

DEDHAM Parish Magazine





March 2024



Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

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DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

The deadline for April magazine
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Cover Photo - Detail from the Passion of Christ window in St. Mary's, Dedham -John Goldsbrough

Church website - www.dedham-andardleigh-parishes.org.uk

Can we help?

Sometimes things in life can just get too much to cope with on your own... **Psalm 34:18:** *The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.* If you would like some support or know of any one who would, please contact: Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598.**

If you would like a lift to church contact Sharon Sarson Tel: 07876114418

If you have been bereaved or know of anyone who has, please contact Vee Druitt **Tel: 322 000** or Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598**

If you need any further support, please contact the Parishes Office Tel: 322 136 and your call will be returned.

Throughout the magazine local telephone numbers omit the **01206** area code unless otherwise stated.

| Services and Events | | March |
|--|--|--|
| Sunday, 3 rd March 8.00am Eucharist (BCP) 9.30am Café Church 9.30am Rise N Shine 5.00pm Evensong | Ardleigh Ardleigh Dedham* Dedham* | Living Stones Prayer Group: every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month: 6.25pm Ardleigh Church. Ardleigh Friendship and Craft Group: |
| Sunday, 10 th March 9.30am Morning Prayer 11.00am Holy Communion | Ardleigh Dedham* | every 2 nd and 4 th Tuesday of the month: 10am to 12 noon in Ardleigh Church. Little Steps Pre-School Group: every |
| Sunday, I 7th March 9.30am Holy Communion 9.30am Matins 5.00pm ReVive@5 | Ardleigh Dedham* Dedham* | 2 nd and 4 th Wednesday of the month: 1.00-3.00pm in Ardleigh Church. Men's Breakfast - Saturday 2 nd March 9am - venue tbc. For bacon butties, tea, coffee and chat. |
| Sunday, 24 th March 9.30am Morning Prayer 9.30am Holy Communion Thursday, 28 th March | Ardleigh Dedham* | Monday Lunch Club – Monday 4 th March 12.30pm, Essex Tea Rooms. Phone 322192 to reserve a place indicating it is for the Lunch Club. |
| 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Foot Service Friday, 29 th March 12.00pm Stations of the Cross 2.00pm An Hour at the Cross | Ardleigh | Christ in the Passover Seder Talk and Meal – Saturday 9 th March, 10am, Ardleigh Church. Phone Susan on 07932014735 to book a place. £10 per adult. Children no charge but booking required. |
| Sunday, 3 I st March 9.30am Easter Sunday Holy Co 11.00am Easter Sunday Holy | mmunion Ardleigh Dedham* | Walk and Talk - No Walk and Talk in March. FROM THE REGISTERS. Funerals details: |
| Communion * = Services which are live stre | | 24 th January, Interment of ashes, |
| Morning Prayer - Every Tuesday 10.30am at Dedham Church. Online Prayer - Monday Morning at 7am and Friday Evening at 6pm | | Diana Wilcocks. I st February, Funeral service for Betty Keeble 6th February , Funeral service for Doreen Fazackerley |
| Opinions expressed in co | ontributed | the association for |

Opinions expressed in contributed articles are those of the contributor and do not necessarily represent the position or opinions of the PCC or the Editorial team.

Church Editors

Member editor 2024

Rural Missioner



Dear friends,

It's strange to think that at the end of this month we will have already finished the first quarter of this year. For us, the year began quite eventfully with the birth of our fourth child (and first daughter) on 2 January. We are grateful for the many cards, presents and expressions of kindness Louise and I have received from the communities we serve since her birth.

How is your year going so far? How do you measure success or progress? A diminishing to do list? A positive or growing bank balance? A (relatively) quiet home?

Holy Week this year falls rather early: the last week of March. It begins with Palm Sunday, when Christians recall the great promise with which Jesus entered Jerusalem – the hopes of so many for better days than life under an oppressive Roman regime.

But as we move to the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday and the sobering reality of Jesus' death on Good Friday so much of what we consider to be success or progress is called into question. In Luke's account of the Last Supper we find Jesus instituting a meal by which His followers were to recall His sacrificial death on their behalf: of the bread, as He "gave thanks and broke it" He said "This is My body given for you" (Luke 22:19) and of the wine He said, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is poured out for you" (v20).

Jesus' death, from one perspective, seems like failure, because at the moment He seemed to have the greatest following, He is abandoned by everyone (including His closest followers) and killed. From another perspective, it seems like a tragedy: a young life full of promise senselessly cut short.

But the reality is very different. The Apostle Paul writes "at just the right time ...God's King [Jesus] died for the ungodly" (Romans 5:6). It was the perfect time because we were powerless to do anything about the things in our lives that rob us of the fullness of life God intends for us – powerless to deal with our destructive addictions, with the dysfunction in our relationships, with our apathy towards God.

