



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

3 April 2005
2nd of Easter

Methodist Church & the Church of England in Partnership at both
Putnoe Heights Church & St. Mark's Church



Church of
England

Church Services Today

3 April

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship

Preacher - The Revd Dr Joan Crossley

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day

Intercessions - Mrs Delia Shephard

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship

Preacher - The Mr Peter Parker

Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss

Church Services 10 April

8.30 Service of Holy Communion

Held at both churches

9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship

Preacher - Mr Chris Izzard

Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shepherd

Intercessions - Mrs Alison Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights -

Preacher - Mr Chris Izzard

Leadership Team - Mrs Sue Allen

Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by

Dorothy Billingham in memory of her husband, Ridley.

The flowers at St Mark's Church this week have been given by Milly Rollinson in memory of her parents.

We pray for Pope John Paul II

Go forth, Christian soul, go from this world
Go in the name of God the almighty Father,
who created you,
Go in the name of Jesus Christ,
on of the living God, who suffered for you,
Go in the name of the Holy Spirit,
who was poured out upon you,
May you live in peace this day,
may your home be with God in Zion,
with Mary, the virgin Mother of God,
with Joseph and all the angels and saints. Amen.

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 356062Minister@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

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Partnership News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - 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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630

Leadership Team - Mrs Elizabeth Wyatt 350188

Treasurer Mrs Kathryn Morse 216428

treasurerph@Thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186

Junior Church Co-ordinator - Mrs Samantha Ware 304058

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

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

wendy@thisischurch.com

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day—295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 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).

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

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

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

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

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

6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Contact 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. Mrs C Cannon 404319

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next one 16 April—St. Mark's Contact 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. Contact Mrs Olive Shotbolt 267203

9.30am Jo Jingles at St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Contact Renu Elston 01908 282866

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

1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. Contact 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 Contact Val Careless 345213.

1.15pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Next meeting 19 April. Contact Morag Tompkins 356895

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 5 April Charles Royden contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 5 April—Rev.d C.Royden. Contact Lawrence Wyatt 350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. Meets fortnightly at St. Mark's. Wool and knitting needles provided. Contact Mrs Joan Gravett 356911 and Mrs Marjorie Taylor 305709

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

6.30 - 7.30pm Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Contact Rachel Leontyne 783129

6.45pm Guides at Putnoe Heights. Contact Emma Holloway 293792

7.00 - 8.00 pm Keep Fit at St. Mark's. Contact Mrs Jan Gregory 214107.

7.00 - 10pm Card Makers Club meets at St Mark's. Contact Carol Houghton 346718

7.30pm Bibleway Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Contact Revd.Tarr 309881 or 07891095746

7. 45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Next meeting 12 April The Guildhouse Maggie Goodchild.. Meets fortnightly. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

8.30-9.30pm St. Mark's - Qi Gong (Self help healing group) - Contact 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 23 March. Contact Jenny Coggins 266379

10.00 am Day Care Centre St Mark's for those with Learning Difficulties. Contact K Stenton 07748 760082

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

12 - 1pm Total Body Toning at Putnoe Heights Contact Caroline 07778 898135 or 326096

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Height meets fortnightly. Next meeting 13 April 2005 Contact Putnoe Heights 365630

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

4.15pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

6.00pm Self Defence at Putnoe Contact Mr James 07711 687449

6.00 pm Brownies at St Mark's. Contact Mrs Carol Warden 219731

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Next meeting 16 March. Contact Sylvia Woods 365095

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe

Heights. Contact 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. Contact Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group at Putnoe Heights
 in the side chapel. Sylvia Cohen 343424 *Request for
 prayer can be written in the prayer diary on the
 information table.*

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Contact Karen
 Simpson 244970

10.30am - 12.00am Fledglings at St Mark's **2.00pm
 - 3.00pm Clinic** at St. Mark's Contact 267444

12pm Storybox 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.

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

1.30pm St. Mark's Church Toddler Group.
 Contact Debbie Coppenhall 356828.

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

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

4.00 Storybox Plus at Putnoe Heights. A drama
 group for 4-9year olds. Meets 4 5-pm,drinks from
 3.30pm

6.15 pm Weightwatchers at St. Mark's.
 Contact Mrs Margaret Ralph 01767 224978.

