

# North Tuddenham The Mardle



Portrait of a lady, Christina Rossetti, by Dante Gabriel Rossetti

## *A Parish Newsletter* **April 2024**

IF YOU KNOW OF ANYONE WHO IS HAVING DIFFICULTY IN  
OBTAINING A PRINTED COPY OF 'THE MARDLE

**PLEASE RING MIKE: 07951 956906 Issue 486**

# St. Mary the Virgin—Church Notice Board

## Rector

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## Churchwardens

**Mrs Jools Smith** Tel: 07719 341282

**Mrs Christine Blake** Tel: 07836 708874

## 2024 — CHURCH SERVICE

**Sunday 7th— 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion**

**Sunday 21st—10:00 a.m. United Benefice Service**

**With Archdeacon Catherine**

**For Sunday Services held at other parish churches within the Benefice, please ring Church Office or see Website : [matvchurch.uk](https://matvchurch.uk) for times**

**AND all of you with access to the Internet, do please join a Service being held at 9.00—9.30 am each Friday morning specifically with St. Mary's and North Tuddenham parishioners in mind**

**<https://tinyurl.com/matv-weekdays>**

QUOTATION: Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 11:25-26 NIV

## Village news Part 1

### CHURCH

When Spring truly arrives villagers are encouraged to bring their potted plants and decorate Geoffrey's Garden behind the bench on the north side of the church.

Thanks also to John Hart again for making such a good job of hedge cutting and offers from others to tidy up the area around the remains of the old beech tree.

### RECYCLING & THE COMMON

Volunteers are invited to join the band of recyclers at Low Farm on Friday mornings 9am to 11am.

The Common volunteers are also looking to expand their team although probably not until later in the year after the breeding season. Talking about the Common it has been reported that certain people have been dumping unwanted goldfish in the pond. Despite best attempts to remove them all, they seem to be multiplying again and the process will have to be repeated.

**PLEASE DO NOT DUMP UNWANTED GOLDFISH HERE**

### TIDY VILLAGE.

Three cheers all round for those who braved the weather to clear Dirty Lane recently. This seems to be a challenge residents enjoy, so we will be looking to repeat the exercises if we can.

The other 'Thank You' goes to the band of litter pickers orchestrated by Adrian. Photo's attached.

## **Village News Part 2**

### **Bus service**

Exciting news: our Dereham and Norwich bus service is to be expanded from April 15th to a 6-day-a-week service (plus the existing the Market Day service).

**Download timetable a at <https://www.konectbus.co.uk/app> or tel [03300 539358](tel:03300539358)**

### **Roads & Signage**

Your councillors are aware of poor state of the roads and signage in our village which have been reported to the authorities. The persistent rainfall hasn't helped and is eroding the road surfaces creating a slalom run of potholes for motorists to avoid.

### **Dog Poo**

People are becoming more and more irritated by individuals who walk their dogs through our village and allow them to defaecate on the road, path or grass where we walk. Others go half way by bagging up the poo but then leaving the bag in or under the hedge rather than taking it home or finding a poo bin!

What are we going to do?

## Village News Part 3

### Tidy up

"After 14 years of annual Tidy-Ups in the village, the yearly clean-up of rubbish thrown out of the windows of cars, vans and trucks driving through our roads and lanes stays constant.

(YES, IT IS **ALL** GENERATED BY THOSE THOUGHTLESS INDIVIDUALS)

Our team of volunteers filled 55 bags this time, along with dragging out tyres and a range of other detritus.

Fortunately, we had our largest number of volunteers ever and our thanks go to:

Chrissie and Mark B; Ellen and Tony B; Audrey C; Steve and Michelle C; Kate F; Judi and Chris G; Karen H and Debbie M; Ann and Paul H; Angela H; Sandra L; Julia M; Rosemary and A M; Alan and Erica N; Adrian O; Keith P; Barry P; Robinson P; Smith M.

An army marches on its stomach, so here's a hearty thanks to Jane O for providing a delicious celebratory lunch!

See you all next year!"

Cheers  
Adrian



# Parish Council

Hello

By the time this edition goes to press, hopefully Spring will have sprung and the dark nights will be giving way to some beautiful English evenings!

We've had a very busy few months with Local Plan discussions continuing across the Breckland area. We will shortly be moving in to the next phase so we will keep you all posted via the PC website and the community Facebook page.

A new project the Council will be considering in the next few months will be the provision of a bus shelter(s) for our new bus service. Feedback is very positive around the Konect bus route and Cllr Harding has now managed to secure more frequent provision which will hopefully enable more residents to utilise the transport link.

