

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

Daphne Langton writes

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

In August members enjoyed a boat trip from Waldingfield on the River Deben during which tea was served on board. At the next meeting, 2.30 p.m. Wednesday 24 September, in the Assembly Rooms, Maida Brown will give a talk on filling shoe-boxes for *Operation Christmas Child*. These may be prepared at the meeting or at home.

Ian Rose writes

U3A

On 8 October, at 2.15 p.m., the Stour Valley U3A will be holding their A.G.M. in the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt. This will be followed by a Team Quiz organized by Roy Padgam and Ken McLean.

Paw Slingo writes

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The Autumn Show was a great success enjoyed by many. Now we start off the season with a talk on 'Companion Planting' given by Karen Kenny (Radio Suffolk) which I'm

sure you will find very helpful and interesting. It will be in the Assembly Rooms, Dedham on Wednesday 1 October, starting at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are most welcome.

Betty Callaghan writes

GOOD NEIGHBOURS' CLUB

At our September meeting PCSO Natalie King enlightened members about her role, from high-visibility patrolling to solving low-level crime and being 'the eyes and ears' of our community.

On 10 October the speaker will be Peter Simpson from Age Concern. The competition will be an *egg-cup*.

Lesley Sant writes

THE CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

There will be a collection of Society boxes at the Family Service on Sunday 2 November. Any boxes not handed in will be collected during the following week. Thank for all your contributions. If you would like to have a *Children's Society* collecting box, please contact ☎ 322 810.

13579
coming

FUZZLE

Part of a series of font word-puzzles or Fuzzles.
Which phrase is conveyed by this?

Answer below.

FUZZLE ANSWER

Overcoming the Odds

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk
e-mail: 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, Tricia Robins

DEDHAM C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL	www.dedham.essex.sch.uk
Christopher Bailey	Chairman 230 404
Heather Tetchner	Headteacher 322 242

ASSEMBLY ROOMS	www.dedham-assemblyrooms.info
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

October
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 :
15 October



**TOWER FLAG DAYS
THIS MONTH:
SUNDAY 5 OCTOBER
HARVEST FESTIVAL**

Details of the usual pattern of services can be found on Page 1.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Produce required:

**Gifts of vegetables,
fruit, jams
and chutneys
please!**

Sunday 5 October

10.30 a.m. Harvest Festival Family Service
Preacher : Richard Hopkins

Tuesday 8 October

10.00 a.m. Primary School Harvest Service



From the Registers

BAPTISMS

7 September 2008 Isabel Frances ARCHER
Harry Jonathan LANDER
Scarlet Olivia MARTIN

MARRIAGE

2 August 2008 Kevin Andrew SMITH & Leanne Clare VALANTINE
15 August 2008 Christopher Paul COPPING & Fiona Kathryn GRANT
16 August 2008 Simon James MATTHEWS & Bethan Judy HARDING
23 August 2008 Simon James BARDWELL & Michelle Jane RABY
6 September 2008 Christopher Robert PARMENTER & Victoria Ann MUSCAT

INTERMENT OF ASHES

3 August 2008 David Frederick ALLEN



**Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know, and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown in you, and you in me?**

Hymns Old & New No. 560

The Iona Community, founded in 1938 by the Rev'd. George MacLeod, is an Christian community of men and women from different traditions in the church that is committed to seeking new ways of living the Gospel of Jesus in today's world.

The Community runs three residential centres: Iona Abbey and the MacLeod Centre on the Isle of Iona, and Camas Tuath on Mull. These are places of welcome, giving an opportunity to live together in community with people of from all over the world. Experimental worship is developed by a part of the Community known as the Wild Goose Resource Group, which takes its name from one of the ancient Irish symbols for the Holy Spirit. The Group has two full-time workers, John Lamberton Bell and Graham Maule, who are the authors of this striking hymn, which was first published in 1987.

Bell and Maule have produced many collections of original hymns and songs and two collections of songs of the World Church. Bell is an occasional broadcaster and has presented *Songs of God's People* on BBC, which included religious songs from various parts of the world. Bell also often lectures in theological colleges in Britain and U.S.A. He is primarily concerned with the renewal of congregational worship from "grass-roots" level.

The final verse is the source of a title by which this hymn has become widely known: *The Summons*.

**Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you, and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.**

Mouse Makes PRAYER CUBE

Stick on card, colour in then cut around the outside. Fold along the lines and glue together to make a cube. Roll the cube then use the words on the top to start your prayers.

When you pray you can talk to God about ANYTHING... anytime, anywhere!

You can PRAISE God for his goodness, you can THANK him for his love and care and tell him your worries because God hears us, helps us and loves us!

I'm sorry for...
Father God, forgive me

MY PRAYER CUBE

for my family and my friends

FATHER GOD, thank you for all the good things you give me. Amen

LORD, help me to learn how to pray and talk to you. Amen.

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever" Psalm 136:1



IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

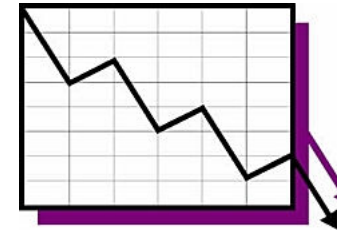
The news industry has always understood that good news does not sell as well as bad news. Playing on our fears and insecurity is an easy way to get our attention. Nowadays the 'bad news business' has an easier time of it; the usual diet of war and rumours of war, of health-scares and natural disasters, and of the general misery of the human condition (as seen through the lives of celebrities and wannabees) has been given a boost by some *real* bad news, the like of which has not been heard in a long while: there is a money crisis in the Western world.

'Bear markets' in the City are not new, but sudden and severe changes to the way a nation's wealth is looked after (and lost) make headlines almost daily.

The steep drop in the stock market and a lack of confidence in some aspects of banking both affect more than the City 'suits' and any Mayfair restaurants or Kensington dog-walkers they may have patronised. These events now touch those with little or no money, because scant savings have lost value, debts are harder to pay back and prices rise faster than incomes. This may not be a problem of African proportions, but if you are someone who has lost their job because of it, then it may personally seem like one.

In such times worry can overwhelm us and disappointment may give way to despair. A loss of perspective easily leads to a loss of hope. I am neither ignoring nor diminishing the challenges which many are facing when I say that 'uncertain times' call for us to reaffirm a 'certain faith'.

As good times may mean we forget to be grateful, so there is nothing like trouble for reminding us of true values. We are reminded afresh that health is worth more than wealth, that friends have value beyond failing finance, and that 'sufficient for the day' is a blessing, especially when future promises have



failed us. We should not presume that we are the first to be as anxious, nor that our troubles are more severe than others have borne.

Yet the Christian faith offers more than *Monty Python's* fatuous encouragement to "always look on the bright side of life". For Christians there is a *person* whom we can trust in uncertain times, and a *promise* we can rely on when others fail. As the hymn-writer Edward Bickersteth put it :

*Peace, perfect peace,
Our future all unknown?
Jesus we know,
and he is on the throne.*

Gerard Moate
Vicar & Lecturer

Georgina Cottee writes

The *Pedal to Paris* — an epic cycle journey on behalf of the Royal British Legion, was completed by Tony Cottee. He set off with friends from Greenwich to Dover on 4 September in showery and windy conditions. They caught the



ferry and stayed the first night in Calais. Next day conditions worsened, with almost constant rain, headwinds and never-ending hills. Second night was in Abbeville. Saturday the rain had eased but strong headwinds continued, as did the hills. Third night was in Beauvais. Sunday the weather was brighter and dry but headwinds and hills continued until

they reached the edge of Paris. They made a very stirring sight as they approached the *Arc de Triomphe*, with motorcycle outriders. The front team of cyclists, in perfect formation came through wearing Union Flag shirts. At the *Arc de Triomphe*, with perfect police control, traffic ceased as the cyclists spilled into their compound, and flowed again, as if being switched on by a tap.

They met up with their own support teams and others that they had met over the four days, including the dedicated mechanics. Next they received medals, presented by the Royal British Legion. They shook hands with the outriders and marched to the 'Tomb of the Unknown Soldier' for a ceremony, accompanied by a military band and a few old soldiers.

Some 230 cyclists took part in the 285 mile journey. More than 150

punctures were repaired in one day. Tony has raised £1,883 so far, with more to collect. He would like to thank his many generous sponsors, and all those who have helped



him in his quest. Special thanks are due to John Malseed who has maintained Tony's bike, making sure it was in such great shape for its long journey that it made the whole journey without even getting a puncture.



