

# DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE



*November 2019*

*'Wild poppies' at Dedham Flower Festival*



## SERVICES November 2019

### Sunday 3rd—All Saints Day

8am	Holy Communion BCP	Dedham
9.30am	Rise N Shine	Dedham
11am	Morning Prayer	Ardleigh
4pm	Remembering your Loved Ones	Dedham

### Sunday 10th—Remembrance Sunday

1045am	Remembrance Service	Ardleigh
10.45am	Remembrance Service	Dedham

### Sunday 17th

8am	Holy Communion BCP	Dedham
9.30am	Matins	Dedham
11am	Eucharist	Ardleigh
3pm	Sunday@3	Ardleigh

### Sunday 24th

8am	Holy Communion BCP	Ardleigh
9.30am	Morning Praise	Dedham
5pm	Revive@5	Dedham

### Sunday 1st December

8am	Holy Communion BCP	Dedham
9.30am	Rise N Shine	Dedham
11am	Morning Prayer CW	Ardleigh
5pm	Evensong	Dedham

BCP: Book of Common Prayer / CW: Common Worship

### Weekly Midweek Services

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

**Men's Breakfast**, Saturday, 2nd November, 9am, The Vicarage

**Dedham Lunch Club**, Monday, 4th November, 12.30pm, Essex Rose Tea Rooms

**Ardleigh Friendship Group**, every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 10am-12pm, Ardleigh Church

**Sunday Night Skeptics at the Sun Inn**, Dedham - Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> December - 8pm



### FLAG DAYS:

Sunday 10th November  
Remembrance

### FROM THE REGISTER:

No Weddings & No Baptisms  
Burials:

Dr Khadim Boloch, 10th Sept  
Margaret Paterson, 9th Oct

If you would like a lift to  
church contact *Ann Shaw*

☎ **322 192** or

*Ruth Higginson* ☎ **322 598**



Follow us on facebook  
Dedham and Ardleigh parishes

**BIG BREAKFAST**

**SATURDAY**

**16<sup>TH</sup>**

**NOVEMBER**

**FROM 8.30AM**

**DEDHAM**

**ASSEMBLY ROOMS**



## ASSEMBLY ROOMS

**Starlight Dancing**  
Mondays 9.00-12 am

**Tom Stapleton  
Choral Academy**  
Mondays 4-7pm /  
Tuesdays 4.30-7.30pm

**Art Classes** Tuesdays 9.30-3 pm

**Sounds Right** Thursdays am

**Brownies** Thursdays 5.30-7pm

**Antiques Fair**  
Sunday 3 November - All Day

**Horticultural Society Meeting**  
Wednesday 6 November  
7.30 pm

**Dedham Art Society**  
Thursday 14 & 28 November  
2-4pm

**Big Breakfast**  
Saturday 16 November am

**Dedham Films**  
Wednesday 20 November - 7pm

**Dolls House Fair**  
Saturday 23 November  
All Day

## DUCHY BARN

**Coffee Mornings:** Tuesdays,  
Thursdays & Fridays 10.30 -12pm  
**Bridge in Dedham:** Wednesdays,  
2pm-5pm, Thursdays,7pm-10pm  
**Youth Club:** Fridays, 7.30-9.15pm

## MEET UP MONDAYS

@

## THE SUN INN, DEDHAM



DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE WEEKEND HAS DRAGGED?  
ARE YOU FED UP WITH YOUR OWN COMPANY?  
MAYBE YOU ARE NEW TO THE AREA?  
YOU ARE INVITED TO COME ALONG & ENJOY  
A FREE CUPPA & SOME FRIENDLY CHAT.  
WE'RE HERE FOR TEA, COFFEE AND CAKE AS PART OF  
#MEETUPMONDAYS #DONTBEONYOUROWN

10.30AM - 12PM EVERY MONDAY

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

Tracy Woods ☎**323921** ✉  
[dedhamassemblyrooms@gmail.com](mailto:dedhamassemblyrooms@gmail.com)

**The Barn** can be hired for small  
private events, parties etc  
Details of hire can be obtained from  
Anne Rowledge ☎**322394**



This year has been a significant milestone in our commemoration of World War Two as we have marked the 75th Anniversary of D-Day, the beginning of the end of that war.

In September as Chaplain to 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion Parachute Regiment I was privileged to take part in the 75th Anniversary of *Operation Market Garden* where allied airborne forces attempted to secure the bridge at Arnhem to help

the allied advance to Berlin.

Alongside the huge commemorations that weekend attended by the Prince of Wales, senior officers and over 45,000 Dutch people there was a quiet and intimate service at a village war memorial for 10th Parachute Regiment. Here we remembered the sacrifice of a young airborne soldier Private Albert Willingham. Albert was sheltering in a cellar when a German soldier threw a

grenade into the crowded room. He threw himself in front of the grenade and by so doing saved the lives of a young Dutch mother Bertje Voskuil and her son, and two injured British soldiers. That mother went on to have another son, Roberty, whom I met during the commemorations.

*It took a long time for his sacrifice to be unearthed and recognised.*

Later in this edition you can read about the behind the scenes work done 75 years ago by a local veteran, Marjorie

West, her vital contribution to D-Day just recently being acknowledged by the awarding to her of the Legion d'honneur – the highest French Order of Merit for military and civil merits.

In the churchyard there are three military graves: A J Bird Royal -Army Medical Corps who died in 1919; Frederick Dines -Royal Air Force Volunteer Reserve who died in 1943 and Leonard Beard -Royal Armoured Corps who died in 1944. Sadly we know very little about the service of these men and the circumstances of their deaths. Why not take a moment to pay your respects at their graves this Remembrance, there is a map locating those graves in the church porch.

