

# *The Messenger*



*Holy Innocents Church Gt. Barton  
Newsletter*

*Our on-line magazine can be found on our  
website: <http://themessengergtbarton.suffolk.cloud>*

## *Church Officers*

<i>Churchwardens</i>	<i>Tim Frost</i>	<i>01284 787442</i>
	<i>Angela Pearce</i>	<i>01359 230395</i>
<i>Verger</i>	<i>Linda Scoles</i>	<i>01359 230392</i>
<i>PCC Secretary</i>	<i>Jane Dalton</i>	<i>01284 788613</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>Kathy Drakes</i>	<i>01284 787746</i>
<i>Reader</i>	<i>Kathy Drakes</i>	<i>01284 787746</i>

**We are sad to announce the death of Mary Gould who passed away on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October, at the age of 92. Her son John has asked that this information be circulated. We express our sincere condolences to Mary's Family and Friends.**

**Thought for the month  
From Linda Scoles**

**The People God Gives**

**You were all called to travel on the same road and in the same direction, so stay together, both outwardly and inwardly.  
Ephesians 4: 4, The Message.**

**Most disappointments in the church are because of failed expectations. We expect a disciplined army of committed men and women who courageously lay siege to the worldly powers; instead, we find some people who are more concerned with getting rid of crabgrass in their lawns. We expect a community of saints who are mature in the virtues of love and mercy, and find ourselves working on a church supper where there is more gossip than there are casseroles...**

**At such times it is more important to examine and change our expectations than to change the church, for the church is not what we organize but what God gives, not the people we want to be with, but the people God gives us to be with.**

**Reverend Thunder  
God's Message for each day.**

**Great Barton and Thurston Benefice Services**  
**November**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November:**

Holy Communion, All Saints at Holy Innocents at 10.30am  
Benefice Service, 'All Souls', at St Peter's at 3.30pm

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November:**

Holy Communion (CW) at Montana at Gt Barton at 11.15am

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> November:**

Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am  
Service of Remembrance, at St Peter's War Memorial at 10.45am  
Service of Remembrance, at Holy Innocents War Memorial at 10.45am

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November:**

Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> November:**

Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's, Thurston at 8.30am  
Together Family Church at The Primary Academy, at 10.00am  
Benefice Communion Service, at Holy Innocents, at 10.30am  
Evensong at Holy Innocents at 3.30pm

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November:**

No Service

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November:**

Benefice Sung Eucharist, at St Peter's at 10.30am  
Evensong at St Peter's, Thurston at 3.30pm

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November:**

Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am

*(CW Common Worship, BCP Book of Common Prayer)*



**Linda opened our October meeting with a short reading and prayer from the Mothers' Union Prayer Diary about children's education and wellbeing.**

**We sang a harvest hymn, "Fair Waves The Fields of Corn" and Linda told us about her grandparents and her childhood on the family ranch.**

**Gill led our prayers, and we went on to have a short business meeting.**

**Then Gill welcomed Bernie Ryan- Self from The Rural Coffee Caravan who told us all about the charity.**

**The Rural Coffee Caravan was started about twenty years ago. It was the brainchild of the Rev Canon Sally Fogden who was manning a switchboard for the Farm Crisis Network at the time. She saw the need to do something to combat stress and rural isolation.**

**The charity began in Mid-Suffolk with one caravan. It has grown over the years and now has three campervans and one caravan and covers the whole of Suffolk.**

**The people who go to the coffee mornings not only enjoy the coffee, cakes and company but are able to gain access to information about many services and benefits available to them.**

**The charity is also responsible for "Meet Up Mondays", a network of pubs and cafes across Suffolk, hosting free weekly coffee mornings.**

**We all enjoyed Bernie's talk and Gill thanked her for coming. We all agreed that the Rural Coffee Caravan is providing a wonderful and much needed service in rural Suffolk.**

**Our next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th November at 11:00 a.m. in The Rock, when Kathy Drakes will lead us in a Bible Study.**