But in that moment, at that time, God began to do something that we could never do: He began to heal the source of all this darkness, our broken relationship between Him and us. And His resurrection is the sign that His sacrifice for our failings was effective.

The death and resurrection of Jesus, far from being a failure or a tragedy, was a triumph – a triumph over our failures and over what cuts off every life: death. It was a sign that there was – and is – something more to this life than just the here and now, than just what we taste, touch and see. It was a window in to something bigger, something eternal.

So why not journey with us this Holy Week? Come to one of our services and consider "[His] body given for you" and "[His] blood poured out for you" and the difference it can make to us all.

Best wishes. Phillip

Church News

FROM THE EDITOR

The Dedham Parish Magazine team would like to wish all our readers a Happy Easter.

Just contact the editor if you have an event that you would like to appear in the calendar page. There is a regular monthly Parish Council update from one of the Parish Councillors.

There are some new advertisers this month, check out Page 35, gardeners might interested in the advert from the Dedham Therapy Farm.

This month sees the introduction of A ROCHA UK eco-tips from their ecotips 2024 calendar. It is designed to keep you inspired throughout the year with fresh ideas for each month, and help to foster a lasting commitment to a greener lifestyle.

Remember the cut-off date for submitting articles for publication is the 10th of the month preceding the month of publication, we would love to hear from you via dedhameditor@gmail.com.

John Goldsbrough

🕨 YouTube

Our services are on YouTube. Search Dedham and Ardleigh Parishes.



Dedham and Ardleigh parishes website -QR code



BIBLE VERSE COMMENTARY

Matthew 6 v 9-13

Jesus taught the Lords Prayer to his disciples to show them how to relate to God the Father. It was transcribed by St Matthew and also appears in the Gospel of St Luke.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins. As we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, the power and the glory. For ever and ever.

Amen.

I have chosen this prayer as a biblical passage, because it means so much to me. When I find prayer difficult I know that praying the Lords Prayer and thinking about what I am saying, helps me to focus on "our Father," and to know that he is there for me, and all those who reach out to him.

Liz Reed



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 1st of March is World Day of Prayer.

There are many resources for the World Day of Prayer at: https://www. wwdp.org.uk/2024-wdp-free-resourcesto-download/

ORGAN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

During the week commencing the 29th January 2024, three members of staff from Nicholson & Co in Malvern worked in Church to dismantle and dispose of the old organ. Scaffolding had been erected the week before and a skip had been placed in one of the parking bays on the High Street. However, when the men arrived on the Monday Morning they declared that the scaffolding that had been erected was inadequate and needed to be stronger.

Urgent discussions were held with Reds Scaffolding and to their credit they arrived later that day and doubled the size of the original structure. With that problem resolved, very fast progress was made, by the end of Thursday the organ loft was completely empty also the third skip used during the week filled. The organ console was also dismantled, thrown away and by Friday morning the men had finished and were on their way back to Malvern.

During their stay the men were looked after by Margaret Kitson, they said they had never been so well fed and watered, and that they all wanted to be on the team that will be back in Dedham in the autumn when the renovated 1902 Binns organ will be installed!!

The photos will give you an idea of the work that was completed. The remaining work still to be done in the next few weeks is an assessment by a Structural Engineer of the existing organ loft. This will determine whether it needs any strengthening to accommodate the weight loadings of the organ to be installed. We are also awaiting arrival of a loan digital organ from Nicholson & Co and this will hopefully be in the very near future. David Druitt On behalf of the Organ Replacement

Project Committee.

Photos - Nicholsons, John Goldsbrough & Margaret Kitson.



Strengthened scaffolding in place



Looking down the Aisle from the platform with a load of pipes ready to be lowered to the floor.

Organ Replacement Project



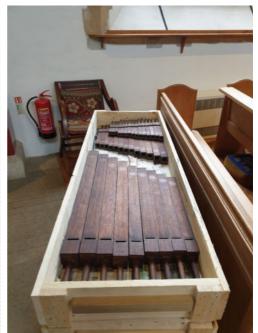
Part of the organ in the organ loft.



Pipes carefully packed for re-use.



The organ loft partially cleared.



Wooden organ pipes ready for shipping.

Organ Replacement Project



Wooden shipping crates.



Refreshment time.



The dismantled organ console.



The organ loft cleared.

Church News

BELL RINGING TEAM



Fancy a New Hobby !

If you are looking for a "New and Exciting" hobby for 2024 why not join your local friendly Bell Ringing Team? Interested: Contact Lou Davison on 0771 244 6198 for a chat and to have a try one Sunday morning. Look forward to hearing from you.

