



Holy Innocents Church Gt. Barton Newsletter

Our on-líne magazíne can be found on our websíte: <u>http://themessengergtbarton.suffolk.cloud</u>

<u>Church Offícers</u>

Churchwardens	Tím Frost	01284 787442
	Angela Pearce	01359 230395
Verger	Línda Scoles	01359 230392
PCC Secretary	Jane Dalton	01284 788613
Treasurer	Kathy Drakes	01284 787746
Reader	Kathy Drakes	01284 787746

Fr Ben's Thoughts for March

"I've never had much luck with cars. Whatever I buy seems to start going wrong within a few years, and although my mechanics do what they can to patch them up, inevitably something goes wrong with them that will cost more than the car is worth to put it right. And so I end up with another cheap car that, despite being in relatively good nick when I get it, is of an age and usage that after a few years I will have to buy another cheap car, and so the cycle continues.

It just so happens that this time around, I have had to buy a car that is tiny. I am 6'2". I look like I'm wearing the car rather than driving it. It has a tiny engine – you use a calendar to calculate the 0-60mph. You put your foot down, it posts a letter to the engine. That's the acceleration response time.

It is not my ideal car.

And I was thinking about this, as I picked the right moment to go round the St Saviours roundabout – and then I remembered just how lucky I am. I am in the 17.7% of people in the world who can afford to run their own car. There are 6.44 billion people in the world, the majority of the world, who cannot afford their own motorised transport.

Those kind of statistics keep coming the more you look for them, statistics that show how we in the West especially are in the minority fortunate. Yet we are so often measuring our lives against the tiny proportion of people in the world who have the most. Even for us, the poor of the world do not come into our estimations of how lucky or well off we are. We so often aspire to have more, rather than enjoy what we have. I know I caught myself out doing just that with my little car. So, rather than continue to moan about it, I've given my car a name, Pimento (named after the character Adrian Pimento from the comedy *Brooklyn Nine Nine;* a big 'Nine Nine!' to any fellow fans out there!). I'm being kind to Pimento, and appreciating what I have, and not worrying about what I don't have. I am sure that Pimento will last just as long as the other cars, but I shall give thanks to God for all the things that I have – my little car, my home, the NHS, good schools for my wonderful family, our churches and our village. Why not take a moment to think of the things that we are thankful for today, as we pray for those whose lives are perhaps that bit tougher than ours? This Lent, both St Peter's Church and Holy Innocents will have an opportunity to come to a service and learn what it is all about, to talk through what is going on and why. If you've always thought you'd like to express your own faith, but found church to be a bit of a mystery, then this service may help you to come along every now and then and give thanks for what God does in our lives.

God bless,

The Rev'd Fr Benjamin Edwards Vicar of Great Barton & Thurston

The History of Kneelers

Further to the following letter from the Cathedral, and the fact that most, if not all parishes in the Diocese, presented the Cathedral with two kneelers, to signify that all the parishes were a contributor. Subsequently, now the Cathedral are shortly to dispense with their pews; to be replaced by chairs, not all the kneelers will be required. Therefore, any parish that contributed two kneelers, are being offered the opportunity to having one of their kneelers returned to the parish.

The Cathedral contacted me, and I agreed to having one of ours back and will be collecting it on 17th February. Returning a piece of history back to Holy Innocents Great Barton.

Kind Regards Tim

St Edmundsbury Cathedral



The Story of the Kneelers

In 1952 Oswald and Grace Sitwell visited Guildford Cathedral and were impressed by the collection of kneelers there. On returning to Suffolk, they learned of the extension being planned for St Edmundsbury Cathedral and approached the Provost, the Very Reverend John Waddington, and asked he if would like new kneelers for the Cathedral. He requested one thousand and it was decided that if each parish made two kneelers each, the total could be achieved. The aim was to have kneelers which looked like a 'set' with uniformity of colour. A design was agreed and approved. Each kneeler was to have a 'Y' cross worked in red and gold with the stem starting at the bottom centre and the arms reaching to the two top corners. This is an early Christian symbol. The rest of the kneeler was to be blue, a traditional colour of Suffolk cloth, which was widely sold in the medieval period. Lighter blues would be at the top between the arms of the Y and darker blues for the rest. Each parish was invited to choose a symbol to reflect their location, either linked to the dedication of the church or a local landmark. Finally, the name of the parish was added to the bottom of the kneeler. The aim was for the project to be self-supporting. The cost of the materials for one kneeler was one guinea and most of the stitchers covered their own costs. When that was not possible, the PCC or the Mothers' Union stepped in. The canvas used was a French type with fourteen threads to the inch. The wool was 'crewel', a fine wool with several strands used at once. The individual stitchers were able to choose their own stitches and how they were worked. The Sitwells initially invited friends who were interested in embroidery to assist them. Then they took samples to display at the Cathedral stall at the Suffolk Show in 1963 and gradually word spread. Other organisations, such as schools and churches of other denomination, came on board.

