

DEDHAM

Parish Magazine



King Charles III

CORONATION

May 2023



Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

May 2023

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

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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- Editors Note: Thanks to Avril Biggins (Garwood) for the Coopers Lane/East Lane Coronation Photos. Cover Photo - Church of England Coronation Information Pack.

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.**

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**

***If you need any further support, please contact the Parishes Office
Tel: 322 136 and your call will be returned.***

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

Services and Events - May 2023

Sunday, 7th May

8.00am Eucharist BCP
9.30am Rise N' Shine
9.30am Café Church
5.00pm Evensong

**Ardleigh
Dedham*
Ardleigh
Dedham***

Easter Sunday, 14th May

8.00am All Together
11.00am Holy Communion

**Ardleigh
Dedham***

Sunday, 21st May

9.30am Matins
9.30am Holy Communion (informal)

**Dedham*
Ardleigh**

Sunday, 28th May

9.30am Holy Communion (informal)

**Dedham*
Ardleigh
Dedham***

9.30am All Together
5.00pm ReVive@5

* = Services which are live streamed.

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

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

**Benefice prayer meeting on Zoom
each Monday at 5pm. Please
contact the Parish Office for
further information.**

 **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 2nd and 4th 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: 1.30pm - 3.00pm in Ardleigh
Church.**

Monday 8th May - 9.30am - 3.30pm.
Ardleigh Heritage Cafe with Table Sale,
Craft Stall and Tombola,

**Monday 8th May - Ardleigh village walk
starting at Ardleigh Church at 10.00am.**

**Walk and Talk - Thursday 11th May
10am - Meet at Dedham Arts Centre at
10am for a walk or 11am for a chat.**

FROM THE REGISTERS.

19th March 2023 - Marjorie West
Interment of Ashes.

BOOK SWOP.

Do you have a recently read book
with a Christian message that you would
like to share with fellow church
members? If yes, would you be willing to
donate it to the Book Swop and in
return pick up one from our collection
that you would like to read?

Hoping this will be an enjoyable
shared experience for us all, so do come
and look and maybe instigate a book
swop too! Books can be found in the
Resources area at the back of the church.

Dear Friends,

I hope many of you have been able to enjoy the sun (if not yet the warmth) this last month. It always feels to me like a huge relief to enjoy the post-winter transition from darker, shorter, wetter days to brighter, longer and drier days (although I know our farmers need all the seasons to grow the crops we eat!). Because it's not just the light or dry climes that are great, but the social events that fill our diaries in those Spring and Summer months as we come out of winter hibernation in our homes to enjoy the delights of sunshine, fresh air and even a great swim at the beach!

Well, the Church makes a similar transition as it moves from the more reflective season of Lent and the rather sobering events of Good Friday to those of that first Resurrection Sunday and in May, the Ascension of Jesus in to heaven and Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit first came down (in a rather bright and fiery way!). Although the first Ascension left the apostles without the One who meant so much to them, the truth of Pentecost is that He would now be with each and every Christian always by His Holy Spirit. It was further good news that helped the early church to continue to bless and share something of His life with the communities of which they were a part.

However you are using this month of May, we pray that you might enjoy the brighter, longer and drier days (when they come!) and that the truth of Pentecost and the coming of God's Spirit in to the Christian's life might be your experience, as well.

Best wishes,

Phillip Young
Rural Missioner to the Harwich Deanery

May follows April in our calendar year and is the last month of Spring as we journey into Summer. March and April daffodils in gardens, parks and beside the roads, now give way to emerging wild flowers such as bluebells, celandines and wild orchids in our countryside.



A carpet of bluebells near Langham Church.

Fern and bluebell thrive,
Dense trees forging green shelter,
Footpaths meander,
Mystery at every turn,
Gnarled roots display nature's art.

Winter walks become late Spring ones and it is a joy to stop and gaze at the countryside, with blue skies overhead and birds singing, whilst feeling the sun's warmth on face or back. Everything feels new, fresh and so wonderfully alive!

For me a very special God given time of the year; encouraging praise and thanksgiving for His wonderful creation.

Liz Reed

The Dedham Connection

It was a typical Saturday night and my sister Karen and I were sitting at The Grove nursing home watching our grandparents' band, The Marsh Marigolds, play to the residents. My grandfather, Ernest "Timmy" Smith played the drums, spoons and the bones (yes, real bones!) while my grandmother, Rhoda Smith was on lead vocals. This is just one of many happy memories I have spending my childhood in Dedham.



