

# DEDHAM

## Parish Magazine



December 2022/January 2023



# Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

December 2022/January 2023

## DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

[dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk](http://dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk)

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## DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

**The deadline for magazine entries is the 10th of the month**

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## MAGAZINE CONTENT

2. Contacts/contents.
  3. Services & Church events.
  4. Christmas Services.
  5. From the Church Wardens.
  - 6-7. Church News.
  8. Mission Bake Sale.
  - 9-10. The Organ Project update.
  - 11-13. The Goldsbrough Consort.
  14. Fun Run.
  - 15-16. Gardening.
  17. Summers Park & Dedham Carpet Bowls Club.
  18. Dedham Primary School & Dedham Speedwatch.
  19. Dedham Parish Council.
  20. Dedham Players & Dedham Art Society.
  - 21-24. Events.
  25. Kingsleigh.
  - 26-48. Advertising.
- Cover Photo - John Goldsbrough

### 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 any one who would, please contact: Ann Shaw **Tel: 322 192** or Sue Browne **Tel: 07778 198 118**

If you have been bereaved or know of anyone who has, please contact Vee Druitt **Tel: 322 000** or Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598**

### ***If you would like a lift to church contact***

Ann Shaw **Tel: 322 192** Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598**

**First Steps:** Want to get back involved with church but don't know where to start?  
Contact Liz and John Reed **Tel: 323 770**

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

**Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am Rise N' Shine [Dedham\\*](#)  
 11.00am Morning Prayer Ardleigh  
 5.00pm Evensong [Dedham\\*](#)

**Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December**

8.00am Eucharist, BCP Ardleigh  
 11.00am Holy Communion with Baptism  
[Dedham\\*](#)  
 6.00pm Carol Service [Dedham\\*](#)

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> December**

9.30am Matins [Dedham\\*](#)  
 4.00pm Carol Service Ardleigh  
 6.00pm Outdoor Carol Singing [Dedham](#)

**Christmas Eve**

4.00pm Christingle Ardleigh  
 4.00pm Crib Service [Dedham\\*](#)  
 11.00pm Midnight Communion Ardleigh

**Christmas Day**

10.00am All Age Communion [Dedham\\*](#)

**Morning Prayer - Every Tuesday,  
 10.30am at Dedham Church**

**Online Prayer - Monday Morning  
 at 7am and Friday Evening at 6pm**

\* = Services which are live streamed.

 **YouTube** Our services are on YouTube - search Dedham and Ardleigh Parishes.

 *Follow us on Facebook, search - [DedhamandArdleigh](#)*

 Scan this QR code to access the Dedham and Ardleigh parishes website

**Ardleigh Friendship Group – every  
 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month:**

10am to 12 noon in Ardleigh Church - outside when weather allows.

**ACTS Living Stones Prayer Group – every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month, 6.25pm at Ardleigh Church.**

**Ardleigh Craft Group – every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month: 1.30-3.00pm Ardleigh Church – in the Heritage Cafe.**

**Little Steps Pre-School Group – every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month: 1.30-3.30pm in Ardleigh Church.**

**Men's Breakfast - Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 9am venue tba. For bacon butties, tea, coffee and chat.**

**Monday Lunch Club Christmas Lunch – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December**

12.30pm, Essex Tea Rooms. Phone 322192 to reserve a place indicating it is for the Lunch Club.

**Walk and Talk - Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December. 11am - Meet at Dedham Arts Centre at 11am for a walk and then onto Oranges & Lemons at 12 ish for a Christmas lunch together.**

**FROM THE DEDHAM REGISTERS**

October Baptisms - None

October Weddings  
 Sat 1st October. Wedding of Tracey Savage and Chris Clark at Dedham Church.

October Funerals  
 Tue 11th October. Thanksgiving service for Anita 'Chuffy' Mereweather at Dedham Church.

**The service structure may be changing from January onwards, so we are not publishing the January 2023 services in this issue of the magazine.**



**Christmas Services  
at Dedham and Ardleigh Churches**

**Sunday 11th December**

6pm Carol Service Dedham Church

**Sunday 18th December**

4pm Carol Service Ardleigh Church

6pm Outdoor Carol Singing Dedham Church

**Christmas Eve**

4pm Christingle Ardleigh Church

4pm Crib Service Dedham Church

11pm Midnight Communion Ardleigh Church

**Christmas Day**

10am All Age Communion Dedham Church

Concert in Dedham Church on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

**J.S. BACH CHRISTMAS ORATORIO**  
**Tower Chamber Choir**



What a joy it will be to be able to celebrate Christmas as a community once again after the constraints we have had during the past two winters! What we may have taken for granted has become precious once more as plans are made for the many traditions that surround the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ more than 2000 years ago.

Many of us have Christmas traditions passed to us from previous generations and families often make an addition to them, which is then passed to the next generation. These things become part of what we value at this time of year as we prepare for Christmas, but at the core for Christians is our belief that Jesus Christ was born to serve and save us all, which is the focus of our joy at this time of the year.

On January 6<sup>th</sup> there is another important date on the Christian calendar, Epiphany. It is traditionally the date when the Maji (sometimes called kings or wise men) arrived bearing their gifts for the infant Jesus. In many countries this day is

a holiday, gifts are given and received, representing the offerings that the Maji brought to the new born Christ. When you visit our church between Christmas and Epiphany, you will see the Maji progressing towards our crib.

We look forward to welcoming you at services to celebrate the birth of Jesus and the gifts that He offered so freely to us all. If you prefer not to attend in person, our indoor services are still live streamed and you will find the link to these on our website.

Our annual Carol Service will take place on December 11<sup>th</sup> at 6pm and our Crib service where children help to place the figures in our Christmas Crib, is on Christmas Eve at 4pm. There will also be an opportunity to join together to sing carols around the tree outside church on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm.