**Do come along and bring your bible.**

**Gill Flower & Linda Scoles.**





## ***Holy Innocents Christmas***



***"A QUIET AND PEACEFUL PLACE  
AT CHRISTMAS TIDE"***

***Our Parish Church is especially beautiful at  
Christmas - with many decorated trees lit  
throughout the Season.***

***Will you join village organizations, schools and  
families***

***to set-up a tree to provide a special retreat of peace  
and quiet***

***in the midst of the hustle and bustle?***

***From Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December***

***The theme for 2024 is:***

***"The Bells Ring Out the Glad Tidings: Christ is  
Born!"***

***For information: Linda Scoles***

***(01359) 230392 or [lindascoles@uwclub.net](mailto:lindascoles@uwclub.net)***



**From a Gardener's Notebook  
November 2024**



**Last month's article was about a personality this month's article is about a place.**

**"The Royal Botanic Gardens Kew"  
Richmond, London.**

**The gardens plural began in 1759 with Princess Augusta, Mother to George III. Richmond Lodge was itself owned by**

**Augusta then later added to the Gardens of Kew House next to Richmond Lodge. This amalgamation then meant the total of the gardens, were three hundred acres. The first Director, not in name but in fact was the Earl of Bute a botanist of some distinction and the Curator was one William Aiton, who served the gardens for 34 years. Bute was followed by the famous Sir Joseph Banks; under whose direction the collections were greatly augmented, and the introduction of exotic plants was accelerated. For a period, the gardens were neglected, but in 1841 the gardens and the parkland taken over by the state. Presented by Queen Victoria, with the proviso that they were to be maintained in their semi-wild state.**

**As a little girl in the last year of primary school I remember the various temples that give Kew its well-known form. In the nineties when training as a florist I became conversant with the teaching aids in the gardens where the various plant types were in allotment strips for students to identify umbels and compound umbels being one example of this.**

**Right here in our village a dear lady that so many of us know, Reinhild Raistrick has a long connection with Kew and this amazing place has been very much part of her botanical journey.**

**In early 2000 Reinhild spent some time working and recording the wild African Violet in the Tanzanian rainforest the monograph of this species**

was acquired by Kew and the whole set of 15 paintings are now housed as part of the permanent collection in the Library archives. Also, of very worthy note is the recently completed project of all the orchids Holy Island Lindisfarne. Kew have now acquired the 21 paintings to add to their archive collection. “My thanks to Reinhild for letting me include these details in this article.”

Kew is internationally known, throughout the World and to write about each section of their work would not really be possible in this article. It is a museum a library an archive used for educational in the world of horticulture. Trees, plants of every kind are to be found in gardens and green houses. It is a place to study, research and much more. Do go and see all of this for yourselves a wonderful day or week out .

Opening hours are daily 10 am to 6pm last entry 5pm. There is a wonderful website to explore, try and learn more of this incredible place.

As always, happy gardening.

Enjoy your garden in autumn, sincerely, Mary

**200 Club Draw for September 2024, was drawn on  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October at the Luncheon Club in the Village Hall.**

**September**

**£100 A Taylor(128)**

**£25 D Daly (199)**

**Tim Frost  
Administrator**



*One of my favourite things....*

is finding something I had tucked away in a drawer, knowing I would be glad to see it again one day. Recently I found a Christmas note my Aunt Dot sent for Christmas 2007. Aunt Dot was two years older than my Mother, the second and third children respectively in a family of four girls. Her note reads:

**"I had a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Memory early this year.**

**They told me they are taking back my memories.**

**I was so shaken, I didn't ask any questions.**

**I know they have been taking my memories, as now**

**I can remember very little of the past. Isn't that sad?**

**I am so happy that you were a part of my good years."**

My Aunt died in 2009. She was a very unusual woman. She really liked the company of men, including 3 husbands (or 4?) She divorced the first one, took some courses at the local collage, worked for years as a Medical Secretary, and raised her 5 children on her own. She had the happy knack of speaking to children as if they were older than their years; she was the Aunt who organised picnics, or day trips to the lake or swimming pool. She kept a scrapbook of all of my concerts, plays, ski meets, and County Fair Queen engagements, and gave it to me when I graduated High School.

Dot's house was full of colour. She would whizz through her house with paint and brush every couple of years, and change everything. Beautiful, and just right for her. We certainly could never guess what she would say about anything - but that meant it was exciting to be with her. She also, along with my sister-in-law, cared for my Mother through several years of Cancer treatments.

