

## CLUBS & SOCIETIES

*Daphne Langton writes*

### LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

In June we welcomed the Rev'd Nina Brown, a retired Anglican priest from Colchester. We hope that she will make a return visit to our fellowship. In July we had our Tea Party at *Cluffs*, by kind invitation of Dawn Harrison.

On Wednesday 27 August we will go on a coach outing. The coach will leave the Heath at 1pm, and stop for members in the village.

*Ruth Higginson writes*

### DEDHAM YOUTH CLUB

The Dedham Youth Club will be holding their third Annual General Meeting at 6 p.m. Friday 5 September 2008 in the Duchy Barn, Duchy Field, Dedham. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

*Ian Rose writes*

### U3A

On 1 August the Stour Valley U3A will be holding their Summer Party. On Wednesday 10 September, at 2.15 pm in the Constable Memorial Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt, the Lecture will be on the topic *Charles Dickens in Suffolk*. This will be an illustrated talk given by Clive Paine, the well-known Suffolk historian.

*Paw Slingo writes*

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Just a reminder that the Autumn Show will take place on Saturday 30 August, beginning at 2 p.m., in the Assembly Rooms. A Show Schedule is available — contact Carol Barker ☎ 322 147. We are looking forward to a bumper show this year.

The first meeting of the Autumn will be on Wednesday 1 October. The topic will be *companion planting*.

*Betty Callaghan*

### GOOD NEIGHBOURS CLUB

Our July meeting with Alan Chilvers was on a more serious note as he reminisced about his work with the Cheshire Homes, which were founded by Leonard Cheshire V.C. It was a most informative afternoon.

On 8 August a Committee Meeting will be held. The competition will be a *Jug* (size immaterial).

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*The Editor is pleased to receive brief notices (preferably by e-mail) from Clubs and Societies which serve Dedham, for inclusion on this page.*

## DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

[www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk](http://www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk)  
e-mail: [office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk)

### MINISTERS (01206)

Gerard Moate	Vicar & Lecturer	☎ 322 136
Stuart Wilson	Reader Emeritus	392 572
Chris Slocombe	Hospital Visitor	321 023

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Neil McShane	Churchwarden	323 188
Stuart Wilson	Churchwarden	392 572
Richard Hopkins	Deputy Churchwarden	322 361
Sarah Oakley	Deputy Churchwarden	322 034
Antony Watson	Deputy Churchwarden	853 139
Mike Fisher	Financial Administrator	01394 388 237
Liz Nickerson	PCC Secretary	272 204
George Beeken	Verger	865 264

### MUSIC

Antony Watson	Director of Music	853 139
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### CHURCH GROUPS

Richard & Elizabeth Hopkins	Junior Church	322 361
Vivien Chapman	Dedham Ladies' Fellowship	308 549

### FLOWER ARRANGERS

Sally Gotelee	Co-ordinator	322 652
Barbara Ward	Weddings	337 242

### DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

Parish Office	Editorial & Advertising	322 136
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### PARISH OFFICE at the Vicarage 322 136

**2.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. Monday - Thursday**  
Parish Secretary Betty Cox, Joan Edwards

DEDHAM C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL	<a href="http://www.dedham.essex.sch.uk">www.dedham.essex.sch.uk</a>
Christopher Bailey	Chairman 230 404
Heather Tetchner	Headteacher 322 242

ASSEMBLY ROOMS	<a href="http://www.dedham-assemblyrooms.info">www.dedham-assemblyrooms.info</a>
Tracy Woods	Clerk to the Trustees 323 921
Andrew Hodson	Caretaker 07968 445 572

DUCHY BARN	
Carol Mitson	Secretary 323 116
Gay Burfield	Bookings 322 261

Printed by Contact Reprographics	734 435
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## DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

### Summer 2008

## SUNDAY SERVICES

### 8.30 a.m.

Holy Communion BCP  
Every Sunday (not August)

### 10.30 a.m.

Family Service  
1st Sunday in month

Morning Worship CW  
2nd & 5th Sundays

Holy Communion CW  
3rd Sunday in month

Morning Prayer BCP  
4th Sundays

### 6.30 p.m.

Evening Prayer BCP

## JUNIOR CHURCH

### 10.15 a.m.

Family Service in Church

1st Sunday in month

In the Assembly Rooms  
on all other Sundays  
during school terms

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT EDITION :  
17 September**

