



Partnership News

27 January 2013

Putnoe Heights & St Mark's Church



8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday

1st, 3rd and 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights
2nd and 4th Sunday at St. Mark's Church

Today 27 January

9.30 St Marks – Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Elizabeth Bean
Intercessions –Ministers

11.00 am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher – Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership – Mrs Jean Kirk
Intercessions - Mrs Sam Ware

Sunday 3rd February

9.30 St Marks – Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Margaret Appleton
Intercessions – Mrs Margaret Appleton

11.00 am Putnoe - Family Worship

Preacher – Revd Charles Royden
Leadership – Mrs Veta Hudson-Rae
Intercessions - YPG

Readings 1. Ezekiel 43 27-44 2.1 Corinthians 13: 1-13
3. Luke 2: 22-40

Midweek Holy Communion at St Mark's Chapel every
Wednesday at 10.00am and at Sir William Harpur House
on first Monday of every month at 10.00am

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Pam Crouch in loving memory of her husband and brother, and by Norma Taylor and family in loving memory of their mother and sisters.

We are grateful when people make donations towards flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion such as an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St. Mark's) or Ann Hitt 404186 (Putnoe Heights) or add your name to the rota on the foyers

Prayer for Sunday

Let us worship the Christ
who draws near to each of us.
Let us praise the Christ
who loves the worst among us.
Let us bless the Christ
who shares with the least among us.
Let us glorify the Christ
who intercedes for all among us
in the presence of God the Father. Amen.
Ann Griffiths (1776-1805)

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR
Tel: 266952 nsm@thisischurch.com
(Sam also works full time as a Vice
President for Hewlett Packard)

Deacon Jane Mills

c/o Putnoe Heights Church Centre 365630
jane@thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden

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

Partnership News is sent out by email every Saturday
in a colour edition. If you would like to receive a copy
please send an email entitled 'Partnership News' to
vicar@thisischurch.com. Please note that any items submitted
for inclusion in Partnership News will automatically be posted on
our website and may appear in other local media sources.

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

Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator

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.*

Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Avril Williams 01234 342613

Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open Monday to Thursday 9am - 5pm, Friday 9am - 1pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630 putnoe@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Mr Geoff Gypps 365630 mob 07947 902846
Leadership Team Mrs. Jean Kirk 317699
Treasurer Mr John Hitt 404186 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Lawrence Wyatt 350188
Youth Team Leader Carolyn Morris youth@thisischurch.com

St. Mark's Church Centre

Open Monday - Friday 9am - 5.00pm
Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613 office@thisischurch.com
Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613
Leadership Team - Morag Stewart 360103
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892
treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.15 –3.45 pm Mon and Wed/ 9.15-12.15pm Tues/ Thurs/Fri. Hazeldene Heights Pre-school. See website for more details www.ThisChurch.com
Head teacher Mrs Laura Leggett 326685
8.30-5.30pm Pre-school Mon-Fri St Mark's
9.-3.45pm Top Marks Mon-Fri St Mark's
Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634**
(See website for more details)
.9.45am - Body Control Pilates –Putnoe Heights
Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430
10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's Mrs Berry 211955
10.30am U3A Play reading St Mark's (see contact details below)
2.00pm U3A Calligraphy at St Mark's 2nd week (see contact details below)
2.00pm U3A Relaxation & Meditation at St Mark's 1st & 3rd week starting 1st October (see contact details below)
12.15pm Story box Putnoe Heights We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12.15 and 1.15 for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Contact Carolyn Morris youth@thischurch.com 365630
1.30-2.45pm Chat & Make For babies and toddlers 0-5. Crafts, toys,songs,story and refreshments £1. More details email– chatandplay@hotmail.co.uk .
2pm U3A Music Appreciation (see contact details below)
4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 01767699399 or 07720713738.
6.15 Pilates at Putnoe Heights Jane Butcher 300859
6.15pm-8.15pm Fit for Life Yoga - Putnoe Heights Contact Jane Butcher 07891879571
6.30pm Boot Camp Putnoe Heights – Laura Amor 341152 / 07976259081
7.00pm Sugarcraft Guild St Mark's 1st week Pat Nicholson 353518
7.00pm Cancer Care Society. St Mark's. 1st Week. Mr J Dewhurst 01908 377020
7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake 218091
7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's 3rd & 5th week . Next meeting– 18 February Judith Stanton. 823313
7.30pm House group 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck 267567
7.45pm Opus Choir at St Mark's Mrs Sutherland 269100
8pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' at Putnoe Diane Field 404976