Remembrance Sunday gives us the chance to acknowledge and commemorate the self sacrifice of all those who have served our country in war, most of whom were unsung heroes. We pray for those who work today to preserve our peace, like the

anonymous members of the security forces working behind the scenes at home and abroad.

Perhaps Remembrance should also challenge us afresh to be thankful for the peace that we enjoy, and recommit ourselves to serving others in unsung and sacrificial ways, service without necessarily the expectation of recognition reward.

Jesus was once instructing the disciples about giving to others and he said: *Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven. When you give to someone in need, don't do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. But when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you.* Matthew chapter 6 verses 1-4

God notices what we do. So keep serving – your family, friends, colleagues, companies and community. It will be rewarded.



Reverend Antony Wilson

## Jonathan Aitken: From Politician to Prisoner and now Prison Chaplain

Come and hear his remarkable life story at Dedham Church on **Sunday 8 December at 5pm.**

Jonathan Aitken is a former Member of Parliament, Cabinet Minister, and ex-prisoner. He is now a Prison Chaplain at HMP Pentonville.

Jonathan grew up in Suffolk and his first job was on the EADT so East Anglian holds a special place in his heart.

He is the author of seventeen books including award winning biographies of John Newton, the author of *Amazing Grace*; former US President Richard M Nixon and former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. He is also a well-known broadcaster and columnist for the Times and other newspapers.

Ordained in June 2018 at St Paul's Cathedral by the Bishop of London, he now combines being a curate at St Matthew's Westminster with being a chaplain at HMP Pentonville."



*The Revd Jonathan Aitken*

## *Remembering your loved ones*

*A special service to remember those who have died  
Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 4pm, St Mary's Dedham*

*CO7 6DE*

*Followed by  
light refreshments*

*Please contact the Church Office  
if you would like the name of  
your loved one to be read out:*

*01206 322136 / stmaryda@gmail.com*





We hope that many of you took the opportunity to visit the flower festival held in the church over the last weekend in September. It was a wonderful display of flowers and the arrangements, many of which were inspired by the stained glass windows, were innovative and beautifully conceived. The comments in the visitors book tell the success of the project :“beautiful flowers,” “awesome experience,” “inspiring”, “such a friendly welcome.”

A successful event such as this is a long time in the making, and we owe a huge thank you to the flower team led by Helen Sims, and also to the support teams who promoted the event, produced the food and drinks and generally welcomed our visitors.

A special thank you to those people who do not necessarily come to church but volunteered their help to make this such a

success—we hope your experience will encourage you to join us on future occasions. This was an excellent example of the village coming together to showcase not only St. Mary's Church but also the village of Dedham, and I am sure the extra visitors attracted to the village will have helped the local businesses.

Some 1500 visitors were welcomed between Friday and Monday and approximately £5,000 has been raised for much-needed Church funds.





## FLOWER FESTIVAL RECIPE

The recipe for a flower festival? After 10 months of planning, put together 25 flower arrangers, 1500 flowers, some skill, throw in a touch of stress and the odd interrupted night's sleep and you're in business!

At approximately 11.00 am on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> Sept, buckets for the flowers were lined up, the secateurs and scissors were primed and poised and the team sprung into action. There followed a constant sense of purposefulness in the church for the rest of the day, and all day Thursday with a tangible feeling of excitement and joy as the displays came to life.

The doors opened at 10.00 on Friday and over the course of the festival we welcomed over 1500 people: a wonderful mix of young and old, able and infirm, and people from a diverse range of nationalities, many of whom stopped for refreshments from the wonderful array of tasty cakes and sandwiches. A selection of comments about the festival included 'life affirming' 'community effort' 'welcoming' and 'stunning'. Personally speaking, it was lovely that so many people made an emotional connection with the flowers and the experience of being in our church. For me, that is what made it so special.

Many, many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the festival either by arranging, supporting financially, donating foliage/flowers and also for the generous offers of help. We have raised over £5000 for the running costs and ministry of the church.

Will there be another festival? Yes, I'm sure there will be, but after a bit of a rest!

***Helen Sims (Dedham Church flower co-ordinator)***



We enjoyed four days of Flowers, Food and Friendship welcoming over 1500 visitors to the festival in our Church.

A big thank you to all the people who bought the swags to decorate the pillars - 32 in all.

A big thank you to all the talented flower ladies for creating 12 amazing displays.

A huge thank you is also extended to everyone who helped, namely

Those who served refreshments.

Those who welcomed our visitors.

Those who made and donated cakes.

The ladies who made all the sandwiches.

Everyone who helped with the washing up.

***The Fundraising Team***



## Would you like to join the team?

We are a **prayerful presence** at the Ardleigh Car Boot  
each Sunday from 0800-1200

There are three of us each week

*For more information please talk to Antony  
323919 or Christine 230723*



Sometimes warm and sunny, Sometimes wet and windy.  
Sometimes good conversation regarding peoples concerns,  
fears, hopes and a desire to know the truth.

Sometimes less conversation, instead a prescience ministry, many people from  
many countries glance at the cross and read the banner, and they wonder,  
Sometimes an opportunity to pray with people or pray for them, always the  
opportunity to pray for those sheep passing by so intent on their business.

Sometimes opportunity to help people in a practical way,  
fetching, carrying to vehicles, sheltering from the rain.

Sometimes just a smile and a cheery hallo from folk on the team who are  
not trying to sell anything.

Always, the sense the god so loves those people and wants them to know and love him.