> Cathedral Office, Angel Hill, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 1LS Tel: 01284 748730 Email: visits@stedscathedral.org Website: www.stedscathedral.org

<u>Great Barton and Thurston Benefice Services</u> <u>March 2024</u>

Sunday 3rd March: Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am Sung Eucharist at Holy Innocents at 10.30am Choral Evensong at St Peter's at 3.30pm Wednesday 6th March: Holy Communion at Montana at 11.15am **Sunday 10th March:** Mothering Sunday Service at St Peter's at 10.30am Holy Communion Mothering Sunday at Holy Innocents at 10.30am Wednesday 13th March: Holy Communion (CW) Holy Innocents at 10.30am Sunday 17th March: Passiontide Begins Holy Communion (BCP) at Holy Innocents at 8.30am Holy Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am All Age Communion at Holy Innocents at 1030am Wednesday 20th March: Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am Sunday 24th March: (Palm Sunday) **Together Family Church at St Peter's at 10.00am Choral Evensong at Holy Innocents at 3.30pm Thursday 28th March: (Maundy Thursday)** Benefice Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 7.00pm Followed by 1hr Vigil Friday 29th March: (Good Friday) 11.00am Benefice Communion Service of Liturgy & Contemplation at St **Peter's** Benefice 1hr at the Cross at Holy Innocents at 3.30pm Sunday 31st March: (Easter Sunday) All Age Easter Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am Easter Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am

(CW Common Worship, BCP Book of Common Prayer)

200 Club Draw for January 2024

The draw was made in the Church Institute at Meeting Point on the 14th February

1st Prize £100. Ann Fisk (116)

2nd Prize £25 David Johnson (148)

Tim Frost Administrator



Our next meeting will be on Tuesday March 12th at 11;00am in The Institute Gt. Barton and will be Easter Crafting with Sheila and Vonnie.

Thank you, All Good Wishes. Gill. (01359231718)



<u>Prayer Chain</u>

We all need others to pray for us sometimes. If you would like our prayer team to pray for you this week, please send your prayer request to (Kathy Drakes: email: <u>kathy@drakesfamily.org</u>). Requests are only shared confidentially between the vicar and the prayer team.

St Peter's Church, Thurston All Age Holy Communion Sunday 25th February at 10.30am.



This is a Communion service for all the family to enjoy

Cream Tea

It's Cream Tea time again at Gt Barton Church Institute, on Monday May 6th at 3.30pm.

Do come along and have an enjoyable. afternoon with family and friends.

Cost £6.50 per person

All proceeds to Christian Aid

Contact Sarah Robinson.

Email; spandj@icloud.com or Tel. 07484 674815

Choir Leader

The Benefice Choir of Holy Innocents Great Barton and St Peter's Thurston are looking for a Choir Leader.

Our choir is looking for someone who will take them forward with new hymns and Anthems; someone to arrange regular practice and lead the choir into the future.

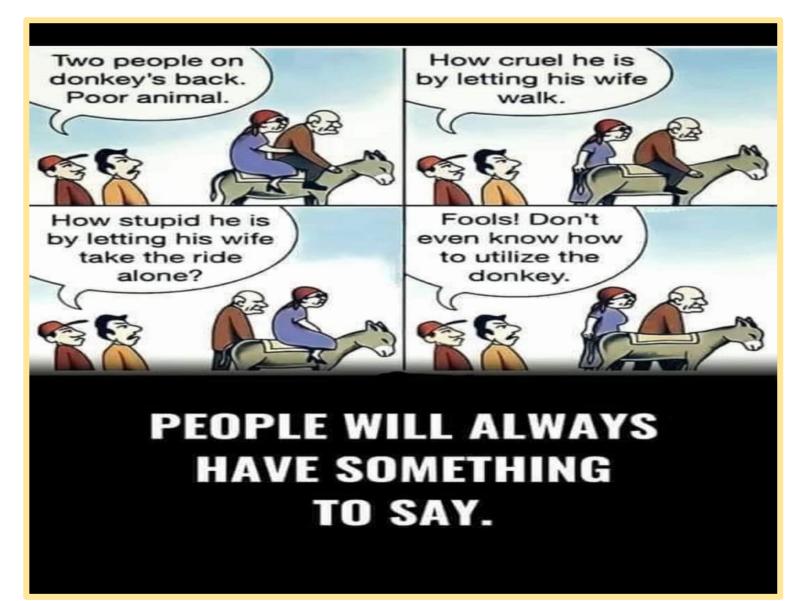
You would work with the organist and Fr Ben the Vicar.