Lou Davison



Celebrate Spring. Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of the season – breathe in the fragrance of blossoms, observe budding catkins, note different bird songs, spot footprints, or use the Pl@ntNet app to identify spring flowers. Nature can boost our happiness, so spend time in your garden, on your balcony, and in local green spaces. Dedicate quality time to appreciate creation's beauty, and thank God for the hope that spring can bring with our Lent resources at arocha.org.uk/connect-withgods-creation-overlent/

For more practical ways to enjoy, nurture and defend nature, sign up to A Rocha UK's Wild Christian email: arocha. org.uk/wild-christian

LILIES IN REMEMBRANCE OF SOMEONE



As usual, the church flower team will be arranging various displays to celebrate Easter. If you would like to buy a lily to be included in remembrance of a loved one, please put the money into an envelope with your name on it and put it in the Parish Office postbox outside the Assembly rooms or in the money box inside church next to the main porch door.

The cost per lily is £3, and the deadline for ordering is Mon 25^{th} March. Many thanks.

Helen Sims (07899 061840)

THE PASSION OF JESUS.

Good Friday is early this year, with only 4 weeks until the Wintershall Passion of Jesus performances in Trafalgar Square (29th March - 12noon and 3:15pm). Don't forget it is free for everyone and a great thing to do in London. No tickets are required just come along.

As before, these performances will be livestreamed via the Wintershall Facebook page if you can't get there in person.

More information on https://www. wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus

Church News and Events



The dates for the Mission Stall are as follows:

- 11th May 10am to 12noon (shared with the Horticulture Society)
- 29th June 10am to12noon
- 27th July 10am to 12noon
- 26th August Bank Holiday Monday 10am to 4pm
- 28th September 10am to12noon
- 26th October 10am to 12 noon



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area March 10th

The Deanery choir will be singing at St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7HZ at the 11.00am communion service. The choir will sing a version of Ubi Caritas by Ola Gjeilo. In his undergraduate career, Gjeilo studied at the Norwegian Academy of Music and transferred to the Juilliard School. He studied at the Royal College of Music, London, and received a bachelor's degree in composition.

March 29th GOOD FRIDAY

The Deanery choir will be performing John Rutter's 'Requiem' at 6.30pm at St Mary's Church, Little Bentley. CO7 8SE. The Requiem is a musical setting of parts of the Latin Requiem with added psalms and biblical verses in English, and was completed in 1985. It is scored for soprano, mixed choir and orchestra or smaller chamber ensemble.

Four of the movements of the Requiem were first performed at Fremont Presbyterian Church, Sacramento, California, on 14th March 1985. The first performance of the complete work was at Lovers' Lane United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas, on 13th October 1985. It was published in 1986 by Oxford University Press.

This performance is supported by Peter Clayton; Organist, Graeme Bruce; Cello, Judith Clayton; Clarinet and soloists; Mary McCarthy and Shirley Davison.

Graham Bell, Deanery Choir

Earth Hour Day



8.30pm 23rd March earthhour.org SO EARTH HOUR

hour.org



EARTH HOUR DAY - 23RD MARCH

It's easy to blame modern living with its advanced technology and the industrialisation of so much of our world for the destruction of our planet. However, there is an important flip side. For the first time in history the current generation has the ability to do something about this serious problem.

How you may ask? Well, the answer is to use the technology that previous generations did not have, to encourage everyone, wherever they are, to work together to make the significant changes that are needed to reduce, and even reverse, the destruction.

Earth Hour is a worldwide movement organised by the World Wildlife Fund. It is normally held annually on the last Saturday of March when we are all encouraged as individuals, communities, businesses, and churches to turn off nonessential electric lights for one hour from 8.30 to 9.30 pm.

When it began on Saturday, 31 March 2007, the world's first Earth Hour in Sydney, Australia, saw more than 2.2 million people turn off their lights for one hour to show a climate-sceptic government that people were concerned about climate change. Last year an historic global agreement was set to protect and restore nature by 2030 when the Earth Hour organisation surpassed its target of reaching 60,000 hours given for Earth (equivalent to the 7 years until 2030). It saw an incredible total of more than 410,000 hours pledged on its 'Hour Bank'.

Earth Hour is a movement of unity that brings the world together, shines a spotlight on nature loss and the climate crisis, and inspires millions more to act and advocate for urgent change. Each year, it works to turn a single Earth Hour into thousands and millions of hours of action for our one shared home.



Images sourced from the earth hour website earthhour.org

Dedham Parish Council



NOTES ON THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING ON FEBRUARY 5TH

Resignation from the Council

It was reported that Cllr Richard Thorkildsen had resigned. The Council thanked him for his contribution to the work of the Council.

Proposal for payment for on-street parking in Dedham High Street

A number of Dedham residents raised concerns in the Public Open Forum about the reported plan in local media to introduce paid parking bays in the High Street and its potential impact on residents' parking. The Council informed those present that they had not been informed about the plans. Residents were encouraged to contact North Essex Parking Partnership.

The Council had major concerns about the proposals and was hoping to secure a meeting with relevant bodies to discuss it further. Concern was also expressed that if this came into force it could have a negative impact upon the local businesses on the High Street.