Tuesday

9.30am Jo Jingles. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Renu Elston 07790206016
9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Pat McCart 365507
9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's. Helen Skinner 07989080389
10am Autism Beds Adult Support Group. St Mark's. Sally Cripsley 350704
11.15am U3A Keep Fit Putnoe Heights (see contact details below)
1pm –2.30pm Drop in Wiggles and Jiggles 0-5 years, Putnoe Children's Centre. Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552
1.15pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's (contacts below)
2.00pm U3A Book Group 1 St Mark's (3rd Wk) (see contact details below)

2.00pm U3A Book Group 2 St Mark's (2nd Wk) (see contact details)
2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Morag Tomkins 356895
2pm U3A Photography Group 3 St. Mark's (1st Wk) (contact details below).
2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's Fortnightly . Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
2.15pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's Fortnightly. Mary Stubbs 406784.
4.00pm-6.15pm Stars School of Dance. Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468
6.15pm Pilates St Mark's Church Jane Butcher 0789187957
7pm—8.30pm Daisy Birthing Putnoe Heights Susie 07980447390
6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Denise Worker 07900 232648
6.30pm MT Karate (all ages) Karen King 07941264885
7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory 328455
7pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Sacha Ojo 07590597891 or www.tabernacleoftruth.co.uk
7.30pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club (Meets fortnightly). Next meeting '5 February 'Steeple Drive'. Details Janet King 313946
8.15pm - 10.15pm Bedford Advanced Dancers Workshop St. Mark's 1st Tuesday in month. Shirley Sadler 01767 651767

Wednesday

9am -1pm Machine Knitting group at Putnoe Heights, fortnightly. Contact Marion Sutton 217647
9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787 or 07973174430.
9.30am Discovery & Do (Childminders) St. Mark's. Clare Simmons 328380 or 07788824666
10am-2pm Open House at St Mark's for those with learning disabilities., their friends, family , carers and supporters 342613.
10am U3A Gardening Group 3 St Marks. (contact below)
10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.
10am U3A Card Making, St Marks (see contact details below)
10am U3A Diet and Nutrition- Putnoe (contact below)
11.15am U3A Keep Fit
12.30pm Luncheon Club. Putnoe fortnightly. Next meeting 30 January 2013 Putnoe Heights Office 365630
1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights (Fortnightly)
1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes 261811
2.00-4.00pm U3A Craft St Marks.(see contact details below)
2.00pm Fifty Plus Keep Fit Mrs Webster 856966
2pm U3A Gilbert and Sullivan
2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit. Putnoe Heights Mrs Webster 856966
3.45.- 5.30pm Messy Church. St Mark's (3rd Wk). for children of lower school age and their carers. Bible-based story, crafts, singing and a meal. Next meeting 20th February Wendy Waters /401834
4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00 pm Brownies. St Mark's. Mrs C Warden 219731

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Racheall Monton 01234 297138 or 07910835994.

6-8pm Karate. St Mark's Karen King 079412 64885

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

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

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe monthly Mrs O Holt 266004

7.00pm Line Dancing Putnoe Mike Del-Boyer 348378

8.00pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club at St Mark's 1st,3rd & 5th Wednesday in month. Next meeting will be 30 January Everyone welcome. All dances called, only £1 including refreshments. Rosemary 405594 or Graham 406359 for more details.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Jean Ross 771870

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. Putnoe Heights. Valerie Capon 356306

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

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Denise Green 244970

9.45am Chat and Play St.Mark's. A term time group for Mums & toddlers.0-5 Jo Garner 400071 or 07719670624

110-11.30am Gentle Yoga For more details contact Helen Nicholson Tel.03003004305

12pm Storybox . St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Jaana Swaby 363283

1.30 - 3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic 1st and 3rd Thursdays St. Mark's 267444

1pm—2.30pm Drop in (small hall) Next Steps 9-24months Putnoe Children's Centre.Please call Trudy Hamilton (centre assistant) for more information 340552.

