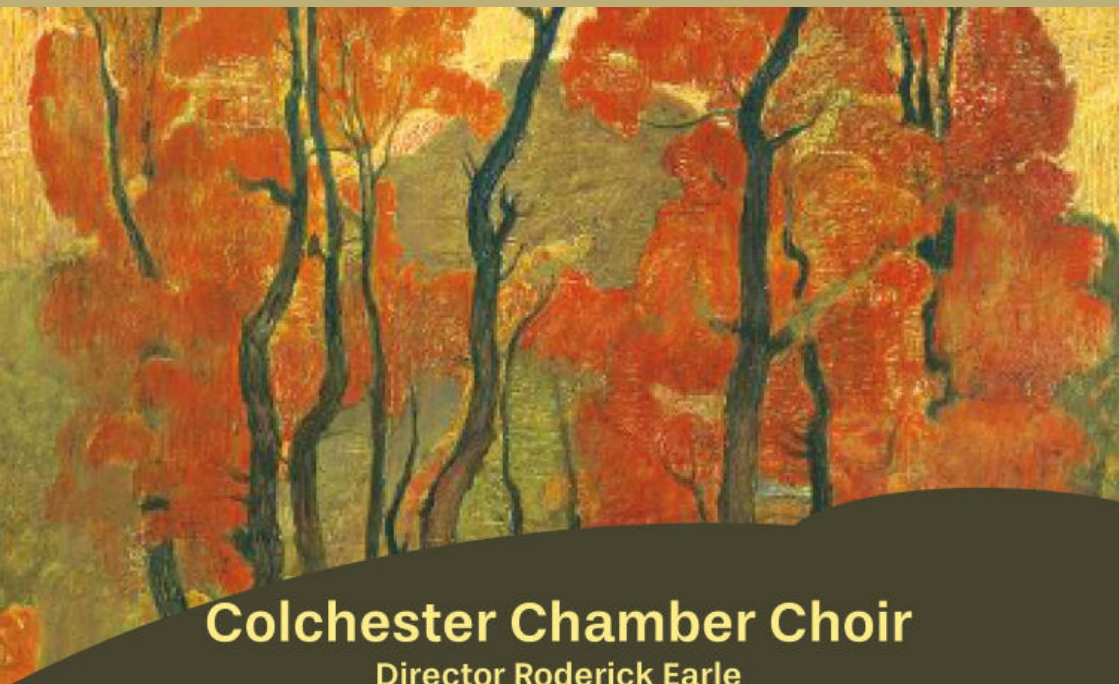




DEDHAM Parish Magazine



Colchester Chamber Choir

Director Roderick Earle

THE LONG DAY CLOSES

heavenly music for an autumn evening

Sunday 12 October 6pm

St Mary's Church, Dedham CO7 6DE

Supported by the Friends of Dedham Church
in aid of the Windows Restoration and Repair Fund

Tickets £15 from colchesterchamberchoir.org : 01206 820813/531360

September 2025

Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

September 2025

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

Rural Missioners Phillip Young
Tel: 323 919
John Saxon
Tel: 01255 781859
Assistant Minister Merv McKinney
Tel: 322 136

PARISHES OFFICE

Assembly Rooms, High Street, Dedham.
CO7 6HJ. Tel: 322 136
Office hours - Monday 9.00am to 1pm.
Parishes Administrator
Email: stmaryda@gmail.com

CHURCH WARDENS

Ruth Higginson Tel: 322 598
Email: ruthhigginson422@gmail.com
Sharon Sarson Tel: 07876 114418
Email: sharonsarson@hotmail.co.uk

MUSIC

Director of Music Antony Watson
Tel: 322 425

ASSEMBLY ROOMS Tel: 323 921

CHURCH FLOWERS

Coordinator Helen Sims
Tel: 321 286
Wedding Flowers Wendy Sarton
Tel: 323 027

DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor: John Goldsbrough
Email: dedhameditor@gmail.com
Advertising Sara Marshall
Email: dedham.advertising@gmail.com

**The deadline for October 2025
magazine entries is the 10th September.**

MAGAZINE CONTENT

2. Contacts/contents.
3. Services & Church events.
4. Rural Missioner & Editorial.
- 5-9. Church News and Events.
10. Migration for Freedom.
11. Dedham Art Society.
- 12-13. Dedham Parish Council.
- 14-15. Gardening Notes.
- 16-17. Dedham in History.
18. Press Releases.
- 19-26. News and Events.
27. Events Calendar.
28. Kingsleigh.
- 29-48. Advertising.

Cover Photo - Poster advertising the
October concert to raise funds for the
Windows appeal

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: Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322**
598.

If you would like a lift to church
contact Sharon Sarson Tel: 07876
114418

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 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.

Sunday, 7th September

8.00am Holy Communion(BCP) Ardleigh
 9.30am Cafe Church Ardleigh
 9.30am Rise N Shine Dedham*
 5.00pm Evensong Dedham*

Sunday, 14th September

9.30am Holy Communion Ardleigh
 11.00am Holy Communion Dedham*

Sunday, 21st September

9.30am Holy Communion Ardleigh
 9.30am Morning Praise Dedham*
 5.00pm Revive@5 Dedham*

Sunday, 28th September

9.30am Morning Praise Ardleigh
 9.30am Harvest Festival -
 Holy Communion Dedham*

* = Services are possibly live streamed.

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

**Ardleigh Friendship Group: every 2nd
 and 4th Tuesday of the month: 10am
 to 12 noon - Ardleigh Church.**

**Ardleigh Craft Group: every 1st and 3rd
 Tuesday of the month: Meeting at
 Ardleigh Church from 10am to 12
 noon. Please contact Ardleigh
 Churchwarden if you are interested in
 joining the group.**

**Little Steps Pre-School Group: every
 4th Friday of the month: 9.30am in
 Ardleigh Church.**

**Monday Lunch Club – Monday 1st
 September 12.30pm, Essex Tea
 Rooms. Phone 322192 to reserve a
 place.**

**Men's Breakfast - Saturday 6th
 September 9am - Breakfast, Bacon,
 Buns and Bible.**

**Walk and Talk - Thursday 11th
 September 10am or 11am, Dedham
 Arts and Craft Centre. 10am for a
 walk, or at 11am for just a chat.**

FROM THE REGISTERS.

