



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

9 April 2006
Palm Sunday

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 Holy Communion both churches
9.30am St Mark's Church - Morning Worship
Preacher - Mr Alan Davis
Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard
Intercessions - Mr John Stubbs
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
Preacher - Mr Alan Davis
Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley
Intercessions - Mrs Sylvia Cohen

16 April - Easter Sunday

8.30 Service of Holy Communion
9.30am St Mark's Church - Holy Communion
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership - Mr Ian Farthing
Intercessions - Mr Chris Izzard
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Holy Communion
Preacher - Revd Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mr Alan Bayliss
Intercessions - Mrs Claire Peck

Reading 1 : Acts 10: 34-43
Reading 2 : 1 Corinthians 15: 1-11
Reading 3 : John 20: 1-18

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Dawn Allison and Sue Middleton in loving memory of their mother.

We are always grateful for any donations for flowers perhaps to celebrate a special occasion, 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

Eternal God
in your tender love towards the human race
you sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross.
Grant that we may follow the example
of his great humility,
and share in the Glory of his resurrection;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord.
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 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 - 12 noon Monday & Friday
9am - 5pm 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 - 5.00pm)

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

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

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30 - 12.00 pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school Mrs Janet Smith 326685

9.30 - 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.

Mini-Strikers Sport for Children at Putnoe aged 2-4 years. Contact Andy Carey 01908 313751 or 07766 142754, or www.ministrikers.co.uk

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

4pm Story Box Plus at St. Marks for 4 -11 year olds meet at 3.30. for refreshments & games, then till 5pm make props, sing & rehearse a short play to perform in church the 1st Sunday of each month. Lots of fun. Free. Contact Liz 302349

4.15pm - Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe Heights. Miriam Adcock 01908 565044

4.15 - 5.45pm 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. 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 17 April 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

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 Morag Tompkins 356895

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship - Next meeting 4 April Mrs .A. Broomhall Contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. Next meeting 11 April with Women's fellowship contact 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.

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

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 Tabernacle of Truth Church at Putnoe Heights. Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr on 360188 or 07866775515

7.30pm Dog and Puppy Training at Putnoe Heights. Contact Lynn Southwell 07974 743240

7.45 pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 4 April talk about the Air Ambulance Service Alison Horsley. Contact Madge Walsh 359088

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

Luncheon Club at Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 5 April 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 - 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. Janice Loxley 347073
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

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

1.00pm - 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, donations. Contact Liz Spavins on 1234 302349

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

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

2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

2pm U3A Indoor Games at Putnoe Radmila Dancer 404811

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

7pm Street Dance at Putnoe Heights. Contact Curtis Ritchie 349255 or 07984 525147

7.00pm Club 2000 at Putnoe Mrs M White 404992

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

7.30 - 9.30pm Embroiderer's 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 at 3 Little Headlands. Newcomers always welcome. Betty Wyatt 350188

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

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

2pm U3A Gardening Group at Putnoe Heights.

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

7.30pm Youth Club for age 13-18 at St Mark's Church. Contact PCSO Rowland Gilbey 349179

Saturday

9.30 - 11.30am Stars School of Dance at Putnoe. Contact Esther Sancto 272517 or 07917 582468

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

2.30pm Calligraphy Group at Putnoe. Meets monthly next meeting. Philip Jones 350295

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 - 4pm Tabernacle of Truth 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 14 June, 11 Oct
Circuit Meeting

St Mark's Leadership Team - 24 Apr, 6 June, 12 Sept

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 2 May

St Mark's Church Management Meeting

Putnoe Heights Management - 15 May,

Putnoe Church Council 12 June, 9 Oct

Pastoral Group Meeting -

Churchyard Committee - 11 April

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting- at 7.30 on 26 April at 14 Flint Way.

Partnership Council - 19 Sept

Brickhill Parish Council - 27 Apr,

Deanery Meeting St Mary's Eucharist 22 June, 14 September, 16 November

Annual Congregational Meeting 7 May 2006

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 26 Apr, 28 June

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

Sunday next before Easter Year B

Palm Sunday

Verse of Scripture

Hosanna to the Son of David ! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest ! (Matthew Chapter 21:9)

A Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Almighty and everlasting God, who in your tender love towards the human race sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death upon the cross: grant that we may follow the example of his patience and humility and also be made partakers of his resurrection; through Jesus Christ your So our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen** *Methodist Worship*

First Reading - Isaiah 50: 4-9a

The Sovereign LORD has given me an instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being taught. The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears, and I have not been rebellious; I have not drawn back. I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who is he that will condemn me? They will all wear out like a garment; the moths will eat them up.

