

Great Barton Newsletter



Summer 2026

Photography by Bob Butler

Parish Council – Useful Information

Full Council Meetings

15th June

20th July

17th August

21st September

19th October

16th November

14th December

All members of the public are welcome and encouraged to attend council meetings.

For more information contact the Clerk.

See our website for all agendas and previous meeting minutes.

Stay connected with village news, events, and updates - subscribe to our village email service today. <http://greatbarton-pc.gov.uk> or email the clerk at: clerk@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk

Newsletter Information

Distribution

Tracey Butt 01284 787386

Contact Tracey if you are willing to help distribute the newsletter

Deadline for submissions for the **Summer Edition is 6th October 2026**

Minutes of Parish Council meetings are available here:

<https://greatbarton-pc.gov.uk/parish-council/minutes/>

Published by Great Barton Parish Council

Photography Copyright GBPC

Front cover photo submitted by Bob Butler

Thanks to everyone who provided photos for this edition.

Website: <http://greatbarton-pc.gov.uk/>

Parish Council Contact Details:

Chair Maggie Dunn - chair@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Andy Baker - andybaker@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Gwyn James - gwynjames@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk

Cllr Peter Fisk - clerk@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk

Parish Clerk Jessica Langley - clerk@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk
07596 868 600

We have councillor vacancies – get in touch to hear more!

District and County Councillors Contact Details:

West Suffolk Council – Cllr Sarah Broughton

01284 787327 / 07929 305787

sarah.broughton@westsuffolk.gov.uk

West Suffolk Council - Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger

07876 683516

rebecca.hopfensperger@westsuffolk.gov.uk

Suffolk County Council – Cllr Rebecca Hopfensperger

07545 423826

Rebecca.hopfensperger@suffolk.gov.uk

Contact details for our Village Emergency Team

John Roe	07845 529923	01284 787749
David Murray	07825 172446	01284 788606
Clare Hopwood	07787 516401	
Josh Pirt	07961 863866	01359 231011
Simon Stockdale	07572 037615	N/a
Eddie Gibson	07484 602289	01284 788384
Nicola Crouch	07739 852714	01284 788611
Maggie Dunn	07977 875882	01284 787357

Bags2School Dates

Help raise money for Great Barton Primary PTFA

Thursday 1st October 2026

Thursday 4th Feb 2027

If you have any items that can be recycled from the list below, the PTFA would be really appreciative if you could donate them to this collection. The items are sold by weight and added to the yearly fund-raising total giving more money to spend on school projects. We can potentially raise a lot of money for school through this collection, so if family and friends are able to help fill a bag too, that would be fantastic!

They will accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Socks
- Bras

Items can be dropped off on the day on school road before 8.45am or up to one week before the collection date at 11 Mere Close, IP31 2PE (last drop-off on the Wednesday evening)

Chairs Update

I wanted to share a brief update on the work your Parish Council has been doing on behalf of the village over recent weeks.

We continue to focus on the issues that matter most to residents from maintaining our community assets and supporting local groups, to monitoring planning applications, highways concerns, and the daytoday matters that keep Great Barton safe, welcoming, and well looked after.

Our councillors and volunteers have been working hard across a number of areas, including:

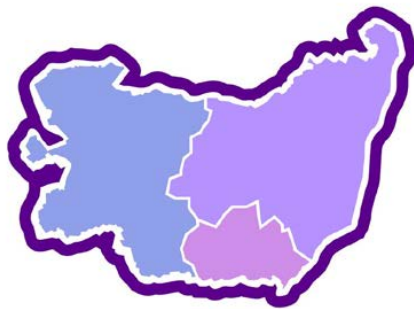
- **Community safety and wellbeing**, with ongoing monitoring of highways issues, reporting of potholes and signage concerns, and support for initiatives such as Community Speed Watch.
- **Village assets and open spaces**, ensuring our playgrounds, footpaths, benches, and green areas remain in good condition and accessible to all. We are currently looking at a playground revamp for 2026 so watch this space!
- **Environmental stewardship**, including litterpicking efforts, tree and hedge management, and responding to reports of flytipping. Our next community litter pick will be in September.
- **Support for local groups**, with grant applications now open for community organisations who contribute to village life. Contact Jess to hear more – Clerk@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk
- **Planning matters**, where we continue to review applications carefully and represent the interests of residents and the character of Great Barton. Please see the article on Page 4 about the development named the land north east of Bury St Edmunds (DC/19/2456/HYB).

As always, we are committed to being open, approachable, and transparent in everything we do. If you have a question, concern, or idea for the village, please do get in touch your input genuinely shapes our priorities.

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the work of the Parish Council and the many volunteers who give their time to help keep Great Barton thriving.