2pm -Friendly Chicago Bridge at Putnoe Heights £2 per session inc. refreshments. New members welcome. Contact Pat 01234 294220.

2pm U3A Current Affairs - Putnoe Heights

2-4pm U3A Indoor Games. St.Mark's (contact below)

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Art Society St Mark's Mary Rich 272470

.5.00pm Weightwatchers. St. Mark's. Clare Martin 07805408811.

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Lou Watkins .

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Nina Ovenden 825059

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry St Marks (2nd and 4th week) (see contact details below)

7.15pm Putnoe Art Group Bob Wardale 406094

7.00pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd week in month. Carol Plant 01832710504

8 -10pm Bedford Folk dancers (formerly Barn dancers) Meet weekly at Putnoe Heights Different guest callers each week. All welcome, cost £2 Including refreshments. More details Ron 825574 or Shirley 01767 651767

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

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Pat Cass 294220

8.00pm Brickhill Ladies Group St Mark's 1st and 3rd week in month Kay Logan 01234 309105.

Friday

10am -12.00 U3A Photography St Marks.(4th week) (see contact details below)

10am - 12 & 1.15 - 3.15pm U3A Beginners French St. Marks (see contact details below)

2.00-4.00 pm U3A Whist St Marks. (contact details below)

2pm U3A Italian-Putnoe Heights (contact details below)

2pm U3A Gardening - Putnoe Heights

4.50pm-8.15pm Stars School of Dance Esther Richardson 295862 or 07917582468

6.00-7.00pm Zumba at St Mark's. Contact Denise Worker (07900 232648

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights. Racheall Monton 297138 or 07910835994

7.45 - 10.45pm Bedford Astrology Club.St Marks(2nd week) Carol Brown 01438 233385

Saturday

10.00am Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Howard 01234 782414

Young Embroiderers bi monthly Putnoe Heights Terry Fletcher 357198

2.15pm Society of Recorder Players at Putnoe Heights. G Parry 01462 674792

6.45pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger 212066

Sunday

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

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

7-9pm Tae Kwon Do St Mark's Adrian Felice www.bedfordtkd.com 07964356355

Messy Church Dates

Wednesday 20 February

Wednesday 20 March

Wednesday 17 April

Wednesday 15 May

Wednesday 19 June

Wednesday 19 October

Wednesday 16 November

Wednesday 14 December

All 3.45 to 5.30pm



U3A For information on the U3A groups meeting at St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church please contact Yvonne Francis ☎405119

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 19 Feb,11 June

St Mark's Leadership Team -

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 5 February

Putnoe Heights Management Meeting 24 January

Putnoe Church Council - 19 February

Pastoral Group Meeting - 5 February

Churchyard Committee -

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings -

Commemoration Service

Circuit meeting - 7 February

Deanery Meeting -

Woodland Burial Trustees—

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth Meeting—4th Feb. 1.30pm

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

Epiphany 3

Introductory Sentence 1 Corinthians 12

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

Collect Prayer

Almighty God, who's Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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



[The raising of the Torah Scroll](#) for reading (chanting) in the synagogue. Used by permission under a [GNU Free Documentation License](#).