Florence and Bertram Smith, Rose Cottage, 1930's

My great grandfather Bertram Cornelius Smith, a land worker, was born in Langham in 1875. The family then "migrated" from Langham to Dedham in the 1890's. He and his wife Florence lived in various homes around Dedham, including Bell Cottage on Stratford Road and West End Cottage. He had 3 sons, "The Smith Boys" and from what we understand through village folklore, they were quite a handful. One story was that they would lay in the grass by the church wall and using sticks, they'd knock the bowler hats off passers-by. One of the boys, my grandfather, Ernest James, also known locally as "little Timmy" then

"Tim" as an adult, met Rhoda Randall of Higham, and they were married in 1942 and moved to Rose Cottage on Stratford Road. From there they moved just down the road to Old Orchard where they had two girls, Rhoda Smith (Crisp) and Marjorie Smith (Culham).



Smith family 1952. Rhoda, Tim, Rhoda and Marjorie.

My mother Rhoda and auntie Marjorie had very active childhoods in Dedham before marrying their perspective husbands, my late father, Geoffrey Crisp of East Bergholt, and my uncle David Culham of Little Horkesley. Both couples were also married in Dedham church and went on to raise families of their own, most of whom still live within East Anglia, except for me.

My parents Rhoda and Geoff moved to Raydon where I was born, however some of my first memories are at my grandparents' home in Old Orchard. My grandfather had a road building business, E.J. and R.F. Smith, which used tractors and a road roller to build and maintain many of the roads in Dedham that you drive on today.

Eventually my grandparents Tim and Rhoda moved to Lamb Corner where they bought Stud Farm Piggery, and Bycote, which was a very small shack-like house. Whilst they were making the house liveable, they lived on the farm in the workshop which grandad tried to make as "house like" as possible.

The Dedham Connection

My most vivid, fun, childhood memories are within this farmyard. There was a vast array of emotions on the farm, from the excitement of hearing grandad fire up the tractor, to the horror of getting chased by the gander while collecting the eggs, to the joy of walking to the stream at the bottom of the property with grandma to pick fresh watercress (of which my father was the ONLY ONE in the family to eat!). Besides The Grove, other Saturday nights grandma and grandad took Karen and I to The Lamb Pub where grandma had her sherry and grandad had his pint of stout. As we were quite young, we would sit in the porch with a packet of crisps and a coke. Occasionally the door would swing open and we would see the wonders of pub life such as darts, dominoes, pipe smoke, and ladies chitchatting.

Another great treat was shopping the Dedham high street with grandma. From the post office for stamps to the co-op for some digestives to the chemist next to the church. A big fascination of mine was when we would go into Evans & Son butchers for fresh meats and they had an exposed part of the wall showing

the old waddle and daub construction. I was always amazed that the building would stand up being made of only mud and straw. If it was a special occasion, we might go to the Essex Rose Tea Room for ice cream where my sister eventually worked through high school.

As a young adult I started my 30+ year career in boating at a small mast building shop in Hadleigh which offered me much travel and eventually landed me on the shores of America in 2000. Here I raised 2 incredible children, Tiaunna and Kieron. Both currently reside happily in Florida.

Throughout my life I have always felt an inner feeling that I should be helping people who are in need. This came to the forefront as my wife Kristen and I joined a church in Florida that is active in mission works in Guatemala. In 2014 I went on my first week long mission trip to Chiqiumula, Guatemala where I had an overwhelming feeling, which I now know was Gods calling, that this was the place He wanted me to be and these were in fact the people He wanted me to help.

This led my wife and I to make the decision to give up everything we owned and move to Guatemala in 2020 to



Julian and Kristen Crisp with local village children on a water delivery.

follow the calling. This is how our mission, Feeding Faith, was born. Feeding Faith Mission is a registered, non-profit charity which spreads the message of salvation as well as supplying essential resources to the local population.

Guatemala has a child malnutrition rate of over 75% and higher in rural areas. The area we serve, Chiquimula, is among the highest. Our main areas of relief are providing clean drinking water through our Living Water program, nutrition through our Soup Program, and better health through our Stove Program. We are also involved with education, medical, dental and evangelical needs. For a more detailed view of our mission please visit www.feedingfaith.org.

The Dedham connection continues as my aunt Marjorie and uncle David are now living in the recently upgraded Bycote where new memories continue to grow in the home and on the farm. When we return to England to visit family some of the first stops are at the Essex Rose for our cream tea, and a visit to Dedham Church not only for a Sunday service but to pay our respects to my grandparents and great-grandfather who are resting there.

