



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

27 August 2006

Ordinary 21

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 Putnoe Heights only

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams

Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss

Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

3 September Ordinary 22

8.30 Holy Communion at both Churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Service

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership - Mrs Delia Shephard

Intercessions - Mr John Tatman

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Service

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash

Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

Reading 1 : Deut 4: 1-2, 6-9

Reading 2 : James 1: 17-27

Reading 3 : Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by John and Janet Smith to mark their Pearl (30th) Wedding Anniversary.

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

God of glory,
the end of our searching,
help us to lay aside
all that prevents us
from seeking your kingdom,
and to give all that we have
to gain the pearl beyond price,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Common Worship Shorter Collect

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 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 - 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 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 - 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 18 September 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 -

For details of next meeting 5 Sept. AGM contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. For details of 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 Sept 5 'Living in Queens Park' - Revd J McLeod 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 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 4-11year 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
6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens) meet fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council , 11 October
Circuit Meeting - 28 September 7.30 Priory
St Mark's Leadership Team – 12 September
Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 26 September
St Mark's Church Management Meeting - 12.30pm 11 October, 6 December
Putnoe Heights Church Management - 18 Sept
Putnoe Church Council 9 October
Pastoral Group Meeting –
Churchyard Committee - 30 August
Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting - .
Partnership Council - 19 September
Brickhill Parish Council - 14 Sept, 12 Oct,30 Nov
Deanery Meeting , 14 September, 16 November
Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 4 September 7.30

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

Ordinary 21

Verse of Scripture - Psalm 34:18,22

The Lord is close to the broken hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit, The Lord redeems His servants; no-one who takes refuge in Him will be condemned.

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Holy God, you liberate the oppressed and make a way for salvation. Unite us with all who cry for justice, and lead us together into freedom; through our Lord and Liberator, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Methodist Worship



The shield of faith by Ann Kimmich, can be viewed in colour on our church website www.ThisIsChurch.com

First Bible Reading - Joshua 24: 1-2a, 14-18

Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your forefathers, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the River and worshipped other gods. "Now fear the LORD and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your forefathers worshiped beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the LORD to serve other gods! It was the LORD our God himself who brought us and our fathers up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we travelled. And the LORD drove out before us all the nations, including the Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the LORD, because he is our God." (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God)

Second Reading - Ephesians 6: 10-20

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armour of God so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should. (Reader : This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God)

Third Reading - John 6: 59-69

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me, and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I live because of the Father, so the one who feeds on me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Your forefathers ate manna and died, but he who feeds on this bread will live forever." He said this while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum. On hearing it, many of his disciples said, "This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?" Aware that his

disciples were grumbling about this, Jesus said to them, "Does this offend you? What if you see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before! The Spirit gives life; the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. Yet there are some of you who do not believe." For Jesus had known from the beginning which of them did not believe and who would betray him. He went on to say, "This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless the Father has enabled him." From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him. "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Jesus asked the Twelve. Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know that you are the Holy One of God
(Reader : This is the word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God)

Post Communion Prayer

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Morning Worship)

1. Come let us sing of a wonderful love. 691
2. Come on and celebrate (In Partnership News)
3. O love that will not let me go 685
4. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine 668
5. Dear Lord and father of mankind 673

Commentary

The events recounted in this morning's passage from the Gospel according to John, are believed, by most scholars, to have taken place the year before the fateful Passover when Jesus died. The chief components of Jesus' ministry were already in place by then: according to John's account, Jesus had been baptised in the Jordan; greeted as the Messiah by John the Baptist; had performed spectacular miracles and had done extraordinary acts of healing. By this time Jesus had attracted a crowd of admirers and hangers-on who followed him wherever he went. What did these followers of Jesus expect and why did some of them fall away?

The Gospel states that Jesus has known from the beginning which of them would not believe and which would betray him. We don't know whether this means from the beginning of time or from the beginning of Jesus' encounter with the disciples. Perhaps exactly when Jesus knew is not important. What we must pay attention to is the idea that Jesus understood that many of his apparently enthusiastic followers would give up and go home. In his parable about the Sower, Jesus warned that some believers would have shallow roots and wither away. Jesus was a realist about the human beings he loved so much. He was not a starry-eyed romantic who turned furious when people did not live up to his illusions about them. Jesus did not show any anger or surprise when so many of his followers decamped and left. Jesus' response was more like a shrug of the shoulders and a sigh of resignation. It is noteworthy that Jesus did not condemn those who could not believe. He accepted it as inevitable. Jesus was aware that true believers would need to be sorted from temporary believers. If, after all they had seen, heard and experienced, they could not believe then they would have been unlikely to be able to follow him through the desperate months that led to the Cross. They would be too unbelieving to brave the persecutions he knew would attack his followers after the Resurrection. It would take faith to endure and they simply hadn't enough.

