



Methodist
Church

Partnership News

7th October 2007

27th in Ordinary Time



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 in St Mark's Chapel.

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship
Preacher – Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Laura Farthing
Intercessions - Mrs Alison Holden

11.00am Putnoe Heights
Morning Worship & Baptism
Preacher - Reverend Dr Sam Cappleman
Leadership Team - Mrs Jenny Emsley
Intercessions - Mrs Sue Allen

28th in Ordinary - 14th October

9.30am St Mark's - Morning Worship
Preacher – Minister
Leadership Team - Mrs Delia Shephard
Intercessions - Mrs Mary Stubbs

11.00am Putnoe Heights - Morning Worship
Preacher - Minister
Leadership Team – Mrs Linda Hoar
Intercessions - Mr Eddy Peck

Bible Readings

1: Jeremiah 29: 1,4-7, 2 2 Timothy 2: 8-15
3: Luke 17: 11 -19

Thank You

The flowers at Putnoe Heights Church this week have been given by Roger and Anne Platt to celebrate family birthdays and anniversaries.

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

Thy sovereign grace to all extends

Holy God, too great to be trifled with and too wise to be deceived by insincerity; compose our thoughts as we enter your presence, order our minds as we bring our petitions, and grant us grace to offer you the loving sacrifice of hearts both steadfast and obedient; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Susanna Wesley, 1669-1742

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

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 Cooper 365302 Mob 07989367604
Treasurer Mr Ian Morse 216428 treasurerph@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator - Mr John Hitt 404186
Youth & children's worker - Mrs Spavins 302349 youth@thisischurch.com

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 L Parry 216724 Mobile 07922053740
Treasurer - Mr Ian Farthing 210892 treasurer@thisischurch.com
Gift Aid Administrator Mr Williams 360605

Regular Weekly Activities - A Guide To Our Churches

Monday

9.30-12.00pm Mon-Fri Putnoe Heights Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs Janet Smith ☎326685

8.30-5.30pm Mon-Fri St Mark's Pre-school

Headteacher Mrs. Helen Harpin ☎312634

(See website for more details)

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

10.00am Bakers Barn Art Group. St Mark's

Mr Kellie ☎721063

10.45am U3A Playreading St Mark's C Birks ☎219607

12.00pm Story box We welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. ☎Liz 302349

2.30pm Bedford Arts Society Putnoe Heights Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

4.00pm Storybox Plus Putnoe Heights for 4-9 year Old. Meet at 3.30 for refreshments & games. Then till 5pm 'follow the year' through stories, drama, singing & craft activities. We then make a short presentation in church on first Sunday in each month. ☎Liz Spavins 302349

4.15pm Rosemary Conley Diet & Fitness. Putnoe

Heights. Miriam Adcock ☎01908 565044

4.15pm Kumon Maths Putnoe Heights. 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 St Mark's 1st week every month Pat Nicholson ☎353518

7.15pm Guides. St Mark's. Mrs Gill Lake ☎218091

7.15pm Yoga. Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

7.30pm Creative Needles. Putnoe Heights. Jacky Hayward ☎307648.

7.30pm Whist Drive. St Mark's each month next meeting 15 October - St Mark's Judith Stanton. ☎823313

7.30pm Housegroup 30 The Ridgeway. The home of Eddy & Margaret Peck ☎267567.

8.00pm 'Get Fit, Stay Fit' Putnoe Heights. Mrs Diane Field ☎404976

Tuesday

9.30am Candlewicking (Needlework). Putnoe Heights. Judi Staughton ☎341821

9.30am -12.30 & 4-9pm Slimming World St. Mark's.

Helen Folbigg ☎351223

10am -Bedord Arts Society starting at St Mark's on the 11th September. ☎Mrs Brown 771676

1.30pm Toddlers Playtime. Putnoe Heights Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

1.30pm U3A Cinema Group. St Mark's last Tuesday of the month. Mr Austin ☎365184

2.00pm U3A Book Group. St Mark's 3rd Tuesday of the month Mrs Berman ☎364723

2.00pm Library Walk W.I. Putnoe Heights, meets monthly. Mrs C Allen ☎363878

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

2.15pm Putnoe Heights Women's Fellowship. Next meeting 9 October. Mr B Tappenden, The Mayor's Office.. Betty Wyatt ☎350188.

