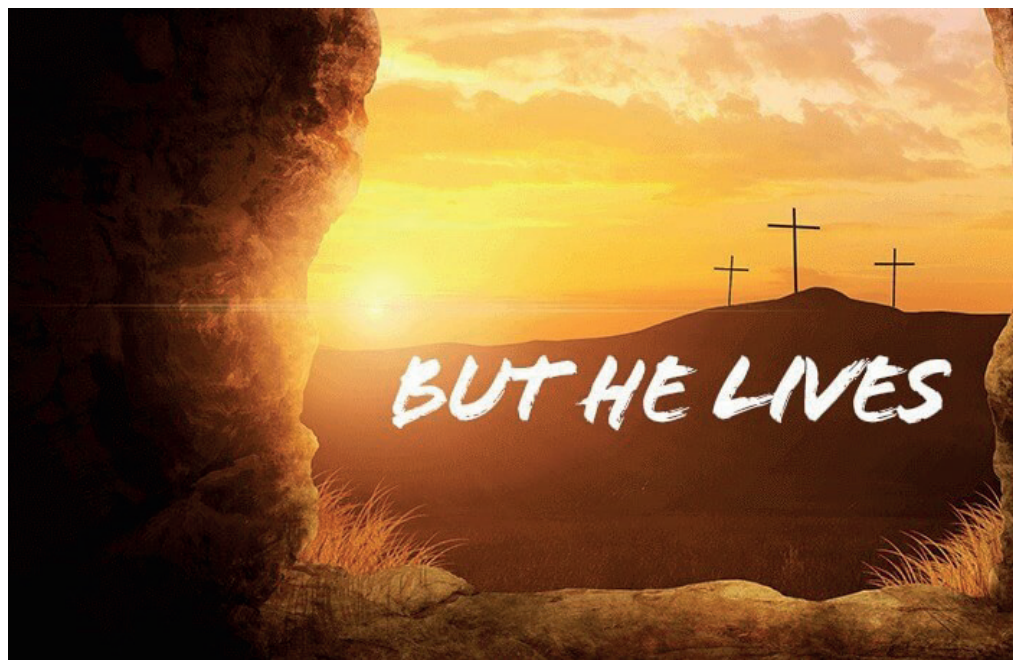


Mattishall and Tudd Valley



Easter Greetings from the
churches in East Tuddenham,
Hockering, Mattishall,
North Tuddenham, Welborne
and Yaxham

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Welcome



Good News for Spring

Bursting with Colour – bursting with life

Spring comes around every year and yet I am always taken by surprise.

Winter seems to go on forever and then out of the blue spring flowers pop up with their beautiful vibrant colours, the white of the snowdrops, the yellow of the aconites and the daffodils followed by the tulips and the bluebells.

Why not take a walk around our churchyards and see the array of colour that is bursting forth? There is new growth everywhere.

Why am I surprised? The beauty was there all along, working hard under the ground producing roots and shoots and getting ready to break through the earth.

Maybe you feel like that too, working away in the dark trying to find some light that will enable you to grow and flourish and be the person God created you to be.

It is not just Spring that brings colour and light and hope, it is also Easter, the greatest Christian festival of all, when we remember not just the new life springing up all around us, but the new life that springs up from Christ's death and resurrection. In Jesus' death and resurrection, we are offered new life, a new hope. Why not get a taste of the new life God is offering you this season?

Details of all the services and events happening around the benefice can be found within these pages and there is something for everyone from Family fun to quiet contemplation, from Coffee Mornings to praise and Worship services.

Maybe it's ages since you've been to church, or you think you wouldn't know what you're supposed to do? Don't worry – there's always a warm welcome and a smile, and you'll soon feel at home.

With every blessing this Easter time – and we hope to see you soon.



Andrea

Rev Andrea Woods

Assistant Curate: Mattishall and Tudd Valley Benefice



Resurrection.

What a powerful and interesting subject. I asked the Holy Spirit what He would like me to write about in this season and the word I heard was “Resurrection.”

I began by researching the meaning of Resurrection. Here is what I discovered. Did you know that the word Resurrection is found in forty verses of the New Testament? The Thayer definition defines Resurrection as anastasis (G386 ἀνάστασις)

- 1) a raising up, rising (e.g. from a seat)
- 2) a rising from the dead
- 2a) that of Christ
- 2b) that of all men at the end of this present age
- 2c) the Resurrection of certain ones’ history who were restored to life (Hebrews 11:35)

I have been meditating on this word, **Resurrection, A raising up, Rising, Rising from the dead.** Then it hit me, like a ton of bricks, Jesus wants me to tell you about my Resurrection.

Let me give you a quick recap of my testimony, then I will focus on a particular encounter with the Lord. My first memory at age 3 is physical abuse by my biological father. The abuse continued intermittently from age 3 until age 8 when my father went to prison for raping me. My mother could never forgive herself and became a heroin addict. Me and my siblings were shuffled between sub-standard housing, state institution homes, cheap hotel rooms and abandoned structures, along with living with relatives. We were below, severely below the poverty line. We eventually moved to Florida where my mom was radically saved and delivered from addiction. She became a spirit-filled Christian while visiting a home bible study group.

I was overjoyed that my mom was a Christian, however the damage had been done to me. I was an optimistic young lady and went about smiling but my soul was sick. I was a spirit-filled believer in Jesus from the age of eight, but my soul was sick. I did not know how to have a healthy relationship with humans. My spirit was a new creation in Christ, but my mind had not been renewed.