If you want to join in with any village activities, please see our website or get in touch with the clerk for more information!

Maggie Dunn



Future Suffolk

Creating three new councils

Suffolk's councils have come together to launch Future Suffolk – a new website providing a trusted, single source of information on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR).

With changes planned to create three new unitary councils by 2028, the site explains what's happening, why it matters, and how it affects you.

Explore timelines, maps, proposed council names and more.

For more information visit: <https://www.suffolklgrhub.gov.uk/>

Archaeology Walk-Through at the Vistry Site (DC/19/2456/HYB)

In May, Vistry invited Parish Council members to meet with representatives from their team and the archaeologists working on planning application DC/19/2456/HYB on-site at north-east of Bury St Edmunds. The purpose of the visit was to walk the site and receive an update on the archaeological investigations currently underway.

During the visit, councillors were shown several of the areas where significant findings have been uncovered. The archaeological team explained the methods being used, the types of features identified so far, and how these discoveries fit into the wider historical landscape of Great Barton and the surrounding area.



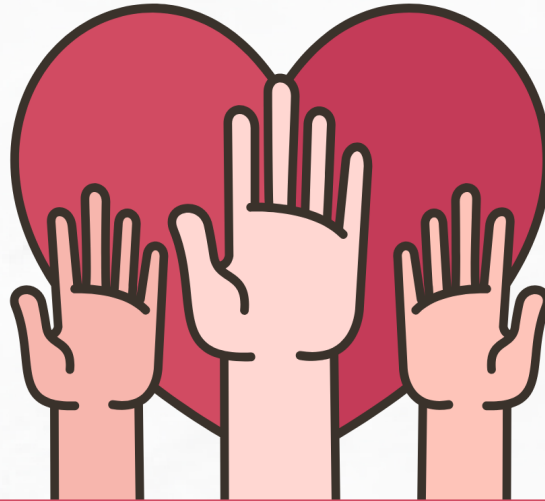
The Parish Council welcomed the opportunity to view the work first-hand and to understand how the findings will inform the next stages of the development process. Archaeological investigations must be completed and documented before any major construction can begin.

Vistry will soon be launching a website for the project and further updates will be shared with residents as more becomes available.

In the meantime, to keep updated with the planning application please see our website

<https://greatbarton-pc.gov.uk/planning/north-east-development/>

Alternatively, please contact the clerk or one of the councillors



Join your

**PARISH COUNCIL
AND HELP SHAPE
YOUR VILLAGE**

- Use your skills & knowledge
- Meet local people
- Bring idea's to life

📍 Contact Maggie Dunn – Chair

☎ 01284 787357

✉ chair@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk

ELITE FENCING & LANDSCAPING

All types of fencing erected.

Patios, Bases, Turfing, Decking.

Paths, Hard surface pressure washing.

All outdoor work undertaken.

Home 01359 221128, Mobile 07761 651567

Trevor@elite-fencing.co.uk

www.elite-fencing.co.uk

The Countryside Code

Your guide to enjoying parks and
waterways, coast and countryside

Respect everyone

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share the space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Protect the environment

- take your litter home - leave no trace of your visit
- do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can
- always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo - bag it and bin it in any public waste bin or take it home
- care for nature - do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- check your route and local conditions
- plan your adventure - know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory

www.countryside-code.org.uk





Follow advice and local signs

The arrows show the legal and recorded rights of way for different user groups

Footpath



Bridleway



Restricted Byway

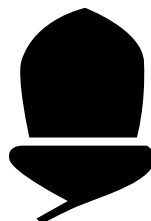


Byway open to all traffic



Permissive Path

Follow advice on local signs as landowners voluntarily provide access to these paths and choose who can use them. Some open access areas are also made available in the same way.



National Trail

National Trails are created for walking, with horse-riding and cycling possible on some trails or trail sections.
www.nationaltrail.co.uk



Open Access

You can walk and explore away from paths.

www.openaccess.naturalengland.org.uk

For further information visit www.countryside-code.org.uk

Thank You to Our Wonderful Spring Clean Volunteers

A huge thank you to all our lovely volunteers who took part in the Great Barton Spring Clean at the weekend. Together we collected 12 full bags of litter, 8 plastic crates, 1 large shopping crate, and some plastic netting.

Your efforts help keep our village looking its best and our wildlife safe. We're incredibly grateful for the time and care you give to our community.

If you want to get involved with the next event please get in touch!



Join the Great Barton Tidy Up Team!



Do you want to make a tangible difference in your village and meet like-minded neighbours? Great Barton residents are coming together to keep our community clean, green, and welcoming—and we'd love for you to join us!

