



Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

28 August 2005  
22 in Ordinary

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 Service of Holy Communion - Putnoe

**9.30am St Mark's Church** - Morning Worship

Preacher - The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership - Mr Ian Farthing

Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

### 11.00am Putnoe

- Morning Worship with Baptism

Preacher - Reverend Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss

Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

The Rev Dr Sam Cappleman is preaching this

morning at St Peter's Church, Bedford

## 4 September 23 in Ordinary

### 8.30 Service of Holy Communion - St Mark's

**9.30am St Mark's Church** - Family Worship

Preacher - Reverend Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing

### 11.00am Putnoe Heights

- All Age Worship with

Baptisms

Preacher - Reverend Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper

Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

1 Reading - Ezekiel 33: 7-11, 2 Reading - Romans 13:

8-14, 3 Reading - Matthew 18: 15-20

## Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Hazel Caine in memory of her husband, George, and her son, Mark.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers, perhaps to celebrate 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

O blessed Jesus,  
immortal and victorious,  
by the sorrow you suffered when all the  
powers of your heart failed you,  
have mercy on us and help us  
in our days of darkness  
and in our hours of weakness,  
that we do not lose hold of you  
either in this life, or in the life of the world to  
come; and this we ask for your own name's  
sake. Amen

*St Bridget of Sweden, 1303-1373*

## 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 News is now available each week on the  
Partnership Website - [www.ThisisChurch.com](http://www.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 - 1.00pm Monday & Friday**

**9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday**

**Tel/fax & Answering Service 365630** [putnoe@thisischurch.com](mailto:putnoe@thisischurch.com)

**Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630**

**Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen 407264**

**Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428**

[treasurerph@thisischurch.com](mailto: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 - 5pm)

**Tel/fax & Answering Service 342613** [office@thisischurch.com](mailto:office@thisischurch.com)

**Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613**

**Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892**

**Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592** [treasurer@thisischurch.com](mailto:treasurer@thisischurch.com)

**Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605**

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# Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

## Monday

**9.30 - 12.00 pm Pre-school** (See website for more details) Mrs Janet Smith 326685 (Putnoe Heights) or Mrs. Helen Harpin **312634** (St. Mark's).

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

**10.00am Supple Strength** at Putnoe Heights. Louise Woodcock 270302

**12.00pm - 1.00pm Story box** at Putnoe Heights. Service for parents/carers & children under 5. Children's activities songs and prayers, all in one hour from.

**3.30 - 5pm Story box Plus** at St. Mark's for 4 to 10 years. A preparation group for small drama on the first Sunday of the month. Liz Spavins 302349

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

**6.00pm Brownies** St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 400987

**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 one 19 September ..Moorfields & Sight Concern 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

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

**10.00am Keep Fit** at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230

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

**12 noon - 10.00 pm Slimming World** at St. Mark's. Sessions start at 12, 1.30pm, 4pm, 5.30pm & 7.15pm Val Careless 345213.

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

**1.30pm Body Control Pilates** at Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787

**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship** - Next meeting 6 September A.G.M. Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188.

**2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 13 September. Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

**2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets

fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709

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

**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 Bibleway Church** at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr on 360188 or 07866775515

**7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club** - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 7pm 30 August coffee evening. Madge Walsh 359088

**8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing group) - Mr F Steele 355937

## Wednesday

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

**9.30am Bedford U3A** at Putnoe Heights meets bi-monthly. Next meeting . Jenny Coggins 266379

**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 7 September Putnoe 365630

**1- 3pm Police Surgery** at Putnoe Heights . Resuming 24 August

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

**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. Pam Holley 771964

**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.*

**9.45am Yoga** at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

**10.30am - 12.00am Fledglings** at St Mark's

**2.00pm - 3.00pm Clinic** at St. Mark's 267444

**12pm Story box** at St Mark's. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm. Restarts 8 September.

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

**1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.**

Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

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

**2pm U3A Indoor Games** at Putnoe Heights. Radmila Dancer 404811

**4.00 Story box Plus** at Putnoe Heights for 4-10year old. A preparation group for a drama for the first Sunday in the month.. Meets 4-5pm, drinks from 3.30pm Liz Spavins 302349

**6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.**

Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

**6.15pm Brownies** at Putnoe Heights. Helga Nash 218521

**7.00pm Club 2000** at Putnoe Height. Pat Stidolph 345247

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

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

**7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild** St Mark's- 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs K Sage 771525

7.30-9.30pm Bibleway Church- Bible Studies every 2nd 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 3rd 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.