**Russell & Gerda Newsham**

## Dedham Parish Council

**Tea and tablets:** Following September's successful 'tea and tablets' event we plan to hold two more! The next one will be on Thursday 28 November at 1pm in the Duchy Barn. Please come along and get some friendly advice from our volunteer advisors on using your iPad, tablet or mobile phone. Bring along your own device between 1pm and 3pm and ask the questions YOU would like to ask over a cup of tea and cake. Questions at the last session ranged from how to turn on an iPad to how to manage a Facebook account, so nothing is off-limits! We will include information on how to report various issues on-line to Essex County Council and Colchester Borough Council. If you would like to come along please contact Cllr Jane Meakin on 01206 322014 or e-mail [Jennifer.jane.meakin@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:Jennifer.jane.meakin@dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk)

**Post Office:** DPC would like to gather some information from residents about the temporary Post Office van facilities. In particular we would like to know what services you use; whether you use any other Post Offices and how well the current arrangements meet your needs. Please, please let us have your views, even if you are an infrequent user of PO services. The survey is on our website and hard copies are available from the Parish Office at Dedham Art and Craft Centre. *Next meeting will be Monday 4 November 2019 in Duchy Barn.*

### VE day commemoration

**Celebrations:** Next year it will be 75 years since Victory in Europe Day. A comprehensive programme of events to commemorate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day in May 2020 is in the planning stage. This will include an afternoon tea party for senior residents of our community on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May. More details on how to request an invitation to the tea party will appear in a future edition of this magazine.

### Nicola Baker

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[01255 871483](tel:01255871483)

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

## Medical Matters

**Flu Update:** As the autumn weather has started, we have already started to see a rise in viral illnesses in both children and adults and already some cases of Flu. If you missed the flu clinics in September and October, don't worry, there are still flu injections available for those who are eligible, please speak to reception to book in with one of the nurses for the vaccination. Or if you have an appointment, please ask us then. There is also information available on the NHS website and also via our surgery website for self-help advice for common winter illnesses.

**Charity Cake sale:** Many of you will know at the September flu clinic we held a Charity cake stall and we would like to thank everyone who helped and supported the afternoon. We made over £350 for the MacMillian Support.

**Staff News:** This month we say a sad goodbye to our practice manager Ruth Waring who has been with us for the last 18 months, she is returning to London to continue working as a practice manager and we wish her all the best in the next step in her career and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all her hard work and support over the last few years. We will be welcoming our new practice manager in November who has worked locally for many years.

Dr James Greenland who was a trainee with us has now fully qualified as a GP and has joined our team full time. We also have a new GP registrar with us until August next year, Dr Faiza Murad. Our Senior Nurse Practitioner Joy is currently completing a master's course in complex

pain at UCL and Nurse Fiona is expanding her knowledge in diabetes.

**Medication Shortages:** HRT medication has been in the news recently with medication shortages but unfortunately it is not just this class of drug being affected by production shortages and issues. Please be patient with the GPs and dispensary team with medications which may need to be altered due to these issues.

**Text Messages from Ardeleigh:** We have a new text message alert system at the surgery called AccRx. This allows us to send you text messages and information about your appointments, medications or a short message. When you are next in the surgery, please check we have the correct contact details for you. Messages from this service will come from “accRx”. Please be aware, you cannot text back to us.

**Antibiotic Prescribing:** Did you know GP surgeries are audited for their prescribing? There are many factors which affect how many antibiotics a GP surgery uses, including the average age of the population within a surgery and number of nursing homes and vulnerable or medically complex patients we look after. In a recent audit, Ardeleigh has come out as a high antibiotic prescriber. This is not surprising due to our population type. As we come into the winter season, many coughs and sneezes are viral and do not need oral antibiotics. GPs and nurses only issue antibiotics when they feel it is clinically justified and not for “just in case”. Antibiotic resistance is a global issue so let’s help on a local level and work together to reduce antibiotic use over this winter season.

**Car Park Ardeleigh:** We would be grateful if patients, where able, could be encouraged to use the village car park opposite the church. It is only a very short walk to the surgery from this car park. The surgery only has 3 small spaces outside it which should be reserved for the needs of those who have

very limited mobility/ Blue badge holders and ambulances. Many people parking in the spaces are fully mobile.

Also please be aware the car park at the rear of the surgery, is for staff only. It is a very tight space and is not for turning cars around or parking in. We have already had the side of the building

knocked, one of our staff’s car scratched and seen cars parked on our steep grass verges. Please be respectful for the need for this area to be easily accessible for our Duty Doctors and nursing teams. The cones are out for a reason, please do not move them.

**Patient Participation Group:** Once our new practice manager has started in November we are hoping to restart regular patient participation group meetings and projects. If you are interested in joining the group, we would welcome your help and support, please contact reception/ practice manager to pass on your contact details.

**Best wishes, Ardeleigh Surgery**

## Winding down for winter

So, I’ve volunteered to follow Elizabeth in writing a regular article from the Dedham Horticultural Society. It’s a tough act to follow, but here we go.

Although the dahlias and roses, with a bit of judicious and regular deadheading, managed to hang on through most of October, they – with the *asters*, *chrysanthemums*, *verbascum* and *verbena bonariensis* – are working the very last of their magic now. With winter and frost on the horizon, most of the flowers in the garden are pretty much over now.

Fortunately, I still get a lot of satisfaction from weeding, cutting back and tidying up; getting on with any changes I want to make in beds and borders, and laying the foundations for another glorious year in the garden..