*Vee Druitt*

## RURAL MISSIONERS - UPDATE

In the last article I wrote for the Magazine, I mentioned that the Rev'd Phillip Young had been appointed as one of the two Rural Missioners to the Harwich Deanery and he was licensed to the parishes of Ardleigh, Beaumont-cum-Moze, The Bromleys, Dedham, Great Oakley, Little Bentley, Tendring, Wix & Wrabness by the Bishop of Chelmsford at a lovely service at St. George's, Great Bromley in early October and he has been settling into his new role since then.

The vacant second position was advertised but sadly no applications were received by the closing date so the position will be re-advertised and it is hoped that, following interview, a 2nd Rural Missioner will be appointed as soon as possible in the New Year.

It is important to remember that despite Phillip and his wife & family living in the Vicarage in Dedham, he is not the Vicar of Dedham and is sharing his time between all nine Parishes. Once a 2nd person is appointed, they and Phillip will be responsible for discerning the needs of the nine parishes and allocating their time and talents accordingly.

*David Druitt.*

## TOWER TOUR GUIDES



We need volunteers to help lead Tower Tours at Dedham Church. Please speak to one of the churchwardens if you are interested. Also you can email the Parishes Office on [stmaryda@gmail.com](mailto:stmaryda@gmail.com).

## CHILDREN'S SOCIETY BOXES

Thank you to all those who have supported The Children's Society this year. We have raised £319 which is excellent.

The Children's Society are a national charity working to support vulnerable young people in the UK to achieve their dreams. Children who face abuse, exploitation and neglect. The Children's Society help them through their most serious life challenges and campaign tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need it most.

The Children's Society gives these children hope. They have been doing this for 140 years. If you would like to know more about how you can help please ring Ruth on 01206 322598.

*Ruth Higginson*

**Junior Church**  
Bible, games and fun!

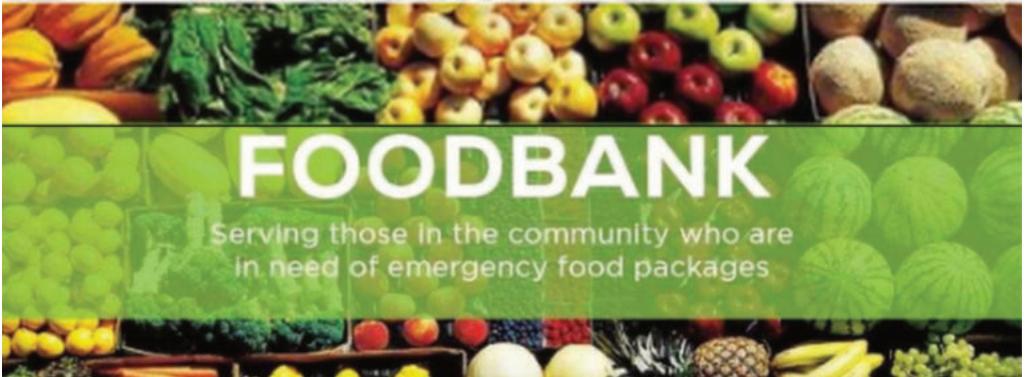
We are excited to be starting a children's group for 3-10 year olds during the usual Sunday service in Dedham, beginning in late November

With games, crafts, Bible stories and snacks, we hope to have lots of fun!

Please contact Louise Young  
[youngle@cantab.net](mailto:youngle@cantab.net) for further details.



A huge “thankyou” to all those who gave their time and energy into making the morning such a huge success as well as everyone who joined us. Thank you for coming and supporting us. We hope you enjoyed your Big Breakfast. This year the Big Breakfast team served approximately 140 breakfasts!



We appreciate that many Food Banks are far away from our village and therefore inaccessible for some. The Church porch is home for a Food Bank where anyone who would like to use it can collect items which have been donated without having to travel far.

*Vee Druitt*

## DUCHY BARN COMMUNITY CENTRE



The Duchy Barn Community Centre holds its community coffee mornings on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 10.30 am - 12 noon. The Barn is available to hire at very reasonable rates for small functions/celebrations/ group meetings etc.

To make a booking or for further details contact Anne Rowledge on 01206 322394



There have been many people involved in raising money for Mission over the years. I remember Sue Langridge having a stall outside her house in Princes Lane and also opening her garden to raise money. When the Dickensian Fair started, Lynne Al Sad and I used to help Sue on the stall outside the church – sometimes under umbrellas. She was famous for her knitted nativity scene. Her son Steven used to make the stable. There was one every year to be won.

Anne Marie Partrick decorated a Christmas cake, which was displayed in the Chemists window, and then raffled. After a few years of standing outside in the cold and rain we moved inside and provided hot drinks, soup and crumble and custard. In 2012 we brought out a cookbook.

We have a team of people making cakes, jams, chutneys etc. We certainly could not raise the money we have done over the years without these people.

In 2010 we raised £503 and in 2022 we have raised £2,353 (£1,050 for the Ukraine Appeal and £500 for the Organ Fund) – the remainder to be split between Korban and Beacon House. See below for more information about these two organisations.

**Colchester KORBAN** is a Christian based charity providing supported housing for 16 – 25 year olds who have found themselves in crisis. They aim to offer young people a home, support and guidance as they prepare themselves for

independence.

Colchester Korban was started as a churches' response to youth homelessness. Nearly half of people living in supported accommodation are aged 16 - 24. Young people have been hit hard by reductions to youth services and welfare reform over the last few years, and assistance with accommodation is needed now more than ever.

**Beacon House** provides primary healthcare services to people who are homeless, in insecure accommodation or at risk of homelessness in Colchester, Essex. Services on site include: showering facilities, laundry, clothing & toiletries.