What's involved:

-  Community cleanup events – Gather at the village hall, collect your gear, and head out in friendly teams to tidy up footpaths, verges, and green spaces.
-  Volunteer friendly set up – We provide litter pickers, bags, and guidance. Just bring your gloves and enthusiasm!
-  Family inclusive – Children are welcome under supervision, making this a fun, family-friendly activity.
-  Local environmental impact – Your efforts help keep Great Barton safe, clean, and beautiful for everyone.

General Maintenance and Tidying: Care for Our Shared Spaces

Keeping Great Barton clean and welcoming is more than just picking up litter at events it's about everyday care and community pride. By adopting simple maintenance routines, everyone contributes to a safer, greener, and more enjoyable environment.

Daily and Weekly Actions

Clear Litter Promptly: Dispose of personal and public litter in the nearest bins to prevent overflow.

Tidy Frontages and Pathways: Sweep leaves, remove weeds from pavements, and ensure hedges and plants do not block footpaths or access points.

Secure Waste: Use bins with lids to prevent wind-blown litter and discourage pests.

Check Local Green Spaces: When walking in the village, identify any minor maintenance needs such as fallen branches or damaged benches and report them to the council or community team.

Why join?

- ✓ Make a positive impact on your community
- ✓ Get some fresh air and gentle exercise
- ✓ Meet neighbours who care about Great Barton
- ✓ Be part of a proud, hands-on volunteer team
- ✓ Equipment Provided

Come along, roll up your sleeves, and help keep Great Barton looking its best!

 Regular events throughout the year – check our local noticeboard or contact clerk@greatbarton-pc.gov.uk to find out the next date!



Community Litter Pick date in September to be confirmed
with refreshments afterwards



Great Barton CE Primary School Newsletter

June 2026

www.greatbartonprimaryschool.co.uk

Biodiversity

As you may know, if you keep up-to-date with our school newsletters, we have started a sustainability project with a different focus every term. In autumn, we focussed on Consumption and Waste, in spring Energy and this term we have been looking at Biodiversity

Bio = life

diversity = difference or variety



This term we have been learning about the biodiversity of our school grounds with Squirrel and Badger classes carrying out some pollinator counts. We have seen lots of bees and other pollinators in our Coronation Garden as well as on other flowers around the school grounds.

In forest school classes have been looking for beetles under the log piles and identifying which beetles there are; making sure to put them back where they found them.

Gardening Club have been busy in their lunchtimes planting seeds and flowers and designing our entry for the Suffolk Show this year - please look out for us and come and say "hello" if you're visiting the show this year. Our garden is based on the song Big Yellow Taxi by Joni Mitchell and symbolises the fact that we need to care for our planet and plant the right plants to encourage pollinators to return.

Owl class had a visit from some real owls and learnt all about how they fit into nature.

Later this term Badgers are visiting Amazonia Zoo to see animals relating to their work on Rainforests. Squirrel class will be visiting Chadacre Farm to learn about sheep and farming habitats.



Community News, Events & Clubs

EASY FRUIT CAKE

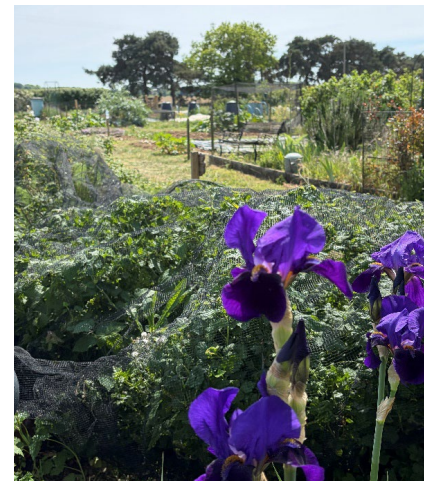
Requirements	
6-7 inch cake tin	
150 dg. For one hour 30.	
Ingredients	
300gr(12oz). Mixed fruit	125ml (1/4pt) Water
100gr (4oz). Sugar	1 Egg
100gr (4oz). Butter or margarine	200gr (8oz) self raising flour
Method	
Step 1 Place fruit, sugar, margarine and water in a pan,simmer slowly with lid on for 20mins.	
Step 2 Allow to cool then add beaten egg and stir in flour.	
Step 3 Turn into greased 15-18cm (6-7 in.) cake tin.	
Step 4 Bake for one hour 30 mins.	

GREAT BARTON ALLOTMENTS

Despite another very wet winter, the allotments are now experiencing an incredibly dry spring, with very little rain forecast in the near future. Plot holders have been making the most of the initial favourable conditions, with many already sowing seeds and planting out early crops. We still have to be aware of the late frosts we've recently had.