## FUZZLE ANSWERS



Paradise Lost / A Backwards Glance

## CHURCH NOTICEBOARD

*Details of the usual pattern of services can be found on Page 1.  
Special, additional, or changes to services are given below:*

**There will be NO 8.30 a.m. SERVICES  
of Holy Communion  
during the month of August**



**TOWER FLAG DAY**  
**Sunday 17 August** *St Mary the Virgin*

### *From the Registers*

#### **BAPTISMS**

29 June 2008 Freya Emily JARDINE  
29 June 2008 Izzy Sheila WRIGHT

#### **WEDDINGS**

27 June 2008 Damian Philip A. TYLER & Kimberly Joanne KENYON  
25 July 2008 Stuart William EVERETT & Sarah Jane GOWER

#### **FUNERALS**

14 July 2008 William Hugh Colquhoun WALKER (75)

#### **INTERMENT of ASHES**

29 June 2008 John Alexander LINDSAY (92)  
20 July 2008 Michael Stanley DAUGHTERS (71)



## SONGS OF PRAISE

***Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they change not;  
As thou hast been thou for ever wilt be.***

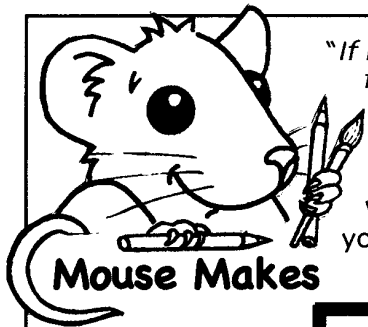
*Hymns Old & New No. 186*

It would be wrong to assume that every hymn has been written or has become well known as the result of some dramatic experience. Some authors have simply made it their habit to write poems of praise regularly, even as often as once a day. Out of the hundreds of verses written in this way, only a few will be worthy of publishing.

Thomas Chisholm (1866-1960) was a Methodist, born in Kentucky, who was first employed as a life insurance agent, before becoming a teacher. He said that there were no special circumstances surrounding the writing of this hymn; he simply wrote down his understanding of God's faithfulness and how it is revealed in the Bible. God's faithfulness derives from another attribute of His character — His immutability, or 'unchanging-ness'. With God there is 'no shadow of turning' (compare James 1: 17). Chisholm sent these verses with several other poems to his friend William Runyan, who was a Methodist minister who had become established as a composer of sacred music. It was Runyan who recommended that the hymn should be published.

In 1938 George Beverly Shea was working in an insurance office in New York when he was invited to go to Chicago to sing for the radio broadcast from the Moody Bible Institute. At 8.15 a.m. every morning fifteen minutes of hymns were broadcast. One of the regular listeners to this programme was Billy Graham, who invited Shea to help him in the church where he was working as a student pastor, in Western Springs, Illinois. This led to Graham and Shea later working together in the large-scale evangelistic crusades for which they both became so well known. In 1954 they introduced this hymn to Britain, at the Harringey Crusade in North London, from which time it has become a British favourite hymn. It has been often chosen for wedding services and has been included in most hymn books published since.

***Summer and winter and springtime and harvest  
Sun, moon and stars in their course above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.***



"If I flew away beyond the east or lived in the farthest place in the west, you would be there to lead me, you would be here to help me" from Psalm 139

Whenever you leave home and wherever you go, remember that **God will be with you.**