They offer practical help and medical care, occupational therapies, personal development and health awareness, working in cooperation with other services. They also run a cafe which is open from 10am – 2pm offering hot food and drinks.

In addition, they offer life skills support including CV writing, support around cooking and budgeting, counselling, an IT suite, art and crafts room, games and drop-in support from other agencies. All of their services are provided free of charge.

If you would like to help on the stall or be one of our bakers then call Ruth Higginson on 01206 322598 or Lynne Al Sad on 01206 322931. Our stall is on once a month from May to October, usually in front of the church unless it is raining when it is in the porch.

*Ruth Higginson*

## THE ORGAN PROJECT

This is the story of our “NEW TO US” Organ.

In December 2019 Philip Prior was invited to a meeting of the organ group and floated the idea that replacing our organ with a redundant organ was such a good option, although finding a suitable instrument with a detached console and fitting our organ loft would be a very tall order.

Eye Parish Church under the auspices of Peter Lee, Director of Music, had successfully completed a similar project installing a Binns Organ with a detached console. We went to Eye Parish Church to hear and see their magnificent instrument and how the project was managed.

But where to look for a redundant organ? The IBO (Institute of British Organ Building) is just one of several web sites that advertise redundant organs. Nicholson & Co. Ltd under the leadership of Andrew Caskie had been commissioned by a client to visit Harvest Church Glasgow to photograph and survey their Binns organ with the view of it being exported to New Zealand, however this deal fell through.

We had previously met Andrew Caskie when he came to look at our organ and advise us on the options available to us. He thought we might be interested in the Harvest Church Organ.

Little had been done to the organ over the years but it was in excellent condition with a detached console. He provided photographs, it looked perfect, but would it fit into our organ loft? After another visit the news was in.....it would fit but only just!

Our Binns 11/26 with its detached console was made by J.J. Binns, who was one of the most successful organ builders of his time in Yorkshire and probably in the country. James Jepson Binns was born in 1855 and died in 1928.

He served his apprenticeship with an organ builder before going on to form his own Company in Leeds in 1880. His most prosperous time peaked between 1890 and the first world war. The first world war took its toll on the workforce and sadly his best craftsmen never returned.

This 2 manual organ with detached console built in 1902 was destined for Kinning Park Burgh Town Hall. Kinning Park is on the south bank of the River Clyde about 1 mile west of Glasgow City Centre, between Kingston and Ibrox/Govan. From 1850 Kinning Park grew from a rural village to a busy centre mainly inhabited by artisans and labourers. Its principal industries were engineering, bread and biscuit baking, soap making and paint making.



The Binns organ in Mossspark Church, Glasgow

## THE ORGAN PROJECT

The police Burgh, which was founded in 1871, was the smallest burgh in Scotland at 108 acres. It held elections, had its own coat of arms, town hall, provost etc. In 1905 Kinning Park Burgh was absorbed into the city of Glasgow.

Despite this, our organ remained where it was, continued to be well used; recitals were held frequently, many of which were broadcast. By the 1930s times were changing and the organ needed a new home.

In 1933 it was moved to Mosspark Parish Church, then a newly built parish church. In 1953 modifications to the mechanism were done by Henry Willis & Sons Ltd. Otherwise, the organ has remained unchanged. Mosspark is a district within the city of Glasgow. It is south of the River Clyde and to the north is Bellahouston and Paisley Canal Railway. As the crow flies our organ did not have far to travel to its new home where it has remained ever since.

Over time, The Church of Scotland began merging churches, and selling off surplus buildings. Moss Park Church closed in 2016 and in September 2017 was put up for sale for £250,000. The Church was purchased by Harvest Church Glasgow; a part of the Great Commission Collective. There are only two churches in the UK, one in Ayr and the other in Glasgow, other churches in USA, Canada and more recently Romania, are linked to this group. Other Harvest Churches in the UK are linked to other groups.

The style of service did not lend itself to organ music, which meant the organ was surplus to requirement. However, the Church was anxious that this magnificent organ should not be destined for a skip and set about trying to find a new home.



The Organ console ready to be moved to Nicholson & Co workshop.

Much has happened since 2019 but in September 2022 Nicholson & Co Ltd. were commissioned to remove the console from Harvest Church and take it back to Malvern for storage in their workshop, as part of our organ project.

In January or February 2023, Nicholson & Co Ltd. will return to Glasgow to remove the organ and put it into storage. Left behind will be the non-speaking façade pipes which Harvest Church wished to retain, and were of no use to us, and the soundboards.

Late 2024 work will begin to restore the Binns pipework without alterations or additions; pedal and off note chests, expansion box and detached console will be restored and reused, and all the other components (soundboards, building frame and wind system of traditional design) will be new.

Our existing Façade pipes will be washed and cleaned, lighting, handrails, new cabling etc will be fitted to complete the task of installation.

In the Summer of 2025 our existing organ will be removed and then the Binns 11/26 organ will be installed its new home in the west end gallery. Ready for the next 100 years of its life.

*Margaret Kitson*



**THE  
GOLDSBROUGH  
CONSORT**

**ST MARY'S CHURCH, DEDHAM**  
**JANUARY 28TH**  
**7.30PM**

AULDE LANG SYNE  
A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT BURNS  
A Scottish celebration of music  
From Traditional Folk Songs to The Proclaimers

Tickets £15 on the door  
All proceeds go towards the St Mary's Organ Fund  
To pre-book  
Email: [dedhameditor@gmail.com](mailto:dedhameditor@gmail.com)



## Ollie Norman

Ollie grew up with a love of singing, and performed from a young age at Woodbridge School and with the National Youth Choir of Great Britain. He was a lay clerk at St Mary's Cathedral in Edinburgh and President of Edinburgh University Chamber Choir. He was also a member of Edinburgh Studio Opera and Edinburgh's foremost barbershop quartet: A Close Shave. More recently he has sung with the BBC Symphony Chorus at the BBC Proms and on recordings. He is extremely lucky to have worked with all of the wonderful people in the Goldsbrough Consort at various times in his life and can't wait for you all to hear the amazing sound they will make together.