**Our next meeting is planned for Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May and this will be the Annual Parish Meeting which starts at 6.30pm and is an opportunity for all residents to come and share anything they feel is important to the village; this is followed at 7.30pm by the Annual Meeting of Parish Council. Please do come along to both meetings if you can; refreshments will be available at the former too!**

We look forward to seeing you all soon.

With kind regards

Vicky

*Apologies for the meeting date error in the last edition.*

*Once it was pointed out, it was 'corrected' on all electronic versions, but the Mardle had already gone to print and distributed. It was a genuine oversight .*

# RECIPE FOR APRIL

## Rich Fruit Fool



### **Ingredients**

*450 g of gooseberries, apples, black or red currants, rhubarb, blackberries or raspberries;*  
*45 ml of water;*  
*75 - 175 g of caster sugar to sweeten depending on sharpness of fruit;*  
*350 ml of fresh double cream;*  
*30 ml of fresh milk ;*  
*red or green food colouring (optional);*  
*chopped walnuts or chopped toasted almonds and fruit for decoration*

### **Method**

Prepare fruit according to type. Put into a saucepan with water.  
Bring slowly to the boil, cover with lid and simmer until fruit is soft.  
Remove from heat. Add sugar to taste. Either rub through a sieve or liquidise. Leave until completely cold.  
Whip 300 ml of cream and milk together until lightly stiff then gradually fold in fruit puree.  
If food is pale in colour tint with food colouring, if used.  
Transfer to four sundae glasses and chill.  
Before serving whip remaining cream until thick. Pipe whirls on top of each fool and then decorate with fruit and nuts.





## "I've never met a vicar with tattoos.."

I'm Tori. Technically a curate, not a vicar, but let's not split hairs. I have a couple of tattoos. People are often puzzled by this, assuming Christians don't or shouldn't get inked. It's not entirely baseless; there's a verse in the Old Testament that seems to discourage it:

*"Do not cut your bodies for the dead or put tattoo marks on yourselves. I am the Lord." (Leviticus 19:28)*

But context matters. Christianity emerged in the Roman Empire, where tattoos were used for identification, especially of criminals and undesirables.

Well, when this new religious group turned up, causing trouble by praying together, getting on the authority's nerves and refusing to worship the Emperor, it would follow that they would use their usual methods to mark these nuisances. A cross on their faces or a fish on their hands...

Early Christians proudly bore these marks, considering them symbols of belonging to an exclusive group. When Emperor Constantine made Christianity official in 325AD, facial tattoos were banned, but Christians continued marking themselves elsewhere, often with crosses or Christ's name.

Today, tattoos are ubiquitous. It's almost counter-cultural not to have them. As taboos wane, they permeate mainstream culture, including our churches. Many Christians now get tattoos that hold deep religious significance, challenging stereotypes and sparking conversations.

By embracing tattoos, Christians challenge stereotypes and spark conversations, showing how faith evolves in our ever-changing world.



*Tori*



A few weeks ago, our Mardle Editor Mike rang me to say 'Congratulations!' I have been helping him produce your Mardle magazine for the past seven years. But prior to that I was working with Geoffrey Dann: so sorted through old paperwork and found my first issue with our late beloved Editor. You will note that Geoffrey was working, not with computer, but typewriter! He knew who to contact for interesting information, then using his old typewriter, laboriously typed the pages out—with the inevitable occasional corrections—It was then copied and the pages collated to form a magazine. Finally delivered to all the Village!

A.A.



WELCOME to a NEW YEAR and a new look to 'The Mardle'.

The first issue was in October 1982 with the idea that it would be issued at 'Irregular Intervals' it has however been produced in every month since. The Rev'd. Arthur Rowe was our 'new vicar' living in the Hockering Rectory with his wife Marina and son Alain. Later when Rev'd. Roger Dawson arrived he 'took over' the newsletter having been in the publishing world, initially it continued as a publication for our parish, but he then renamed it "The Norfolk Villager" to incorporate his other parishes of Hockering, Honingham and East Tuddenham, which had become a very substantial magazine of some 22 pages of which he was most proud. I recall that at one time there was a competition for parish newsletters and ours was entered. Roger was most upset when his publication came second to a much more modest publication.

So back to to-day and issue No. 375 and here I have received a vast amount of help and enthusiasm from Anne Allen together with her modern technology to bring it more up to date , we hope you like it !

## Mindteasers

### March Answers '1% club'

First second **third** fourth fifth, so **i**

Letters in each word are in **alphabetical order**

All radioactive except **Aluminium**

**50%**

### April –(c/o Richard Osman's House of Games. T.Y.)

Smash the answer to the question first, together with the subject of the picture to produce a single word answer.