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

**7. 30pm Bibleway** Young Peoples meeting Contact Pastor Tarr 360188

**6.30pm -8.30 pm Dog Training Classes** at St. Mark's. Mrs L. Laton 365601

## Saturday

**9.30am Stars School of Dance** at Putnoe Heights. Contact Esther Sancto 272517

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

**2.30pm Calligraphy Group** at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting. Philip Jones 350295

**7.15pm - 10.30pm Duplicate Bridge** at St Mark's Contact Ann or Peter 212066

## Sunday

**1- 3pm & 7-9pm Bibleway 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** 12 October

**Circuit Meeting** 14 September

Service of welcome of new Methodist Minister at Oakley 31 August

**Bedford Deanery Meeting** 15 September

**St Mark's Leadership Team** - 4 October at Vicarage

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** Sept 26

**St Mark's Church Management Meeting** 12 September, 2 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm

**Putnoe Heights Management** - 19 Sept, 14 Nov, 16 Jan 2005

**Putnoe Church Council** 10 Oct 2005

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 29 September 2.00pm

**Churchyard Committee** - 7 October at 4.15

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting** .

**Partnership Council** - 20 September at St. Mark's 7.30pm

**Brickhill Parish Council** 8 September, 26 September, 13 October

**Visit of Bishop Christopher** 23 October

Calendar dates appear also on our church website [www.ThisIsChurch.com](http://www.ThisIsChurch.com). **Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.**

# Bible Notes

Ordinary 22 Year A (Trinity 14 Green)

## Verse of Scripture Psalm 105

Praise the LORD and pray in his name! Tell everyone what he has done. Sing praises to the LORD! Tell about his miracles. Celebrate and worship his holy name with all your heart.

## A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Father of all, you gave your only Son, to take upon himself the form of a servant and to be obedient even to death on a cross. Give us the same mind that was in Christ Jesus that, sharing in his humility, we may come to be with him in his glory; for he lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

## First Reading – Jeremiah 15: 15-21

You understand, O LORD; remember me and care for me. Avenge me on my persecutors. You are long-suffering—do not take me away; think of how I suffer reproach for your sake. When your words came, I ate them; they were my joy and my heart's delight, for I bear your name, O LORD God Almighty. I never sat in the company of revellers, never made merry with them; I sat alone because your hand was on me and you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unending and my wound grievous and incurable? Will you be to me like a deceptive brook, like a spring that fails? Therefore this is what the LORD says: "If you repent, I will restore you that you may serve me; if you utter worthy, not worthless, words, you will be my spokesman. Let this people turn to you, but you must not turn to them. I will make you a wall to this people, a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you but will not overcome you, for I am with you to rescue and save you," declares the LORD. "I will save you from the hands of the wicked and redeem you from their grasp." (Reader: This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

## Second Reading - Romans 12: 9-21

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honour one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervour, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited. Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everybody. If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. Do not take revenge, my friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written: "It is mine to avenge; I will repay," says the Lord. On the contrary: "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink. In doing this, you will heap burning coals on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

## Third Reading – Matthew 16: 21-28

From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!" Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it. What good will it be for a man if he gains the whole world, yet forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in



**If any  
want to become  
my followers, let them  
deny themselves and  
take up their cross  
and follow me.**

*Matthew 16.24*

his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what he has done. I tell you the truth, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom (Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