While I expect in some well-designed gardens there is plenty that’s been perfectly

timed to come into its own right now, sadly here everything is looking a bit bedraggled. The long leaves of metre-plus tall *Crocosmia* 'Lucifer' are sagging and brown, four colours of *Buddleja davidii* are over-tall and spreading across borders, and the herbaceous peonies are looking tatty and ready to tuck their heads back below ground until spring. There's plenty to do to impose a bit of order.



First the *buddleja*: it's better to wait until early spring and the start of new growth to hard prune, after which it will quickly return to height and flower better, but you will do no harm to lightly chop back overly high or long branches that are getting in the way of other things. This will also help reduce the chance of windrock damaging the roots.

I enjoy the variety of colour, size, height and form of dahlias and even if you don't have a garden, you can try them in a container and maybe enter a few in our Autumn show next September.

If you're already growing some, you'll need to think quickly about whether to lift them or not. I don't have the time and no place to store them well, so I leave them in the ground. Once I've cut back to short stalks and weeded - and before the first proper frosts - I'll put 5-8 cms of mulch around every dahlia plant (usually with landscape bark, but a thick layer of compost will do just as well). Do it after rain and the mulch will help retain moisture too. My manukas *Leptospermum scoparium* 'Red Damask' and 'Nicholsii' get the same treatment. It all gets raked off and composted when spring arrives.

Having had some success with the hardwood rose cuttings I took last year (look out for a few leftovers in our Plant Sale in May), I'm trying to grow more plants this way. At this time of year, I'm taking root cuttings of *Phlox paniculata* 'David' and *Verbascum phoeniceum* 'Flush of White'. You can also do it with *Anemone* × *hybrida* 'Honorine Jobert', but these are thuggish beasts rampaging across my borders so need controlling not propagating.

But what to look at once the garden is all tidied up? There's still the odd rose and dahlia bloom looking a bit sad, but it's foliage that's coming into its own right now. Look down from the trees and their autumn leaves and find *bergenias*, *epimediums* and *heucheras* showing off among the beds.

*Our next DHS Evening is on Wednesday 4 December when we'll host our own Christmas Quiz with wine and mince pies. It may not rival the Dedham Quiz, but is a fun way to meet some members and find out more about what we do from 7.30pm at the Assembly Rooms.*

*Elliot Frisby*

## Marjorie West, Dedham war veteran,



**A**t the age of 98, Marjorie West has been appointed by the President of France to the rank of Chevalier in the Legion d'Honneur, the highest order of merit in France. This award is given as thanks from the French nation for her work in the preparation for the D-Day landings and the subsequent liberation of France three quarters of a century ago.

Marjorie describes those turbulent times in a brisk matter of fact tone in her room in her son's house in Grove Hill, Dedham, looking onto the large garden that she used to tend. A copy of today's Times lies on her table as she recalls the dreadful news in 1942 that caused her

to leave her job at the Post Office and join the Women's Royal Naval Service (WRNS).

At the age of 21 she learned that her husband Ted Graysmark, an RAF Spitfire pilot, had been killed while defending the island of Malta against German attacks. Ted was also 21, and they had been married for only six weeks.

"I decided I needed to do something to help the war effort. The WRNS wouldn't employ you then unless you had a skill. However they needed teleprinter operators, and that's what I had been trained to do by the Post Office, so I was able to get in." The Navy sent her to Southwick House, near Portsmouth, the nerve centre from which Generals Eisenhower and Montgomery and Admiral Bertram Ramsay were planning the D-Day invasion of France. Teleprinters were then used for sending and receiving secure communications by wire.

"We didn't see much of the top brass. They were all upstairs, we teleprinter girls were down in the basement. Montgomery had a caravan in the park – he was always there – and we lived in huts in the beautiful grounds."

Secrecy at Southwick was paramount, not least because British spies were successfully deceiving the German High Command about the time and place of the landings. Marjorie and her fellow workers saw all the communications coming in from ships and other forces as

## is awarded the highest Napoleonic honour

well as the commands that went out from the centre. So they were subject to an almost Trappist regime: absolutely no contact with people in the outside world.

“We could never go out alone. On our days off we would be taken to a beach on the coast about 20 minutes away in an army lorry. No other visitors were allowed to go there.”

Was such isolation difficult for a girl in her early 20s? “No, I didn’t mind. At that time you didn’t think you were important and you did not chat about your work,” she says.

In the days before the Normandy landings (planned for 5 June 1944), there was tense anxiety on all floors of Southwick House “The bad weather put it off for a day. I just thought it was a very brave thing that they were going to do, so I hoped the weather was not going to affect them, or the planes - they needed good weather as well.”

After the success of the D-Day landings, Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) was moved from Southwick to the French coast. Marjorie hated the sea crossing and stayed in her bunk all the way. “But I didn’t mind, it was part of my duty,” she says. Once in France, they were billeted in a school where they slept on the hall floor, waiting for Paris to be liberated.

When that great day came in late



August, 1944, SHAEF was relocated again to Versailles near Paris, and the girls were housed in a nearby nunnery – “They sent the nuns away; we moved in.” However, the Navy was no longer enforcing Trappist discipline, and Marjorie was able to socialise again. In Paris in 1944 she met and fell in love with Victor West, then serving in the RAF as a radio operator, also serving with SHAEF.

Three years later, soon after she had been demobbed she and Victor married. They had two children: Colin, who lives in Dedham with his wife Lyn, and a daughter Christine who lives near Dover.

Thirty years ago, Marjorie and Victor moved to Dedham to live with Colin and Lyn, because, Marjorie says, “they needed help with their garden.” Apart from gardening she used to go to keep fit classes in Dedham and became treasurer of the village Women’s Institute, when it still had one. She now goes regularly to the Monday lunch club, organised at the Essex Rose café opposite the War Memorial.

