

# DEDHAM

## Parish Magazine

March 2018

From the Matterhorn  
to St Mary's  
page 16

Holy Week services: pages 11, 12



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# DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1876

MARCH 2018

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Antony Wilson	Vicar	☎323 919
Merv McKinney	Assistant Minister	☎323 919
Sally Buchanan	Children and families worker	☎323 919

### CHURCH OFFICERS

Suzanne Woods	Churchwarden	☎01255 870 640
Richard Hopkins	Churchwarden	☎322 361
Be Burleigh	Assistant Churchwarden	☎323 205
Gabbie Watson	Verger	☎322 425

### MUSIC

Antony Watson	Director of Music	☎322 425
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### FLOWER ARRANGERS

Helen Sims	Co-ordinator	☎321 286
Wendy Sarton	Weddings	☎323 027

### PARISH OFFICE

Claire Arculus	Parish Secretary	☎322 136
Assembly Rooms	*stmaryda@gmail.com	
High Street	Tuesday 9-11am	
Dedham CO7 6HJ	Thursday 11-1pm	

If you have an urgent query please contact  
Rev Antony Wilson ☎323 919

## Can we help?

**Sometimes things in life can just get too much to cope with on your own...**

**Psalm 34:18:** *The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.*

If you would like some support or know of anyone who would, please contact:

Ann Shaw ☎322 192 or

Christine Mingay ☎230 723

If you have been bereaved or know of anyone who has, please contact Vee Druit ☎322 000

or Ruth Higginson ☎322 598

## DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

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✉dedhameditor@gmail.com  
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Deadline for contributions  
for April edition:  
**Tuesday 14 March**

**Cover image:** Richard Bartlet  
(of J F Tree Specialists)

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

## Just coincidences - or was there something more?

**E**arly in December, on a cold and frosty morning, I headed into Colchester to do some Christmas shopping and meet my husband for lunch. Little did I know then that this day would trigger a chain of events that would turn my life around.

As I walked from East Hill up the High Street, I passed three homeless men, one after the other. I had just been reading about how the town was booming. The sight of these men and the contrast with a town festooned with lights and decorations caused me some discomfort. Around them, carefree shoppers laden with bags were engrossed in their mobile phones. I felt compelled to do something, but what could a full time stay at home mum with two young children possibly do to help?

### I walked on....

Then I noticed a chaotic scene at the bus stop. An elderly woman appeared to have collapsed. Most people were oblivious to the unfolding scene but two women seemed to have the situation in hand.

*I walked on.* I got as far as the town hall before turning back to see if I could help by getting the woman a drink. One of the women helping said that the ambulance operator had told her no drinks, so *I walked on a second time.* I got to Fenwicks when a sense of panic set in ... *why is the ambulance not coming?*

By the time I saw my husband, I was already on the phone to the emergency operator trying to speed things up. *I walked back.* The two women now needed to catch their bus, so I stayed with the woman until the ambulance arrived. Her name is Sylvia. It turned out that she lived not far from me, so I agreed to speak with her neighbours,

make sure her cat was ok, and check up on her the following day. Thankfully, Sylvia is now doing well.

What happened next took me completely by surprise. By chance I saw an advert in this magazine. Dedham Church was looking for someone who could make a difference to the lives of children and families in the parish. Some of my friends and family thought this would be perfect for me and my confidence grew. Others questioned my sanity. People reminded me that I could do many other things, but somewhere deep within I felt that I wanted to do *something with purpose.*

I met the Rev Antony (Wilson), who shared his ideas for the role. I applied for the position and after a rigorous interview, involving both grown-ups and children, I was offered the job. I felt a real sense of privilege.

### They felt like signs

Every day since then I have met people with relevant stories to share and connections to Dedham. I started to notice what felt like signs and began to believe that getting this job was *no coincidence.*

I am naturally a bit sceptical about coincidences; there are so many in ordinary life. So, I searched the on-line Bible for wisdom on the subject. I discovered that there is *only one* mention of the word "coincidence" in the Bible: It is in one of Jesus's best known parables: The Good Samaritan.



**DEDHAM AND ARDLEIGH PARISHES**

**Services for March and Easter**

**Sunday 4 March**

8am	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>	Dedham
9.30am	Rise 'n' Shine	Dedham
11am	Morning Prayer <i>CW</i>	Ardleigh
5pm	Evensong <i>BCP</i>	Dedham

**Sunday 11 March**

8am	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>	Ardleigh
9.30am	Holy Communion <i>CW</i>	Dedham
11am	Morning Prayer <i>for Mothering Sunday</i>	Ardleigh

**Sunday 18 March**

8am	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>	Dedham
9.30am	Matins <i>BCP</i>	Dedham
11am	Parish Eucharist <i>CW</i>	Ardleigh

**Sunday 25 March – Palm Sunday**

8am	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>	Ardleigh
9.30am	Morning Praise	Dedham
5pm	Revive at 5	Dedham

**Friday 30 March – Good Friday**

10.30am	Stations of the Cross – a modern re-telling <i>(see page 11)</i>	Dedham
2pm	Good Friday Meditation	Dedham

**Sunday 1 April – Easter Sunday**

8am	Holy Communion <i>BCP</i>	Dedham
9.30am	Rise 'n' Shine	Dedham
11am	Eucharist	Ardleigh
5pm	Evensong <i>BCP</i>	Dedham

*BCP – Book of Common Prayer CW – Common Worship*

**CHURCH TOWER  
FLAG DAYS**



Mon 12 March  
Commonwealth Day



Sunday 25 March  
Palm Sunday

Friday 30 March  
Good Friday

Sunday 1 April  
Easter

**FROM THE REGISTER**

**Burial**

9 February -  
Enid Glenny (aged 91)

**Interment of Ashes**

3 February -  
Florence Nunn (aged 90)  
22 December 2017 -  
Daphne Langton (aged 95)  
Heather Chambers (aged  
93) passed away but was  
not recorded in the  
register as her ashes were  
scattered elsewhere. Her  
funeral was at Dedham on  
29 December 2017.