### **Commentary**

I always feel really sorry for Peter when Jesus bites his head off as he does in this passage. Naturally Peter can't bear the warning that the beloved Lord Jesus might be abused and killed – no friend would relish the idea. I think that Jesus' sharp words to his friend suggest that Jesus also felt the strain of the approaching crisis. Jesus knew what was very likely to come. He accepted suffering, he was willing to sacrifice himself, but it doesn't mean that he was looking forward to pain and death. It is helpful for us to recognise that Jesus was not someone who was tired of this earthly life or who despised it. All we know of Jesus suggests that he had a healthy enjoyment of the things that make our lives valuable: love, warmth, the pleasures of companionship. In the final part of the passage, Jesus was reminding his followers that they were caught up in a spiritual struggle between good and evil. Anyone who wasn't willing to accept the reality of that war, who did not accept that some of the Christians might die, was betraying the cause of good. Peter, by desiring a peaceful and quiet life, was playing into the hands of the opposition, the forces of evil and complacency. The passage starts off by being extremely grim, speaking of death and the battle against evil, but it finishes triumphantly, promising the brave, the faithful and the self-sacrificial a reward in the reality beyond this life. Christians must always remind themselves that sweet though this world seems, the one to come, where we will live in the presence of God, will be infinitely sweeter. *Rev Dr Joan Crossley*

### **Meditation**

Being a Christian is hard work because it demands that we try and live in a way which is not natural for humans. If you watch most animals or very small children they show us what we are at our core. If an animal is hurt it lashes out at anyone who gets too close. If food is scarce then the strongest will grab from the weak. If a small child wants something it will automatically make a grab for it. The Bible, and most particularly the teachings of Jesus, show us a way of being which can help us transcend these baser instincts. It is an optimistic view of human nature that shows that the powerful can be willing to give way to the more fragile; that the hungry should be fed; that all creation has value in the eyes of God. It is a truly exciting creed and we must not lose sight of all that it has done to civilise the culture in which we now live. But Christian values are not easy to maintain, because even the best all humans have the possibility of being selfish somewhere at our core. At the very worst, humans can be vicious on a scale unknown in the animal kingdom, at our best we can attain wonderful generosity and self-sacrifice. *Rev Dr Joan Crossley*

### **Prayers**

Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for the men and women of faith, who down the centuries have taught us how to be your children. We give you thanks for the inspiration of their lives and ask that we may grow to be worthy of joining the company of the saints in Heaven. Amen

My Father, how blind and deaf I am – to miss your voice as you speak within my own being! You call to me in my restlessness and discontent, You guide me by my own confusion....out of myself into you. Keep me faithful while I grope my way along – as one who searches blindly along a wall – until I understand that there is a door... always open. And the door is you. Amen (Julian of Norwich)

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and truth: 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.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the Apostles teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Hymns (Please distribute Morning Worship and Mission Praise)**

1. The Church's one foundation, 640
2. He's got the whole world 225
3. Just as I am 396 (Tune Saffron Walden 697 Hymns and Psalms)
4. Soldiers of Christ arise, 604 (Tune St Ethelwald 719 Hymns and Psalms)
5. O Lord my God when I with awesome wonder, 506

# News, Views and Information

## **Story Box and Story Box Plus Storybox Plus starts at St Marks**

Following the growing success of Storybox Plus at Putnoe we are very pleased to announce that we will be starting the group at St Marks. We will begin on Monday 12th September 3.30 start for refreshments and a chill out with a 4.00 start and 5.00 finish. During that hour we will read, study, and rehearse a Bible based story in preparation to perform at the Family Service on the 1st Sunday. We will also spend time making props for the play. Anyone between 4 (at school) and 10 can join us to make friends and have fun. The groups success will need volunteers if you can help with any aspect of our activities or have a child that would like to see what we are all about please phone *Liz Spavins* on 302349.

## **Story Box at Putnoe Heights**

Story box will continue at Putnoe on Mondays throughout August, older siblings and all from St Mark's are welcome (apart from tomorrow please bring a picnic lunch, drinks provided) Storybox Plus restarts at Putnoe on Thursday 8 September & starts at St. Mark's on Monday 12 September. Please note that we have increased the age of this group up to 10 years. For further details call *Liz*

**Open The Book** is an ecumenical project to tell Bible stories in schools. By next year all the lower schools in Bedford will have encountered Open the Book. A number of teams would welcome an extra member. Please contact Sheila Lawless 359359. [sheilalawless@freenet.co.uk](mailto:sheilalawless@freenet.co.uk)

**Methodist Insurance** launched a new scheme last year whereby when a member of a Methodist congregation switches their home Insurance to Methodist Insurance they will donate 20% of the first years premium to the church or charity of their choice.

