

Great Bricett Notes:

<http://greatbricett.suffolk.cloud/>

Church Cleaning

The usual team will be cleaning the church on the 15th March.

Church Flowers

There will be no altar flowers in church during Lent (started Wed 14th Feb), however anyone wishing to remember a loved one or a family anniversary is welcome to put flowers in other parts of the church.

Services in March

Sun 10 th March	Mothering Sunday	9.30 Holy Communion Somersham 9.30 Family Service Offton 11.15 Holy Communion Battsford
Sun 17 th March	9 am Holy Communion	Great Bricett Village Hall – see note on church repairs
Thurs 28 th March	Maundy Thursday	7.pm Holy Communion Ringshall
Fri 29 th March	Good Friday	2.pm Hour by the Cross Willisham
Sun 31 st March	Easter Day	10 am Flowton

Annual Church Flood Lighting

The PCC would like to thank the Parish Council acting through the Village Hall Management Committee, and Phil and Kate Hatch at The Hall in flood lighting the church. The warm glow of these lights on this lovely old building is very cheering over the winter period.

Mothering Sunday 10th March

Simnel cake has a strong affiliation to Mothering Sunday as it is usually associated with spring and Easter. It resembles a Christmas fruit cake but should be slightly lighter in texture. The other difference is the layers of marzipan. Simnel cake for Mothering Sunday should have a layer of marzipan running through the middle like jam in a Victoria sponge (signifying half way through Lent) and then for Easter add another layer of marzipan on the top. Traditionally, you should also roll some marzipan into eleven eggs and place these on the top. The eggs are supposed to symbolise the disciples who followed Jesus – note that Judas is excluded.

Simnel Cake – with thanks to Mary Berry's Ultimate Cake Book.

For the Mothering Sunday cake:

225g soft margarine, 225g light muscovado sugar, 4 eggs, 225g self-raising flour

225g sultanas, 100g currants, 100g glace cherries quartered, 50g candied peel

Grated rind of 2 lemons, 2 tsp mixed spice

For the filling

150g almond paste

Pre heat oven to 150C, grease and line an 8in deep round cake tin.

Put all of the cake ingredients in a large mixing bowl and beat well until thoroughly blended. Place half the mixture into the prepared tin, level the surface. Take the almond paste and roll into a circle the shape and size of the tin and place on top of the mixture. Spoon the remaining mixture on top and level the surface.

Bake for about two and a half hours until well risen, evenly brown and firm to the touch. Cover with foil after 1 hour if browning too quickly.

For the Easter Cake:

Same ingredients as above for the cake but 450g almond paste for the filling and eggs on top.

A little apricot jam and a beaten egg.

Cook as above, when cooled brush the top with a little apricot jam and add another circle of 150g of almond paste. Crimp the edges to decorate. Form the remaining almond paste into 11 balls to represent the Apostles. Brush the top with beaten egg and arrange the balls around the top of the cake, brush these with a little beaten egg too. Place under a hot grill to turn the almond paste golden.

Great Bricett Church Render Repairs

St Mary and St Lawrence Church in Great Bricett has received significant grant support from the Valencia Communities Fund, through the Landfill Communities Fund, for urgent repairs to its internal wall rendering.

The lower 6ft of the rendering on the inner wall all around the church has historically been replaced with a concrete based render. This does not allow the walls to breathe and has discoloured badly which in addition to being very unsightly is also placing the heritage fabric of the building at risk. The grant of £30,620 will enable its replacement with lime based render so helping to secure the future life of this important heritage building. The work also includes re-decoration throughout which will transform the internal appearance to create a much more attractive space for visitors and church users alike.

Commenting on the award, Arland Shawe-Taylor, Churchwarden, said: "We're delighted that we have received this support thanks to Valencia Communities Fund. The opportunity to eliminate the risk to the building from this unsightly cement render and to redecorate throughout will transform the interior space for our visitors and worshippers. We are also grateful for the grant support of £3,000 from Suffolk Historic Churches Trust towards this project".

The works are expected to extend over 10 – 12 weeks and start during w/c 18th March. The church building will be closed during this time and our regular services will take place in the Village Hall.