Colin discovered that his mother might be eligible for the French honour after an announcement by France’s former president Hollande. As part of the D-Day celebrations in 2014, he said that it could be given to British veterans who had served in France. The British authorities confirmed Marjorie’s service

and the handsome medal was awarded to her this summer by President Macron. The Military Attaché from the French Embassy will visit Dedham at the end of November to present Marjorie with her medal.

Apart from the honour there is a rather modest annual stipend of €6.40, and Colin has discovered that the Légion d’Honneur, originally established by Napoleon, offers another curious and perhaps theoretical perk. Any great-granddaughter of Marjorie’s (and she has four) would, Brexit permitting, be eligible to attend certain designated schools in France - a privilege that Napoleon could never have intended for a veteran of the Royal Navy.

*Max Wilkinson*

## D-Day drama makes a near perfect landing



Michael Cook as James Stagg, the chief meteorologist at the D-Day headquarters

The Dedham Players production of David Haigh’s *Pressure*, thought to be the first by an amateur company, was a resounding success. It was greeted enthusiastically by a full house at the first performance on 23 October and is a worthy successor to the Players’ award-winning *Emma* earlier this

year.

*Pressure*, launched in Edinburgh in 2014 is a re-creation of tense arguments just before the D-Day landings about whether stormy weather might make the invasion impossible. The unlikely hero is Group Captain Dr James Stagg, the chief military meteorologist.



With 65 hours to go before the landings were due, he had to convince Gen Eisenhower, the allied commander, that the glorious June weather might not last. He also had to fight against the brash optimism of his American counterpart, Col Irving Krick, while consumed with anxiety about his wife, who was facing a difficult childbirth.

Haigh played this part himself in Edinburgh. For Dedham, Joseph Russell took on the role with great distinction, showing the different facets of this dour Scot's character while also managing to make a stream of meteorological facts and figures seem exciting. The first impression was of a grumpy scientist, intolerant of anything or anyone who got in the way of his work. However, as the drama developed, notably through his interaction with Eisenhower (Ike) and his English driver, Lt Kay Summersby, Russell showed Stagg's wider emotional compass, including his anguish when the forecast hung in the balance.

A wrong decision might cause perhaps 50,000 soldiers to drown or, if it went the other way, perhaps put off the invasion indefinitely.

In real life, the argument was on the telephone between half a dozen meteorologists. Haigh skilfully dramatised that as an altercation between two men accompanied by a lot of meteorological science and huge weather charts replicating those actually used before D-Day. Gary Huggins made an excellent job of the rather spivvy Col Krick, more at home, chatting up Kay Summersby or greasing up to Ike than with the science of the (then) newly discovered phenomenon of upper atmosphere "jet streams".

Danielle Tile, playing Kay Summersby, once again gave a subtle and appealing performance. She showed Kay first as a formidable and efficient factotum, driver,

secretary, confidante and behind-the-scenes manager of men. She was one of the many able women, indispensable in the war but never given higher rank .

She was also shown to be convincingly warm and sympathetic, soothing Spragg and then persuading Ike to let her go to visit Spragg's wife in hospital. Kay's story ended poignantly in this play, as it did in real life. Ike had promised they would escape to a remote clapperboard house, after the war, but she didn't really believe it and told Spragg: "I want the war to go on forever." Ike left the stage at the end with a chilling nod to her and: "Good luck for your future". There were some 10,000 Allied casualties on D-Day. Like so many other women, Kay was a casualty of a different kind.

John Roberts, a newcomer to the players, took the role of Eisenhower with the right combination of authority and the general's more informal, thoughtful side. He didn't quite get the American accent right, but that hardly mattered when the drama tightened around Eisenhower's fateful decision.

This is one of those stories where knowing the ending only increases the interest. Spragg spotted a short "weather window", for the day after the postponed landing . His feverish detective work amongst the isobars made a gripping story. The remaining seven members (some doubling) all provided excellent support, bustling in and out, with weather maps and data, or for meetings. It all kept the action moving at a fast pace.

This is a well written, carefully constructed and at times amusing drama. Dedham Players did it full justice making a difficult technical subject and a momentous decision come alive. - with excellent sound effects. I haven't seen the much praised West End production. Now I don't feel the need to.

*By Max Wilkinson*

## Army camp inspires a corps of artists

This summer, the Munnings Museum had the fine idea of inviting a group of 19 artists to a staged army encampment in the grounds with actors, tents and horses. The group was to create contemporary works of art inspired by Alfred Munnings's pictures from the first world war, now on display at the museum.

The result is a stunning exhibition of modern pictures of horses (and one sculpture), all for sale. They are set against a wall of Munnings's own horse paintings in the Studio behind the main museum building. It closes on 3 November

Paintings by these artists include such celebrated names as Tom Coates, whose work has been presented to the Queen.

Munnings's own paintings, and the special exhibition of his war paintings, "Behind the Lines", demonstrate his



*Study-Camp Life by John Fitzgerald*



*Going to the Front by James Power*

almost too sharply defined attention to clarity and detail of which he was well aware. He wrote of the conflict between the demands of commissions and his own artistic inclinations: "Painting racehorses drives one to despair. Again and again I have decided to leave it alone, to give it up..."

For James Power, tutor at Munnings and co-organiser of the exhibition with Jenny Hands, the Museum's Director, it was a chance to show the contrast between the monochrome photographs of the first world war and today's colour images. His painting, *Going to the Front*, shows the soldiers in black-and-white and a bay horse in colour.