**Weekly midweek services**

Tuesday Morning Prayer at **Dedham**  
at 10.30am.  
Thursday Evening Prayer at **Ardleigh** 5pm.

**Men's breakfast**

Saturday, 10 March 9am  
at The Vicarage, **Dedham**

**Retreat day –**

Saturday, 3 March – 10am to 4pm –  
**Elmstead Market Church:** an opportunity  
for a time of quiet away from the busy-ness  
of work, family and home .Contact the  
Parish office for details. *Page 8.*

If you would like a lift to church contact **Ann Shaw** ☎322 192 or **Ruth Higginson** ☎322 598

## How to take part in the Passion story

**Good Friday** is one of our Bank Holidays in the UK and alongside Easter Monday it gives many of us the chance to get away for a weekend break as spring-time gets into full swing. *But do you ever wonder why you have been given the day off?*

Throughout the ages Christians have responded to the Good Friday story by commissioning public art or music, or by performing Passion plays to re-tell their communities about the truth behind the events of that week. *See pages 25 – 26 for Easter concerts.*

This year, 2018, we are inviting you to join us in the re-telling and to play your part in the story.

In the week before Easter, *Holy Week*, from Monday 26 March in your churches in Dedham and Ardleigh there will be **art and activities** for all ages to help you to engage with the story. The churches will be open throughout each day.

You are also welcome to join in the story at events through that week: *Details: page 12*

*The Rev Antony Wilson*



The Road to Calvary: a window in Dedham Church

### Lilies for remembrance at Easter

The flower group will again be arranging lilies in church for Easter Sunday. If you would like to buy a lily in memory of a loved one to be included, please put your money in a plain envelope marked 'Easter Lilies' with your name and contact number and place it in the

church money box by the entrance, or deliver it to the Parish office mailbox near the entrance to the Assembly rooms. The cost is £3 per stem. ☎321286

*Helen Sims*

*Easter flower group meeting page 23*

**EASTER WORSHIP IN DEDHAM AND ARDLEIGH**



**Services and Events for Holy Week**

**Tuesday 27 March**

10.30am Morning Prayer Dedham

**Thursday 29 March Maundy Thursday**

6pm Shared meal and Holy Communion  
*(you are invited to bring bread / cheese / fruit to share)*  
 Ardleigh

**Friday 30 March Good Friday**

10am to 12 noon **Good Friday get-together**  
*Come and make an Easter garden and enjoy a hot cross bun. Activities for all ages.*  
 Ardleigh Church

10 am to 12 noon **The Stations of the Cross**  
 Representing the events that happened to Jesus as he made his way from his trial to his execution. Join us in a modern retelling through the village and countryside of Dedham. *Walking gear advised.*  
 Meet at Dedham Church

2pm to-3pm **Service of readings, songs and meditations**  
 Dedham

**Sunday 1 April Easter Sunday**

*Services celebrating Jesus's rising from the dead*

8am	Holy Communion	Dedham
9.30am	Rise 'n' Shine	Dedham
11am	Eucharist	Ardleigh
5pm	Evensong	Dedham

## Church organ losing its voice after a century and a half

**A**t the heart of Dedham lies our lovely 500 year old Church of St Mary and its “voice”, the 1875 Hill pipe organ which now urgently needs replacement or repair.



The organ has been my voice also during the 20 years in which it has been my honour and privilege to serve the community as organist and choirmaster. The role has brought me into contact with so many of you, not only in church week by week, but as we celebrate Christmas in the village. I have also been honoured to meet you, play the organ and prepare music to help celebrate the community’s many life events: happy weddings and dignified and prayerful funerals. After initially commuting from Colchester, that sense of community became even more personal, when I moved to Dedham in 2010.

At the centre of all this is the Hill organ, which has had several positions in the church, moving to its present location in a gallery at the west end in 1975. A pipe organ such as ours is a hissing, breathing monster of steel, wood, lead and leather. More recently, an electrically blown wind system

and a digital link to a detached console at the other end of church were added. This has served us well since 1975, but despite six-monthly tuning and maintenance, the ravages of time and 40 years’ constant use have taken their toll. Repairs and call-outs are becoming more frequent, with mechanical and electronic now almost monthly. After professional advice, the Parish Church Council urgently faces four options, with vastly differing costs.

1. **Remove the existing Hill organ completely, and buy a new, bespoke pipe organ, probably in its current location – costing about £300,000.**
2. **Buy a second-hand organ, refurbish, and install – cost about £120,000-£180,000.**
3. **Rebuild the current organ - cost about £120,000-£180,000.**
4. **Replace with a digital electronic organ – cost from £25,000.**

Most of these options are beyond the financial reach of our church community, which is already stretched by being custodian of a medieval building, and the costs associated with membership of a wider church, and the financial expectations of our Deanery and Diocese. Hence our reason for coming to you as a community. We hope to involve as many of you as possible to ensure that this resource can be available in the future. Please tell us what you think is the best option for our organ, and whether you would be willing to support the project financially. We are getting together a working party to oversee this major project.