6.15pm Brownies at Putnoe Heights . Contact Helga
 Nash 218521

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

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

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

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's Guild St Mark's- 3rd

Thursday of the month. Contact Mrs K Sage 771525
7.45pm. Housegroup-Meets fortnightly at 3 Little
 Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Contact
 Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle meets at St
 Mark's 3rd Thursday each month. Contact Mr John
 Broadhouse 740271

Friday

9.30am U3A Exercise at Putnoe Heights.
 Contact Carole Maunder 301325

10.00 am Day Care Centre at St. Mark's Contact
 K Stenton 07748 760082

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

7. 30pm Bibleway Young Peoples meeting Contact
 Pastor Tarr 376841

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

Saturday

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

10.00am - 1.00pm & 2 - 5pm Theatre Train at St
 Mark's -dancing acting, singing,- Kate Randle 01234
 782414

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe Heights.
 Meets monthly next meeting 26 March Contact
 Kathleen Sage 771525

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 309881 Mob.
 07891095746

6.45pm TNT (The Nearly Teens) meet fortnightly at
 Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact
 Putnoe Office 365630

Church Calendar

Church Diary Dates

Annual Congregational Meeting 8 May 3.00pm St
 Mark's 4.00pm Putnoe

Partnership Council 21 June

St Mark's Church Council 15 June, 12 October

Circuit Men's Fellowship Lunch on the

St Mark's Leadership Team

4 May -Home of Rev Dr Joan Crossley

Deanery Synod

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -

25 April 2005 at 7.30pm at Sam's

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

23 May, 11 July, 12 September, 2 November. All
 meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management 18 April

Putnoe Church Council

13 June 2005, 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting -27 April at 2.pm.

Church yard Committee 25 April at 10 pm.

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

Bible Notes

Verse of Scripture 1 Peter 1:3

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Faithful God, the strength of all who believe, and the hope of those who doubt; may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen (*Methodist Worship*)

First Reading - Acts 2: 14a, 22-32

"Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.

"Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. David said about him: " 'I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.' "Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. (This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**)

Second Reading - 1 Peter 1: 3-9

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that your faith—of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may be proved genuine and may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

(This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**)

Third Reading - John 20: 19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. Again Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven." Now Thomas (called Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!" But he said to them, "Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe it." A week later his



disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Then Jesus told him, "Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed." Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. (This is the word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**)

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God our Father, through our Saviour Jesus Christ you have assured your children of eternal life and in baptism have made us one with him: deliver us from the death of sin and raise us to new life in your love, in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Hymns Please distribute Mission Praise

1. Let all the world 404
2. Be still and know 48 (after confession)
3. Come on and Celebrate 99 Praise him on the trumpet 558
4. Now the green blade riseth (204 Hymns and Psalms On Partnership News)
5. Led like a lamb 402
6. At the name of Jesus 41 (Tune Camberwell)

Commentary

In the Gospel reading this morning we are confronted with the issue of faith. Thomas had a problem believing his fellow disciples when they said that Jesus had appeared to them in a locked room. In fairly forceful terms, Thomas said that unless he could see it for himself he wasn't going to believe a word of it. We have just heard the end of the story, Jesus turned up and seemed to know what had been said. He invited Thomas to inspect the wounds for himself. Thomas is the forerunner of all good scientists who have to prove things for themselves in order to believe them. But Thomas did us all a favour because he asks the questions we might want to ask. Was the Risen Jesus a ghost, or perhaps a fantasy conjured up by the people that missed Jesus so much that they imagined they saw him? No, because Thomas proved that Jesus was a physical person with a wound in his side. He had a nasty squashy hole in him, which could be touched.

Now we don't know how, but we know from the example of Lazarus that Jesus could do such things. Jesus could overcome the laws of the physical universe as we now understand them. Humans, in our arrogance, assume that the truth as we know it is the only truth and the only answer.

Technologically advanced as we are, we know so little about the things that matter. Religious belief belongs to a category of knowledge which is difficult to measure or touch. It isn't susceptible to concrete proofs. The children will be helping us this morning with experiments. How do you know that the wind is there, you can't see it, smell it or taste it? You can't hold it in your hand, but you can feel it on your skin or watch it move things. We can't see the wind itself, but we can see what it does. Faith is like that. In the same way as we can infer the presence of the wind by its action of the wind on a balloon, we can see the impact of faith on the lives of those who are blessed with it.

