## The Blackboard

## COFFEE, CHOCOLATE

## AND WALNUT CAKE

Preparation time: 25 minutes Cooking time: 25 minutes Use: 2 x 18cm (7in) sandwich tins Serves 10

225g (1/21b) unsalted butter

225g (8oz) golden caster sugar

4 large eggs

200ml (7fl oz) strong fresh coffee, cooled

4 teaspoons cocoa powder

225g (8oz) self-raising flour

175g (6oz) walnuts, chopped

walnuts for decorating

FILLING AND ICING

Nigella's Blond Icing (see page 181)

Preheat the oven to 190°C/375°F/gas mark 5. Butter and flour the two tins.

Cream the butter and caster sugar until light and fluffy, add the eggs, one at a time, whisking well between each addition. Mix in the coffee. Sift the cocoa and self-raising flour together and add to the mixture, whisking everything well. Don't worry if the mixture has curdled slightly as it will come together once baked. Fold in the chopped walnuts and divide the mixture between the two tins. Bake in the oven for 25 minutes. Leave to cool in the tins for a few minutes before turning out and transferring to a wire rack to cool completely before filling and icing. Decorate with walnut pieces.







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 Evaluation of current market conditions and outlook







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