



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

7 August 2005
19 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 -St Mark's

9.30am St Mark's Church -Morning Worship

Preacher - Kate White

Leadership - Mrs Delia Shephard

Intercessions - Mr John Tatman

11.00am Putnoe - Morning Worship

Preacher - Kate White

Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley

Intercessions - Mr Alan Bayliss

14 August 20 in Ordinary

8.30 Service of Holy Communion – Putnoe

9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team - Mrs Avril Williams

Intercessions - Mr Warwick Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion

Preacher - Revd Charles Royden

Leadership Team –Mrs Sue Allen

Intercessions - Ministers

1 Reading - Isaiah 56: 1-8 **2 Reading** -Romans 11: 1-2a,

29-32 **3 Reading** - Matthew 15: 29 -32

Thank You

The flowers in the chapel and foyer at St Mark's celebrate the marriage of Richard Wright and Helen Parry. The flowers in the church have been kindly donated to celebrate the blessing of R Hagger and S Holt.

The flowers at Putnoe Heights church this week have been given by Ian & Kathryn Morse to mark their 15th Wedding Anniversary

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers, perhaps to celebrate an anniversary or in memory of a loved one. Please contact Miss Marion Prior 303254 (St Mark's) or Miss Jennie Cooper 404950 (Putnoe Heights)

Prayer for Sunday

Contact Details

The Reverend Dr. Sam Cappleman

107 Dover Crescent, Bedford MK41 8QR

266952 Fax- 402624 NSM@ThisisChurch.com

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

The Reverend Neil Bramble-Chapman BA, CTM

(Day off Friday)

12 Hartop Close, Putnoe. MK41 8HE

326643 Mobile -07917 356062 Minister@ThisisChurch.com

The Reverend Dr. Joan Crossley (Day off Friday)

30 Cutcliffe Grove, Bedford. MK40 4DD.

Home 344536 Crossley@Thisischurch.com

The Reverend Charles Royden (Day off Thursday)

The Vicarage, Calder Rise. MK41 7UY

309175 Mobile 07973 113861 Vicar@ThisisChurch.com

Partnership News is now available each week on the
Partnership Website - www.ThisisChurch.com

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

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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. Contact Karen Bywater 315460.

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

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

3.30 - 5pm Story box Plus at St. Mark's for 4 to 10 years. A preparation group for small drama on the first Sunday of the month. Contact for more details 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. 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. Jacky Hayward 307648. New members welcome.

7.30pm Whist Drive - At St Mark's each month the next one 8 August—Multiple Sclerosis—Barkers Lane 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 Jayne Phillips 01582 485333

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.

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. at Putnoe Heights meets monthly. 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 9 August Strawberry Tea.". Contact Mrs Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 13 September. 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 fortnightly 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 - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 6 September Revd. Joan Crossley. 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 . Contact 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 Height meets fortnightly. Next meeting 7 September 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 . 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 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. 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 Story box at St Mark's. Service for parents, carers & children under 5. Sandwich lunch, Bible Stories, Children's activities, songs & prayers, all in one hour from 12-1pm.

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 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 Contact Liz Spavins 302349

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

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

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 Theatre Train at St Mark's - dancing acting, singing. Contact - Kate Randle 01234 782414

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe Heights. Meets monthly next meeting. Contact 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 309881 Mob. 07891095746

6.00pm TNT (The Nearly Teens) meet fortnightly at Putnoe Heights for various fun activities. Contact Putnoe Office 365630

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council

12 October

Circuit Meeting 14 September

Service of welcome of new

Methodist Minister at Oakley 31 August

Bedford Deanery Meeting 15 September

St Mark's Leadership Team - 4 October at Vicarage

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team July 21

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

12 September, 2 November. All meetings to start 7.00pm

Putnoe Heights Management

Putnoe Church Council 10 Oct 2005

Pastoral Group Meeting - 29 September 2.00pm

Churchyard Committee - 7 October at 4.15

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting .

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

Brickhill Parish Council 8 September, 26 September, 13 October

Visit of Bishop Christopher 23 October

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

Bible Notes

Ordinary 19 Year A (Trinity 9 Green)

Verse of Scripture Romans 10:12

For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile--the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: increase and multiply upon us your mercy that with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal that we finally lose not things eternal; grant this, heavenly father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

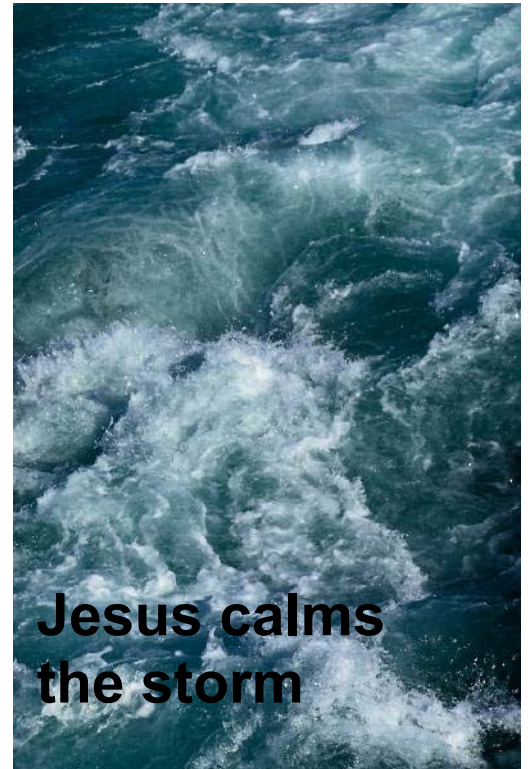
First Reading – 1 Kings 19: 9-18

There he went into a cave and spent the night. And the word of the LORD came to him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." The LORD said, "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by."

Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave. Then a voice said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He replied, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God Almighty. The Israelites have rejected your covenant, broken down your altars, and put your prophets to death with the sword. I am the only one left, and now they are trying to kill me too." The LORD said to him, "Go back the way you came, and go to the Desert of Damascus. When you get there, anoint Hazael king over Aram. Also, anoint Jehu son of Nimshi king over Israel, and anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah to succeed you as prophet. Jehu will put to death any who escape the sword of Hazael, and Elisha will put to death any who escape the sword of Jehu. Yet I reserve seven thousand in Israel—all whose knees have not bowed down to Baal and all whose mouths have not kissed him." (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)

Second Reading - Romans 10: 5-15

Moses describes in this way the righteousness that is by the law: "The man who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that is by faith says: "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?' " (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the deep?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you; it is in your mouth and in your heart," that is, the word of faith we are proclaiming: That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved. As the Scripture says, "Anyone who trusts in him will never be put to shame." For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile—the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (This is the word of the Lord -- **Thanks be to God**)



Third Reading – Matthew 14: 22-33

Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear. But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid." "Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water." "Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. "You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

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

Commentary

The story of Jesus walking on the water follows the story of the Feeding of the Five Thousand. The two episodes make obvious an important lesson for the disciples and for us. When faced with enormous difficulties we are tempted to think that all is lost and we cannot cope. It is exactly at that time that we must realise that we do not have to cope on our own. Jesus is with us and even the most desperate situations are changed when we place our trust in him.

Matthew wrote at a time when Christians were persecuted, the Apostle Peter has most likely been crucified. The episode of the storm addressed issues of danger, fear and faith. The boat seems to represent the church, buffeted by temptations, trials and persecutions. Jesus however is the church's champion, who is strong to save those who call on him in faith. The message must have brought great comfort to the early Christians. While not spared suffering and death, they were confident that Christ would save them even if they were to die.

It is important to remember that the disciples encounter the storm, not because they are rebellious or foolhardy, rather but obedient. The difficulties that they experience on the sea are not of their own making, but stem from their compliance with Jesus' command.

The disciples find themselves perhaps three miles out in the small boat, far from shore, in a storm. In Biblical literature, the sea is often represented as the abode of demonic forces hostile to God. In the Apocalypse, the final reign of God will mean that the sea no longer exists (21:1) To have command over the sea shows God's triumph over evil. Jesus comes walking toward the disciples on the sea. Matthew has identified Jesus as Emmanuel -- God with us (1:23) -- and this story reinforces that role.