Royal Square Update

It was reported that 180 residents had submitted the consultation form. The report produced by the independent consultant had been received by the Parish Council. It was noted that it was a very detailed report and its findings were being passed onto the planning group for discussion. The Group will report the findings and recommendations to the main Council and public in due course.

Norwich to Tilbury National Grid Scheme

James Ryan, a Planning Officer from Colchester City Council, has been asked to co-ordinate the Council's overall response to the recommended installation of Pylons within the authority's area. He attended the meeting to advise the Parish Council about the potential impact of planned schemes and summarised the expected timescale of the imminent statutory consultation process.

He indicated that he was here to support and help the Parish Council and local residents with their own responses to proposed plans as necessary and to facilitate the co-ordination of these with Colchester's overall response. He encouraged the monitoring of proposed plans carefully, including the planned Development and Consent Order and the voicing of opposition to these, where appropriate.

Grove Hill

Ongoing concerns were reported from residents about the impassable pedestrian foot-way along Grove Hill. Colchester City Councillor Thomas Rowe, who was present at the meeting, said he would aim to address the issues as quickly as possible.

Dedham Parish Council

Business Breakfast

This year's event organised by the Parish Council will be held at the Marlborough on Wednesday March 13th from 9.00am to 11.15am.

Communications and Social Media Policy

A new policy was agreed by the council to facilitate and encourage developments in the usage of our website and Facebook as means of communication and to establish guidelines in the use of social media in general.

Council Elections

There will be Parish Council elections in May. The Parish Council has an allocated number of 9 councillors and it is in the best interest of the council and local residents to have a strong and viable council with a range of knowledge and expertise amongst its councillors. Anyone who may be interested in finding out more about being a parish councillor is encouraged to contract Graham Wilkinshaw: clerk@dedhamparishcouncil. co.uk and/or to come along to a Coffee Morning with existing Parish Councillors between 10.00am and 12.00noon on Saturday, 9th March 2024.

Douglas Bourn

THE NEXT MEETING OF DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

This will take place on Monday 4th March at 6:30pm in the Duchy Barn.

The Agenda for the Parish Council meeting always includes an open session - Have Your Say and visitors reports (CCC and County Councillors). The agenda can be viewed on the homepage of the Parish Council website. The minutes for the February meeting will be published after they have been approved at the March meeting.

You can also get the latest information on the Parish Council Facebook page, Dedham Notes.

Dedham Notes Facebook page - QR Code







dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk QR Code



FRIENDLY BENCH IDEA

Dedham Parish Council are seeking your views as to whether you think installing a friendly bench on the playing fields Is a good idea. The Friendly Bench is a national initiative to encourage communities to work together, to provide opportunities for people to meet each other and act as a focal point for informal meetings and chats. The nearest Friendly Bench to Dedham is in Ipswich in the Castle Hill area and managed by NW Ipswich Big Local Trust.

Friendly Benches will be available in several styles but most of them have a small community garden with raised beds. We would welcome your views on this, and if interested, whether you might be prepared to be involved in helping to oversee the development and running the bench.



We thought it might be a way of bringing a range of community groups together. Further details about the Friendly Bench Company and where they are located can be found at: https://www.thefriendlybench.co.uk/ locations

If you are interested please contact: douglas.bourn@dedhamparishcouncil. co.uk

TOWARDS A GREENER DEDHAM

With the support of an environmental group in Manningtree, Practical Actions for Climate and the Environment (PACE), a group of local residents have been working on implementing a strategy for a more Sustainable Dedham that was presented to the Parish Council last year.

This group now called Greener Dedham are focusing at present on encouraging the village community to consider how all of our practices can be more environmentally friendly and sustainable.

The initial focus is 40 Ways To Reduce Our Carbon Footprint.

This initiative has been supported and funded by Dedham Parish Council and we are keen for everyone to look at ways they can reduce their energy usage, look closely at the food we eat, how we can travel in a more sustainable way and re-think our lifestyle to improve our quality of life and for our fellow residents.

We welcome any feedback on our plans and ways you are engaging with our suggestions.

Douglas Bourn

email: douglas. bourn@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk

web: www. dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk/ sustainablededham/



COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

It recently came to my attention that North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP), which is comprised of Essex County and North Essex councils, has proposed parking charges on Dedham High Street.

I am most frustrated that it appears no local stakeholders were informed, let alone consulted, on the proposals.

We have written to the Chairman of NEPP for a full explanation and a review so that the impacts of the proposals can be considered and a consultation conducted.

At the time of writing, the Chairman has agreed to meet with me to listen to my concerns. I hope, by the time of reading, no decision will have been made without full consultation of the village.

Given the seasonal pressures on parking in Dedham, it is important the full consequences of this decision have been considered, as well as the economic impact on local businesses and more general impact on local residents and the community.

We will also be raising this with Colchester Council's representative on NEPP to understand their views on the matter.