My mother and I became very legalistic in our new church, and I was married off at 15 years old to a travelling so-called evangelist who was twenty-eight. This man took me to his house and nailed the windows shut and padlocked the front and back doors when he left the house. I was trapped. No phone. No cell phone. It was the summer of 1986. He had his way with me. I was so tiny, 5ft 7inches and less than 90 lbs. I began to try to find a way to escape. He never ever left me alone even in the shower. The tiny bathroom window was the only window that was not nailed shut. Three months into this nightmare I convinced him to allow me to bathe alone. I shut the bathroom door. I turned on the bath water and put on a silk gown. I dipped my tiny, emaciated body into the tub to wet my gown. I climbed

up onto the old claw tub and pulled myself into the tiny window. I got my head and shoulders through the window, and I thrust myself through and fell to the ground. I stood up and ran the fastest I had ever run. I knew he would know that I escaped and would come after me in the car. I ran through that little town in Florida, it was the middle of night. I was bare, naked with only a wet silk nightgown on, but I did not care, I ran, and I ran.

I ran over five miles and never saw a car or a person. I ran to the only person I could think of a dear sister from the church. She was married with children. I pounded on her door like a mad woman and her husband opened the door. I ran inside and heard the worst sound ever. My captor was right behind me. He pushed the door open and grabbed me by the arm and tried to pull me out of the house. I jumped on the sister's husband and wrapped my arms around his neck as my capture was trying to pull my body away from him.

Finally, my captor calmed down and the church pastor arrived. We all had a meeting, and I was told that this man was my husband and I had to go home with him even though he beat me. I did not go back. I insisted that I be taken to my mother's apartment in the town thirty miles away.

I was trying to settle in living with my mom again. She was kind and regretful that she let me marry that monster. Two weeks later, I was walking down the stairs from the apartment complex and turned into a hallway and there was this monster husband, he was hiding there waiting for me early in the morning. He grabbed me and forced me into the car. He pulled out of the apartment complex while holding my neck to the floor of the car. I knew my mom and no one else witnessed this abduction.

He was driving me back to that house. The house of the torture. I considered jumping out of the car while he was up to the speeds of fifty-five miles per hour. I was thinking that if I die it would be better than this. As I attempted to jump out the car, he grabbed me by my shirt and locked the door. He took me back to the house, but I was different this time. I was numb. I became obedient to him. I thought to myself, no one was going to save me. I began to play his game until he began to trust me and leave the door unlocked. The morning he went to work and left the lock undone I walked out of the house and never returned. I went to the courthouse and got an annulment. I was now living on my own at 16 years old.

The beginning of my life was filled with trauma and disappointment, but it continued. I have had multiple train-wreck relationships and some very pleasant ones. I was married two more times, age 19 and age 30, both ended in divorce. I lived as a single divorcee with my children for several years after that, vowing

never to marry again. I finally found love with my dear husband, and we had eight wonderful years together until his heart stopped while riding his motorcycle in 2016. He died instantly.

Resurrection. A raising up, Rising, Rising from the dead. I became so depressed after my husband died. I lost hope. I lost my optimism. I began to say to myself,

“Nothing will ever be good in my life”

“Every time circumstances seem to improve for me something always pulls the carpet from under my feet”

“I am damaged goods”

I began to self-destruct. I could only cry. I could not pray. I felt dirty. I was subconsciously suicidal. I was barely holding on. I was like the walking dead.

Then, suddenly, on April 21, 2018. God showed up. God commanded my deliverance day. The Holy Spirit in His glorious power revealed Himself to me. He talked to me, He covered me. I knew He was with me. He began to say words of Life to me.

He said words like:

Denise, my daughter, You are not forgotten, for you have been chosen and destined by me, Father God. My Holy Spirit has set you apart to be God’s holy one, obedient follower of Jesus Christ who has been gloriously sprinkled with his blood. Now, God’s delightful grace and peace cascades over you many times over!

Denise, celebrate with praises the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has shown you His extravagant mercy. For His fountain of mercy has given you a new life—you are reborn to experience a living, energetic hope through the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Denise, you are reborn into a perfect inheritance that can never perish, never be defiled, and never diminish. It is promised and preserved forever in the heavenly realm for you!

Denise, through our faith, the mighty power of God constantly guards you until your full salvation is ready to be revealed in the last time.

Denise, may the thought of this cause you to jump for joy, even though lately you have had to put up with the grief of many trials!

Wow, I was resurrected with the words of Jesus, the words of Life, my father was speaking to me. My real Father. Father God.

I now live in victory every day. I live in Resurrection power because the Resurrection lives in me.

My mind is renewed daily with time spent talking to my Father. It is simple. He resurrected me. When? I was resurrected in His body the second He rose from the dead.

May this season of celebrating our victorious Jesus remind you that you have been resurrected with Him. He did it for you.

Wherefore, seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:1,2 KJV

You are the joy that set before Him. He saw you and me being resurrected from the dead inside His body and He decided, He chose to despise the shame and endure!

As for us, we have all these great witnesses who encircle us like clouds. So, we must let go of every wound that has pierced us and the sin we so easily fall into. Then we will be able to run life's marathon race with passion and determination, for the path has been already marked out before us.

We look away from the natural realm and we fasten our gaze onto Jesus who birthed faith within us and who leads us forward into faith's perfection. His example is this: Because his heart was focused on the joy of knowing that you would be his, he endured the agony of the cross and conquered its humiliation, and now sits exalted at the right hand of the throne of God!

