



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

6 August 2006

Ordinary 18 — Transfiguration 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 at St Mark's only
9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship
 Preacher - Revd Charles Royden
 Leadership - Mr Mike Cooper
 Intercessions - Ministers
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship
 With Baptism of Mia Nugent
 Preacher— Revd Charles Royden
 Leadership Team - Mr Alan Cooper
 Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

13 August Ordinary 19

8.30 Holy Communion at St Mark's only
9.30am St Mark's Church - Family Worship
 Preacher - Mrs Liz Little
 Leadership - Mrs Janet Day
 Intercessions - Mr Ian Farthing
11.00am Putnoe Heights - Family Worship
 Preacher— Mrs Liz Little
 Leadership Team - Mr Lawrence Wyatt
 Intercessions - Mr Edward Peck

Reading 1 : 1 Kings 19:4-8
Reading 2 : Ephesians 4:25—5:2
Reading 3 : John 6:35,41-51

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Deborah Wallace and her sons in loving memory of Deborah's mother and sister.

The flowers at St Mark's this week have been given by Linda & Edward Parry to celebrate the first wedding anniversary of Helen and Richard Wright, their daughter and son-in-law.

A Prayer for Sunday

**Be with us, Lord, to defend us;
 within us to refresh us;
 around us to protect us;
 before us to guide us;
 behind us to encourage us
 and above us to bless us;
 for your own name's sake.
 Amen**

Celtic, 10th century

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 - Mr Alan Bayliss 268101
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 - Mrs Janet Day 295592
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

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.

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

2.30 - 4.30pm Bedford Arts Society at Putnoe Heights contact Malcolm Smith on 01234 400741 (weekly from 25 September 2006)

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 - 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. 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 21 August 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 -

For details of next meeting contact Betty Wyatt 350188.

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Men's Fellowship. For details of next meeting 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. 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. 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 25 July. Bring and Share meal. 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

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 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 Ms Raksha Mistry 01908 392698

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

1.30pm - 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

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

2pm - Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer 345991

4.00 Story box Plus at Putnoe Heights for 4-11year 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

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

5 - 7pm Bethesda Church . Contact Pastor Denis Baka 07944 749357

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 , 11 October
Circuit Meeting -

St Mark's Leadership Team – 12 September

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team - 26 September

St Mark's Church Management Meeting -
12.30pm 2 August

Putnoe Heights Church Management - 18 Sept

Putnoe Church Council 9 October

Pastoral Group Meeting –

Churchyard Committee - 30 August

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting - .

Partnership Council - 19 September

Brickhill Parish Council - 3 August

Deanery Meeting , 14 September, 16 November

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth - 4 September
7.30

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

Ordinary 18 - Transfiguration

Verse of Scripture Romans 12:2

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Collect Prayer - Before we read we pray

Father in heaven, whose Son Jesus Christ was wonderfully transfigured before chosen witnesses upon the holy mountain, and spoke of the exodus he would accomplish at Jerusalem: give us strength so to hear his voice and bear our cross that in the world to come we may see him as he is; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

First Bible Reading Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

9-10 "As I looked, "thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.
13-14 "In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

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

Second Reading 2 Peter 1:16-19

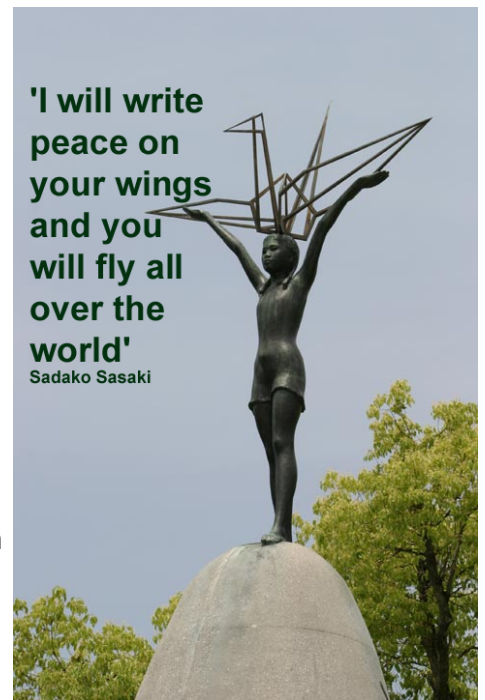
We did not follow cleverly invented stories when we told you about the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For he received honour and glory from God the Father when the voice came to him from the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased." We ourselves heard this voice that came from heaven when we were with him on the sacred mountain. And we have the word of the prophets made more certain, and you will do well to pay attention to it, as to a light shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts.