WEDDINGS:

26th June - Robyn Gifford and Kieron
 Teeder

9th August - Charlotte Clarke and Harry
 Geller

FUNERALS:

17th June - graveside committal for Ida
 Knott

25th June - funeral for Ann Overton-
 Ablitt

8th July - funeral for Pamela Tanner


YouTube

**Our services are on YouTube.
 Search Dedham and Ardleigh
 Parishes.**


**Follow us on Facebook,
 search - Dedham and
 Ardleigh Parishes.**

**Dedham and Ardleigh
 parishes website -
 QR code**




SCAN ME

*Opinions expressed in contributed articles
 are those of the contributor and do not
 necessarily represent the position or opinions
 of the PCC or the Editorial team.*

RURAL MISSIONER

Dear friends,

I hope you have been able to enjoy a good break over the summer months!

While our children head back to (or start) school, memories of sunshine and family holidays can quickly fade away as we return to the routines that ensured our survival in busier times. I hope it's not all too overwhelming for you!

One thing we might not immediately prioritise at this time is space simply 'to be' – whether it's getting up slightly earlier to sit in the garden and breathe in some fresh air or taking a moment to listen to a soothing piece of music (I recently discovered 'A Song for Clara' by Shoshana Michel, which I can recommend). I often forget to do this amidst getting our four small children to and from school and nursery and getting on with work in our nine parishes, but when I do I am much better for it.

One verse I have found helpful in such moments is Psalm 46:10: "*Be still, and know that I am God*". Instead of trying to wish away the problems that invariably arise from our busyness and the complexity of our lives today, the voice of scripture calls us back to 'being' – to 'being' with the God who made us, the God who knows us better than we know ourselves.

"*Be still, and know that I am God*" seems like it was written for the so called 'anxious generation'. How often do we carry around burdens and anxieties, unfinished to do and bucket lists and unresolved tensions in our relationships, when the God who made us and knows us wants to grant us His peace! "*Cast all your anxiety on [God] because He cares for you*" we find in 1 Peter 5:7.

Why not try to take space simply 'to be' – to "be still, and know that [the Lord is] God"? Why not "cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you"?

Maybe this invitation is just what you need to help you navigate the busyness and complexity of our lives at this time. Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace at all times and in every way.

*Best wishes,
Phillip*

IN YOUR MAGAZINE

In this month's issue we are including the first part of the serialisation of parts of the book by Gerald Randall, entitled 'Dedham in History' which had three parts, Feudal Dedham, Industrial Dedham and Puritan Dedham. A number of years ago the magazine contained chapters from another of his books about Dedham (Dedham described and deciphered).

Both books are now out of copyright as it is more than 75 years since the author died.

Sara Marshall is stepping down from her role as Dedham Parish Magazine Coordinator. She will respond to any ongoing queries but any new queries will be replied to once the new Coordinator has started.

I would like to thank Sara for all the hard work she has put in making sure that the Advertising section of the magazine is filled. Sara has been doing the job for over 5 years. On behalf of the magazine team I would like to wish her well for the future.

John Goldsbrough

MISSIONS BAKE SALES



The remaining dates for the 2025 Mission Stall are as follows:

Saturday 27th September 10-12 noon.

Saturday 25th October 10-12 noon.



DO YOU LIKE ACTING AND WOULD LIKE TO VOLUNTEER WITH THE OPEN THE BOOK TEAM IN DEDHAM?

Open the Book is an interactive, storytelling way of sharing bible stories with children in primary schools. Currently the Dedham Open the Book team are looking for new volunteers and would love to hear from you.

The team visit Dedham Primary school once every half term. All you need to do is commit an hour's preparation meeting the week before the actual Open the Book Assembly which will be up to an hour and a half on the day. It's such a fun way to volunteer and there's even costumes too!

If you're interested, contact Fiona Taylor by email: fiona.t.dedham@gmail.com

Scan the QR Code to create an email.



FOOD BANK

The food bank has temporarily been suspended so we don't need any more items. Thank you to everyone for your continued support.

HOME COUNTRY

a poem written by Alfreda MacKenzie in January 1979

I yearn for you my north country
for your moors and fells,
where lapwings rise into
cerulean skies
and the curlews cry.

Where the melting snows in Spring,
charge the becks to sing, and stir
the mossy banks to green.

I remember how, in May,
your meadows flaunt their
yellow scarves of Buttercups
and Hawthorn scents the
stone flanked way.

Return to you I must
whether in life or in death,
to blow away on your moors and fells
from May to May.

Or to rest in the quiet churchyard
where children lightly tread
on ancestral graves, and where
Beech trees scatter nuts
in Autumn's whirling winds.

How bitter sweet the nuts
which once I gathered, when
I in innocence scampered there.



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area



September 2025

September 14th 2025

The Deanery choir will be singing at St George's Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS at the I am Communion service. The choir will sing 'How lovely are the messengers' by Felix Mendelssohn.

Mendelssohn enjoyed early success in Germany, and revived interest in the music of Johann Sebastian Bach, notably with his performance of the St Matthew Passion in 1829. He became well received in his travels throughout Europe as a composer, conductor and soloist; his ten visits to Britain, during which many of his major works were premiered, form an important part of his adult career.

His essentially conservative musical tastes set him apart from more adventurous musical contemporaries, such as Franz Liszt, Richard Wagner, Charles-Valentin Alkan and Berlioz. The Leipzig Conservatory, which he founded, became a bastion of this anti-radical outlook.

After a long period of relative denigration due to changing musical tastes and antisemitism in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, his creative originality has been re-evaluated. He is now among the most popular composers of the Romantic era.

September 28th 2025

The Deanery choir will be singing at All Saints Church, Wrabness CO11 2TQ at the 6.30pm Choral evensong. The Anthem that they will be singing is 'A Prayer of St Richard of Chichester' by..... L.J.White.

Leonard J White was choirmaster at St Andrew's Willesden Green, London, until his death in the 1970s. This piece is thought to have been written around 1919 and was published in 1947. It sets a version of a prayer ascribed to the 13th-century Richard, Bishop of Chichester, which he is supposed to have recited on his death-bed.

Graham Bell

GUIDE DOGS. 🐕



The last service in church.

At the end of July we said goodbye to Serge as he went off to 'school', Redbridge Guide Dog Training Centre. His trainer has been in contact to say he had settled in and started his training. He has one special kennel mate and has made more friends who he plays with. His trainer will give us updates on his progress. We hope with his training he will be a 'life changer'.

Marjorie Culham BEM

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Many of the church's windows are deteriorating and require extensive and costly restoration, estimated to exceed £160,000. While the chancel windows have been recently restored, the remaining work still demands significant funding.

The Parochial Church Council is actively fundraising, with support from the Friends of Dedham Church and potential grants, but additional donations from parishioners and visitors are urgently needed. We hope that you will wish to donate.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS APPEAL.

Please make donations to:

A/c Name - Dedham Parochial Church Council: S/code - 20 22 67:

A/c no. 00297879: Reference - Windows



Morning Post - Thursday 30 September 1909

RESTORATION OF DEDHAM CHURCH, ESSEX.