Hebrews 12:1,2 TPT

Denise Colston

comeseeglobal@gmail.com



Become a Befriender

Help tackle loneliness and isolation in your local area



Make a difference in your community by providing company, friendship and support for those who really need it



Having a cup of tea together



Going out for walks



Helping them join clubs or groups



Chatting on the phone



Building their confidence



Making new friends

Can Connect

is a project set up to reduce loneliness and isolation in Breckland

To enquire about befriending go to canconnect.org.uk/volunteer

or call Natasha on 01362 698216



Easter Family Fun Afternoon

Saturday 16th April 2022



All Saints Mattishall
1.30pm – 4.00pm

Beginning and ending at All Saints' church
join us for



A treasure hunt round the village



Craft activities and refreshments



An interactive retelling of the
Easter story with action songs

All families welcome
For further information, contact:
Church Office 01362 858873

Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee



The Queen has ruled for longer than any other Monarch in British history, becoming a much loved and respected figure across the globe. Her extraordinary reign has seen her travel more widely than any other monarch, undertaking many historic overseas visits. Known for her sense of duty and her devotion to a life of service, she has been an important figurehead for the UK and the Commonwealth during times of enormous social change.

(From the official website)

'I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service.'

The Queen's faith in God is always evident and has been a mainstay in her promise to us all, an incredible example for us to follow.

Whatever is planned for in your village, we hope it will be a true day of celebration of this historic event and in a great spirit of thanks and community.

Are you like the Palm Tree?

Psalm 92

*12 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
they will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;*

*13 planted in the house of the Lord, they will
flourish in the courts of our God.*

*14 They will still bear fruit in old age, they will
stay fresh and green,*

*15 proclaiming, 'The Lord is upright; he is my
Rock, and there is no wickedness in him.'*

*Because of the Lord, believers can "flourish like a
palm tree . . . [and] still bear fruit in old
age" (Psalm 92:12–14).*



What fruit is that? No matter our circumstances or season of life, we can be examples of His love through the life we lead and the words we say. There is joy in knowing and living for the Lord and telling others about Him.

v12 The righteous will flourish like a palm tree

Are you a palm-tree Christian? Yes, the Lord needs palm-tree Christians! Let's look at some characteristics of the palm-tree...

First, notice how upright the palm tree is.

Whether you see a Palm tree growing on the flat or on a slope it grows upright. The prophet Jeremiah had this in mind when he said, ***"They are upright, like the palm tree" (Jeremiah 10:5).*** Oh, that the same might be said of all Christians! Upright-living doesn't mean joy-less living; no, it means joy-filled living. Because upright-living is God-honouring and full of joy. We need to walk with the Lord ever closer every day and hold on to Him no matter what. We must be sincere and honest and upright in all our dealings every day.

Second, there is the resilience of the palm tree.

It grows, and it even "flourishes" in the drought of desert areas, where most other trees would find it impossible to survive. Oh, for more flourishing

Christians despite their circumstances!

Christian believers are constantly refreshed like a palm tree is refreshed in the desert.

The palm tree grows up from the sand, but the sand is not its food; water from below the sand feeds its tap roots. Some Christians grow like a palm tree in the desert. Think of Joseph growing among the idol worshippers of Egypt, or Daniel there in Babylon. Faith's penetrating roots reach the fountains of living waters.

Third, the palm tree grows in a special way.

Palm trees don't develop the ring-shaped secondary growth seen in other trees. You know how you can work out the age of a tree from the number of rings through the trunk. Well, unlike most other trees, instead of adding a new outer ring to the trunk every year, the palm tree grows from the centre.

Surely, that's how every Christian must grow. The Christian is renewed inwardly by the Holy Spirit, an inner sanctification of the heart, and an inward development of character, which then outwardly shows itself in uprightness, Christ-like beauty, and fruitfulness.

Fourth, the palm tree is not receptive to grafting.

Many other trees may be, but not the palm tree. Nor is the Christian life. *"Having begun in the Spirit,"* - Paul writes in **Galatians 3:3** - we cannot now be *"made perfect by the flesh"*

We cannot graft law into grace; flesh into spirit; or salvation by works, into salvation by faith.

Fifth, the palm tree is an evergreen.

It doesn't turn brown in the Autumn and doesn't become bare in the winter.

Oh, for a similar all-the-year-round "beauty of holiness" among believers!

Sixth, the palm tree is outstanding in the height of its foliage and fruit.

Palm trees are tall. Some of the tallest varieties can soar up to 150ft! It's almost as though their beauty and fruitfulness is for heaven, rather than just to be "seen by men". Doesn't that speak to us?

Seventh, it has presence and beauty.

The palm tree is beautiful, with its tall and verdant canopy. Each kind of palm

has its own beauty. Oh, for more palm-tree beauty of stature in a moral and spiritual sense!

The palm tree...

- is strong.
- produces fruit to refresh the weary traveller.
- the older the tree, the sweeter the fruit.

V14 *"They will still bear fruit in old age."* Nature decays, but grace thrives.

The young Christian is lovely, like a tree in the blossoms of spring: the mature Christian is valuable, like a tree in autumn, bending with ripe fruit. And we rightly look for something special in older disciples, don't we? The palm tree produces fruit even in old age. With date palms, the best dates are produced when the palm tree is from 30-100yrs old. So, the Christian grows more fruitful/more useful as he becomes older. Knowing his own faults more, he is mellower to others: he is like the setting sun - beautiful, looking like Elim, where the weary Jews came and camped after leaving Egypt and found twelve wells and seventy date palm trees.

The palm tree...

- gives welcome shade.
- points to where there is water, as we Christians should be pointing to Jesus - the living water
- is the symbol of rejoicing and victory

We think of the Palm branches being waved and the people rejoicing when they went to meet Jesus as he rode into Jerusalem to be crucified.

"Hosanna, Blessed is the King of Israel that cometh in the name of the Lord"
John ch.12 v.13

I heard this message recently and thought I would pass it on.

Carole Beavis



The Ukraine

At the time of writing, none of us knows what the situation will be in the Ukraine when you read this booklet.

