



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

**30 October 2005- All Saints
31 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

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team -Mrs Linda Parry

Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion with Prayer for Christian Healing

Preacher -Revd Dr Sam Cappleman

Leadership Team -Mr Alan Cooper

Intercessions – Mrs Sue Allen

6 November

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church – Family Worship & Baptim of Bethan Louise Leadbetter

Preacher - James Robinson-Morley

Leadership - Mr Mike Cooper

Intercessions - Mrs Morag Stewart

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher – James Robinson-Morley

Leadership Team - Mr Dave Allen

Intercessions - Mr Alan Baylis

Next Week's Bible Readings 1 Reading - Joshua 24:

1-3a, 14-25, 2 Reading - 1 Thess 4: 13-18, 3 Reading

Matt 25: 1-13

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Julia Bailey in loving memory of her husband Bill.

The flowers in Church at St Mark's this week have been given by Doreen Smart with grateful thanks for her recovery & support of many of the church members.

Prayer for Sunday

Come, Holy Spirit,
come as the fire of love to enkindle us.
Come as Lord and Giver of Life
to dwell within us.
Come as the Sevenfold Gift to renew us.
Come as the rushing wind to drive us forward.
Come as the holy Dove
to launch us heavenward.
Come as the Wellspring to purify our souls.
Amen.

Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894

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 - 5.pm)

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

Hymns are printed under CCL Lic No. 1501

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

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 31 October 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

2 - 5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 1 November Revd. Neil Bramble Chapman Mrs A.Alderman & Mrs. M.Goddard Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 1 November Revd. Neil Bramble Chapman 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.at 7.45pm Next meeting 1Nov. A.G.M. 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 2 November Putnoe 365630

1- 3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

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

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

5.30 - 7.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.

Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe 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

Bibleway Church 7.30—9.30-Putnoe Heights 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

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

8 February 2006

Circuit Meeting 16 March 2006

St Mark's Leadership Team –
2006 17 January, 21 February,

24 April, 6 June, 12 September

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team 21 November
meet at Putnoe Heights Church

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

2 November 2005. All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management - 14 Nov,
16 Jan 2005

Putnoe Church Council 6 February 2006

Deanery Synod 16 November 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting – 6 February 2006 2.00pm

Churchyard Committee - 31 November 2005 10am

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting .

Partnership Council - 24 January 2006

Brickhill Parish Council

Joint Deanery Circuit 18 January,

Annual Congregational Meeting 7 May 2006

Calendar dates appear also on our church website
www.ThisChurch.com.

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

Bible Notes

Ordinary 31 Year A Trinity 21 (Green)

All Saints Day

Verse of Scripture Psalm 90:14

The angel of the Lord encamps around those who ear Him, and he delivers them.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray.

God of holiness, your glory is proclaimed in every age: as we rejoice in the faith of your saints, inspire us to follow their example with boldness and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



*They will receive blessing from the Lord and vindication from the God of their salvation.
Psalm 24:5*

First Reading – Revelation Chapter 7: 9-17

After this I looked and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and in front of the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands. And they cried out in a loud voice: "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb." All the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures. They fell down on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, saying: "Amen! Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever. Amen!" Then one of the elders asked me, "These in white robes—who are they, and where did they come from?" I answered, "Sir, you know." And he said, "These are they who have come out of the great tribulation; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Therefore, "they are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will spread his tent over them. Never again will they hunger; never again will they thirst. The sun will not beat upon them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd; he will lead them to springs of living water. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

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

Second Reading - 1 John 3: 1-3

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure.

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

Third Reading - Mathew 5: 1-12 (When the Gospel is announced - Glory to Christ our Saviour)

Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

(This is the Gospel of Christ –Praise to Christ our Lord)

Post Communion Prayer

God, the source of all holiness and giver of all good things: may we who have shared at this table as strangers and pilgrims here on earth be welcomed with all your saints to the heavenly feast on the day of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (Please distribute Mission Praise)

1. Come let us join our cheerful songs, 93;
2. O happy day, 499;
3. For all the saints, 148;
4. I will sing the wondrous story, 315

Commentary:

Who is in the Communion of Saints?