2.30pm Mother Teresa Support Group. St Mark's alternate weeks. Wool and knitting needles provided. Mrs Maureen Watling ☎262225

2.30pm Tuesday Afternoon Housegroup. St Mark's alternate weeks. Mary Stubbs ☎406784.

3.45pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe Heights. Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 0582468.

6.30pm Yoga Putnoe Heights. Rachel Leontyne ☎783129

7.00pm Hearts in Beds Cardiac Support Group

St Mark's 1st Tuesday ☎Parsons 351150

7pm Creative Card Making St Mark's 1st & 3rd Week of the month Carol Houghton ☎346718

7pm Keep Fit. St. Mark's Jan Gregory ☎328455

7pm MT Karate [all ages] Putnoe Heights. Karen King ☎07941 264885

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible study & prayers. Revd.Tarr ☎360188 or 07866775515

7.30pm Chartered Management Institute St Marks 3rd week of the month. Mrs Dimmock ☎01525 862374

7.45pm Putnoe Heights Ladies Tuesday Club - Meets fortnightly. Next meeting 9 October T.V. Experiences— Pru Gardiner. Audrey Wilkins ☎365068 or Margaret Gentle ☎309043

Wednesday

9.00am Paint Tots St Mark's Jacqui Harrahan ☎824475

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

9.30am Body Control Pilates. Putnoe Heights. Stephanie Smith ☎357787.

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

10.00am Holy Communion. St. Mark's Chapel. A half hour service followed by coffee. All welcome.

10am Sewing & Chat. Putnoe Heights Valerie Russell ☎01462 815966

10.30 am U3A Art Appreciation Putnoe Heights Fortnightly. Audrey Hancock ☎365915.

Luncheon Club. Putnoe Heights fortnightly. Next meeting 17 October Putnoe Heights Office ☎365630

1.00-3pm Police Surgery at Putnoe Heights .

1.15pm Bridge Club for the Retired. St. Mark's. Mr Barnes ☎261811

2pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 3rd week of the month Ken Silvester ☎400584

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

4.15pm Kumon Maths. Putnoe Heights Mrs Raksha Mistry ☎01908 392698

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

6.15pm Yoga and Relaxation Putnoe Heights Rachell Monton ☎01234 297138

6.30pm Karate. St Mark's Karen ☎079412 64885

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

7pm U3A Whist Group St Mark's 4th Wednesday of the month. Ken Silvester ☎400584

7.00pm Archaeological & Local History Society Putnoe Heights monthly. . Sylvia Woods ☎365095

7.00pm Yoga St Mark's Dorothy Turner ☎721763

7.00pm Putnoe Guild Putnoe Heights monthly Janice ☎Loxley 347073

7.45pm Badminton Club Putnoe Heights All welcome.

Ken Marriott ☎214867

8.00pm Tudor Reeds Folk Dance Club St Mark's, 1st, 3rd & 5th Wednesday. Next meeting 3 October Graham ☎406359 or Danny ☎401668.

8.00pm Bedford Wine and Social Club St Mark's 1st week in the month. Mrs Gansfield ☎215016

Thursday

9.30am Thursday Prayer Group. 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. St. Mark's. Music & movement for pre-school children. Jayne Phillips ☎01582 485333

9.45am Yoga Putnoe Heights Karen Simpson ☎244970

9.45am Chat and Play weekly at St. Mark's. A group for Mums & toddlers. £1.75 for first child. More details from St. Marks Office ☎342613 or Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm-3.00pm NHS Baby Clinic. St. Mark's ☎267444

12pm Storybox weekly at St Mark's welcome the under 5's and their carers to join them between 12 noon and 1pm for a sandwich lunch followed by a Bible based story and singing. Lots of fun. Contact Emma Strangwick ☎211070

1.30pm Toddler Playtime. Putnoe Majella Atkinson ☎325293.

2pm Putnoe Bridge Club. Gerald Palmer ☎345991

5.30pm Police Surgery. St Mark's Foyer.