A considerable work of restoration has lately been carried out in the fine Perpendicular church of Dedham, of which the Rev. F. G. Given-Wilson is the vicar, under the advice and supervision of Mr. T. G. Jackson, R.A. This church with its noble flint-faced tower is a familiar feature in many of Constable's pictures.

The most important part was the restoration of the chancel, which was undertaken by Mr. W. W. Hewitt, of Lower Park, and his sister, as a memorial to their brother, Mr. James Hewitt. This included the reopening of four windows which have been closed for a hundred years or more, the laying down of a black and white marble pavement, and the substitution of carved oak altar rails in place of the old ones.

The battlements on the south wall of the chancel have also been restored, to the great improvement of the exterior appearance of the church. All the four restored windows have been filled with stained glass, designed and executed by Mr. Walter Tower, and are the gifts respectively of Dr. Ashwin, Lecturer of Dedham; Dr. Rendall, Head Master of Charterhouse School; Mrs. Medows Rodwell; the members of the family of the late Dr. Lermitt, for many years Head Master of Dedham Grammar School; and Mr. N. Saunders. A legacy left to the church by the late Miss Eyre, and the gifts of other friends, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, have made possible other improvements.

The whole of the lead on the roofs of the chancel, nave, and south aisle has been stripped off and relaid after being recast on the spot, and lengths of deal timber have also been laid crosswise over the original oak rafters. At the west end of the church a structural improvement has been carried out by the removal of an unsightly screen which blocked out the handsome west door.

Yesterday, the Festival of St. Michael and All Angels, the Bishop of St. Albans visited Dedham, when a large and representative congregation, including a number of local clergy, were present at the reopening service, at which the Bishop preached.

LORD'S PRAYER TOP OF THE RECOGNISABLE QUOTES

"Give us this day our daily bread" topped a poll for the most recognisable words in the UK narrowly beating "May the force be with you" from the Star Wars films. "Give us this day our daily bread" was recognised as coming from the Lord's Prayer by 80.3% of the 2,000 people polled. Surprisingly 89% of people said that they had prayed The Lord's Prayer at some point, including 88% of those who claimed they have no religion.

The Most Rev'd Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York, explained that the meaning is actually quite challenging, meaning 'give me what I need for today and stop me wanting more than my fair share' and that 'The whole human race urgently needs to learn what 'enough' looks like: so that the world is fed, but also in order for the planet to be saved'.

Other quotes included in the survey included Churchill's "Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few"; "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times" from A Tale of Two Cities by Charles Dickens; "You'll never walk alone" from the Rodgers and Hammerstein song popularised by Gerry and the Pacemakers and sung by Liverpool football fans; "Happy and glorious, long to reign over us" from the National anthem and "to be or not to be" from Shakespeare's Hamlet.

The polling was done by Thy Kingdom Come, a global ecumenical prayer movement.

FILMS SHOWING IN THE DUCHY BARN STARTING IN NOVEMBER 2025

NOTICE TO ALL CINEMA LOVERS

St. Mary's Church Dedham is planning to show films once a month in the Duchy Barn, starting on Wednesday 26th November at 10.00 am.

The showings will be open to anyone in the community, subject to age restrictions imposed by the film classification, and are free of charge.

The choice of films will cover masterpieces old and new and be determined in part by the spectators themselves. The selection of films will be mostly in English but may include a few foreign films that have garnered high acclaim. Subtitles will be added as required.

Each showing will be preceded by a short 5-minute introduction, giving details about the film and the director.

We shall aim to finish in time for lunch, between 12 and 1pm.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Further information to follow in the next editions of the Dedham Parish Magazine.



MIGRATION FOR FREEDOM: The Price of a Dream and the Hope of New Beginnings

By: Hamidou

In a world increasingly torn apart by wars, repression, and the absence of freedoms, thousands of refugees and migrants have found themselves with no choice but to flee their homelands in search of safety, freedom of expression, and a better future. Freedom was the driving force, the dream was the fuel for the journey—but the price was often devastating.

Migration is not a casual decision, nor a simple escape. It is a path lined with loss, filled with the pain of exile, the fading of identity, and sometimes even death—whether at sea, on borders, or in detention camps. Some have lost their families. Others have lost their faith, and many have disappeared without a trace. Migration is like a game of chance—you might gain a new life, or you might lose everything you have.

Still, every refugee and migrant carries a story deep in their heart. A story of pain and hope, of patience and ambition. The goal is the same for all: a life of dignity and safety. Yet the road differs, and the reality is often harsh—marked by struggle, rejection, and cruel words from societies that do not fully understand the cost of such journeys.

We ask only for peace. We seek to become part of our new communities, to be given a fair chance to show who we truly are and what we can offer. Yes, some migrants have exploited systems and caused strain. But it is unfair to judge the many by the mistakes of a few. Among us are the talented, the hardworking, and the determined—those who have become vital contributors to their new countries, including here in the UK.

It is time to recognise that we are not a burden—we are an added value. We are not strangers—we are human beings who seek life, dream of safety, and long to belong.

These words come from the heart of a migrant living in Britain, spoken with sincerity and hope. Let us build a society that embraces all people, regardless of language, colour, or religion. A society united by compassion, enriched by diversity, and strong in its shared humanity.

About the Author:

Hamidou is an asylum seeker living in the United Kingdom, writing about freedom, identity, and the challenges of integration.



DEDHAM ART SOCIETY

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 the Dedham Art Society please contact us by email at dedhamartsociety@gmail.com or visit our website at <http://www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk>

Here are the sessions for September, if you are interested in attending please call 07872334729.

Thursday 11th September

Painting outside 10am (full day) -
Colchester Urban Sketching

Saturday 20th September

Bourne Mill (Saturday morning plein air group)

Thursday 25th September

Assembly Rooms, 2pm - 4.30pm
Members' Painting Together Session –
Fine detail

The Dedham Art Society would like to thank everyone who visited our Summer Exhibition in the Duchy Barn this year.

Over 300 people joined us across the long weekend, and with your support we raised £323.17 for East Anglia's Children's Hospices through art sales and donations.

Congratulations to Gilly Dutton, whose pastel *Syd the Starling* won the DAS Trophy for most popular painting. You can read more about this work and past winners here:

www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk/dastrophy-past-winners/2025-winner.

We are especially grateful to GoodMove Moving and Storage Limited for sponsoring the transportation of our exhibition boards, and to Kingsleigh Residential for sponsoring promotional boards in the village.