Our choir sing at all our services including evensong and on occasions at Funerals and Weddings.

The choir would also like someone who would encourage them to sing in other venues arranged by the Royal School of Church Music.

For more information, please contact Fr Ben at <u>revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com</u>

It's always worth remembering that your view may not be the only view.



From a Gardeners Notebook, March 2024



February certainly was "fill dyke" Many ditches and ponds contain water, more than they have for a long time. Now we come into what I call "the period of impatience". Having pruned all the roses, I am keen to get started on everything else. Aquilegia is the first plant to put up its foliage, I feel this is truly the first sign that the garden really

is getting going. This plant is clean and fresh, like a little pom-pom. I love to see her arrive.

Gardening like other subjects, has its own language and you can take it to any length, and really enjoy the vocabulary and terms. Horticulture is a vast subject. Take the Orchid for example it

has 36,000 different varieties. You can understand why people develop a passion for one part of gardening, fuchsias vegetables and much more; you will find something to suit you and be hooked.

Here are three names to get you started.

A: Annual, plants which complete their entire life cycle from seed to plant and beauty in one year.

B: Biennial, plants which complete their life cycle in two years; growing in the first year producing flowers in the second year then dying in the autumn.

C: Perennial, plants which grow repeatedly through the years, these plants are usually woody.

If you are new to gardening, you will find tools rather expensive. Someone may be kind enough to pass one or two things on to you. There always seems to be someone selling such things at car boot sales. A good spade and a fork will be the basic items to start. Look after yourself as well as the garden, always clean your tools when you are finished for the day. Good luck!

The year is marching along at great speed, the 21st March will see the beginning of spring and the spring equinox when the day and night light is at the same length. Do not forget the "Leap of light"

I mention it each year the 14th March to 14th April when the light level is most important to plants as they grow for the rest of the year. Sow annual seeds now.

All the best for your garden this season, I will be happy to hear of your results.

Happy Easter to all, Mary

One of my favourite things....

is learning how things are made.

Several years ago, I went to a company in Stanton owned by Chris Fielder and his partners. They invented, made, and distributed worldwide the first machine which would open a flat-pack card-board box of any size, line it with a plastic bag (if the customer needed it), then fill the box with the product (it was rice cereal when I was there), seal the liner bag, then close and seal the box. I was fascinated.

A flat card-board box, about 1 metre square, was fed into one end of the machine. It opened the box up, folded in the bottom sections and sealed them with tape. Next, the liner bag was inserted, machine arms delicately opened the bag, fitted it neatly into the corners, folded the top of the liner bag over the top of the box and pulled the plastic smoothly down the outside. The cereal was poured into the box until it was nearly full; the top of the liner bag was pulled up and heat sealed; the sides of the box were folded down; the box was taped shut, and a shipping label slapped on. Zip, Zip, Zip and it was ready for shipment. It was so neat.

Chris was a little amused when I asked him to run it again, but he did it. The third request was refused, as he explained that they used the cereal to demonstrate the machine (did I mention that this was the <u>the</u> <u>first of its kind in the World?</u>), and he did not want to waste it. What a treat that morning was for me.

In February I had another treat of learning how something is made. I met a man who makes electric guitars. How exciting is that? I knew nothing about how these are made. I asked if I could see his workshop,

but, to my disappointment, that was not possible. He could, though, take me to his Showroom. Fantastic.

The room was almost wall to wall guitars of all shapes, sizes, colours and finishes. Some looked like weathered barn siding, others were polished to a see-your-face shine. All are wooden. Actually, they are solid wood. I did not expect that. And they are heavy! Anyone doing an hour on stage with one of these beauties has to be strong.

