Leadership - Mrs Janet Day
 Intercessions - Mrs Alison Holden
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship
 Preacher - Rev Dr Joan Crossley
 Leadership Team - Dave Allan
 Intercessions - Tim Wilkes

Reading 1 : Jeremiah 31:31-34
Reading 2 : Hebrews 5:5-10
Reading 3 : John 12:20-33

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Dorothy Billingham in memory of her husband, Ridley.

The flowers at St. Marks this week are given by Wendy & Marion in memory of their Mothers.

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

Prayer for Sunday

Begotten of your love, O Father, we are made in your image. Cared for all our days, we are never beyond your sight. Enfolded in your heart, we are never out of your thoughts. To think of you is rest. To know you is eternal life. To see you is the end of all desire. To serve you is perfect freedom. To love you is everlasting joy. Amen.

W E Orchard, 1877-1955

Contact Details

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

The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM
 (Day off Friday)
 12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE
 326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)
 30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.
 Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)
 The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY
 309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

Partnership Youth and Children's Worker
 Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

For Data Protection Purposes

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

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

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 12 noon Monday & Friday
9am - 5pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630
Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen 407264
Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428
 Treasurerph@Thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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

Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

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

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

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

9.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634

(See website for more details)

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

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

4pm Story Box Plus at St. Marks for 4 -11 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments & games, then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church the 1st Sunday of each month. Lots of fun. Free. Contact Liz 302349

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

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

6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 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 17 April 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 21 March Favourite Flowers Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next

meeting 28 March with Women's Fellowship 'More than books' Anthea Slack Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

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

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

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

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

6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights. Emma Holloway 293792

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

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

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

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

7.45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 4 April talk about the Air Ambulance Service Alison Horsley. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

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

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 5 April 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 - Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Mr James 07711 687449

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

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

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

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073

7.45pm Kick Boxing Junior classes at St Mark's. Contact Mr James 07711687449 or 07810234890

7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

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

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

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

1.00pm - 3.00pm Clinic at St. Mark's 267444

12pm Story box St Mark's Church welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible story, singing and activities. Lots of fun, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 1234 302349

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

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

2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

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

2pm U3A Indoor Games at Putnoe Radmila Dancer 404811

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

7.45pm. Housegroup- Meets fortnightly at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Betty Wyatt 350188

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

Friday

9.30am U3A Exercise at Putnoe Heights. Carole Maunder 301325

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

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

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights.

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

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 Theatre Train 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

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

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council 14 June, 11 Oct

Circuit Meeting 16 Mar 2006

St Mark's Leadership Team - 24 Apr, 6 June, 12 Sept

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 2 May

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

Putnoe Heights Management - 15 May, 17 July

Putnoe Church Council 12 June, 9 Oct

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee - 11 April

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting- at 7.30 on 26 April at 14 Flint Way.

Partnership Council - 19 Sept

Brickhill Parish Council - 27 Apr,

Deanery Meeting St Mary's Eucharist 22 June, 14 September, 16 November

Annual Congregational Meeting 7 May 2006

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 26 Apr, 28 June

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

Fourth Sunday of Lent Year B (Mothering Sunday)

Verse of Scripture

As a mother comforts a child so will I comfort you,
says the Lord. Isaiah 66.13

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

God of compassion, whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary, shared the life of a home in Nazareth, and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself: strengthen us in our daily living that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence to bind together and to heal; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen



First Reading - Exodus 2: 1-10

Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" "Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water." (Reader: This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - Colossians 3: 12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God**)

Third Reading - Luke 2: 33-35 and John 19: 25-27

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Near the cross of Jesus stood his mother, his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother there, and the disciple whom he loved standing nearby, he said to his mother, "Dear woman, here is your son," and to the disciple, "Here is your mother." From that time on, this disciple took her into his home.