You can post, drop off or email your views to the **Parish Office**. See page 8.

*Antony Watson*

## Funds from the Friends reach high - and low

**D**uring the last two years two major projects were completed in Dedham Church. The nave was re-decorated and the clerestory windows were repaired in 2016. Then last year the walls and aisles were redecorated, part of the wooden flooring was repaired and new window sills were installed. The total cost of the work in 2017 was £59,700 of which the Friends of Dedham Church provided £36,680, some 60 per cent of the cost. If you have not been in the church and seen the impact of this work I encourage you to do so.

The Friends of Dedham Church was established in 2004 to help to maintain the fabric of the church, which plays such an important part in our village life. The upkeep of the church buildings and surroundings is a continuing task and every five years a report is done by external architects on the condition of the buildings. The report completed in the autumn of 2017 identified a number of issues which could be broadly categorized as maintenance (blocked drains, guttering etc.), general repairs to boundary walls and work to church fabric, and capital projects – a new inside toilet, a hospitality unit and repairs to stained glass windows. While the Friends may assist with general repairs our main focus will be on helping to deliver the capital projects, identified above.

Our income is generated from membership fees, individual contributions and fund raising events. We try to organise a range of events that will be of interest to a variety of people. Our first event, which is a new venture for the Friends, will be a “Horse Racing” evening



Hintlesham Hall, Suffolk, venue for the Friends' golf day on 2 May, one of a series of fund raising events during 2018

on **21 April** in the Assembly Rooms, (see [page 15](#)). This will be followed by our annual golf day at Hintlesham Hall on the **2 May**. Our major fund raising event is the Dedham Summer Ball which will be held at Le Talbooth on **22 June**. All of these events are open to members and non members but early booking is advised as numbers are limited and demand is always high. On **16 August** the summer drinks garden party will be held for members and the last event of the year will be the annual outing to a destination still to be determined. Details of all these events will be advertised. While raising funds is clearly a key objective, we also aim to arrange events that people will enjoy and where they can meet new and interesting people. Single membership of the Friends costs £15 a year: membership forms together with details of the Friends are available at the rear of the church and on our website. If you are not already a member we would encourage you to join us and we look forward to welcoming you to our events this year.

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

✉ [info@friendsofdedhamchurch.org.uk](mailto:info@friendsofdedhamchurch.org.uk)

☎ 323 949

*Peter Wilson*

Chairman, Friends of Dedham Church

## Horse racing in the Assembly Rooms? You bet!

David Druitt (below) looks tense as he reaches for the reins. His horse is flat on the ground. A sharp twitch pulls it upright. And they are off .... It's the first run of the Dedham Assembly Rooms Flat Race Stakes.

More precisely, this was a rehearsal, the horse was a plywood cut-out and the "reins" were a single line threaded through a hole in the horse and stretched to the finishing post at the far end of the hall, where it was secured to a chair upon which sat Jill Strangward (top on the left).

Seven races with six horses each will be running on **Saturday 21 April**. All the horses need owners – and jockeys of course. But these are not St Ledger prices: £10 to own a horse for one of its six races (syndicates allowed) and £2 per race for the skilled task of jockeying the horse down the line. Owners and jockeys of winning horses get prizes. They may also have a flutter.

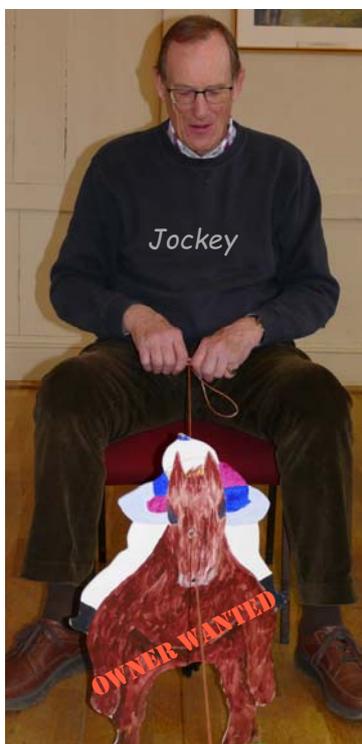
Doors open at 7pm for 7.30pm. Punters should bring their own hip flasks (or bottles and glasses) plus nibbles, but leave shooting sticks and hampers at home. Jill and David are arranging tables for eight with supper from Riverside Fish and Chips included in the entrance price of £12.50. Punters can buy as many £1 Tote tickets as they like to bet on the six preliminary races. Then comes the final test of skill - and betting acumen.



The winners of the six races will compete in the grand final of the Dedham Derby.

It was not obvious to me how a plywood horse that starts flat on its face could get from A to B, even with a string through its head. David and Jill demonstrated with a long roll of orange twine. After the line was threaded through the horse and stretched out, David pulled it taut to bring the horse upright. Then with some scientific jiggling he made it jump or rather hop forward, sliding down the line (the game was first developed for frogs). David (bit of a dark horse, I'd say) looks as if he has form - my hot tip for a punt, if he is a runner.