Broad beans are now in full flower, while onions planted last autumn are growing strongly. Potatoes are also beginning to poke through the soil, always a welcome sign that the growing season is well underway.

We take different approaches to planting, some allotmentees prefer sowing seeds directly into the ground, while others find greater success starting crops off as seedlings before transplanting them outdoors.



The poly tunnel is a useful addition for plot holders who want to grow tomatoes, peppers, aubergines, salads etc although tomatoes do very well outside too.

The soft fruit is also developing nicely, with berries beginning to swell. Many plot holders have already covered their fruit bushes with netting to help protect the crop from hungry birds.

Several plot holders are also growing flowers which are a great way to invite the pollinators to the site and beautiful for us all to enjoy.

Everyone is hoping for a productive growing season ahead, but as with previous years, would be extremely grateful for some more rain!

For further information or to be added to our waiting list, please contact gballotments@gmail.com or visit website www.gballotments.org

Great Barton WI

When I moved to Great Barton over 12 years ago one of the first things I did was to join the Women's Institute. I didn't know anyone in the village and had been working in Newmarket prior to my retirement from fulltime work.

After a short while I was approached by the then President of Great Barton Women's Institute who persuaded me to attend one of their meetings. Suddenly I went from not knowing anyone in the village to being a member of a thriving and very active group of like-minded ladies. I soon became a member of the committee and have made many new friends within the WI world.

I was eventually persuaded to take on the role of Treasurer which I held for a couple of years and then moved on to become President, a position I have held for three years.

I have now come to the point where I feel my WI "work" is at a stage where I can relax and allow others to take the reins. I have decided to step back from committee work and engage fully in the plethora of WI activities which are available both locally within our own WI and further afield.

If you are reading this and feel you would like to join our happy and very sociable band of ladies, please speak to any of our members or email our secretary on secretarygbwi@btinternet.com who will point you in the right direction.

Susan Lawes



Great Barton WI - Coffee Mornings

On Saturday 2nd May Great Barton WI held a successful coffee morning in the village hall. A lovely selection of savouries and home-made cakes were served along with tea, coffee and juice. Additionally stall holders featured bird boxes, natural skin products, plants, second-hand books and bric-a-brac.

Thank you to all who supported this venture.

Our aims are to welcome our village residents, friends and families by offering such social events and, of course, to attract ladies to join our lively WI.

We hope to hold another similar event so please join us and socialise with other local residents. Our coffee mornings welcome ladies, men and children.

Please see our presence on Facebook, Instagram and local posters.

Keep your eyes open for our next welcoming event!

Date for your diary

Following the success of our coffee morning in the village hall on Saturday 2nd May, Great Barton WI is pleased to announce that our next coffee morning will take place on Saturday 5th December!! [We like to be organised and involved with the village community!!]

Further details of this festive season event will be published in the autumn edition of the newsletter.

Great Barton History Society

The History Society meets In January, March, May, September and November on the first Tuesday of these months. We have a list of very interesting speakers lined up for the rest of 2026. We meet in the Great Barton Village Hall Annex at 2.30pm. on the above Tuesdays and if you would like to come and visit us you would be very welcome, either with a view to joining us as a member for £10.00 per year, or as a guest. We usually charge guests £3.00 per visit.

There will be a list of our up-and-coming speakers

etc. pinned on the Village Hall notice board. We have a break from May until September, but we traditionally have a Summer Outing. This year we are going to the Stowmarket Food Museum.

If you think you would be interested in visiting us or even joining the Club, please come along to one of our meetings.

Jane Bream. Secretary. Contact Details. Email: - J.bream711@btinternet.com Tel:- 01284 702336. Mob:- 07947595620

Community News, Events & Clubs

Meeting Point Community Café



At The Church Institute,
The Street,
Great Barton

Opening Time:
Every Wednesday
11:00am – 2:00pm
Lunches served from 12:30pm



Come and join us for FREE
Tea and Coffee.

We serve homemade cakes
and freshly prepared hot
lunches to order.



All Welcome!

A great warm place to meet up with friends for lunch or to relax
and enjoy a mug of tea or coffee with a slice of cake.

Calthorpe and Edwards Educational Foundation 2026/27

The Foundation helps young people from the parishes listed below with a grant for studies in Further Education. This means University, Further Education College, Medical School and similar establishments. It excludes courses that could have been obtained at School.

The Governors limit assistance initially for a maximum of three years and to no person over 25 years of age. The period may, at the Governors' discretion, be extended a year at a time when appropriate, but not beyond the age limit. The grant is paid in three termly instalments and for the year 2025/26 it was £360 pa.