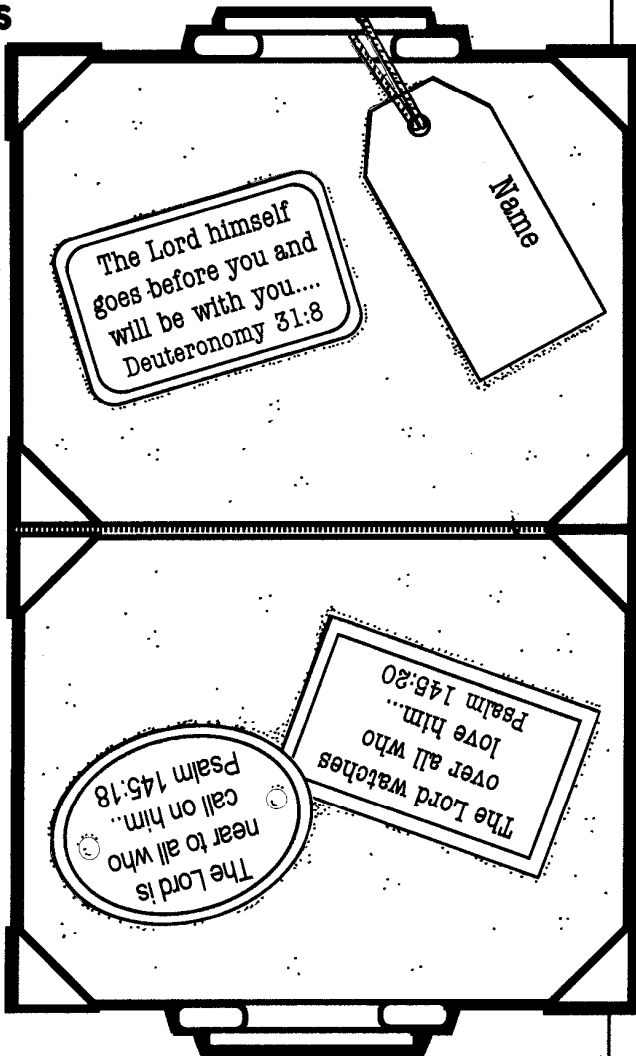
### The Long Journey

The Lord said to Abram:

"Leave your country, your people and your father's home and go to a land that I am going to show you. I will give you many descendants, and they will become a great nation. I will bless you and make your name famous, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. And through you I will bless the nations"

So Abram left, as the Lord had told him... He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all their possessions and they set out for the land of Canaan.

Read Abram's story in Genesis chapters 12-25.



Glue the suitcase to thin card, cut out and fold in half. Write inside what you would take with you on a long journey.

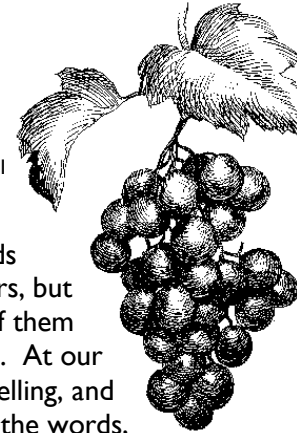


## VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

### GOOD WINE

*'I am the true vine, and my Father is the gardener.'*

John 15: 1



The image Jesus chose when he said these words was familiar to his hearers, but his use and application of them was startling and original. At our distance from that first telling, and with our familiarity with the words, it is possible to overlook what it was that would have made people sit up and take notice.

Ever since the time of the prophet Isaiah, the mention of a vine or a vineyard meant more to Jewish people than a source of fruit or wine. The vineyard was a metaphor to describe the relationship between God and his covenant people. It had become common use by New Testament times.

So, by extension, the crop of fruit it produced might be understood as 'all the good' produced by the people, or the people themselves. Indeed, the Vine had become the national symbol of the occupied people of Israel. Thus it was the emblem on the coins of the Maccabees, the rulers during brief time (occurring in between the Old and the New Testament accounts), when the people of Israel had not been under the authority of an enemy power.

So it was that one of the visual splendours of the Temple in Jerusalem was the great Golden Vine upon the front of the Holy Place. Many a wealthy Jewish person had counted it an honour to give gold to mould a new bunch of grapes or even a single grape on that great Vine.

The other Gospels have Jesus telling a parable with similar imagery but there the whole picture is developed into one of far darker shade: in the parable of the Tenant of the Vineyard, the wickedness which began with a failure to honour the owner of the vineyard, eventually leads to the death of the owner's son.

It's a curious fact that the symbol of the Vine is never used in the Old Testament apart from the idea of degeneration – of rot. The point of Isaiah's picture is that the vineyard has run wild. Jeremiah made a similar complaint.

St. John alone records these words of Jesus, *"I am the True Vine"*. These words were startling. It was as if Jesus said "You think that because you belong to the nation or people of Israel you are a branch of the true vine of God, but the nation, the people, have 'run wild'. It is I who am the true, the obedient, the fruitful vine". *continued >*

## VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE CONTINUED

By abiding, that is by grace being grafted into, this vine, we who were once *not* God's people, now have become his people, part of his vineyard. Jesus was teaching that it was not Jewish blood but faith in him which was the way to God's salvation. No other qualification earns the right, only friendship with Jesus Christ can do that.

Jesus said *"My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and so be my disciples"* (John 15:8) ... *fruit that will last"* (John 15:16). The vine dresser in the parable expected grapes. But, according to St. Paul, the heavenly vine dresser takes delight in each of us producing a fruit with a nine-fold characteristic *"For the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control"* (Gal. 5:22-23).