Max Wilkinson



### [Assembly Rooms](#)

**Saturday 21 April, 7pm**  
for 7.30pm

Tickets £12.50

☎ 322 006 & 322 000

*includes fish and chips*

Fundraising event  
organised by  
**Friends of  
Dedham Church**

See page 14

## The ascent of St Mary's: all for the sake of a weed



The north face of Dedham Church (inset) is John Fryer's highest climb in 2018. But not quite the Matterhorn, or his ice ascent in Italy (above). *Photo: Nadir Khan.*

After scaling Mont Blanc, the Matterhorn and the Eiger mountains, St Mary's church tower in Dedham might seem an easy climb. However, John Fryer, an Aridleigh-based tree surgeon, confides that he was a little bit nervous when climbing one of the octagonal corner buttresses last month ([cover photograph](#)). "I am more comfortable on trees," he says. And of course you cannot hammer pitons into the church fabric. To secure his rope, he and his assistant, Richard Bartlet (Barty) had to lasso the top of the turret.

John had been called in to remove a bramble that was growing from the stonework.

"Probably from a seed deposited by a bird," he says. After the offending growth was cut away, the roots were poisoned. .

At 36, Chris is still at his peak as a mountaineer, but for 2018 he plans to concentrate on his new baby. Still, the lure of the mountains is still strong and he may well be off to Scotland in the spring for a book project with Nadir Khan the Brantham photographer who took the photo (above)

*Max Wilkinson*

JF Tree Specialists

☎ 231 720

✉ [info@jftreespecialist.com](mailto:info@jftreespecialist.com)

## The NHS transformed in my 40 years' career

Next month I will be retiring from a career that has spanned 40 years, most of it in the NHS. I started at 17 as a receptionist in a GP's surgery in Clacton during my school holidays, progressed to hospital administration in London and Ipswich and have spent the last 25 years as a practice manager.

During that 40 years, I have seen a huge change in the NHS, both in service provision and people's attitudes. Back in the late 1970s, there was no computerisation, so receptionists had to handwrite all prescriptions. Fortunately fewer patients were on medication. Now more than half our patients are on regular medication with over a fifth having more than four items a month. Some take over 20 items a month. The annual NHS drug bill for the financial year in 2015 was £15.5 billion, the equivalent of £230 for every person in the UK.

The NHS now routinely offers operations and treatment which would have been unthinkable when the NHS started. For example, the success rate for treating cancers is up by 43 per cent since the 1970s. But funding has not followed the advances in all areas. To fully fund the NHS we would all need to contribute a lot more from our taxes, which I am sure would be unpopular. The recent winter pressures are nothing new, they are more acute now because we have more older, frailer patients than ever before.

How has general practice changed? Well, 40 years ago practice nurses or practice managers were unknown. The doctor did everything. His wife did the admin. The district nurse called on the elderly or those recently discharged from hospital. But in

those days there was very little paperwork. Patients consulted less than twice a year on average and there was no preventative medicine. The profession of practice nurse has evolved in the last 25 years, to the extent that Advanced Nurse Practitioners now run some practices with minimal involvement from the GP - and it works well. Patients with chronic diseases such as asthma and diabetes now get regular check ups. Practices offer coil fittings, NHS health checks, travel immunisations - none of which was common in the early days.

In general practice, however, the biggest change is in demand. Patients now seek an average of seven consultations a year compared with two when I started. In our practice with 7,500 patients, that represents a big impact on the service. Unfortunately general practice is seen as an unattractive option by graduates - my niece is in her final year as a medical student and none of her colleagues is looking at a career in general practice. The reasons stated are the high work load, patients' complaints and low pay. This is creating a bigger problem as the work load for the remaining GPs will only increase.

I am looking forward to retirement, but sad to be leaving Ardleigh Surgery and general practice. If you are a patient at Ardleigh, you are very lucky to have such a wonderful and dedicated group of doctors, nurses and staff - make sure you treasure them.

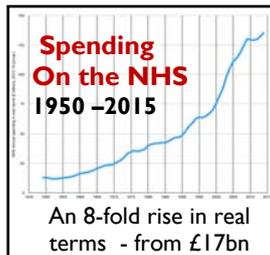
*Stephanie Durrant,*

Practice Manager, Ardleigh Surgery

Ardleigh Surgery ☎ 230 224

Dedham ☎ 322 290

[www.ardleighsurgery.nhs.uk](http://www.ardleighsurgery.nhs.uk)



## An unforgettable concert for young voices

On 31 January, 55 members of Dedham Primary School choir performed at the O2 Arena in London with 7800 children. It was part of a Young Voices concert. Music included a medley of Stevie Wonder songs, a medley of pop songs and cartoon theme tunes as well as a number of songs specifically written for the occasion. It was an unforgettable day. The happy faces in the photograph tell you that.

Last month our Inclusion Ambassadors travelled to Weston Homes Community Stadium for a multi-schools council where they listened to guest speakers championing inclusivity. Following this, Kieran Pearce from Market Field School gave a thought-provoking talk to years three to six, about differences between people and how we should focus on *abilities* rather than *disabilities*. He explained how some people's brains work a bit differently and that you can't always see this on the outside.

In sport, a team of year five and year six pupils recently represented the school at an indoor athletics competition; the football team won their last match three - nil; pupils in years four to six took part in a fencing taster day; and our year two children



Three among 7,800 at the O2 arena (below)



competed in a multi-sports event. Next half term, we're looking forward to some staff cricket training and National Skipping Day.

To keep up to date with the school, visit our website or follow us on twitter.

Laura Valentine, deputy head teacher

[www.dedham.essex.sch.uk](http://www.dedham.essex.sch.uk)  
Twitter @PrimaryDedham

### Constable Country Medical Practice

#### Tips to help consultations

- Tell the receptionist what your problem is, if you can. It may be possible to deal with it over the telephone. Advance information helps prepare for your consultation.
- Tell the doctor everything you can. Details which might not seem important may help him or her.
- If you have more than one problem, please ask for a double appointment so the doctor can give you enough time.