All of us have probably inwardly, maybe outwardly, wept at the awful situation in the Ukraine. Man at his worst.....



We may feel helpless, but we can give clothing, medical supplies, money or whatever we are asked to donate.

We can also pray and join with those in the Ukraine who pray. These are citizens of Khakiv, kneeling in prayer whilst their city was attacked.



Below is a prayer we can all use and at any time. However, when you read this booklet, we hope and pray we are offering our prayers of thanks and hope that the whole sorry situation is resolved peacefully.

A Prayer for Ukraine

God of peace and justice,
we pray for the people of Ukraine today.
We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons.
We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow,
that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them.
We pray for those with power over war or peace,
for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions.
Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear,
that you would hold and protect them.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.
Amen

Archbishop Justin Welby
Archbishop Stephen Cottrell

Do also remember the church in Russia that they have a voice which is heard by the governing powers in that country.



Giving thanks

Today is a beautiful day God has blessed us with. Although at the moment I do not feel up to gardening, God has still sent me flowers. Snowdrops and daffodils force their way through the hard solid ground. Aconites, crocuses, cyclamen, primroses and polyanthus are all flowering, as is the Daphne and Mimosa. God is good and we have so much to be thankful for, especially when we see what is happening elsewhere in the world. God gives us so many gifts which we often take for granted. The greatest gift of all was Jesus, God's one and only son whose birth we were celebrating such a short time ago. Now we are anticipating Easter and the even greater gift we have because Jesus was willing to die the most painful death. He was cruelly treated before that too. Remember next time you prick your finger on a rose thorn that Jesus wore a crown of thorns and that it was not placed gently on his head but cruelly knocked into his scalp. He was then forced to carry his own cross, until he could carry it no further, and nailed to it and crucified. WHY? WHY? WHY? BECAUSE HE LOVES YOU.

JOHN 3 V16 says

God so loved the world that he gave His only begotten son so that WHOEVER believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

REMEMBER.....'WHOEVER' INCLUDES YOU.

Beryl and Ralph Garner



The Hive at Great Cressingham - A New Place for New People



We describe **The Hive** as a place of creativity, spirituality and well-being. We use these terms, because they communicate their meanings beyond the walls of traditional church. Under these three complementary paths, the founding team of four bring their own skills, interests and contacts to a varied programme.

Our core priority is connecting to and building community.

We see this as our purpose and focus and we seek to do this by offering opportunities and insights that draw people in and provide a context for questioning, exploring and connecting to their spiritual selves and thereby find pathways to God.

Geraldine Allen and Sarah Rodgers are both members of Methodist Pioneering Pathways and Anglican Mission Enablers.

The Hive, in Great Cressingham, Norfolk, was launched with a Son et Lumiere telling The Christmas Story at the beginning of the second lockdown and continuing, as guidelines permitted, through the intervening lockdowns, we have been able to welcome over 100 new people, most of whom do not go, would not go and have no interest in going to what they see today as church.

Over the past year we have shared, studied and taken part in music and singing, yoga and walking, nature connections, local history, map-reading, well-being topics, Celtic spirituality, reflective retreats, labyrinths and carols by candlelight.



We have inspired one another and with conversations in and around the activities have become aware of small but significant transformations. We drink a lot of properly brewed real coffee and keep refreshing the question as to why we feel called to do this. The answer is constantly evolving, particularly as we talk to others

on Pioneering Pathways. One of us recently expressed an answer to the *why* which will be our touchstone for this year: we are **living our faith**.

Come and join us for our Spring and Summer Programme which includes the following events:

Saturday 30th April - Healing Sounds with Alison Taylor-Smith

Sound therapy has been used in different ways for thousands of years to promote healing or for general relaxation.

Sunday 15th May – Yoga for Breath with Susan Jones

Winter Wellbeing

Be good to yourself at **The Hive** with our programme of life-affirming activities

Friday February 18 at 3.00pm Celtic Journeys 'stillness'

Saturday February 26 at 2.00pm Yoga to breathe and stretch

Friday March 4 at 3.00pm Celtic Journeys 'reflection'

Saturday March 12 at 11.00am & 2.00pm (walk) The mystery of maps

Monday March 14 at 11.00am Coping with change

Friday March 18 at 3.00pm Celtic Journeys 'blessings'

Sunday March 20 at 3.00pm Music for Body, Mind and Soul

Scan the QR code to find out more

THE HIVE
CALCINITY - SPIRITUALITY - WELL-BEING

Chalk Hill, Great Cressingham, Norfolk IP25 6NP
Find us with What3Words: winds.fuzzy.stages
E: thehiveplace@gmail.com T: 07976 286 645



Susan is an experienced yoga teacher who holds regular classes at the Methodist Church in Swaffham and at the Leisure Centre in Dereham, as well as online.

Saturday 4th June - Jubilee Sing at The Hive with musical director Sarah Rodgers

Sarah is an experienced conductor who brings out the best in singers of all abilities. Using pre-recorded backing tracks

as well as live accompaniments, the Jubilee Sing will celebrate the Queen's Jubilee with all sorts of styles of music.

Saturday 18th June – Let's Talk About – Climate Change with Dr David Jones

'Let's Talk About . . .' is our new series on topics of the moment. David, who is Chairman of the Swaffham Climate Change Group will lead us through some statistics and other challenging information as we talk together about how we can all make a significant contribution to protecting our planet.

Saturday 2nd July - Pilgrim Way with Revd Dr Carole Irwin

Pilgrimage is enjoying something of a contemporary revival as a spiritual or personal practice. Come and discover more about ancient and contemporary pilgrimage in the UK and elsewhere, and what it has meant - and might mean - for all kinds of people.