Keith Boswell is the Chairman and Rosemary Boswell is currently the Clerk. All Governors who represent Villages are volunteers and attend one meeting in September when new applicants are considered and the Clerk is given details of the new year's grant. Payment will be by BACS and students will be required to provide their home address, email address and bank details.

There are 2 groups of villages, the Inner Group and the Outer Group. If funds are limited, then students from the Inner Group take precedence.

Inner Group:-

Ampton, Ingham, Great and Little Livermere, Timworth.

Outer Group:-

Culford, Fornham St Genevieve, Fornham St Martin, Great Barton, Ixworth, Troston, West Stow, Wordwell.

Currently there are 3 students from Ingham, 1 student from Ampton and 3 from Great Livermere.

There are 4 students from Fornham St Martin, 16 from Great Barton, 2 from Ixworth and 1 from Wordwell.

For more information contact Mrs Rosemary Boswell: phone 01284728199
or email: calanded24@gmail.com



Village Hall Management Committee

If you would like to hire the hall please contact:
Diana Silverstone diana.74@hotmail.co.uk
<http://greatbartonvh.onesuffolk.net/>

The Hall committee is always looking for people willing to help with hall management.

GREAT BARTON LUNCHEON CLUB

We are a Luncheon Club which meets at Great Barton Village Hall
on the second Friday of each Month (except in August).

Members are welcomed with either a glass of sherry or fruit juice and served with a two course meal, followed by tea or coffee, at a cost of **£5.00 per person** (plus a very small yearly membership fee)

We are a very friendly and welcoming group. If you are 55 years or over and live in Great Barton and would like to join us, we would be delighted to hear from you.

Please contact: **Cindy Morgan 01284 788487**
cynthiamorgan249@btinternet.com

Bury St Edmunds Mobile Library Service

Route 12 - Thu 2 Jul 2026 Thu 30 Jul 2026
Thu 27 Aug 2026 Thu 24 Sep 2026
Thu 22 Oct 2026 Thu 19 Nov 2026
Thu 17 Dec 2026
2C Brand Road – 10:35-10:45

Route 1 - Tue 14 Jul 2026 Tue 11 Aug 2026
Tue 8 Sep 2026 Tue 6 Oct 2026
Tue 3 Nov 2026 Tue 1 Dec 2026
Tue 29 Dec 2026
1B- Oakhampton House – 10:00 -10:20
1C – School Road – 10:25 -10:50

Mobile libraries | Suffolk Libraries

Did you know that if you are a mobile library user you can have the books for 8 weeks rather than the usual 4?
I discovered this by chance back in April!

PHONE BOX BOOK EXCHANGE

Liveremere Road

Our red phone box on Liveremere Road has been transformed into a small community library. Everyone is welcome to take a book, leave a book, or simply browse. It's a lovely way to share stories, recycle books, and keep this iconic landmark alive.

A few gentle guidelines help keep it enjoyable for all:

- Please donate books in good condition
- Avoid leaving large boxes or bags of books
- Keep the door closed to protect the shelves from the weather
- Children's books are very welcome

Thank you for helping this little library thrive.

Community News, Events & Clubs



COMMUNITY GRANTS – APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN!

Great Barton Parish Council is inviting local community groups, clubs, and organisations to apply for **grant funding** to support projects that benefit residents of the parish.

Grants can help with new initiatives, improvements, equipment, or activities that bring value to the community. Both established groups and new startups are welcome to apply.

Who can apply?

- Local community groups, clubs, charities, and voluntary organisations
- Schools for environmental projects
- Groups that can show a clear benefit to Great Barton residents

What we can fund

Projects or activities that:

- Support wellbeing, community involvement, or local facilities
- Provide a direct benefit to residents of Great Barton

- Are planned to start within 12 months

What we cannot fund

- Individuals
- Political groups
- Commercial businesses
- Retrospective applications (projects already completed)

How to apply

Download the application form from the Parish Council website or request one from the Clerk. Please include:

- Details of your project
- A breakdown of costs
- Your group's latest financial information

All applications are considered fairly and on their own merits.

If you have questions or need guidance, please contact the Clerk at Clerk@greatbarton-gov.uk or **07596 868600**.

Let's support the fantastic work happening across our village!

VILLAGE HALL FILM NIGHTS

Film Nights continue at the Village Hall at
7:30pm on the third Saturday of each month.

Upcoming film titles will be announced as soon as they're confirmed.

Digital Skills Café



 **When:** Apple and Windows sessions monthly on Mondays at 2 PM

 **Where:** Great Barton Village Hall

Contact Us for more information:

Email: Julie

Secretary.gbcc@outlook.com

Phone: Bernard

07860 117680

On the Net

<https://www.gbcc.onesuffolk.net>

Do you need help with using your Computer? iPad? iPhone?

