

Great Bricett Notes:

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

Church Wall Render Repair

Work in continuing, the old render has been removed and a start has been made on applying the replacement lime render. It is envisaged that the church will be out of use for a further 2 months.

Services in May

Sunday 19th May 9 am Holy Communion in Great Bricett Village Hall

For services in the other churches, please see the rota at the back of this magazine.

Future Events

Annual Church Parochial Meeting (ACPM)

This will take place in church on Tuesday May 21th at 3pm. All are welcome to attend

Things to Do

Go for a Walk - Gipping Valley River Path from Needham to Stowmarket

The old navigation from Ipswich to Stowmarket along the River Gipping was officially abandoned in 1934 but it is probably almost 100 years since any barge traffic ventured up to Stowmarket. Fortunately for us however in the 1970s the old towing path was adopted as a public footpath by Suffolk County Council and today they continue to maintain it. The section from Needham Lakes to Stowmarket at 4 ½ miles makes a delightful 2 -3 hour walk with the train offering an easy return to your start point.

From Needham Lakes the first section takes you around the back of Needham to the road bridge at Hawkes Mill and Alder Carr Farm. Continuing behind Hawkes Mill you come to one of the old lock structures now converted to a weir and retaining a good depth of water in the 1 ½ mile length from here to Badley. The remote beauty of this section is remarkable. The path is good throughout and I was privileged to see not only the blue flash of a kingfisher but also an otter in the river right beside me.

Above the derelict lock below Badley the river comes under the railway to run right alongside the main road and under the main vehicle entrance to Munton & Fison (you can see the bridge parapets as you drive past). The route now wends its still rural way alongside Muntons, under the link road, through the middle of ICI/PPG and up behind the Bosch plant to its terminus at Stowupland Road Bridge near the Pickerell pub.

The River Gipping Trust who are working to restore the old locks also offer a simple onepage sketch map of the route available from their website

<https://rivergippingtrust.org.uk/walking-the-river>.

A Charity Walk - 5th May Starting from the Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding IP7 5QY.

Come and enjoy a wonderfully picturesque walk in the beautiful countryside around Shelley. Walk starts from the centre from 10am and there will be a delicious array of refreshments available to fortify you on your return. Dogs Welcome

18th May 2024 Hadleigh Show - Come and see us at the show where we will be offering a wide selection of plants and homemade produce, including a wonderful array of cakes and quiche.

The Shelley Centre for Therapeutic Riding - RDA Reg. Charity No. 1113636