Matthew's church is weathering a storm of persecution. These Christians are not in rebellion, but are faithfully serving God. The story of the disciples on the sea, therefore, mirrors exactly the situation of Matthew's church. It holds a promise that Jesus comes to Christians in the midst of the storm -- that the storm does not hold the upper hand -- that Christ is present with us in the storm and redeems us from the storm.

When the disciples see Jesus, they are afraid. The storm, while dangerous, is familiar. The disciples know what to expect from a storm and what to do to keep the boat afloat. They do not know anything about men walking on water far from land, and fear that they are seeing a ghost.

Jesus responds with a threefold statement: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Jesus uses the first phrase, "Take heart" (Greek: *tharseite* -- have courage -- be of good cheer) elsewhere in this Gospel to hearten a paralytic (9:2) and a woman with a hemorrhage (9:22). It is not a rebuke but an encouragement.

The second phrase, "it is I" (Greek: *ego eimi* -- literally "I am") is God's name (Exod 3:14).

In this Gospel, an angel uses the third phrase, "do not be afraid" to reassure Joseph (1:20) and the women at the empty tomb (28:5, 10). Jesus uses it to reassure the Twelve as they go on their mission (10:26, 28, 31) and the disciples on the Mount of Transfiguration (17:7). Again, it is an encouragement rather than a rebuke.

This story reassures Matthew's church that, even in the midst of persecution, they need not fear -- Jesus is present with them. It offers the same reassurance to us in times of illness, death, persecution, or other

troubles. It prepares us for times when things are going badly -- or well. Adversity is not a sign of God's displeasure or prosperity a sign of God's pleasure. Wealth does not equate to God's favour or poverty to lack of favour. Illness is not a sign of inadequate faith or health a sign of great faith. Jesus says that God "makes his sun rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous" (5:45). Paradoxically, the storms of life can be a means of blessing. When things are going badly, our hearts are more receptive to Jesus. A broken heart is often a door through which Christ can find entry. He still comes to us in the midst of our troubles, saying, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Post Communion Prayer

Lord of all mercy, we your faithful people have celebrated that one true sacrifice which takes away our sins and brings pardon and peace: by our communion keep us firm on the foundation of the gospel and preserve us from all sin; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Hymns (*Please distribute Hymns and Psalms*)

At the name of Jesus 74 (Tune Camberwell)
How lovely on the mountains 249 Mission Praise
Eternal father strong to save 379 (Tune Melita)
Captain of Israel's host 62
Christ the Lord is risen again 192 (Tune Easter Hymn)

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

O God, whose glory the heavens are telling, the earth your power, the sea your might, and whose greatness all the hosts of heaven proclaim; to you belongs all glory, honour, majesty and praise; both now and for ever, and to the ages of ages. Amen

Liturgy of St James, 5th century

Living God, you have placed in the hearts of your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that, believing in the One who you have sent, we may know him to be the true bread of heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Prayer

Cleanse our minds, O Lord we beseech thee, of all anxious thoughts for ourselves, that we may learn not to trust in the abundance of what we have, save as tokens of thy goodness and grace, but that we may commit ourselves in faith to thy keeping, and devote all our energy of soul, mind and body to the work of thy kingdom and the furthering of the purpose of thy divine righteousness; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Euchologium Anglicanum

Hymn for Sunday

How lovely on the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, good news, proclaiming peace, announcing news of happiness: our God reigns, our God reigns!

You watchmen, lift your voices joyfully as one, shout for your King, your King.
See eye to eye the Lord restoring Zion:
your God reigns, your God reigns!

Lord of my darkest place:
Let in your light.

Lord of my greatest fear:
Let in your peace.

Lord of my most bitter shame:
Let in your word of grace.

Lord of my oldest grudge:
Let in your forgiveness.

Lord of my deepest anger:
Let in your freedom.

Lord of my loneliest moment:
Let in your presence.

Lord of my truest self - my all:
Let in your wholeness.
c Alison Pepper 1990.