Then you need Great Barton Computer Club.

No experience? No problem! We hold Beginners meetings as well. We help to demystify the jargon and keep you up to date with tech changes

- I'm struggling with Windows 11 can you help me?
- I receive so many scam messages what should I do?
- This new iPad system is very confusing how does it work?
- AI – What's that all about?

What We offer:

Simple, jargon-free advice.

Tutorials, One-to-one help, drop-in sessions and online help for individuals. Our friendly volunteers will guide you through everything from basic tasks to more advanced topics, helping you gain confidence.

Make new friends over tea, coffee and biscuits and a chance to chat.

Let's get Tech Savvy Together at the Great Barton Computer Club

Cost £25 a year

Community News, Events & Clubs

Scouts
Great Barton



Great Barton Scout Group has enjoyed a busy and successful few months, with members taking part in a wide range of activities, camps and community events.

The Bury St Edmunds District St George's Day event was a great success, with Squirrels, Beavers, Cubs and Scouts attending an activity day to celebrate the patron saint of Scouting. The young people renewed their Scout Promise and took part in activities including fire lighting, tomahawk throwing, archery, inflatables and crafts.

Our new Squirrels section has got off to a very positive start, including a fun visit to Big Tesco, where they toured the warehouse, saw the lorries and made fruit kebabs. Demand for places remains high, so please join our waiting list.

We are very grateful to everyone who supported us through the Tesco blue token scheme. Great Barton Scouts received £1,000, which has been used to purchase new tents and a gazebo. We are also grateful to our local councillors for supporting the purchase of equipment for our new Squirrels.

Parents and Group volunteers recently came together for a work party day to clean the hut, tidy the grounds and carry out repairs. Their time and effort helps keep our facilities safe, welcoming and ready for the young people who use them each week.

Our Paint and Pop fundraising evening, organised in support of members attending the Scout Jamboree, was also a success, with those attending enjoying a guided painting session led by a talented local artist.

The Scout section has recently completed a very hot but enjoyable camp at Bures, taking part in kayaking, rafting, air rifles and a hike. Some Scouts will also soon be travelling to an international camp in Rotterdam with 1st Hadleigh Scouts.

Looking ahead, we will have our Family Camp giving young people and their parents the chance to spend a weekend together taking part in many activities. We will also be attending Suffolk Punch 2026, a county-wide Suffolk Scouts activity camp at Hallowtree Scout Campsite, with opportunities for all our young people to take part in the many adventurous activities on offer.

We are grateful to all our volunteers and parents who make these opportunities possible. If your child would like to join us, or you would like to volunteer, we would love to hear from you.

Jonathan Corwin,
Lead Volunteer, Great Barton Scout Group

FUN, FRIENDS & ADVENTURES

BEAVERS



Scouts
Great Barton



Discover adventure,
spark creativity,
grow teamwork and
gain skills for life at
Great Barton Beavers.

- ✓ Wednesdays 5-6.15pm
- ✓ For Ages 6-8
- ✓ Both Boys & Girls
- ✓ Our HQ is opposite
Gt Barton Village Hall

Join Us



Contact Us

glv@gtbartonscouts.co.uk
www.gtbartonscouts.co.uk

Great Barton Scout HQ
Elms Close, Great Barton, Suffolk, IP31 2NR

Scouts
Great Barton

**Adventure. Friendship.
Skills for Life.**



Squirrels

Ages 4-6
Meets on
Tuesdays
4.15pm-5.15pm

BEAVERS

Ages 6-8
Meets on
Wednesdays
5pm-6.15pm

cubs

Ages 8-10½
Meets on
Mondays
6.30pm-8pm

SCOUTS

Ages 10½-14
Meets on
Thursdays
7pm-8.45pm

Who we are

Great Barton Scout Group has been building skills, confidence and friendship in young people for over fifty years. We offer fun indoor and outdoor activities and welcome new members and volunteers to join the adventure. All are welcome, regardless of gender, ability or background. All adult team members are DBS checked and trained in safeguarding and safety.

Find Us

Great Barton Scout HQ
Opposite the Village Hall
Elms Close, Great Barton,
Suffolk, IP31 2NR

Contact Us

glv@gtbartonscouts.co.uk
07764 815763
www.gtbartonscouts.co.uk
Great Barton Scout Group
Charity Number 271284

Join Us



**Our Scout Hut is available for hire, as well as a
7.6x4.5m marquee and other shelters.**

For all enquiries, email Jonathan at
glv@gtbartonscouts.co.uk, or phone 07764 815763

Message from Revd Benjamin Edwards

"A Legacy in the Air: Reflections on the Flight of Kites"

As we move into the height of the Great Barton summer, the nave of Holy Innocents Church feels a little stiller following the conclusion of the 'Flight of Kites' installation at Pentecost. While the physical display has been taken down, the impact of the project remains woven into the very fabric of our parish life.