She did make my early teenage years a bit painful by moaning about her inability to gain weight, and reported that her doctor had directed her to drink at least one milkshake a day. I was delighted when she began to gain weight years later during her "change". I didn't know what that was, but I was glad she had caught it!

When I was in my 30s, my sister Becky and I were both home for a visit. Aunt Dot surprised us with tickets to the theatre, then took us out for a drink after in a pricey hotel. A pianist was playing quietly, and one or two couples were dancing. There was a dapper man, about my Aunt's age, who was dancing with unaccompanied women. He came to our table and asked me to dance. I stammered, "Me? I can't dance." But he insisted, and

learned that I could dance, but only on his feet. Then he asked Becky, and his toes fared much better. After he brought me back to the table, he asked Aunt Dot to dance. She turned him down flat. Becky and I couldn't believe it - she loved to dance. But no, she wouldn't. We left soon after that. As my delightful Aunt pulled her big Cadillac out onto the road, the Dapper Dancing Man stepped off the curb. Dot hit the accelerator. Becky and I gasped. Dapper Dancing Man shot backwards out of reach. Dot snarled, "Huh, ask me third, will you?" and took us home.

Aunt Dot did lose her memories, but I've kept a lot of them safe for her. I hope my family will do the same for me.

With love, Linda



A special presentation took place at Montana Care Home, Great Barton on Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September. The Rt Rev Peter Collins, Bishop of East Anglia, awarded the community of Benedictine Sisters of Grace and Compassion the Diocesan Medal of Honour in recognition of their caring service at Montana Care Home.

The Bishop presented the Diocesan Medal of Honour and the accompanying certificate to Sr Thaya Moses OSB, Registered Manager, Montana Care Home, during Holy Mass in Montana Convent Chapel. The Certificate certifies that the Benedictine Sisters of Grace and Compassion has been awarded the Diocesan Medal in grateful recognition of their generous service to the Church in the Diocese of East Anglia. Awards and commendations are nothing new for the Care Home. In recent years Montana Care Home has been ranked among the top 20 care homes in the East of England. Two most recent inspections of the care home by Care Quality Commission (CQC) in September 2023 and in May 2018 resulted in the award of 'Outstanding' grade on each occasion. During the Covid 19 pandemic in December 2020, H M Lord Lieutenant for Suffolk awarded a special Certificate of Merit to the Registered Manager, Sr Thaya Moses, for her contribution during the extraordinary and difficult circumstances caused by the Covid-19 crisis.

## *Great Barton Film Night*



*The Film we will be showing on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> November is  
"The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry"  
cert 12 2023*

*Doors Open 7.00pm for a 7.30pm start. Cost £4*

*Teas, Coffees and Ice Creams On Sale*

*Great Barton Village Hall*

## **St Peter's Church News**

### **St Peter's Church Thurston Christmas Bazaar (Save the date)**

*Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November 11.00am to 1.00pm at  
Cavendish Hall.*

*A variety of stalls including Christmas Wreaths.  
More details will be available in the November  
Newsletter.*

**Pat 07552 234443 & Margery 07443 414622**



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

**Breakfast, Songs, Crafts & Prayer**

**TOGETHER FAMILY CHURCH**

**ALL ONE IN CHRIST**

**SUNDAY 17<sup>th</sup> November**

**Thurston Primary Academy**

**10.00am for 10.30am start (40 mins)**

**If you would like to know more, please contact one of our Church Wardens.**

**Pat Sadler: 01359 230865 or 07552 234443.**

**Margery Ashford 07443 414622**

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



***We are pleased to announce the return of the  
Christmas Tree Festival at our church this  
December.***

***This will take place on the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>  
December so please put this date in your diary.***

***Anyone is invited to display a tree.***

***Further details will be given in the November  
Newsletter,***

***but in the meantime, you can book your place by  
contacting the churchwardens.***

***Pat Sadler 07552 234443 or Margery Ashford  
07443 414622***



SUFFOLK  
LIBRARIES

WHERE  
I BELONG

# Warm Welcome

Visit the library to stay warm this winter.  
No need to join an activity – just come in to  
escape the cold, have a free hot drink & enjoy  
the company of others.