In recent years my aunt and uncle arranged an amazing tour of the bell tower. While there we were lucky enough to ring the bells and wind the clock, a once in a life time memory! Through modern technology we now tune in every Sunday to the Dedham Church live streaming service which keeps the Dedham connection strong.

For more information.

Email: info@feedingfaith.org

Web: www.feedingfaith.org



Scan this QR code to access our website

Julian Crisp



In the 16th century, Mothering Sunday was less about mothers and more about church. Back then, people would make a journey to their 'mother' church once a year. This might have been their home church, their nearest cathedral or a major parish church in a bigger town.

The service which took place at the 'mother' church symbolised the coming together of families. This would have represented a significant journey for many.

Another tradition was to allow those working in the fields on wealthy farms and estates in England to have the day off on the fourth Sunday of Lent to visit their mothers and possibly go to church too. This was a variation on the theme of visiting the 'mother' church and was a move towards a more family focussed occasion.

Before the days of cars and roads, family get-togethers were far more rare, (and facetime was still a long way off). In some ways this tradition is still alive today as grown up children often visit their parents on Mothering Sunday.

The main service on Mothering Sunday in churches across the country is central to the life of the church. In Dedham church on Sunday 19th March we celebrated Mothers Day with a service of thanks to all mothers, present or not.

Merv McKnney took the service. A team of 6 ladies had prepared about 80 posies on Saturday afternoon. A thank you to all the ladies who gave up their Saturday afternoon to do this. The posies were blessed by Merv and then he asked the children in the congregation to come out and take a posy to their mothers.

The remainder were handed out to all the ladies in the church. Some were taken away to give to ladies who had not been able to attend the service. The church recognises that the day may be difficult for some people and so it is common place for services to include prayers for those who don't find the day particularly easy.

Ruth Higginson



May 14th 2023.

The Deanery Choir will be singing at St George's church, Great Bromley. CO7 7HZ, at the 10.30am communion service. The Choir will perform 'O come, ye servants of the Lord' by Christopher Tye, an English Renaissance composer and organist. Trained at the University of Cambridge he became the Master of the Choir at Ely Cathedral and noted as the music teacher of Edward VI. He ceased composing when he became a clergyman at Ely Cathedral and later became the Rector of Doddington, Cambridgeshire.

Asylum Seekers - Holiday Inn, Birchwood.

Do you have any items of nearly new men's clothing such as jeans, tops or trainers in good condition, that you would be willing to donate ?

If yes, please take them to the Holiday Inn at Birchwood where they will be much appreciated. Many thanks for your support.



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

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

Please contact Louise Young
youngle@cantab.net for further details.





Dedham Parish Magazine -
May 1953.

CORONATION DAY. Miss Hooker, the Headmistress of our National School, wonders whether anyone would be willing to loan anything that could be adapted for smocks or Elizabethan costumes. These will be used by the school children on Coronation Day. The Coronation Committee is planning to carry out the programme as advertised but they ask us to say that unless the appeal receives much greater and immediate support the programme will have to be drastically cut. If you have not given your donation or if you wish to increase what you have already given, will you please get in touch with Mr. Shead, Dr. Sleigh, Major Barstow or the Vicar.



Dedham Parish Magazine -
June 1953. Front Cover



Dedham Parish Magazine -
July 1953.

ST. MARY'S VICARAGE, DEDHAM.
July, 1953.

My dear Friends,

This time last month we were all looking forward to the Coronation. We had spent weeks in preparation for the great day and, despite the very bad weather, most of the day's programme was completed, but not according to plan! The Church services were exceptionally well attended and we believe the united service was much appreciated. On behalf of the School Managers I express our hearty appreciation to the parents of the children who took part in the pageant, for their co-operation in the making of costumes. All agree that your efforts were well worth the trouble. It would be quite wrong not to thank Miss Hooker and her staff for their painstaking efforts with the presentation of the pageant.

The actual Coronation ceremony, which so many of us saw on the television or heard on the wireless, was profoundly impressive by its dignity and perfection. It was to many of us an occasion when spiritual things became real and full of meaning. We understood what a precious thing our Monarchy is for our British way of life, and how it stands firmly upon the principles and practices of the Christian religion. Let us hold the memory of these things and thank God for them, and pray that we may be more worthy of our Christian tradition and of the example set by our Queen.