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

Third Reading - Luke 9:28-36

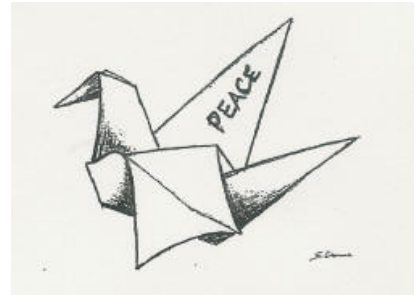
About eight days after Jesus said this, he took Peter, John and James with him and went up onto a mountain to pray. As he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became as bright as a flash of lightning. Two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared in glorious splendour, talking with Jesus. They spoke about his departure, which he was about to bring to fulfillment at Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were very sleepy, but when they became fully awake, they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As the men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to him, "Master, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what he was saying.) While he was speaking, a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. A voice came from the cloud, saying, "This is my Son, whom I have chosen; listen to him." When the voice had spoken, they found that Jesus was alone. The disciples kept this to themselves, and told no one at that time what they had seen.

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



Post Communion Prayer

Holy God, we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his table reflect his life in word and deed, that all the world may know his power to change and save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Hymns

1. Rejoice the Lord is king 575 Mission Praise (Tune Gopsal)
2. Christ triumphant 77 Mission Praise
3. Come Praise the name of Jesus (Tune Morning Light 721 Hymns and Psalms)
4. Love divine 449 Mission Praise (Tune Blaenwern)
5. Holy Christ in light transfigured (Tune Ode to Joy 600 Mission Praise)

Commentary

"for a brief moment the curtain . . . is drawn aside," and the disciples are "allowed to see in Jesus something of the glory of God and God's kingdom, of that other life to which human eyes are otherwise blind." *Eduard Schweitzer*

Jesus had just spoken of death and suffering and the disciples were afraid. Then the disciples saw Moses and Elijah! They must have been even more terrified. The disciples feared over so much, they were paralysed with fear, we too can be fearful without need. There is much over which we can be afraid, this episode gave the disciples something which would give them strength in the days ahead. This was an opportunity upon which they could reflect. This moment was something which they could not hold onto in time, but they could hold it in their hearts and draw strength from it. It was a God - given encouragement. So it was to be, indeed Peter spoke about it later: we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty [2 Peter 1:16-18].

We have all had some experience of the wonder of God. Sometimes it comes to us through the appreciation of nature, sometimes, indeed, on a mountain. But we all have to come back down the mountain and get on with real life, and most of our time is spent at the bottom of the mountain in the valleys of life. The ministry of Jesus could not be conducted from the mountain top, it was instead something carried out on the cross of suffering. It is true that when the disciples were tempted to give up and think that the Christian service to which they were called was a hopeless cause, they could look back and remember Christ as they knew him in the Transfiguration, clothed in glory. But - the Transfiguration teaches us that it is possible to let go of the religious experience on the mountain and come down and find God in all things.

A meditation for August 6, the anniversary of the atomic bomb over Hiroshima in 1945

The gospel story of the transfiguration is about seeing things in a new way. The disciples see Jesus in a new way. They understand the presence of God in an amazing experience. Everything now looks different.

In the midst of our complex contemporary world, the gospel invites us to be free enough to see things in a new way. In the midst of war and violence, the gospel invites us to see the presence of God and God's invitation to peace. In the midst of poverty and injustice, the gospel invites us to hear God's invitation to respect the dignity of every human person and the need for justice and peace for all.

In some way we (as individuals and as a world community) need a "transfiguration experience" to see things in a new way – from the point of view of Christ, from the point of view of the poor and powerless, from the point of view of other cultures. The Transfiguration is a sign of great hope. The disciples discover that it is possible to see the presence of God in Jesus. It is possible to see things in a new way. We should not be content to think war and evil will always continue.