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

6.15pm Brownies. Putnoe Heights Helga Nash ☎218521

6.15pm Bedford Junior Chess Club. St. Mark's Mr C Hill ☎772922

7.00pm Club 2000 Putnoe Heights Sheila Jakeman ☎261935

7pm U3A Folk & Poetry Group. St Mark's 2nd & 4th week of the month. Doug Ovenden ☎825059

7.30pm Bedford Senior Chess Club St Mark's Mr P Housden ☎376597

7.30pm Bedford Embroiderers' Guild St Mark's 3rd Thursday of the month. Mrs C Smith ☎344544

7.30pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Bible Studies every 2 Thursday - Pastor Tarr ☎360188

8.00pm Bedford Writers Circle. St Mark's 1st week each month. Mr Newton ☎01525 378193

8.00pm Magpies Women's Group St Mark's 2nd & 4th week Mrs Cotchin ☎402089

8.00pm Brickhill Wives St Mark's 1st and 3rd week Next meeting Mrs Woods ☎404702

Friday

9.30-12.30pm & 12.30 - 2.30pm U3A Photography Group St Marks 4th week Joyce Fildes ☎353086

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

1.30pm Stars School of Dance Putnoe Heights Contact Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

2.00pm U3A Gardening Group Putnoe Heights Eve Whitehead ☎356875

6.30pm Line Dancing. St Mark's Christine Rushton ☎782360

7pm Bedford Arts Society fortnightly Putnoe Heights from 8 September. Malcolm Smith ☎01234 400741

7pm Youth Club for age 10-15. St Mark's Church. Contact PC Dave Hawkey ☎349179

Saturday

9.00pm Stars School of Dance. Putnoe

Esther Sancto ☎272517 or ☎07917 582468

10.00 pm Theatretrain St Mark's. Dancing acting, singing. Kate Randle ☎01234 782414

7.00pm Duplicate Bridge. St Mark's Mrs Pillinger ☎212066

Sunday

9.30 - 10.30 Church and Sunday School at St Mark's with crèche for under 3's

11.00 - 12.00 Church and Junior at Putnoe Heights for the under 9's and Young Peoples Fellowship (Y.P.F) for our young adults. A crèche is also available.

1pm Tabernacle of Truth Church Putnoe Heights Revd. Tarr ☎360188 or ☎07866775515

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

6pm T.X.T Putnoe. for 13 + fortnightly, join us for fellowship, debate & discussion. Liz ☎302349

Diary Dates

St Mark's Church Council – 12 November

St Mark's Leadership Team – 28 November 2007

27 February 2008, 13 May 2008

Putnoe Heights Leadership Team –

St Mark's Church Forum Meeting -

Putnoe Heights Centre Management -

19 November

Putnoe Church Council - 8th October

Pastoral Group Meeting –

Churchyard Committee - 16 January 2008

Putnoe Heights Mission Group Meeting :

Partnership Council - 26 Feb

Brickhill Parish Council Meetings

Deanery Meeting - 8 November

Circuit Meeting -

Woodland Burial Trustees -

Putnoe Heights Children & Youth–

Please advise St Mark's Church Office of the dates of your meetings.



Telecare

Telecare

It is extremely helpful to the Ministers to be able to have feedback, especially if somebody is poorly or in hospital. If you have not yet put your name down on the

Telecare scheme, please do so. Additional members of the Pastoral Team are sharing the task of making telephone calls. Please do not be concerned if a new person calls.



27th in Ordinary

Opening Verse

I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. 2 Tim 1: 1

Collect Prayer for the Day

God our judge and Saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

First Bible Reading - Habakuk 1: 1 – 4; 2 : 1 - 4

The oracle that Habakkuk the prophet received. How long, O LORD, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save? Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrong? Destruction and violence are before me; There is strife, and conflict abounds. Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted. I will stand at my watch and station myself on the ramparts; I will look to see what he will say to me, and what answer I am to give to this complaint. Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay. "See, he is puffed up; his desires are not upright- but the righteous will live by his faith.

