COMMUNITY GROUPS

Betty Callaghan writes

GOOD NEIGHBOURS' CLUB

At our last meeting we were again faced with another challenging quiz, one which tested our 'flower power'. A Bring & Buy produced a further contribution towards Help for Heroes. The next meeting will be held on Friday 9 December. New members welcome. The competition: any item beginning with the letter 'R'.

Daphne Langton writes

LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

Lynne Baker gave an interesting talk to the Fellowship about the work of the Mission Aviation Fellowship.

- At 3 p.m Wednesday 30 November, there will be a Christmas Tea in the Assembly Rooms.
- Members will meet for coffee at the Duchy Barn, 10.30 a.m. Tuesday 6 December.
- Wooden Fender P.H. on Wednesday 25 January 2012.

Paw Slingo writes

HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Come and enjoy our meeting on Wednesday 7 December, at 7.30 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms, when we will be entertained by 'Pasticle'. There will be a raffle, wine, soft drinks and mince or for more pies. There will be no meeting in January, our next meeting will be on Wednesday I February, when the talk will be on Finding the best new plant varieties, given by Mady Barrett.

Ruth Higginson writes

WEA

The next meeting will be on Wednesday II January 2012. The lecturer will be Graham Slimming and the subject Hidden Treasurers, an introduction to places you might not have thought of visiting. A variety of unusual and off-the-beaten-track places of interest, and to explore the variety of different ways in which collections of art originate. This is a ten-week course meeting at Munnings Museum on a Wednesday morning. If you would like more information about the course or WEA please 2 322 598.

Antony Watson writes

CHURCH CHOIR

Additional voices for the Church Choir are needed, particularly tenors and basses (and a few extra altos wouldn't go amiss). It may be that you • A lunch party is being arranged at the cannot commit to attending practices (Fridays at 7.30pm) for ever but would be willing to come along on the weeks leading up to Christmas 'to make a joyful noise' for this festival. If so, then be assured you will be made very welcome. Contact Antony Watson,

through the Parish Office **322** 136 information. or just turn up at the next practice.



DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk e-mail: office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk

1INISTERS Gerard Moate Vicar & L	-	206) 🕿
The Vicarage, High Street, Dedham CO7 6DE		136
Stuart Wilson	Reader Emeritus 392	572
Chris Slocombe		312
HURCH OFFICERS		
Sarah Oakley	Churchwarden 322 Churchwarden	034
Be Burleigh	Deputy Churchwarden 323	305
George Beeken	Verger 865	
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DEDHAM C.E. PRIMARY Christopher Bailey Heather Tetchner	SCHOOL www.dedham.es Chairman Headteacher	230 404	
ASSEMBLY ROOMS	www.dedham-assemblyrooms.info		
Tracy Woods	Clerk to the Trustees	323 921	
DUCHY BARN			
Carol Mitson	Secretary	323 116	
Gay Burfield	Bookings	322 261	
Printed by IndigoRoss	01787	880 260	

DFDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE Christmas & New Year 2011

SUNDAY SERVICES 8.30 a.m.

Holy Communion BCP

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

5 p.m.

Re:Vive @5 4th Sunday in month

5 p.m. WINTER TIMING

Evening Prayer BCP 1st Sunday in month

JUNIOR CHURCH 10.30 a.m.

Family Service

1st Sunday in month

In groups on other Sundays during school terms

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY EDITION: 18 January 2012

CHURCH NOTICEBOARD





♦ SUNDAY before CHRISTMAS ◆ 18 December

10.30 a.m. FAMILY SERVICEThe Junior Church will help to lead this service.

→ 6 p.m. CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT
A traditional service for all ages - bring a torch!

★ Please note revised time this year ★

♦ CHRISTMAS EVE ◆

6 p.m. CRIB SERVICE

For children and the young at heart

** Come early to be sure of a seat **







♦ CHRISTMAS DAY ◆

10 a.m. PARISH COMMUNION

A devotional and contemporary focus for families on this festival day

☆ Please note the time of the start **☆**

♦ SUNDAY after CHRISTMAS ♦ I January 10.30 a.m. MORNING PRAYER BCP



(NOTE: no service at 8.30 a.m.)

THANK YOU

to Contributors, Editorial team, Advertisers, Printer, Sorters and Delivery volunteers: all who make *Dedham Parish Magazine* possible and worthwhile reading - which includes you, the Readers.