You may also be aware of the Parish Council's plans for Royal Square.A consultation was held by the Parish Council up until the end of the calendar year. During this consultation, I lodged my opposition to the plans based on comments and conversations with members of the community. At the time of writing, I have not received the full outcome of the consultation results from the Parish Council to determine the next steps, if any.

I organised a meeting with the councillor in charge of highways prior to Christmas to discuss traffic and speed issues in the village. The Parish Council attended too. The meeting was productive and the councillor listened to our concerns about the traffic report produced. They agreed to revisit this and I am looking forward to a positive breakthrough on these issues.

The winter has been particularly challenging for the road network, with high levels of flooding affecting the usability and condition of many roads.

There has also been a significant number of properties directly impacted too. There can be a variety of causes of flooding and I aim to mitigate the impact as best as possible.

For example, there is ongoing discussions to find solutions with organisations including the Environment Agency, Anglian Water, Parish Councils, MPs and Essex County Council.

If you have a flooding issue, please do get in touch with myself so we can ensure it is considered in any solutions. If your property is affected by flooding, you can apply for Property Flood Resilience Grant to Essex County Council. You can find details of this online, or you can contact me directly.

At the time of writing, Essex County Council's budget is about to be voted on. The revenue budget is approximately $\pounds 2$ billion with a capital programme of about $\pounds 1$ billion. The biggest area of expenditure is on social care, with demand and complexity increasing. This is, inevitability, having an impact on other areas like Highways maintenance.

Council tax is proposed to increase by 2.99% with a 2% increase for the social care levy too. Balancing these competing priorities is a challenge, but one I must deal with when I vote. I will update separately in due course after the vote on what the budget means for Dedham.

Cllr Lewis Barber

Gardening Notes

GET OUT AND DO BATTLE!

At last, it's March and a great time of year for me.Although shrubs were budding up and daffodils were putting the heads above ground in the first week of February, everything starts to really get going this month. It's officially Spring, the clocks go forward, and the days are getting longer – even Easter is early this year.

By March, most of the spring bulbs are coming up around the garden and when the weather is sunniest bees will be on the crocus. There might be a bit of early apple blossom in the mini-orchard and there's plenty of vibrant, fresh greenery emerging.



That emerging greenery is going to be vulnerable to slugs though and it'll be necessary to go on the attack before they get out of control. While I'm not obsessive enough to be out at night with a torch picking them off my plants, I do want to protect some of my favourites (plants, not slugs). I chuck molehills of grit over my delphinium plants and will remove as much decaying foliage and leaf litter as possible from around them. Nematodes will also do the job if the soil is warm enough.



I'll finish the rose pruning I started in February now that new growth is starting to unfurl on my modern shrub and English roses, bush roses and climbers.

I've plenty of the vigorous, repeatflowering plants that are classified as modern shrub roses including stunning pink 'The Ancient Mariner' which is a good 7ft with a definite structure of sturdy stems and is used almost as a divider between parts of my garden. I also have the purple, heavily-scented Gallica 'Cardinal de Richelieu' in my front garden. I leave most of their framework in place as a hard cut back will encourage more leafy growth at the expense of flowers.

Gardening Notes



Bush roses include floribundas and hybrid teas like gorgeous red 'Deep Secret', and flower on new growth made in the current growing season. I'm always nervous about cutting these down hard (especially where I've lost the label and am not convinced I've identified the right kind of rose) but will experiment a bit this year to see how well they recover.

Finally, I'll tackle the 'Claire Austin' climber on the front of the house, tying in long stems to their wire framework and cutting back side-shoots to one or two buds. Tying the long stems as horizontal as possible will encourage more side-shoots and more flowers. I'm sure I'll come away from the process looking like I've lost a fight with a particularly aggressive cat, but it'll be worth it.

When pruning, be brave (even if you've lost a label – they'll recover) and use sharp secateurs to make a sloping cut above and away from an outwardfacing bud to keep an open-centred, goblet-shaped plant. Remove dead snags and thin, twiggy stems as well as stems that are growing across one another and might rub.

Leave rambling roses until immediately after they've bloomed in the summer, but every rose will get away better with a granular feed after their spring pruning.

I love my ornamental grasses and their tall fronds have given a fine display over autumn and winter. However, now's the time to cut back the deciduous miscanthus hard to the ground before new green shoots grow too long. Although I don't grow any, evergreen grasses like stipa should be combed through with a rake or your hands (wear gloves) to pull out the dead growth.

On the allotment, I've already put forcers on a couple of my rhubarb plants and will now chuck some chickenmanure pellets around them all and mulch with compost (avoiding the crown) to give them a boost as they get going.

I also need to replace one of my rows of asparagus plants which haven't proven productive. I'll plant the crowns in a Ift wide trench, 6 inches deep, laying the roots over a ridge that runs along the centre and spacing them 12-18 inches apart. Then I return the soil to the trench with the tips of the shoots just buried. I won't harvest these plants for at least a couple of seasons.

