

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

World War I

'The village held a WWI Remembrance event in the Assembly Rooms on the evening of 11th November which was funded by Dedham Parish Council. It was very well attended. Many thanks to those who attended the event. Nigel Lambert researched the Readings. Lynn Barnard at the Old Bakery Cafe provided the refreshments which were prepared and served by Christine Frost and her team. David Druiitt and his team set up the hall for the performance.

The performance was both moving and uplifting. There were some sad and moving readings written by those involved in the War and read by David Druiitt, Ann Shaw and Colin Biggins. There were also some light-hearted moments and an insight into the mundane and everyday life of soldiers and civilians. All of the names of those men of Dedham who paid the ultimate price and are commemorated on our War Memorial were read out.

Highlights included David Druiitt's reading of his great uncle's letter home to his mother and a letter written by Helen Thomas reflecting on her husband's return from the War.

The singing of the Dedham Primary School Choir was a joy. They performed three songs about war and peace. Everyone joined in the singalong which was a great success for the first public outing for the Coopers Choristers. Colin Biggins' solo rendition of the Roses of Picardy was much appreciated and a good few people had a tear in their eye.

A collection for Help for Heroes, Fishing for Heroes and the Poppy Appeal was well supported.

The Parish Council would like to thank the following businesses for their support of this event: Old Bakery Cafe; The East of England Co-op; Dedham Pharmacy and Peter King of Kingsleigh Residential.

Also, we are interested to record any details of survivors who returned to live or work in the village. Did your local relative serve in any capacity during World War I? Please contact the Parish Clerk if you have any information.

Christine Frost

Mobile phone signal

In a previous article we asked for volunteers to assist in gathering data on the strength of mobile signal in the village. Nobody came forward, so instead I will try to outline the best way in which you can maximize the available signal for your

Mobile network operators (MNOs) are required by Ofcom to provide coverage across the UK to a certain standard. All the MNOs have met that standard. However, importantly, this does not mean that every MNO has to cover every property: indeed it is extremely likely that you will get a stronger signal from one specific MNO. There are four in England, Vodafone, O2, EE & Three.

You pay your bills to a Service Provider which may or may not be an MNO, it is important that you understand who your Service Provider uses for its network in order that you can optimise the signal that you get.

The terms 2G, 3G and 4G all refer to generations of technical network upgrades. The most recent upgrades have been aimed at increasing data speeds and volume, not voice. Dedham has acceptable 4G coverage and it will be some while before we see 5G, which has just started trials in London.

Technically, 4G will penetrate through walls much better than previous generations and whilst there has been excellent progress with data, it also now supports 4G voice, resulting in better indoor voice coverage as well as data.

Key to you being able to use 4G is that you have a modern phone capable of handling 4G. Without it you will revert to previous generations which have much poorer coverage. Furthermore you must check that your service payment plan covers 4G voice and that your 4G phone will operate on your chosen network, not every 4G phone operates on every network.

Your first step is to go to Ofcom: <https://checker.ofcom.org.uk/mobile-coverage> You can then check against your location for individual MNOs, with/without 4G, voice or data, and indoors/outdoors. You will then be able to determine your best MNO. You can then check if your existing Service Provider is the best one for you to use. I suggest that you use the map view to display the coverage and whilst the maps show straight line coverage boundaries, these will be blurred. It's then down to you having the right phone for 4G and the right payment plan for 4G voice.

I have a 3G iPhone working on Three. Whilst coverage is not brilliant, I get by, accepting that it's my choice not to upgrade the phone. The legacy 2G & 3G networks will not now see any increase in coverage.

Kevin Taylor

Next meeting is on Monday 3 December at 7.30pm, Venue to be confirmed.

www.dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk

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