Church tradition suggests that Thomas was profoundly affected by his experience of seeing and touching the Risen Lord. It is thought that he went off to tell the story of Jesus to the people of ancient Babylon, near the Tigris and Euphrates Rivers, where Iraq is today. He travelled to Persia, present-day Iran, and continued to win disciples to the Christian faith.

Tradition suggests that he sailed south to Malabar on the west coast of India in 52 AD. He preached, established churches, and won to Christ high caste Brahmins, as well as others. When

the Portuguese landed in India in the early 1600s, they founded a group of Christians there -- the Mar Thoma Church established through Thomas' preaching a millennium and a half before. Finally, Thomas travelled to the east coast of India. He was martyred about 72 AD, near present-day Madras. In Thomas' life we see a powerful example of the effects of faith, a practical application of Jesus' commands to evangelise the world. *Joan Crossley*

Meditation

At Christmas and Easter clergy are greeted with "your busy time, I expect?" by members of the non church-going population. This is a bit irritating, suggesting as it does that we twiddle our thumbs in between the big festivals of Christmas, Easter and Harvest! But the remark, kindly meant as it often is, reveals a genuine belief that Sunday worship is the only thing that Christians do. I think that we Christians are probably to blame for this. Generations of believers have spent more time quarrelling over quite small matters of liturgy or theology to the exclusion of attending to the needs of the world. Is it any wonder that some people see the church's concerns as being irrelevant? *Joan Crossley*

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead.

Lord, make my life a window for Your light to shine through and a mirror to reflect Your love to all I meet.
Amen.

Risen Lord Jesus, you come to us in the most surprising - and the most ordinary - ways. Just when we begin to forget or doubt you, when we begin to live our lives as if you don't matter, you come - speaking to us, feeding us, encouraging us. You never forget us or fail us. Without you we are weak and fail often but with you we are strong. May we be made deeply aware of your presence this day.

God of the prophets, you fulfilled your promise that Christ would suffer and rise to glory. Open our minds to understand the scriptures that we may be his witnesses to the ends of the earth. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity, of the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

Risen Christ, whose absence leaves us paralysed, but whose presence is overwhelming: breathe on us abundant life; that where we cannot see, we may have courage to believe that we may be raised with you.
Amen (Janet Morley)

A Hymn for Sunday

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
Wheat that in the dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
- 2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom men had slain,
Thinking that he never would awake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
He that for the three days in the grave had lain,
Quick from the dead my risen Lord is seen:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.
- 4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Then your touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:
Love is come again, like wheat that springs up green.



News, Views and Information

Confirmation? If you would be interested in being confirmed. Please speak to one of the ministers.

Wednesday Bereavement Drop in Group.

This week The subject will be 'Great Victorian Pictures.' The meeting starts at 2.30pm by The Reverend Joan Crossley. All are welcome to attend these afternoon gatherings
On May 4 Lynne Davis will speak about the work of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

Fun Run and Teddy Bear's Picnic! 22 May at Mowsbury Park, our 5km Fun Run followed by a BBQ, Bring a Teddy to the Teddy Bear's Picnic!
Time to get in training!

Second Hand Book Sale in aid of Mission Funds. Saturday 16 April from 10am - noon at Putnoe Heights Church.

Volunteers urgently needed to cover 9am - 11am or 11am - 1pm at Putnoe Heights Church Office once a fortnight. Please contact Barry at the Church Office.

T.T.T.(The Tiddler Trail) at Putnoe. Newcomers at our Church may have wondered why there is always a collector at the door for your(5p's in a film pot scheme) donation to our Mission Emergency Fund. Out of the £1,500 sent recently to the Tsunami Appeal Fund by our Church, £500 was immediately available from this source. We will be pleased to accept any surplus small denomination coins other than 5p. ie. bagged copper most welcome. Our grateful thanks to all that support this fund.