As early as the second century, Christians gathered for worship at the tombs of the martyrs, celebrating the power of God's grace in the lives of these faithful men and women. From this came the early understanding that the phrase 'the Communion of Saints' referred to the enduring bond between the faithful on earth and the faithful who had gone before, especially those whose witness was crowned with martyrdom. While all Christians are properly called saints, the word "saint" soon became a title of honour referring to exemplary lives among the faithful, and most notably the lives of martyrs. The celebration of saints as we know it (i.e. those who served God but died *in* the faith rather than *for* the faith) comes later, about the 7th century. Egbert of York brought the festival to England and by the 9th century it had become a major feast in the church calendar in England. Today, we continue to celebrate a Communion of Saints that embraces all Christians, past present and future; including those whose lives are not necessarily like us, or whose lives are not notably marked by saintliness! 'We live among saints but saints are not perfect. Their weaknesses and strengths are woven into our own'. But together we are part of that great community God calls His saints.

The inextricable link between holiness and the Communion of Saints

All Saints' Day is also known as All Hallows' Day, hallow meaning to make holy, consecrate and honour. The theme of God's holiness permeates the entire Bible and as human beings we are invited to participate in the holiness of God through His Son, Jesus Christ. To be holy is to participate in the holiness of Jesus who is "the way, the truth, and the life". The Communion of Saints, the *communio sanctorum*, implies, first of all, communion, communion with Christ and through Him and the power of the Holy Spirit, communion and a relationship with our God, who is all holy.

Our own holiness starts then with a relationship with God through Jesus Christ, the mediator of all holiness. Our holiness also entails being in communion, part of our journey with one another and all the saints who have gone before us. Holiness therefore implies relationships; relationships which sometimes make it feel like it's very difficult to be holy! But however challenging some of our relationships seem, it's impossible to be in communion alone. God's own holiness is part of being in communion, a communion of Father, Son, and Spirit dwelling together in love. To enter into a relationship with God is to enter into a relationship with all who share in that same fellowship of God; past, present and future. Just as we are called into a relationship with God, we are called into a relationship with each other, the Communion of Saints, the Priesthood of all believers.

Our relationship and fellowship with Christ and with one another will never be complete in this life, but is emphasised and strengthened as we together draw closer to him and to one another, and will be perfected in eternity. Together we are in union and communion with all the faithful saints, and as Christians we are called to live out that unity and communion, whatever our denomination or race or background. One of the statements from the Second Vatican council expressed this unity and communion as '...that among all the nations of earth there is but one People of God,

which takes its citizens from every race, making them citizens of a kingdom which is of a heavenly and not an earthly nature. For all the faithful scattered throughout the world are in communion with each other in the Holy Spirit.' We live in faith with all those who have gone before us, we, like they are on a journey of faith, a pilgrimage which leads to God. Jesus takes us as we are, with all our diverse backgrounds, perspectives and relationships, takes us even though we often feel far from holy, and, invites us to be holy, as He is holy, and to join with Him in the communion of saints.

Our Holy Communion links our holiness, our sainthood, to our daily experience. We start the Eucharist with contrite hearts, confess our sins, receive God's forgiveness and pray the *Kyrie Eleison*. We listen to the words of scripture from the bible and through the sermon. We confess our faith and give thanks to God in prayers and intercessions. We receive from God the body and blood of Jesus and together are sent out with the task of renewing the earth. Communion is not the end but the beginning of mission, mission as a Community of Saints, made whole and made holy through God and His gifts. *Sam Cappleman*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

For all the saints who went before us,
Who have spoken to our hearts and touched us with your fire,
We praise you, O God

For all the saints who live beside us,
Whose weaknesses and strengths are woven into our own,
We praise you, O God

Who challenge us to change the world with them,
We praise you, O God
Janet Morley
(in Bread of Tomorrow, Christian Aid and SPCK, 192, 2004)

O Lord, in every age you reveal yourself to the childlike and lowly of heart, and from every race you write names in your book of life, give us the simplicity and faith of your saints, that loving you above all things, we may be what you would have us be, and to do what you would have us do. So may we be numbered with your saints in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

Father God, you have brought us near to the spirits of those who have been made perfect, and to an innumerable company of angels; grant us during our earthly pilgrimage to abide in their fellowship, and in the heavenly country to become partakers of their joy. **Amen**

Lord God, we thank you for calling us into the company of those who trust in Christ and seek to obey His will. May your Spirit guide and strengthen us in mission and service to your world; for we are strangers no longer but pilgrims together on the way to your Kingdom. **Amen** *Prayer of the Inter Church Process (The Swanwick Declaration)*

May almighty God grant you to be numbered with the saints in glory everlasting; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

2005 Partnership Advent Course

28 November The Right Reverend Christopher Herbert, Bishop of St Albans
5 December Professor Paul Crossley 'Poetry and the Bible'
12 December The Reverend Charles Royden 'Christmas and the New Testament stories'
19 December The Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman 'The Second Advent of Jesus'

All take place at Putnoe Heights 7.30pm—9.00pm. Please put these dates in your diary and consider inviting friends who may appreciate considering the meaning of Christmas.