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

Second Bible Reading - 2 Timothy 1: 1 - 14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, according to the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my dear son: Grace, mercy and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I thank God, whom I serve, as my forefathers did, with a clear conscience, as night and day I constantly remember you in my prayers. Recalling your tears, I long to see you, so that I may be filled with joy. I have been reminded of your sincere faith, which first lived in your grandmother Lois and in your mother Eunice and, I am persuaded, now lives in you also. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands. For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline. So do not be ashamed to testify about our Lord, or ashamed of me his prisoner. But join with me in suffering for the gospel, by the power of God, who has saved us and called us to a holy life--not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. This grace was given us in Christ Jesus before the beginning of time, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour, Christ Jesus, who has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. And of this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher. That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day. What you heard from me, keep as the pattern of sound teaching, with faith and love in Christ Jesus. Guard the good deposit that was entrusted to you--guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

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

Gospel Reading - Luke 17: 5 – 10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" He replied, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it

will obey you. "Suppose one of you had a servant ploughing or looking after the sheep. Would he say to the servant when he comes in from the field, 'Come along now and sit down to eat'? Would he not rather say, 'Prepare my supper, get yourself ready and wait on me while I eat and drink; after that you may eat and drink'? Would he thank the servant because he did what he was told to do? So you also, when you have done everything you were told to do, should say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done our duty.' "

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

Post Communion Prayer

Bountiful God, you entrust your creation to our care. Grant us the grace so to order our common life that we may use your gifts to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Commentary - A strange request

The disciples' request to Jesus seems rather strange. Faith is a personal matter. Each one of us is at a different place on our faith journey, a journey which is impacted by our own personal experiences of life and God, and how we have been influenced by such events and interactions. But our faith remains personal; it is dependant upon how we react to the events that have happened around us and to us through the course of our lives. Sometimes these will be life changing events and we can look back and see the impact they had on our lives. Sometimes they will be small and we don't realise just how they have changed us until we look back many years later and realise that some small event in our past has had a profound effect on our life. So it's strange that the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith, something which is personal to them - but their request is in response to the parables that Jesus has just told, all of which underline the importance of faith, and their desire to be better disciples. And if the disciples question seems strange, Jesus' reply looks rather odd to begin with. He tells them a story about a servant who is working hard in the fields when his master comes home and demands to be fed. The servant duly does what he is told as its his duty to do so. But in telling this parable, Jesus is giving all His disciples an insight as to just how they can increase their faith. Simply to get on with doing the things we have been charged by our master, God, to do, however mundane and everyday they seem. It's easy to fall into the trap of believing that the experiences through which our faith grows need to be spectacular, but so often they are not. For most of us, most of the time our faith develops through the accumulation and culmination of lots of smaller experiences which we have in everyday life. It is through these smaller, much less spectacular everyday events which God gives that our faith is gradually strengthened and deepened bit by bit.

For the disciples, who at this stage were getting used to the extra-ordinary and the spectacular, this was a critical element of faith which they needed to fully understand. God can and does act through the spectacular, but more often he acts through the everyday things of life. He uses ordinary people like ourselves who are getting on with life guided by God's precepts. The disciples needed to realise that how a believer's faith is strengthened is ultimately up to the individual themselves. There was no prayer or blessing that Jesus could give them that would deepen their faith in some mysterious way without effort, dedication and service on their part. It is a living out of God's love, that Jesus demonstrated in His life and death, that is the way of ever deepening faith. For the disciples and for ourselves, that should be an encouragement. As we live out God's love, so our faith is strengthened and deepened, almost without us realising. Yes, there are things which we can do to learn more about Jesus and His love, time we can spend reflecting on the how God wants us as individuals to live out our lives of faith which will help us on that journey but ultimately it is about living our lives in a manner which is pleasing to God which will strengthen our faith. As Jesus explains to the disciples, '...to do our duty', is the way of every deepening faith. *Sam Cappleman*

Meditation

We are people of faith, but our experiences of trusting who and what we believe differ. Sometimes we too, like the disciples, want to cry out to God to 'Increase our faith' as we look at the world around us and

the desperate situations we see on the television and read in our newspapers. With Habakkuk we plead for help, wanting God to do something but so often He seems not to listen. Sometimes it seems too much to bear. God responds to Habakkuk and to the disciples telling them that there is a bigger picture, one which is measured in God's time and is everlasting. We are part of that eternal picture and God reminds us that we should not lose sight of that perspective, nor forget that we have a role to play in eternity by being faithful servants now, however difficult it feels at times. Our faith and actions are like frail fires. They expand once lit, bringing light and warmth to those around. Even though our faith, like a fire, sometimes no more than flickers, it can still illuminate the dark cold places of our lives and those around us. Through our faith we can make a difference to the world, however difficult it seems at time. For this reason Paul encourages us to, '...fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you... For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power'. God is all powerful but the instrument He chose to demonstrate His power is sometimes frail. Paul encourages us that, however timid we sometimes feel, we should always live out our Christian lives in the spirit of the power of the life changing Holy Spirit.