'Spanish rice dish'



A stage show, often based on a fairy tale, with singing, dancing, and comedy.



Midwestern American state with the capital city of Des Moines.



A reverberated sound.



# The Acorn Hut

## Farm Shop & Plant Centre



No.1 Watercress Lane, (off Mill Road) Mattishall, NR20 3RJ  
Tuesday – Saturday 10am – 4pm, Sunday 10am – 2pm  
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We stock locally sourced Norfolk Artisan produce from around the county. Fresh fruit & vegetables from local suppliers, delivered daily. A wide range of fresh butcher meat, pies, frozen fish, fresh bakery bread, scones, cakes & more.

Gifts, Hardware, outdoor Metal work & much, much more  
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Follow us on Facebook – The Acorn Hut Farm Shop & Plant Centre for updates, events & late-night openings.

[www.acornhutfarmshop.co.uk](http://www.acornhutfarmshop.co.uk)



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**Christina Georgina Rossetti (5 December 1830 – 29 December 1894)** - was an English writer of romantic, devotional and children's poems. She also wrote the words of two well known Christmas carols: "In the Bleak Midwinter", and "Love Came Down at Christmas". She was a sister of the artist and poet Dante Gabriel Rossetti and features in several of his paintings.

She was born in 38 Charlotte Street, London, to Gabriele Rossetti a poet and a political exile from Italy since 1824 and Frances Polidori. She had two brothers and a sister: Dante Gabriel became an influential artist and poet, and William Michael and Maria both became writers. Christina, a lively child, dictated her first story to her mother before she had learnt to write.

Rossetti was educated at home by her mother and father through religious works, classics, fairy tales and novels. Rossetti delighted in the works of Keats, Scott, Ann Radcliffe and Matthew Lewis. The influence of the work of Dante Alighieri, Petrarch and other Italian writers filled the home and influenced Rossetti's later writing. Their household was open to visiting Italian scholars, artists and revolutionaries. The family homes in Bloomsbury at no. 38 and later no. 50 Charlotte (Hallam) Street (now demolished) were within easy reach of Madame Tussauds, London Zoo and the newly opened Regent's Park, which she visited regularly. Unlike her parents, Rossetti felt at home in London and was seemingly happy.

In the 1840s, Rossetti's family faced financial troubles. Her father gave up his teaching post at King's College, and was never physically well again. Rossetti's mother began teaching to support the family, and with her siblings either working or at school this left Christina increasingly isolated at home. She left school at 14, suffering a nervous breakdown. Bouts of depression and illness followed and during this period she became absorbed in the Anglo-Catholic movement that developed in the Church of England. Religious devotion came to play a major role in her life. Rossetti was also one of the very first female stamp collectors, beginning her collection in 1847, just seven years after the first stamp was issued.

From 1842 onward Rossetti began writing down and dating her poems, often drawing narratives from the Bible, folk tales and the lives of saints. Her early pieces often meditate on death and loss in the Romantic tradition. She was placed as the foremost female poet of the day. Rossetti worked voluntarily in 1859–1870 at the St Mary Magdalene house of charity in Highgate, a refuge for ex-prostitutes. She was ambivalent about women's suffrage, but many have found feminist themes in her work. She opposed slavery in the United States, cruelty to animals in prevalent vivisection, and exploitation of girls in under-age prostitution.

In her later decades, Rossetti suffered from Graves' disease – diagnosed in 1872, having suffered an early near-fatal attack. In 1893, she developed breast cancer. The tumour was removed, but there was a recurrence in September 1893. She died in great pain on 29 December 1893 and was buried on 2 January 1894 in the family grave on the west side of Highgate Cemetery.

*Wikipedia*

**Christina Rossetti is commemorated in the C of E calendar on 27 April**

# VILLAGE EVENTS

## COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

~~Easter Quiz~~  
~~Mini Olympics & Fete June~~

**Talk on Norfolk Church Architecture -17 May**  
**Folk Concert—6 July**  
**Rock Music – 31 August**  
**Sing Along to Sea Shanties – 28th Sep**

**Calling North Tuddenham Gardeners**  
**Thursday 25th. April 7.30 p.m.**  
**@ the Village Hall**



**£2.00 per person, to include refreshments**

**Friends old and new, all warmly welcomed**

**Contact: David Riches: 07597 345748**



**VILLAGE HALL available for hire**  
**\* at very reasonable rates \***  
**Contact Arthur Mobbs: 01362 637410**

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