• If you need to see a nurse for a wound or an injection, or a phlebotomist, please wear suitable clothes and remove outer garments before entering the clinic room.

*Plans to refurbish and redecorate rooms in the Chapel Building and to install automated front doors are now in the final stages. The work is expected to be done in March, when there may be some disruption to our service. ☎ 298 272 .*

Peter Keeble Practice Manager  
[www.constablecountrymedicalpractice.co.uk](http://www.constablecountrymedicalpractice.co.uk)  
Closed from 1pm on Wednesdays 7 March & 25 April

## All a bit shady but doing very nicely

I am often asked what plants I recommend for a shady border: “Look on the web or gardening magazines” is of course the easy answer. Our 50m long boundary between us and our neighbour is north facing; to make it worse there are three ancient oaks just the other side for half this length casting heavy shade when in full leaf with a ‘rain shadow’ from overhanging branches. It doesn’t get much worse than that. As our house is sideways on the plot we look on to this border so it MUST be interesting.

Unfortunately space restricts a long list of possibilities so I have chosen some of my star performers for you. But let’s start with a simple rule. Using evergreens for one-third of any planting area means year-round interest; for shade go one better and seek out variegated shrubs for impact and lightening things up. *Eleagnus* ‘Limelight’ or “Gilt Edge” and *Euonymus japonicus* “Bravo” all with yellow/green foliage, are stalwarts. Growing to about 2m, they are easy to prune lightly. For a contrasting tropical look *Fatsia japonica* fits the bill with large dark green palmate leaves: if it gets tall and leggy, worry not - cut it down and it will re-grow. The smaller variety “Spider’s Web” with white-mottled leaves, is worth seeking out. *Drymis lanceolata* is another star with small white/green leaves. With some trepidation this was seriously cut back some years ago (on Monty Don’s advice) but it’s now back to 2.5m - albeit slowly. Its foliage is a must for flower arrangers - as is *Pittosporum* “Silver Queen”.

Camellias should be on your list: for flower-power *Camellia* “R.L. Wheeler” (who?) stands out with its stunning huge pink double flowers for five to six weeks in spring. Those with pastel flowers will show up best. Remember, all camellias need lots of water in late summer and autumn to



***Euonymus japonicus Bravo***

avoid bud drop. Also for height or against a wall, *Garrya elliptica* (with its long silken tassels in January to February) is a must – the variety “James Roof” is the best.

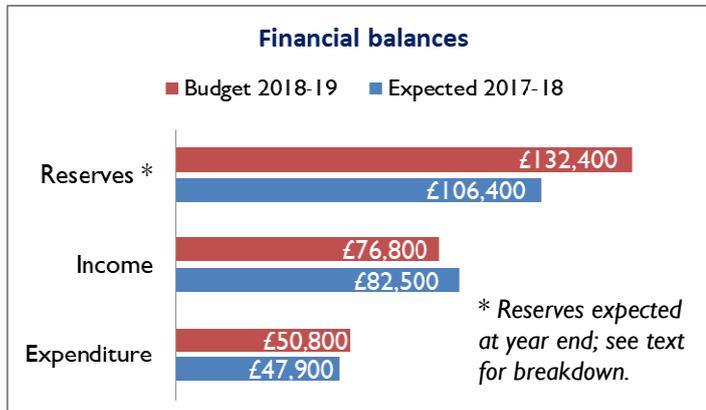
A trusty semi-evergreen is *Leycesteria Formosa*: there are four in this border. Cut back old stems in March almost to ground level and it will easily make 2m in a season. Small flowers appear in summer followed by long dangly purple berries. I also have the smaller yellow-leaved variety (“Golden Lanterns”) - difficult to find but worth looking for.

For an oriental feel bamboos work well, liking shade but with some moisture; I have the clump-forming *Phyllostachys bissetti*, but it lives in a large pot and every other year gets sawn in half. What was one is now five. Acers? Yes, but a windy situation will cause browning of the leaves. Then there are rhododendrons, azaleas, holly ... Perhaps it’s back to the web after all, but remember what Beth Chatto says: “Right plant, right place”.

*More on shady places next month*

*Elizabeth Ellis*

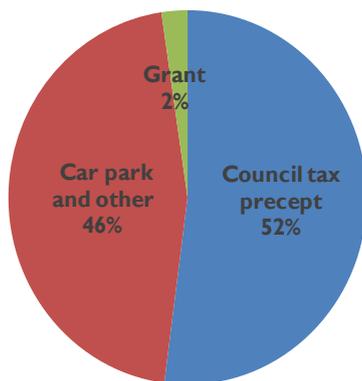
## Council budget and spending at a glance



The data for these charts are from, or derived from the parish council's draft budget statement for 2018-19.