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

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God, as a mother feeds her children at the breast you feed us in this sacrament with the food and drink of eternal life: help us who have tasted your goodness to grow in grace within the household of faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymns Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Mothering Sunday Service Sheets

1. Morning has broken 635
2. Give thanks with a grateful heart (In Partnership News, MP 170)
3. Lord of all hopefulness 552
4. Be thou my vision 378
5. All praise to our redeeming Lord 753

Commentary

The two passages from the Gospels this morning are taken from the extreme ends of Jesus' relationship with his mother, Mary. In the excerpt from Luke we meet Joseph and Mary in the temple celebrating the birth of the first born son, bringing him to be circumscribed according to the rites of their people. It should have been a joyful occasion and they have been greeted by Simeon prophesying Jesus' greatness and heroic future life. Any parent would have been reeling from shock, even after the extraordinary events that had gone before. But it is Simeon's prophesy about Mary's suffering as a result of Jesus' great calling on which we focus now. The first phrase stresses Jesus' disruptive, transforming quality "this child is set for the rise and fall of many in Israel" and then says , almost incidentally that a sword would pierce Mary's heart too. Note that the word chosen to describe the sword isn't a genteel little dagger but rhomphaia meaning a huge battle weapon. This is a deadly weapon bringing death rather than injury and the selection of this word suggests Jesus' death. The final phrase prophesying that Jesus will bring out the truth about people continues the theme that Jesus will be a catalyst for change, an force for change, a challenge for authority and bigotry down the ages.

The second part of the Gospel reading is taken from when Jesus, as a grown man in his thirties is about to die. We see Mary choosing to watch her son's suffering, rather than leave him. We see that she waits with her women friends all the long hours when Jesus suffers on the Cross. Jesus displays equal loyalty to her, thinking of her plight as a widow and consigned her into the care of his disciple John. In the sermon today I shall be thinking about what that gesture implies for Jesus' understanding of what family means, but here we shall notice Jesus' love and compassion for his mother, and note their mutual loyalty and sense of responsibility for the happiness and well-being of the other. We take these feeling for granted and that is why we are so deeply shocked when the bond between parent and child is wrecked by cruelty, violence or deceit.

The reading from Paul's letter to the church family at Colosse is an appeal for them to put aside differences over heresies and factions and to concentrate on the meaning of Christianity. "Bear with each other and forgive whatever grievances you may have against one another". Paul saw that the little church was being pulled apart by disputes and begged them to be governed by compassion, patience, kindness, gentleness and humility. All these peacemaking, reconciling qualities are essential for family life in every form.

Joan Crossley

Meditation.

My nomination for Best Film this year wouldn't be "Brokeback Mountain" although it was very moving, nor "The Constant Gardener" although we loved it... I would nominate a very unusual; movie, filmed in black and white, (with no violence, special effects nor graphic sex scenes) called "Goodnight and Good luck". The film was written and directed by George Clooney and he takes a major role. But there is an even better reason to see this film, (if you can) because it is about moral choices and standing up publicly for what is right. The movie is set during the onslaught on freedom of thought and political affiliation made by Senator Joe McCarthy in early 1950s America. The movie charts the attempts of a television presenter Ed Morrow to protest against McCarthy as he pursued a witch hunt against anyone who had been a Communist or even were related in some way to Communists. Morrow and his team of chain-smoking, quietly dedicated reporters felt that it was their duty to show to America how the Constitution was being subverted by these trials. By standing up to the Senator, the newsmen were risking their jobs and livelihoods. When Morrow exposed McCarthy as a vindictive bully he too came under vicious attack. But the courage of Morrow and his team helped to turn the tide in a very dark era of American history. In a sense the historical setting doesn't matter: it could be any period where freedom of thought, or action comes under threat, where the right to worship or believe is threatened. It poses a challenge for us Christians: are we mindful of Jesus' example in challenging authority when necessary? Or have we become lazy, complacent or fearful of campaigning against injustice? Bullies are frightening and because they do not care how much they hurt, they enjoy too much power and influence. We must not take the easy path by agreeing with what we know to be wrong. *Joan Crossley*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead.