A very Happy Christmas and New Year to you all

SONGS OF PRAISE

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed. the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Hymns Old & New No. 51

The origin of this much-loved children's carol is something of a mystery, for no-one knows who wrote it. It is sometimes credited to William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921), as it is in *Hymns Old & New*, but this is in error for he was the composer of the tune CRADLE SONG, to which the words are now almost always sung, although the words had been in print for several years beforehand.

One thing that has been established is that it was *not* written by Martin Luther, to whom it used to be ascribed as 'Luther's Cradle Hymn'. The earliest date to which it can certainly be traced is 1885, when it was included in the *Little Children's Book for Scools and Families*, published by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in North America. It there consisted of only two verses. What we have as the third verse was added later.

An attempt to revise the second verse, with its somewhat saccharine and unbiblical imagery ('little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.... look down from the sky...until morning is nigh'), has been made by Michael Forster (b. 1946):

The cattle are lowing, they also adore the little Lord Jesus who lies in the straw. I love you, Lord Jesus, I know you are near to love and protect me till morning is near.



NOTICEBOARD

Calligraphython

Philippa Black invites you to learn calligraphy, or beautiful hand-writing, at the Duchy Barn, Dedham.

Bring your favourite verse from the King James Version of the Bible, and so celebrate the 400th anniversary of its publication.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday 14 January 2012.

The cost will be £15.

Proceeds will be given to The Treehouse Charity, part of East Anglian Childrens' Hospices.

It's not too early to enter your team of six for the

ANNUAL DEDHAM QUIZ

on

Saturday 11th February 2012 7.30pm. Assembly Rooms, Dedham

Tickets £7.50 including refreshments. Bar.

Call Anne Lipscomb 323723

or Karen Brown 853729

in aid of

Motor Neurone Disease (Dedham & N Essex Group)

Book your table early to avoid disappointment!



VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE

TWO KINDS of PRAYER at CHRISTMAS

Our Christmas in overdraft. Hollow be your name. Your Cartier watch, Your Prada bag, In Harvey Nicholls As it is in Selfridges. Give us this day our Platinum Visa. And forgive us our debts, As we forgive those who stop our Mastercard. Lead us not into Apple Store And deliver us from *loules*. For yours is the Cartier, the Dior and the Armani. For Burberry and Eternity Amex.

Our Father in heaven. whose Son Jesus Christ became a refugee and had no place to call his own; look with mercy on those who today are fleeing from danger, and those who are homeless and hungry. Bless all who work to bring them relief; inspire generosity and compassion in our hearts: and guide us towards that day when all will rejoice in your Kingdom of justice and of peace; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. Amen.

'Are you praying - or just playing with your iPad2 ?'



X

May God bless you, and keep you and guide you, this Christmas and throughout the coming year.

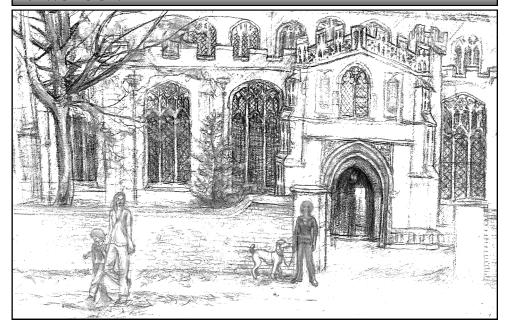
Gerard Moate Vicar & Lecturer



PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office closes on Monday 19 December and opens again on Wednesday 4 January 2012

NEWSROUND



NOVEMBER IN DEDHAM

Thank you to Caroline MacRae, who recently took the time to pencil sketch a scene by the North porch of the church, and has given a copy to this Magazine and to the Muniment Library. Caroline grew up in Dedham and now lives in Stratford St. Mary. She did a City and Guilds foundation course before training at Camberwell Art College. The people may not be readily identified, but perhaps the dog is a clue! who could translate one into Chinese?

WILLKOMMEN ZU DEDHAM

We are indebted to Rudi Drost, a visitor from Brightlingsea, who came to Dedham recently and saw that there was no German translation of the brief guide to the church, and then made a Kurze Anleitung for us. It joins the Italian, Spanish and French brief guides that have been translated by friends of Colin West, who is the chief Tour Tours guide. Do you know anyone



Great things can grow from a small decision...