The figures for 2017 - 18 are the estimated out-turn for the current year. These data are displayed somewhat differently from how they are shown by the council. In the council's

### Sources of income 2018-19

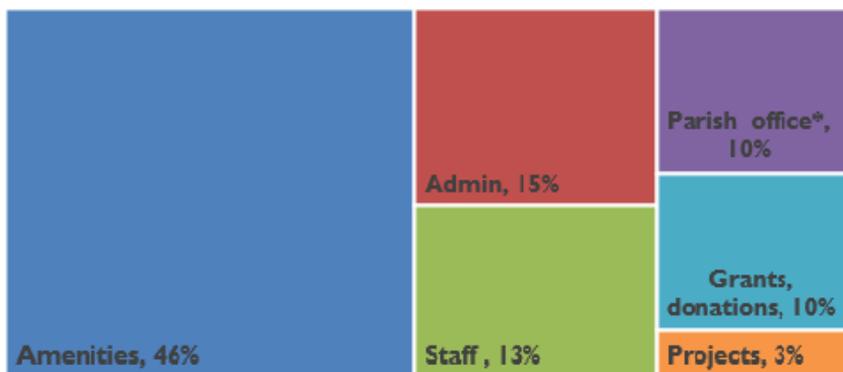


budget statement, reserves are divided into two categories. For 2018-19 about half of reserves (£62,000) are said to be "ring fenced" £2,000 is for possible election expenses. £60,000 is divided equally between three future projects: car parking, street lighting and re-surfacing The Drift.

The council treats the car park income differently from that raised from tax. Car park income goes straight into reserves. It is not set against expenditure when calculating the tax precept. But for 2018-19, £9,000, taken from reserves, is treated as income.

Max Wilkinson

### Where the money will go in 2018-19



\* A new parish office in the Craft Centre will include a tourist information point. Small contingency reserve not shown

## Parish office and tourist information point opens

Our new parish council office and Tourist Information Point in the Dedham Art and Craft Centre in Brook Street was formally opened on 14 February. Almost 40 invited guests heard a welcome from the parish council chair, Sheila Beeton, a talk from Tracey Brinkley about the work of the



Nigel Chapman (right) opens the new office with Sheila Beeton (centre) and Jenny Hands (left)

Stour Valley Project and presentations from Jenny Hand, director of the Munnings Art Museum, and Michael Clark, co-owner of the Dedham Art and Craft Centre. The office was formally opened by Nigel Chapman, a Colchester borough councillor. The Parish Office will initially be open for two mornings each week, on Tuesday and Thursday from 10am to 12noon. It will be staffed either by our Clerk, Emma Cansdale, or our Assistant Clerk, Brian Hindley. Appointments at different times can also be made.

The Tourist Information Point stocks

leaflets for visitors and is available from 10am until 5pm every day. From April we hope to have volunteers staffing the office in partnership with Munnings.

*If anyone has memories of the building before it became an Art and Craft Centre, we would love to hear from you.*

### John Hill

Parish Councillors were sad to hear of the sudden death of John Hill, Vice-Chair of Dedham Sports Club. John was instrumental in setting up the Bowls Club some 25 years ago and was a regular member of the team.

### A day to make the litter disappear

The community litter pick is scheduled for Saturday 3 March. More details on the website or from the Clerk.

### Footpath maintenance agreement

Footpath maintenance, which is the responsibility of Essex County Council, has been less than adequate over the past year. At its February meeting the Council reached a new agreement with the county council so that we once again have control of the contractor and the cutting schedule. The county will pay only 12 pence per metre, the rate for their county-wide contractors. However, the parish council has been unable to find a contractor to undertake the work for this sum. It has therefore agreed to fund extra cuts of our footpaths because of their importance to residents and visitors.

### Parish Council meetings

For the time being meetings are being held in the Assembly Rooms. Members of the public are welcome. Next meeting: Monday 5 March 7.30pm

Nicola Baker

### DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Clerk Emma Cansdale ☎01255 871483

✉clerk@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk



### Mobile library service cuts

The mobile library service in Dedham is to be changed from 2 April as part of a reorganisation by Essex County Council. From that date, the library van will stop only at Royal Square, probably on Thursdays at 9.30am for about half an hour. The stops at Dedham Meade and Parsons Field will be discontinued. Details will be announced soon.

The change reflects a 47 per cent fall in the use of the mobile service throughout the county since 2010. In Dedham, an average of only two people used the mobile library at each visit to Royal Square and almost nobody used the service at the other stops.

A survey by the County Council found that only 0.3 per cent of Essex people held a mobile library card, although 17 per cent were active library users. The nine library vans serve 557 stops throughout the county, but on average there are only about five users at each stop. In future the service will visit fewer than half the number of stops, cutting out all that have had fewer than one visitor on average. One reason for the review was that seven of the nine vehicles are nearly at the end of their lives. An option would have been to axe the service altogether, but following consultations, it has been decided to keep it going in a reduced form, while promoting volunteer library outlets in some places.

Max Wilkinson

Mobile library dates for Dedham - page 24

### Village Quiz raises £2,260

On Saturday 27 January, 18 teams competed for the Dedham Quiz Cup. The Dedham Tennis Club triumphed for the second year running. The evening raised an amazing £2,360, to be divided equally between the East Anglian Children's Hospice and the Colchester Hospital Cancer Centre.

We are extremely grateful to all those who sent generous donations towards the evening. Two very high quality prizes were auctioned for £430. The other raffle prizes yielded an impressive £1,050.

We thank everyone who so generously supported the charities, the volunteer helpers and David Druitt, who compiled the main quiz and the supper round.

If anyone would like to organise the 2019 quiz, please call David on ☎322000.

*Joanne and Peter Rowles, Alison and Grant Hutchinson, Lynn and Kevin Taylor*

### Correction

The proprietor of the Birchwood Farm Shop is Jim Lane

### Appeal for information



### Dedham in 1914-18

We are looking for information about Dedham people who served in the first world war. If you have any details of family members or others, that you would like to share, please get in touch.

Family stories, photographs or any written material would be helpful.

Please phone or email the editor.