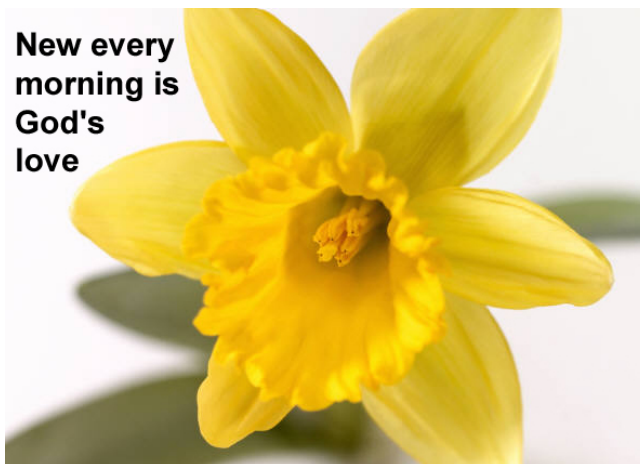
Lord Jesus, you know well the blessing an earthly home can bring: receive our thanks for all the love we have received in our homes, especially from those who have nurtured us from our earliest years. Hear our prayers for mothers everywhere, that they may never lose heart nor ever be taken for granted, but receive from their children the honour and love you showed to your mother, Mary, even as you were suffering on the Cross.

Bless and keep them all, for your love's sake. Amen (Anglican Church in Ireland)
Remember, O Lord, all those in need: people with no good food or proper clothes, no home of their own, or no work to do; those who have neither family nor friends and no knowledge of the your love. Supply their needs. Bless those who try to help them and bring us all to trust in you. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.



God our Father, we ask you to bless all who live alone, those who have lost their partner in marriage, those who have never married, those whose families are grown up and away from home and those who have outlived other members of their families and many of their friends: Be with them to assure them of your love and of their value to you every moment of their lives, and enable them to rejoice in the fellowship of your Church on earth and in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Creator God, from whom every person and creature on earth gets life and breath, we pray for those who also create beauty, bring forth life and transform our understanding. Amen



**New every
morning is
God's
love**

Palm Sunday Family Service
Sunday April 9 at 11.00am
With distribution of Palm Crosses

Palm Sunday Family Service
Sunday 9 April at 11.00am
With distribution of Palm Crosses

Good Friday Service
Friday April 14 at 11.00am
Morning Family Worship
(With Coffee & Hot Cross Buns!)

Maundy Thursday Service
Thursday 13 April at 7.30pm
Holy Communion

Easter Day
Sunday April 16
Holy Communion 8.30am
Family Communion 11.00am

Good Friday Service
Friday 14 April at 11.00am
Morning Family Worship
(With Coffee & Hot Cross Buns!)

Easter Day
Sunday 16 April
Holy Communion 8.30am
Family Communion 11.00am

Don't Forget Good Friday Special at Putnoe Church 12– 1.15 Easter Story, singing craft activities & light refreshments. Suitable for all ages, £1 donation per family.

News, Views and Information

Storybox Easter Arrangements at St Mark's

Thursday 6 April bring your own lunch, drinks provided. Thursday 13 April—No Meeting. Friday 14 April Good Friday Special at Putnoe Church 12– 1.15 Easter Story, singing craft activities & light refreshments. Suitable for all ages, £1 donation per family Thursday 20 April back to normal

Storybox Plus Easter arrangements at St Mark's

Monday 3 & 17 April No meetings. Thursday 6 April Activity afternoon 1.15– 2.45. Good Friday arrangements as for Storybox above. Monday 24 back to normal.

Storybox Easter arrangements at Putnoe

Monday 3 April bring own lunch, drinks provided. Mondays 10 & 17 April No Meeting. Friday 14 April Good Friday Special at Putnoe 12—1.15 Easter Story, singing, craft activities & light refreshments, suitable for all ages of children, £1 donation per family. Monday 24 April back to normal.

Storybox Plus Easter arrangements at Putnoe.

Monday 3 April Activity afternoon 1.15—2.45. Thursday 6 April No meeting, Good Friday arrangements as Storybox above. Thursday 20 April back to normal.

Storybox plus at Putnoe welcomed Glyn and Richard, our community police officers, this week to their meeting. They talked about safety and all aspects of their work at Putnoe. The highlight of the visit for the kids was a Neighbourhood Watch close circuit TV Van. Similar visits are booked for St Mark's after Easter for both Storybox and Storybox plus.

Mothering Sunday Today 1st Putnoe Brownies will be holding a cake stall after the service. They are raising money to send Claire, one of their young leaders, to an international Guiding Camp in Russia. If you would like to donate a cake or two, bring them along Sunday Morning. Many Thanks.

British Cardiac Patients Association (Zipper Club

Meets on the 4th Thursday every 2nd month at Putnoe. Next meeting 27 April with a concert of WW11 songs performed by the 'Melodians'. All welcome .Further information Eileen Marriott 303834.