Find out more:

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/guidance-support/advice/warm-welcome>



Take what you need, give what you can at:  
[www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/warm-welcome](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/warm-welcome)



By donating to Suffolk Libraries you can help us fund crucial additional services that reduce social, digital and rural isolation in our communities. For details visit [www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/donate](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/donate)

HMRC charity number: XT34476

**The Friends of Thurston Library**



**Festive Flavours: Wine Tasting for  
the Coming Christmas**

***7pm Friday 22 November***

***Wines for Christmas***

Come to Thurston Library and enjoy 8 interesting wines with musical entertainment from Ed and Jane.



Delicious nibbles, of course!

Tickets £15 from the Library.

***For more information, please phone Ellie our Librarian  
at Thurston Library on 01359 235048***

# Introduction to Creative Writing with Dr Pema Clark PhD



**Tuesday evenings 7pm - 9pm at Thurston Library**

**November 5th - December 10th**

**£40 for 6 week course.**

**Suitable for 16+ and adults.**

**Booking essential.**

How many times have words come into your mind that simply captured an experience in far more detail than a photograph could? Are you a lover of language, words and pauses and want to create a container for your thoughts? Over a period of six weeks, this practical course will take you on a journey through words spoken every day through to prose fiction, life writing and nature writing. Each session will help you to develop the skills you need to start writing with confidence.

Week One From the everyday to the unusual: experimenting with words

Week Two Self and other: experimenting with character

Week Three Home and elsewhere: experimenting with place

Week Four The great beyond: experimenting with nature writing

Week Five Filling the container: experimenting with form

Week Six The writing collection: editing and refining; looking back, thinking forwards.

*Pema Clark has been teaching creative subjects for over 25 years and was an Associate Tutor at UEA in the School of Literature, Drama and Creative Writing. She completed her PhD in 2017 and is a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy.*

**For more details or to book your place email [Thurston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:Thurston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk)**

**Blackbourne U3A Play Reading Group**  
perform a Festive Double-Header in Thurston Library

**'Auld Lang Syne, M'dear'**

a short play by Audrey Pocock  
(a member of the group) followed by

**Friday 6 December 2.30pm –  
4.30pm**

Free – donations welcome



... Refreshments ... Raffle then  
a second half of  
**Festive Poetry**  
Free tickets from Thurston Library



**Tuesday 3 December - 4pm**

**20 mins of song in our new  
Sensory Garden - wrap up  
warm, enjoy a mince pie and  
some mulled wine whilst  
enjoying some festive tunes.**

**Free – just come along**







A village event organised by ...

The Friends of  
Thurston Library

with bar and refreshments by...  
The Friends of  
Thurston School



**Doors open 7pm Friday 24 January 2025**

at

**Thurston Primary Academy**

## **Thurston Village Community Quiz**

**Teams of Four: Entry £20 per Team**

**Tickets will be available at Thurston Library from  
Tuesday 3 December 2024**

Further information will be in the December/January Newsletter



### **Friends of Thurston Library**

**A Christmas present from Thurston Library**

**Christmas Festival Fun for All: Friday 22 November – Sunday 8 December**

Thurston Library's Christmas present is for all the family. What's on?

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Friday 22 Nov	Festive Wine Tasting.	7pm	£15 -book in the Library.
Thurs 28 Nov	Christmas-story time with Fran. Children 3-11.	3.45pm - 4.05pm	Free. Just come along.
Saturday 30 Nov	Festive Sewing craft. Children 5-11.	11am onwards.	Suggested donation of £3 for materials. <i>Booking essential</i> in the Library.
Tuesday 3 Dec	Singing in the garden (see page 00).	4pm – 4.20pm	Donations gratefully received.
Thurs 5 Dec	Christmas-story time with Fran. Children 3-11.	3.45pm - 4.05pm	Free. Just come along.
Friday 6 Dec	Christmas play reading and poems (see page 00).	2.30pm -4.30pm with an interval for light refreshments.	Donations gratefully received.
Sunday 8 Dec	Festive Sewing craft. Children 5-11.	11am onwards.	Suggested donation of £3 for materials. <i>Booking essential</i> in the Library.