A. R. JOHNSTON, Vicar.



The Rev A.R. Johnson rehearsing some of the schoolchildren taking part in the Elizabethan Pageant to be held on the Queen's Coronation Day in 1953. In the background are schoolmaster Mr H. G. Flegg, Miss Faye Watson and headmistress Miss E. W. Hooker. (With thanks to Lucy Archer)

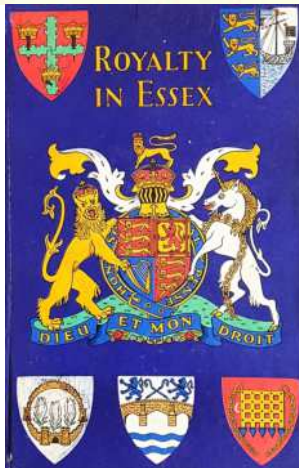


In costume ready to welcome Elizabeth 1st to Dedham.
From L to R. Carol King, Avril Garwood, Pauline Whitehead and Maureen Collins



Party for Coopers Lane and East lane residents held at the 'The Old House' which was standing empty at the time.





ROYALTY IN ESSEX
 A Souvenir Book for Essex Children.
 Presented by the County Council of Essex
 on the Occasion of the Coronation of Her
 Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, on June 2nd, 1953.



For our children, our children's parents, and our children's grandparents, a coronation is something that you learn about in history lessons, and so the opportunity for the whole school community to mark an event which will one day become something that future generations will learn about, is certainly exciting!

We will be celebrating the coronation with a whole school picnic, and as 2023 sees the 50th birthday of the school on the Parsons Field site, we will also be taking the opportunity to celebrate this.

Last year, Lucy Archer wrote a fantastic article in the Dedham Parish Magazine about the history of Dedham Primary School in which she shared a photograph of children maypole dancing to music from a wind-up gramophone. Whilst we won't be reinstating maypole dancing at our celebrations, there will certainly be some traditional outdoor games, dancing and music as part of our festivities!

According to local media in 1973 – which the children will have the opportunity to read as part of our celebrations – when the new £50,000 building opened, the school dog, Bessie, who belonged to infant teacher Miss Steggall, was not permitted to go too: muddy pawprints would not be allowed on the new carpets! Perhaps I should suggest to Mrs Chester that we reinstate this tradition and that we have her dog on the school staff...!

Miss Laura Valentine
Deputy Headteacher

Link to a FlipBook of Lucy Archers article.
<https://heyzine.com/flip-book/88cd1614cd.html>

Most of you will be aware that 20 months ago, Dedham Parish Council (DPC) submitted a Traffic Management Plan to Essex Highways (EH) outlining how we would like to see the traffic issues in Dedham addressed. We waited over a year for automatic traffic counters to be put down to gather the information that EH said it needed to take action. The results from that, backed up by Speed Watch data show that Dedham does indeed have an issue with a high proportion of vehicles passing through the village at very high speeds.

Last week we finally received the report (available via this link: <https://heyzine.com/flip-book/96e3372442.html>). EH have refused just about every suggestion made other than replacing a couple of village gateways. What is most alarming is that many of the decisions appear to contravene their own Speed Management Policy. Most certainly the views of residents were ignored, and there was even a suggestion that we set up a Speed Watch group. Clearly this is unacceptable and below you can see DPCs response in red in relation to the Executive Summary of the report. So the fight continues please make sure you complain about everything from potholes, speeding, lack of or missing signs, accidents etc to Essex Highways, and where applicable the police. Copy in Lewis Barber cllr.lewis.barber@essex.gov.uk. The taxpayers of Dedham deserve to have their views listened to, Dedham residents deserve better.

The purpose of the ECC/Ringway Jacobs report was to investigate the feasibility of several possible solutions in response to Traffic Management concerns in Dedham Parish. The drivers behind the issues were traffic volumes and speed concerns. The main findings of the report are as follows.

Blanket 30-mph restriction request throughout the Parish.

This will not be possible. Essex County Council defines the area as Rural rather than Urban – Essex Policy is to implement a 30mph restrictions in urban areas. Page 14 of Speed Management Strategy(2006) first sentence states. “The County is moving towards a standard speed limit of 30mph in villages”.