We are very fortunate to have the group of talented Musicians called the Goldsbrough Consort performing this concert in aid of the Organ fund.

They are led by Ollie Norman (ex Woodbridge School), who, for many years, has wanted to sing in Dedham Church. He is really excited to sing in Dedham and help raise money for the organ project.

There are ten members of the consort, and from their biographies you can see that they are a group of very talented musicians.

Pre-Book at [dedhameditor@gmail.com](mailto:dedhameditor@gmail.com)  
Front rows will be reserved for those that pre-book.



## Maggie Hunt

Maggie is an Alto from London, whose singing career began in her local church's children's choir. She was a founding member of the girls choir of St Catharine's College Cambridge in 2008, and sang for the college until she moved on to the Edinburgh University Chamber Choir in 2014. She has toured and performed throughout Europe, and recently sang as part of the BBC Symphony Chorus, including for the 2019 First and Last Nights of the Proms. She currently sings with a number of smaller choirs and session consorts, specialising in choral performances and recordings.

## THE GOLDSBROUGH CONSORT



### **Eleanor Hunt**

Eleanor began singing in earnest in 2008 as a chorister at St Catharine's College, Cambridge. She went on to study languages at Durham University, where she held choral scholarships at St John's College Chapel Choir and University College Chapel Choir, and was Manager of both the University Chamber Choir and Dunelm Consort, Early Music Ensemble. After graduating from Durham in 2020 with a 2:1 in German and Russian, Eleanor spent a year studying under Robert Hollingworth on the Solo Voice Ensemble Singing MA Course at the University of York. Highlights from the year have included singing with i Fagiolini on multiple occasions. She graduated with a Distinction, and moved to London in October 2021 to take up her position as Soprano Young Artist at St George's, Bloomsbury and Music Administrator at South Hampstead High School. In addition to her administrative role at the school, Eleanor leads four ukulele ensembles, and conducts the two chamber choirs and staff choir.



### **Frederick Hervey-Bathurst**

Frederick first trained as a treble when a Quirister at Winchester. Since then he has always sung in choirs at school and then at Edinburgh University where he joined the university chamber choir, Edinburgh Studio Opera and sung as a scholar at the Episcopal and Metropolitan Cathedrals. Frederick now sings with the BBC Symphony Chorus and The Holst Singers in London and continues to compose when time allows!



### **Katherine Selley**

Katie has been involved in choral music from a young age and was a choral scholar at St Ninian's Cathedral in Perth while at school. She went on to study music at The University of Edinburgh where she had the opportunity to be involved in several music groups and projects. She was part of the Edinburgh University Singers and was a choral scholar at St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral and at Mayfield Salisbury Parish Church. Her involvement with these groups took her abroad to many exciting locations around Europe. She currently sings with a smaller local music group and is excited to help to raise money for the organ project with the Goldsbrough Consort.



### **Danielle Solomon**

Danielle started singing at a young age, competing with her school chamber choir to win the title of BBC Youth Choir of the Year. She went on to sing with the Queen's College Chapel Choir, the Christchurch Cathedral Singers and Schola Cantorum while studying at Oxford. On moving to London, she joined the BBC Symphony Chorus, performing with them in several BBC Proms. She currently sings with Coro, a chamber choir based in London.



### Jasmine Hunt

Jasmine started singing from a very young age, following in the footsteps of her two older sisters. Starting out in her local church choir, Jasmine joined the girls' choir of St Catharine's College Cambridge in 2009 and later sang with their student choir until 2018. Jasmine recently completed her undergraduate in Philosophy, and is now undertaking a Masters in Philosophy at the University of Glasgow. Throughout her time there, she has been a choral scholar with the University Chapel Choir and was involved with the University of Glasgow Opera Society, starring as Dido in Purcell's Dido and Aeneas in 2019. Recently, she has sung with London-based Choir Coro Spezzato and toured with St Catharine's College Chapel Choir to Prague. Jasmine cannot wait to sing with such a lovely group of people and start the new year with this concert!



### Flynn Le Brocq

Flynn Le Brocq is CEO of London Mozart Players and rarely gets the chance to step into the limelight to perform, preferring instead to manage and produce highly professional concerts. Even at a young age, though, Flynn found fame from his voice, producing a Christmas album with his father, Mark Le Brocq, a renowned Operatic Tenor. Whilst studying music at Edinburgh University Flynn developed into a fabulous tenor in his own right, he has sung with Edinburgh's foremost barbershop quartet: A Close Shave and Edinburgh University Chamber Choir. Flynn cannot wait to perform for you and share some of his favourite Scottish songs.



### James Field

James is an accountant by day and enjoys being a singer by night. He sings with the Choir of St Martin-in-the-Fields, performing Eucharist and Evensong on a weekly basis. Having started singing at the age of 10, James went on to sing with the Junior Royal Northern Choir; when he was 16 as well as The National Youth Choir. He then went on to join the Edinburgh University Chamber Choir, Edinburgh Studio Opera, and (along with other esteemed performers this evening), Edinburgh's foremost barbershop quartet: A Close Shave. He lives in South London with his girlfriend and beloved dog Peggy.



### Richard Macklin

Richard began singing in his school chapel choir, becoming Head of Choir at 18. He attended Berklee College of Music in Boston where he was section head of tenors in the Berklee Concert Choir. After returning to the UK, he joined the BBC Symphony Chorus, and now sings with Coro chamber choir in London. He composes music professionally and walks dogs at an amateur level



Now, I'm not a runner. I don't have the physique of a runner. I just love food. So, what was I doing on that Sunday morning in September on the start line of the

Dedham Run, an official British Athletics 10k race? Sure, I was asking myself exactly that question as I stood there surrounded by keen and super-fit runners. I was fundraising for the Dedham Organ Project.

