



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

4 February 2007

Third Sunday before Lent



Church of
England

Partnership Church Services Today

8.30am Holy Communion every Sunday on the 1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday at Putnoe Heights Church. On the 2nd & 4th Sunday at St Mark's Chapel.

9.30am St Mark's - Family Teddy Bear Service

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership - Mr Mike Cooper
Intercessions – Mr Richard Ledger

11.00am Putnoe—Family Teddy Bear Service

Preacher - Revd Dr Joan Crossley
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

11 th February -

Second Sunday before Lent

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship

Preacher –Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mrs Avril Williams
Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am -Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship

Preacher - Rev. Dr. Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley
Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

Reading 1: Genesis 2:4b - 9 & 15 - end

Reading 2: Revelations 4:

Reading 3: Luke: 8 22 - 25

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Jill Williams in memory of her husband, David, and by Sheila Tapping in memory of her brother, who passed away suddenly last year, and her parents and sister, who all died in March in different years

The flowers in St Mark's Church have been given by Barbara Pinney in memory of her husband Keith and in the chapel by Gill Williams in memory of her husband.

Prayer for Sunday

O Heavenly Father, I praise and thank you for all your goodness and faithfulness throughout my life.

You have granted me many blessing.

Now let me accept tribulation from your hand.

You will not lay on me more than I can bear.

You make all things work together for good for your children.

Amen

(Dietrich Bonhoeffer)

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 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 News is also archived on our church website www.ThisisChurch.com

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—5pm Monday to Friday

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

Centre Manager Mr Barry Snelson 365630 & 344417

Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101

Treasurer Mr Ian 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 - 5.00pm)

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

Centre Manager Miss Wendy Rider 342613

Leadership Team - Mrs Janet Day 295592

Treasurer - Mr John Day 295592 treasurer@thisischurch.com

Gift Aid Administrator Mr Jim Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school Mrs Janet Smith 326685
8.30 - 5.30 pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school Mrs. Helen Harpin 312634
(See website for more details)
9.00 am Clubhouse at St. Mark's for those with Learning Disabilities. Karen Bywater 315460.
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, donations. Contact Liz on 01234 302349
2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Arts Society at Putnoe Heights contact Malcolm Smith on 01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)
4pm Monday Club at St. Marks for 3—8 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments , between 4 & 5 Bible story, craft activities & songs. Lots of fun. Contact Liz 302349
4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock 01908 565044
4.15 - 6.00pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights. Contact Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698
6.00pm Brownies St Mark's. Mrs C Mathew 826190
6.15 pm Brownies Putnoe. Sharon Tanner 364710
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 next 19 February Contact 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. Judi Staughton 341821
10.00am Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights. Mrs Stileman 822230
1.30-3pm Toddlers Playtime at Putnoe Heights. Geraldine Skeel 406828
9.30am -12.30 & 4 - 9pm Slimming World at St. Mark's. Helen Folbigg 351223
2.00pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. Contact Mrs C Allen 363878
2 - 5pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.
2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 30 January 2007 Members ; Something Old, Something New. Contact Betty 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. For details of next meeting contact Mary Stubbs 406784.

3.45 - 5.30pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 0582468.

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

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

Tuesday - 7pm-9pm MT Karate [all ages] at Putnoe Heights. Please contact Karen King 07941 264885

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

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth 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 30 January Hearing Dogs for the Deaf Contact Audrey Wilkins 365068 or Margaret Gentle 309043

8.30pm St Mark's Church Qi Gong. Contact Mrs D Steele 356384

Wednesday

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

9.30am - Body Control Pilates at Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith 357787.

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

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights - For details of next meeting Contact Audrey Hancock 365915.