News, Views and Information

Bedford Ecumenical Lay Training Centre 'Practical Spirituality' course. Wednesday 2, 9 November 2005. 7.45 - 9.30pm at St Andrew's Church. Rev Dr Joan Crossley 344536

Junior Church and Storybox Plus at Putnoe will be holding a cake stall following the All Age Service on Sunday 6th November 2005. Proceeds will be used towards our Christmas activity programmes. We thank you in advance for your support in 'supplying' and 'buying' our home goodies.

Christmas Craft Fair Saturday 5 November 10—2pm at Priory Methodist Church. Admission 50p.

Mission Group £100 has been sent to the Pakistan Earthquake Appeal. Thank you to those who have donated, donations may still be made before or after the service to our Emergency Relief Fund.

Autumn Craft Day Saturday 19 November at Priory Methodist Church from 9.45 to 4.30. £3 per half day session. Information & booking forms from Pam Seymour 305695.

Garth Hewitt in Concert—Holy Ground Friday 11 November at 7.30pm at Priory Methodist Church an evening of Stories & songs from the Holy Land contact David Fraser 01234 771370

St Mark's Church Christmas Craft Fair — We are all looking forward to another Christmas Fayre Spectacular on the 19 November. Help both in the kitchen and in the fayre itself would be appreciated. If you can spare an hour on that day please speak with Avril Williams or one of the Leadership Team. Cakes for the Church stall will be very welcome.

Wanted Small bike suitable for under 5's. If you can help please contact Janet or John 295592.

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.

Storybox Plus If anyone has any suitable 'Board Type' games that they can donate to The children & youth at both churches, please Leave in the church office. Thank you Liz.

Charity Concert - Cancer Research UK Kempston Musical Society presents An Evening of

Light Music in aid of Cancer Research UK at Putnoe Heights Church on Saturday, 12 November at 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 (£5 for concessions) and include light refreshments. There will also be a raffle Please contact Alan Bayliss (01234 268101), Sue Butler (01234 354183) or Putnoe Heights Church Office for tickets.

Trade Justice Mass Lobby of Parliament - Wednesday 2nd November. Meet @ Bedford railway Station 9.45am. If you wish to join the group contact G Brown graham@isisbedford62.freeserve.co.uk

Book Stall - There will be a second hand book stall at the Christmas Fayre. If you would like to donate any books(good condition only please) bring them to St Mark's Church or ring the office to make arrangements for me to collect them. Delia Shephard.

Thank You - To everybody who helped with the social events of last weekend. Putnoe Heights enjoyed a fantastic Fifties Celebration evening and The Brass Buffett and the Bishop turned out to be a wonderful success in many different ways. These events always require a great deal of effort behind the scenes, so thank you to the organisers and to all who supported them.

Thanks to Judith. We very much appreciate the fundraising efforts of Judith Stanton and her supporters from the whist group. St Mark's have received a kind donation of £100.

Partnership Council. Members of the Partnership Council are invited to lunch at the Vicarage on Sunday 18 December. Please arrive from 1.30pm It would be helpful for catering to know if you are able to come.

The 50's night at Putnoe raised the total of £357 for church funds. Many thanks to all who helped in anyway. Sue Allen.

Putnoe Heights Church Office will not be open in the afternoons during the coming week 31 October - 4 November inclusive.

Confirmation at St Marks and Putnoe. We would like to offer confirmation classes to adults and younger members of our Churches starting in January, possibly during part of the Morning Services. This would be a combined Anglican and Methodist teaching programme and would conclude in confirmation by. If you are interested please speak to one of the Ministers.



Brickhill Policing Partnership.

We were pleased that the police presence at St Mark's has received considerable media attention of the last week Beds on Sunday, Church Times etc.