Hymns (Please distribute Hymns and Psalms - at Putnoe please distribute Baptism cards)

1. New every morning is the love, **636**
2. Be thou my vision **378**
3. We have a gospel to proclaim **465**
4. Teach me my God and King **803**
5. To God be the glory **463**

Prayers for Sunday and the Week Ahead

Your are never tired, O Lord, of doing us good. Let us never be weary of doing you service. But as you have pleasure in the well-being of your servants, let us take pleasure in the service of our Lord and abound in your work and in your love and praise evermore. **Amen**

Holy Spirit, light up grace within us. Let us be kindling. Let us burn with love. Stir into flames your acts of love in our lives. **Amen**

They arrive, one by one. Dragons called Strife come and sit on our chests and they suck all the air out of us. Some come from outside, some from within. Let belief be our armour, Lord; let faith be our shield. Your battles are our battles. Give us your victory. **Amen**

Lord, help me please to always make a home for you in my heart and to receive within that home the neighbours and friends and especially the strangers whom I meet. I am grateful that you are God and that you include me in your assembly, and in your love. **Amen**

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water welling up to eternal life, perfect in you the image of His glory; and may the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Halloween Relief

A CHURCH of England campaign was launched a year ago to combat the scarier side of Hallowe'en by the Bishop of Bolton the Rt Revd David Gillett. He urged supermarkets to rethink how they marketed the festival to children. Recent years have seen a growth of increasingly horrific merchandise. Last week, the chief executives of both Asda and Sainsbury's told Bishop Gillett that they are offering alternatives to the usual range of goods associated with the festival. Justin King, CEO of Sainsbury's, wrote: "I appreciate your concerns about the nature of the Hallowe'en products we sell. I can understand your worries that Hallowe'en products may have antisocial effects. When looking at what we would sell for this year's Hallowe'en, we talked to our customers to find out what products they would like to buy." As a consequence, the supermarket chain would be promoting glow sticks, hair braids, and face paints. We will also be selling books that will allow customers to find out about alternative ways of marking Hallowe'en that they might like to try." Andy Bond, CEO of Asda, wrote: "Your concerns have been discussed with my colleagues, and our buying team have collated a range of costumes and accessories which we consider to be lighter than previously offered."

Bishop Gillett said: "I am delighted that the big supermarkets have agreed with our campaign that they have a responsibility to offer choice. I now hope that parents will use their spending power, vote with their baskets, and do what they can to show big businesses that we all want Hallowe'en to be a more positive festival for our society."

St Mark's Harvest Celebration

"An Evening from the Shows" Tickets now available Saturday 13th October at St Mark's 7.30. Tickets will be available from the church office, members of the leadership team or Ian Farthing. Cost £7 Adults, £4 Children (under 14 years).

Don't miss the Opening with the children from Putnoe and St Mark's performance of "Joseph" Not to be Missed!

TNT next meet at Putnoe on 14th October. An evening of learning about self-defence 6pm.

Unwanted shoes to Putnoe please. The children and young people at Putnoe are collecting shoes for the Blue Peter Malawi appeal. Please bring any shoes in reasonable condition, paired with an elastic band to the collecting box in the welcome area. The money raised will go to UNICEF to set up Children's Corners for orphaned children

Ouse Valley Singers present a concert of light music on Saturday 13th October at 7.30pm in Bromham Baptist Church. Donations to Christian Family Care. Further information from Lyn Sewell 01234 781903

Women's Network District Day on 11 October 11am - 3.15pm. at Dunstable Methodist Church, The Square, LU6 3SN. The subject is 'Slavery Then and Now'

A District Craft Day will be held at Priory Methodist Church on Saturday 3 November. For further details contact Pam Seymour 305695. Closing date for bookings 10 October

The History of Folk and Poetry on Saturday 27 October at 7.30pm at All Saints Church, Milton Ernest, a light hearted troll of various types of folk singing & poetry by 'Willing Warblers', followed by a cheese & wine buffet. Tickets £5 available from 27E Radwell Road, Milton Ernest 01234 825059 & 'The Barn' Church Green, Milton Ernest 01234 823469

NCH House to House A big thank you to all those who helped. The total raised was £966, a 15% increase, NCH will be able to claim a further £57 from Gift-aid. Mike Elliot.