War has lasting effects. Long after the aggression has ceased negative effects remain. Japan is

just one of numerous countries that continue to be plagued by the effects of the atomic bombs that were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The story of Sadako Sasaki provides a starting point for thinking about the need for peace. Sadako was a baby of two on August 6, 1945, unaware of the war that raged around her. On that day she lost more than her grandmother as an atomic bomb reduced the city of Hiroshima to a desert of destruction and radioactive wasteland. She survived the initial blast with seemingly no ill effects. Ten years passed and Sadako grew strong and swift. It was as she was practicing for a competition that she crumpled to the track and was taken to the hospital. There her worst fears were confirmed. She had developed leukemia as a result of her exposure to radiation. During her long hospital stays, Sadako began to fold paper cranes. According to Japanese legend, if an individual folds 1000 paper cranes, a wish will be granted. With each crane she folded, the wish was the same-to get well. October of 1955, Sasako folded her last crane-number 644, and she quietly became another of the many casualties of a war that had ended ten years earlier. Her classmates finished the remaining 366 cranes to honour Sadako's memory and to share in her wish that such bombs of destruction would never be used again. The children told Sadako's story to the world by sharing the letters they had exchanged during her hospital stay.



Statue of Sadako holding a golden crane at the Hiroshima Peace Memorial

Shocked by her death, her classmates put out a national call to "build a monument to mourn all the children who died from the atomic bombing." With the support of students in more than 3,100 schools around Japan and in nine other countries, including England, the Society was able to build this bronze statue that stands nine meters high. In 1958, a monument was erected in Hiroshima's Peace Park to honour Sadako and all of the children who died because of the bombs. This monument has become an international symbol of peace. Every year thousands of children visit the memorial bringing chains of folded cranes to lay at the base. Each crane is a prayer for peace - prayers and wishes that number in the millions. For this reason the Children's Peace Monument is also called the "Tower of a Thousand Cranes".

On the top of the three-legged pedestal stands the bronze figure of a girl holding up a gold-coloured "folded" crane. On opposite sides of the pedestal are suspended boy and girl figures symbolizing a bright future and hope. On the stone underneath the pedestal is inscribed, "This is our cry. This is our prayer. For building peace in this world."

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

**This is our cry,
This is our prayer,
peace in the world.**

Engraved on the peace memorial Hiroshima park

"In the face of the man-made calamity that every war is, one must affirm and reaffirm, again and again, that the waging of war is not inevitable or unchangeable. Humanity is not destined to self-destruction. Clashes of ideologies, aspirations and needs can and must be settled and resolved by means other than war and violence." *Pope John Paul II, Appeal for Peace, Hiroshima, Japan.*

As we remember the atomic bombs dropped on the people of Japan 61 years ago,
we pray that these weapons will never be used again.
As we hear of the recent fighting in and around Lebanon and Israel,
we pray that the Holy Spirit will lead our world on a new way to peace.
As war continues in Iraq and Afghanistan,
we pray for divine help to show us how to build peace.
As we experience the proliferation of weapons of all sorts all over our world,
we pray that we can finally use our resources for the good of people and not for destruction.
As we see economic injustice all around us,
we pray that the spirit will lead us to do what leads to justice for all.
As we recall the Transfiguration experience,
we pray that we will all see in it a new way and allow our new vision to transform our actions into the way of peace and justice for all. Amen.

News and Information

Children's Centre comes to Putnoe. We were pleased this week to hear some really good news, the Church is to become an even greater focus for children and families from the area. Bedford Social Services will be setting up a children's centre (like the one in Goldington) at Putnoe Heights from September. The Church Council and the Leadership Team have agreed to rent Room 3 exclusively from this month. Social Services will also be hiring rooms for many other activities such as clinics, counselling, post-natal care and debt management. This is the kind of community outreach which is at the centre of my vision for Putnoe and it is also a valuable source of revenue. The letting of Room 3 will bring in £3000 a year which almost redresses the budget deficit for last year. Joan

Barn Dance 4 November 6pm at Putnoe. Suitable for all ages. Details to follow. See Liz

'Amazing Grace' the annual prayer handbook published by Methodist Publishing will be available in August. This gives daily Bible readings ; Prayers for the church in Britain & overseas (Ecumenical) and quotations of inspiration. The cost £2.25 inc. postage. To order contact Vera Pearson 270737

Yarl's Wood Befrienders Volunteers needed to visit asylum seekers. Training given. Contact Heather Jones on 01933 318378

Summer arrangements for children in the partnership 17 July, will be the last Junior Church at St Marks and Putnoe before the summer holidays. However the crèche at St Marks will continue as normal thanks to Debbie. We will begin back as normal on Sunday 10th September. We hope to plan an outing, possibly to Wicksteed Park? following a Sunday Service in September please see Liz or Sam Ware if interested.