Please Remember Dedham Parish Church in your Will

CHRISTMAS PRIZE QUIZ

DEDHAM - IN THE BIBLE & SHAKESPEARE



Using the clues below (some are cryptic), from the King James Version of the Bible, or Works of William Shakespeare* [words to help find the exact line are in brackets], identify the name of the Dedham street or way found there, then compile a list of streets in the same order as the clues.



* For those who do not have these books, locate web-site searches. e.g. Google: 'search Bible' or 'search Shakespeare'.

Clue

Dedham Street or Way

I. WS - King Henry IV part II, IV, v [Where is...] Anchor Lane 2. KIV - St. Matthew 24: 41 3. WS - The Tempest II, i [Sword, pike...]

4. KIV - Revelation 14: I

WS - King Henry VIII, I, i [This... fellow]

6. KJV - St. Luke 7: 37 7. WS - King Henry V, V, ii [And as...]

8. KIV - Acts of the Apostles 19: 9

9. WS - King Richard III, II, iv [At... will they]

10. KIV - Proverbs 26: 21

II. WS - King Henry IV part I, II, iv [cloak-bag...]

12. KIV - Hebrews 6: 19

13. WS - Romeo & Juliet, II, ii [It is the...]

14. KIV - 2 Kings 23: 6

15. WS - Cymbeline IV, ii [In these...]

16. KIV - Numbers 13: 24

17. WS - King Henry V, IV, vii [What is...]

18. KIV - Ezekiel 16: 24

19. WS - Coriolanus III, ii [We know...]

20. KJV - Psalm 119: 16

21. WS - Measure for Measure I, iii [Having bound...]

22. KJV - I Samuel 27: 5

Birchwood Road

Brook Street

Boxhouse Lane

Castle Hill

Crown Street

Coles Oak Lane

Dedham Meade

Drift, The East Lane

Forge Street

Grove Hill Gun Hill

High Street

Ipswich Road Lamb Corner

Manningtree Road

Mill Lane

Princel Lane & Mews

Royal Square School Lane

Stratford Road

THE PRIZE

A £30 voucher to spend in the Dedham Bookshop or Dedham Pharmacy.

Post or email (subject: 'Prize Quiz') your completed list with your NAME and PHONE NUMBER, to the Vicarage (see page 1 for contact details).

DEADLINE: Saturday 7 January 2012

In the event of more than one correct entry, the winner will be the name 'drawn from the Vicar's hat' on Sunday 8 January 2012.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS! **Peace** on earth, goodwill to all".. Mouse Makes .Listen to the angel's call. A saviour has been born this day, reace on earth The **light** of the world to show us the way!

NEWSROUND

Will Sambrook writes

DEDHAM ENJOYS NATURE

The DEN would like you to get involved. One way is that you may decide to buy a tree for a loved one at Christmas and thereby help us raise the funds we need to make the area fit for the primary school's needs.

£10 will buy a tree that the school children will plant. They will then send your loved one a photo of 'their' tree and a certificate. They will also send a name label that they can put on 'their' tree on their next visit. Please contact. Noreen Bell at the School Office on **☎322 242**. But hurry, there are only a few left!



Iohn Osborn writes

COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSOC.

The Dedham Branch Surgery, which was opened in 2009, continues to be a vital part of Ardleigh Medical Practice's service of patient care. This year has seen the introduction of the services of a chiropodist. Arlene Lyne, whose homeopathy practice had two sessions a week, has now left to develop her consultancy elsewhere; we wish her every success. It has always been the hope of the directors of the Dedham Vale Community Health Association that the GP presence would be enhanced by other health-service providers, and this continues to be our aim. We plan to take an early opportunity to discuss this with the medical practice.

BIGGEST BREAKFAST EVER!

The ninth Big Breakfast to be held in the Assembly Rooms catered for more people than ever, over 170, and also raised nearly £1,000 net of expenses. The team of voluntary helpers (who, incidentally, also pay for their own breakfast), worked tirelessly to make this special community event such a success. Thank you to them all!

HAVE YOU LOST A JACKET?

One man was so warmed by his 'Big Breakfast' that he left behind his jacket,

which had a key in one of the pockets. If you think that it may be yours, then please telephone the Parish Office to reclaim it.

322 136

To make the decoration: Colour and cut out.

Fold along dotted lines. Glue to form a cone.

Add ribbon and hang from the tree.

