

Methodist  
Church

# Partnership News

2nd October 2005

## 27 in Ordinary - Harvest Festival

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

Held at both churches

#### 9.30am St Mark's Church - Harvest Family Worship

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - Mrs Alison Holden

#### 11.00am Putnoe Heights - Harvest Family Worship

Preacher - Rev Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss

Intercessions - Dr Tim Wilkes

### 28 in Ordinary

#### 8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

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

Preacher - Mr Alan Davis

Leadership - Mrs Delia Shephard

Intercessions - Mr Mike Elliott

#### 11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Alan Davis

Leadership Team - Mrs Wendy Nash

Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

#### 1 Reading - Exodus 32: 1-14 2 Reading -

Philippians 4: 1-9 3 Reading - Matthew 22: 1-14

### Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Irene & Eddie McKenzie in memory of our dear sister Wilma Taylor on her birthday.

The flowers in Church at St Mark's this week have been given by Dave & Janet Hobbs & family on the occasion of his mother's birthday, and by Ada Hill in memory of her husband Derek on the occasion of their anniversary.

### Prayer for Sunday

Loving Father,  
thank you for the privilege of being your family.  
We praise you for your love revealed to us,  
and we trust your promises. Your love is never  
withdrawn - even when we are disobedient and  
unloving. Inspire us to live as your children, obeying  
your commandments, loving one another in practical  
ways. May those who do not recognise your love,  
turn to you. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our  
Saviour. **Amen.** *Constance Magnus, Jamaica*

### Contact Details

#### The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR

266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com

(Sam also works full time as a General Manager for Hewlett Packard)

#### The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)

12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE

326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

#### The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

#### The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

#### Partnership Youth and Children's Worker

Mrs Liz Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

#### For Data Protection Purposes

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

### Partnership Pastoral Support Team Co-Ordinator & Churchyards Administrator

Mrs Mary Stubbs 406784 Mary@Thisischurch.com

*Please inform us if you know of anyone who is ill, bereaved,  
housebound, requires a visit, home communion or counselling services.*

*Please also ask us if you would like a home visit for any reason.*

### Putnoe Heights Church Centre

Open 9am - 1.00pm Monday & Friday

9am - 4pm Tuesday/Wednesday & Thursday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen 407264

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

### St. Mark's Church Centre (Open 9am - 5pm)

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mr Ian Farthing 210892

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Children's and Youth Worker - Mrs Liz Spavins 302349

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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** 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, no charge. Contact Liz on 01234 302349
- 3.30 - 5pm Story box Plus** at St.Mark's church invite all 4-10 year olds to join them after school at 3.30. We chill out with refreshments and games then until 5pm, make props, sing and rehearse a short play which we then perform in Church the first Sunday on each month. Lots of fun, no charge. 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 17 October St. Mark's 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 4 October Harvest Festival - Betty Wyatt 350188.

- 2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship.** Next meeting 11 October—Mr.Alan Cox Lawrence Wyatt 350188.
- 2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling 262225
- 2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup.** Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Mary Stubbs 406784.
- 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 7.45pm 4 October - Harvest. 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 5 October 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  
**8.45-9.45pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong** (Self help healing group) starting 1 Oct - Mr F Steele 355937

### 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** 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, no charge. Contact Liz Spavins on 1234 302349

**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. 1st Thursday as from January 2006 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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

**St Mark's Church Council** 12 October

**Circuit Meeting**

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

**Putnoe Heights Leadership Team** 21 November meet at Putnoe Heights Church

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

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

**Putnoe Church Council** 10 Oct 2005

**Deanery Synod** 16 November

**Pastoral Group Meeting** - 6 February 2006 2.00pm

**Churchyard Committee** - 7 October at 4.15

**Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting** .

**Partnership Council** -

**Brickhill Parish Council** 13 October

**Visit of Bishop Christopher** 23 October

Calendar dates appear also on our church website [www.ThisChurch.com](http://www.ThisChurch.com).

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

# Bible Notes

## Ordinary 27 Year A Trinity 19 (Green)

### Verse of Scripture Psalm 67:6

The Land has yielded its harvest: God, our God has blessed us.

### A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray.

Almighty and Everlasting God, we offer you our grateful thanks for your fatherly goodness and care in giving us your gifts and the fruits of the earth through the seasons. Give us grace to use them rightly to your glory, for our own wellbeing and the relief of those in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



### First Reading – Exodus 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20

And God spoke all these words: "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. "You shall have no other gods before me. "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below "You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name. "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work, "Honour your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the LORD your God is giving you. "You shall not murder. "You shall not commit adultery. "You shall not steal. "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. "You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour." When the people saw the thunder and lightning and heard the trumpet and saw the mountain in smoke, they trembled with fear. They stayed at a distance and said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen. But do not have God speak to us or we will die." Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. God has come to test you, so that the fear of God will be with you to keep you from sinning."