Nigel Beverley, Charles & James Ince, Tony Cottee

Congratulations and well done Tony!

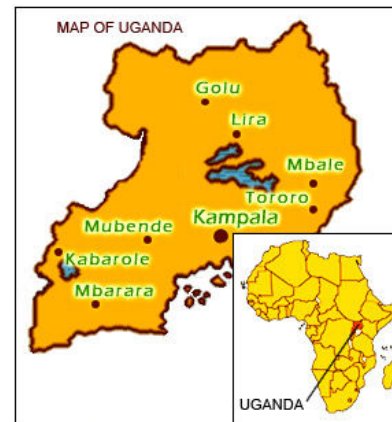
OPEN HOUSE @ THE VICARAGE

**Saturday 1 November
10 a.m. — 4 p.m.**

**& Sun 2 November
12 noon — 4 p.m.**

BOOKS - DVDs - VIDEOS - CDS

*In aid of Heather Moate's
visit to Uganda
supporting the work of Veritas College
through Richard & Sue van de Ruit*



ABSENT FRIENDS



*a comedy by Alan Ayckbourn
presented by*



THE DEDHAM PLAYERS

22 TO 25 OCTOBER 2008

7.45 p.m. Assembly Rooms Dedham

Tickets £6.50 available from

W. A. HOOD NEWSAGENTS

Dedham High Street ☎ 323 160

HALLOWEEN FIREWORKS PARTY

12 Crownfields, Dedham, Colchester CO7 6AT

Saturday 25 October 2008

Gates Open at 6.30 p.m.

MASSIVE Firework Display 7.30 p.m.

Adult ticket: £10.00

Child ticket (under 12): £ 5.00

Family Ticket (2 adult & 2 Children) £25.00



Price includes "all you can eat" BBQ including Roast Pork Rolls, Crackling, Hot Dogs and Homemade Soup

Please bring your own drinks — mulled wine will be on sale FANCY DRESS OPTIONAL

Tickets are limited, so book yours early to avoid disappointment !!!

PLEASE – For Safety Reasons – NO Fireworks or Sparklers – Thank You!

All profits will go to the Dedham Senior Citizen Xmas Party Fund

☎ 323 469

Thank you to everyone who bought my cakes and puddings last year, I hope you enjoyed them – I'm doing the same again this year and hope you will be kind enough to support me again...

LAURA LOVELOCK
AGE 15

**Call 01206 323521
For orders**

Want time to relax
this Christmas?
I can help!

**CHRISTMAS CAKES AND
CHRISTMAS PUDDINGS!**

Delicious home-baked Christmas cakes and Christmas puddings baked for you in aid of a Malaysia and Borneo Project 2009. Cakes from £10, Puddings from £5.



David Watson writes

WORLDWIDE WELCOME

There was a sunny day in August! On one of them (was it the only one?) Michael and Caroline White, leaders of *Friends International* and Joan Davies, Chairman of the *International Women's Society (IWS)*, both societies based at the University of Essex, brought over 20 pre-sessional international students to Dedham. There came from Syria, Taiwan, China, Saudi Arabia, India, Switzerland, Italy, Germany and Japan.

Geraldine Watson, a long time member of the *IWS*, was delighted to arrange a delicious afternoon tea for them at the Duchy Barn. She was ably assisted by Sarah Oakley, Anne Marie Partrick and her son Jason, and David Watson, all members of the Parish Church. A glance at the Church Visitors' Book reveals that Dedham welcomes people from all over the world (last year from 77 countries). In this simple way both the Whites and the church team were able to fulfil their mutual aim of welcome and hospitality to visitors.



Laura Lovelock writes

CAKES & PUDDINGS TO GO

Girlguiding UK has offered me and twenty others the chance to go to Borneo and Malaysia in the summer of 2009. With others we will be building a children's adventure playground in the Cameron Highlands of Malaysia and then going over to Borneo to support the work of World Wildlife Fund. In order for me to do this I will need to raise £2,000 for the charity. Once again I will be baking for Christmas, so that you don't have to (please see details on p.12). Using this service you wouldn't just be buying a Christmas cake or pudding, but will be helping me to raise the funds to go on this adventure. You may be interested to know that I have already raised just over half of what I need.