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

Second Reading - Hebrews 5: 5-10

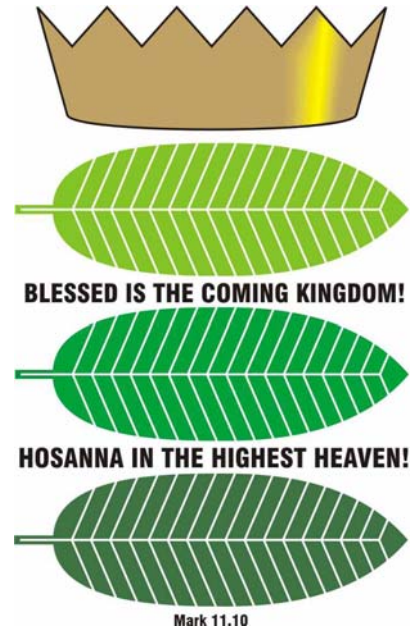
Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death- even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

Third Reading - Mark 11: 1-11

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and just as you enter it, you will find a colt tied there, which no one has ever ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you doing this?' tell him, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here shortly.'" They went and found a colt outside in the street, tied at a doorway. As they untied it, some people standing there asked, "What are you doing, untying that colt?" They answered as Jesus had told them to, and the people let them go. When they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks over it, he sat on it. Many people spread their cloaks on the road, while others spread branches they had cut in the fields. Those who went ahead and those who followed shouted, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David!" "Hosanna in the highest!" Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

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



Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ: you humbled yourself in taking the form of a servant, and in obedience died on the cross for our salvation; give us the mind to follow you and to proclaim you as Lord and King to the Glory of God the Father. Amen

Hymns Please distribute special orders of service and Mission Praise

1. All glory, laud and honour 9
2. We cry Hosanna Lord 725
3. Make way, make way 457
4. Ride on, ride on in Majesty 580
5. Crown Him with many crowns 109

Commentary

Our Gospel reading this week recounts Christ's entry into Jerusalem at the beginning of the last week of His earthly life. His whole ministry thus far had been one of teaching and healing as He had travelled the surrounding countryside. Over the past weeks we have seen how Jesus had been determined to go to Jerusalem and to be there in time for the feast of the Passover. From our recent readings from the gospels we realise that Jesus was fully aware of the fate that was to befall Him; He had explained this to His disciples many times, although it is doubtful if they fully understood. Why should they? Had not Peter declared that Jesus was indeed the Messiah and their understanding of such a person was that he would have had the power to overrule the machinations of evil-thinking people even if they were high priests.

This week's reading from Isaiah highlights the dangers of being a prophet. Called by God to be a messenger, he does not shirk from proclaiming the message of repentance and a return to the ways of a God-fearing nation, even though this subjects him to personal abuse and physical attacks. There is an interesting comment in verse 6 of chapter 50, where the prophet states that 'he gave his cheeks to those who pulled out the beard'. To pull hairs from a person's beard was considered to be a great insult in those days, (it was also quite painful too, I imagine). The whole passage shows that the prophet did not shirk from his duty but put all his trust in God to see him through.

Would this passage have been in Jesus' mind as He made His way toward Jerusalem? By the end of the week Jesus had received plenty of verbal and physical abuse for His words and actions. Could we have faced such treatment? We may be laughed at occasionally for our beliefs but I doubt if we have ever had to face that sort of behaviour.

The story of 'Palm Sunday' or the ride into Jerusalem from Bethphage, is a very familiar one. The cheering from the large and noisy crowds, the quiet and gentle plodding of the donkey, the cloaks and branches thrown onto the stony path in an attempt to carpet the way to make it fit for a royal person. But what was really going through Jesus' mind as He looked at the crowds on both sides of the road? Did He recognise any one in the sea of faces? Was there someone or something familiar to Him? All we are told, in Luke's gospel, is that as Jesus ascended the slope into Jerusalem he wept.