John Fitzgerald is an exhibiter who was influenced by Munnings at an early age when as a boy he saw a painting owned by John Maquier who owns the world's largest thoroughbred stud, Coolmore in Tipperary and now has a collection of Munnings's paintings.

Fitzgerald says that Munnings was ahead

Fitzgerald says that Munnings was ahead of his time in capturing the anatomy and movement of racing horses “and painting the sky and light at the start of races.

“Horses are wonderful to paint – graceful and majestic.” He has returned to the Munnings Museum a number of times to work on preliminary watercolours for oil paintings and values the special atmosphere of the house.

Last year Fitzgerald was commissioned by the BBC to paint the famous racehorse, Shergar, for the documentary “Searching for Shergar” – so his work is known worldwide – as well as in Dedham.

Perhaps at the opposite end of the scale to Munnings’s sharply athletic racehorses is Melanie Wright’s study, Romeo the Cavalry Horse. This touching and appealing watercolour makes the viewer keenly aware that Melanie Wright, who grew up in the Yorkshire Dales with much of her childhood involving horses, is also a distinguished portrait painter. Not surprisingly she manages to make Romeo almost anthropomorphic, with a tender painting far removed from the large, muscular beast associated with warfare in this exhibition.

How did she feel about painting a portrait of a horse as compared with a human? “In both cases I'm looking for the spirit, the feel about the individual face. This is a watercolour in a loose style There's no detail in the eye or anything like that - it's very un

photographic. I was looking for the quality of the light and the colour - Romeo was standing outside on a lovely, sunny day, with green reflected on his coat. I was looking for an interplay, a dynamic of colour, shape and pose.



*Study – Romeo the Cavalry Horse  
by Melanie Wright*

“It's loosely done in that way to describe the personality or character without going into detail. He was a large, cavalry horse. I did a quick study of his face. I might also paint a person in that way - a semi abstract piece of art. It depends on the commission. People may want more detail. a more representational portrait.

“I find often this loose style can express a moment in time - encapsulate a feeling. Romeo was magnificent, a large cavalry horse, very noble with great presence.”

*Anthea Hall*

**Behind the Lines,**  
contemporary paintings for sale at the  
Munnings Museum until 3 November



## Dedham Christmas Tree Festival

Saturday 7th to Thursday 12th December

Entries are invited from all!

**Entry fee:** £3 per tree  
**Deadline for entry forms:** Friday 22nd November 2019  
**Trees to be..**  
**Delivered to church by:** Friday 6th December 3pm-6pm  
**Collected no later than:** Thursday 12th December by 4pm

### **Tree specifications:**

- \* No trees taller than 5ft
- \* LED battery operated lights only *to be provided by participants*
- \* Trees must be complete when dropped off  
*no final adjustments can be made afterwards*
- \* Trees can be on any theme or subject
- \* No toxic or hazardous substances to be used
- \* No offensive entries will be allowed



**Please return the entry form (copies available at the back of the church or on line [https://dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk/Groups/285356/](https://dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk/Groups/285356/Latest_News_and.aspx)**

**Latest\_News\_and.aspx) with the £3 entry fee**

**by Friday 22nd November 2019 to:** Dedham Parish Church Office,  
Assembly Rooms, Dedham High Street, Dedham, CO7 6DE

Or submit your entry by e-mail to: [stmaryda@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryda@gmail.com)

## Dedham Christmas Market

To coincide with the annual Dedham Village Christmas Market, the St Helena Shop on the High Street will be staying open until 7pm! Join us for:

- Professional singer from 4pm-6pm
- High End Clothing available to buy
- Christmas Carols
- A Lucky Dip
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## Dedham Community Christmas Lunch

The Community Christmas lunch will be held on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January



The lunch is free to any residents or former residents of Dedham who are over 60. The aim of the lunch is to bring together residents, friends and neighbours during

the festive period. The Christmas Lunches have been held for over 30 years. If you would like to be added to the list of invitees for this year's

lunch please contact

either Miles on 07802889899 or Tracy on 01206 323921

The Farming Community Network (FCN) presents



## ***November Larks!***

***Concert in St Mary's Church,  
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***Entry on the night possible @ £15***

The Farming Community Network is a Registered Charity no. 1095919

## THEATRE

### Thursday 31 Oct

**The Sirens**, exploration of what it means to be a woman, Lakeside Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

**One Under**, New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich, 7.45pm.

### Friday 1 Nov

**Wild Boy** - Lamphouse Theatre, at Sir John Mills Theatre, Ipswich, 7.45pm.

### Saturday 2 Nov

**Terrifically Terrifying Tales** - ghost stories; Packing Shed Theatre, at Headgate Theatre, Colchester, 8.15pm.

**Agatha Christie: And Then There Were None** - Mustard Theatre Co, Sir John Mills Theatre, Ipswich, 7.30pm.

**Bug** - A psychological thriller; by Tracy Letts; Headgate Theatre, Colchester, 7.45pm.

**Hansard**, National Theatre - LL at Odeon Colchester, and at Firstsite, 7pm.

### Saturday 9 Nov

**Edith In The Beginning**- Story of Edith Pretty; Stuff Of Dreams Theatre Company, at Sir John Mills Theatre, Ipswich, at 2.30pm.