Auction of Promises September 17 at St Mark's Church

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

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

Promises already made

- Tailor made bespoke shirt (own choice of colour and weight of Egyptian cotton) Retail Value £75 Addison & Steel London
- Evening dinner for two [drinks/wines not included] Retail value £75 at St Helena, Elstow
- One week accommodation for up to six people in a holiday cottage in Exmouth (situated very near the sea on dates mutually convenient) Retail Value £260 Mr and Mrs Puttock
- Voucher for men's clothing Retail value £50 Claytons, The Arcade, Bedford.
- Day out in chauffeur driven vintage car (for up to 2 passengers) Mr and Mrs Day
- Chauffeur driven tour in a vintage 2 seater Morgan car (for one passenger) Mr Waters
- Six hand made cross stitch Christmas cards Mrs Elliott
- Anfield Stadium Tour (Museum and tour centre for up to four people) LFC
- Two ornamental concrete garden plant pots
- Planted Hanging Baskets for Spring & Summer 2006. Retail value £50. C R Wilkinson & Son, Willington
- Various sizes / quantities of plastic flower pots
- Christmas Cake

What can you promise ?

Please think if there is anything which you can offer to our auction of promises. And don't forget the date to come along, bid and enjoy yourself !

Face painting for a child's party, Gardening, bake a cake, babysitting, drive somebody to the airport, decorate a room, wash a car, a sail in your boat, typing, paint a picture,

Roots for Web The Partnership is subscribed to receive Sunday resources from rootsontheweb.com. There are also resources for children. Our user name is HBMG and our password is 331944

Putnoe Church Council. There will be a special meeting of Church Council on Sunday 14 August

immediately after the service. One item on the agenda.

Cards. There will be no card sales during August but if you would like a special one please see Marion.

Card sales at Putnoe Heights are going very well. We are working towards raising £100 for St John's Moggerhanger. We are continuing to sell cards during August and we can also make cards to order. Tel 267567. Thank you for your continuing support. Margaret & Claire Peck

The Thurleigh trip will take place on Sunday 21 August. Story box will continue at Putnoe on Mondays throughout August, older siblings and all from St Mark's are welcome(apart from tomorrow please bring a picnic lunch, drinks provided) Storybox Plus restarts at Putnoe on Thursday 8 September & starts at St. Mark's on Monday 12 September. Please note that we have increased the age of this group up to 10 years. For further details call *Liz Spavins 302349*

Mission Coffee Morning Saturday 13 August 10-12 noon at the home of Derrick Stoneham, 5 Braeside, Cakes and a raffle. In aid of Mission Funds.

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

Thank You-Edie McKenzie wishes to say a big thank you to everyone for their good wishes, cards and flowers during his recent stay in hospital. He is now at home and progressing well..

Niger Appeal -£300 has been sent to this fund from TTT and Mission Monies. Many thanks to all supporters.

Thank you for all the offers of a travel cot. We now have one. Delia.

Computer gear Janet Ibberson has kindly offered a keyboard, Canon BJC 250 ink jet printer and 3 cartridges, scanner, 3 monitors to a good home. Contact 403497 beejay11@ntlworld.com

Whist Drive on the 8 August has had to be cancelled. Judith Stanton

Arnolds

Funeral Service

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Family Funeral Service

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48 Roff Avenue, Bedford. MK41 7TE
Telephone
01234 359529

Reassurance when you need it most

NCH House to House Collection (Brickhill)

NCH, the children's charity, works with disadvantaged and disabled children, and their families, through family centres throughout the country. It's an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including Methodist Church. The annual house-to-house collection to support the vital work of the NCH will take place as usual in the first 2 weeks in September. St. Mark's Church has the responsibility for covering most of Brickhill and last year we raised over £770; including gift aid. If you could spare a few hours during early September to put out and collect envelopes in the Brickhill area or would like more information contact *Mike Elliott (Tel. 342507)*

Storybox Plus starts at St Marks

Following the growing success of Storybox Plus at Putnoe we are very pleased to announce that we will be starting the group at St Marks. We will begin on Monday 12th September 3.30 start for refreshments and a chill out with a 4.00 start and 5.00 finish. During that hour we will read, study, and rehearse a Bible based story in preparation to perform at the Family Service on the 1st Sunday. We will also spend time making props for the play. Anyone between 4 (at school) and 10 can join us to make friends and have fun. As always 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.*

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.

Jenny Wright

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

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

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