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. For details of next meeting 7 February 2007 contact 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

2.15pm - Fifty plus Keep Fit at Putnoe Heights . Mrs Webster 856966

4.15pm - 6pm Kumon Maths at Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

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

6.15pm - 7.45pm Yoga and Relaxation at Putnoe Heights. contact Racheall Monton 01234 297138

6.30 - 7.30 at St Mark's Karate contact Karen 079412 64885

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

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society

meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Contact Sylvia Woods 365095

7pm Putnoe Guild meets monthly at Putnoe Heights. Janice Loxley 347073

7.45pm Badminton Club at Putnoe Heights - all welcome. Ken Marriott 214867

Thursday

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

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

9.45am Yoga at Putnoe Heights. Karen Simpson 244970

1.30pm - 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, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 302349

1.30-3pm Toddler Playtime at Putnoe Geraldine Skeel 406828

12pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-11 year old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church on the 1st Sunday of each month Lots of fun And it's free! 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 Helga Nash 218521

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

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Sheila Jakeman 261935

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

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderers' Guild at St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs E Rigby 344442

7.30 - 9.30 Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Bible Studies every 2 Thursday- Pastor Tarr 360188

7.45pm Housegroup meets fortnightly Contact Betty Wyatt 350188

8.00 - 10pm Bedford Writers Circle at St Mark's 1st Thursday each month. Mr Broadhouse 740271

Friday

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

1.30 - 2pm Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights Contact Eve Whitehead 356875

7 - 10pm Bedford Arts Society meets fortnightly at Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Contact Malcolm

Smith 01234 400741

7.30pm Youth Club for age 10-15 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.00 - 12.00 Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

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

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

Sunday

Junior Church with crèche for under 3's

9.30 - 10.30 at St. Mark's

11-12 at Putnoe Heights.

1 - 3pm Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights - Worship. Contact Revd. Tarr 360188 Mob. 07866775515

6-7.30pm T.N.T. for 9-12 year olds (fortnightly) join us for fellowship, fun, games & outings. At Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349.

6-7.30pm T.X.T for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion at Putnoe. Ring Liz 302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 6 February 07
Circuit Meeting -

St Mark's Leadership Team – 9 May 07 at the Vicarage. 26 June

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team -
19 February 2007 at Wendy's house

St Mark's Church Management Meeting - 20
February 6.30pm

Putnoe Heights Centre Management -
Putnoe Church Council 11 June, 8 October

Pastoral Group Meeting – 8 May at 4.30pm

Churchyard Committee - 15 February 07

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting

Partnership Council - 20 February at St Mark's

Brickhill Parish Council -

Deanery Meeting -

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth– 23 April at 1.00pm

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

3rd Sunday before Lent



Verse of Scripture - Isaiah Chapter 6

Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory."

Collect Prayer - *Before we read we pray*

Loving God, the light of the minds that know you, the life of the souls that love you, and the strength of the wills that serve you: help us so to know you that we may truly love you, and so to love you that we may truly serve you, who to serve is perfect freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Methodist Worship)

First Bible Reading - Psalm 17: 6-9

I call on you, O God, for you will answer give ear to me and hear my prayer. Show the wonder of your great love, you who save by your right hand those who take refuge in you from their foes. Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings from the wicked who assail me, from my mortal enemies who surround me

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

Second Reading - 1 Corinthians 13: 1-7

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give all I possess to the poor and surrender my body to the flames, but have not love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It is not rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.

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

Gospel Reading - John 15: 9-12

"As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you.

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

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms and Service sheet)

1. Love Divine all Loves Excelling. (267)
2. Go tell it on the mountain (on service sheet)
3. God is love: his the care (tune Theodoric) (220)
4. Make me a channel of your peace (776)
5. You shall go out with joy (on service sheet)

Commentary

Bible Notes. John 15 9-12 In this short passage we have one of the most significant pieces of teaching in the whole of the Bible. Jesus begins by speaking of his relationship with his Heavenly