All the disciples, not just the ones who went home must have been shocked by the words that Jesus had spoken. He introduced the hideous notion that in order to have eternal life they would have to feed on his body and blood. It is worth remembering that some Romans reported hearing that the new Christian sect practised cannibalism. The poor disciples must have

flinched away from such a revolting and strange idea. When he saw that they were struggling Jesus responded with kindness “The spirit gives life: the flesh counts for nothing. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life.” Jesus was reassuring them that his words were to do with the spiritual nourishment that his body and blood would bring. No cannibalism was required! Jesus’ meaning would eventually be made more clear at the Last Supper, when he said those strange words again. But not every mystery in our faith is revealed and belief must sometimes take priority over full understanding. *Joan Crossley*

Meditation

The Gospel this morning is concerned with faith and lack of faith. The text implies that believers cannot believe unless God makes it possible for them. I take this to mean that some people have the gift of faith and find that it comes easily to them, while others find it harder. Their dispositions and cultural backgrounds make it very hard for some to listen and understand. Some have an “ear” for religion as some have an ear for music. This analogy does not imply that everyone cannot believe, just that some find it comes more naturally than others. Faith, like musical ability, can be encouraged, fostered and worked at. Much of our church ministry with children and young people is aimed at allowing them to hear the story of Jesus and giving them the freedom to follow Jesus or go home. We are not in the business of brainwashing or threatening in order to gain converts. We believe that the Gospel speaks for itself and can be witnessed in action. That is why I am asking both churches to put our work with children high on their agendas and for all of us to support it in whichever ways we can. “How are they to believe who have never heard the Good News?” *Joan Crossley*

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Heavenly Father, help us to be vigilant in our own lives, so that either by word nor actions may we be guilty of causing others to fall. (Women at Prayer, Rachel Stowe)

Lord of life, your life embraces me on every side. I open my arms to greet you. God, grant me a clearer vision of the many-splendoured thing, your presence in and through all things, that I may be on with your mind of love. (Richard Harries)

The guarding of the God of life be on you. The guarding of the loving Christ be on you. The guarding of the Holy Spirit be on you, every night of your lives. To aid you and enfold you each day and night of your lives. (Carmina Gadelica)

News and Information

Refreshment Rota at Putnoe Heights. Do you enjoy a cup of coffee or tea after the morning service at Putnoe Heights? If so, you may have wondered how these regularly appear Sunday by Sunday. For many years the task of organising this has been undertaken by Margaret Massey who has now decided to retire from this role. (Many, many thanks for all your years of service Margaret) We are urgently looking for someone to take over from Margaret and be responsible for organising the rota for the helpers and ensuring that sufficient supplies are always at hand. If you feel this would be a role you could fulfil (it really isn't too onerous a task); contact either Alan Bayliss or Margery Charie who will be happy to provide you with further details. We are also very grateful to the folk who are currently on the rota but we do urgently need additional helpers to join

them. Again contact either Alan or Margery if you are interested.

Safeguarding. Janet Day will be responsible for ensuring that all people at St Mark's who are involved in any way with children or vulnerable adults have CRB clearance. Please contact Janet immediately if you do not have yours up to date.

Storybox plus would like to thank everyone who came to help us on Thursday for our Jonah Man Jazz activity day, last Thursday. The day was most successful and enjoyed by everyone who took part. We would like to invite everyone to our performance of Jonah Man Jazz after the service on Sunday 10th September. Liz & Carolyn.

News and Information

Plans for Putnoe ! The plans for the building of a meeting room and for improving the playground are on display in the Welcome Area. An application for planning permission has been made and applications for funding from a number of charities are being made. Joan

Barn Dance 4 November 6pm at Putnoe. Suitable for all ages. Details to follow. See Liz

Storybox starts again at St Marks on 7 Sept and Putnoe on 11 Sept. Storybox plus at Putnoe begins 7 Sept and the newly renamed Monday Club begins at St Marks on 11 Sept. If you would like to join any of our teams please contact Liz.

Junior Church The crèche at St Mark's will continue as normal thanks to Debbie. We will begin back as normal on Sunday 10 September. We hope to plan an outing, possibly to Wicksteed Park? following a Sunday Service in September please see Liz or Sam Ware if interested.

British Cardiac Patients Association. Meets at Putnoe Heights Church on the fourth Thursday on alternate months. Next meeting August 24 at 7.30pm with slides on Swaziland by Wendy Jones. Please feel free to join us, all welcome.

Charity Coffee Morning & Bring & Buy Saturday 2 Sept. From 10 to 12 noon at Putnoe Heights. All proceeds to 'The Stroke Unit' (Care of the Elderly—Bedford Hospitals Trust. Any contributions—Cakes, Tombola or White Elephant delivered to the hall by 9.30am gratefully received. More details Nancy Barr 268147.