- According to EH Speed Management Strategy 2006. Page 1 states “it recognises the importance of taking into account the views of local citizens in determining an appropriate limit for their community”. Appendix C of the DPC Traffic Management Plan itemises the emails and letters received by DPC and our former EC councillor Ann Brown outlining concerns about speeding in Dedham. Many more representations have been received since we first submitted the plan nearly two years ago. This appears to have been ignored thus contravening EH's own Speed Management policy.
- The presence of more than 11 residences within a distance of 350 metres on Long Rd West does indeed mean it qualifies as an urban zone according to 4.1 on page 14 of the Speed Management Policy. Furthermore the eastern end of Long Rd with a similar number of residences is a 30 mph zone, this lack of consistency in relation to speed and number of residences is confusing for both drivers and pedestrians and does not conform to the EH Speed Management Strategy 2006.
- Grove Hill although with less housing has recorded three accidents where the police have been involved within the last year. The report inaccurately states that there are no accident black spots in Dedham, when Essex Highways own criteria states that 3 accidents in a rural area does indeed qualify a black spot. This in itself justifies a reduction in the speed limit to 30 mph.

20-mph Zone/Order in Dedham Village.

Neither can be pursued. Average traffic speeds exceed that whereby a speed limit could be introduced. Highways here are on a PR2 route – policy does not permit Zones on PR2 routes.

- The Speed Management Strategy 2006 Page 7, second bullet point states that PR2 routes will be considered for in consultation with the Traffic Manager and the Cabinet Member. There appears to be no blanket ban on PR2. DPC will vigorously seek approval from the Cabinet Member
- Bullet point 3 refers to proximity to a school and Appendix C refers to concerns about speeding around our primary school. The proposed area also includes a shopping area and significant narrowing of the road demanding a reduction in speed. The two accidents that have taken place in the same area of the High Street in the last four months both involving speeding drivers and required the presence of Essex Police would indicate that traffic calming is needed.
- The report did not reference these accidents.
- Bullet point 4 refers to support of the local community (Appendix C), the Parish Council gives its full support for a 20-mph zone, and we will be seeking specific support from the Cabinet Member. This does not reflect the spirit of the 2021 revised Highway code that emphasises the protection of the most vulnerable road users.

Changes in junction priority.

No suitable changes were identified for the three sites covered

- Once again, the report ignores accidents at the Dedham Heath crossroads.

Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS).

No sites were identified as suitable for further investigation. Mean speeds show compliance with speed limits and there is no obvious trend with accidents at each accident site to support warning signs.

- With further research we would agree that VAS are not appropriate for Dedham but not for the reason above.
- Vehicles driven at mean speeds are not the issue in Dedham, nor indeed anywhere as they are far less likely to kill vulnerable road users. If the author of the report had read the data provided by our Speed Watch team (verified by Essex Police) and Essex Highways own data on speeding levels gained from the ATCs Dedham which states “A high proportion of larger dots may indicate a potential speeding issue”. This indicates that Dedham suffers from a significant proportion of drivers who consistently drive at speeds way above the mean speed level, it is they who are likely to kill vulnerable road users, who should be protected under the ethos of the revised Highway code
- Therefore as VAS signs are proven to lower speed levels by only three to four miles per hour they would have minimal impact on the truly dangerous levels of speeding and therefore the cost simply does not justify the potential results. The revised Highway code clearly states that the most vulnerable road users should be protected.

Average speed cameras along Long Road.

This will not be possible. The accident rate, using National Guidelines, does not support the introduction of average speed cameras along Long Road.

- Why is the introduction of TruCam never clearly addressed?

Rumble strips.

It is recommended not to pursue these. Although traffic speed is low enough not to require other calming measures ahead of installing them, the maintenance aspect as well as possible vibration and noise issues generated by rumble strips have the potential to cause inconvenience to nearby residents.

- The report states that rumblewave/ strips should be at least 30m away from housing to avoid noise and vibration nuisance to existing properties. The geographical nature of Dedham as a collection of hamlets means that this is easily achievable at or close to village gateways and on many of the roads linking the hamlets.
- The question of maintenance is one that we as a Parish would welcome the opportunity to discuss with EH

Village gateways.

It is recommended, to consider installing gateways at the locations listed below.

1. Ardleigh Road. 2. Birchwood Road.

The cost is estimated to be £16,000. A licence from ECC would be required prior to installation.

Protected Rural Lane Status.

Assessment and designation of highways as Protected Rural Status is a Planning Authority function rather than a Highway Authority function. It is recommended that any pursuit of this designation for various roads is made through Colchester City Council.

- DPC will pursue this

Community Speed watch signs.

It is recommended that the Parish Council approach the Safer Essex Road Partnership (SERP) to generate a Community Speed watch group.

- Unfortunately, the author of this report failed to note that Dedham does in fact have an extremely active Community Speed Watch group. Please see Appendix B which provides detailed data from our Speed Watch group on speeding in Dedham. Three of the approved sites are consistently in the top 5 sites in Essex for speeding offences.
- It is most dispiriting that the work of and data provided by such a proactive voluntary group has been completely overlooked.