Our thanks also go to The Norfolk and Norwich Art Circle, The Munnings Museum, Milsoms Hotel, Dedham Hall, The Essex Rose Tea Rooms, Hall Farm, and other local businesses and residents whose support made our first Duchy Barn exhibition such a success.



Syd the Starling - a study in pastel by
Gilly Dutton



Dedham Parish Council Meeting Report – Monday, 7th July 2025

Community Concerns and Updates

Munnings Dog Park

A resident inquired about progress on the proposed dog park. While there were no recent updates, it was noted that the Munnings Museum had sold a sculpture to help raise funds.

High Street Pavements

Concerns were raised about tables and chairs obstructing pavements outside certain retail outlets. These obstructions are especially problematic for people with guide dogs or pushchairs. The Council Chair has spoken with the outlet owner, who is currently in discussion with the building's owner about potentially removing some fencing. The importance of having a licence to trade on public pavements was also highlighted.

Speeding Through the Village

Several residents voiced ongoing concerns about speeding vehicles, particularly agricultural traffic on Crown Street. The Council noted that such vehicles should adhere to a 25mph limit, and these issues are being followed up.

Forest School Site

Complaints were made about the untidy appearance of the forest school area near Castle Hill. The Chair committed to addressing the issue with the school.

Parking on Pavements

Continued concern was expressed about cars parking on pavements along the High Street. The Council will investigate the matter further.

Council Reports and Planning

Report from Councillor Barber

A written report was submitted by Councillor Barber, detailing recent tree felling and vegetation clearing activities around the village.

Parish Plan Consultation

The first public consultation for the Parish Plan will be held on **Saturday, 19th July**, at the Duchy Barn. Further meetings with local groups are planned to gather additional input.

Financial Matters

- A revised budget was approved.
- The internal audit findings were noted, and areas for improvement were agreed upon.
- A grant to repair the church clock was approved.
- A grant request from the school PTA for the Christmas market was supported in principle. However, a meeting will be scheduled to discuss details further.

Planning and Infrastructure

Planning Group

The group met before the full Council session and presented its feedback on proposed planning applications.

Footpath Maintenance

Delays in footpath maintenance were acknowledged. The cutting schedule is now back on track and available online and on noticeboards.

Traffic and Parking

- The Council agreed to continue pursuing a 20mph speed limit within the village.
- NEPP (North Essex Parking Partnership) is set to restore double yellow lines on High Street and Mill Road, and refresh faded white lines on High Street. DPC agreed to contribute 50% of the costs for this work.

Toilet Block

DPC will fund restoration work to the toilet block in collaboration with Colchester City Council.

Play Park Initiative

Support was given to establish a working group to review and improve the play park area and its facilities.

Communications and Youth Engagement

Website and Communications

The Council's new website is progressing well. A **photography competition** will be launched to gather high-quality images for the site. New email addresses for Council members will be available by the end of July.

Young Visitors Strategy

A multi-stakeholder meeting will take place on **9th July** to address recent issues involving young visitors to the village. Problems were noted over the previous two weekends.

School & Munnings Collaboration

A grant request for a 200th anniversary school project in partnership with the Munnings Museum was approved.

Events and Future Meetings

Youth Club Fun Day Proposal

The Youth Club has requested use of the Duchy Field on the August Bank Holiday for a fun day. Council members are asked to review and submit comments to the Chair and Clerk. Some concerns were raised about the short notice.

Next Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Monday, 1st September 2025 at 6:30pm**, preceded by the Planning Group at 6:00pm.

Chair, Cllr Douglas Bourn

www.dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk



Dedham Parish Council

NOTICE OF CASUAL VACANCY

IN THE OFFICE OF PARISH COUNCILLOR

Notice is hereby given under Section 87(2) of the Local Government Act 1972 that casual vacancy exists in the office of Councillor for Dedham Parish Council, as Christopher Martlew has resigned.

An election to fill the vacancy will be held if request in writing for such an election is made by ten electors registered within the electoral area and received by the Proper Office of Colchester City Council, by no later than Friday 5 September 2025. Otherwise, Dedham Parish Council will fill the vacancy by co-option.

Requests should be emailed to elections@colchester.gov.uk or delivered:

- By Hand to Colchester Town Hall, High Street, Colchester CO1 1PJ
- By Post to Rowan House 33 Sheepen Road, Colchester CO3 3WG

Clerk to the Parish Council

Dated 15 August 2025

COMING UP THIS SEASON...

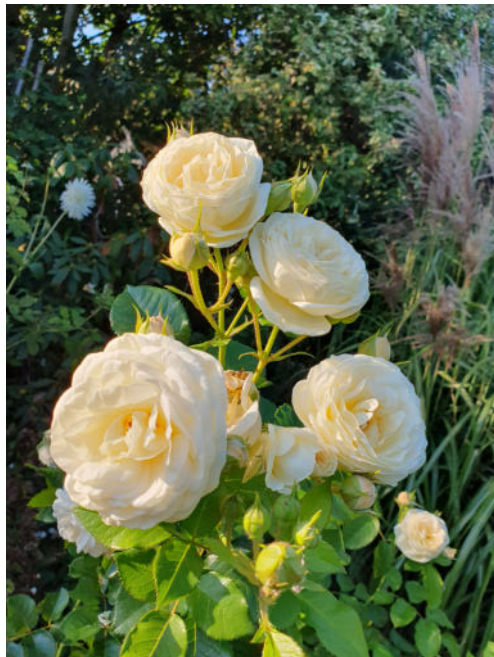
We hope you've had a great summer everyone. The garden right now is full of autumn colour. The dahlias have struggled a bit with the heatwaves and a lack of water but have started to catch up now.



I'd say they are still a bit shorter than they have been. They are complimented by clumps of hardy pink chrysanthemums, the feathery foliage of cosmos in white, pinks and reds, while little jewel-like flowers of salvias shine around the stems of roses.

If this sounds beautiful and perfectly planned well... about 70% of it is and was, but if you make a wrong turn you'll be smacked in the face by utterly out of control giant scabious, (not a scabious that is giant, but the buttery white *Cephalaria gigantea* that reaches about two metres) or clumps of *Miscanthus Malepartus* that really should not be quite so close to the path. The editing doesn't just happen in this article!

If you're not planning to move some plants around or stand about admiring your work, then what about learning something more about gardening. We'd love to welcome you to another season of events organised by the Dedham Horticultural Society.



We kicked off this month with our Autumn Flower Show (also fruit and veg, cooking and photography of course), kindly sponsored by Kingsleigh Estate Agents.

It's always great to see what people exhibit and catch up with members, friends and neighbours who come along on the day.

Then we get into our annual speaker evenings which are free for Society members and just £2 for everyone else. As well as a chance to catch up with other people from Dedham and surroundings, refreshments are included, and we have a small raffle.