**Renhold Flower Festival** –Saturday 24th – Monday 26th September 2005. 10am-6pm (excluding Sunday Services) Entry by programme £1. Refreshments available. In aid of Church.

**Make a Difference** - cards, wraps, gifts, food –at 22, Mallard Hill, Bedford on Friday 23rd September, 7-9.30pm, Saturday 24th September 2-5pm and Sunday 25th September –10am-1pm. 50p including refreshments.

**St Mark's Car Boot Sale** –Monday 29th August. If anyone has any bric-a-brac, books, toys, tools or household items for the Church Stall, they will be

greatly appreciated. Also tray bakes for refreshments. Thank you.

**Pray without Ceasing** - One copy of prayer manual "Pray without Ceasing" is available from Vera Pearson. Cost £2. Vera Pearson 270737

## **Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting**

Wednesday 14 September 7.30pm. 14 Flint Way. Sylvia Cohen 343424

**Hemel Hempstead £24,000 pa (funded until September 2006, renewable)** WorldShapers is a charity that is passionate about building a stronger community through education, both locally and internationally. Working closely with local government and agencies to deliver community education programmes, WorldShapers is looking for a confident and purposeful teamworker to develop the work of the charity through project development, contract and grant tendering, and accreditation. The postholder will also assist with the development of four key areas of WorldShapers which include: a Centre for Vocational Qualifications (at present a sports project and African arts projects), Centre for Openness Theology (already the charity is able to deliver a degree programme), Centre for Spiritual Health Care (at present courses in Logotherapy & Life Coaching), and a proposed Centre for Dynamic Leadership. If successful you will be part of a small, friendly team based in Hemel Hempstead, Herts, and you will work closely with the Director to take WorldShapers to the next level.

**Partnership Choir - Harvest 3 October** Would usual members let me know by the 1 September if they are able to participate in rehearsals shown below, and both morning services on 3 October, so that I can assess whether we have a viable group. I will confirm by phone or email before the first rehearsal whether or not we will be singing. New members would be welcome. (I have spoken to some members already, at St Mark's, so there is no need for those folk to be in touch)

Rehearsals at St Mark's 7pm 2,9,16,23 & 30 September. Please let Marion know via phone 303254 or email: [marionprior@hotmail.com](mailto:marionprior@hotmail.com) Thank you.

**Family Fun Day** Sunday 4 September at Woodlands Manor, Bouncy Castles, BBQ's, Live Bands, Tug of War & much more. In aid of Epilepsy Bereaved Charity. More information 01234 363281.



**Auction of Promises  
September 17 at St Mark's Church**

**Thank you** to those who have offered fantastic promises, in aid of the Building Development to replace the Portakabin

and provide accommodation for Autism Bedfordshire. Please contact Chris Izzard who is organising this event. Telephone 212164.

**Promises already made**

**1 Tailor made bespoke shirt.** Have your own choice of colour and weight of Egyptian cotton.

Value £75 Addison & Steele, Piccadilly, London.

**2 Evening dinner for two** (drinks and wines not included) Value £75 St Helena Restaurant, Elstow

**3 One week of accommodation** for up to six people in a holiday cottage in Exmouth, (situated very near the sea on dates mutually convenient) Value £260 Mr and Mrs Puttock

**4 Clothing voucher for a gentleman**

Retail value £50 Claytons, The Arcade, Bedford.