### Wed 13 to 16 Nov

**One Man, Two Guvnors** by Richard Bean with songs by Grant Oldin, The Reject Theatre Company, Headgate Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

### Thursday 14 Nov

**Beowulf**, an interactive performance-game, at Lakeside Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

### Wednesday 20 Nov

**Shakespeare: Timon of Athens**, Royal Shakespeare Company - LL at Firstsite, Colchester, 6.15pm.

### Saturday 23 Nov

**Hansard** by Simon Wood, National Theatre - LL at Lakeside Theatre, Colchester, 2.30pm.

### Saturday 23 Nov

**Hansard** by Simon Wood, National Theatre - LL at Lakeside Theatre,



*Hansard from the National Theatre,*

Colchester, 2.30pm.

**The Little Mermaid**- Theatretrain Ipswich, at Seckford Theatre, Woodbridge, 7.30pm.

### Thursday 28 Nov

**Queens of Sheba** by Nouveau Riché and Omnibus Theatre, Lakeside Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

**Noël Coward: Present Laughter**, National Theatre - LL at Odeon Colchester and at Firstsite and at Lakeside Theatre, 7pm.

## CHRISTMAS SHOWS

### Thursday 28 Nov to 1 Feb

**Aladdin**, New Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich, at various times.

### Saturday 30 Nov to 5 Jan

**Cinderella**, Mercury Theatre, Colchester.

## MUSIC

### Friday 1 Nov

**Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** - popular music, at Regent Theatre, Ipswich, 7.30pm.



### Sunday 3 Nov

**Community Light Orchestra** strings at Henley Community Centre, 3pm.

### Saturday 9 Nov

**Busch Piano Trio**, Ipswich Chamber Music Society at Ipswich School, 7.30pm.

**Mozart Requiem**, Lexden Choral Society with Kingfisher Sinfonietta, at St Botolph's, Colchester, 7.30pm.

### Sunday 10 Nov

**Trio con Brio Copenhagen**, Stour Valley Arts and Music at East Bergholt Church, 4pm.



*Trio Con Brio Copenhagen – 10 Nov*

### Tuesday 12 Nov

**Organ recital by Mark Brafield (Dorking, Surrey)**, at Moot Hall Colchester, 1pm.

### Saturday 16 Nov

**Duruflié: Requiem and Bernstein: Chichester Psalms**, Colchester Choral Society at St Botolph's.

**Community Light Orchestra** at Ipswich School, 7.30pm.

**Late Night Jazz**- Sam Hollis and Max Stanton, Pimlott Foundation at Old House, Great Horkesley, 9pm.

### Sunday 17 Nov

**Music from Venice and the Italian Renaissance**, Cambridge Renaissance Voices at Long Melford Church, 7.30pm.

**A night at the opera**, Ipswich Choral Society at Ipswich School, 5.30pm.

**Violin & Piano**, Kingfisher Ensemble at Lion Walk Church, Colchester, 2.45pm.

**Magnificat by CPE Bach, Solemn Vespers by Mozart**, Sudbury Choral Society at St Peter's Church, 7.30pm.

### Fri 22 to 23 Nov

**Jubilee Opera: The Casket Girl**, a newly commissioned opera for children, Snape Maltings, 6pm and matinee.

### Saturday 23 Nov

**The Great Composers**, West Bergholt Concert Band at St Botolph's, Colchester, 7.30pm.

### Saturday 30 Nov

**Elgar: violin concerto** and Dvorak: 8th Symphony, Ipswich Symphony Orchestra at Corn Exchange, 7.30pm.

**Jubilate** - with brass ensemble, Nayland Choir at Nayland Church, 7.30pm.

**Walkin' With the King**. Jazz inspired music, St Mary-le-Tower Church, 7pm.

**Bach: Christmas Oratorio** (excerpts), Christmas music and carols for congregation, Stour Choral Society at Harwich Arts & Heritage Centre.

## OPERA/MUSICAL

### Wednesday 30 Oct to 3 Nov

**Madagascar** at Abbey Field, Mercury Theatre, Colchester, at various times.

### Mon 4 to 9 Nov

**Annie** - from London's West End, Regent Theatre Ipswich, 7.30pm.

**Avenue Q** Presented by Selladoor Worldwide; at Abbey Field, Mercury Theatre, Colchester, To 9 Nov.

### Sunday 10 Nov

**42nd Street**: film also on 12 November Firstsite, Colchester at 7:15pm and at 12.45pm and Odeon Colchester, 2pm.

**Fri 15 to 16 Nov**

**The Slipper and The Rose**, Riverside Musical Theatre Co at Riverside Theatre, Woodbridge, 7.30pm, matinee.

**Wed 20 to 23 Nov**

**A Little Night Music** - by Stephen Sondheim; Platform Musicals, Headgate Theatre, Colchester, 7.30pm.

**Saturday 23 Nov**

**Philip Glass: Akhnaten**, Metropolitan Opera New York - LL, Firstsite, 5.40pm.

**BALLET/DANCE**

**Thursday 31 Oct**

**Dracula**, Northern Ballet - LL at Odeon Colchester, 7.15pm and at Firstsite.

**Tuesday 5 Nov**

**Concerto - Enigma Variations - Raymonda Act III**, Royal Ballet - LL at Odeon Colchester, 7.15pm.

**Mon 18 to 20 Nov**

**The Wizard Of Oz** - Ballet Theatre UK, Theatre Royal Bury, 7.30pm and matinee.

**TALK**

**Sunday 24 Nov**

**Lecture by William Clegg, QC**

Miscarriages of Justice I have known, Stour Valley Arts and Music at Dedham Assembly Rooms, 5pm.