First Reading—Nehemiah 8 v 1 - 10

All the people assembled as one man in the square before the Water Gate. They told Ezra the scribe to bring out the Book of the Law of Moses, which the LORD had commanded for Israel. So on the first day of the seventh month Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, which was made up of men and women and all who were Water Gate in the presence of the men, women and others who could understand. And all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law. Ezra the scribe stood on a high wooden platform built for the occasion. Ezra opened the book. All the people could see him because he was standing above them; and as he opened it, the people all stood up. Ezra praised the LORD, the great God; and all the people lifted their hands and responded, "Amen! Amen!" Then they bowed down and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. The Levites-Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan and Pelaiah-instructed the people in the Law while the people were standing there. They read from the Book of the Law of God, making it clear and giving the meaning so that the people could understand what was being read. Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were instructing the people said to them all, "This day is sacred to the LORD your God. Do not mourn or weep." For all the people had been weeping as they listened to the words of the Law. Nehemiah said, "Go and enjoy choice food and sweet drinks, and send some to those who have nothing prepared. This day is sacred to our Lord. Do not grieve, for the joy of the LORD is your strength." (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading -1 Corinthians 12 v 12 –31a

The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Now the body is not made up of one part but of many. If the foot should say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. And if the ear should say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," it would not for that reason cease to be part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has arranged the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I don't need you!" And the head cannot say to the feet, "I don't need you!" On the contrary, those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and the parts that we think are less honourable we treat with special honour. And the parts that are unpresentable are treated with special modesty, while our presentable parts need no special treatment. But God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honour to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honoured, every part rejoices with it. Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And in the church God has appointed first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then workers of miracles, also those having gifts of healing, those able to help others, those with gifts of administration, and those speaking in different kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But eagerly desire the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way. (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Gospel Reading Luke 4 v 14 – 21

Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He taught in their synagogues, and everyone praised him. He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. And he stood up to read. The scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written: The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour. Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him, and he began by saying to them, Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing. (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty Father, who's Son our Saviour Jesus Christ is the light of the world: may your people, illumined by your word and sacraments, shine with the radiance of His glory, that He may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to the ends of the earth; for He is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen

Hymns (*Please distribute Family Worship and Mission Praise*)

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing. MP 496
2. God's Spirit is in my heart. *On Partnership News*
3. Take my life and let it be. MP 624
4. Make me a channel of your peace. MP 456
5. Go forth and tell. MP 178

Commentary

In the epistle reading we can see that claims regarding different spiritual gifts had begun to lead to divisions and disunity in the Corinthian church. It's a potentially very destructive scenario for the fledgling early church. Fortunately Paul gives some very clear advice. He understands that people are different and have different gifts and functions, but he encourages the Corinthians to focus on the unity and community which stands behind them all. For Paul there is one body with many parts, all of which need each other, and all of which are vital for the life of the Christian community. We are all part of that greater whole. He challenges us to see ourselves as a church which is the embodiment of Christ in the world, not primarily as individuals, but as local communities, which are part of God's larger Kingdom and plan. It is important we acknowledged our differences; people are not all the same, we don't all have the same abilities. But we are held together by our common life in Christ. Our sense of identity lies not in the role we play, nor the status we have, nor the reward our role brings, but in the sense of who we are in Christ. How Christ sees us as individuals and as the united body of the church and as a community is far more important than how we see ourselves.

Building Communities The readings today are all about building communities, one of the key themes of the St Albans Diocese Mission Action Planning initiative in which we've been involved. The Old Testament readings take us back to the time of Ezra and Nehemiah when the exiles return to Jerusalem. Ezra and Nehemiah were different individuals with different roles. Ezra was a scribe, and Nehemiah was a governor. Ezra is known for rebuilding the Temple in Jerusalem and Nehemiah is known for rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem. Together they made a powerful partnership and the books of Ezra and Nehemiah form one story. The book of Ezra begins with Cyrus of Persia's decree, in 538 BC, permitting the Jewish exiles to return to Jerusalem and to rebuild the Temple and his order that the sacred vessels taken from the Temple in 587 be returned. More than 42,000 leave Babylon for Judah and construction of the new Temple begins (a more modest structure than Solomon's) and the walls of the city are rebuilt under the direction of Nehemiah. In today's reading the scribe Ezra begins reading out loud from the book of the torah law, the Pentateuch, to all the people who are now assembled within the completed walls, just by the Water Gate. It's a motley crowd. Some of them are the dregs of the population who were left behind in Jerusalem during successive waves of invasion, not even deemed worthy of the effort of taking them into captivity. Some are wealthy and independent and for whom the exile has served them well financially. Some are faithful Jews but who have forgotten some of the basic things about God. Some have wives and families from other nations and now have divided loyalties. Ezra reads but as the torah is read their initial responses are difficult to gauge. Are their tears of shame, having forgotten so much and have failed to keep God's Holy laws, or are they tears of nostalgia for a life that is now past, the great days of Moses? Whatever their motivation and rationale, their leaders encourage them to look forward and not back, to celebrate their return and celebrate the unchangeable fact that they will always be the God's chosen people, a community of faith. They are united as a nation once more and back in the land of the covenantal promises. The reading is their story and rejoicing in God they celebrates their unity. The theme of community is one which Paul addresses in the epistle reading. It's about building a new people. They need to see themselves less as individuals and more as community. The need to be less