Saturday 16th July - Forest Church – Outdoor Encounters with Andy Dye

***Andy Dye** was a Mission Partner with the Methodist Church of the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA) South Caribbean District in Grenada where he led teacher training and youth work.*

Please let us know if you are able to attend any of the programmes.

Entrance is free but donations are welcome

Follow us on Facebook for more information –



<https://www.facebook.com/GreatCressinghamHive/>

Email: **thehiveplace@gmail.com** Tel: **07976 286645**

Geraldine Allen and Sarah Rodgers



Good News - Easter Services

Palm Sunday:

- 9:00 All Saints' Church, Mattishall, Morning Worship
- 9:00 All Saints' Church, Welborne, Palm Sunday Procession and Service
- 10:30 All Saints' Church, Mattishall, Morning Worship
- 10:30 St. Mary's Church, North Tuddenham, Morning Worship at Village Hall
- 10:30 St. Peter's Church, Yaxham, Morning Worship

Maundy Thursday:

- 18:30 Maundy Thursday Agape, All Saints' Church, Mattishall

Good Friday:

- 11:00 Walk of Witness, starting at the Evangelical Church in Mattishall
- 14.00 Hour before the Cross, All Saints' Church, Welborne

Easter Day

- 9:00 St. Michael's Church, Hockering, Holy Communion
- 9:00 All Saints' Church, Welborne, Holy Communion
- 10:00 All Saints' Church, Mattishall, Holy Communion
- 10:30 All Saints' Church, East Tuddenham, Holy Communion
- 10:30 St. Mary's Church, North Tuddenham, Holy Communion
- 10:30 St. Peter's Church, Yaxham, Holy Communion
- 18.30 Yaxham Chapel – the speaker is Glen Fox



HE IS RISEN

In October 2020, I moved from Hampshire to Mattishall to be nearer family. After the removals lorry unloaded, I was asked to move my vehicle to enable their lorry to drive off for a well-deserved rest. To my surprise, when I stepped outside, I stepped into complete darkness!! What? Mattishall doesn't have street lights? Shock, horror! "Well actually, that's wonderful," I thought, "less light pollution means beautiful night skies!"

Over these past 18 months, I often go outside on a clear night and gaze up at the stunning night sky. I even lie on the lawn to do so and am in awe of what we can see here, including meteor showers etc. Amazing, wonderful, exquisite stars twinkle and delight me. I am always awestruck by God's creation, whether it's a starry night, a beautiful sunset, or the glimpse of wildlife - especially the barn owls, which I had never seen in the wild until I moved here. Magnificent! Psalm 19v1-4 sums all this up by claiming

'The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.'

A song I seem to be playing constantly of late is 'So Will I (100 Billion X)' by Hillsong United. I encourage you to watch it on YouTube with the lyrics, and I challenge you not to have your heart stirred! We sing this and other similar songs at All Saints Mattishall at our 10.30am service. If you'd like to join us, you'll receive a warm welcome, coffee and even a home baked cake after the service!

Anne Molyneux



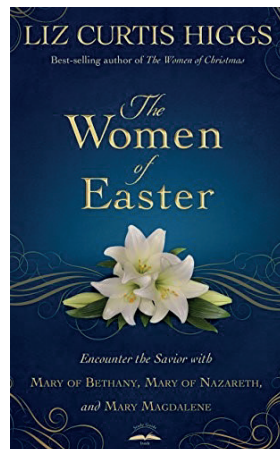
Book Review

The Women of Easter

by Liz Curtis Higgs

This book is all about three women, all called Mary; Mary of Bethany, Mary of Nazareth and Mary Magdalene and their relationships and interaction with Jesus.

A message from the author:



The Lord's resurrection is the most glorious moment in history. You and I will watch these ancient scenes unfold through the eyes of three women who were witnesses, who were there. Just the thought gives me goosebumps.

All three Marys will show us what happens when we encounter a loving saviour and are transformed.....

I couldn't put this book down! It really is a book for the period of Lent but the story of the events leading up to the last few weeks of Jesus' life and His resurrection are exquisitely told and explained in a most wonderful, innovative way, how these women were there with Jesus at the most important and critical times when all others had deserted him.

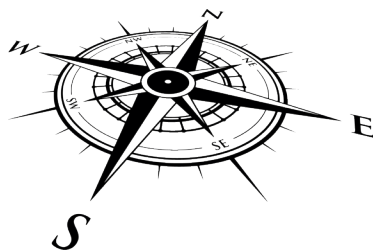


If you can't get a copy, just let me know and you can borrow mine and find out for yourself what love can really mean in a lost world.....

Jackie Crisp

What do you do when life suddenly changes direction?

We were running on a high as we had just taken a 45m sailing yacht across the Atlantic, it was going to work in the Caribbean; taking medical and construction teams into hurricane hit areas; islands that had lost their roads and airports or were in some other way cut off.



As we arrived in the Bahamas at the start of 2021, Covid 19 had caused most of the Caribbean islands to shut down to anyone arriving. The need had not changed, the disasters had not changed, people still needed help, but the world had changed, and we could no longer enter. When it became impossible to do the task we were sent to do, the yacht was sent to Florida and mothballed and we returned to Garvestone.



Derek and Paula Finlayson crossing the Atlantic

It must have been the same for the disciples; they had been with Jesus for three years, they had heard his teaching, his insight, his heaven-sent wisdom. They had seen him feed thousands from 5 loaves and 2 fish, they had seen him heal the blind, the deaf, the lame, the bleeding. They had even seen him raise the dead. They had seen the people adoring him. He was their Messiah, their Lord, their King. They were part of the cool, popular gang, doing good and saving the world. Suddenly, Jesus is telling them he is going to die, then they see him arrested, tried, beaten and crucified. The need had not

changed, the disasters had not changed, people still needed help, but the world had changed.