We've got a great line-up that starts with Joanne Hull of Benton End Flower

Farm in Hadleigh. Alongside partner Carla, Joanne runs a chemical-free, wildlife-friendly cut-flower business just a few steps from Sir Cedric Morris's historic Benton End House. Come along to hear how she and Carla blend that historical legacy with modern floral artistry, whether it's creating floral installations like their 8-ft "Flower Stallion" or making plans for a lavender distillery and exclusive glamping later in 2025.



Flower Stallion

In November, Peter Miller from Kings Seeds presents a fascinating glimpse into Essex's centuries-long foundation in seed-growing and Kings' pivotal role since 1888.

Then we take a break until our traditional virtual meeting on Zoom in February. We'll be joined by Geoff Hodge who has been Web Editor for RHS Online and Gardening Editor of Garden Answers and Garden News magazines. We'll be picking his brains about combatting pests and diseases.

In March, we'll hear from a former member of Beth Chatto's team, Marc McHearne who was responsible for raising plants on the nursery's stock beds. He has a huge amount of knowledge and



Marc McHearne

will no doubt share some great growing tips as spring starts.

Andrew Babicz follows Marc and shares knowledge and experience gained from over 55 years working in horticulture, including at iconic gardens such as RHS Wisley, Kew and Hampton Court Palace.

Colchester-based photographer Roger Hance will share his techniques for photographing wildlife in the garden – so come along and take the opportunity to show off what you learn in the 2026 autumn show. Using both natural and purpose-built hides, Roger will show us practical ways to attract wildlife and capture it on camera.

For our final talk, we welcome back Maggie Piper, who has researched and regularly visits several of the country's great gardens. She'll tell us about Bridgewater, the RHS's first new garden in over 20 years and how it came about.

Our speaker programme is a great way to learn more about gardening, whether you have beds and border or a few pots and containers. Find out more about all our events on our website.

<https://dedhamgardening.wordpress.com/>

In 1937 Gerald Rendall published a book entitled 'Dedham in History' which had three parts, Feudal Dedham, Industrial Dedham and Puritan Dedham. As it is more than 75 years since the author died, the book is out of copyright, we can now use it for articles in the magazine.

Initially the section on Industrial Dedham has been scanned and the text extracted from the images to form articles, the first one appears this month.

INDUSTRIAL DEDHAM - WOOL AND WEAVING INDUSTRY. REBUILDING OF CHURCH.

The 14th Century sees the birth of industrial activities at Dedham; during the 15th and 16th momentum increases; but already in 1642 we find Dedham and Langham clothiers combining with those of Suffolk in petitioning his gracious Majesty to come to the rescue and relief of imminent disaster. They appeal as depressed areas " *The cries for food of many thousands of poore, who depend on this trade, do continuously press us, not without threats and some beginnings of mutinies; so that, if some speedy reliefs doe not intervene, we can expect no lesse than confusion*". Decline was precipitated into decay by the Civil Wars, and the siege of Colchester in 1648; and disastrous ravages of the Plague dealt the knock-out blow. Throughout this long stretch details of family history and enterprise abound; but we must be content with a bird's eye view of wool and weaving developments before and during these three centuries of local history.

The English wool-trade dates its rise from the Norman invasion. The Conqueror's marriage with Matilda of Flanders quickened trade intercourse with the continental centres-pre-eminently Ghent, Bruges and Ypres which had already gained the lead in the

manufacture of woven fabrics. Their prime need was raw material; and the Queen's followers were quick to perceive the advantages which England possessed in climate, pastures and breeds of sheep, for the production of wool. Access to the Eastern Counties was direct and easy; and the marshlands and river-flats of Essex were among the first to realise and close with their new opportunities. Norman Lords and Monasteries perceived a new source of profit in sheep-farming, and did much for the extension of grazing and improvement of stock. At Dedham, as one illustration, the number of sheep doubled between 1066 and 1086.

But in the earlier stages activity centred in the export trade in wool. Manufacture was in a different case. Flemish merchants clung jealously to the monopolies which their skill and enterprise commanded in the markets of Europe. Craft-guilds of fullers and weavers, modelled to some extent on the civic guilds of Flanders and Brabant make their appearance before 1150, but apart from home-spuns could not compete with the finer fabrics of foreign looms. Not till a century later do we hear of English cloths finding a market in Venice, or in Spain. Nor was it enough for Simon de Montfort and the great Council of Barons in 1258 to forbid all export of English wool; the self-denying embargo defeated its own ends, and produced decline instead of progress in native manufacture.

Both Henry III and Edward II made vain attempts to lure foreign artisans into England, and the 14th Century was well advanced before the protective enactments (1336 A.D.) of Edward III, coupled with his earlier marriage with Philippa of Hainault and his encouragement of foreign workmen, created new industrial activities; and transformed the export trade in wool

into a home market and manufacture, which next to agriculture rapidly stepped into a foremost place in the national economy.

The Eastern Counties reaped the harvest of the new departure. Next to London itself, Harwich, Ipswich, and to a less degree Yarmouth, were the ports of intercourse with the Low Countries. The first recorded immigrants were refugees from Bruges, who landed at Harwich in 1304. Their footsteps may be traced to East Bergholt, and thanks to them Kersey and Worstead became household words. But on the larger scale, Norwich, Ipswich, and Colchester became the leading centres of weaving industries, through which the stimulus extended to the whole countryside, e.g. to Hadleigh and Lavenham in Suffolk, and in Essex to Dedham, Langham, Halstead and the hinterland of Coggeshall and Braintree.

Thus in the 15th and 16th centuries, Dedham was converted from an agricultural village into a thriving industrial community and reached its high-water mark of population and prosperity. It moved always in the orbit of Colchester, and shared the fruits of the enlightened policy, which won for that town the primacy in textile enterprise.

The Flemish 'strangers' secured a foothold as "honest godly civil and well-ordered people"; from 1550 onwards the Duke of Alva's iron tyrannies brought new accessions of strength; by 1573, the Dutch community at Colchester outnumbered 500, and later rose to more than 1500. Incorporated as a 'congregation,' they were entrusted with the direction and oversight of the weaving trade; and the Dutch Bay-Hall became the administrative centre for 'search' and 'sealing' tests of all goods that bore the Colchester trade-mark. The supervision of standards, sizings, quality and prices was strict and exacting, and it

was the business of the aulnagers, local and central, to maintain high marketable prestige.

Under Flemish guidance, Colchester specialised in Bays and Says, the finer fabrics of 'new-draperies,' in contrast with the coarser wares of English 'cloth.' Consequently this was the type favoured at Dedham; and the so-called 'Flemish Houses' have retained the appellation of 'Bay and Say Mill.'