My new friend explained how the sound was made and sent through the electrical hook-up. Then he demonstrated the difference in tone from one guitar to another. I was asking a new question almost before he answered the last one. His enthusiasm and pride in his creations was delightful. I went on my way, finally, with a big smile on my face. What an unexpected treat I had had. I will be looking for his instruments every time I see an electric guitar.

With love, Linda



St Peter's Church News



Can you help?

Can you spare time once a month to help keep our lovely church, St Peter's, Thurston, clean. We desperately need helpers to join the present small band of cleaners. Any time you can give will be gratefully appreciated.

We would love to hear from you. Please contact Pat 07553 234443 or Margery 07443 414622

Many thanks



Christian Aid: Benefice Fundraiser 2024

Advance notice of fundraising: fight food poverty

This year, we are fighting food poverty with food. For twelve consecutive Sundays, from February 25th to May 19th inclusive¹, I am hosting a lunch for paid guests in my own home.

The meal is a traditional Sunday roast followed by dessert or cheese and biscuits. Tea, coffee and soft drinks included. A donation of £25 per diner is requested.² Gross proceeds to Christian Aid. You are welcome to bring your own bottle, if required.

Places are limited to six guests per meal. Advance booking essential. I intend to start almost immediately in the hope of reaching a target of £1500.

It will give those of us who live alone the chance to dine in the company of friends and meet new ones (no washing up!) as well as benefitting those less fortunate than ourselves.

The venue is 1 Hunter Drive, Thurston, IP31 3QQ, off Barton Road (next to the Fox and Hounds). Parking permitted on Barton Road.

The dates are:

February	25				
March	3	10	17	24	31
April	7	14	21	28	
May	5	19			

1.30 pm for 1.45 pm. (Note: there is no meal on Sunday 12 May).

Everyone from the Benefice is invited together with partners, family or friends. Please contact me to book (01359 233489) or speak to me in church or at Lunch Club.

We shall also be handing out Christian Aid collection envelopes in both churches nearer to Christian Aid week.

I look forward to your support. God bless you all,

Barbara Sanwo (Christian Aid rep)

¹ Except: 12 May

² Cash or cheque. £10 for children aged 6 -12, under-fives free!

Christian Fight Food Poverty **Fundraiser**

Home-cooked Sunday lunch. Traditional roast and dessert or cheese and biscuits. Veggie option. Bring your own bottle. Gross proceeds to Christian Aid.

£25 per person £10 per child aged 6-10 Under-fives free!

When:

February: March: April: May: 25 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 7, 14, 21, 28 5, 19



1.30 pm for 1.45 pm

Where:

1 Hunter Drive, Thurston, IP31 3QQ (off Barton Road, next to Fox & Hounds.) Parking on Barton Road.

Bookings:

Advance booking *essential* by the Friday preceding the meal. Phone Barbara Sanwo (01359 233489) or speak to her in person at Church or Lunch Club)

(Image is for illustrative purposes only)

Together Family Church

Join us for this monthly familyorientated church service and learn more about God, your family and you!

Breakfast, Songs, Crafts & Prayer TOGETHER FAMILY CHURCH ALL ONE IN CHRIST

> Every 3rd SUNDAY @ Thurston Primary

10am for 1030 start (40mins)

Thurston Library News

Coming Up at Thurston Library!

Discover Reads April-June 2024

Find out the book selections for this year, attend the launch event for Book Group and book lovers alike; get a ticket for Kate Sawyer Author Event!

An Evening of Gin Friday 10 May



See the April Messenger for details and tickets £10.

So what is happening with Thurston Library garden, in March?



Thurston Library garden?

If you, or if you know of anyone, who would like to volunteer and lend a hand to maintain the Thurston library garden especially in summer months, please do get in touch with Ellie, Thurston Library manager.

We would also be very grateful for any unwanted garden tools that you may wish to donate to the project. These can be left with Ellie at the library.







<u>Thurston Community Players - 'Cinderella' -</u> <u>Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd March</u>

Oh yes it is!... It is with great delight that I bring the exciting news that Thurston Community Players' inaugural production 'Cinderella' will be staged at the Thurston Community College Theatre on the weekend of 2nd & 3rd March 2024.

Having gained an enormous amount of support from Thurston Parish Council, we formed the group in the summer and auditioned for the cast in September. Since then, our feet have not touched the ground. Full of locally grown talent, this production takes the well-loved tale of Cinderella and her dysfunctional family, and then adds in lots of pantomime traditions as well as jokes, music

and song.