BEDFORDSHIRE POLICE The following agreement has now been confirmed by the Parish Council.

Brickhill Parish Council supports St Mark's Church Community Centre in seeking to establish a police base for Bedfordshire Police at St Mark's Church Community Centre.

In recognition of the costs incurred the Parish Council seeks to enter into a Partnership with St Mark's Church Community Centre. Under the terms of the Partnership, St Mark's will provide facilities at the Centre to facilitate Bedfordshire Police in their enhanced community role. As part of its contribution Brickhill Parish Council will contribute £200 per month towards loss of income by St Mark's Church Community Centre.

The agreement with St Mark's Church Community Centre will operate in accordance with the initial 18 month contract issued by St Mark's Church Community Centre in April 2005 which is due for reconsideration in September 2006.

Community Update by Pc Dave Hawkey Beat Manager

My colleagues, Gina Carruthers, our Police Community Support Officer, and Jon Bahari, our Community Special, are settling in and enjoying their time on the area. The three of us are heavily involved in the problems with young adults, and motorcycles. Under recent legislation several youths have received official warnings, and 2 motorcycles have been seized and are waiting to be crushed. We are very grateful for your help in keeping us informed of these problems. It is your help that enables the team to focus on the problems.

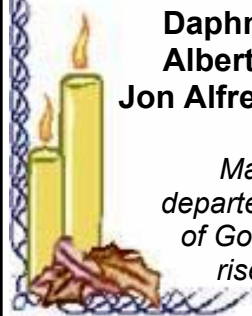
The move into the Police Post at St Marks Church is going very well with all the furniture now in place. We now have a pedal cycle and will happily give you a wave as we cycle around the area. Hopefully this bike will help us to cover Brickhill more effectively. The telephone is now in place and I am hoping the networked computer will be installed very soon.

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.

**Daphne Diane Austin
Albert James Squire
Jon Alfred Charles Setchell**

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



Work is ongoing with the excellent Parish Council and the very active Borough and County Councillors to improve and maintain the quality of life for everyone in Brickhill. At the forefront with Crime is the 'Nuisance Youth' situation and we are all trying hard to cover all aspects of this problem.

The Police Surgery at St Marks Church is proving very popular and we would be pleased to see you. Surgery Times are Tuesdays 2pm until 5pm and Thursdays 4.30pm until 7.30pm. All information is confidential and there is a 'Private Area' if required.

The Surgery at the NBHA flat at 6, Leven Walk is proving to be very disappointing, although foot patrol on the estate appears to be appreciated. We are at this Surgery every 4th Wednesday and times and dates are posted on the NBHA Notice Board. Feel free to come and meet us. You do not need a reason and we would be pleased to see you.

If you have any information regarding any offences please contact the Police on the following numbers. Emergency or Crime in Progress 999. Any other non-emergency calls 01234 841212. St Marks Police post 01234 349179 or 07706 944307

Methodist Relief and Development Fund (MRDF) has

launched its Christmas appeal by producing a fundraising advent calendar that gives a global perspective. The calendar tells the story of new mother Wassa Traoré, who travelled hours across Mali because she wanted to give birth at a health centre so her child could have all the care and medical attention necessary. Wassa's journey echoes that of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem where Jesus was born, which serves as a reminder of both hope and hardship at this time. The advent calendar is beautifully illustrated and has Bible quotations and colourful images behind each of the 24 windows. It provides a great opportunity for children and their families to learn about life in another country as they count down to Christmas, while at the same time supporting health projects which ensure more women have the opportunity to give birth safely and that their children have a better start in life.

MRDF advent calendars cost £2.50 each. Profits from the sale of calendars will go towards projects to promote infant and maternal health in developing countries. Orders can be placed by e-mailing mrdf@methodistchurch.org.uk, calling 020 7467 5132 or sending a cheque made payable to MRDF to: MRDF, 25 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JR.

One Sunday the minister stood before the congregation and informed them he had good news

And bad news. He proceeded to tell the audience that the church required a sum of £500 to fix the leaking roof. The congregation groaned. The Vicar cut them short by dishing out the good news; there was enough money to cover the repairs. The congregation breathed a sigh of relief.' The final piece of bad news', said the Minister, 'is that the the money is still in your pockets.'

From Frank Tuffin

Forthcoming funerals to be taken by our Ministers

There are no funerals this week