Some people are naturally kinder or more generous than others. But they are unlikely to produce the sweet fruit that God has in mind. And anything we produce by our own effort quickly turns to self-righteousness, which has a sour taste for others and even more so for the heavenly Gardener. Bishop Michael Marshall, former Bishop of Woolwich, once observed that:

*"There are few things more ugly than that of a self-made man who worships his maker"*.



As the early Christians were to discover, in spiritual terms this approach can be difficult. We are inclined to think that our finest, or at least most important, work is achieved when we are strong, when we are most in control of our days, and when we need least help. But, for example, St. Paul learned that this is not so.

St. Paul pleaded with God in prayer to remove what he called *"a thorn in the flesh"*. And he said that God answered his prayer, but not by removing the cause of his suffering. Instead, he heard God say *"My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."* (2 Corinthians 12:9)

There are two distinctive qualities about being a good disciple of Christ: First, a fruitful life. By abiding in Christ we are made, in the metaphor, a 'fruitful branch'. Second, bringing glory to God; the sight of such a life turns other people's thoughts to the God who made someone like that. The greatest glory of the Christian life is therefore not wealth, position, or personal achievement. The greatest glory is that by our life and conduct, we may bring glory to God.

**Gerard Moate**  
Vicar & Lecturer

*Adapted from the sermon preached at the funeral of the late William H.C. Walker.*



## Dedham Lecture 2008



The Right Reverend  
**John Gladwin**  
Bishop of Chelmsford  
Chair of the Board of Christian Aid

### **'Who is my Neighbour?'** **A Challenge in our Global Age**

**8 p.m.**  
**Monday 29 September**

For further information  
or a CD recording of this Lecture :

*Telephone:* 01206 322 136

*E-mail:* [office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk)



*The annual Dedham Lecture  
is given free and will take place in*  
**Dedham Parish Church**  
*at the invitation of the Lecturer of Dedham  
& the Dedham Ecclesiastical Lectureship Trust*



# Dedham Run 2008

**11 a.m. Sunday 21 September 2008**

**Dedham Playing Field & Duchy Field  
10k Race (measured) & 2.2m Fun Run**



*Medals, Trophies & Cash Prizes!  
Entertainments, Refreshments, Changing Facilities, Results Service*

Entry forms and more details available from our  
website: **www.dedhamrun.co.uk**  
or contact **Glenys Loeffler** on ☎ **322 358**

Entry forms also available from Dedham Post Office  
**All proceeds to  
Dedham C.E. Primary School & Dedham Youth Club**

10K sponsored by *Ramsay Health Care*  
2.2M sponsored by *St. Joseph's College*

## **DEDHAM NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH** *Unoccupied Premises*

To maximise awareness of a temporarily unoccupied house in Dedham and Langham (e.g. through holiday periods) please advise our local P.C.S.O. (the dates you are away and due to return home, plus key holder's contact details during your absence) so that she is aware and can routinely check on these premises during your absence. Do not forget to let trusted neighbours know. Dedham P.C.S.O. — Natalie King : **01206 762 212** / mobile **07966 197 310**

## **FUZZLES**

*Part of a series of font word-puzzles or Fuzzles. Which phrases are conveyed by this?*

*Answer on page 20.*

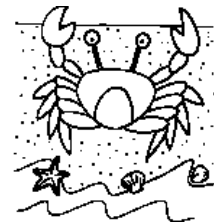
**Hell 2 — 1 Heaven**

**ecnalg**

### **SMARTYS PRE-SCHOOL**

With the approach of the school summer holidays, *Smartys* said goodbye to our five oldest children whom will be starting at Dedham Primary School in September. We wish them all well.

This year's Summer outing was a much-enjoyed train ride from Mistley to Dovercourt. We then walked a short distance to the park where the children spent some time in the outdoor play area.



The rest of our time was spent on the beach with picnics, bats and balls, and buckets and spades.

The tide was out when we first arrived and so the children ran through the sand and mud, picking up shells, seaweed and crabs.

It was lovely to see the children all playing together and helping each other in a different environment to their normal *Smartys* setting. And of course a trip to the seaside is not complete without an ice cream, even if one or two had to be washed free of sand.

The train ride back to Mistley was just as exciting to our 3 and 4 year olds as the trip there. There were lots of very tired but happy little faces on our return.



