

Holy Innocent's Church Gt. Barton
Messenger News Letter
February 2021 Issue 2

Our on-line magazine can be found on our website:

<http://themessengergtbarton.suffolk.cloud>



Dear Parishioner,

Memories

Memories – where would we be without them? They can bring us pain and pleasure. We are all affected by them, each of us differently. None of us has the same emotional response to a situation, it is unique to us. Perhaps, at this time you are missing that long-awaited holiday or, not seeing a friend or relative in a long-time. Even worse; being isolated, lonely or, having lost a loved one or a favourite pet. I'm wondering what our collective diaries will say, about this challenging time in our lives? And are you keeping one?

As I write this, I have just read one of my favourite Psalm 139 for one of our Sunday on-line services. "Lord when you look at me you know all about me." Make some time to read it.

Particularly, at this time people are being careful where they go, how many people will be there, and will it be safe. And, for many, young and old, COVID is taking a terrible toll on their mental health and well-being. But there is some hope; the vaccine is being rolled out and Spring – yes, Spring! is not too far away.

And my thoughts are also, turning towards Easter. In particular, Easter Saturday. April 3rd 2021. The War Memorial in our churchyard will have stood for 100 years and I would like us to rededicate this monument a century on. If not on its' anniversary, hopefully, soon after. It is ironic, that we should be remembering lives lost in war, at a time when we ourselves, are experiencing loss; an assault by an invisible enemy, on our lives, and restrictions in the way that we function.

Notwithstanding this, and our own individual and family troubles, we can hopefully, come together as a community, to give thanks for those named on our memorial, who gave their lives for our freedom. I'm sure it will also, give us an opportunity to reflect on where we are right now.

I have been fortunate enough to locate where these brave souls died in battle or, where their names are engraved on memorials far from home. Included in the church records is a photocopy of the original order of service used for the unveiling of the memorial a century ago. We will also display on the day our "Tommy" which, so many members and organisations of the parish generously contributed towards, to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day, marking the ending of WWII. Further information will follow nearer the time.

To make this more meaningful I would like to trace families whose relatives are named on the memorial, so we can invite them to this special occasion. If you can help in any way to identify them, please contact me.

The past is important to us. The scientist, the late Professor Stephen Hawkins said, "It is the past that tells us who we are. Without it we lose our identity."

But it does not define us.

In the Father's love,

Tim

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Services February 2021

Due to the seriousness of the spreading of the Corona virus both our churches are closed at present for worship. Please be assured that when the infection rates fall and we feel it is safe to re-open we will do so. In the meantime please contact any of the churchwardens if you have any concerns or matters that you wish to discuss. Thanks to Peter Robinson, we are able to record items (very safely) in both churches to provide online services for you. We hope this helps.

The services will be posted online on You Tube, the churches' Facebook pages and the Benefice website. Details for these are; - website: <https://www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk> Facebook pages: Holy Innocents: <https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Innocents-Church-Great-Barton685807921585678/> St Peter's: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Peters-Church-Thurston-1790473917903849/> Log in details for YouTube will be emailed to everyone who has asked to be on the list, please let one of the Churchwardens know if you would like to be added to this list.

Sunday 7th February: Holy Communion from Holy Innocents, Great Barton.

Sunday 14th February: Holy Communion from St Peter's, Thurston.

Sunday 21st February: Holy Communion from Holy Innocents, Great Barton.

Sunday 28th February: Holy Communion from St Peter's, Thurston.

Lent 2021

No sooner is Christmas behind us than we start looking forward to Easter. Shrove Tuesday is on 16th February and Ash Wednesday the 17th. We then have 40 days of Lent, a period of reflection and preparation leading to Easter. For many it is a tradition to 'give something up' for Lent. As we reflect this year many of us will look back at what we have given up over the past year in the fight against Corona Virus. But looking forward there is now a light at the end of the tunnel.

During the first lockdown many people reflected of their lives and thought about changes they would make when 'normal resumed'. But as time has gone on, we are not sure what the new normal is going to look like. Maybe this Lent will be a chance to reflect and prepare for this. Certainly as a church, Holy Innocents will be moving into a new phase, as we work through our interregnum.

If anyone would like to join a 'Zoom' Lent group, I will be facilitating this. Please let me know if you would like to join us. If you would like the material to study on your own, or would like some suggestions for reading this Lent, please contact me.

As a Benefice the church will again be supporting the Diocesan Kagera project. More details will be given in our March Messenger, but if you would like to donation your contribution can be given to Angela Pearce, 18 Barton Hamlet, IP31 2PP, Jane Dalton, 5 Oakhampton House, East Baton Road, IP31 2RF or Tim Frost, 2 Diomed Drive.

Thank you,

Kathy Drakes
01284 787746

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From a Gardener's Notebook February 2020

What is there to write about gardening in February you may well be asking?

For the professional gardener, and those that work in gardens of estate proportions this process continues throughout the year.