I hope you're looking forward to spring and to being in the garden as much as me.

Can you spare some time to help us with our programme of events? We need a couple of additional committee members who can help us set up and clear at Speaker Evenings and spare a couple of Saturdays for our spring and autumn shows, as well as attend Committee meetings every six weeks or so. If you're interested, please reach out to our chairman, Colin Biggins, on 01206 322565.

Elliott Frisby

www.dedhamgardening. wordpress.com - QR code



RIVER STOUR TRUST

Summer is nearly here so what better way to celebrate than a visit to Constable Country and a boat trip on the river on a boat operated by members of the RST. A registered charity, run by volunteers, the Trust came into being over forty years ago when the then Anglian Water Authority attempted to remove public navigation rights.

The current major project for RST is the renovation of Dedham lock to bring it back into a working condition. This is a significant project requiring erosion protection as well as replacement of the lock gates.

We welcome new volunteers and members, either as skippers, bank-side helpers, or river maintenance volunteers. So, if you want to join us on the river with the idea of becoming a skipper, taking people out on trips, or helping out in any way that appeals to you, then please get in touch.



The Maria Constable at Flatford

Our skipper training programme begins in the spring each year and on completion you will be certified as an Inland Waterways accredited skipper. You can offer as much or as little time as you like, all that is needed is love of the countryside and the great outdoors. Boat trips will hopefully soon be available through the locks, but for now why not visit Flatford, maybe just for a walk or take a trip on the river; bring your family, your visitors, and yes, we do take well behaved dogs, all are welcome.

Groups can also charter the boat for family and friends outings or part of a birthday or other celebration. More information and contact details can be found on the Trust's website - www. riverstourtrust.org

> For more information please contact Kevin Taylor on 01206 322122

FOXEARTH MEADOWS NATURE RESERVE

Foxearth Meadows has been owned and managed by A Rocha UK since 2015. ARUK are Christian charity committed to equipping people to protect and restore the environment. Their vision is for the reserve to be a good place for nature and a good place for people too, inspiring them to enjoy, nurture and protect nature and helping them to find health and healing through the natural world.

The eleven-acre site has a variety of habitats including the river and riverbank, wetlands and woodland, an ancient field boundary, a series of ponds and marshy flower-rich grassland. Managed especially for dragonflies and damselflies, it is also home to a wealth of wildlife including otter, kingfisher, harvest mouse, common lizard, grass snake and common toad.

The reserve is about a mile north of Foxearth village, between the River Stour and the lane north-west of Constable's Farm and Constable's Barn (private dwellings with postcode CO10 7HZ).

Email: arocha.org.uk/foxearth-meadows

THE DEDHAM STAKES -FRIDAY 12TH APRIL IN THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS 7PM TO 11PM.

Come along to a Black Tie Evening in the Assembly Rooms testing your sharp playing skills to raise money for a good cause on a Roulette Table and Black Jack, the tables being run by 'Casino Royale'

Proceeds in aid of Dedham Parish Church

Tickets £35 including a Fish and Chip supper and gaming chips.

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For more details and tickets contact Lou Davison 07712 446198 Jill Strangward 01206 322006



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MEET UP MONDAYS

There are a number of people who meet up regularly at the Sun and enjoy spending time together each week, thanks to Piers and his staff. Normally there are about 5-7 people who attend regularly but when I last went there were as many as 10-12 coming and going. The following are comments that were made by people and kindly sent to the magazine by Anne Rowledge.

- A very good meeting point in the centre of the village.
- Staff always greet us with a smile, and are very polite, kind and considerate.
- The coffee (or other beverages) are excellent and served so quickly.
- Regular company for lonely people, especially those living on their own.

There is a collection box on the bar for donations towards the cost of the coffee. So we say a thank you to Piers and the staff at the Sun for their kind hospitality. Do feel you can join us on a Monday morning and know you will be given a welcome by us all, and warmly received by the staff at the Sun too.



PAST LIVES directed by Celine Song (2023) 12A

Wednesday, March 20th 2024. 7:30 PM to 10:00 PM

Two childhood friends are separated after one's family emigrates from South Korea. Two decades later, they are reunited in New York for one week as they confront notions of destiny, love and the choices that make a life. Starring Greta Lee, John Magaro and Teo Yoo.

Tickets £5 will be available online on our website or in person at St Helena Hospice shop in Dedham High Street or on the door.



了 Colchester り City Council

MAY 2024 ELECTIONS

On Thursday 2nd May 2024 a combination of local elections will take place in Colchester. There will be elections for:

Colchester City Council, the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex and some Parishes also have elections, that may be contested.

There is one Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for the whole of Essex.

Across all 17 city wards in Colchester, one of the three ward councillor seats will be up for election in May 2024 as the city elects by thirds.

The Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner election ballot paper will be lilac. The city election ballot paper will be white.