Tracy Lovelock writes

'BODY SHOP' PARTY

Dedham Guides invite you to our Party on 20 November 7 – 9 p.m., at the Assembly Rooms. There will be refreshments, stalls and a raffle with Body Shop items - all good Christmas present opportunities! Orders arrive the next week. If you can't come along on the evening you can place your order before, I will have catalogues. Guides get 10% of all orders. Contact Tracey Lovelock ☎ 323 521. tracey.lovelock@btinternet.com

Christine Henderson writes

HUSTINGS & HARVEST

Another School year has begun. We offer a warm welcome to our new children and their families. The many successes of last year seem a distant memory as new and exciting challenges are being planned. Soon there will be the hustings and elections for the School Council. The new Year 6 will take up several responsibilities. For the first time in many years there will be a residential visit for Years 5 & 6, to Burwell House in Norfolk. Harvest preparations are well under way with songs being learnt for the church service and beautiful art work being prepared for the window display. Once again sports coaches are sharing their expertise with the children in various sports; the whole school enjoyed a great tennis fun day. All part of a being a successful school.

Carol Mitson writes

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING

Since 2001 the parish church has held a 'Service of Thanksgiving' for those we have loved and whose memories we cherish. This year the service will be on Sunday 2 November at 2.30 p.m. and you are warmly invited to attend. It does not matter whether the death you are remembering is recent or many years ago; there is still a place to remember those who have touched our lives in a special way but who are no longer with us. The service will last about 45 minutes and there will be an

opportunity for the names to be read out and for you to light a candle as an act of remembrance. If you would like the name of the person you are remembering read out please let John or Carol Mitson know. ☎ 323 136.

Sarah Curtis writes

SMARTYS SORT OUT

Towards the end of the summer holidays all five of the Smartys staff got together to re-organise our equipment and resources. The garden shed was cleared, toy boxes were sorted, sand pits were cleaned and re-filled, books and puzzles were categorized, dressing-up clothes were mended and washed, and the Reading Room and garden were made ready for the beginning of a new term. During the August Bank Holiday Village Fair Smartys occupied its usually place in front of the playground. A selection of stalls was set up to entertain both parents and children, such as the cake stall, raffle and bouncy castle. We managed to raise £688.85. Thank you to all who supported us.

Smartys were then able to order new chairs for the children to use during indoor activities and snack time, and extra storage units to house a variety of equipment that can be wheeled out when required. We are looking forward to the arrival of our new garden playhouse.



DEDHAM CHURCHYARD — RE-USE OF GRAVE SPACE

- ❖ For some time the Vicar, Churchwardens and P.C.C. have been considering :
 - The extension churchyard is nearly full.
 - There is no space for new graves in the older parts of the churchyard.
 - Many people still request burials rather than interment of ashes.
 - Once a churchyard is full it has to be formally closed.
 - A closed churchyard eventually becomes a neglected churchyard
- ❖ To keep our churchyard open and in a good state there are two options :
 - Use more land (thereby permanently increasing the burden of maintenance)
 - Re-use some of the existing churchyard
- ❖ The decision has been made to re-use a part of the existing churchyard, an area where there are mostly 19th-century headstones and no apparently tended graves. Colchester Archaeological Society has conducted a thorough survey of the proposed area and submitted a detailed report to the P.C.C. We are grateful to the Friends of Dedham Church for funding this work.
- ❖ A Diocesan Faculty (planning permission) is being sought for this scheme. If approved, the visible memorials in this area, together with those which are just below the surface, will be removed and stored away from the churchyard for two years. When a new grave is dug in this area any mortal remains which are found will be re-interred in the same place, but at a greater depth.
- ❖ Direct descendents of anyone named on the memorials may apply to be given a particular stone. There will be an exhibition of a plan of the area together with a detailed list and photographs of the memorials affected on display in the Duchy Barn on a Saturday in the New Year, the date of which will be published in the Parish Magazine.
- ❖ If you have any questions about this scheme in advance of the exhibition mentioned above, please get in touch with the Churchwardens or myself.