Throughout the spring, the sight of those kites soaring through the church served as a powerful visual prayer. Each one represented a child's life affected by the shadows of war—the "Modern Holy Innocents." Though the kites have been folded away, the stories they told and the lives they symbolised continue to resonate within our community.

The project was more than a temporary art installation; it was a collective act of witness, reminding us that even in the quiet of rural Suffolk, we are deeply connected to the struggles and hopes of children in conflict zones around the world.

The conclusion of the installation does not mark the end of our commitment, but rather a new beginning. Holy Innocents Church has now been formally dedicated as a sanctuary of perpetual prayer for all children caught in the crossfire of war.

We have committed to being a space where the plight of these children is never forgotten. The church remains open daily for anyone who wishes to sit in the stillness, light a candle, or offer

a moment of silence for those young lives still seeking safety and peace.

The adoption of this collective prayer intention marks a profound shift for our congregation. By holding this shared focus, we move beyond being simply a gathering of individuals; we become a community united by a specific, outward-looking mission of compassion. For our regular worshippers, this provides a "north star" for our intercessions, grounding our faith in the urgent needs of the world.

For visitors, we hope this dedication changes the experience of entering Holy Innocents. Rather than seeing an ancient monument to the past, we want them to encounter a living sanctuary that speaks into the tumult of today's world. Whether someone comes to admire the architecture or to seek a moment of peace, they are now invited to join a global vigil, finding that their personal reflections are held within a wider, purposeful silence.

To help us carry this intention forward, new prayer cards have been placed within the church. We invite you to take one home or use it during your visit for a small donation toward our continued work with children affected by conflict.

We hope many people in our county and beyond will hear of the prayer and work of Holy Innocents Church - whether you visit us or not, your own prayers for the Holy Innocents of today will be heard alongside ours."





A Prayer for the Holy Innocents of our Time

God of all mercy,
who cherishes the small and the vulnerable:
we lift to you the children of every nation
caught in the fire of war and the shadows of conflict.
Protect them from the violence they do not understand,
shield them from fear, and preserve them in hope.

As we gather in the name of the Holy Innocents,
bind us together in this work of prayer,
that we may be a sanctuary of compassion
and a voice for those who have no name.

Enfold the children of today in your grace,
giving them safety and a future of peace;
through your son Jesus Christ, who took the children
into his arms and blessed them.

Amen

Great Barton and Thurston Benefice Services

JULY 2026

Wednesday 1st July:	Holy Communion (CW) at Montana Chapel at 11.15am
Sunday 5th July:	Sung Eucharist at Holy Innocents at 10.30am Choral Evensong at St Peter's at 6.30pm
Wednesday 8th July:	Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am
Sunday 12th July:	Sung Eucharist at St Peter's at 10.30am Choral Evensong, at Holy Innocents, at 6.30pm
Wednesday 15th July:	Holy Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents at 10.30am
Sunday 19th July:	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am All Age Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents, at 10.30am.
Wednesday 22nd July:	Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am
Sunday 26th July:	Benefice Holy Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am.
Wednesday 29th July:	No service.

AUGUST 2026

Sunday 2nd August:	Benefice Holy Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am Choral Evensong St Peter's 6.30pm
Wednesday 5th August:	No service
Sunday 9th August:	Transfiguration of our Lord Sung Eucharist at St Peter's at 10.30am Choral Evensong, at Holy Innocents, at 6.30pm
Wednesday 12th August:	Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am
Sunday 16th August:	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am Benefice Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents, at 10.30am.
Wednesday 19th August:	Holy Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents at 10.30am
Sunday 23rd August: (Bartholomew the Apostle)	Benefice All Age Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am.
Wednesday 26th August:	Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am
Sunday 30th August:	Benefice All Age Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents, at 10.30am

SEPTEMBER 2026

Wednesday 2nd September:	Holy Communion (CW) at Montana Chapel at 11.15am
Sunday 6th September: (Harvest Festival)	Harvest Communion at Holy Innocents at 10.30am Choral Evensong, at St Peter's, at 6.30pm
Wednesday 9th September:	Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am
Sunday 13th September: (Holy Cross Day) (Harvest Festival)	Harvest Non Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am (Followed by short Communion service) Choral Evensong, at Holy Innocents, at 6.30pm
Wednesday 16th September:	Holy Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents at 10.30am
Sunday 20th September: (Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist) (Festival)	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Peter's at 8.30am Benefice All Age Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents, at 10.30am
Wednesday 23rd September:	Holy Communion (CW) at St Peter's at 10.30am
Sunday 27th September:	Benefice All Age Communion at St Peter's at 10.30am.
Wednesday 30th September:	Holy Communion (CW) at Holy Innocents at 10.30am

(CW Common Worship, BCP Book of Common Prayer)

Church Information

Church Institute

The Church Institute is a lovely venue, available for private and regular club bookings. It is also available for parties, celebrations, wedding receptions, funeral wakes and other general use.