My JustGiving page had been live for a few days, and donations were coming in. No way to chicken out then. I had trained for this, so I was going for it! The race route was beautiful:

The first 5k took us out of Dedham, through East Lane up to Long Road East, down Jupes Hill to the Manningtree Road, and back into Dedham. Then on to the second 5k, through the High Street, past the Church and the Assembly Rooms, towards Lamb Corner and on to Long Road West, eventually down The Heath, past the Munnings Museum back to the Duchy Field.

We had perfect running weather, with only the blustery wind a bit of a challenge. For some reason, however, I just couldn't settle into my usual rhythm. When I found things really tough, the supporters and volunteer marshals cheering us all on were a huge help getting me to that finish line. How did I get into running?

A long time ago, when I worked in publishing, I'd found in my boxes coming back from the Frankfurt Book Fair a book on running, in German. My colleagues insisted it was mine: Perfektes

Lauf-Training (Perfect Running Training). Surely, they were joking – I'd hated sports at school and especially running! Yet for some reason I took this book home and began training.

First, on the Hackney Marshes, running for a minute and walking for three minutes, then slowly building up to a half-hour jog and on to longer runs. In recent years, my running has become a way to meditate. I'm a Christian, so for me this is a time of prayer, emptying my busy mind and putting myself to one side, making space for God and His voice in my head and heart.

Also, seeing a documentary on women in Afghanistan running a Marathon and the obstacles they had to overcome made me realise that being able to run is a gift, and so I enjoy it much more. I'd definitely recommend running or walking as a spiritual practice. (But before you give it a go, please take medical advice where necessary.)

Oh yes, the fundraising. Many wonderful people came alongside me and smashed my original target of £500, donating a grand total of £1,145 for the Dedham Organ Project! Thank you to everyone for your good wishes, prayers, and for your donations!

*Christina Volkemann*



### HAPPY CHRISTMAS.

As I write this article I can say that it has been a surprising and unseasonably warm Autumn, but as you read my words maybe the temperature will have dropped and a bit of a chill settled in!

So I expect you're wondering what you can do to keep you warm outside. No?

If you still haven't planted your tulip bulbs, there's still time in December and even January to get them into the ground or in containers as bulb lasagnes. I love tulips and the range of colour and forms but I'm afraid I may have gone a bit nuts this year (who am I kidding, this is really no different from any other year) with the number ordered.



There will be a range of pinks for the cottage border and shades of deep red and purple for deeper into the garden. It's not just tulips either. I'm already looking at dahlias and as hellebores start to flower, I wonder if there isn't a new cultivar I have to have (there is but I don't need to have it). What I should do

is remove any hellebore foliage marked with black blotches to limit the spread of disease and make the plants I have as healthy as they can be.

Specialist nurseries recommend cutting off all the foliage, diseased or not, to help stop the new season's growth becoming infected. This has the added advantage of ensuring the flowers can be seen to their best.



With the leaves off deciduous shrubs and trees, now is the perfect time to look at the structure of the garden and work out whether anything can be cut back or pruned for better shape. This sounds great in theory but in reality, I think a cloud-pruned something-or-other is going to look a bit odd in the general rough and tumble of my borders. Instead, I'll settle for tackling anything too high, too wide or too crowded with loppers, secateurs and shears.

It's a good excuse to get into the front garden and control the 20 or so roses threatening to attack the postman. I'll also prune my climbing Claire Austin rose; a sturdy shrub shrouding the front of the house, which needs managing so she's not pushing her way into the neighbour's house. I'll remove diseased and damaged growth, tying in where needed and cutting back older side shoots that have already flowered by about two-thirds of their length.

Take the chance to clip box hedging now too as box blight is dormant in winter. The cuts you make will have healed by spring when the spores of this fungal disease are airborne, so the chance of an attack will be reduced.

## GARDENING NOTES

Make sure you rake up and burn any leaves under the box as blight can overwinter there.

On the allotment, I'll finally get round to cutting down the woody stems of asparagus foliage that has turned brown and no longer feeds the plant. I have some gaps in the beds, so will order fresh male crowns to plant in spring.

I'll lift and divide some of my established rhubarb plants, discarding the centre to reinvigorate them. In January, I'll chuck a special forcer or a bucket over a strong clump or two to force an early and tender crop of bright pink stems. Don't try this on the newly planted divisions as forcing puts strain on the plants that might kill them.

Sticky grease around the trunks of my fruit trees will stop wingless female moths climbing to lay their eggs in the branches. When hatched, the maggots enter the fruits to feast and await unwary pickers come harvest time. Grim.

Finally, Christmas brings a great opportunity to start composting. The outer wrappers of Quality Street are made from cellulose, so you can chuck them on your heap instead of in the bin! What a perfect excuse to buy a tin (or two).



Selecting a Christmas tree

I hope you'll find time to pick up a carefully chosen tree (see gratuitous tree picture) and enjoy a mince pie and hot mulled wine while you decorate and wrap the presents.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year everyone from the Dedham Horticultural Society committee.