Election timetable.

- Friday 22nd March Notice of Election published
- Monday 25th March Poll cards dispatched
- Friday 5th April 4pm Candidate nomination deadline
- Tuesday 16th April Midnight Registration to vote deadline
- Wednesday 17th April 5pm Postal vote deadline
- Wednesday 24th April 5pm Proxy vote deadline
- Thursday 2nd May Polling day

The Dedham Parish Council full complement of Councillors is nine. If there are more than nine nominations for councillors then an election will have to take place on Thursday 2nd May.

PERFECT PUB WALKS WITH BILL BAILEY

Comedian, musician and nature-lover Bill Bailey sets out on some of the best and most spectacular pub walks the country has to offer, taking in the Peak District, Somerset, Dorset and Suffolk.

Covering everything from history and nature to music, food and art, their talks also see Bill and his guests discuss memories, challenges and life experiences, touching on subjects that men are sometimes reluctant to open up about.



The Suffolk episode includes scenes shot in Dedham and Dedham Church. Bill Bailey's guest for this episode was Sir Trevor McDonald, shown here in the church during a break from filming in June 2023.

The first episode airs on More4(Freeview 18) on Tuesday 20th February at 9pm and features the Peak District. The episode with Dedham Vale, the Essex-Suffolk border and the Stour Estuary is scheduled for Tuesday 27th February at 9:00pm. You should be able to find the episode on the Channel 4 streaming service.

COME JOIN US ON FACEBOOK!



PARISH O

sponsoring a Parish Facebook page?

The page will provide relevant information for Dedham residents, it will feed in information from other relevant FB pages so that all information will be in one place.

The page will allow local clubs, places of interest and event organisers to advertise.

The page will run in conjunction with the Parish Magazine and the

The page will NOT be a discussion



SCAN ME

Graeme Bruce: Cello

Judith Clayton: Clarinet Mary McCarthy: Soprano Shirley Davison: Soprano DEDHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society

SPRING SHOW

All welcome to exhibit - no charge

SATURDAY 6 APRIL 2024 2.00 - 4.15 pm Assembly Rooms, Dedham

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Download the schedule and entry form at www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com

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Tel: 01206 298426. Or buy from Grier and Partners Estate Agents in East Bergholt.



STOUR CHORAL SOCIETY SPRING CONCERT

Stour Choral Society would like to invite you to its spring concert, the 'Messa di Gloria' by Puccini, and Opera Choruses arranged by John Rutter.

The concert will take place on **Saturday 13th April 2024**, 2.30pm at Mistley Parish Church, New Rd, Mistley, CO11 IER The choir will be conducted by Susanna Rose, accompanied by Stephen Smith, organist and Ben Steinitz on percussion.

The soloists will be Gerry Bremner, tenor, Howard Brooks, baritone, Peter Grevatt, bass, Anna Maria Rose, soprano, and Fiona Morris, mezzo-soprano.

Tickets £15 adults, free for under 18's will be available six weeks before the performance from Howell's hardware store in Manningtree High Street, or by email: info@stourchoralsociety.co.uk, or telephone 07511908213, or on the door (cash only).

Please do join us for another splendid afternoon of music.

Refreshments will be available and there is ample parking available at Mistley Park Place opposite the church.



APPEAL FOR END OF LIFE CARE AND CARERS.

The Great Daffodil Appeal encourages people to donate and wear a daffodil in March to support the Marie Curie charity so it can help people with any terminal illness and their families.

Marie Curie is the UK's leading 'end of life charity'. It cares for people with any illness they are likely to die from including Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, heart, liver, kidney and lung disease, motor neurone disease, Parkinson's, and advanced cancer. Today one in four people don't get the end of life care they need.

Superdrug is Marie Curie's 'headline partner' in its campaign to raise much needed funds. You can pick up a daffodil pin in any Superdrug store this March.

For information about volunteering and donation: mariecurie.org.uk/daffodil

DEDHAM ART SOCIETY

Come and join our friendly art group. Guests and visitors are welcome to attend our sessions in the Assembly Rooms.Your first 'taster' visit is free where indicated.We meet on the 2ndand 4th Thursday of the month.We are an amateur group who enjoy painting regularly.

Occasionally we have guest tutors, the rest of the time we help each other, beginners welcome. If you require any information about our activities or joining the Dedham Art Society please contact us by email at

dedhamartsociety@gmail.com or visit our website at

http://www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk

Thursday 14th March 2024.

Visiting Professional Artist - Ray West Assembly Rooms, I.30pm - 5pm

A three hour pastel pencil workshop with local fine art artist Ray West. https:/ /www.raywestart.co.uk

This is an opportunity to work with pastel pencils and Pastelmat. Ray will take us through basic techniques. A package of materials will be available to purchase for those members who have not used these materials before.

£8 Members, Non members £13. Call 07872334729 to book

Thursday 28th March 2024.