Our Ugly Sisters are really ugly, revoltingly funny (and just a tiny bit saucy) and our Cinderella suitably delightful. She plays alongside our two principal boys, who play Prince Charming and Dandini with great aplomb! Throw in a cheeky Fairy Godmother, a truly wicked Stepmother, a forlorn Baron Hardup and a lovelorn Buttons and you have all the right ingredients for a super piece of entertainment.

Suitable for all the family, please come along to the show and support your new local theatre group. Tickets are available via Ticket Source by either visiting their website and searching for the 'Thurston Cinderella' event or by using the QR code on the poster below that will take you directly to our booking page.

If you struggle with, or are unable to use this system, please feel free to drop into Thurston Library where Ellie, Thurston's Librarian, will be happy to help you access the system via one of the library computers.

For any other enquiries call Sarah on 07900 242738 or Sam on 07792 493324, or email us on <u>thurstoncommunityplayers@gmail.com</u>

We very much hope this show will be the first of many but we will be relying on local support to keep going. Who knows? You might want to join us next time!

I look forward to welcoming you all to the Theatre in March

Sarah Cornell Director



THURSTON HEDGEHOG GROUP TALK THURSTON LIBRARY 7PM TUESDAY, 26 MARCH

The Thurston Hedgehog group have organised an evening meeting at Thurston Library. It will be on Tuesday 26th March at 7.00pm and our guest speaker will be Lynda Brignall with a talk titled 'We must all do what we can to help our British Wild Hedgehogs whilst there is still time'.

Lynda rescues and rehabilitates sick, injured and orphaned Hedgehogs in conjunction with Suffolk Hedgehog Hospital. The talk will include 'all things hedgehog' and dip into many aspects of hedgehogs' lives which will be new to you and hopefully provide a presentation that you should all find extremely interesting and helpful.

The talk is open to anyone who is interested in helping our village hedgehogs. However, the Library can only seat a limited number so I would be grateful if folk could let me know if they intend to come so that I can keep an eye on the numbers by sending an email to <u>info@seagomacwildlife.co.uk</u>

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Jonathan Houseago

Volunteers Needed in Thurston Library

We are looking for people who have a couple of hours a week spare to help with looking after our collection of book donations. Basic computer skills are helpful as this is a research-based project.

If you are interested, please see Ellie at the desk, call the library during opening hours, or email <u>ellie.longman@suffolklibraries.co.uk</u>





The Moses Project and Thurston Library

Thurston Library is now a drop-off point for the Moses Project.

We will be happy to receive

- Preloved baby clothes
 (size prem, tiny, newborn & 0 3 months only please)
- Moses baskets, sheets and blankets
- o Nappies size 1 or 2
- o Wipes
- o Baby toiletries
- o Board books
- o Baby toys.

The Moses Project is a volunteer-led initiative that supports new families who are struggling to fulfil the financial and practical needs of a new baby.

The Project receives referrals from professionals working with the families and provides them with a Moses basket full of items for mum and baby.

Suffolk Libraries Day Book and Bake Tabletop Sale



10.30pm – 2.30pm Saturday 23 March

Come along to Thurston Library for our Book and Bake tabletop sale and help raise funds for Suffolk Libraries Day!

Browse our wide range of pre-loved and donated books for all ages, and pick up a tasty homemade treat to take home with you to enjoy.

Drop in any time between 10.30am and 2.30pm.

A Monthly Monday Evening Book Club

On the right page for you?

Would you be interested in being part of a monthly Monday evening book group?



We would meet at Thurston Library.

Please email Ellie Longman, our Thurston librarian at

thurston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk to register your interest or for more details.

Friends of Thurston Library Thurston Library on Norton Road is open for all children and adults in Thurston and the surrounding area

Come to Thurston Library: we'd love to see you and it's free for everyone

Thurston Library Opening Times

Monday Closed, Tuesday 2pm-6pm; Wednesday 10am-1pm; Thursday 2pm-6pm; Friday 10am-1pm Saturday and Sunday 10am-3pm

In the Library during the week

Sunday

Lego Club The Lego Club meets every Sunday 10.30am - 2.30pm.

Monday Simply Sing

7pm - 8pm Monday 6 November. If you like to sing, come along and join us for Simply Sing. You will be made most welcome. For more information contact Angie Murray on 07870 383526.