These disciples had their lives thrown into chaos. Their Lord was condemned a criminal and publicly executed, they were now not wanted and scared for their own lives and what would happen next. Yet after the Resurrection of Jesus, these disciples went on to change the world and take the gospel to all the known world in their lifetime.

What will you do when your life takes an unforeseen turn? With God change is always an opportunity for a new, amazing direction.

Paula

DROP-IN COFFEE MORNING -

every Thursday in All Saints Mattishall

We are open from **10am until 12 noon** every Thursday morning for friendship and refreshments. We serve unlimited amounts of coffee and tea and there are biscuits and cakes on every table to go with your drink. We have no set charge but there is a pot on each table for donations towards our costs.



Occasionally we have a party, the last one was just before Christmas, we had great fun with music and a buffet. Another event like that, so a buffet lunch, is planned for the Thursday before Easter and will follow the usual meeting. There will be others later in the year.

Anyone is welcome to join us, this is a great place to meet and make new friends. Particularly nice for anyone feeling a bit lonely, we welcome new people and can introduce them to others. Anyone wanting to chat to me should just ask for Lizzie, I am nearly always there.

The coffee morning has remained in All Saints Church Mattishall for several reasons, the main one being that many people say they prefer meeting in the church.

Lizzie Loades



GOOD
NEIGHBOURS
NETWORK



YAXHAM CARES

HERE FOR YOU, HERE FOR US ALL

07765 263389

YAXHAMCARES@GMAIL.COM

**Yaxham
Community
Café
Yaxham
Village Hall**

**A friendly café atmosphere awaits you in
the village hall twice a month.**

**Come and meet some new faces or bring
your own company.**

**We're open on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the
month.**



April – 14th & 28th
May – 12th & 26th
June – 9th & 23rd
July – 14th & 28th

If you need transport, contact
café coordinator on

Café Coordinator:
07765 263389
yaxhamcommunity@gmail.com



NORTH TUDDENHAM FESTIVAL 2022!

CELEBRATING THE RENOVATION OF ST MARY'S CHURCH TOWER

Friday 6th May 2022

“MUSIC ALIVE!”

A night of great sounds and easy listening

Saturday 7th May 2022

**“FARMING FOCUS and
WILDLIFE WANDERINGS”**

**Agricultural advances in our village today
& the vibrant life of NT Common**

“CINEMA IN THE NAVE AT NIGHT”

Hollywood is coming home!

Sunday 8th May 2022

SERVICE & TOWER DEDICATION

HISTORICAL TALKS & PRESENTATIONS

COMPETITIONS FOR THE CHILDREN

GRAND FINALE BONFIRE & PARTY!

Sunday's Church Service will be overseen by the Bishop of Lynn.

Check out on website:

**[www.https://www.norhtuddenhamfestival.org/](https://www.norhtuddenhamfestival.org/)
from 15th March.**

Limited tickets for each event on sale.

‘First come first served.’



NORTH TUDDENHAM FESTIVAL 2022

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Introduction

With the planned completion of works to the St Mary's church tower next Spring, some people thought it would be a good idea to celebrate this event. The message was disseminated within the village. The consensus was that this would be a good opportunity for the whole village to come out of lockdown and do something special. A Festival of activities for North Tuddenham was subsequently proposed during the weekend 6-8 May.

Here's an outline of our programme of events:

Friday, 6th May from 19:00 in St Mary's Church - Music Alive!

Location: The Church Nave

The evening will feature a packed programme of mixed music. Gressenhall Singers (40 voice choir); Dougal Smith (organist), Zaira Palumbo (singer of operatic pieces, classical, easy listening, and jazz); Baroness and the Bear (duo singing "Blues and Roots music).

Plus, Raffle and Refreshments served in the interval. Glass of wine or soft drink included in the price of the ticket. Toilet facilities available.

Tickets in advance.

Saturday, 7th May Part 1 10:00—12:30 - "Farming Focus"

Location: Dann's Farm

Simon Dann and his team will organise guided tours around different aspects of his business including the Dairy and Ice Cream Factory.

Saturday, 7th May Part 2 14:00—15:00 – “Wildlife Wanderings”

Location: North Tuddenham Common

Guided group tours around the Common with talks about the resident birds, beasts, bugs, and flora. *Tickets available for whole day package*

Saturday 7th May 2022 at 14:00—16:30 in the Village Hall –

“Draw Paint Make Workshop for Kids”

Location: Village Hall

Craft activities for the young at heart.

Design and build

Free

plus

Saturday, 7th May 2022 at 19:00—21:30

“Cinema in the Nave”

Location: The Church Nave

Courtesy of Creative Arts East

Recently released film to be shown on giant screen in the nave.

Drinks to be provided

Toilet facilities available.

More details on website. Tickets in advance

then

Sunday 8th May 2022 from 09:00 – “Special Church Service”

Location: The Church Nave

Commences at 09:00.

New Bishop of Lynn, Rev. Jane Steen, will be the guest of honour at the ribbon-cutting ceremony of the repaired tower and lead the congregation with a special church service to bless the re-opening of St Mary’s church.

ALL WELCOME.

Sunday 8th May 2022 from 10:30 - 16.00 “Historical Interpretations”

Location: The Church Nave

Sessions from 10:30—12:15 and 13:30—16:00 approx.

A more academic programme will be provided during the day which will appeal to history groups throughout Norfolk.

Presentations by those involved with the restoration of St Mary’s Church.

Tickets in advance

12:15 – 13:30. Lunch packages from at the Lodge P.H.