There is little or no trace of Flemish immigrants in Dedham. Vocational names such as Webbe and Sherman, are questionable evidence, but favour English nationality; and the descriptive names of customary tenants, and still more the 13th century conversion of the Mill to fulling, give clear proofs of home development, prior to any incursion of Flemish or Huguenot settlers: while, with the exception of Angier, no clothier families at Dedham show name-links of connexion with the Dutch roll at Colchester. And to the argument from names may be added the patriotic attachment to the national church, which becomes so conspicuous a feature of local history.

To be continued

Glossary of weaving terms.

Fuller - was traditionally responsible for a process called fulling. Fulling is the process of: Cleansing the woven cloth to remove natural oils, dirt, and impurities (especially lanolin from sheep's wool). Thickening and felting the fibres to make the cloth stronger, denser, and more compact.

Aulnager - An aulnager was an English official whose primary role was to inspect wool and woollen cloth to ensure it met specific standards of quality and size. Upon verification, they would affix a seal to the cloth as a mark of its compliance.



Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service

Press Release

As someone who has worked helping the communities for many years, I know just how powerful local knowledge can be when it comes to keeping people safe. You know your community. You notice when something feels off. That's why I'm reaching out to parish councils and community members to ask for your help.

At Essex County Fire and Rescue Service, we're encouraging everyone, especially those working or volunteering in the community, to keep an eye out for residents who might be struggling. A rundown or neglected property isn't always just a sign of disrepair; it can be a sign that someone inside is at risk and may need support.

Here are a few things to look out for:

- Homes with poor maintenance—overgrown gardens, broken windows, smoke-stained curtains
- Signs of hoarding—such as cluttered windows or blocked access points
- Elderly or disabled residents living alone
- People who smoke at home

These small signs can be clues that someone is vulnerable or isolated, and that's where we can step in. A simple referral for a free Home Safety Visit can make a world of difference. During these visits, our team can fit smoke alarms, offer fire safety advice, help with escape plans, and even link residents up with other services who can offer additional support.

Referring someone is easy, you can do it through our Online Home Fire Safety Check at www.essex-fire.gov.uk/

online, or speak to the person yourself and encourage them to get in touch if you feel it's appropriate.

As my colleague Andrea MacAlister, our Head of Prevention, puts it:

"The fire service carries a trusted brand. People open their doors to us, they listen, and they value our advice. That trust gives us a rare opportunity to reach those who may be isolated or overlooked by other services. A simple Home Safety Visit could save their life."

Thank you for everything you do in your communities. Please keep looking out for one another, and don't hesitate to reach out to us if you think someone could use a little extra support.

Claire Monk, Live Safe Manager, Essex County Fire and Rescue Service

NATIONAL EMERGENCY ALERT TEST.

Mobile phones in the UK will be sent a test Emergency Alert at **around 3:00pm on Sunday 7th September 2025**, as part of plans to strengthen the country's preparedness.

The Emergency Alerts system is used to warn if there is a danger to life nearby, including extreme weather. It allows vital information and advice to be sent to people rapidly in an emergency.

During the test, mobile phones will vibrate and make a loud siren sound for roughly ten seconds, even if they are set to silent. A message will also appear on phone screens, making it clear the alert is only a test.

There are approximately 87 million mobile phones in the UK.

The test will be the second of its kind and follows a government commitment to test the system regularly to make sure it works optimally and familiarise the public with the alerts.



CONSTABLE COUNTRY PILGRIMAGE OF SONG

Saturday 13th September.

A walk of around six miles through the heart of Constable Country, taking in Stratford St Mary, East Bergholt, Dedham, Flatford and Lawford. We sing a short service at each church along the way, and end with a hot meal.

Our route links four "St Mary's" churches. Starting at Stratford St Mary we walk to East Bergholt, then to Dedham. From there we follow the beautiful River Stour, passing Flatford Mill, and ending at Lawford Church.

TO BOOK A PLACE



ROMAN RIVER FESTIVAL LOCAL EVENTS



Quartet for the End of Time

Saturday 20 September, 8pm
St Mary's Church, Dedham

Festival regulars Sijie Chen and Sacha Rattle lead this performance of Messiaen's revolutionary statement of faith and art – inspired by the declaration in the Book of Revelation that "there shall be time no longer..."



Armonico Consort: Rachmaninov's Vespers

Sunday 21 September, 7pm
St Mary's Church, Ardeleigh

The acclaimed Armonico Consort perform Rachmaninov's radiant 1915 Vespers in the Medieval and Victorian-Gothic surrounds of St Mary's, Ardeleigh. William Butterfield's lavish gold interior offers the perfect backdrop for this unaccompanied pinnacle of Russian sacred music.



Stour Choral Society
News
Autumn Term

Rehearsals will begin on Monday 15th September 2025, 7.15pm, at the Oak Room, Acorn Village, for our Concert on Saturday 29th November 2.30pm at Mistley Parish Church. The programme will consist of 'Feel the Spirit' by John Rutter, 'Fantasia on Christmas Carols' by Ralph Vaughan Williams, and a mixture of seasonal music and carols. We are a friendly choir and welcome new members!

If you would like to sing with us, or try out one of our practices, do get in touch by e-mailing:

info@stourchoralsociety.co.uk or send a message via our Facebook page, or just turn up at Acorn Village at 7.15pm on 15th September. If you would like to know more about SCS, why not take a look at our website:

www.stourchoralsociety.co.uk where you will find information about the choir's history, past concerts, reviews and much more.

Please add the concert date to your diaries and look out for more advertising and ticket information nearer the time.

Stour Valley Arts & Music
Sunday 5th October 4pm
at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt, CO7 6TG

Fibonacci Quartet
Programme
Haydn, String Quartet op 33 no 4 Bb major
Janacek, String Quartet no 2 'Intimate Letters'
Beethoven, String Quartet op 131

The Fibonacci Quartet is one of Europe's leading young string quartets and has already made a name for itself in the UK and abroad as prolific competition winners.

The quartet is a Resident Ensemble at the Escuela Superior de Musica Reina Sofia in Madrid with Günter Pichler, and at the Dutch String Quartet Academy with Marc Danel. It frequently performs in association with ProQuartet in Paris.

The Fibonacci Quartet are First-Prize Winners of the XIII 'Premio Paolo Borciani' International String Quartet Competition 2024.