Father. Note that he uses a tense which suggests approaching completion - "as the Father has loved me, so have I loved you." This way of expressing it suggests that the relationship between God and humanity is about to change: Jesus already has the Cross and his self-giving sacrifice in mind. The words he speaks are to be left with the disciples, to keep after his departure from them. The concept of "remaining in Jesus' love" is very precious and important. Amid all the changes and losses of human life, beyond Jesus' own death, those who are loved will remain so. Jesus shows us the way to Divine Love, through the kind of obedience he has shown to his Father. In the nature of that great love is made clear: it is not grindingly hard or a miserable sacrifice to love and serve the Lord; it is joyous and joy giving. The creating and receiving of Christian love gives joy in Heaven and joy on earth! Jesus uses the word *command* in this passage, a word which reminds us of a general giving orders before a battle and also echoes Moses and the Ten Commandments, so it is a heavy word, ringing with authority. Jesus told them "My command is this: love one another as I have loved you." Such a simple command - yet it takes all we have, all our being, the discipline of a lifetime to achieve it! And always we fall short of achieving that standard of perfect love for one another, shown to us in the life of Jesus. Loving one another with perfect selfless love must be the goal and we must focus on it. Jesus did not say "correct one another" or "judge one another"! In his great command Jesus did not say "shun those who disagree with you" or "keep out those who are different". Jesus demanded that we show the same concern and care for our neighbours as we show to ourselves.

Meditation

Meditation. Teaching our children at Church is a great responsibility, as many of you who have been Sunday School teachers will know. Firstly it requires that we think deeply about an aspect of scripture or faith, break it down into clear elements, and then we can try and interpret it in simple, striking ways for the young ones. By attempting to present rich and complicated concepts in this way is a challenge because it forces you to ask yourself "what is this familiar story really about?" In the Teddy Service this year we shall be talking to the little ones about taking responsibility for the welfare of others. For the text I have chosen Jesus' great commandment "love one another as I have loved you." In that one phrase, Jesus challenged his followers to care for one another passionately, to take account of their practical and spiritual needs, to get emotionally involved with one another – because that is how Jesus loves us. Not with polite, friendly-but - distant love, but passionate care and concern. Jesus' love for the people he met led him to take risks and be unconventional. When he met the foreign woman by the well, he was risking the shock and disgust of the crowd that saw them talking privately; when he touched the unclean woman, he stepped outside the religious conventions of his culture, rules which he took very seriously. Jesus engaged with the people that he encountered and so must we. When we teach the children that they must try and care deeply for others, it is a reminder of Jesus' dream for humanity. Since the challenge is new every day, we must ask ourselves every day: what does God want of me in this relationship or in this situation.

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Dear Lord and heavenly Father, let not our lips be silent when others need our service, not our hands be idle when they ask our aid. Let not our hearts be closed when others seek our love. May our minds be alert when our counsel is asked for. Our hearts are yours, O Lord. May our praise and thanksgiving to you be in our service to others. Amen (Susie M. Payne, Worcester diocese)

A Grandparent's prayer. Lord, teach me to love my grandchildren and a grandparent should: not interfering, only understanding; not pushing myself forward, just being there when wanted. Teach me to be the sort of grandparent my children and grandchildren would want me to be. Amen.

What should the response of the church be to the new Super Casinos ?

We take a look at a statement made by the Methodist Church

Monitor, evaluate and invest!

In light of today's announcement by the Casino Advisory Panel that Manchester is the preferred location for the UK's first supercasino, a challenge has been issued by The Salvation Army and the Methodist Church, who have long campaigned on gambling issues.

'We expect the government to keep to their promises of proper monitoring and evaluation of the social as well as the economic impact of these increased opportunities to gamble,' said Lieutenant-Colonel Royston Bartlett, Secretary for Communications for The Salvation Army.

'Unfortunately, evidence suggests that the new casinos along with the increasing popularity of online gambling and the general normalisation of gambling within this country, could result in many more people developing a serious gambling addiction over an extended period,' said Anthea Cox, Co-ordinating Secretary for Public Life and Social Justice at the Methodist Church.

'The gambling industry and the government will benefit most from the huge profits of these increased gambling opportunities. We are challenging them to channel substantial resources to help those many thousands, if not millions of people who will experience problems,' said Ms Cox.

The new Gambling Act gives the green light to one regional casino, 8 large casinos and 8 small casinos. The one regional casino, or so-called 'super casino', will contain hard forms of gambling that have never been seen before in the UK, including unlimited-jackpot machines. Machine gambling has highly addictive properties, and the lure of mega-prizes can only further compound this danger.