concerned with seeing themselves as the most important or most gifted person around, thinking of their individual needs, rights and privileges, but as contributors to a common community. He urges the Corinthians to focus on their unity whilst continuing to value their diversity, perhaps a lesson to be learned by the Anglican Communion at the current time. It's certainly an apt theme for our society today.

Jesus too, in our gospel reading, focuses not so much on teaching better spirituality but about doing God's justice and building God's community in His statement of intent in the synagogue. It would appear that for both the returning Jews in the time of Ezra and Nehemiah and the early Christians that Paul addressed at Corinth, sometimes it was difficult for them to see and experience that community. For them, like us there were different factions, factors and events which seemed to underline failure, disunity and division. The way forward for both was to be still and quiet amidst all the clamour of everyday life and to hear the voices of hope and unity which would guide the path to the future. To live out being God's community on earth. In today's fractured world we have the responsibility to both hear those same voices and to speak those same words. Throughout the bible, community is a fundamental concept to understanding God and therefore fundamental for us to live out (and in) as we live out His words and love. *Sam Cappelman*

Meditation Holocaust Memorial Day During the Second World War the Nazis sought to murder the entire Jewish population of Europe and to destroy its rich and diverse cultures. In 1941 there were about 11 million Jews living in Europe; by May 1945 six million of these had been killed, one-and-a-half million of them children. These are the events we now call the Holocaust or Shoah. The biblical word Shoah which in has been used to mean "destruction" since the Middle Ages became the standard Hebrew term for the murder of European Jewry as early as the 1940s. The word Holocaust, which came into use in the 1950s as the corresponding term, originally meant a sacrifice burned entirely on the altar. The selection of these two words by the Jews reflects recognition of the unprecedented nature and magnitude of the events. Many understand Holocaust as a general term for the crimes and horrors perpetrated by the Nazis; others include in its meaning today other acts of mass murder. With either of these words we remember whilst the Jews of Europe were the primary target, many millions of other people were also imprisoned, enslaved and murdered. These people included Roma, those with mental or physical disabilities, homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, trade unionists, political opponents, Poles and Soviet prisoners of war. On the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp, 27 January, we share the memory of the millions who were murdered in the Holocaust and subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur in order to challenge hatred and persecution in the UK today. The theme of Holocaust Memorial Day 2013 is Communities Together: Build a Bridge. We are asked to imagine waking up to find that the neighbours we have known all our lives and even sat next to at school, now walk past us without stopping, now forbid their children from playing with ours, now spit at us and even attack us. We are asked to imagine having nowhere to turn, that the walls are closing in on us and that there is no escape. Asked to imagine that you have done nothing wrong, yet you are to be punished nonetheless and no one will stand by you. We are asked to remember and stand by those who were forced to live through these experiences and to honour those communities which were destroyed in the Holocaust, under Nazi Persecution and in subsequent genocides in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. On one of the pages of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust Web site <http://buildabridge.hmd.org.uk/> there is an opportunity for each one of us to build a bridge by lighting a candle, leaving a memory or to connect with others who are building bridges too. "If the world does not change now, if the works does not open its doors and windows, if it does not build peace – true peace- so that my great grandchildren have a chance to live in this world, then I cannot explain why I survived Auschwitz, Bergen-Belsen, and Ravensbruck". *Cejja Stojka, Roma survivor of Nazi Persecution.*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