Sunday 8th May at 19:00 Spectacular Festival Finale — Bonfire, Hog Roast and Music

Location: Field next to church

Community bonfire and party on the field beside St Mary’s floodlit church.

Live singer- Lady Wow-Wow and music

A hog-roast and refreshments Beer tent



Local parking & Toilet facilities available

Strictly ticket in advance

Come and celebrate with us at the North Tuddenham Festival.

Check out website <https://www.norhtuddenhamfestival.org/>

for latest information and booking details for each event.

Limited tickets for each event

Booking available from 15th March 2022

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

Recently in The Church of St Peter and St Paul Barnham Broom there was a confirmation service, an occasion of great joy as four people publicly declared their faith in Jesus and their commitment to follow him for the rest of their lives. One of those was Annika.

Here is her story.

“We moved to East Tuddenham in December 2020 and were fortunate to welcome our twins, Frederick and Sophia in May 2021. My husband and I had both felt a reinvigorated belief in God both in the lead up to, and after the twins' births. Therefore, in October 2021, I started my Confirmation sessions with Revd. Andrea Woods who very kindly gave her time to facilitate my study of the Bible and Christian teaching to prepare for my Confirmation on Thursday, 3rd March.

That day was a beautiful Spring day and the Church of St Peter and St Paul in Barnham Broom was full with my family and supporters, and those of the three other candidates. It was a wonderful service, filled with joy and an atmosphere of celebration, befitting of such a lovely occasion for us all. The Bishop of Norwich commented on the superb singing of the congregation, and it was an absolute pleasure to be a part of such a positive, life-changing day. All four of us left the church with our candles and a hazel tree gifted by the Bishop Graham - the latter a reference to Julian of Norwich - and our hearts full of light, love and Christ's guidance.”

Our Congratulations to Annika



Confirmation St Peter and St Paul Barnham Broom

(From left -right) Revd Dr Tim Weatherstone, Bishop Graham Usher, candidates Pamala, Annika, Stuart and Jane and Revd. Andrea Woods

If you would like to consider Confirmation or Baptism, please be in touch and we would be really happy to help you on your journey of faith.

Revd. Andrea Woods



YANA: help for those involved in farming and other rural businesses affected by stress and depression



Farming or working in the countryside is usually a good way of life but it is a demanding and stressful occupation. So it's not surprising that many people involved with agriculture can feel isolated, depressed or unable to cope as well as normal.

1 in 4 people in the UK will experience poor mental health so it is important to know that you, or the person you are concerned about, are not alone.

Remember depression is an illness not a weakness

Those who work in farming and other rural businesses are often reluctant to seek support for depression, stress or anxiety. However, talking about your problems and seeking appropriate help can make it easier to cope and improves your quality of life.

YANA is here to help

If you are involved with farming or another rural business in any way and are feeling low or if you are worried about a member of your family, a colleague or a friend, YANA can help. Call our helpline 0300 323 0400 for confidential support or email helpline@yanahelp.org.

Remember, you don't have to struggle by yourself – good help is available.

If you are very seriously worried about someone else and their mental state go to our [Concerned about someone](#) page NOW. Please don't hesitate to take action.

YANA offers specific help for those involved with farming or other rural businesses in East Anglia and Worcestershire through our work:

- Providing confidential support & counselling
- Building understanding of mental health
- Investing in [Mental Health First Aid training](#) & suicide prevention

Wherever you live and work, we hope you find YANA useful.

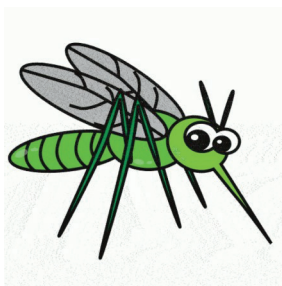


The Easter Story.....

You can read of all the events leading up to and including the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus in any of the New Testament books of any bible, paper copies or on line!

Visit **Matthew, Mark, Luke or John**.....

Read and be inspired by the love of God for us all, for everyone.



If you think you are too small to be effective, you've never been in bed with a mosquito!

If a word is misspelt in a dictionary, how would we ever know?

I thank God He has not answered all of my prayers.
I thank Him for those He has answered though!

**Forgiveness is for the forger
and the forgiven**



The Mid Norfolk Foodbank works hard in this area to feed many people and families who would otherwise not have the necessary resources to purchase basic food items.

Can you imagine not being able to buy food for your family or having to decide whether to buy food or pay for the heating? Not a comfortable place to be.

If you would like to help, I am more than happy to receive donations of non-perishable, non-alcoholic products, and any hygiene products. These donations are taken on a weekly basis (Mondays at present) to the warehouse where items are sorted ready for distribution.

Your donations can be left at 4 MILL ROAD, MATTISHALL, NR20 3RN. Please leave them on my front doorstep and ring the bell to alert me that something has been left.

In this day and age of plenty this should not be happening but it is! Please donate as much or as little as you feel able. Monetary gifts can be accepted in the form of a cheque made payable to Mid Norfolk Foodbank.

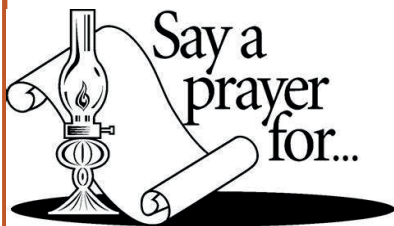
Thanks for your generosity,

Sue Cossey



God Loves each one of us, God is love

Through prayer God can change things - try praying for a week and see what happens.



We can also pray for you, just ask someone you know who goes to Church or contact the Church Office

(next door to Mattishall Surgery— full contact details on the last page of this booklet.)