There are already an estimated 370,000 problem gamblers in the UK and the Methodist Church and The Salvation Army have long warned that any increase in gambling opportunities could lead to a rise in problem gambling. There is no evidence to show what effect a regional casino may have on a UK community but experience in the US shows a rise in gambling-related debt, crime, bankruptcy, and associated social problems including unemployment and family breakdown. The social costs of gambling extend far beyond the individual gambler, impacting upon family, friends, employers, communities and indeed the country as a whole. In an NOP poll commissioned by The Salvation Army, 56% of the population, and 64% of women, said they would not be happy for a casino to open where they live*.

The Salvation Army and the Methodist Church campaigned during the passage of the Gambling Bill, requesting greater measures to protect children and vulnerable people, including limiting the number of regional casinos to one, so that thorough research can be done into its impact on the community it is built in.

'The Gambling Act includes provision for the proper monitoring of the effects of these increased gambling opportunities and we will be among those who will be keeping an eye on the situation to ensure that the government keeps to its promises!' said Anthea Cox from the Methodist Church.

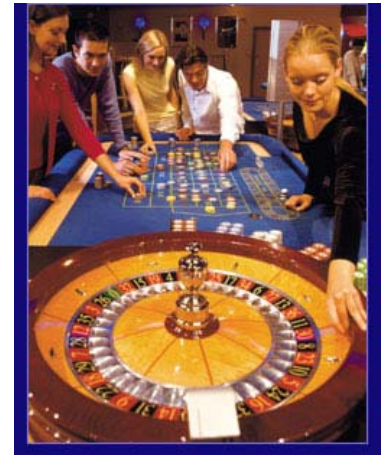
'As it currently stands, the minimum evaluation period of three years will be measured from the award of the first casino license under the 2005 Act. Given that there could be a considerable amount of time between the license being awarded and the casino actually opening, the evaluation period could potentially be considerably less than three years in real terms.'

'The Salvation Army and the Methodist Church are calling for a monitoring and evaluation period of at least three years from the time that the casinos open their doors, with a provision to increase that monitoring to five years if required.'

'Much has been made of the potential economic benefit of casinos but that needs to be balanced against the potential devastating effects of problem gambling on individuals, families and communities,' added Lieut-Colonel Royston Bartlett from The Salvation Army.

'Britain is already fast becoming a culture obsessed with gambling. Only through meticulous and objective evaluation of the social effects of increased gambling over an extended period will we begin to understand the long term damage that may result from the increased availability of gambling products made possible under by the new 2005 Gambling Act.'

'Whilst the government has promised monitoring they must also be committed to action if it is proved that the increased opportunities to gamble are indeed ruining lives, and communities. It is also vital that resources for education, prevention and treatment are made available and both the government and the gambling industry must be prepared to foot the bill.'



News and Information

Pastoral The next meeting of the Partnership Pastoral Support Group will take place on Monday 7 May at 4.30pm

Kisiizi Support

We have received the following note of thanks for our donation to Kisiizi which was sent off to Sponsor a Nurse for Kisiizi earlier this month.

I have just received your wonderful donation to Kisiizi today and wanted, on behalf of the trustees of Sponsor a Nurse, to send our thanks immediately. I cannot begin to tell you how encouraging this is! We will make sure that the funds are allocated in accordance with your requests. Sponsor a Nurse has supported the running costs of Kisiizi for the past seven years, and this is one of the most generous donations we have received, so thank you all so much. Helen Smith
Chairperson of Sponsor a Nurse.

Gwen Beswick and family would like to thank Everyone for all the help and loving support Given over this difficult time. Thank you also for The many letters, cards and donations.

Book Sale Saturday 24 February from 10– 12 Noon.. Admission 30p ,refreshments & raffle. Please save your books & bring them to the church On Friday 23 between 7 & 8pm. Offers of help Appreciated either or both days. Sylvia Cohen 343424. In aid of Mission Funds.

Footprints The next walk is on Sunday February 4. Meet at 2pm in Chapel Lane [at the end of Station Road, next to the entrance to Danish Camp] for a walk of 5 miles along the old railway line between the stations at Willington and Blunham, and back. No stiles, no fields, no hills, good walking whatever the weather! Details from Jenny or Barry 344417

Opening of the new church community centre at St Mark's. The new centre will hopefully be completed in the next couple of weeks and work is proceeding apace on the Garden of Remembrance. Whilst new users will begin using the centre immediately, there will be an official opening on May 9. We are delighted that the new centre will be opened by Mr Mike Bonney.