Discover our latest events on our website,  
[www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com](http://www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com)

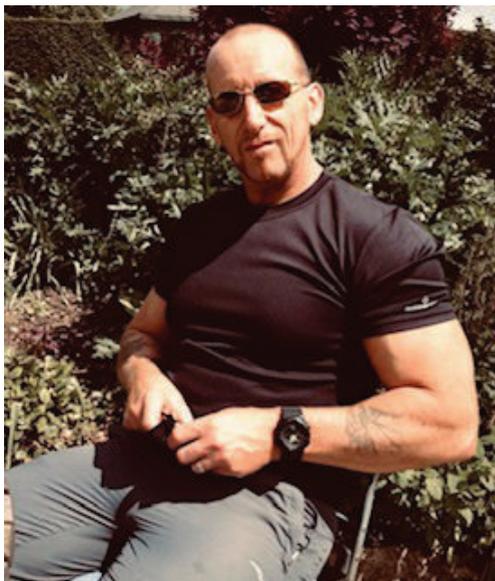
*Elliott Frisby*

Scan this QR code on your phone to access our website.



### FITNESS AT SUMMERS PARK

Fitness at Summers Park was opened in January 2020 in the Dairy Barns Mews Business Park in Lawford.



It is something I've always wanted to do for my loyal and eclectic client base. Reaching out to the local community, I decided to focus on the more mature member base in a relaxed and less intimidating environment and along with my experienced team of instructors, provide programmes to promote health and well being for all.

As an exercise specialist I'm qualified to work with clients with specific issues; including diabetes, arthritis, obesity, asthma, depression and hypertension.

Working closely with each of them we are able to choose the right exercise and approach for their specific needs.

Medication makes a huge difference to choosing both the right exercise programme as well as developing the correct levels of intensity; there are a lot of parameters and variables to consider. This process can take a considerable length of time before we even consider

an exercise programme to suit our clienteles' needs.

But helping people to a better lifestyle is paramount and there is always something we can do. We also work where possible with other health care professionals who may suggest to their patients that they try to improve their fitness levels.

We strongly feel that it is important that we all work together for the best possible outcome for each of our clients. So encouraging clients with problems and concerns, or simply trying to support our older clientele with suggestions for simple follow up exercising at home, means we can help them to understand the ageing process and enable them to stay as fit and healthy as possible in their daily lives.

Thank you for your interest and we hope to be able to help you in the future to maintain a healthy life style.

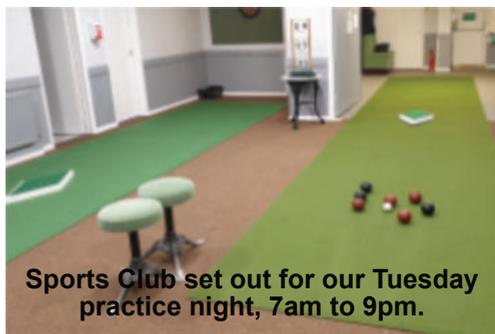
*Dean Smith*

### DEDHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB



Would you like to try your hand at Carpet Bowls?

Dedham Carpet Bowls club was formed almost 30 years ago and we are looking for new players. If you are interested please contact Ron Hill on 01206 322916.



**Sports Club set out for our Tuesday practice night, 7am to 9pm.**

### DEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL



Christmas is upon us once again. Glitter twinkles permanently in the carpets, carol tunes are firmly stuck in everyone's heads and of course the stable scene is set for another nativity play.

This year's adaptation of the nativity story is entitled, 'A Midwife Crisis!' This year, Mary and Joseph will be assisted by a very flustered midwife and her donkey Steve! As usual, the children are very excited and the play is sure to move lots of very proud parents to tears...as all school plays should!

One of the things that has been missed most over the past couple of years has been school trips and so we are really making up for it this year.

Class 4 have visited Colchester Castle to find out all about Boudicca and Roman Colchester, and at the end of November, Class R visited the penguins and Father Christmas at Colchester Zoo.

Before Christmas, all children in classes R to 3 will also be visiting the Mercury Theatre to watch a performance of Pinocchio. It's top secret at the moment though so please don't tell them!

Our fantastic Parent Group are also fully embracing the Christmas spirit and there are lots of events planned for children and adults to enjoy.

There will be a winter fair (complete with Father Christmas and reindeer), a Christmas quiz, wreath making and a

Christmas film club so there is lots of opportunity for fun and Christmas cheer.

All the staff, children and governors at Dedham Primary wish everyone in the local community a very happy Christmas and we look forward to sharing more news with you in 2023.

*Laura Valentine*

### DEDHAM SPEEDWATCH



For the nine months to the end of September 2022, Steve Redmond and his Community Speedwatch team had carried out 97 sessions at the authorised sites in Ardleigh Road, Long Road West Crossroads, Long Road East at the Chapel, and Castle Hill.

1,987 vehicles had been reported to Essex Police for them to deal with by warning letter. 295 (14.8%) of those reported, had been caught speeding before in the last 12 months.

Only those vehicles doing 36 mph or higher in the 30 mph zones are required to be reported to Essex Police, and of the total, 23 were speeding in excess of 50 mph in the 30 zone.

## TRAFFIC ISSUES



Having read all the comments on Social Media about speeding etc in the village I thought I would give residents an update on

what DPC are doing about the traffic issues the village faces.

We submitted a Traffic Management Plan for the whole of the village back in August 2021. Finally, a few weeks ago Essex Highways put down ATCs (Automatic Traffic Counters).

These are the two wires you may have seen running at right angles across the road that count the volume and speed of traffic. The ones on smaller lanes were paid for by DPC.

Essex Highways will do nothing until the data from these is analysed. It has been a long and frustrating wait to even get to this stage and we wait to see what Essex Highways come up with next.

Meanwhile please could residents report even the smallest incidents/accidents to Essex Police and EH so that they are recorded at least. According to records there has only been one accident in the past five years and we all know that is not true!

If you would like to see Dedham's Traffic Management plan, it is available on the DPC website.