*Enigma Variations*, from *The Royal Ballet 5 Nov*

More events and details on my website  
[www.eamaa.org](http://www.eamaa.org)

Max Wilkinson

LL = live video link

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**A Private War (2018)**  
 directed by **Mathew Heineman**  
**Wed 20th November**

In a world where journalism is under attack, Marie Colvin (Rosamund Pike) is one of the most celebrated war correspondents of our time. Colvin is an utterly fearless and rebellious spirit, driven to

the frontlines of conflicts across the globe to give voice to the voiceless, while constantly testing the limits between bravery and bravado. After being hit by a grenade in Sri Lanka, she wears a distinctive eye patch and is still as comfortable sipping martinis with London's elite as she is confronting dictators. Colvin sacrifices loving relationships, and over time, her personal life starts to unravel as the trauma she's witnessed takes its toll. Yet, her mission to show the true cost of war leads her -- along with renowned war photographer Paul Conroy (Jamie Dornan) -- to embark on the most dangerous assignment of their lives in the besieged Syrian city of Homs



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# fiducia

## **The Dangers of DIY Pensions**

Plenty of pension providers offer do-it-yourself pensions. Here, the responsibility for consolidating schemes and investing the proceeds lies with the consumer. It sounds easy and convenient and it's usually cheaper than other options, but there is an awful lot that could go wrong.

### **Consolidation Mistakes**

The pension providers offer consolidation services to bring all of your old pensions together into a single pot. This is often a good thing to do, but older pensions are not the same as newer schemes. Sometimes, by consolidating your older schemes, you can end up losing out on some very valuable benefits.

### **Guaranteed Annuity Rates**

Older pensions could include guaranteed annuity rates. Some can be very high, promising you a much larger regular pension income (guaranteed for life) than you could secure by shopping around. Transferring the pension usually results in this benefit being lost.

### **Higher Tax-Free Cash**

Usually, you can draw 25% of an

invested pension as tax-free cash. For some older schemes, however, the available tax-free cash can be much higher than this. Transferring into a new scheme usually means forgoing the higher tax-free cash allowance.

### **Market Value Reductions**

When a pension is set up, a normal retirement date has to be specified. This is the date that you say you want to take the pension. Most people will choose 60 or 65, although in practice you are not typically forced to start accessing your pension at the normal retirement date. However, you may wish to consolidate the pension before you reach the normal retirement date. In this case, the scheme can apply a market value reduction to your pension to protect the remaining members of the scheme. In other words, they can reduce the value of your investments or withhold a large portion of your investment returns (possibly as much as 20%), only applying it to your pension when you reach the scheme's normal retirement date. Transfer out early and risk losing this chunk of cash.

### **Investing is Not Quick or Easy**

There's an awful lot of information out

there, recommending various funds to invest your money in. You can normally sign up for market tips and other such updates, but you might not want to spend 15 hours a week researching investments and reading about macro-economic politics. You probably have enough to do with your own job and family commitments. Or if you are retired, you may actually want to enjoy retirement. Without proper research and a tried and tested methodology for investing, which takes into account your risk profile and time horizon, it's easy to get things very wrong. If you don't have very long until you want to start accessing your pension money, getting the investments wrong at this late stage can be devastating.

### Can You Get the Tax Right?

When clients come to see us, they are often amazed at how well we understand pension and taxation rules. Often, we can design a bespoke pension withdrawal strategy for clients, taking into account their income needs and other sources of income they have alongside their pensions. In many cases, we can alter how they draw an income in order to save significant amounts of tax. The client still receives the exact same amount of income, but the tax they are paying is heavily reduced, sometimes to nil. If you are looking after your own pension account, it will be up to you to decipher pension and tax rules in order to reduce your tax burden.

Speak to an Adviser

Financial advice is not free, of course. But, a good adviser will be more than

worth their fees. Over time, they will save you money and anguish by protecting you from consolidation mistakes, they will invest your money in a way that best suits your needs and they will save you from handing over more money to the Tax Man than is absolutely necessary. Moreover, they are there to listen to what your real goals in life are - and to assist you in achieving them as soon as possible, helping you protect your family along the way and keeping you up to speed with ever-changing rules and legislation.

Too often, a client will come to see us after something has gone wrong. For example, they did a DIY pension consolidation and lost a lot of money. It's far better to see a financial adviser before taking action yourself. They can provide you with the benefit of their experience and qualifications to stop you from losing money.

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Email [lauren@fiduciawealth.co.uk](mailto:lauren@fiduciawealth.co.uk)

Best wishes, Lauren

**Lauren Peters**  
**Chartered Financial Planner, FPFs**  
**Senior Financial Adviser**  
**Fiducia Wealth Management**



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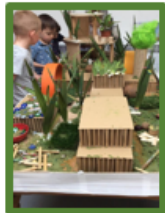
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## THE Munnings ART MUSEUM

DEDHAM • ESSEX

### OPENING TIMES

23 March - 3 November 2019 2pm-5pm,  
Wednesday to Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays  
Adults £8 (inc seniors) Children £1 Concessions  
for students and National Art Pass holders

- Group bookings welcome • Car and coach parking
- Cafe and shop
- See website for 2019 events and booking details

[www.munningsmuseum.org.uk](http://www.munningsmuseum.org.uk)  
[enquiries@munningsmuseum.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@munningsmuseum.org.uk)  
01206 322127



### Behind the Lines:

#### ALFRED MUNNINGS WAR ARTIST, 1918

Sir Alfred Munnings forged much of his early reputation from time spent as a war artist in France during 1918. In 2019, for the first time in 100 years, 41 paintings by Munnings are returning together from the Canadian War Museum, Ottawa. In this once-in-a-lifetime display the finished paintings will be shown side by side with the surviving sketchbooks, from the museum's own collection, that inspired them. An additional 150 of Munnings' life's works will be hung chronologically throughout the museum to give a sense of the man and his art.