(This is the word of the Lord -- Thanks be to God)

### Second Reading - Philippians 3: 4b-14

Though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

### Third Reading - Mathew 21: 23-32

"Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the

same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: " 'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone the Lord has done this, and it is marvellous in our eyes'? "Therefore I tell you that the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit. He who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, but he on whom it falls will be crushed." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard Jesus' parables, they knew he was talking about them. They looked for a way to arrest him, but they were afraid of the crowd because the people held that he was a prophet. (Reader: This is the word of the Lord - **Thanks be to God**)

### **Commentary**

We know that God loves us, because we are told that all the time. But I think many of us imagine that God doesn't really like us – that He disapproves of us, and would like us more if we were different. We think that He is disapproving, always tutting over our misdeeds and wanting us to be more saintly. I acknowledge that sometimes we do things which hurt God, but I think we should try and visualize God as delighting in the Creation He has made. And most especially God delighting in us. He made us all so different: each with wonderful talents and personal qualities. We are each of us given gifts that we can use for the benefit of other people and for the Kingdom of God. In order to please God, we don't need to contort our souls, just use what we have and what we are to the greater glory of God. *Joan Crossley*

### **Meditation**

Autumn is with us again and you either love it or you hate it. It is easy to see why some of us love it: soft sunlight and long shadows; the leaves crunching under foot or scurrying across the grass; the cool feel of the wind after the heat of summer. On the opposing side there are those who find that the autumn makes them sad, meaning as it does the death of summer and the onset of winter. Some of us dread the dark evenings and the bad weather. There isn't a right response to the autumn, except perhaps we might reflect that we must try and be grateful for the passing moment, taking time to enjoy the natural world as it is now, things as they are now, without regretting the past or fearing the future. We have no control over the end or the beginning of things, such matters belong to God. *Joan Crossley*

### **Post Communion Prayer.**

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever. Amen

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

1. All people that on earth do dwell 20
2. We really want to thank you, Lord, 734
3. For the beauty of the earth 152
4. We plough the fields and scatter 732

### **Prayers for Harvest and the week ahead.**

For shelves full of food, thank you Lord. For the colour of chocolate, carrots and cherries, thank you, Lord. For the feel of wood, bedclothes and cats' fur, thank you, Lord. For sunshine and oak trees, the songs of the birds and the waves of the sea, thank you Lord. Amen (Angela Ashwin)

Lord, come to our throw-away society and give us a greater care for your gifts, that the resources of Your earth may be used for the needs of Your family and all may have enough. Amen (Susan Williams)

O God, you have made us creatures of this earth, hungry and thirsty and needy, that you may satisfy all our longing with your abundant love. Satisfy the hunger of our bodies for food and shelter, health and human touch, Satisfy the hunger of our spirits for dignity and freedom In giving and receiving, Satisfy the hunger of our minds to understand our world the reasons for its pain the ways we are connected to each other. Satisfy the hunger of our hearts that all who share this loving earth with us shall share our satisfaction. And satisfy the hunger of our hands to help you make it so through Jesus Christ. Amen (Janet Morley)

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## The way forward for the Diocese of St Albans

This year the Diocese of St Albans will launch a Vision for Action. The aim of this project is for all who worship in this Diocese to capture and realise the full potential of our vision for the future.

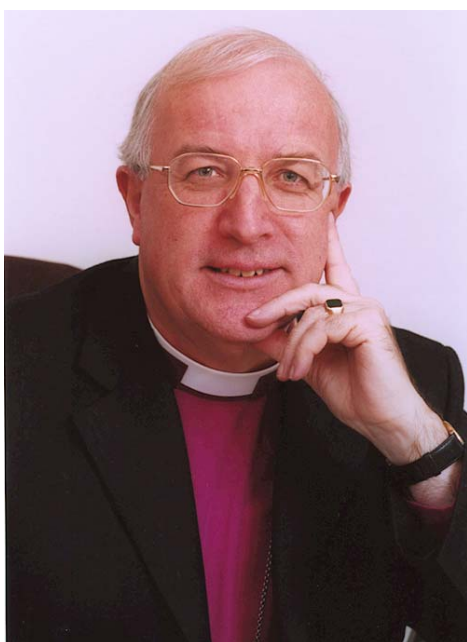
### Aims

Vision for Action has five overall aims to:

1. Work together in love and commitment to proclaim the Kingdom of God.
2. Encourage, support and develop the ministry of each person.
3. Encourage each parish to develop the use of church buildings as places of worship and mission.
4. Strengthen the commitment to stewardship amongst clergy and laity in order to further the mission of the church.
5. Encourage and develop the necessary skills within parishes and deaneries to bring the Gospel to children and young people through worship, schools and other contexts.
6. A collaborative mission

Vision for Action is being launched by the Bishops and Archdeacons at a series of events throughout September and October.

Our first response to Vision for Action is to invite the Bishop of St Albans to St Mark's. Bishop Christopher will join us on Sunday 23 October for 'Brass, Buffet and the Bishop.' The Bishop is in high demand and we had to book him three years ago, it is wonderful that we are able to welcome him to the Partnership for this special event.



It promises to be a great evening and you are invited to come along and bring friends. Bedford Town Band will play for us and after refreshments, during which there will be an opportunity to meet the Bishop informally, there will be a public session at which the Bishop will respond to questions from the audience. If you would like to hear what the Bishop has to say then come along and enjoy what promises to be an interesting and informative evening. This is a great opportunity to bring along friends who do not make a habit of coming to church — so go on and make that invitation now.

'I have always enjoyed visiting the Partnership and I am very much looking forward to meeting with everybody from Putnoe Heights and St Mark's on Sunday 23 October.' *Bishop Christopher*



# News, Views and Information

## Storybox Plus now at St Marks

Mondays 3.30pm starting with 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.

**St Mark's Pre school** are collecting Tesco Sport Vouchers, any gratefully received.

**Network** Autumn District Day on Tuesday 4 October from 11am—3.30pm at St. Margaret's Church, Luton. The theme is "Looking at Overseas Mission". Further details from Pam Seymour 305695 or Eleanor MacKirdy 360271

## Bedford Ecumenical Lay Training Centre

'Practical Spirituality' course. Wednesday 5, 12, 19 October & 2, 9 November 2005. 7.45 - 9.30pm at St Andrew's Church. Rev Dr Joan Crossley 344536

**Storybox at Putnoe** If you would like to join the story telling rota, contact Liz Spavins on 302349. We are also looking for extra hands to help set up and put away tables once a month.

**Rotas.** Please note that rotas are now available for the next quarter at both churches.


**Pilgrimage of Faith** On Sunday 16 October at Priory Methodist Church at 2.30pm. As part of the seminars, Anne Topping will leading a session on Human Sexuality.

**Gwyn and Peter Beswick** would like to say a deep and heartfelt thank you for the varied ways of continuing help and the many cards sent during and since Peter's stay in St John's.

**A seminar** at Priory Methodist Church on Sunday October 16th from 2-30 to 4-30 to explore issues in relation to sex and sexuality within a faith community. Please let Gordon Beeden on 01234 267782 know if you are coming.

**Comeback of Coffee time cards**, October 2nd. Some Christmas cards also available. See you after Church. Marion

**Fifties Nite!**  
Putnoe Heights Church  
Saturday 22nd October 2005  
at 7.30pm



to celebrate the dedication  
of the site for a new  
Methodist Church at  
Putnoe Heights  
in October 1955

Rock'n'Roll!  
Pop !!  
Stam !!!

Ticket: £7-10s-0d (£7.50p)

**Tickets are now available for this  
fantastic night of celebration**

**Footprints** next Sunday walk is on October 16th in the Keysoe area for parts of the Triple Triangle Walk. We will meet at 2.30pm at the entrance to Keysoe Park Wood on the Riseley Road approx 2 miles from the B660 at Keysoe Brook End. It is on the roadside just before Riseley Hill (Map ref. 053620). If it has been wet, stout footwear will be required. Contact Sue & Richard Butler on Bedford 354183 for further details.

**Commemoration Service.** The Partnership Commemoration Service for the faithful departed takes place at St Mark's Church on Remembrance Sunday 13 November at 3.00pm. This annual service is open to everybody and we hope that you will feel able to come, especially if you have a special memory for somebody who has died.

**Deanery Circuit Service.** There will be a special joint Deanery / Circuit meeting on January 18 2006 at Priory Methodist Church. This is open to anybody who would like to attend, please put the date in your diary and consider coming along to support this important initiative in ecumenical development.