## **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**

## **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](mailto: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](http://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/visit/locations-and-times/thurston-Library)

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram (thurstoncommunityLibrary) and [thurstonLibraryfriends.suffolk.cloud](http://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**

## **In the Library during the week**

### **Sunday**

#### **Lego Club**

The Lego Club meets every Sunday

10.30am - 2.30pm.

### **Monday**

#### **Simply Sing**

The next meeting is 7pm - 8pm Monday, 4 November. For more information contact Angie Murray on 07870 383526.

#### **Thurston Mini Movers**

10am - 11.30am 4 November – 9

December

£5 per session per child; siblings £2. For more information and to book contact

[sjfdance@outlook.com](mailto:sjfdance@outlook.com)

#### **The Last Monday Book Club**

Our meeting is at 7pm - 8.30pm on Monday, 25 November.

We will be discussing 'Wilding' by Isabella Tree and 'The Stranger Times' by CK McDonnell. For more details or to come along, please email

[thurston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk](mailto:thurston.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk)

### **Tuesday**

#### **Chat'n'Chill**

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

#### **The Last Tuesday Baking Club**

We are now meeting monthly alternating between evening and afternoon.

November's meeting is 7pm – 8.15pm Tuesday,

26 November. The theme is Millionaire Shortbread.

### **Wednesday ...**

#### **Wordplay:**

#### **Baby Bounce for 0 - 4year-olds**

Every Wednesday 10.15am - 10.45am.

Bring along your babies and pre-schoolers for songs and nursery rhymes in the Junior Library.

### **... Wednesday**

#### **The Watercolour Art Club**

1.30pm - 4.30pm every week.

New members welcome. Just turn up!

### **Thursday**

#### **Twenty Minute Tales**

3.45pm - 4.05pm weekly after school story time: term time only.

#### **Lego for Adults**

Interested in starting building Lego? Or want to bring your own Lego set to meet with like-minded builders for conversation and bricks?

The next meetings will be 7pm - 8.30pm on Thursdays 7 and 21 November.

You'll be made very welcome.

### **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 or crochet? 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 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays monthly.

Everyone welcome! No expertise needed: friendly help is at hand on from 10am - noon. Email Jayne at

[thurstonancestry@gmail.com](mailto:thurstonancestry@gmail.com)

for more information.

Tea & coffee of course! And a good natter

## **Christmas cheer returns at Blackthorpe Barn...**

**Experience the magic of Christmas at Blackthorpe Barn, nestled in the enchanting woods of popular Rougham Estate near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.**

**The Estate is once again ready to ignite the Christmas spirit and bring seasonal magic to life. Offering a delightful array of Christmas decorations, arts and crafts fairs, workshops, and Christmas trees, it is the ultimate destination to embrace the festive season.**

**George Agnew, owner of Blackthorpe Barn and Rougham Estate says:**

***“I’m eagerly anticipating opening our doors again this year. It’s another enchanting setting, perfect for visitors to immerse themselves in the festive spirit, find unique gifts for their loved ones, and soak up the magical atmosphere that truly signals the start of Christmas.***

***This year, we’re thrilled to introduce new arts and craft makers who will be showcasing their creations. They are excited to share the passion and inspiration behind their pieces.***

***“I look forward to welcoming visitors old and new when the doors open to the Country Christmas Shop on 21st October.”***

### **Country Christmas Shop:**

**It all starts when the popular Country Christmas Shop unveils its seasonal splendour on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, opening every day until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December.**

**From classy, elegant high-end decorations to suit all colour palettes, shapes and sizes, to pretty wreaths, aromatics to stimulate the Christmas senses, gifts for all, and treats galore...not forgetting the beautiful lifestyle goodies that will be sure to add some extra-special glamour, decadence and finishing touches to even the most sumptuous of homes during this festive time.**

### **Arts & Crafts Fair:**

**The ‘Arts & Crafts Fair’ will get under way on 16<sup>th</sup> November, for five consecutive weekends. It’s the place to get genuine one-off, unique and high-quality items crafted by the talented artists. The makers themselves will be on-hand at the events – an essential part of exhibiting at Blackthorpe Barn –**

thereby allowing visitors to ‘meet the makers’ from all over the country, and learn more about the inspiration behind their wonderful pieces. Each weekend will see a change of exhibitors, so there will always be fresh, innovative items to explore on each visit.