February comes from the Latin "februare" to cleanse, and in Roman Times goat's blood was shed upon the ground to cleanse it ready for growing. Not necessary or part of life in 2021, but nevertheless an interesting fact.

Pruning can begin now with certain items, but never cut frosted growth.

Chimonanthus praecox (Winter Sweet). This beautifully perfumed winter flowering shrub should be shaped when flowering is over.

Rhus: — Although not usually associated with pruning, if you wish to have an abundance of foliage only, the colour is wonderful through to November, cut back to about a foot above the ground every year.

Climbing Roses: Some climbers may be pruned now, check the variety first as the pruning method does vary for the varieties.

Be vigilant in the greenhouse and watch for pests and diseases. It would be a shame to lose any cuttings taken in July last year as the sweet tips are most attractive to aphids. Sterilize the pots and trays for sowing seeds, hygiene in propagation is most important. Next month I shall speak a little of "the leap of light". Old folklore suggests if February is mild, bad weather is sure to follow.

Happy gardening,
Mary Edwards

Are you a Book lover?

Share with others what you have been reading,

Early in the first 'lockdown' I read 'The Salt Path.' A true story of couple who lost their home, through helping someone else. Having lost their home, the author; found her husband of 32 years was terminally ill, as they moved out, with nothing other than a rucksack and a tent and walked the South West coastal Path 630 miles Somerset to Dorset via Devon and Cornwall. Despair, hungry and homeless. But their togetherness sustained them. Even in non-COVID times, life is fragile.

Well worth a read.

I have read several books in between, but in this 'lockdown' I have read the follow-up to 'The Salt Path.' 'The Wild Silence.' Still not having their own home, but at least shelter, they move on and re-connect their love of nature and everything wild and green. Their next camping adventure was a step-up from the last one, although different. Brief moments of pleasure are glimpsed from a life still full of challenges ahead and new friendships were made.

I'm sure there's still more to come.

Tim

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MEN'S BREAKFAST DOXA UPDATE JAN 2021

For some years now Men's Breakfast have been supporting the DOXA team with an annual donation from money raised at the breakfasts. This is their latest update.

Although the DOXA team from the UK has been unable to make regular visits to the slum of Kwa Murugi in Nakuru, Kenya, the work goes on.

Thankfully, corona virus has not been so prevalent in Kenya, but lockdown regulations are in place and very strict. Obviously where people are living so close together, it's vital to maintain good hygiene procedures.

We have been able to carry on supporting our sponsored families with weekly food parcels which are delivered every Friday. The food parcels mainly contain maize from the local wholesale market plus vegetables and eggs which are grown on our small holding.

We've also been able to give some money to families on very low incomes, and provide financial help to start up small businesses. The Lady in the photo was able to buy a charcoal burner in order to earn an income from cooking and selling maize. She came to DOXA with her family a few years ago and was totally destitute. Today, her children are all well fed and clothed, and her eldest son is thriving as an apprentice motor mechanic.

Distributing and maintaining the water filters is David (in photo). He's been responsible for the water filters since we started using them and his regular duties are to make sure they are being used and working properly. Since hand washing has become so important, his duties now include teaching and encouraging good hygiene practice.



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There's also a photo of a young girl and baby sister with a weekly food parcel.



2020 has obviously been a difficult year for us all, but thanks to Kim and his team on the ground, lots of good things have been going on and we have been able to carry on with our key work.

Thank you for your interest. More information is available at www.thedoxaproject.org

Daphne Holmes, trustee. The DOXA Project

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Church Officers

Churchwardens	Tim Frost	01284 787442
	Angela Pearce	01359 230395
GDPR	Peter Robinson	07814 946841
Verger	Linda Scoles	01359 230392
PCC Secretary	Jane Dalton	01284 788613
Treasurer	Kathy Drakes	01284 787746

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

Further details can be found on our website: <http://themessengergtbarton.suffolk.cloud>

David Martin: Vehicle Engineers. 01359 230538 admin@davidmartinmotorengineer.co.uk

Ecosweep. 01359 232335 ecosweep@live.com

FixaLeak. 01842 763165 peter@fixaleak.co.uk

Guildhall Studio. 07880 797124 jmartinz@gmail.com www.guidhallstudio.com

John Ranson. 01284 788248 07770932799 jwranonbuilding@gmail.com

Metcalfe, Copeman, Pettefar LLP. 01842 756100 Dawn.collier@mcp-law.co.uk

Rothwells Carpet Cleaning. 01638 428060 info@rothwells.biz

Strands Hair Salon. 01359 230300 sjanef23@gmail.com

TBS Hire 01284 788122 info@tbs-hire.co.uk

The Clean Plumber. 01284 765453 justask@thecleanplumber.co.uk

The Sausage Shop. 01359 235237 kate.hitchcock@hotmail.co.uk

Home Care – Paula Drewry 079800 17043 pauladrewry@hotmail.com

ELITE FENCING & LANDSCAPING 01359 221128 trevor@elite-fencing.co.uk