When we survey the state of the world around us, both near and far, how does it make us feel? Do we weep for the state of the people around us or for our own inability to do anything about it?
Mr Alan Davis

Meditation

I can hardly recollect a single plan of mine, of which I have not since seen reason to be satisfied, that had it taken place in season and circumstance just as I proposed, it would, humanly speaking, have proved my ruin; or at least it would have deprived me of the greater good the Lord had designed for me. We judge of things by their present appearances, but the Lord sees them in their consequences, if we could do so likewise we should be perfectly of His mind; but as we cannot, it is an unspeakable mercy that He will manage for us, whether we are pleased with His management or not; and it is spoken of as one of his heaviest judgements, when He gives any person or people up to the way of their own hearts, and to walk after their own counsels. John Newton

Prayers for Sunday and the week ahead

Grant to us, O Lord, to pass this day in gladness and peace, without stumbling and without stain, that reaching the eventide victorious over all temptation, we may again praise you, the eternal God, blessed over all things now and for ever. Amen *Mozarabic Sacramentary, 10th century*

Almighty God, and Father of us all, have mercy upon this troubled world of ours.

We are a pilgrim people, made of clay, captives of our own greed and frailty. Despite this, we are the work of your hands you have made us in your own image

and we bear within us your spirit of life, the seeds of immortality. Give us a stronger faith

So that we may walk joyously into the unknown; an unshakeable hope that we may bring hope to the despairing; and a love as vast as all the oceans

So that we may hold all humanity in our hearts. All-powerful God look in your love upon us, your pilgrim people as we struggle towards you. Be our food for the journey, our wine for rejoicing, our light in the darkness, and our welcome at the journey's end. Amen.

A Prayer for Christian Aid



Christian Aid Week
14-20 May 2006

Details of our Easter Services



St Mark's Church

Good Friday Service

Stations of the Cross

Friday April 14 at 9.30am

Morning Family Worship

(With Coffee & Hot Cross Buns!)

Easter Day

Sunday April 16

Sunrise Service 6.00am

Holy Communion 8.30am

Family Communion 9.30am

Putnoe Heights Church

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday 13 April at 7.30pm

Holy Communion

Good Friday Service

Stations of The Cross

Friday 14 April at 11.00am

Morning Family Worship

(With Coffee & Hot Cross Buns!)

Easter Day

Sunday 16 April

Holy Communion 8.30am

Don't Forget Good Friday Special at Putnoe Church 12- 1.15 Easter Story, Singing, craft activities & light refreshments. Suitable for all ages, £1 donation per family.

News, Views and Information

Storybox Easter Arrangements at St Mark's
Friday 14 April Good Friday Special at Putnoe Church 12– 1.15 Easter Story, singing craft activities & light refreshments. Suitable for all ages, £1 donation per family Thursday 20 April back to normal

Storybox Plus Easter arrangements at St Mark's
Monday 3 & 17 April No meetings. Thursday 6 April Activity afternoon 1.15– 2.45. Good Friday arrangements as for Storybox above. Monday 24 back to normal.

Storybox Easter arrangements at Putnoe Monday 3 April bring own lunch, drinks provided. Mondays 10 & 17 April No Meeting. Friday 14 April Good Friday Special at Putnoe 12—1.15 Easter Story, singing, craft activities & light refreshments, suitable for all ages of children, £1 donation per family. Monday 24 April back to normal.

Storybox Plus Easter arrangements at Putnoe.
Monday 3 April Activity afternoon 1.15—2.45. Thursday 6 April No meeting, Good Friday arrangements as Storybox above. Thursday 20 April back to normal.

British Cardiac Patients Association (Zipper Club)
Meets at 7.30pm on the 4th Thursday every 2nd month at Putnoe. Next meeting 27 April with a concert of WW11 songs performed by the 'Melodians'. All welcome .Further information Eileen Marriott 303834.

Easter Offering 2006 - The proceeds of your generous giving go to the Methodist Church Fund for World Mission, which enables grants, training for Mission Partners and other projects to be made. Please return your contributions in the envelopes provided on Easter Sunday. Thank you. Margaret Standley

"The Apostle of Bedford" Father John Priestley Warmoll (1830—1885) Bedford's first Roman Catholic Priest since the reformation. Talk by Jack Robbins (Bedford Archaeological & Local history society) Further details : Bedford 365095

Bedford Festival of Music Speech and Drama is looking for volunteers to act as stewards during festival week in March 2007. The Festival is a registered charity and relies wholly on the support of volunteers to run this national renowned event. If you can spare a couple of days in March or would like to get more involved, please contact Viv Redford on 354211.

Plans and Rotas Please note the new rotas fro April - June are now available. We are always looking for new folks to join the rota, reading lessons or leading prayers. Please speak with one of the Ministers if you are interested.