Good News! Dementia Support Group to return for first time in two years.

This is a support group for people with dementia and their carers and is reopening after the pandemic. They meet between 10 and 12 on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Methodist Chapel in Mattishall and all are welcome to have tea, coffee etc. in a relaxed atmosphere, to have fun, chat, support, friendship, take part in activities and ask for advice.



More good news in that the meeting place offers more space, ventilation and an extensive cleaning regime so it is as safe as it can be.

The Link helpers

For more details contact Lin Thompson – 07769 573499



Coffee Mornings Hockering Village Hall

10am — 12 noon

March 19th

May 14th June 4th

July 9th 17th September

**Delicious cakes, tombola, raffle, bric-a-brac, books
and more**

**Everyone welcome, family friendly
with light refreshments**



All proceeds will go towards
St. Michael's Church in Hockering



Little Angels Toddler Group

Little Angels Toddler Group meets at All Saints Church in Mattishall every **Wednesday in term time from 9.00 am – 11.30 am**. We have a wonderful team of volunteers to welcome you if you are interested in joining us.



Many groups such as ours, have experienced a real frustration at not being able to meet during Covid. This resulted in many people from the very young to the oldest feeling isolated. During that period many of the toddlers who were with us have grown and moved onto school. However, after starting back last September, we have had a growing number of parents/carers joining us with their little ones. It is a time when young children can learn social skills and enjoy themselves mixing together again.

There is a designated area for pre-walkers with their own age-related toys and there is a good selection of toys available for the older children to enjoy, either on their own or jointly with others. Each week we have a different simple craft based on well-known bible stories. There are opportunities for children to explore their creativity with playdough, painting, colouring etc. as well as role play and simply enjoying the space with their friends and parents. During the morning we have a session with nursery rhymes and songs accompanied by the children on various musical instruments!!

On average about 20 families attend each week. Refreshments are served throughout the morning for the adults and there is a set time for the children, when healthy snacks are served.

If you have pre-school children in your care, we would love you to join us and explore. We charge £1.50 for one child or £2.00 for two or more. This helps pay for refreshments, heating and replenishment of toys. All our helpers are volunteers, no one is paid. We do it because we love serving our community.

We'd love to see you. Pop in any Wednesday morning in term time and come and meet us. Please contact me, Sue Cossey, if you would like any further information: sue.cossey@matvchurch.uk or contact the Church Office on 01362 858873.



Look forward to seeing you,

Sue



Yaxham School

As we move into spring at Yaxham School, we are enjoying breathing new life into our library and have been inspired by the books we have

shared to work on our core value of creativity. In January we were able to work together on a text which really made the children think about looking after themselves, each other and the environment.

Working across the school on a joint project was a very special experience. As a result of their learning, the children asked to approach the Friends association to fund-raise for litter picking kits to help look after the environment, both at school and beyond. We are even reviewing our 'food in school' policy, as children are much more aware of what they should eat and drink to keep healthy.



We always love the opportunity to dress up and share stories on World Book Day, but this year we transformed the school too, transforming our classroom doors and entrances based on

the books we have loved. We can't wait to see what exciting journeys await us over the next term.





'Yet, O LORD, you are
our Father; we are the
clay, you are our pot-
ter; we are all the
work of your hand.'
Isaiah 64: 8



GREEN PASTURES –

20, Norwich Street, Dereham

- ✚ Come and see us at Green Pastures.
- ✚ We would love to see you and will give you a warm welcome.
- ✚ We also sell Christening, Baptism, Wedding and Confirmation gifts.



Green Pastures

Come and see us and make our day!
Or you can shop on our website at
greenpasturesdereham.org.uk

Christian books, gifts and
cards. We also sell National
Book Tokens.



Who Let The Dads Out? is a monthly Saturday group for dads (and other male carers) and their kiddies, from birth up to and including school year 2. It is a lovely opportunity for dads to meet up with other dads (and the Who Let The Dads Out team). Each time, we have bacon butties, snacks and hot and cold drinks available. We have a large range of toys for the youngsters, a special area for crawlers and a number of things for the dads as well, e.g. air hockey, table football and (magnetic) darts. We usually have a story time at the end of the session.

If you are interested, do just turn up with your kiddy or kiddies or, if you would like more information first, do contact Alan Cossey at alan.cossey@matvchurch.uk or on 01362 857904. Dads, male carers and kiddies are welcome to come as often or as little as they like. There is no expectation to commit to continue coming after a first visit, though obviously we hope you and your little ones will enjoy it and want to come back. We do ask for you to register your contact details for safety purposes only.



We meet on the 1st Saturday of each month, both in term time and outside term time, in All Saints' Church, Mattishall with the session running from 9:00 to 10:30, though everyone is welcome to come for as long or as short a time as they wish.

Each session is £2 per family.



www.matvchurch.uk

Check out our website for information on what we do, where we do it and how we do it!

You have an open invitation to all events and are most welcome to worship with us, we would love to see you!

Contact Us—for whatever reason.....

Rector: Revd. Mark McCaghrey

Phone: 01362 882260

Email: mark.mccaghrey@matvchurch.uk

Assistant Priest: Revd. Sally Thurgill

Phone: 01362 692745

Email: sally.thurgill@matvchurch.uk

Assistant Curate: Revd. Andrea Woods

Email: andrea.woods@matvchurch.uk

Church Office: Dereham Road, Mattishall, NR20 3QA

Phone: 01362 858873

Email: contact@matvchurch.uk

Open: Monday, Thursday & Friday 9.00am- 1.00pm

Mattishall and Tudd Valley Benefice

serves the villages of East & North Tuddenham, Hockering, Mattishall, Welborne and Yaxham