

Great Bricett Notes:

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

Church Cleaning

The usual team will be cleaning the church on Friday June 12th.

Church Flowers

Anyone is welcomed to put flowers in church – maybe you wish to remember a loved one or a family anniversary – whatever the occasion, flowers are always welcomed. Feel free to bring your own vase or use one from the back of the church.

Services in June

21st June 9.00 am. Holy Communion

For details of services in other benefice churches please see back of magazine.

Illuminati Choir– An evening concert in Church Sunday June 14th at 6.30

“**To the shady woods**” **Songs for a Summer Evening**, a delightful mix of motets, madrigals and folk songs from across the centuries. Wine and nibbles will be served in the interval. Please make a donation on the night. For full details please see full page ad.

Great Bricett Community Woodland – June 2026

The trees in our Community Woodland are, for the most part, thriving. There is an occasional tree, Rowans, struggling a bit. The tree ties were loosened during the winter months; it was surprising to see how their girths had expanded. The fruit trees are doing well and this year quite a few have had blossom. We are trying an experiment with sheep's wool mulch mats which can be used to deter deer – we hope it succeeds! We were offered and have planted 2 Black Poplar trees, one male, one female which are part of a project countrywide to ensure these trees are not lost from the countryside.

The pond is quite low at the moment but the plants are doing well, one may have to be cleared a little during the Autumn. We have a quantity of wild flower seeds to plant but this has been postponed as April was really dry.

It was suggested that a 'scrub' area would be useful for wildlife in the future. Having contacted the Suffolk Tree Warden Network, we were offered about 50 small hedge whips to plant. These were free, so thanks go to one of their members. These have been planted and it would be nice to have some rain to help them on their way.

During the winter we purchased (with a grant from our District Councillor) a sparrow box, hedgehog house and some swallow cups, these have been installed. We relocated the existing owl box to the top of a tall pole. Whilst this was situated in the 'shed' pigeons nested in it, now it has been moved for owls, the pigeons didn't mind the change of location!!!

The swallows have been seen many times swooping in and out of both sides of the shed, we hope they are nesting but will wait till autumn to see if the swallow cups were used or if they preferred their own construction!

Christian Aid

A donation envelope was enclosed in last month's magazine – please return your donation to Hayley at The Old Astra Cinema.

The Red Lion's Roar

Here we all are, 6 months into 2026....where has the past 6 months gone?, for us it's just flown by. One customer at the weekend reminded us it's only another 6 months before Christmas 2026....what a happy soul he was! I'm happy to report we are getting more visitors, some not realising that The Red Lion had reopened, but had happily heard "through the grapevine", and they have become regulars in a short time.

They all enjoy the food offerings and atmosphere we have established. They particularly like us not having a jukebox or fruit machines, only great conversation and company.

Danny and I have been enjoying our wildlife camera in the garden. Our wildlife visitors are increasing in numbers and variety. At the moment there are Roe and Muntjac deer, and a visiting Badger who enjoys the potato peelings which I keep back for him, he then wanders off back across the field to wherever he lives. I say "he", as it is a very big adult Badger, and looks like a "he"! The wildlife have all become very inquisitive, to the point of venturing closer to the pub, you could touch them!

Living in Cambridge for so many years until Danny and I retired in 2024, we just saw birds and rabbits. I'm absolutely delighted, and enchanted with our "wild" visitors.

Danny has continued to "get the grounds", under control. The grass is growing so fast it seems an everyday task to keep it tidy, including the verge nearest the road, which has also had "the Danny treatment "!

Our menu continues to change weekly, serving homemade, quality produce, with the emphasis on a traditional menu, interspersed with some "modernish " dishes.

I'm introducing some lighter menu options to reflect the Summer season too.

We have 5 new picnic benches for outside eating and drinking in the warmer months.

We look forward to welcoming you all at The Red Lion at Great Bricett.

Kind regards, Frances & Danny

The Church PCC would like to thank the pub for donating proceeds from the bottle bank to Church funds. Please pop your glass recycling into the car when you visit the pub!

And from the Archives –

In the May 2026 issue, a photograph of Great Bricett Church was shared which had been sent as a postcard by Ernest Albert Gomm to his mother in 1906. In 1900, Ernest had married the local miller's daughter, Cinderella Clark in the church and referred to the event in his message.

The previous year, a different postcard was shared with me, featuring a view of Bricett Hall. It was sent in 1938 to a Mrs Gomm in Greenford, Middlesex.



The note reads: "*Griffen: House Monday evening Dear Elsie, Arrived here 6.15 had an easy ride with the wind all the way, called at Mrs Proctor's for a cup of tea she was very pleased. Taint arf quiet here. Had a sleep all afternoon in a cornfield, wasn't arf good, am sleeping here tonight may go to sea-side tomorrow Love to all Gilbert*"

This 1938 postcard was sent from Gilbert Gomm to his wife Elsie Gomm (nee Pullen). The couple had both been born in the London area and married there, so there appeared to be no link to the village. However, after researching the 1906 postcard, I recalled the surname Gomm was involved on both cards. It turns out that Gilbert was actually the son of the sender of the previous postcard, Ernest Gomm, and his bride, Cinderella Clark! Gilbert would have been 2 years old at the time his father penned the 1906 message.

In 1938, Gilbert (now 34) was writing from 'Griffen House'. This would not be the property currently named *Griffin House*, but more likely what used to be the Griffin Inn. His uncle, Herbert Clark, was recorded living at *Griffin Cottage* the following year, so Gilbert was probably staying there.

The Mrs Proctor who Gilbert visited for a cup of tea, could be Gladys Proctor (nee Lazenby), who was recorded living next door to the Clarks on Griffin Hill in 1939. She was the widow of George Andrew Proctor, a farm labourer, who had died two years previously. Or it could have been Elizabeth Proctor (nee Richardson). Elizabeth and her husband, Andrew George Proctor, an agricultural labourer, were living on The Green of Great Bricett in 1939. These were the parents of Gladys Proctor's deceased husband.

OR it could have been a completely different Mrs Proctor that he visited on the way. Either way, Gilbert seemed to have a lovely time in the area – sleeping in a cornfield seems a very relaxing way to spend the day.

(All the Proctors named above were buried in Great Bricett churchyard.)

More details and images can be found on geneageek.com

Eds note:- If anyone can add to the above please contact Alison (above) and we'll include next month!"