God of the living, of the present moment, your word contains truth for each new generation. We pray for fresh and exciting reminders of the power and glory of your sovereign love. Speak to us anew, living God, of your concern for the poor and oppressed. Help us to announce your good news; to proclaim your liberty to those held captive; to work and pray for a better world. Help us to share the hope we have in you; to proclaim your love for every individual; to work and pray for a new life for all people. Help us to be united in love and respect for one another; to proclaim your salvation to the world; to work and pray under the guidance of your Spirit. Amen

Father we ask for your encouragement and inspiration in all areas of ministry in the church; pour out your blessings on all who work towards the spreading of your Kingdom, we ask for guidance and protection in all areas of conflict and confusion in the world; pour out your wisdom on all who lead, we ask for reassurance and comfort wherever people are hurting or crying inside the brave face; pour out your welcoming love and give them the peace they crave, we ask for your firm holding, wherever our journey leads. Amen *continued page 7*

Another Fabulous Free Concert at St Mark's Church

Concert on Saturday, 9 February 2013 at 7.30pm in St Mark's Church given by Taylor Wilson, Stewart Kempster and Clive Simmonds. Entrance is free and there will be a retiring offering in aid of the St Mark's piano fund.

Putnoe Heights Church Children and Youth meeting on Monday 4 February 2013 at 1.30pm instead of 28th January. Carolyn

Christmas Gifts If you would like to re-gift your unwanted Christmas gifts we will be having our annual stall after the service on Sunday 3rd February 2013. Please leave things in the office. Thank you. Liz and Carolyn

Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club meets at St Mark's on 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday from 8-10pm. All dances called. Come along and burn off some energy. Next meeting 30 January. Entry £1 including refreshments. More details ring Graham 406359 or Rosemary 405594.

Storybox at Putnoe Heights Church will be 10 years old this May. If you would like to celebrate this milestone on Saturday 11th May 2013 please can you let me know. Carolyn email Youth@thisischurch.com

"Roots" Campaigns Training for Christian Aid, workshops, prayer and action to prepare for the year ahead will be held on Monday 28 January, 6-9pm at St Andrew's Church Bedford. if interested please book a place by calling 01865 246818

Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration Monday 28 January 12 noon at the Anne Frank Memorial Tree, Russell Park 12.45pm Civic Commemoration Harpur Suite

John Bunyan's 'Childish Toys' a one day course for readers of all ages on 16 March 10am—4pm at Bunyan Meeting. Tutors Dr. Pat Pinset and Professor Bob Owens. For further information contact Dr. Clare Walsh 01234 793091 email clare.walsh@beds.ac.uk

Belief Co-ordinator Belief is an ecumenical forum for education and faith providing educational opportunities for Christians across Bedfordshire. (www.beliefbeds.org) We seek the services of a part time Co-ordinator to ensure that the decisions of the Management Committee are carried out in a timely and professional manner. We anticipate that this interesting and important work will probably amount to around a hundred hours per year. For job description and further information please see the notice board at Putnoe or email Chris.Izzard@ntlworld.com

Members of Putnoe Church will be saddened to hear news of the death of Mary Chew. The funeral will be held at St. Mary the Virgin, Everton, at 11.30am on Wednesday 6 February.

Kisiizi Update We received encouraging news regarding the work at Kisiizi and have copies of their latest report giving details of their work over the last year and the significant progress that has been made in both the medical and the management areas. The Spillmans return to Kisiizi shortly but will be back in the UK in the June/July time frame and hope to come to visit the Partnership then. Thank you all, once again, for your outstanding generosity in our Autumn Mission project.

One Billion Rising is a global event to show solidarity with women who are victims of violence. We are invited to dance as a sign of our commitment to this cause! Priory Methodist Church will have a short service of Prayer and Singing (and some dancing!) on Feb 14th (Valentine's Day) at 6pm. All are welcome, male and female, to stand together against violence. For more information, contact glayne.worgan@methodist.org.uk or 01234340167

Jennie Cooper would like to thank everybody most sincerely who have visited her in hospital and sent cards and letters, notes, pictures and photographs. She hopes to be back sitting on the third row from the front again shortly if her legs and feet will perform as they should. God's blessing to you all.