Our next fund-raising event will be at the Dedham August Bank Holiday Summer Fair. For many years *Smartys* has had a space next to the play area in the park. This year we are having a raffle with some fantastic prizes donated from many of our local businesses. The two main prizes are a £50 voucher to Milsom Hotels and Restaurants, and a Spa evening at Clarice House also worth £50. Tickets can be bought on the day. Other *Smartys* activities will include a Kids Café selling home-made cakes and home-made lemonade, a bouncy castle, and the 'Human Fruit Machine'. Please come along, have fun, and support us.

### **MENCAP**

This national charity is promoting a new 'Adult Placement Scheme' that is being funded by Essex County Council. This scheme will provide both short and long-term family placements for adults with learning disabilities. The regional branch of Mencap is looking for families or individuals who can offer a place within their life and home to someone with learning disabilities to give them an opportunity to lead a fuller life in the wider community.

For more information contact:

**Mencap Essex**  
6 Freebournes Court  
Newland Street  
Witham CM8 2 BL  
☎ **01376 519 450**

## NEWSROUND

### DEDHAM VILLAGE ASSOCIATION

At the 2008 Dedham Village Association (DVA) Annual General Meeting the decision was taken that the requirement for the DVA as a village organisation no longer exists. The DVA has maintained a watching brief on what the Parish and Borough Councils have allowed but, with the formal adoption of the *Village Design Statement*, Dedham is now protected from inappropriate development.

Additionally, over the last few years membership numbers have decreased and we have failed to attract new members. Several of the Association officers have wished to stand down and there has been no-one coming forward to take their place.

Notable achievements that the DVA has lead or been involved in over the years include:

- A measure of HGV traffic control through the village
- The Millennium celebrations
- Our village sign – the finance, design and positioning of it.
- Instigation of the Mill Road car park
- Organising and helping to run the August Bank Holiday events.

There has also been the campaign to retain a Doctors' Surgery in the village. Two of the four directors of the *Dedham Vale Community Health Association* have been DVA officers.

*Veronica Webber, DVA President, writes:*

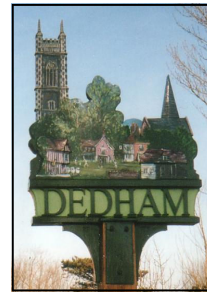
'As President I would like to thank every member for their support over the past twenty seven years since the Association was founded, and to explain the reasons for its foundation. This followed a meeting of another Society whose interests were expanding over a wider area in which a group of us were dismayed at the lack of interest shown in the deterioration of Shakespeare House, a Grade 2 \* listed-building in the centre of Dedham which included, among other things, a large hole in the roof. At a meeting at a private house we thought that Dedham needed a means of concentrating on matters of such concern to the village.

I would like to thank Del Bower our Chairman, Steve White our Secretary, and Eveline Baker our Treasurer for their excellent work and commitment and finally to remind members to cancel their direct debit subscriptions. It was agreed by all members present at the DVA AGM that the remaining balance of funds will be passed over to the *Dedham Vale Community Health Association*.'

The DVA Secretary will be writing to all members to reiterate the contents of this notice.



## NOTICEBOARD



*Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Project*

### Dedham Guided Tours

*Think you know Dedham?*

Combine the chance to learn about this village, with its connections to Constable, with a visit to the Sir Alfred Munnings Museum.

You will hear about the buildings and history from local guides.

Tour ends at the Museum, which you can then enjoy at your own pace.

**Tours run on Sunday afternoons 2 – 3.30 p.m.**

**17 August & 21 September**

(Groups may also arrange for other dates)

Adults £5, children (aged 5-15) £4 (including admission to Munnings)

Buy your tickets at the *Essex Rose Tea Shop*, Dedham or from *Colchester Visitor Information Centre* ☎ (01206) 282 920

### 'RIDE & STRIDE'

**SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 2008 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.**

This national event was started by the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust. Now over thirty counties take part each year. The best part is that you can choose



your own itinerary, visiting the places that you want, because there is no set route. Everyone can join in. Participants are sponsored for the number of places of worship they visit in the day. Some people are very imaginative: one family sailed to the churches on the banks of the River Blackwater; whilst a

Brentwood choir quartet sings a motet in every church they visit. You can also be sponsored for stewarding your local church and welcoming 'riders and striders'. More information from the Parish Office.

**DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION**

*Have you started in a new School, College or University?  
Did you know that financial help is locally available?*

Secondary school grants, university grants and maintenance allowances for educational purposes are offered to young people resident in the Parishes of Dedham, Ardleigh, Bradfield, Great Bromley and Stratford St. Mary  
For full particulars and application form:

Mrs Jean Flewin, Clerk to the Governors, Coppins, Crown Street, Dedham, Colchester CO7 6AT

*Closing date for applications:  
26 October 2008*

**Improve your Bridge!**

**Would you like to learn to play Bridge better?**



**There will be a new class at the Duchy Barn**

**Wednesday afternoons  
1: 45 — 3: 45 p.m.**

*17 September to 10 December  
£ 55 for 13 WEEKS*

Enquiries, or to join, contact  
**Mike Fisher ☎ 01394 388 237**

**DEDHAM ARTS GROUP**

The Summer Exhibition will be held at Littlegarth Studio, High Street Dedham

**Saturday 23 August until  
Monday 25 August 2007.**



Admission is free  
Exhibition open daily :

11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

There will be a private viewing open to members and their friends on Friday 22 August at the studio at 6 p.m.

**BBQ**

@  
**ROSE & CROWN P.H.**

**Saturday 23 August  
from Noon onwards**

Also, come and hear

**AIR**

an up-and-coming young group  
8 p.m. onwards

*All proceeds to the local  
Senior Citizens' Christmas Party*

**PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE**

[www.dedhamparishcouncil.org.uk](http://www.dedhamparishcouncil.org.uk)

*Roy Laverick writes*

**LORRIES AND THE VILLAGE**

For some time the Parish Council has been trying to find a solution to the problem of heavy lorries using our narrow roads. The vehicles (which are often foreign-registered) enter the village as part of a cross-country "short cut" when heading, for instance, from the A12 to Harwich. The route is often chosen by a satellite navigation system which makes no allowance for the size of the vehicle concerned, leading to the use of totally inappropriate roads. The problem is then exacerbated because the length of the lorry makes it virtually impossible for them to turn around.

Occurrences could be reduced by placing more prominent signs at the Stratford St Mary A12 junction, thereby inducing drivers to reach their destination by a less sensitive route. The junction, however, lies within Suffolk, and there are, in any case, stringent Department for Transport restrictions on the signs that may be used on trunk routes.

We are pursuing three courses of action. The subject will be aired at the newly-formed Local Highways Panel, County Councillor Tony Clover will raise the matter with the various County bodies with which he deals, while Borough Councillor Christopher Garnett will continue to lobby Colchester Borough Council.

To back up his arguments, Councillor Garnett needs evidence of the extent of the problem and to this end he would welcome details of the date, time, location and registration numbers of over-sized lorries seen in the parish. Photographs would, of course, be particularly welcome. If you can help, please contact him on ☎ **272 479**, or [Cllr.Christopher.Garnett@colchester.gov.uk](mailto:Cllr.Christopher.Garnett@colchester.gov.uk)

**NEXT MEETING**

Please note that barring emergencies, there will not be a Parish Council meeting in August.

The next meeting will be at **7 p.m.** on **Wednesday, 10 September** in the Assembly Rooms.

*Note: The earlier time is because the meeting will start with the postponed presentation on Section 106 grants.*



**SCHOOL EPPa GROUP**

The Primary School 'Growing Club' has packed up its tools as the summer term draws to a close. The potatoes that we planted on our very first afternoon have been harvested and presented to each child in the club.

Our seeds have grown well and we have vegetables and flowers jostling for space in our gardens at home (protected by scarecrows expertly made by the children)! The skills that we have learnt will be put into practise over the summer holiday so that we can compete for the tallest sunflower and biggest squash on our return to school next term! Our thanks to Sophie Fitch, volunteer parent and professional gardener, for running such a productive and exciting club.

The 'Wildlife Club' too has been very popular. Children and parents have enjoyed exploring camouflage techniques and pond dipping, without getting too wet and messy!

The 'Nightingale Walks' held at Fingringhoe Wick Nature Reserve were thoroughly enjoyed by school families and EPPa Group members. It was a real treat to have the reserve to our selves, kindly organised by EPPa wildlife volunteer, Neil Bedford, and to experience the abundant wildlife and beautiful countryside. Not forgetting the charming song of the elusive nightingale of course!