PARISH COUNCIL

Roy Laverick writes

WINTER IS COMING!

Hopefully this Winter will not be as severe as the last two have been, but the Council is taking precautions. Snow clearance from the pavements in the centre of the village is welcomed by those visiting the shops, especially by the older members of our community.

Would you be interested in joining a panel of volunteers to help undertake this work, should the need arise? No payment is offered, and there will be no obligation whatever to turn out, but any assistance you could provide would be much appreciated, even if it is simply offering tea and coffee to those undertaking more strenuous activities. If you think you may be able to help, please contact Steve White **322 269** or Roy Laverick **23 184**. Remember: half an hour of snowshovelling equates to a work-out in the

gym, costs less, and benefits the village!
Essex County Council plans to
maintain our existing yellow grit-bins,
but will not be offering any replacement ones in the foreseeable future.
They have provided the Parish Council
with a supply of 25kg sacks of salt, for
use by residents who live in roads that
are not routinely gritted. If you would
like a sack, contact Steve White (see
above). Salt provided under this
scheme may be used only on public
roads or pavements, and not on
private property such as drives.

THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

For various reasons the Council does not have any plans to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee next year. If, however, you have ideas for a suitable event, and are also prepared to push forward with the appropriate preparations, please approach our Parish Clerk, Mrs. Jean Flewin 322 215, who will ensure that your endeavours enjoy the support of the Parish Council.

NEXT MEETING

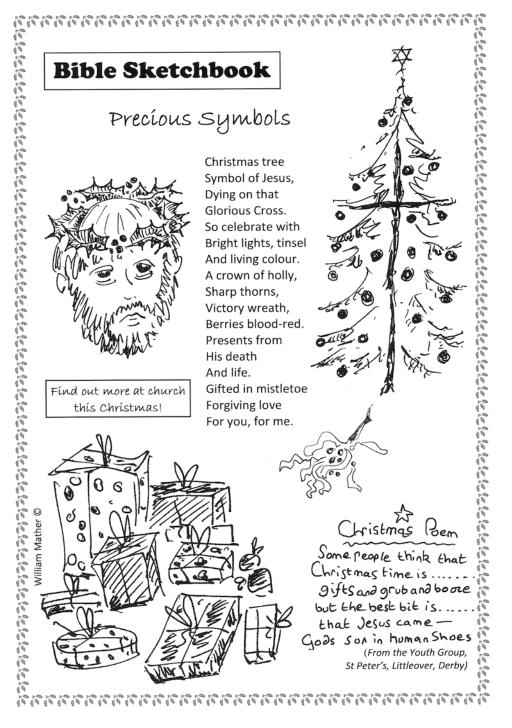
The next Parish Council meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 14 December in the Assembly Rooms. Please remember that the Minutes of Parish Council meetings, together with other useful information, are available www.dedhamparishcouncil.org.uk

HIGH STREET & ROYAL SQUARE STREET CLEANING

In readiness for the Dickensian Christmas Market on Saturday 3 December street cleaning will be carried out

between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m. on the morning of Friday 2 December

As in previous years, it would be most helpful if the High Street and Royal Square could be cleared of cars while this work is in progress.



NEWSROUND

Pete Keeble writes

CONSTABLE SURGERY

Flu vaccinations Our 'flu clinics were a great success. Eligible patients can still be vaccinated, contact the practice. For a second year we also held a collection for the 'Help For Heroes' charity and raised £1,220. Thanks to all who gave.

New Superintendent Pharmacist We are pleased to welcome Satinder Shergill to the Capel Pharmacy.

Repeat prescriptions over Christmas The Practice and Capel Pharmacy will be closed on 26 and 27 December, and 2 January 2012. If you are due a repeat prescription over the holidays, please order it at least one week in advance.

Ruth Higginson writes

RECIPE BOOK



The PCC missions support team plan to produce a recipe book in the Spring next year. Money raised will be going to Beacon House, Colchester (helping

the homeless), Gatunduri School in Kenya (linked with Dedham Primary School) and Richard and Sue van de Ruit, a mission family in Uganda. We are looking for recipes for this book. If you would like to contribute a recipe, Church at 10 a.m. on Wednesday 7 please contact Ruth

on **22 598**, or email ruth@rhigginson.fsbusiness.co.uk Thank you to those who have done so.