**5 BMW Lifestyle Business Case** in charcoal grey Retail value £125 ELMS, Bedford (BMW Dealers)

**6 MG Day out.** In a chauffer driven vintage car (for up to 2 passengers) Mr and Mrs John Day

**7 Three course evening meal,** inclusive of wine for 4 people. Provided at 4 Trent Road. Mrs Pat Mitchell

**8 Chauffer driven tour in a vintage two seater Morgan** (for one passenger) Mr Waters

**9 Six hand made cross stitch Christmas Cards** Mrs A Elliott

**10 Anfield Stadium Tour** of museum and tour centre, for family of four. Value approximately £30 Liverpool Football Club (\*date conditions apply, valid until June 2006)

**11 Two Old 12 inch diameter ornamental concrete garden plant pots** (Can be viewed at auction or before)

**12 Planted hanging baskets for Spring/Summer 2006** Value £50.00 C R Wilkinson & Son, Willington

**13 Various sizes/quantities of plastic flower pots** (Can be viewed at auction or before)

**14 Boxes of garden bedding plants for 2006** (Own choice) Value £100 C R Wilkinson & Sons, Willington

**15 Edinburgh crystal cut glass wine/spirit decanter** (can be viewed at auction or before)

Value £75.00 Donated by John Bull & Co St Peter's, Bedford.

**16 Case of wine (5 bottles)**

Donated by Floor Protection Services Ltd. Kempston

**17 Conducted tour of the National Gallery** with the Reverend Dr Joan Crossley. Meeting at the Gallery, for up to 4 people on a mutually agreed date

**18 Traditional 11" home made Christmas cake** baked by Linda Parry. Available 2 weeks before Christmas. Donated by Linda Parry

**19 Bouquet arrangement of flowers** for any occasion. Value £50 Donated by Greycourt Florists Bedford Road. Kempston

**20 Twelve hand made cards** to the specification of the buyer, birthday, get well, blank etc.

Value £12 Donated by Marion Prior

**21 Six evenings of baby sitting**

Donated by Wendy Rider

**22 Airport Taxi** Return car journey to airport of your for up to 4 passengers. Value Luton £52, Stanstead £100, Heathrow £110, (at mutually agreed dates/times)

Donated by Wendy Rider

**23 Coffee Table.** 18" high, 24" wide and 48" long. (Can be viewed at auction or before) Value £140. Donated by Hatters Fine Furnishings, Goldington Road, Bedford.

**24 Lead crystal cut glass 20 cm bowl** (Can be viewed at auction or before) Value £30. Donated by C. J. Beavis Ltd. The Arcade, Bedford.

**25 'Breville' one touch electric blender** (1.5 ltr jug) Value £35.

**26 Seven day pass for two people to Dragons gymnasium.** Group fitness classes, swimming pool, spa, sauna and steam rooms. Donated by Dragons Health Club, Kimbolton Road, Bedford. .

**27 Evening meal for six people inclusive of wine,** served in your own home or at 107 Dover Crescent, Bedford. Prepared and cooked by The Reverend Dr Chef, Sam Cappleman

**28 Two container grown 3 year old Yucca plants** (Gloriosa White, can be viewed at auction). Value £25

**29 Spring flowering bulbs or planted container** Value £25 Donated by Frosts Garden Centre, Willington

**30 Three night, long weekend** or mid week stay in a mid terrace cottage. Double and twin bedroomed, sleeps four. Situated in Long Compton, near Chipping Norton/ Shipston-on-Stour, The Cotswolds. To be taken October/ March. Donated by Mrs Dorothy Richards

**31 A brace of trout of trout fresh from Grafham.** May be delivered separately depending on success. Donated by The Reverend Charles Royden.

**32 One 10 inch Pizza** With own choice of topping. Donated by Alison Holden

**33 Ken Dodd Video**

Personally signed on cover and donated by Ken Dodd

**34 A round of golf for four**

Value £120 Donated by Bedford Golf Club

**35 Two dozen home made mince pies,** supplied two weeks before Christmas. Donated by Mrs Addie Topham

**36 A guided tour of Westminster Abbey,** London with Professor Paul Crossley. For up to four people to meet at the Abbey.

**37 Pair of Halfords car wheel ramps.** Previously used, they can be seen at auction. Donated by The Reverend Trevor Noble.

**38 A Special Dinner** We will shop for, prepare, cook and serve a Dinner Party for up to eight people in the buyer's own home. We will lay the table including flowers and napkins. You simply provide the drinks, the table and the crockery. We will also wash up in the absence of a dishwasher! Donated by Sue Allen and Friends acceptable.