**BEIJING OLYMPICS GOSPELS**

Bibles and Gospel booklets printed in China will be available to athletes in the Olympic village in Beijing this summer, despite rumours that Bibles would be banned at the games. With the support of Bible Society, 50,000 booklets are being specially printed for the event, with the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in Chinese and English. Ten thousand Chinese-English complete Bibles and 30,000 Chinese-English New Testaments will also be available.



The initiative, which follows controversy earlier this year over whether the Chinese authorities would allow Bibles to be made available at the Olympics, has the approval of the Beijing Olympic organising committee. For the first time, the committee is allowing its logo to be used, free of charge, on the Gospel booklets.

You may choose to assist such work by sending a gift to the

**Bible Society,**  
Stonehill Green,  
Westlea,  
Swindon SN5 7DG  
☎ 01793 418100

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY  
**DEDHAM VILLAGE DAY**  
MONDAY  
AUGUST 25TH  
10AM-5PM



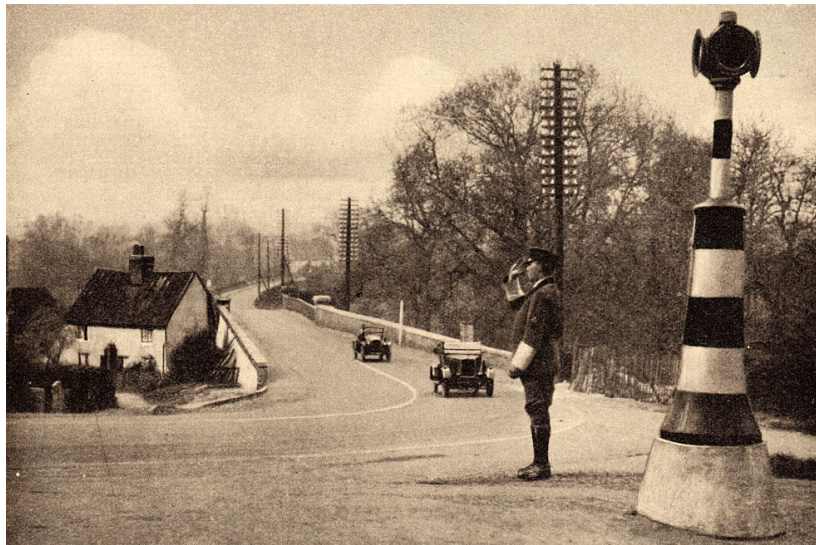
*Come & enjoy a day in this historic village and its surrounding countryside. Lots to do and see, plus a market, antiques fair, stalls, entertainment and food!*

Pick up a programme on the day for times and activities





The undated photograph above of a steam traction engine and crew with a name-board of "E. Clover & Co. Dedham Mills Essex" above came up for sale on Ebay recently. If the eventual purchaser lives locally and reads this, please could we have a good copy of the photograph for the archives?



Can anyone give more information about this photograph?

**CHURCH WEDDINGS**

Thousands of couples dreaming of a wedding will find more churches to choose, from 1 October 2008 - the day when the new *Church of England Marriage Measure* comes into effect.

The *Marriage Measure*, which has recently completed its parliamentary process, has made it possible for the Bishops to issue guidance to clergy on how the new rules will work. Existing marriage law, dating from 1949, established a right for a couple to marry in the Church of England in the parish church where one or both of them live, whether they are baptised or not, and whether they were churchgoers or not. To marry in any other parish other than the one in which they live requires a special licence or six months of regular attendance followed by entry on the local Church Electoral Roll.

The new law, initiated by the Church of England and now approved by Parliament, will add to this right of residency, making it just as easy for couples to marry in a church where they have a family or other special connection, even if they don't live there.

The General Synod decided that the existing laws were too restrictive in what has become a far more mobile society and took the initiative to change them last July. Synod wanted churches all over England to be free to celebrate more weddings and thereby support more marriages.

The changes will mean that an hitherto unmarried and engaged couple will be welcome to be married in Dedham Parish Church if one of these conditions applies:

- one of them was baptised or prepared for confirmation in the parish;
- one of them has ever lived in the parish for six months or more;
- one of them has at any time regularly attended public worship in the parish for six months or more;
- one of their parents has lived in the parish for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- one of their parents has regularly attended public worship there for six months or more in their child's lifetime;
- their parents or grandparents were married in the parish.