TNT and TXT will be having a talent competition next Sunday—prizes for the best / most original acts. Our judge for the evening Ms Kate Crossley.

St Mark's Church Council will take place on Tuesday at 7.30pm in the chapel.



Lent Course 2007. The Lent course will take place as follows

28 February Heaven and Hell—

A Biblical perspective -a minister

7 March Professor Paul Crossley

Medieval Images of heaven and hell

14 March Rev Dr Joan Crossley

Images of heaven and hell in art

21 March Professor Paul Crossley

Heaven and Hell in literature



Telecare

We are all delighted with the way that Telecare has been so well received. It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feed back, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down, please do so. It helps us make our churches more able to care. Please simply tell one of the Ministers as you leave church after the service. Unwanted Gift Stall at Putnoe - Sunday 4th February following All Age Worship. Please let us have your contributions.-Liz 302349

“Tunes from Stage and Silver Screen”

Wednesday 28 March at 7.15pm featuring the choirs of Hills and Hazeldene Lower schools.

“St George for England” Sunday 22 April at 3.00pm.

St Albans to Taize 2007. Join this year’s pilgrimage 21st - 30th July. If you are aged between 15 & 30 and would like to take part come along to a meeting on Saturday 31st March at Christ Church, Goldington Road, Bedford at 7.30pm.

Wine Bluffs for Wine Buffs. 17 March at Putnoe Heights 7.30. An evening of wine tasting and food. In aid of NSPCC and Church funds. For tickets see Church Office or Jenny Emsley.

Concert by Chapel Choir of Christ’s College, Cambridge. Saturday 17 March at 7pm in St.Paul’s Church, Bedford. Programme to include Scarlatti’s Stabat Mater. Tickets £8 from : Heather Turnham 343477./Central Box Office./ Classic Music, Lime St, Bedford..

Chapel Chairs. The 20 new chapel chairs have arrived this week and we will arrange plaques with inscriptions. Thank you to those who have kindly offered to buy a chair.

Putnoe Heights Church

50th Anniversary Weekend 16-17th June, 2007 Putnoe Heights Church was opened and dedicated in June 1957.

A weekend of celebration is being planned to include activities for families and a concert by Kempston Musical Society on Saturday with special services, including a Circuit service followed by a meal on Sunday. We would like to invite past members who have moved away so, if you are in touch with anyone who might be interested, please pass their names and details to Alan Cooper. Throughout the

weekend, the church will be open with a display of 50 years of church history. If you have any photographs of weddings, christening or other events that we might borrow please contact Gerry Allen.

Please help us to make the weekend a success.



Church Cleaning. We have so far had no response to our request for 1 volunteer for the Putnoe cleaning rota. We would be most grateful if you would all give this request your best consideration. As we stated, it requires 1 hour of light cleaning duties on 1 Saturday every 6 weeks. Thank you. Peter and Joy Parker.

Coffee Morning Thank you to all of those who supported the Putnoe Mission Coffee morning at the home of Sylvia Cohen on Saturday. Especially thank to Sylvia for hosting the event which raised over £100

St Mark’s Coffee Rota. We would very much welcome volunteers to help make coffee on a Sunday morning. Please see Laura Farthing if you are willing to help.

American Evening Thank you to all who helped organise and who supported the American evening. Yee Ha!

Ash Wednesday Service Please remember to put in your diaries the ash Wednesday service on February 21. Our preacher for the evening will be Rev Martin Mounsefield. The service will be a special circuit service and there will be an opportunity to give thanks for the ministry of Mr Chris Izzard as a Methodist local preacher.

Brickhill Parish Council meets this Thursday 7.45pm at St Mark’s

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.

Violet Merryman

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



Rest in Peace



The funeral of Frederick William Jacks will take place soon

The funeral of Mrs Glenys Hilary Northwood will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 13th February at 12.15pm