**39 Dinner for two at the Plough, Bolnhurst,** including bottle of house wine.

**40 Watercolour painting.** Donated by Wendy Cochran New promises being added all the time, visit our church website [www.thisischurch.com](http://www.thisischurch.com)

**Offertory Envelopes** Members of the Envelope Scheme at Putnoe Heights Church are invited to collect their offertory envelopes for the year beginning 4 September from the table in the welcome area. New members of the scheme are always welcome. Please speak to John Hitt (tel. 404186) if you would like further information.

#### **Forthcoming fixtures**

Sunday 28 August (2pm): Bedford Occasionals  
Tuesday 30 August (6.15pm): St Andrew's

**The Beds and Herts Sponsored Bicycle Ride and Walk** will take place on Saturday 10th September 2005. Sponsor forms are available from both churches. Details on [www.bedshertshct.org.uk](http://www.bedshertshct.org.uk)

**Kasia is here** ; If you wish to contact her, visit, invite her for a meal or outing please call her on 216724. She is staying at 179 Tyne Crescent with Edward and Linda Parry .She will be here until Sept 2nd. Please help to make her visit special. Thanks, Linda.

**We offer our congratulations** and support to Liz Spavins on her appointment as Children and Youth Worker at both St Mark's and Putnoe Heights Church. Liz has been making great progress working with Storybox and Storybox Plus and we all encourage her as she seeks to develop this work across the Partnership.

**Visit by Bishop Christopher** St Mark's Leadership team are arranging a social evening to welcome Bishop Christopher on Sunday 23 October. It will be a night not to be missed and one for your diary.

**Auction of Promises September 17 at 7.30pm**  
Entrance to this event will be free, so please use it as an opportunity to invite friends along. Please bring your own wine/drinks along to keep costs down.

#### **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.

**Roy Bert James Daniels  
Daphne Violet Babbington  
Pamela Ivy Warrender**

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



Programmes are available now and cost £1. They include a form to make bids prior to the evening if you are unable to attend.

#### **What can you promise ?**

Please think if there is anything which you can offer to our Auction of Promises. And don't forget the date to come along, bid and enjoy yourself ! *New promises being added all the time, visit our church website [www.thisischurch.com](http://www.thisischurch.com)*

**N.C.H.** Last Saturdays collection at Sainsburys, Clapham Road, with Cedric the Dragon raised £342.16. Thank you everyone.

**Bechar**; Bedford Concern for the Homeless & Rootless. A.G.M. Tuesday 13 September at 8pm at the Prebend Day Centre.12 Prebend St.Bedford.

**Cancer Research UK** - Theatre Tickets  
Bedford Dramatic Club are performing "Veronica's Room", a thriller by Ira Levin, at the end of September. They have donated 50 tickets to Cancer Research UK, and all proceeds from the sale of these tickets will go to the charity. The performance is at The Place, Bradgate Road, Bedford on Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 each (concessions £5) which is a discounted price for us, and are available now from Howard Lawrence (tel. 267837) and Sue Butler (tel. 354183). Reserve yours soon, or you may miss out on what will be a very entertaining evening, and a chance to help this worthwhile cause.

**Diocesan Support Group for HIV/Aids Suffers.** A publication of the Crescent Group in St Albans, Ubuntu-Hunhu in Hertfordshire, shows an increase in the numbers of Black African HIV/Aids Suffers in the region. Following a request to the Diocese, a consultation attended by representatives from the Mothers Union and the Board for Church and Society was organised in order to explore the reality of the situation. Representatives of two HIV support organisations located in the Diocese were invited to present an overview of the work they do and the challenges they face in trying to provide a comprehensive and caring service to clients affected by HIV/AIDS. Both groups called on the Diocese to support the work of the charities through education on sexual health issues, providing befrienders to clients, and supporting them spiritually as well as socially. If you are interested in supporting the HIV/AIDS work in the Diocese contact: Kemi Akinruli, Social Responsibility Officer on 01727 851 748

#### **Forthcoming funerals to be taken by our Ministers**

None this week