Scouts Many of you will have seen much media coverage of Scouting's Centenary in 2007, but Putnoe Scout Group also celebrates its 50th Anniversary this year. As part of the celebrations the Group are planning a Reunion Party on 17th November at the Scout HQ. There is an open invitation to anyone who has ever been involved, or is still involved, and their families. If this is you, or someone you know, then please get in contact with us so that we can forward a formal invitation. If you can't attend on the 17th and would like more information on what the Scouts are up to now, or if you can offer help in any way, I would be delighted to hear from you. Bob Calver

Methodist Church welcomes crackdown on sex trafficking

The Methodist Church has welcomed Pentameter 2, a government initiative to tackle the growing problem of sex trafficking. UK police forces aim to rescue women and children who have been forced to work in the sex industry and to prosecute those who profit from human trafficking.

Margaret Sawyer, Secretary for the Women's Network of the Methodist Church, says; 'We're delighted to welcome the long-awaited Pentameter 2 initiative to further track and arrest the perpetrators of trafficking and more importantly to release innocent victims of this most abhorrent crime. However, we would urge the Home Office urgently and thoroughly to resource the provision of proper safe houses and care networks in order adequately to meet the needs of those who will be released.'

Church Christmas Cards. This year we will be selling our own church Christmas cards in aid of church funds. The cards can be seen now and will be available soon from the church offices. Please place orders and we will have them ready for you.

Brickhill Methodist Home for the Aged.

I received notification this week that permission has been granted to move the bridleway which has halted progress on the development of the home. This will allow building to proceed.

Volunteers required for disability shop (Shopmobility Howard centre) Mornings 9am - 1pm Afternoons 1pm - 4.30pm. Contact Sheila Whittemore Tel 01234 404962.

'Pearls of Wisdom 'quiz coming on Sunday 14 October. £1 per entry all proceeds for Mission Funds. Closing date 18 November. Draw on Sunday 25 - First two correct solutions drawn from hat win £10 & £5 respectively. Sylvia Cohen 343424

Tesco Sports Vouchers are being collected by St Mark's Preschool. Vouchers may be handed in at the Church Office and will be gratefully received. Very many thanks. Helen Harpin.

Footprints Sunday 7th October Navigators' Way—meet at North Bridge in the centre of Shefford 2.30pm for a 4 mile circular walk based on the River Ivel navigation. John & Sally Gunning 305925.

"At Your Service" Too much to do and not enough time to do it? Two wonderful "Girl Fridays" can help you with housework, shopping, gardening, walking the dog, chauffeuring—in fact anything to make life easier (at very reasonable cost) Phone 07732191114 or 07879486286

Joseph We have put together a photo board of the Joseph Workshop. It can be viewed in the large hall at Putnoe from today. Please let Liz know if you would like copies.

Bedfordshire Festival of Music, Speech and Drama. Please let Liz know if you would like to enter the Bible Reading class. We hope to continue the success of last year with first and second places from Chloe at St Mark's and



St Mark's Coffee Shop

Every Sunday
2.30pm— 5.00pm
Don't forget to come along
and enjoy great teas

Sarah at Putnoe. Entries need to be in by 1 December.

Fun Barn Dance Putnoe 17 November 6.00pm - 9.00pm details to follow. Putnoe Harvest Bring and Buy. The youth team are having a bring and buy cake stall. Half the proceeds will go to Malawi Children's Corner Project, which will launch next week. All donations greatly received.

Storybox Team Volunteers wanted. Could you join the storytellers, caterers and room setters. Small commitment on Mondays once every 4 weeks. Please see Liz for more details on how to support our very successful under 5's group.

Thank you to Judith Stanton and her supporters at her Whist Group for their recent donation to the church of £120.



Please always log on to Amazon through www.thisischurch.com to buy all your books, music, DVD's, electrical goods, we receive 5% commission.

Putnoe Heights Church Council on Monday 8 October at Putnoe Heights Church. 7.30pm All church members are invited and welcome

Banns



We publish the banns and pray for the marriage of Danielle Monique Martin and Paul Barrett to take place on Friday 12th October at 4pm 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.

Geoffrey Rogers

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 Mrs Audrey Anstee will take place at St Mark's Chapel on Tuesday 9 October 2007
Royden