For prices and enquiries please contact:
Linda Scoles 01359 230392 or Reverend Ben Edwards at revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com

Benedictine Sisters of Our Lady of Grace & Compassion

Montana , East Barton Rd, Great Barton
has a Roman Catholic mass on a **Sunday**
at 10.30am and weekdays **Monday to**
Friday at 8.15am

Holy Innocents Church

Church Officers

Ways to contact us

Vicar: Reverend Ben Edwards

Email: revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com

Churchwardens: Tim Frost 01284 787442

Angela Pearce 01359 230395

Verger: Linda Scoles 01359 230392

Pcc Secretary: Jane Dalton 01284 788613

Treasurer Kathy Drakes 01284 787746

www.greatbartonandthurston.org.uk

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

The Church 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/>



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Keep an eye out on our Facebook page for regular updates.

www.facebook.com/freedomcafegb



FREEDOMCHURCH

Mill Road, Great Barton, IP31 2RU. www.freedomchurch.org.uk

Village Directory of Clubs and Societies

Badminton Club Ann Tee	01284 788161	Great Barton Village Hall Bookings Diana Bilverstone Diana.74@hotmail.co.uk www.greatbartonvh.onesuffolk.net	01359 352357
Bowls Club (Outdoor) Richard Weller Richardweller1956@gmail.com www.greatbartonbowlsclub.webnode.com	01284 787707	Great Barton Primary Academy Claire Ratley	01284 787353
Benedictine Sisters of Our Lady of Grace & Compassion montana.gtbarton@btconnect.com www.montanacarehome.com	01284 787321	History Society Jane Bream j.bream711@btinternet.com	01284 702336
Church Institute Bookings Linda Scoles Lindascoles@uwclub.net	01359 230392	Holy Innocents Church Revd Ben Edwards revdbenjaminedwards@gmail.com admichurch64@gmail.com	07522 396397
Circle Dancing jenlerner@gmail.com Fb: West Suffolk Circle dance	07896 495574	Mothers Union Linda Scoles Gill Flower	01359 230392 01359 231718
Freedom Church Leaders Mike and Lizi Long hello@freedomchurch.org.uk www.freedomchurch.org.uk	01284 788032	Pathways Pre-School Julie Goodwin www.greatbartonpathways.co.uk	01284 788258
Great Barton Allotment Association gballotments@gmail.com www.gballotments.org		Scout Group Jonathan Corwin gsl@gtbartonscouts.co.uk www.gtbartonscouts.co.uk	07764 815763
Great Barton Community Woodland Martin Jackson	07970 118658	Second Chance Stroke Club Peter Marsh Peter.marsh@stroke.org.uk www.secondchancestrokeclub.co.uk	07884 125757
Great Barton Computer Club Secretary.gbcc@outlook.com www.gbcc.onesuffolk.net		Women's Institute greatbartonwi@gmail.com www.thewi.org.uk	01284 788431
Great Barton Luncheon Club Cindy Morgan cynthiamorgan249@btinternet.com	01284 788487	West Suffolk Dog Training Society Sarah Connell	01284 767050
Great Barton Thanksgiving Fund (Village Hall Management Committee) Peter Fisk	01359 231382	West Suffolk Fine Wine Society Wynn Rees	07580 132568

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Great Barton Church Of England Primary Academy, School Road, Great Barton, IP31 2RJ	During School Opening hours (typically manned Mon – Fri 08:00-18:00)
Great Barton Free Church Hall, Mill Road, Great Barton, IP31 2RU	24/7 Access
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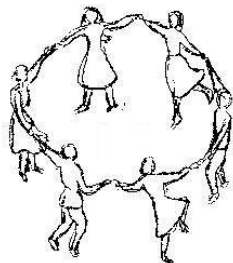
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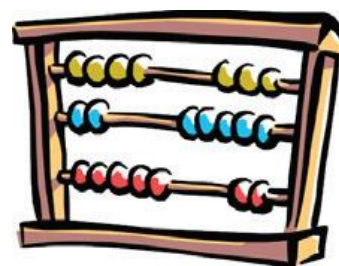
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