**Email Us.** It would be excellent to have as many Email addresses for church members as possible. If we had more addresses we would be able to use them to send out Rotas, information etc. Please Email Office@thisischurch if you have Email and we will build our database. *Thank you.*

### **Brass, Buffet and The Bishop.**

Come and meet Bishop Christopher and have a fantastic night of entertainment with the Bedford Town Brass Band. Evening starts at 7.00pm Sunday 23 October at St Mark's. Tickets £5

**UCCF Prayer Group** If you have a son, daughter, grandchild or friend at, or about to go to University, come & join the local prayer Group on 7 October at 7.30pm at 2 The Furlong. More information phone Hywel or Jackie on 01234 363453.

**From Putnoe Leadership Team.** The Leadership Team met this week and discussed financial issues and the forthcoming budget. Some time ago the congregation agreed to contribute 15% increase per year over five years to enable the cost of supporting two full time ministers. This shortfall has been mentioned on many occasions, but as yet we have not seen an increase. As a result the figures for 2005/2006 show that per month we will have a monthly shortfall on church/ministry costs of £1939 per month. We are fortunate that this will be offset by surplus from the hire of the centre of £767 per month. The net shortfall per month is therefore estimated to be £1172. More will be said in forthcoming weeks about proposals to deal with this financial position.

**Harvest Produce.** Thank you for gifts for our Harvest Festival . This year Putnoe Heights will donate gifts to St John's Moggerhanger. St Mark's will donate gifts to the Clubhouse project working with people with disabilities at St Mark's .

### **Vote for Bedford Basketball Team in the contest for a National Lottery Award**

Queens Park is an economically poor but culturally rich area of Bedford. Two years ago the US born and bred Revd Jay MacLeod began a basketball club for local kids. The club has now been nominated as a finalist for a National Lottery Award.

From small roots the project has now worked with 100 players of all faiths (and none) through weekly training sessions and holiday camps. This committed local partnership has turned a small lottery grant into a project with great reach into the community. The club recruits via

### **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.

**Mollie Joyce Reece  
William Edward Robinson**

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



places of worship and schools in Queens Park. The project has helped to create unlikely friendships across African-Caribbean, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, African, Syrian, Afghani, Chinese, Italian, Irish and British communities. On the theory that the community that plays together stays together (or at least works more harmoniously), they have had a real impact on community cohesion.

'I would encourage the people of Bedford to vote now for Queens Park Basketball - a really impressive community venture', said Rt Revd Richard Inwood, Bishop of Bedford. The awards were launched on Monday 26 September. Voting closes on 10 October. Vote online at [www.nationallotteryawards.org.uk](http://www.nationallotteryawards.org.uk) or by ringing 0845 434 6804. The club trains on Wednesdays at Westfield Middle School, Chester Road, Queens Park, Bedford, MK40 4HW. Young children (ages 4-9) train from 4.30 - 5.30 and older players (10 - 14) from 5.30 - 6.30. Please call Revd Jay MacLeod for more information on 01234 266945 or Anna McCrum, Diocesan Communications Officer on 01727 818143 . [www.nationallotteryawards.org.uk](http://www.nationallotteryawards.org.uk)

**St Mark's Leadership Team.** Please remember that the St Mark's Leadership team meet this coming week on Tuesday at the Vicarage. The meeting starts at 7.30pm with business from 7.45pm. If you have matters which you would like discussed then please speak with the Leadership Team.

**Churchyards Committee.** Please note that the churchyards Committee meets at St Mark's on Friday afternoon at 4.15pm

**Recycling** St Mark's are getting serious about recycling, reducing energy use and waste. New signage has been placed around the Centre covering all areas of waste and energy use. Please help us as we seek to play our part - reuse, reduce and recover.

**Hazledene Heights Pre-school.** "Pre-School needs your help. We are struggling to cover our parent duty rota to help out in the classrooms. Many of our parents have other commitments or young children to look after and so find it difficult to offer their time. We are in desperate need of voluntary help for 2 1/2 hours in the mornings to be with the children, help with refreshments, stories and tidying up. If you feel that you can help, please contact Janet Smith, Headteacher, on 326685. Thank you. We are also collecting the Tesco Sports Vouchers. Any that you have would be gratefully received."

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

**The funeral of Sidney Reginald Sells** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday 6th October at 1.45pm *Royden*

**The funeral of Violet May Howard** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on 5 October at 10.45am *NBC*

**The funeral of Malcolm Fisher** will take place at Bedford Crematorium on 6 October at 10.45am *NBC*