Grass Cutting at Putnoe Heights If you can help, please add your name to the rota on the notice board in the welcome area. Thank you. Barry

Lunch Club. Please note that Lunch Club, which meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights Church, will operate again on 13 April. For more details contact Putnoe office on 365630

Spring Craft Day, Saturday, 23 April, 9.45 am - 4.30 pm, at Priory Methodist Church, Newnham Avenue, Bedford. Organised by London North West District Network, this is an opportunity for any women in the church to learn a new skill, discover hidden talents, share together creatively - and have fun! For details of the half-day workshops on offer, and to obtain a booking form (closing date 4 April), please contact Ann Hitt, tel. 404186.

Wanted in the Putnoe Area someone to do 2-3 hours a week, light housework in a bungalow, for a retired couple. Please ring 340178.

NCH Boxholders. Will you please let Margaret Standley have your box early in April so that the total amount collected can be paid in. (An amazing £600,000, including Gift Aid, has been collected nationally by this method in a year.)
Thank you

Book Sale. In aid of Mission Funds at Putnoe Heights church on Saturday 16th April, 10am—12noon. Refreshments. Raffle. Donations of books or raffle prizes gratefully received in church on Friday 15th April from 7-8pm. Contact:- Peck 267567, Gunning 305925 or Cohen 343424.

Prayers. We ask that your prayers are with Kasia Piecyk and her family at this time, her mother had been diagnosed with cancer. Amid her sadness she still sends her love to all her friends at both churches.

Saints & Warthogs . Anyone interested in playing cricket? The new season is fast looming and Mike Cooper is the person to see if you would like to join their team. Tel:3066751 -mikecoops@tiscali.co.uk.

Car Boot Sale. Thanks to everybody who attended the car boot sale last week. Special thanks to 'The Team' who gave up their Bank Holiday to cook, clean, sell, carry and associated hard work. Over £1300 was raised for church funds.

Thanks To Simon and Clive for their tremendous concert on Friday at Putnoe Church. The evening had a great turnout and we raised money for the extension to St Mark's Church Community Centre which will provide a new home for Autism Bedfordshire to replace the Portakabin. Thanks also to the 'Kitchen Crew' and all those from Putnoe Heights who helped set up, move chairs and tables etc.

Vehicle for Sale. 3 year old Opel Zafira with seven seats, diesel engine, and regularly serviced. The car has 42,000 on the clock and is offered for sale at £7,400. Please contact Morag Stewart from St Mark's Church for details— Tel: 360103

Easter Flowers. We are extremely fortunate at our churches to enjoy the most beautiful flowers throughout the year. This is due to kind contributions from members of the congregation and also thanks to the flowers arrangers who work so hard. Please accept our special thanks for all your work to prepare our churches for Easter.

Apologies To anybody we have telephoned to chase up sponsorship money for the Swimathon. Most people had already paid but were not ticked off on the sheet. Thank you to everyone who helped.

Arnolds

Funeral Service

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01234 359529

Reassurance when you need it most

The banns of marriage are published today between Jason Fuller bachelor of this parish and Felicity Anne Burrill Spinster of St Mary's (Wootton 2nd time of asking)

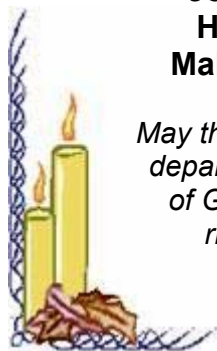
Rotas You should all have received your rotas for Putnoe Heights Church. St Mark's Rotas were out last week for corrections and alterations but not many alterations were made. Just in case you missed it we have waited a further week before publication. Please check the rota in the foyer to make sure that you can make the dates set and make any alterations. *Thank You*

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.

Joan Gladys Green
Hazel Enid Gilbert
Malcolm James Brice

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



Forthcoming Funerals to be conducted by our ministers

The funeral of Albert Edward Ford will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 8th April at 1.45pm *Charles Royden*

The funeral of Joseph Baines will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 13 April 2.30pm *Joan Crossley*

The funeral of Edna McGregor Cheers will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Thursday 14th April *Charles Royden*

The funeral of Mrs Hilda Izzard will take place at Wilstead Methodist Church on Thursday 14th April at 4.00pm *Charles Royden*

The funeral of John Reginald Tokins will take place at Putnoe Heights Church on the 15th April at 11.30am. *Neil Bramble-Chapman*