## PAST TIMES

### Ten Years Ago August - September 1998

The Headmaster of Dedham C.E. Primary School, Mr. Michael Atkins, retired after nearly 25 years in office; a Community Minibus had been purchased by P.C. Michael Sharp; John Blakesley provided a demonstration of bee-keeping at the Countryside Centre [now the Duchy Barn Community Centre]; the award of nearly £430,000 from English Heritage towards the refurbishment of the Hewitt Hall was announced.

### Fifty Years Ago August - September 1958

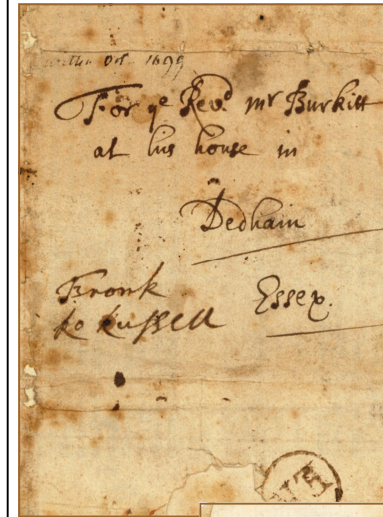
Miss Betty Mallett retired, after more than twenty years service, from helping with the Sunday School; the amount of *lost property* in church was becoming an issue, among the items were a child's scooter, a tweed coat, and a great variety of gloves and spectacles; the *Dedham Flower Show* was not as well supported as had been hoped. The Vicar (who was the President) appealed for greater support for this important event in the village calendar; in the *churchyard a scheme for levelling neglected graves* was begun, so as to make the task of maintenance easier; the Rev'd David Sheppard, former England cricketer (and later Bishop of Liverpool) came to Dedham as the guest speaker at a conference for Young People.

### A Century Ago August - September 1908

The scheme for the opening up of the windows in the Chancel was discussed: *'The Vicar is glad to be able to announce that one of the windows ... on the south side... will be filled with stained glass, and the suggestion that another of the windows should be dedicated to the memory of the late Miss Eyre, and paid for out of her munificent legacy...seems to meet with very general approval...it is estimated that the cost of each window will not exceed £200.* The National School was closed earlier than the end of term, on the advice of Dr. Lownds *'owing to the slight outbreak of whooping cough'*; Sir Hamilton and Lady Lang were thanked for hosting the Mothers' Meeting at the Grove

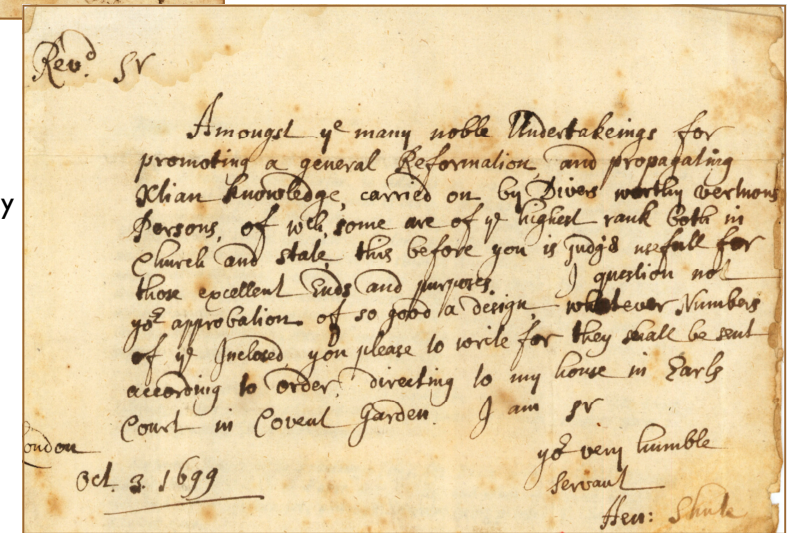
## PAST TIMES

### LATE POST



A letter from a certain Henry Shute, which is dated 'October 3 1699', has been found in the Muniment Room. Addressed 'For ye Revd. Mr. Burkitt at his house in Dedham', it is an attempt to gain his financial support for the printing of religious tracts for distribution in the colonies. For identification purposes the handwriting has been compared with that of two other letters from Mr. Henry Shute which are in Lambeth Palace Library.

The original document will eventually be listed as part of the National Archives research database.



### WANTED

Dedham memories, especially photographs, particularly if they have been or can be dated and any people in them can be identified.

If you have Dedham photographs or other memorabilia that would not be wanted by your family, please approach the *Muniment Room Society* before permanently disposing of anything. ☎ 01206 322 136