Thurston Mini Movers

Mini movers weekly 10am -11.30am. For more information & to book, please contact <u>zoe.ablitt@danceeast.co.uk</u> or phone 01473 295230. Thurston Mini Movers is supported by Mid Suffolk District Council

Tuesday Chat'n'Chill ...

After school 3.15pm - 5pm every Tuesday during term time.

The Last Tuesday Baking Club Tuesday 28 November. Contact Ellie in the Library for details.

Wednesday ... Wordplay: Baby Bounce for 0 - 4year-olds Wednesdays 10.15am - 10.45am. Bring along your babies and preschoolers in the Junior Library.

Wednesday Watercolour Art Club



2pm - 5pm every week. New members welcome. Just turn up!

Thursday Twenty Minute Tales Weekly after school story time.

Friday Friday Sewcial

10am every Friday. Just turn up. Bring an ongoing project to work on whilst having a chat.

Saturday

Knitting and Crochet Workshop Every Saturday 10.30am - noon. Free. Ever wanted to learn how to knit? Join us for this weekly session for beginners. Or you may have a project on the go and need some assistance – just come along.

Ancestry Club Who do you think you are? 10am - noon 1st & 3rd Saturdays Everyone welcome! No expertise needed: friendly help is at hand on from 10am - noon.

Email Jayne at

thurstonancestry@gmail.com for more information.

Tea & coffee of course! And a good natter! You'll be very welcome!

Home Library Service

If you or someone you know is having difficulty getting to the Library to select books, then Carol, our friendly Home Library Service Volunteer will do that for you. She will visit once a month with your books and return any you have finished on your behalf.

Get in touch with Ellie on 01359 235048 to find out more or to sign up for this fabulous service!

Did you know?

Your library card gives you access to thousands of eAudio and eBooks, Newspapers and eMagazines (Pressreader) indie films, documentaries, and courses (Kanopy) and you can download and stream music (Freegal). All for free!

Visit https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/elibrary

Friends of Thurston Library

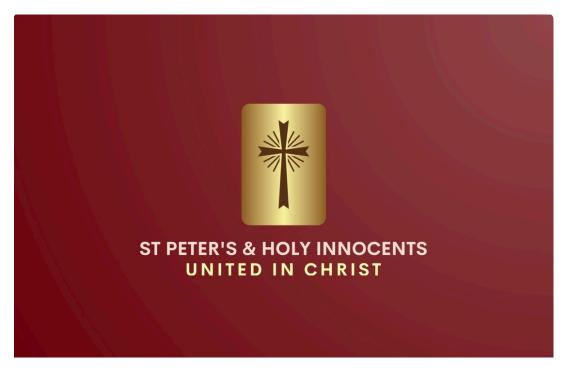
Like to be involved with the planning activities and events with Friends of Thurston Library? Pick up a leaflet in the Library or contact Richard Fawcett Thurstonlibfriends@gmail.com or 07889 427476.

More Information: Please visit the Suffolk Libraries Thurston Library page

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/thurston-Library Follow us on Facebook, Instagram (thurstoncommunityLibrary) and thurstonLibraryfriends.suffolk.cloud

for all the latest information on our groups and activities.

Thurston Library: Norton Road, Thurston, IP31 3PB 01359 235048 Library Manager: Ellie Longman



Get Involved with The Messenger

Would you like to contribute to Your Messenger? We would love to hear from you, share your favourite recipe, a funny story, your favourite holiday memory. If you would like to share something you feel will be of interest to your neighbours or anyone living in Gt Barton, please contact:

The Editor: 07814 946841 or email: beneficepr@gmail.com

The following Business Adverts are in the on-line version Supporting The Messenger.

<u>Pest Control Services</u>: N.J.Leonard: 07979 648857 <u>John Ranson</u>. 01284 788248 07770932799 <u>jwransonbuilding@gmail.com</u> <u>Metcalfe, Copeman, Pettefar LLP</u>. <u>Dawn.coller@mcp-law.co.uk</u> <u>Home</u> Support – Mrs Eden. 07557 337872 or Mrs Drewry 01638 730469 <u>pauladrewry@hotmail.com</u> <u>ELITE FENCING & LANDSCAPING</u> 01359 221128 <u>trevor@elite-fencing.co.uk</u> <u>Ian Ball, General Builder</u>. 01359 250697, or 07785 988191.