Painting together session. Assembly Rooms, 2pm - 4.30pm

This week members may choose to work on their own project perhaps in preparation for the summer exhibition.

First session free, call 07872 334729 to book

STOUR VALLEY U3A learn, laugh, live

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Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month 10am – 12pm at the Lambe School, East Bergholt. Come along, meet some members and decide whether you'd like to join.

Monthly lectures are held on the second Wednesday at 2pm in the Constable Hall, East Bergholt. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4.

13th March - Bonny Williams from PACE "Your individual carbon footprint and why it matters"

10th April - Jenny Malin "Memsahibs and their Indian servants"

Visit our website at: www.u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley



Let's come together on **Sunday 3**rd **March.** Join us for Marie Curie's fourth annual Day of Reflection this March. It's a special moment to remember everyone who died during the pandemic.

Events Calendar

MARCH 2024

- Sunday 3rd at 9:30am, Dedham Church - Rise n' Shine service.
- Sunday 3rd at 5:00pm, Dedham Church Evensong.
- Monday 4th at 12:30pm Monday Lunch Club in the Essex Rose.
- Monday 4th at 6:30pm Dedham Parish Council Meeting in the Duchy Barn.
- Wednesday 6th at 7:30pm Dedham Horticultural Society. 'Gardening for wildlife' with Dr Chris Gibson, conservationist, ecologist and naturalist for over 30 years, based in Wivenhoe.
- Saturday 9th at 10:30. Parish Council coffee morning for prospective parish councillors.
- Sunday 10th at 11:00am, Dedham Church - Communion.
- Thursday 14th Dedham Art Society Visiting Professional Artist - Ray West Assembly Rooms, 1.30pm - 5pm.
- Sunday 17th at 9:30am, Dedham Church - Matins.
- Sunday 17th at 5:00pm, Dedham Church - ReVive@5.
- Wednesday 20th at 7.30pm, The Assembly Rooms - Dedham Films, PAST LIVES directed by Celine Song (2023) 12A
- Thursday 21st 10:30am 12:00pm, The Duchy Barn - Need Help with Digital Services?

- Sunday 24th at 9:30am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- Thursday 28th 2pm 4.30pm, at the Assembly Rooms. Dedham Art Society - Painting together session.
- Friday 29th at 2:00pm, Dedham Church - An Hour at the Cross.
- Sunday 31st at 11:00am, Dedham Church - Easter Sunday Holy Communion.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday

Meet up Mondays - The Sun Inn, I Iam to I2pm. Social Table Tennis - Dedham Sports

Club, 10:30am to 12:30pm.

Tuesday

Coffee morning - The Duchy Barn, 10:30 to 12pm. Dedham Carpet Bowls Club - Dedham Sports Club, 7pm to 9pm.

Wednesday

Bridge in Dedham - Assembly Rooms, 1.30-5,00pm

Thursday

Coffee morning - The Duchy Barn, 10:30 to 12pm.

SOCIAL TABLE TENNIS AT DEDHAM

Monday mornings 10-30am to 12-30pm in the Dedham Sports Pavillion. Everyone assured of a warm welcome, all equipment provided £2, including tea/coffee.We look forward to seeing you.

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|------------------|--------------|
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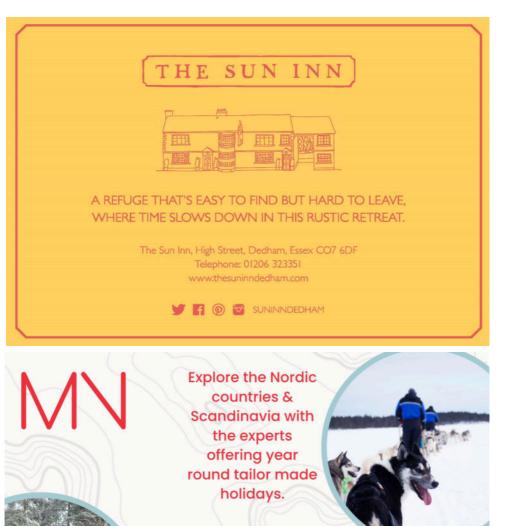
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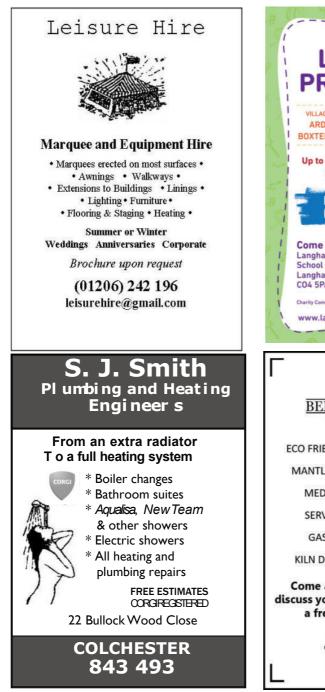
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