#### **Christmas Trees:**

Christmas is not complete without a Rougham Estate Christmas Tree, renowned for their quality and longevity and for being chosen to bring festivity to Bury St Edmunds town centre.

For two weekends 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> November – visitors can choose their own living Nordmann Fir trees from the plantations close to the Barn and collect them after they have been hand cut, especially for them.

From the 23<sup>rd</sup> November pre-cut Christmas trees, and smaller pot-grown trees are available in many shapes and sizes, at the same time the PYO trees can be collected. Each tree comes with a dedicated care guide to help keep it in tip-top condition over the festive period.

#### **Christmas Workshops:**

There are many other Christmas pleasures to discover, too, such as creative workshops, where visitors can get away from the fast-paced world for a while and focus on unleashing their own unique skills. This year, under the expert tutelage of talented artists and craft-makers, visitors can learn how to create beautiful items, such as decorative wreaths. More details on the website.

#### **Roots Café and food vendors:**

To enjoy a break from all the festivities, our Roots Café including the courtyard and sunken garden is open daily. It links up with the existing Country Christmas Shop, bringing everything under one roof. Serving tasty treats and refreshments, with plenty of choice for vegetarians, vegans and those with special dietary requirements. Roots Cafe courtyard will be under-roof during this period, with heating, to accommodate the extra footfall. There will also be a range of food vendors on site over the Arts & Craft Fair weekends, to offer a wide range of choice.

#### **Where to find us:**

Blackthorpe Barn is located just three miles east of Bury St Edmunds, in Suffolk, off the A14 at junction 45 (Sat Nav IP30 9HZ). what3words:

**[newly.sofas.debating](#)**

#### **Image Caption:**

**Festive Delights: Christmas at Blackthorpe Barn.[CREDIT: Blackthorpe Barn / Rougham Estate] [Image to use](#)**

For more information and opening times for the various Christmas events, see [www.roughamestate.com](http://www.roughamestate.com)

## 2024 Event Time, Dates & Prices

### Country Christmas Shop

Every day from 21st October – 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 9.30am – 5pm (except Sundays which is 9:30am-4pm)

Admission: Free

### Arts & Crafts Fair

Online/Advance Tickets – Single £2.50, Advanced Season Ticket £10

Tickets on the door – Single £3, Season Ticket £12

Children (under the age of 16): Free admission

Opening Times: Saturday – Sunday only, 10am – 4pm

16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> Nov, 23-24<sup>th</sup> Nov, 30<sup>th</sup> Nov-1<sup>st</sup> Dec, 7-8<sup>th</sup> Dec, 14-15<sup>th</sup> Dec.

### PYO Christmas Trees

Pick Your Own Tree (reserve your perfect Nordmann Fir Christmas Tree before it is cut) for £10 per tree reservation.

9-10<sup>th</sup> November & 16- 17<sup>th</sup> November, 10am – 4pm (last booking 3.30pm).

The trees can be collected from the 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

Visit the website to book your visiting time.

### Pre-cut Christmas Trees, pot grown trees and natural decorations

Cut trees and pot grown trees, wreaths, and natural decorations will be available from 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

23<sup>rd</sup> November – 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 9.30am – 5pm (except Sundays which is 9am-4pm).

(NB: Only Nordman Fir are available in November)

\*while stocks last

### Christmas Workshops

On various days. See the website for details and to book online.

### Roots Café

Every day until Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 9am – 5pm (except Sundays which is 9am-4pm).

### Guided Rougham Hall Walk & Talk

See the website for details – dates yet to be announced.





ST PETER'S & HOLY INNOCENTS  
UNITED IN CHRIST

### 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](mailto:beneficepr@gmail.com)**

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

**Pest Control Services: N.J.Leonard: 07979 648857**

**John Ranson. 01284 788248 07770932799**

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