Generously supported by the Countess of Munster Musical Trust

Sunday 26th October 4pm at St Mary's Church, East Bergholt, CO7 6TG

Heron Brass Quintet

Programme

Lutoslawski, Mini Overture

Richard Bissill, Dlvvertimento

Anton Bruckner, Christus Factus Est

CV Stanford, Bluebird

Formed in 2021, Heron Brass is a London-based brass ensemble who first began playing together as students at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

They come from a range of musical and international backgrounds, from Catalonia to Watford, and enjoy performing an equally wide range of brass ensemble music.

Tickets: £18 – children 17 and under free with paying adults. Season tickets are available at £54 per person.

<https://www.svam.org.uk/>



THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Trustees invite applications from residents in the Parishes of Ardleigh, Bradfield, Dedham, Great Bromley and Stratford St. Mary for financial grants that are available in the following categories:

Secondary Schools & Sixth Form Colleges

Applicants must be **at least 12 years old on the 1st August** in the year of application.

Universities & Colleges of Further Education

Applicants must have lived in one, or more, of the five Parishes for at least 2 years prior to the application date.

For an application form, or further details, please contact the Clerk to the Foundation, Mrs. Claire Arculus, at dedhamefclerk@gmail.com or 07752201441.

Closing date for applications:- **31st October 2025.**

helpline

Helpline: Live Independently in the Countryside - With Confidence

If you live alone or care for an elderly parent, you'll know how important it is to feel safe and supported at home - especially in rural areas where help isn't always close by.

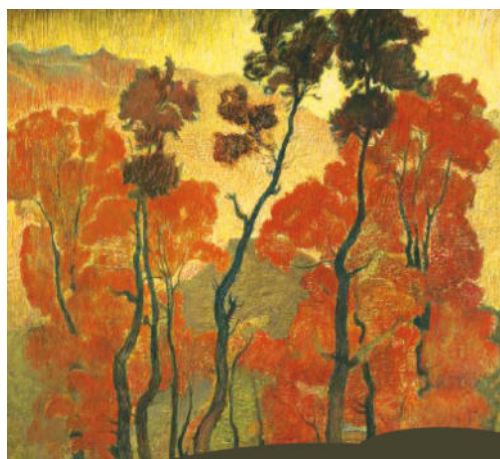
Helpline, a service operated by Amphora, part of Colchester City Council, offers round-the-clock monitoring and reassurance for older or vulnerable people across North Essex, now also incorporating Tendring's Careline service.

A discreet pendant alarm means help is available at the press of a button, day or night. Pressing it connects you instantly to our friendly local team, trained to respond quickly and calmly.

But Helpline is more than just a call centre - we also provide an in-person emergency response. If someone has fallen or needs support, our experienced local responders can attend directly, often faster than an ambulance.

Helpline has been trusted by families for over 25 years. We help people to stay independent at home - and offer real peace of mind to relatives and carers who can't always be nearby.

To find out more, call us or visit: 01206 769779 or visit www.helpline247.co.uk



Colchester Chamber Choir
Director Roderick Earle

THE LONG DAY CLOSES
heavenly music for an autumn evening

Sunday 12 October 6pm
St Mary's Church, Dedham CO7 6DE

Supported by the Friends of Dedham Church
in aid of the Windows Restoration and Repair Fund

Tickets £15 from colchesterchamberchoir.org : 01206 820813/531360

Following their highly acclaimed concert in July 2023, Colchester Chamber Choir makes a welcome return to Dedham Parish Church at 6pm on the 12th October.

The long day closes will surround you in heavenly music from the sacred works of Tallis and Byrd to the lush romanticism of Sullivan, Coleridge-Taylor and Elgar - just perfect for an autumn evening.

The concert is supported by the Friends of Dedham Church, in aid of the Windows Restoration and Repair Fund. Tickets are £15 (interval refreshments available) from colchesterchamberchoir.org or at the door.

ROMAN RIVER 25TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL



19TH – 28TH SEPTEMBER 2025

Exceptional performances in beautiful venues across Essex

with Armonico Consort • Engegård Quartet • Tom Poster • Elena Urioste • Orlando Jopling • Laura Van Der Heijden • Jamie Catto • Alissa Firsova • Martin James Bartlett • Daniel Rowland • David Cohen • Sacha Rattle AND MANY MORE

VENUES St Andrew's, Fingringhoe • St Mary's, Wivenhoe • St Peter Ad Vincula, Coggeshall • Old Garrison Gymnasium, The Arts Centre and CODA – Colchester • St John's, Mount Bures • Jaywick Martello Tower • St Osyth Priory Chapel • St Mary The Virgin, Ardleigh • St Mary's, Dedham • All Saints, Fordham • St Lawrence, Rowhedge



romanrivermusic.co.uk

Wild Arts is the trading name of Roman River Music, Charity No. 11518366



MESSAIEN'S QUARTET FOR THE END OF TIME

Saturday 20th September 2025
8:00pm - 9:00pm. St Mary's Church, Dedham, CO7 6HJ

PROGRAMME

Oliver Messaien The Quartet for the End of Time.

Duration: approx. 1 hour

Doors open from 7.30 for an 8pm start. Please allow ample time for parking.

Sijie Chen | violin
Sacha Rattle | clarinet
Sam Haywood | piano
Bartholomew LaFollette | cello

Tickets £20 – £40 (£15 for under 30s)



THE PENGUIN LESSONS (12A) directed by Peter Cattaneo 2025

**Wednesday, October 15th 2025,
7:30 PM - 10:00 PM**

This poignant dramedy follows an Englishman's personal and political awakening after he adopts a penguin during a cataclysmic period in Argentine history. Based on the true story of a disillusioned Englishman who goes to work in a school in a divided Argentina in 1976 who finds his life transformed when he rescues an orphaned penguin from the beach. Starring Steve Coogan and Jonathan Pryce.

Tickets £5 will be available online on our website or in person at St Helena Hospice shop in Dedham High Street or on the door or our Box Office on 0333 666 4466

<https://www.dedhamfilms.co.uk/>



PLEASE NOTE: There won't be a film for September but we are showing the details for October so you can book early.

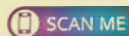


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We have over 40 interest groups including walking (from strollers to 5+ milers), theatre trips, garden visits, art appreciation, curry club, international dining, science group, languages, keep fit, pickleball, overseas travel there's something for everyone. If we don't have a group you are interested in, you are welcome to start one up. Membership costs only £15 a year.

Monthly coffee mornings are held on the first Friday of the month 10am – 12pm at the Lambe School, Gaston Street, East Bergholt. Come along, meet some members, hear more about us and decide whether you'd like to join.

Monthly lectures are held on the second Wednesday at 2.15pm in the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt, CO7 6TP. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4.

On 10th September Bryan Thurlow will talk on "Murder at the Red Barn."