Thank you to everyone who was involved in preparing and enabling the lunch at Putnoe last week. An excellent meal and great company

Brickhill Community Safety Forum at St Mark's Church on Thursday 31st January at 7.30pm

Telecare - It is of enormous value for us to be able to keep in touch with Church members by Telecare. If you are elderly, especially if you live alone, please register for Telecare. We will just ensure that somebody calls you every fortnight to make sure that all is ok. Please advise the ministers

Hilda Hicks cordially invites everyone from Putnoe Heights and St Marks churches to join her in the celebration of her 90th birthday party on Saturday 9th March from 4-7pm at Putnoe Heights church. VP to daughter Linda at lindatongue@yahoo.co.uk, telephone 01480 350345 or reply direct to Hilda on 01234 354289.

As the beautiful, dew covered rose rises from amongst its thorns, so may my heart be so full of love for you my God, that I may rise above the storms and evils that assail me, and stand fast in trust and freedom of spirit. Amen. *Hadewijch of Brabant - 13th Century*

Bless to us, O God, the road that is before us, bless to us, O God, the family and friends who are around us, bless to us O God, the love that is within us, bless to us, O God, the light that leads us home. Amen

Real Easter Eggs

About The Real Easter Egg

Out of the 80 million chocolate Easter eggs sold each year in the UK, The Real Easter Egg is the first and only Fairtrade chocolate Easter egg to explain the Christian understanding of Easter. We also give a sizeable donation from profits and Fairtrade Premium fees, to our farmers allowing them to invest in their community buying everything from school books and solar panels to providing fresh water. The Real Easter Egg is now in its third year of production with more than 200,000 sold so far.

This year the Real Easter Egg has a free activity pack in the box which includes the Easter story, activity poster, free itune download and a sticker set (pictured right). The resurrection text from Mark can also be found inside the lid.

Each egg costs £3.99, is made from 125g of high quality Fairtrade milk chocolate, which has an approval rating of more than 95% and with each sale we make a donation to Traidcraft Exchange (over £40,000 has been donated so far to this and other charities).

Features of the 2013 Real Easter Egg

- Free inside - Easter story, activity poster & sticker set
- The three crosses on the front
- The Easter story is explained on the box
- If you open the lid, you will see 'Happy Easter'
- Under the lid, for the first time ever on an Easter Egg, there is a quote from the bible-the resurrection text from Mark.
- charity donation

If you would like us to order a Real Easter Egg for you in time for Easter, then please hand £3.99 to either church office and we will take your name and address and place an order. All orders must be placed by the end of January.

Hymn 315 (Hymns & Psalm)

God's Spirit is in my heart
He has called me and set me apart.
This is what I have to do,
what I have to do

Chorus:

*He sent me to give
the Good News to the poor
Tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more
Tell blind people that they can see
And set the down trodden free
And go tell everyone the news that the
Kingdom of God has come
And go tell everyone
The news That God's Kingdom has come.*

Just as the Father sent me
So I'm sending you out to be,
My witnesses throughout the world,
the whole of the world

Don't carry a load in your pack,
You don't need two shirts on your back
A workman can earn his own keep,
Can earn his own keep

Don't worry what you have to say,
Don't worry because on that day
God's Spirit will speak in your heart
Will speak in your heart

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.

Brian Keighley

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

Forthcoming Funerals



Please remember these families and friends in your prayers.

The funeral of Rosie Miriam Norris will take place at the Crematorium at 12.15p.m. on Friday 1 Feb

The funeral of Jocelyn Alfred Neil Burns will take place at the Crematorium at 12.15pm on Monday 4 Feb

The funeral of Mrs Theresa Baccarella will take place at Bedford Cemetery on Thursday 7 February at 11.30am followed by burial

The funeral of Albin Bakon will take place at Bedford Crematorium at 1.45pm on Thursday 31st January.