Gerard Moate
Vicar & Lecturer

Fred Merrin writes

INFLUENZA VACCINATIONS

Department of Health recommends patients should have vaccination against influenza if they are aged over 65 or at particular risk, i.e. if they have one of the following conditions; heart disease, diabetes, respiratory disease including asthma, renal disease or who are immuno-compromised. 'Flu clinics will be held at Ardleigh Surgery on **Thursday afternoons weekly, 2 October - 6 November.** Please telephone the surgery to book into a clinic. We encourage patients to attend these clinics rather than use valuable normal appointment slots unless you are attending the doctor or nurse for another reason. This year we are considering the practicalities of screening patients aged over 65 for Arterial Fibrillation which will involve patients having their pulse taken when having their 'flu injection.

ON-LINE PRESCRIPTIONS

The facility to request repeat prescription using a webpage form on the practice website at www.ardleighsurgery.nhs.uk has been available for sometime. Unfortunately, it is being hit by 'spam' mail which is making this facility difficult to administer. We have therefore changed to a more secure web-based system that will interface directly with our general practice clinical computer system. This will require patients wishing to continue to request prescriptions through the

website to obtain a User ID and password from the surgery. Information about the prescription request system has been posted on the practice website. We are also exploring using this secure web-based system to allow patients to book routine surgery appointments online.

Hayley Aherne writes

DEDHAM YOUTH GROUP

We have had a really good summer, we have welcomed sixteen new members as they left the Primary School to embark on their senior school life. If there are any other local youths in years 7,8 & 9, you would be most welcome to come a join us any Friday between 7.30 p.m. and 9.15 p.m., at the Duchy Barn. We would like to thank everyone who supported us on August Bank Holiday. We were pleased to receive complimentary comments about the enthusiasm of Club members as they ran their stalls. They really are a super bunch.

Judith Fowle writes

AUGUST BANK HOLIDAY

Dedham's 'Village Day' has become a family day out with plenty to do and see whatever your interests or age. Very many thanks to everyone who took part and supplied a wide variety of displays, exhibitions, fun and games, and above all food!

'Village Pump' by Barry Stewart has been omitted through lack of space. Readers may be reassured it will be back next month.

Roy Laverick writes

RESTORATION



During the summer two local land-marks have been refurbished. Few can have failed to notice that the War Memorial has been restored to an almost pristine

state, as befits its position at the centre of the village and the lives that it commemorates. The work was undertaken by Fairhaven of Anglesey Abbey Ltd. Some minor repairs are still outstanding. It has been jointly financed by *The War Memorials Trust*, *The Friends of Dedham Church* and the Parish Council. We thank John Osborn for co-ordinating the project.

On a more mundane note, the bus shelter in Long Road West, close to the junction with Ardleigh Road, has also been restored, featuring thorough treatment with preservative and insecticide, together with new roof decking and felting. The shelter is thought to be at least 50 years old, and the decision to proceed with refurbishment was a difficult one, since changes to bus routes have rendered it largely superfluous to current needs. Removal would have cost about the same as refurbishment, however, so the latter path was chosen. The work was actually undertaken by local residents,

and our thanks go to them, together with those who provided a power supply and storage facilities for tools and materials. Some off-cuts of heavy duty roofing felt are left over, and are being offered free of charge to local residents. So, if you live in the parish and have a kennel or hutch that needs re-roofing, please ☎ 323 184.

PUBLIC TOILETS : 'AS YOU WERE'

As reported in this column, the Parish Council had high hopes that permanent public toilets, to supplement the existing ones on the Duchy Field, would soon be provided in the Mill Lane car park. Unfortunately, we have been advised that Colchester Borough Council has decided to withdraw the funding. We will continue to campaign on this matter, and are exploring alternative sources of funding.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be at **7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 8 October** in the Assembly Rooms.

PARISH COUNCIL WEBSITE:

www.dedhamparishcouncil.org.uk



PAST TIMES

Ten Years Ago **October 1998**

◆ 'OPEN DOORS' WEEK This was held for the first time and proved to be a great success ◆ DEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL The Autumn term began with Mrs. Carolyn Clayton as the new Headteacher and Mrs. Sue Naden as Deputy Headteacher ◆ DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE This was produced using the computer program 'MS Publisher' for the first time (it still is).