Mildmay. Our churches recently sent £3,800 to Mildmay to help their work with people in the UK, Eastern Europe and sub-Saharan Africa with HIV and AIDS. The Methodist recorder last week featured an article about Mildmay and the financial difficulties which they face, especially given the difficult financial climate of the NHS. Dr Veronica Moss sent us the following response

Fresh Expressions.org.uk

The Church of England and the Methodist Church are together committed to the initiative to develop fresh expressions of worship and being church. Many examples are found in Dioceses and Districts across the country. Our churches are committed to this. We now realise that if we fail to find new ways of what it means to be the church in our changing culture then our churches will be redundant in our country. For this reason fresh expressions encourages us to think of new ways to be mission led. So often we are tempted to look back to past times with fond memories, but are you able to think of fresh ways of being church?

Kempston Musical Society outing to Peterborough Saturday 13 May 2006. A few seats remain on the coaches if interested. Contact Alan Bayliss 268101



From Pharaoh To Freedom

Amphill and District Churches Together Choir are putting on a performance Pharaoh to Freedom at Putnoe on 22nd April at 6.30 p.m. Entrance is free

Easter Sunday Sunrise Service will take place at St. Mark's Church at 6am on Easter Sunday.

Flower arrangers - thanks to the appeal in Partnership News, four new ladies have agreed to join the team and will make a start over Easter. We're grateful for this extra support and welcome their help. Marion.

Network Spring Craft Day Saturday 6 May at Priory Methodist Church. Wide choice of workshops. More information & booking forms from Pam Seymour 305695 or Eleanor Markirdy 360271 book by 6 April.

London NW District Women's Network

Celebration Service Saturday 20 May at 2.30 pm at West London Mission, Hinde Street, London.

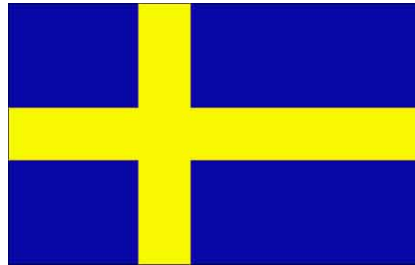
For sale 3 year old Tricity-Bendix 2.5 cu ft. table top fridge with a small freezer compartment, excellent condition. Offers over £25, proceeds to Putnoe church funds. Sue Allen 407264.

Red Cross -Jo Whitney would like to hear from anybody who would help with Red Cross Week from 7 - 13 May. They are looking for collectors to go house to house. Please contact Jo on 361060, if you can help.

Partnership Council meets 18 April at 7.30pm in the Chapel.

St Mark's Boot Sale on Easter Monday- Items for the Church Stall at the first Boot Sale of 2006 will be gratefully received. Bric-a-brac, books, old tools, toys, household goods etc. Also tray bakes for the refreshments.

Amphill & District Churches Together Choir presents a Roger Jones musical 'The Storey of the Passover' Saturday 22 April 6.30pm at Putnoe Heights Church



Swedish Evening Saturday 6 May at 7.30 at St.Mark's. Tickets selling fast book them with Janet or Ian now.

Good Friday Witness This annual event is again being co-ordinated by Revd Brian Trudgian and will take place this year in Harpur Square at 12 noon and will be followed by a distribution of Hot Cross Buns on a Good Friday Message serviette to all who attend. As in past years, many local churches plan to walk as a pilgrimage to the event. This year Three Counties Radio will cover the event and put out a message over the Easter period. Salvation Army band will be playing and the Revd Richard Hibbert vicar of Christchurch will be preaching. Why not join in after our own Good Friday services at St Mark's and Putnoe Height.

Bedford Town Band celebrate St George's Day at Putnoe Height's Church with a concert at 3pm. Guest baritone Geoffrey Horton will sing four well loved pieces. Tickets cost £6 (£4 concessions) at the door or from Roger Nicholls (Bedford 357268)

Gwen and Peter's 'At Home' letter of gratitude from St. John's Hospice is on the table in the welcome area at Putnoe acknowledging the £274 raised.

Kempston Musical Society present Karl Jenkins Requiem and Hayden Nelson Mass at Kempston East Methodist Church. Saturday 29 April at 7.30pm. Tickets from Society members or at the door £7. Further details 01234 261072

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.

Jane Elizabeth Little



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 Elizabeth Alice Dutt will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Friday 21 April at 1.45pm

The funeral of Peter Cooper will take place at St Mark's Church on Thursday 13 April at 3pm .