*Page 8 for contact details*

Club in focus**Dedham Horticultural Society**

Bressingham Gardens: a visit is planned

Since the beginning of the year, we have attracted a few new members, which is very heartening. Work is continuing to complete our programme of events starting in October and taking us through to May 2019. In the meantime this is what is coming up. Our guest speaker for **7 March** is garden designer and horticulturalist, Darren Lerigo talking on "Ideas on garden design from around the World"; On **4 April**, we welcome Malcolm Macbeth who will be talking on "Thatching and Harvesting Straw"; then for our annual general meeting on the **15 May**, David Ward from the renowned Beth Chatto garden will be our guest speaker talking on "Making a drought resistant Garden". All these take place at **7.30pm in the Assembly Rooms** - free to members and £2 for guests.

One of the best events for fund raising (which helps to keep our annual membership fee to a very modest £6) is our annual plant sale held in front of the church porch on **12 May** from 9am to 11.30am. Please support this by buying plants and donating any spare ones you might have for sale. As in recent years we join forces with Mission Bake, so delicious cakes will also

available to buy as well.

Our annual summer outing takes place on **28 June** when we will go by coach to Bressingham Gardens in Norfolk, with the added attractions of miniature railway and merry-go-round rides included in the price - £22 for members and £24 for guests. This is likely to be a popular event. Tickets will be available at our next speaker's evening on 7 March, and thereafter.

*Colin Biggins*

**Stour Valley U3A**

On **14 March** Marcia Whiting, Curatorial Associate at The Munning's Museum on the life and art of Sir Alfred Munnings. On **Wednesday 11 April** Professor Wendy Harwood will speak on "GM Crops – where are we now?" Meetings are at The Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TP at 2 pm. Annual membership: £12 a year. Contact Graeme Forsyth ☎**399049**.

**Stour Valley Men's Probus Club**

The Annual General Meeting is on **Wednesday 21 March**. On **Wednesday 4 April** Bob Milne will talk on "The assignation of the Italian Barber". All meetings on Wednesdays at the St John Ambulance HQ, Manningtree CO11 1EB. Contact Dave Carman ☎**01255 880202**.

**Easter flowers group meeting**

For those helping to decorate the church, a meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13 March** at 10.30am, at Fountain House.

*See also page 11.*

**Dedham Footpath Group**

Sunday 4 March 10.30am

Meet at All Saints Church, Brightlingsea for a 4 to 5 mile walk. Leaders; Rudi and Brenda Drost ☎**303870**.



## EVENTS IN DEDHAM

### Assembly Rooms



#### Antiques Fair

Sunday 4 March - all day

#### Parish Council Meeting

Monday 5 March 7pm

See pages 20, 21

#### Horticultural Society Meeting

Wednesday 7 March 7pm

See page 23

#### Little Squigglers

Thursdays 10.30am -12 noon

#### Brownies and Guides

Thursdays B 5.30pm-7pm G 7pm -9pm

#### Dedham Art Society

Thursdays 8 and 22 March 2pm - 4pm

#### Dedham Films

Wednesday 21 March 7pm

See page 25

#### Dolls House Fair

Saturday 10 March 10.30am – 4pm

#### Eastern Angles drama

Friday 16 and Saturday 17 March 7pm

See page 25

### In the Mallett Room, Assembly Rooms:

#### Coffee Mornings

Tuesdays and Thursdays

Friday 30 March

10.30am -12.30 pm

#### Songbirds rehearsals

Tuesdays 8pm -10pm

#### Bridge in Dedham

Wednesdays 2pm - 5pm

Thursdays 7pm - 10pm

#### Youth Club

Fridays 7.30pm - 9.15pm

\*\*\*\*\*

### Mission Sale at the Marlborough Head

on **Saturday 10 March** from 10am. Cakes, gifts, flowers, bric a brac books and refreshments. Donations welcome. Contact:

Lynne ☎322 931 or Ruth ☎322 598.

### Bingo Night

In aid of Dedham Youth Club

**Saturday 28 April at 7pm**

### Assembly Rooms

Tickets, for tables of 10 or individually:

£12 or £7 (for ages 7 to 18)

Includes a simple supper and the first game of bingo; then 50p per game.

Wine, beer and soft drinks for sale;

**raffle and quiz.**

Children must be with an adult.

Tickets:

✉ [miranda.terry@btinternet.com](mailto:miranda.terry@btinternet.com)

For information and to make a booking for the **Assembly Rooms** please contact:

Tracy Woods ☎323921

✉ [info@dedham-assemblyrooms.info](mailto:info@dedham-assemblyrooms.info)

### Mobile Library in Dedham

#### Tuesdays 6 and 26 March

10.10am

The Royal Square

10.45am

Parson's Field

11.05am

Dedham Meade

WHAT'S ON: DEDHAM FILMS

Wednesday 21 March 2018  
**Goodbye Christopher Robin**  
(PG) Directed by Simon Curtis



A rare glimpse into the relationship between the beloved children's author A. A. Milne and his son Christopher Robin, whose toys inspired the magical world of Winnie the Pooh. Along with his mother and his nanny, Christopher Robin and his family are swept up in the international success of the books with their enchanting tales bringing hope and comfort to England after the First World War.

Wednesday 18 April 2018  
**The Death of Stalin**  
(PG13) Directed by Armando Iannucci



The one-liners fly fast in this uproarious, wickedly irreverent satire. Moscow 1953: when dictator Joseph Stalin drops dead, his parasitic cronies square off in a frantic power struggle. But as they brawl, and backstab their way to the top, just who is running the government? With rapid-fire farce, this audacious comedy is biting funny and performed by a sparkling cast.