We would also like to make these additional points

- Nowhere does this report reflect the spirit of the revised Highways Code that promotes protection of the most vulnerable road users i.e. pedestrians and cyclists rather than motorists
- We realise that EH has financial constraints, however this report effectively prohibits the Parish Council from using its own funds to introduce safety measures. Measures that are clearly demanded by the voting public.
- The report only responds negatively to suggestions made by unpaid laymen. Nowhere have the experts made any constructive suggestions as to solving speeding issues in Dedham.
- What exactly does the phrase "no obvious benefit to the Highway Authority mean" and what are the implications for the tax paying residents of Dedham?

Gill Neville, Dedham Parish Council

Three bank holidays!

There's plenty to celebrate this May with three bank holidays and all kinds of things making the garden looking amazing.

Here, the rhododendron is budding, aubrieta, aquilegia and alliums are in full bloom along with early iris and roses,



while clematis and wisteria are climbing their way over fences and the shed. I'm very jealous of my sister's tree peony at this time of year – it's a magnificent thing, nearly as tall as me (5 foot 10 if you're wondering) and covered with huge deep pink flowers. Of course, she gardens on clay which does wonders for peonies and roses.

But you can't spend three bank holidays stood around admiring, these long weekends give you plenty of time to get into the borders and get stuff done. Don't be lulled into a false sense of security by all the flowers that are out right now; there's still the potential for a late frost or two so keep some fleece about and protect your more tender veg plants – like cucumbers, sweetcorn or chillies – under cover for a little longer. The risk of frost should have passed by the end of the month when tender plants can be hardened off and planted out.

I tried lifting some of my dahlias last October but didn't manage to get them buried in old compost to protect them in time, so lost the lot to the first serious frost of December. I still left plenty in the ground though and these should have made it through OK. If you lifted yours, you may have started them off already and have fairly good-sized plants to get in the ground by the end of the month, but any you left in the ground will soon catch up. I also planted cosmos seeds in April, pinching out the tops of seedlings to make them bushier, and they'll be big enough to go in the ground this month too. Don't forget to harden off anything you've been growing under cover for a couple of weeks. Just put them outside during the day and back under cover as the temperatures drop overnight, then bring them out again in the warmer morning. A couple of weeks of this will stop them going



into shock when they're planted out.

If you grow apples, plums and greengages, get some pheromone traps up to monitor for codling and plum fruit moths and reduce the risk of maggots in your fruit (gross). The sticky trap lets you detect male moths as they look for mates from mid-May until the end of July. While the traps will prevent some male moths from mating (and it's the female's eggs that become maggots and damage your fruit), they usually indicate it's time to get some insecticide on your trees. I don't really like to use insecticides though, so just let the traps reduce the

risk and live with some fruit that I can't eat.

Speaking of gross wriggly things. Don't forget to also check any gooseberry plants for sawfly larvae, voracious little caterpillars that will shred your bushes in a matter of days. They don't damage fruit but can set the plant back and affect fruiting the following year. You can use nematodes to control them very effectively if you prefer not to use insecticides.

While plenty is growing, there's stuff



to prune too in May. Once flowered, your deutzia, flowering current, forsythia, mock orange or bridal wreath (*Spiraea 'Arguta'*) should be cut back to keep their size under control and encourage fresh growth over summer which will carry more flowers next year.

I'll also cut back the Clematis Montana, planted on the front of my house with climbing roses Claire Austin and Paul's Himalayan Musk, but which now only flowers occasionally and only at the very top. To refresh it, I'll hard prune the clematis this spring after it's flowered. Montana usually responds well and should give me better flowers lower down the plant next season. While I'm at it, I'll tie the Himalayan Musk as near to horizontal as possible. The restricted flow of sap will encourage more side-shoots along the length of stem and so more flowers on this plant too. Hurrah!

Although it's our last speaker evening on 3 May, there's still plenty of gardening events to look forward to in Dedham this summer. Come along to our plant sale in front of the church, member coffee morning (join up and join us!) or annual coach trip – this year we're off to Great Comp in Kent.

Elliott Frisby

Scan this QR code to access our website, www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com



SATURDAY 13 MAY ANNUAL PLANT SALE

in front of the church 9.00 am till about 11.30 am.

Joining us as usual will be Mission Bake with their cake stall. Come along early with anything we can sell and, hopefully, you can take a bargain or two home with you.



2023 dates.