Fifty Years Ago **October 1958**

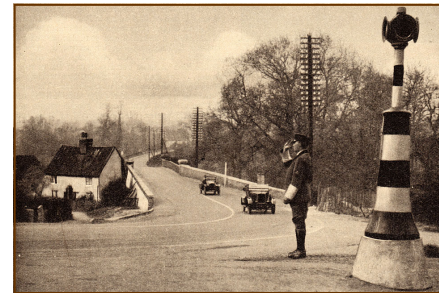
◆ HARVEST FESTIVAL "The B.B.C. Television have asked permission to film the decorations and service..." ◆ SILVER SALVER "A few Sundays ago I dedicated a silver salver to be used on the credence table." ◆ LITTLEGARTH SCHOOL "was opened in September under new management, [it] started eighteen years ago in January 1940, with three children on its register...Having moved to the village at the outbreak of war when her school near London evacuated, Miss Mallett came to live in the High Street at Littlegarth, where she held her class of three pupils in the studio beside the house...in September of the same year Miss Erith...came...to live at Dalebrook House...went into partnership [with Miss Mallett]."

A Century Ago **October 1908**

◆ ASSEMBLY ROOMS "For some time past it has been an open secret that Mr. Hewitt had bought the Assembly Rooms, was having the building thoroughly restored, and intended it to be used in the future for Church purposes. Now we know for certain that the old Rooms, with the ground they stand on, are to be a gift for all time to the Parish Church of Dedham on the part of Mr. and Miss Hewitt. And last Saturday, September 26th, the Bishop of the Diocese came to Dedham publicly to announce this fact." [A report of this was carried in the *East Anglian Daily Times* for Monday September 28th, 1908.] Mr. J.D. Tremlett ("the oldest resident of Dedham"), wrote to the Magazine to ask if Mr. and Miss Hewitt "will add to boon they are bestowing by allowing the building to be called "The Hewitt Hall"? ◆ STREET LIGHTING Mr. Percy Clover had become the Hon. Sec. to the "Dedham Street Lighting Fund" which had received gifts from W.W. Hewitt, Ebenezer Clover and many other people, who were named and the amount they gave listed.

PAST TIMES

Readers have kindly provided the following information in response to photographs published in the previous Parish Magazine:



GUN HILL Lucy Archer writes

Gun Hill was the scene of frequent accidents in the early 20th century, when lorries often had unreliable brakes, and Gun Hill Cottage at the foot of the hill (demolished when the A12 was built in the 1960s), was the scene of frequent accidents. The photograph shows what was known locally as the "blinking red light'. It was sited in front of the cottage to give warning of the exceptionally sharp corner at the bottom of the hill. Beside it stands the RAC man, Mr Rose who lived in Stratford St Mary and came to work on his bicycle. (I wonder whether anyone remembers his Christian name or anything else about him?) Just out of sight, to the right of the picture, were the signpost (pointing up the hill to Colchester and across the bridge to Ipswich) and the RAC box, which stood in this position until improvements were made to this dangerous corner in the 1920s. Canon Rendell records in *Dedham Described and Deciphered* (1937) that "the slopes on the Gun Inn side were cut away, to give an easier gradient, and a less violent turn on to the bridge". In 1928 the 19th-century bridge was replaced by the present wider one and this involved demolishing the pretty little toll-house which stood beside it. This photograph must date from c.1928; it shows the old bridge but the palings on the right (behind Mr Rose) mark the site of the toll-house, which has been cleared away.

Olive Meronti writes My father had a car similar to the one in the picture and was always 'recognized' by the RAC man when driving up Gun Hill. This my father sometimes managed, but more often than not the car would run backwards down the hill landing just by the cottage in the picture. The lady living there got to know us and would offer tea to my mother, who was usually in shock. My father and I thought it rather fun!

CLOVER STEAM TRACTION Brian Cooper writes

The vehicle is a Garrett 'overtyp' steam wagon. The term 'overtyp' refers to the position of the cylinders which were above the boiler. The number-plate BJ 3264 is an East Suffolk registration, probably dating from between 1914 and 1917. Garretts were a large engineering company based at Leiston, Suffolk that manufactured a wide range of steam vehicles and agricultural machinery. The remaining buildings are today part of the 'Long Shop Museum' in Leiston.