Spring Fair at Biddenham Village Hall Saturday 1 April from 10 until 2pm. Admission 20p. Cakes, gifts, cards, toys plants, paintings. Light refreshments. Proceeds for Arthritis Research Campaign.

Footprints Sunday 2 April meet at the Peace Pagoda Car Park, Milton Keynes , on V10 Brickhill St at 3pm (please note later start) 4 mile circular walk

around Willen Lakes, Ouzel Valley and Grand Union Canal. Sue Allen 407264

Pam Crouch would like to thank everyone for their prayers, good wishes, cards & visits during her recent stay in hospital. She is home now and progressing slowly & hopes to be back with us soon.

Jim Gorrige will take his last service in the Circuit on Sunday 2 April at Priory. This will be followed by a presentation at 12.45pm and hot buffet lunch. The invitation extends to all circuit members. Further details from Sue Allen. Offers of desserts for the lunch will be welcome.

Network Spring Craft Day Saturday 6 May at Priory Methodist Church. Wide choice of workshops. More information & booking forms from Pam Seymour 305695 or Eleanor Markirdy 360271 book by 6 April.



Edith Wilson: Four of her friends from St. Mark's went on Friday to her funeral and thanksgiving service at St. John's. The church was completely full, and we learnt more about her Christian service and spirituality than she had revealed whilst coming to St. Mark's in the closing period of her life. Edith was born in Edinburgh in 1924, the oldest of six children. She trained as

a nurse at Berwick on Tweed, and later as a midwife, studied at Bible College and offered to go abroad as a missionary with one of the Indian mission societies. After acceptance she spent over thirty years as a teacher and counsellor as well as nurse and midwife in the Bangalore area of South India, learning the local language as well as Urdu, went to Australia and then came back to this country and worked as a matron in Clarendon School (attending Sr. John's Church), before retiring and coming to live in Brickhill. All the tributes to her emphasised her devotion to witnessing for Christ, her self-giving, her humour and interest in sport, her love for children , and most of all her strong and deep life of worship and prayer and Bible study. Some of this we had only glimpses of at St. Mark's, and thank God for all she obviously meant to so many people in Scotland, London, India, Australia and Bedfordshire. She was indeed a "good and faithful servant". Mary Stubbs

Network Spring Craft Day Saturday 6 May at Priory Methodist Church. Wide choice of workshops. More information & booking forms from Pam Seymour 305695 or Eleanor Markirdy 360271 book by 6 April.

London NW District Women's Network

Celebration Service Saturday 20 May at 2.30 pm at West London Mission, Hinde Street, London.

"God's Story in Action" Bishop Richard and a team from the Diocese have put together a 6 week course including a DVD and course booklet. If you would like to order a copy for your group the cost will be £20. Please see Milly.

Putnoe Heights Tuesday Club invite you to join them at open meeting on Tuesday 4 April at 7.45pm. for a talk by East Anglian Air Ambulance Service. Admission £1 including refreshments. We will continue to collect mobile phones for them until 4 April.

Kempston Musical Society will be performing Faure Requiem on Saturday 1st April 2006, 7.30pm at All Saints Church Kempston.

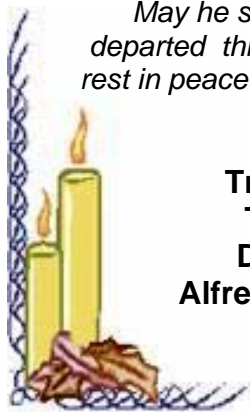
Swedish Evening Saturday 6 May at 7.30 at St.Mark's. Tickets on sale shortly, pre- book them with Janet or Ian now.

Rotas Please note that new rotas are available for next week.

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.

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



**Trevor Jones
Tony Little
Doris Webb
Alfred John Adams**

A Hymn for Sunday

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks, because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks, because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say I am strong,
let the poor say I am rich,
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say I am strong,
let the poor say I am rich,
because of what the Lord has done for us.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks, because He's given
Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
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Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say I am strong,
let the poor say I am rich,
because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say I am strong,
let the poor say I am rich,
because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks. (Finish)

Rest in Peace

The funeral of Patricia Anne Pavitt will take place on Thursday 30 March at 2.30pm
Crossley