Mary Davidson writes: **BUSY TERM**

Two members of PRE-SCHOOL staff have moved to

pastures new. We are delighted that Jenny Foskett is now the manager at Smartys. Weekly themes have included Space, Dinosaurs and also Baking, resulting in some tasty food. The children hunted for conkers and leaves for their Autumn Week, and took part in the Primary School Harvest Festival service in the church. After the Open Evening in November a further daytime event will be held in the Spring term. Please visit our stall for home-made mulled cider at the Dickensian Christmas Market on Saturday 4 December.

Ian Rose writes

U₃A

Our Annual Christmas Lunch will be on 14 December at Lawford Venture Centre. Our next regular meeting will be at 2.15p.m., 11 January, in the Constable Hall, East Bergholt. There will be an illustrated presentation on Thames Barges given by David Gibson.

2 392 870 for more information.

Sally Gotelee writes

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

There will be a meeting to discuss the Christmas flowers for the Parish December, at the home of Sally Gotelee, Whalleys, Dedham Road, Stratford St Mary, CO7 6LY. All are welcome. **2 322 652**.

NEWSROUND

Laura Valentine writes

GROWING CLUB

Over recent years the Primary School grounds have slowly been developed and changed into a variety of exciting 'environments'. A willow tunnel leads to a small woodland learning area. We look forward to the Spring when we will see a carpet of 800 daffodils in bloom. The Growing

Club have been busy with Miss Wright and Mrs Fitch in 'The Vegilot', where they



have have been growing beans, tomatoes, potatoes, carrots, onions and raspberries, which Roberta our Cook has used for School lunches.

On behalf of the Growing Club, the School really needs a large amount of

well-rotted horse manure in order to improve the soil conditions in 'The Vegilot', the 'Sensory Garden', 'Wildlife Garden' and the 'Creation Station'. If anyone is able to donate a quantity of horse manure, please would you

contact Sophie Fitch **230 325** to arrange a suitable delivery time!



DEDHAM, ANTARCTICA!

Catherine Horswill from Dedham is in Antarctica for the next few months. working on rsearch for her PhD. She is an applied biologist and is tracking macaroni penguins for the British Antarctic Survey, which is administered by the University of Cambridge. On Catherine's first day on Bird Island (look it up on a web-search - it's very remote) she put up a signpost to Dedham. Home was then just 7,800 miles away! Catherine's mother, lax, is one of the team that established DedhamFilms. Maybe she can arrange for a special showing of Catherine's home movie of her time in Antarctica upon her return.

The Editor would be pleased to receive news of other adventurous Dedham folk.



in the Assembly Rooms, Dedham

21 DECEMBER It's a Wonderful Life

18 JANUARY

Jane Eyre

Admission 7.00 p.m. Film Begins 7.30 p.m. Tickets £3.50

Season Tickets available:

Buy 10 shows - get 2 free

CONTACTS

Dedham Bookshop

323 27 I

Jax Horswill **2 322 328** Jacqui Freeman **2 322 263**

dedhamfilms @ btinternet.com

To find out more about the screenings or

DEDHAM FILMS visit our website

visit our website www.dedhamfilms.co.uk

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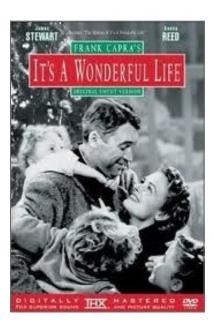
IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE



Director: Frank Capra, 1946 (B &W)

Synopsis: Based on the story *The Greatest* Gift by Philip Stern, it tells of how an angel helps a compassionate but despairing businessman, George Bailey (James Stewart) by showing what life would have been like in his small town if he had never existed.

It's a Wonderful Life was nominated for five Oscars but did not win any, although the film has since been recognized by the American Film Institute as one of the 100 best American films ever made, and placed number one on their list of the most inspirational American films of all time.



NOTICEBOARD

VACANCY

CLEARERS OF ANTIQUES & OLD THINGS

Four people are required, part time from January, for house clearances.
Flexible hours involving packing, sorting, lifting and moving.
A car is required as some of the jobs are longer distance.

Help as and when needed, but with a chance for regular work when experience has been gained.

WANTED

PROFESSIONAL MUSICIAN REQUIRES SPACE TO PRACTICE

Do you have a room / shed / garage where I could practise the drums for 2-3 hours a day?

I am not loud and am more than happy to pay a reasonable fee.