*Gill Neville  
Dedham Parish Council*

Find the traffic management plan here — <https://www.dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk/dedham-traffic-plan/>

Or scan this code



## TRAFFIC ISSUES UPDATE

In partnership with the Parish Councils, Cllr Lewis Barber was able to secure £12,000 for a highways plan for the local parishes. The first important step was to gather data to understand the speeds, types of vehicles and volumes and to then come forward with potential solutions. The data is now in and for full transparency he has put this in a dropbox folder so the communities can view this with this link: <https://tinyurl.com/4e84sfem> or scan this QR code to access the site.



The plan had a target completion date of Q4 in this financial year (January to April) but it is currently ahead of schedule. The engineers wish to conduct four further surveys (Ardleigh Road, Stratford Road, High Street, Brook Street) prior to finalising and making their recommendations.

## THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of Dedham Parish Council will take place on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 6:30pm in the Duchy Barn. The Agenda for the Parish Council meeting always includes an open session - Have Your Say and visitors reports (CBC and County Councillors).

Questions may not be answered at the meeting but may go on to the next agenda. A maximum of 3 minutes per person/group to make representations to the Parish Council, a total of 15 minutes. The agenda can be viewed on the homepage of the Parish Council website.

Just scan this QR code on your phone to access the Parish Council website [dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk](https://www.dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk)



**THE CURTAIN FALLS ON THE DEDHAM PLAYERS**

After many months of attempting to garner support to continue Dedham Players, all requests and approaches for the formation of a new and dynamic team to take over the running of Dedham Players have been to no avail. Over the last year Dedham Players have placed articles in this magazine, advertised in the printed media, on its website and social media and through its considerable contacts in the local theatre world.

It is with a very heavy heart that Dedham Players have announced that it will be wound up with effect from 31st May 2023. Dedham Players are in the process of disposing of costumes, props, set and equipment. Other theatre groups in north Essex have indicated a willingness to take many of these items.

Dedham Players have been an integral part of the cultural life of Dedham for 50 years. During that time, it has been able to perform to the highest standard in many memorable productions, winning awards and accolades for the productions, set and lighting designs, costumes, and of course, for acting.

Not only have Dedham Players performed at the Assembly Rooms it also performed productions in the grounds of Castle House, where the old adage 'the show must go on' was never more true than when rain, gales, lightning and thunder added to the on-stage effects!

The chairman of Dedham Players, David Thompson, said "As you can imagine, it's been a really difficult decision and not one we have undertaken lightly. Some of us have been involved with the group for 40 years.

We have produced fantastic performances and have many fond memories of our achievements. We wanted to protect the integrity of our productions going forward but could only do that if we had new committed members who could take over the committee and steer it through the headwinds of the future."

Members of Dedham Players were advised the likelihood of the winding up in late August. The outpouring from them has been nostalgic, sad and uplifting as members share their memories of the past 50 years.

"Of course, there is nothing stopping would-be thespians resurrecting Dedham Players in the future" David added, "I have no doubt the current committee would be willing to advise and assist any new group.."

*Kelvin Hastings-Smith  
November 2022*

**DEDHAM ART SOCIETY**

**Thursday 15th December, 2pm - 4.30pm at the Assembly Rooms.**

Dedham Art Society Christmas Social - An 'Afternoon of Merrymaking'.

**Thursday 12th January, 2pm - 4.30pm at the Assembly Rooms**

Members Art Challenge  
Fellow member Mary Mudd will host this session based on the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky.

**Thursday 26th January, 2pm - 4.30pm at the Assembly Rooms**

Our AGM will take place with an opportunity for members to renew their membership and take part in Mary's art quiz.

Free to Members

\*Non - members £5.

Phone 07872 334729 to book

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*Fair*



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**Saturday December 10th**  
 • 2 -4 p.m.

Dedham Primary School  
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 Music by contemporary composers

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**THE DEANERY CHOIR**  
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 Hewitt Jones - Chilcott - Forrest*

**Saturday 17th December**  
 7pm start

**St Mary the Virgin  
 Great Bentley  
 CO7 8QG**

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In support of  


**CAROL SERVICE**

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Sunday December 11th  
 at 3pm  
 All Welcome meet  
 our guide dogs  
 and puppies



**GUIDE DOGS**



Our new trainee guide dog Labradoodle, Kenny has joined the congregations at Dedham and Ardleigh Churches. He hopes you will meet him and his friends at the Guide Dog Carol Service at Ardleigh on December 11th.

*Marjorie Cullham*

 REGULATOR  
 The Guide Dogs for the Blind Association is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity in England and Wales (209673) and Scotland (SC538978) (SC0640 05/22)

## Stour Valley Arts & Music

**The Revival of Benton End: A Paradise of Pollen and Paint, Constable Hall, East Bergholt, CO7 6TP.**

**Sunday 22 January 4pm - With Lucy Skellom.**



Benton End in Hadleigh, the home of celebrated artist-plantsman, Sir Cedric Morris and his lifelong partner, Arthur Lett-Haines is set for a revival. Hear about the history of the garden during Cedric & Lett's time and how it inspired artists and gardeners alike, going on to have a profound effect on 20th-century horticulture. Lucy trained in Fine Art, has a collection of historic irises and is a researcher for the Benton End House and Garden Trust.

### Booking Information

To book tickets (£16 for this concert) contact the booking secretary:  
Doreen Weatherall: Tel: 01206 298426  
E-mail: [svamtickets@btinternet.com](mailto:svamtickets@btinternet.com)

Tickets can also be bought through TicketSource, using a credit or debit card, via our website: [www.svam.org.uk](http://www.svam.org.uk)

## CHARITIES

### ST. HELENA HOSPICE

#### Light up a Life this Christmas with St Helena Hospice

There are a variety of ways you can help light up a life this festive season, such as taking part in the Christmas Tree-cycle – simply register your tree online and our dedicated hospice volunteers will collect your real Christmas tree outside your front door on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and take it to be recycled on your behalf.