Bric-a-brac for the Church Stall at the Boot Sale on Monday 28 August will be very welcome. Books, toys, old tools, bicycles, records, videos, CD's and electrical goods are also popular. The catering team would also be very grateful for tray bakes for the refreshments. *Avril Williams*

Fairtrade Display at 22 Mallard Hill, Bedford on Friday 22 September 7-9.30pm, Saturday 23, 2-5 pm and Sunday 24, 10am - 1pm. Entrance 50p including refreshments. There will be a wide range of Fairly Traded products including stationery, gifts, food, clothing and jewellery.

Members of the Envelope Scheme at Putnoe Heights Church are invited to collect their pack of envelopes for the year beginning 3 September 2006 from the table in the welcome area. We are grateful to all who use the scheme to make a regular

contribution to the ongoing work of the church. If you are not already a member of the scheme and would like to have a set of envelopes, please speak to John Hitt after morning worship, or telephone him on Bedford 404186. We are particularly grateful to all the taxpayers who have completed Gift Aid declarations. This has enabled the church to recover more than £8100 in relation to income received in the tax year 2005/06.

Telecare The scheme is now going well and we are extremely pleased with the positive response with about 50 people joined. If you would like to join please telephone St Mark's Church Office at any time and leave your telephone number. We will contact you to put you on the list. Members receive a telephone call from the church about once a fortnight to check all is OK.

Mediterranean Evening— St Mark's Church on 23 September. This promises to be a really good evening with Vittorio. Tickets available shortly. Adults £6.50, children under 12 £3.

Fiona Cooke would like to thank everyone at Putnoe Heights for their visits, cards and prayers during her recent unexpected illness. They certainly aided her recovery.

Goldington Child Minder has spaces available . Contact Steve Fish on 07759581188.

Footprints Rambling Group invite you to join them on Sunday, 21st May for a 4-mile circular walk around Stevington. Please meet at 2.30pm in car park of the Royal George. The entrance to the car park is in Court Lane, but as parking space is limited, car-sharing wherever possible would help. Parts of the walk could be muddy if the weather has been wet. Further details from Sue and Richard Butler on Bedford 354183.

Circuit Welcome Service

To officially welcome
to our church and Circuit

The Reverend Martin Hounsfield
&
The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley.

At Priory Methodist Church at
7.30pm on 30 August
With Bishop Christopher and Anne Brown

Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Historic Churches
 -Sponsored Cycle Ride and Walk - Saturday 9
 September 2006. 10am - 6pm. If you are interested
 in taking part, further details and sponsor forms are
 available from Alan Bayliss (Telephone 01234
 268101)

Open the Book - Storytelling in Schools. With a
 new school term starting in September, the Open
 the Book teams will also begin going into primary
 schools in the Bedford area again, to tell and act
 out Bible stories during assembly. More storytellers
 are needed - it involves one hour per week, plus
 some preparation, during term time. If you are
 interested in joining on of the teams please come
 along to a meeting/training session to be held at
 Russell Park Church, Denmark Street, on
 Thursday, 14 September between 1.00 - 3.00pm.,
 or speak to Diane Bayliss at Putnoe Heights
 Church. Please PRAY for this valuable outreach
 into our primary schools.

Support for Kisizzi

Thank you to everyone who sponsored Hannah to
 raise money for medical equipment for the Kisizzi
 hospital. As we mentioned when Hannah visited
 us earlier this month over £500 was raised towards
 equipment for the newly opened obstetrics and
 gynaecology unit however the administrator at the
 hospital in Kisizzi has requested that they may use
 the money we are sending to them to refurbish the
 pharmacy block, which is also the production unit
 for intravenous fluids. The Health Ministry has
 advised that this is necessary if the unit is to
 continue operation. We are therefore going with

this and we can focus on the maternity unit in our
 Autumn project. Sam Cappleman

A Hymn for Sunday

Come on and Celebrate!

Come on and Celebrate!
 His gift of love we will celebrate -
 the Son of God, who loved us
 and gave us life.

We'll shout Your praise, O King:
 You give us joy nothing else can bring;
 we'll give to You our offering
 in celebration praise.

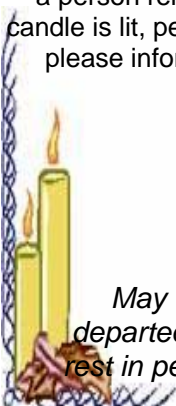
Come on and celebrate, celebrate,
 celebrate and sing,
 Celebrate and sing to the King:
 Come on and celebrate, celebrate,
 celebrate and sing,
 Celebrate and sing to the King

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.

**Irene Dixon
 Ricky Wynne
 Nora Ross**

*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 Derick Benson
 will take place on Tuesday 29th
 August at 1.45pm at Bedford
 Crematorium. (Royden)

The funeral of Jeffrey Claude Fensome
 will take place on Thursday 31st August at
 10.00am at Bedford Crematorium. (Royden)