ROBERT BISHOP

Drummer and Teacher

2 07872 069 266

SPRINGS DANCE COMPANY

Europe's foremost professional Christian Dance Company

Brings to Colchester its festive, witty and poignant Advent performance of

JOURNEY OF THE MAGI

A sparkling production of dance, theatre, song and poetry for all, inspired by T.S. Eliot's poem, enjoyed by children and adults alike.

St. John's Church, Ipswich Road Colchester CO4 0HP

Tickets £8 (under 12's £6)

843 232

email office@stjohnscolcehster.or.uk

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION WANTED

Do you have a room for a Christian lady carer who is looking after someone in Dedham?

Accommodation is wanted for six weeks, beginning mid-January.

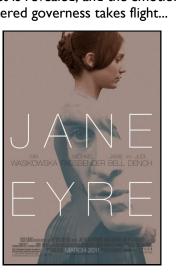
If you can help, or know someone who can, please

2 07758 431 887

13

FILM

Director: Cary Fukunaga (2011)



BOOK REVIEW

JANE EYRE

Synopsis: Raised by her aunt Sarah (Sally Hawkins) after her parents die of typhus, young Jane Eyre (Amelia Clarkson) is later shipped off to a stark boarding school, as the result of her perceived insolence, and suffers greatly at the hands of the cold, unusually strict administration. Upon completing her education, lane (Mia Wasikowska) finds work as a governess for Adle Varens (Romy Moore), the ward of Edward Fairfax Rochester (Michael Fassbender), master of Thornfield Hall. It doesn't take long for the young Adle to warm to Jane, and upon returning home the charming Rochester, too, falls under the spell of his modest yet captivating governess. On what was supposed to be the happiest day of lane's life, however, a scandalous secret is revealed, and the emotionally shattered governess takes flight...



Do Nothing... Christmas is Coming -An Advent Calendar with a Difference by Stephen Cottrell. Church House Publishing, 2008; ISBN 0715141643 £4.99.

The Bishop of Chelmsford is asking Christians to change the world through acts of kindness at Christmas. The Rt Rev'd Stephen Cottrell invites people to 'begin again' and bear the Good News, not by what they give in material terms, but by who they are and what they do during Advent. "If we live prayerful, faithful lives, if we shine with the light of the risen Christ, then our world will be changed," he says. "For God's 'big society' is made up of a thousand little deeds of sacrifice and kindness." Well aware of the pressure that is placed on carers, parents and grandparents, and caring professionals, Bishop Cottrell is a keen advocate of getting proper rest over the Christmas period. This is more than a well-wishing kind of book. It is a challenge to look afresh at who we are and what we do - before the rush begins. Copies available in church.

- ♦ PHOTO ALBUM WORKSHOP | Ill Birkin offered a workshop for those interested in learning how to present photographs attractively and creatively.
- ♦ DEDHAM MEMORIES Jim Eley wrote about the petrol filling stations there had been in the village over the years (among them, in Mill Lane, Coggeshall Road, School Lane and Princel Lane), and Alan Ray remembered the old buses that used to route through Dedham.

Ten Years Ago December 2001 & January 2012

SQLDEN JUBILEE A committe was formed, under the chairmanship of David Druitt, to discuss the plans for celebrating the Golden Jubilee of H.M. The Queen.

Fifty Years Ago December 1961 & January 1962

- ♦ GIRLS' CHOIR CONCERT Over 100 from Westbourne Girls' School, Ipswich under the direction of Mrs. Lusty, came to Dedham for a Carol Service.
- POPPY DAY SUCCESS 'I hear that the result of the Poppy Day Collection from all sources was £94 13s 3d'. [Equivalent to £3,540 today, using the Average Earnings Indicator].
- NEW BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD 'Her Majesty the Queen has nominated the Very Reverend John Gerhard Tiarks, the Provost of Bradford Cathedral, to be Bishop of this diocese in succession to Dr. Allison.'