Assembly Rooms Dedham Films Admission 7pm Begin 7.30pm  
Tickets £4 from Shakespeare House Gallery or [www.dedhamfilms.co.uk](http://www.dedhamfilms.co.uk)  
Refreshments available - Contact: [dedhamfilms@gmail.com](mailto:dedhamfilms@gmail.com) or ☎643 009

WHATS ON: THEATRE, MUSIC

**THEATRE**

Friday 23 Feb to 10 March  
**Henry James: Turn of the Screw**, adapted, Mercury Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

Monday 26 Feb to 3 March  
**Quartet**, Cheltenham Everyman Theatre Production, various times, New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich.

Friday 2 Mar  
**Pocket Playhouse: Michael Frayn**, National Theatre - LL, 7pm at Lakeside Theatre, Colchester.

Thursday 8 Mar  
**Jane Eyre: an Autobiography**, Lakeside Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

Friday 16 to 17 March  
**Guest House**, Eastern Angles Theatre Company, 7pm, at **Dedham Assembly Rooms**.

Tuesday 20 to 24 Mar  
**Blood Brothers** by Will Russell: Mad Hatter Productions, Headgate Theatre, Colchester, 7.45pm.  
**Oscar Wilde: Lady Windermere's Fan**, Vaudeville - LL, 7.15pm at Odeon Colchester.

Thursday 22 Mar  
**Shakespeare: Julius Caesar**, National Theatre - LL, 7pm at Odeon Colchester. and at Firstsite and at Lakeside Theatre.  
**Georg Büchner: Woyzeck**, New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich, 7.45pm, to 31 Mar.

**MUSIC**  
Sunday 4 Mar  
**Young Musicians**, Stour Valley Arts and Music, 4pm at Constable Hall, East Bergholt.

Saturday 10 Mar  
**Handel: Messiah**, part 2 and Wondrous Cross by Alan Bullard, Witham Choral Society at United Reform Church.

WHAT'S ON: MUSIC, OPERA, MUSICALS

Sunday 11 Mar

**Bolero to the Big Bands**, West Bergholt Concert Band, 3pm at West Cliff Theatre, Clacton.

Wednesday 14 Mar

**Gill Wilson (soprano) & Ian Ray (piano)**, Lion Walk Church, 1pm, Colchester.

Saturday 17 Mar

**Fauré: Requiem** and Canticque de Jean Racine; Poulenc: Four Penitential Motets., Colchester Choral Society, 7.30pm at St Botolph's.

**Goodall: Eternal Light**, requiem, Ipswich Choral Society at Ipswich Corn Exchange.

**Handel's Acis & Galatea and Dettingen Te Deum**, Stour Choral Society, 7.30pm at Mistley Church.

Sunday 18 Mar

**Stainer's Crucifixion - Come and sing** 2pm to 4.30pm rehearsal. If you want to sing contact Andrew Leach on: aleach379@btinternet.com, Ipswich, Performance 5.30pm.

**Sacconi Quartet with Michael Collins, clarinet**, Stour Valley Arts and Music, 4pm at East Bergholt Church.

Friday 23 Mar.

**Liza Pulman Sings Streisand**, Mercury Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

Saturday 24 Mar

**JS Bach: St John Passion**, Ipswich Chamber Choir, 7.30pm at St Mary-le-Tower.

**Brahms: German Requiem** and

Many more events with details and links on my website

[www.eamaa.org](http://www.eamaa.org)

and in my free monthly email guide

Subscribe: [maxwilkinson@eamaa.org](mailto:maxwilkinson@eamaa.org)



Easter concerts from March 10

**Schubert Mass in G**, Tiptree Choral Society at St Luke's church Tiptree.

Wednesday 28 Mar

**Handel: Messiah from Bristol Old Vic - LL**, Odeon Colchester, 6.30pm.

**Words and Music for Holy Week**, Lion Walk Church, 1pm, Colchester.

Friday 30 Mar

**Handel: Messiah**, Lion Walk Church, 7.30pm, Colchester.

**J.S. Bach: The St John Passion**, Music in Felixstowe, 7.30pm at St John the Baptist Church.

**OPERA/MUSICALS**

Saturday 3 Mar

**Rossini: The Barber Of Seville**, Swansea City opera, 7.30pm at Theatre Royal, Bury St Edmunds.

Monday 5 to 8 Mar

**Sunset Boulevard by Andrew Lloyd Webber**, on tour, Regent Theatre Ipswich, 7.30pm.

Tuesday 6 Mar

**Bizet: Carmen**, Royal Opera House - LL, 6.45pm at Odeon Colchester and at Firstsite

Saturday 10 Mar

**Rossini: Semiramide**, Metropolitan Opera New York - LL, 5.55pm at Firstsite, Colchester.

Sunday 25 Mar

**Puccini: Madame Butterfly**; Opera & Ballet International, Regent Theatre Ipswich at 7.30pm.

Tuesday 27 Mar

**Bernstein Centenary** at 2 pm, Royal Opera House - LL, 7.15pm at Firstsite, Colchester; and on 1 April.

Sunday 1 Apr

**Mozart: Così fan Tutte**, Metropolitan Opera New York - LL, 7.55pm at Firstsite.

Max Wilkinson

LL= live link

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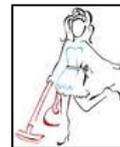


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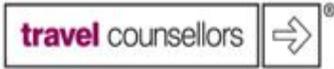
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