We also invite you to join us in remembering and celebrating loved ones no longer with us by dedicating a lantern in their name to be displayed in either the Hospice garden in Colchester or at Beth Chatto Gardens. You can view your lantern on display at one of our remembrance services at either Beth Chatto on the 11<sup>th</sup> December or at the Hospice on the 15<sup>th</sup> December and reflect together at this poignant time of year on special memories shared with those no longer with us.

[www.sthelena.org.uk/lightupalife22](http://www.sthelena.org.uk/lightupalife22)

### HELEN ROLLASON CANCER CHARITY

Christmas Market – Saturday 3rd December – 10.00am – 4pm  
Soak up the sights, smells and sounds of Christmas with Helen Rollason Cancer Charity at our Christmas Market on Saturday 3rd December at Trinity Park, Ipswich!

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Please join our Facebook Page and feel free to message us with any queries 'Dedham Baby & Toddler Group'



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Service 4.00pm

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Secretary: Helen Bridgman  
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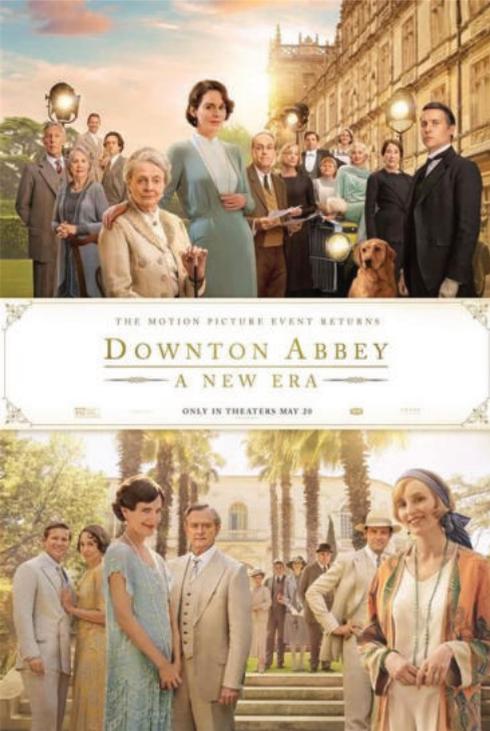


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 (2022)  
 Wednesday, December 14, 2022  
 7:30PM - 10:00PM



The Crawley family goes on a grand journey to the South of France to uncover the mystery of the dowager countess's newly inherited villa.

**Tickets £5 will be available Online on our website, In-person at RSVP Dedham High Street or on the door.**

**TOPGUN MAVERICK 12A**  
 Directed by Joseph Kosinski (2022)  
 Wednesday, January 18, 2023  
 7:30PM - 10:00PM



“Trust your instincts. Don’t think. Just do.” That’s the new mantra of legendary fighter pilot Pete “Maverick” Mitchell (Tom Cruise) in this belated and glorious sequel to the Eighties blockbuster that made Cruise a megastar and defined an era of Hollywood film-making: remember high concepts, elevator pitches and visual excess? Maverick still feels the need, the need for speed. Instead, as an ageing test pilot who’s confined to a cavernous hangar—plastered with original Top Gun photographic memorabilia—in the Mojave desert, he is someone who projects the weather-beaten energy of an elder statesman of action (Cruise will be 60 in July). “The future is coming and you’re not in it!” is another.



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THU 1ST DEC  
7PM

Wine Tasting

THU 8TH DEC  
7PM

Wine Tasting

SUN 11TH DEC  
10AM - 4PM

Christmas Market

THU 15TH DEC  
7PM

Wine Tasting

FRI 16TH DEC  
5PM - 10PM

Skylark Xmas Social  
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THU 22ND DEC  
7PM

Wine Tasting

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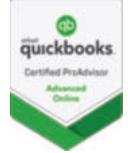
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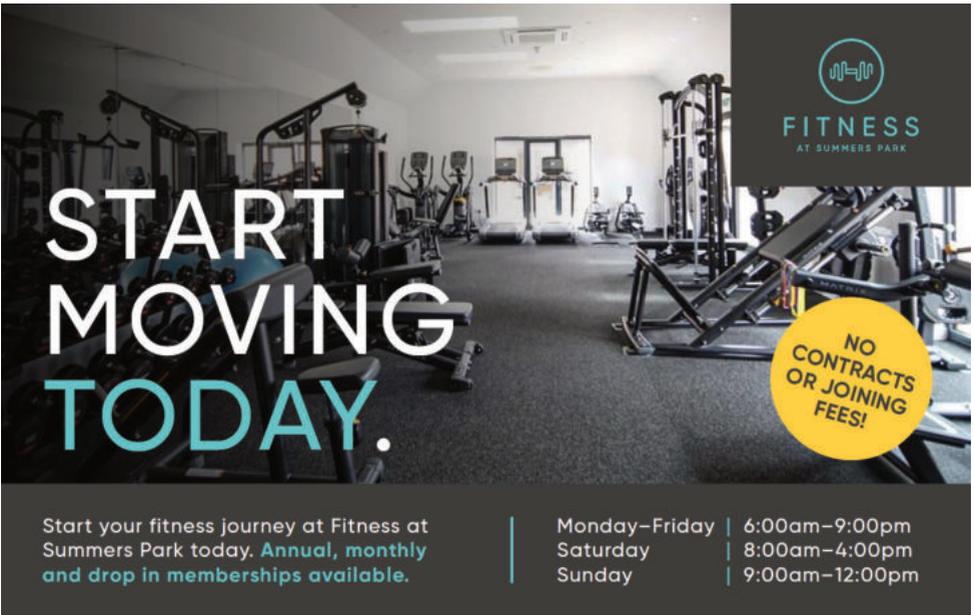
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