A Century Ago December 1911 & January 1912

- ♦ GRAMMAR SCHOOL ROOM CONCERT The Stowmarket Bachelor Concert Party gave a concert in the old Grammar School room; 'It is Mr. Ray who has persuaded them to come to Dedham'. The proceeds were given to the Village Club.
- **EYRE CLOTHING CHARITY** For the purposes of identifying all the school girls in Dedham aged 12 and over who attended the National School, a list of them was published. Some names will be familiar to their families, many living in the area: (Over 14) Dorothy Adams, Nellie Appleby; (Over 13) Edith Baker, Dorothy Banthorpe, Dorothy Carter, May Garwood, Isabel Garwood, Florence Hammond, Rose Honeyball, Agnes Kistruck, May Osborne, Winifred Robinson, Dora Rowland, Gladys Whittle; (Over 12) Lucy Barnard, Lucy Byles, Lily Garwood, Edith Harrison, Kate Hitchcock, Rose James, Ethel Johnson, Rose Kitson, Mabel Land, Lily Sage, Grace Sharp, Vida Skeet, Lily Rudge, Eva Rule and Catherine Walker.

SIR AI FRED MUNNINGS

Alfred James Munnings was born on 8 October 1878, the second son of John Munnings, a miller of Mendham, Suffolk. He revealed artistic talents at a very early age, even before his school days at Redenhall Grammar School and Framlingham College. After Framlingham, Munnings was apprenticed at the age of 14 to the firm of Page Brothers of Norwich as a poster artist, where he did designs of 'lovely girls in large hats' for Caley's Chocolates. Examples of his posters are to be seen in his studio at Castle House.

Munnings attended the Norwich School of Art as an evening student.

During his apprenticeship he came to the attention of John Shaw Tomkins, a director of Caley's Chocolates, who was his earliest patron and who greatly encouraged him, subsequently taking him on a visit abroad. One of Munnings earliest commissions was of Tomkins' father posing on a garden seat with his collie dog; the picture Daniel Tomkins and his Dog is in Dedham.



At the end of his apprenticeship he returned to Mendham (a village pub there is now named after him) and painted 'horses, village characters, hunting themes and landscapes'. Apart from a period of study and painting in Paris (a number of works from this period are in Dedham), he stayed in Norfolk until 1911, when he went to Cornwall, attracted by the Newlyn School of artists. Having established himself with stables and studios at Lamorna, it was there that he became a friend of Harold and Laura Knight. Dame Laura, a distinguished painter herself, became a regular visitor to Dedham. She observed of Munnings, 'His extraordinary vitality, his joy in his work, none of us could forget him. He was a fighter. He fought the wind that shivered his easel and canvas. He fought the heat and cold. He fought the shifting sun and the changing shadows.'

Munnings lost the sight of his right eye in an accident when he was twenty and, rejected on two occasions by the Army because of his sight, he spent the first three years of the 1914-18 war mainly in Lamorna. In 1917, with the help of a friend, he got a lowly job caring for remounts at Calcot Park near Reading. Visitors to Castle House will see evidence of the enormous and versatile output which was to continue to the end of his life.

Early in 1918 Munnings was sent to France as an official war artist and attached to the Canadian Cavalry Brigade. After the war some forty-five of these canvasses were exhibited at the the Royal Academy. His painting of General J. E. B. Seely on his charger Warrior (National Gallery, Ottawa), led to his commission to paint the Earl of Athlone, brother of Queen Mary, and assured him of a flow of commissions which brought him money and fame. He was elected an Associate of the Royal



In March 1920, Alfred Munnings married Mrs. Violet McBride, a young widow who was a horse-woman of renown. She was a great help to Munnings in his career, attending to all his business matters and always promoting his interests, but she said that 'he was never such a good artist after he married me. He had establishments to keep up and more expenses to meet. It meant painting for money'. Certainly one gets the impression from his letters and from his autobiography that during the twenty years to 1940 when he travelled extensively on painting commissions, he was homesick for Dedham and the freedom to paint landscapes.



Academy in 1919.

Munnings was elected President of the Royal Academy in 1944 and knighted in the same year. He did not enjoy this office, finding the administrative and formal demands of the position a burden. He did not hide his dislike of many aspects of modern art, notably at his farewell speech at the 1949 Royal Academy banquet. This was broadcast and received wide publicity. His attitude to modern art was based on his belief that much of it was not based on what he considered to be the essential artistic virtues of

craftmanship and hard work. Munnings died at Castle House on 15 July 1959. Few English artists have achieved fame and fortune in their own lifetime. Fewer still have made this nation the beneficiary of their life's work.

> Information for this article was sourced by Anthony Theodosius. Illustrations: courtesy of The Munnings Collection, Castle House, Dedham and The National Gallerey, Ottawa.