Saturday May 13th 10-12 noon (shared with the Horticultural Group's Spring Sale)

Saturday June 3rd 10-12 noon

Saturday July 29th 10-12 noon

Bank Holiday Monday 28th August - 10-4pm

Saturday September 30th 10--12 noon

Saturday October 28th 10-12 noon

Pylons, Undergrounding and Five Estuaries update

- Consultation on ‘Five Estuaries’– A reminder that responses are due by 12 May. They only received 134 responses to the first consultation and have not included the offshore connection into Sealink in their statutory consultation, therefore it is imperative that we respond stating that ‘an offshore connection is the preferred option as this removes the need for all the infrastructure around Ardleigh, trenching through the AONB and pylons along the southern boundary of the AONB’. You can contact them either online at <https://fiveestuaries.co.uk>, via e-mail- fiveestuaries@rwe.com or in writing to FREEPOST FIVE ESTUARIES. Make sure to state it is your official response to their consultation.
- Consultation – ‘EAG 2023 non statutory’ - No Date yet for the second non statutory EAG consultation, however this is still being advertised as late Spring/ Early Summer 2023.
- Consultation on ‘Community Benefits for electricity transmission networks infrastructure’ - Grant Shapps, Secretary of State, Department of Energy security and net zero sent a letter out to East Anglia Community groups on 30th March. This consultation runs until 25th May and can be found on <https://www.gov.uk>.
- Consultation on ‘Energy National Policy Statement (NPS) EN-5’ - The National Grid ESO review for the East and the Early opportunities scheme, both in theory to promote co-ordination, appear to be a good thing. However, the government are also quietly trying to slip in major changes to the planning process around new energy infrastructure in yet another consultation again ending on 25th May. This would make it easier for them to deliver these projects by in essence, prioritising wind farms and their onshore infrastructure above everything else. Again, this can be found on - <https://www.gov.uk>.
- UNESCO World Heritage – The East Atlantic Flyway (Bird superhighway) is in line to become the first world heritage site of its kind after winning the backing of the Government. The flyway along the east coast of England which includes Norfolk, Suffolk & Essex see around 90 million migratory birds each year. Undergrounding of cables or an offshore network would reduce the bird strike risk that pylons pose say ESN Pylons.
- A co-ordinated Offshore option reduces impact offshore and to fishing communities – it has recently been highlighted by the fishing community that the current piecemeal approach is much more problematic for them.
- Information on all areas covered in this article are consolidated on the “Dedham Vale AONB – Pylons and Undergrounding” Facebook page. This includes a video of the community benefits webinar and slides along with the Five Estuaries presentation boards. Most importantly, you can also sign-up for e-mail updates (In the pinned items), which is the easiest and quickest way to keep updated and will allow us to email out suggested responses to all these consultations at the relevant times.

Luke Marshall



The next meeting of Dedham Parish Council will take place on Monday 22nd May at the Duchy Barn.

The Annual Parish Meeting (APM) for residents at 6:30pm followed by the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the DPC at 7:30pm.

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 (dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk)



Art Exhibition



At the Duchy Barn, Dedham on the 12th, 13th and 14th May 2023, from 10am - 4pm.

by local artist, **PHIL BLAND.**



The Food Bank in the porch of Dedham Church continues to be blessed with the generosity of donations and our Food Bank transport volunteers have recently taken a sizeable donation to the Colchester Food Bank, this after local people have had the opportunity to take items according to their needs. We are hugely grateful for the continued generosity of donors, and to encourage the newer ones among you, we should point out that all gifts should be non perishable and in moisture proof packaging. Our porch is open to the elements, as well as to creatures other than humans!

Vee Druitt, Churchwarden



MRS HARRIS GOES TO PARIS Directed by Anthony Fabian (PG) (2022)
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
7:30pm to 10:00pm

'Mrs. Harris Goes To Paris' tells the story of a widowed cleaning lady in 1950s London who falls madly in love with a couture Dior dress, and decides that she must have one of her own. Starring Leslie Manville, Isabelle Huppert and Jason Isaacs.

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



The Coronation – Beer, Bangers and a Band.

The Coronation – A Special Free Screening.

Dedham Sports Club will be opening to celebrate the Coronation weekend on Sunday 7th May from 12:00 noon until 10:30pm.

If you would like to see The Coronation on 6th May on the big screen at the Assembly Rooms, then **Dedham Films** will be screening the BBC coverage throughout the day as a live broadcast, free of charge.

The bar will be open and local covers band, 33RPM will be playing.

You are welcome to join us at any time but please bring your own refreshments. Look out for posters advertising this event nearer the time.