Please take a look at our website for more information and contact details.

www.u3asites.org.uk/stourvalley

Dedham Horticultural Society

www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com

Autumn Show

6 September 2025, 2 - 4pm

Assembly Rooms, Dedham

Visitors welcome - £1 entry for non-members
Raffle, plant sale and light refreshments

MEET UP MONDAYS @ THE SUN INN, DEDHAM



DO YOU FEEL LIKE THE WEEKEND HAS DRAGGED?
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14 SEPTEMBER 2025

BBQ - BOUNCY CASTLE - RAFFLE - REFRESHMENTS - MUSIC

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www.DedhamRun.co.uk



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at THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, DEDHAM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15
8:00 AM – 11:30 AM

Join us for a delicious start to your weekend!



- Full English Breakfast
- Toast & Preserves
- Tea, Coffee & Juice

ALL WELCOME – NO BOOKING REQUIRED!
Pay on the door by donation.



Dedham Primary School

Christmas Market

Saturday 29 November 2025
12.30-4.30pm





Fun Dog Show

Saturday 27th September 2025 10:30am – 3:30pm

At Lawford Church, CO11 2JX

Registration from 10:30am - Judging will begin at 11am

How to enter: Pop along to the church from 10:30am on Saturday 27th September to register your dog in any of the classes. Classes start at 11am.



- Cutest Puppy (6 – 12 months)
- Golden Oldie (7 years+)
- Best Pedigree
- Best Cross Breed
- Most Handsome Boy

- * Prettiest Girl
- * Best Rescue
- * Poodles & Doodles
- * Waggiest Tail
- * Fancy Dress

Overall Best in Show – Free entry to 1st place winners in all classes

Entry costs £2 per dog per class entered and all funds raised will go to the Church Restoration Fund. Charity Number: 1133132



Rosettes will be awarded to the best 6 in each class with a trophy for the overall "Best in Show"

Plus – Have a go activity, Doggy stalls, Woofdown café, Doggy raffle, and games.

For more information Text or WhatsApp: 07922791247



Race Night



In aid of Cancer Research UK

FRIDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2025

Nayland Village Hall

Doors open at 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start

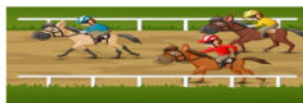
Tickets £18 to include a Hog Roast Platter

Cash Bar Tote Raffle

Prizes for all winning owners

Book now by contacting Robert Chapman on 07974414919

or email sallyannechapman@btinternet.com





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Saturday 4 October

Back by popular demand is the Hospital Hero Hike! The picturesque route takes you on a 21-mile cross-country walk from Colchester Hospital to Ipswich Hospital. Walk side-by-side with other Hospital Heroes.

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talks on




The Unknown Warrior

at the Assembly Rooms Dedham

Wednesday 19th November 2025

7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start

£20 per ticket - inclusive of seasonal canapes and fully licensed bar

Donation being made to the RBL

For tickets please contact
Richard Clarke on 07832 359289
richardclarke@aol.com

SEPTEMBER 2025

- Monday 1st - 12.30pm, Monday Lunch Club, Essex Rose Tea Room.
- Monday 1st - 6.30pm, Dedham Parish Council Meeting - Duchy Barn.
- Saturday 6th - 2 - 4pm, Dedham Horticultural Society Autumn Show.
- Sunday 7th - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Rise N Shine.
5.00pm, Dedham Church - Evensong.
- Sunday 7th - 3pm, Emergency Alert test on Mobile Phones.
- Sunday 14th - 11am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- Sunday 14th - Dedham Run.
- Saturday 20th - 8pm, Dedham Church - Roman River Festival Concert
- Sunday 21st - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Morning Praise.
5.00pm, Dedham Church - Revive@5
- Thursday 25th - 2-4 pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms - Dedham Art Society.
- Sunday 28th - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday

- Meet up Mondays - The Sun Inn, 11am to 12pm.
- Social Table Tennis - Dedham Sports Club, 10:30am to 12:30pm.
- Watercolour Painting Group, Duchy Barn, 10am to 12pm.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 13:30 to 15:30.

Tuesday

- Coffee morning - The Duchy Barn, 10:30 to 12pm.
- Morning Prayer - Dedham Church, 10.30pm.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 09:00 to 11:00.
- Dedham Baby and Toddler Group Dedham Sports Club, 10am to 12pm

Wednesday

- Bridge in Dedham - Assembly Rooms, 1.30-5.00pm.

Thursday

- Coffee morning - The Duchy Barn, 10:30 to 12pm.

Friday

- Dedham Youth Club - The Duchy Barn, 7.30pm to 9.15pm.

And to end with a smile:

The oldest computer was owned by Adam and Eve. It was an Apple with very limited memory. Just 1 byte and everything crashed.



Member Editor 2025
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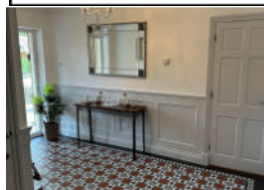
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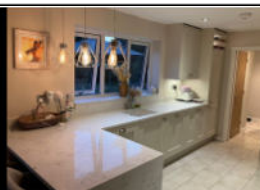


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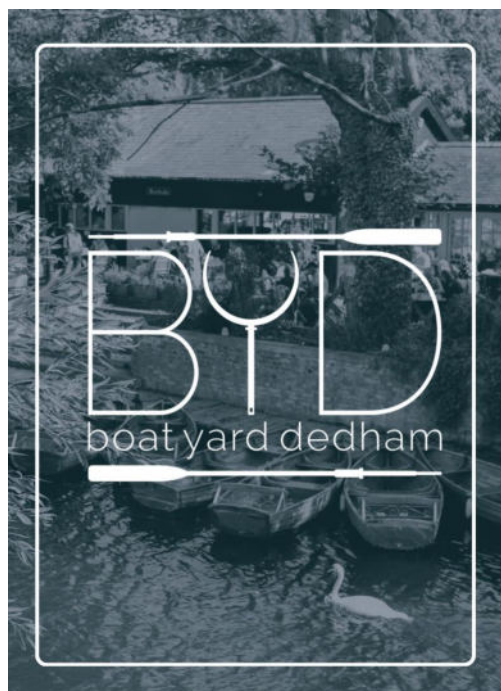
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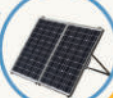
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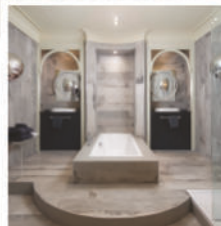
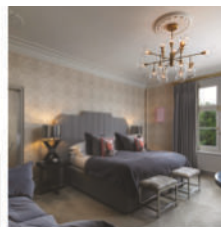
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