Partnership Junior Church & Storybox Plus Summer Activity Day. Thursday 24 August 9.30 to 3.30 at Putnoe. Join us in putting together 'Jonah Man Jazz', a short musical. We need musicians as well as singers & anyone who likes to have lots of fun. Lunch will be provided. See Joan or Liz.

News papers please. Please can you leave any old newspapers at the churches before 24th August ready for a big craft project thanks Liz

Thank you to everyone who helped out at the Storybox and Storybox plus holiday specials over the last two weeks. These sessions have proved

very popular. Storybox starts again as normal at St Marks on 7 Sept and Putnoe on 11 Sept. Storybox plus at Putnoe begins 7 Sept and the newly renamed Monday Club begins at St Marks on 11 Sept. If you would like to join any of our teams please contact Liz.

"God Talk" is a house group on Monday mornings at 10.30, for prayer, worship and fellowship. It is mostly for mums with children at school, and so doesn't meet in the school holidays. New members welcome. Ring Joan for details. 344536

British Cardiac Patients Association. Meets at Putnoe Heights Church on the fourth Wednesday on alternate months. Next meeting August 24th at 7.30pm with slides on Swaziland by Wendy Jones. Please feel free to join us, all welcome.

Footprints walk -- August 13 Commence at 2.30pm and start from the main village street in Tempsford (roadside parking just north of the X roads by the church) and provide a leisurely walk alongside the River Ivel to Blunham, or just beyond depending on conditions, and back on the opposite bank, plus a detour to Roxton Lock if you wish. Approx 3.5 to 4 miles. Graham & Sue 358729

A Prayer Walk for Bedford has been arranged for Saturday 12th August starting from The Rock in Newham Street at 6pm. Further information from Paul Field 296583. Alan Ledwick Chair All Bedford Churches Together.

Circuit Welcome Service

To officially welcome
to our church and Circuit

The Reverend Martin Hounsfeld

&

The Reverend Dr Joan Crossley.

At Priory Methodist Church at
7.30pm on 30 August

With
Bishop Christopher and Anne Brown

NCH House to House collection. NCH, the children's charity, works with disadvantaged and disabled children, and their families through its family centres located throughout the country. It is an independent charity working with other groups in partnership including the Methodist Church. The annual house to house collection to support the vital work of the NCH will take place as usual in the first 3 weeks in September. St Mark's Church has the responsibility for covering most of Brickhill and last year we raised over £800.

If you could spare a few hours during early September to put out and collect envelopes in the Brickhill area, perhaps near to where you live, or you would like some more information then please contact me. Mike Elliott 342507

Support Woodland Burial. You can make a difference. Contrary to letters which have appeared in the local press, there is no consecrated place of burial available to members of the public in Bedford. Village graveyards have strict policies on who may be buried, which usually means villagers!

We have made an application for a woodland burial site at Keysoe in the name of St Mark's Church. It is most important that this application receives fair treatment by the planning department and is not derailed by malicious gossip or a lack of understanding. It would be greatly appreciated if people were able to give support to the application by writing to the planning department now - stressing how important such a place of burial would be to the Christian community in Bedford.

The Barford Bypass

Bypass Challenge. A sponsored fun run on the new Great Barford Bypass will be held on Sunday 20 August 2006. Funds to be shared between St. John's Hospice and registered charities of participants' choice. There will be prizes for the best fancy dress and the biggest fundraiser. For further details www.barfordbypasschallenge.org or phone 01767 641044.

The Peck family are taking part in the Barford by pass walk on Sunday 20 August. We are raising money for St Johns hospice and the National Childrens Home. Please let one of us know if you would like to sponsor us for this event. Tel. 267567 or 266408.

Sue Allen and friends have enrolled for the Barford Bypass Challenge on Sunday 20 August (only the easy 6km walk option) in aid of St. John's Moggerhanger and would welcome others to join their team and help choose a team name. Entries by 14 August, so don't delay, via the event website www.barfordbypasschallenge.org. Cost of entry £10.00 per person. Contact Sue for further details.

NCH Sunday Envelopes, A big thank you to all members of Putnoe Heights who gave money in envelopes on July 9th. The total collected was £78. 95 (excluding gift aid)

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.

**Ronald Williams
Graham Paul Keable**

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 Barbara Hunt will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Wednesday 9th August, 12.15pm (*Crossley*)

The funeral of Gillian Whitbread will take place on Tuesday 15 August at 12.15pm (*Royden*)

The funeral of Ernest Francis Joel Butt will take place at Bedford Crematorium on Tuesday 15 August at 2.30pm. (*Royden*)