Come along and join us at the Drift.



Colchester Chamber Choir

Colchester Chamber Choir will be performing a concert in Dedham Church on Sunday 9th July in support of the ORGAN FUND.

Watch this space in next month's magazine for further details including the concert programme.



THURSFORD CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR

Friday 8th December 2023

This year the Friends have managed to obtain seats for the popular Thursford Christmas Spectacular held at the Thursford Collection near Fakenham.

The coach will leave Royal Square, Dedham at 8.00 am and will travel to the delightful small town of Holt where you will have some free time to shop, dine and wine at your pleasure. There are a variety of restaurants, pubs and cafes for you to choose from at your own expense.

The coach will leave Holt at 13.00 to take us to Thursford for the performance. We will leave Thursford at approximately 5.30 pm and will travel back through Holt to see the famous Christmas lights. We will arrive back in Dedham at approximately 7.30 pm.

The cost of the trip will be £70 per person for members and £75 for non-members, this includes a top priced seat. If you would like to attend please contact Maria Johnston, Highlands, Coles Oak Lane, Dedham, CO7 6DR.



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Walk Pier to Pier for St Helena Hospice this May

St Helena Hospice's popular sponsored walk is returning on Sunday 14th May 2022 and the local charity is urging people to sign up to help ensure more patients and families facing incurable illness and bereavement can receive the support they desperately need.

The scenic walk starts from either Clacton or Walton Pier and participants can choose to walk the 7 miles between the two piers or challenge themselves to make the return journey – 14 miles in all!



Lisa Chenery, St Helena Hospice fundraiser, said: "We are so excited to launch everyone's favourite event, Pier to Pier! Last year over 500 people joined us on the beautiful Essex coast to walk for their local hospice and this year we hope to see even more. Registration is just £5 for adults and children over 5, with under 5's and furry friends walking for free. Sign up now at www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/piertopier.

St Helena Hospice's Pier to Pier walk has kindly been sponsored by Pickering Electronics Ltd.

Dedham Baby and Toddler Group

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Join us **every Tuesday 10am-12pm** (term time only) for fun, toys, messy play, crafts, singing, storytelling, games and music

£3 per child or £5 per family. Includes hot drinks for the adults and a yummy snack for the kids.

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



After a long and difficult season we have won the Colchester Winter Carpet Bowls League. This was the first time the Winter League has been played since 2019/20. We are



looking forward to defending our title next season. If any one is interested in having a go at carpet bowls could you PM me via the Dedham Vale Voice Facebook page and I can give you details of our practice nights etc.

Ron Hill

Dedham Art Society

Come and join our friendly art group. Guests and visitors are welcome to attend our sessions in the Assembly Rooms. Your first 'taster' visit is free. We meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month. We are an amateur group who enjoy painting regularly. Occasionally we have guest tutors, the rest of the time we help each other, beginners welcome.

If you require any information about our activities or joining the Dedham Art Society please contact us by email at dedhamartsociety@gmail.com or visit our website at <http://www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk>

Thursday 11th May, 2pm - 4.30pm at the Assembly Rooms

Members painting together session.

This weeks optional theme is based on a city or town scene in your own choice of medium.

Free to Members. *Non - members £5.
Phone 07872 334729 to book

Thursday 25th May, 2pm - 4.30pm at the Assembly Rooms

Members painting together session.

This session is based on the artwork of Wassily Kandinsky. Members will gain an insight into his work and will have the opportunity to produce their own painting in his style.

Free to Members. *Non - members £5.
Phone 07872 334729 to book



Dedham Art Society Exhibition

Our current exhibition of a selection of members work can be seen at The Munnings Art Museum's Garden Cafe until the museum closes for the winter in October.

The exhibition will refresh in June and August. Our members are thrilled to have a venue to exhibit regularly and feel very privileged to be able to exhibit their work in the Garden Cafe which was once Alfred Munnings studio, the very building where he spent hours working and created many of his masterpieces.

We have over 30 artworks from members on display for sale, 10% will be donated to The Munnings, Castle House Trust. Included in our Munnings Garden Cafe exhibition is a delightful oil painting of 'Dinky of Dedham' by member



Graham Galaway. 'Dinky' can regularly be seen feeding in the field next to the Garden cafe. Do pop into the Garden Cafe for a coffee and take a look!

Original art for every budget, all mediums represented; Oil, watercolour, acrylic, graphite pencil, monoprints. The Garden Cafe is open Wednesday to Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays, 10am to 4.30pm.



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