



DEDHAM

Parish Magazine

May 2017

Dedham
Flower
Ladies
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VIEWPOINT

Laughter is the medicine of heaven



We, like many of her people, were involved in child care during the recent Easter holiday when we looked after our youngest granddaughter. We had a lot of fun and a great many laughs, not least from her selection of joke tricks, including me discovering a spider in an ice cube floating in my glass of water and the well-known nail through the finger! She thought it very funny, as we did, and her laughter was infectious. I've no doubt you've had similar experiences.

Laughter is good for you. Research shows it releases endorphins, the body's natural feel-good chemicals, and amongst other things, laughter can help relieve stress and so helps your mental health. Laughter can boost the immune system, helping with blood circulation and therefore it is good for your heart. It can also be good for strengthening relationships. But the research is only affirming what we read in the Bible where in Proverbs 17 verse 22 it says: "A cheerful heart is

good medicine". Perhaps a more literal translation might be: laughter is like medicine. Some ask: did Jesus have a sense of humour and of course the answer is yes, for didn't he speak about "a camel going through the eye of a needle", which is a pretty comical idea. Even the thought would make you smile. Indeed, I imagine Jesus often smiling.

Humour is a God given-gift and I hope, like me, you feel better for a good laugh. If you keep reading you'll find a joke at the end. But our laughter or humour must never be at the expense of someone else or be demeaning, which if you've ever been on the receiving end, can be hurtful.

So let's be thankful for those who make us laugh and to God for the gift of laughter, and as promised, here is a joke: A man walked into church and approached the minister. "I need help. I think I'm addicted to Twitter." The minister looked at him and said gently, "I'm so sorry, I don't follow you". So what can you do to brighten up someone's day and get them laughing? It's good medicine with great side effects.

Canon Merv McKinney

REGULAR SERVICES

Changes to Services at Dedham Church

You will probably know that Dedham and Ardleigh are now working together as a joint Benefice. To make the pattern of services work now that we are sharing one full time minister the PCCs have agreed to make some changes to the current pattern. Dedham and Ardleigh will be sharing the morning services which will alternate between the churches from week to week. There will be an 8 o'clock service in the benefice each week, and the 10.30am services will move to 11.00am. Please see the table below which gives you the monthly pattern. This will start in May and for a trial period of 6 months initially. If you have any queries please contact the parish office (*page 4*).

St Mary's Church Dedham		St Mary's Church Ardleigh	
1st Sunday in the month			
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	11.00am	Morning Worship (CW)
5.00pm	Evensong (BCP)		
2nd Sunday in the month			
9.30am	<i>New informal service (from late summer)</i>	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
11.00am	Holy Communion (CW)		
3rd Sunday in the month			
8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	11.00am	Parish Eucharist
4th Sunday in the month			
11.00am	Matins (BCP)	8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)
5.00pm	ReVive@5		
5th Sunday in the month			
11.00am	Joint Service - for location see church noticeboard or online www.dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk		

BCP= Book of Common Prayer CW= Common Worship

Other Regular church events

Sundays at 9.45am	Prayer at Dedham Church
Tuesdays at 10.30am	Morning Prayer at Dedham Church
Fourth Tuesday 10 - 12 noon	Friendship Group at Ardleigh Church
Thursdays 5pm	Evening Prayer at Ardleigh Church
Fridays at 6.30/7pm (<i>Term time</i>)	Junior & Adult Choir Practice, Dedham Church
Fridays at 9.15am (<i>Term time</i>)	Bible Study, Littlebury House, Dedham, CO7 6ES

SPECIAL SERVICES

Join the global wave of prayer

Here in Dedham and Ardleigh
we are going to be joining in with
millions of Christians across
the world to pray for our communities

Here are some events that will be happening:

Saturday 21 May

Dedham Church 9.30am

Rogation weekend prayer

walk around the parishes
*This follows the ancient
tradition of 'beating the
bounds' praying for
protection and blessing
on the land.*



25 May - 2 June

Prayer for all... come to

Dedham Church during
normal opening hours and
find an interactive prayer
station in the south aisle.

Saturday 3 June

A whole day of prayer

at Ardleigh Church finishing
with a torch lit night time walk
from Ardleigh to Dedham at 9pm.

Sign up for a half an hour slot to pray.

Thursday 25 May

Dedham Church 7am

Ascension Day service

Sunday 4 June Ardleigh Church 11am **Pentecost Celebration** service

This festival celebrates the birthday of the church

Check out www.thykingdomcome.global

MUSIC FOR A SUMMER'S EVENING

Saturday 15 July

Dedham Vicarage garden



ReVive@5 Sunday 28 May

Contemporary informal worship for all ages

St Mary's Church Dedham

Refreshments from 4.30pm



Enjoy music from a local
Blues Band and the **Dedham Song Birds**

in the beautiful setting of the Vicarage Garden

Tickets on the gate £5 per adult, free for children

Bring your own food, drink and a picnic rug or seats

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

MINISTERS

Antony Wilson	Priest in Charge	☎01206* 323 919
Merv McKinney	Assistant Minister	
Carol Mitson	Assistant Minister	

CHURCH OFFICERS

Suzanne Woods	Churchwarden	01255 870 640
Richard Hopkins	Churchwarden	322 361
Be Burleigh	Assistant Churchwarden	323 205
Gabbie Watson	Verger	322 425

MUSIC

Antony Watson	Director of Music	322 425
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FLOWER ARRANGERS

Helen Sims	Co-ordinator	321 286
Wendy Sarton	Weddings	323 027

PARISH OFFICE

Claire Arculus	Parish Secretary	322 136
Assembly Rooms High Street Dedham CO7 6HJ		
Tuesday 9am-11am Thursday 11am-1pm		
www.dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk		

SUPPORT FOR YOU from Dedham Church

Psalm 34:18: The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Sometimes things in life can just get too much to cope with on our own...

If you would like some support or know of someone else who would like support please contact
Ann Shaw ☎322 192

If you have been bereaved or know of anyone in the parish who has and would like some support please contact
Vee Druit ☎322 000 or
Ruth Higginson ☎322 598

If you would like a lift to church please contact
Ann Shaw ☎322 192 or
Ruth Higginson ☎322 598

If you have an urgent query please contact Reverend Antony Wilson ☎323 919

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

FROM THE REGISTERS

Funeral

John MACARTHUR — 24 March 2017 (aged 82)

Interment of Ashes

Lucy Catherine Barbara DEWAR — 13 April 2017 (aged 43)



TOWER FLAG DAY



Thursday 25 May — Ascension Day

The “flower girl” of Dedham Church



Flowers have always been an integral part of the church's ceremonies and rites of passage. Helen Sims, who became head of Dedham Church's flower arrangement team 15 months ago, brings psychological insights as well as the florist's art to this task.

After working as a primary school teacher she returned to the University of Surrey to do a master's degree in environmental psychology. There she devised a brutal experiment to discover whether office plants really do reduce stress levels. Her victims had to solve difficult problems while intrusive music blared out. Those in rooms decked with plants did significantly better than the others.

How is this relevant to the church? “Flowers show that a church is thriving and cared for,” she says. “There is also a spiritual connection. For me it is a form of worship - seeing flowers as examples of creation and beauty.”

The group's widely famed displays also have direct symbolism, for example the Easter flower display, which will last for several weeks, has a dominant white theme based on Arum lilies. For

Remembrance Sunday, the tableau included fallen poppies in a wheat field against a black background and photographs of some of Dedham's war dead.

Even so, Helen gives the 22 volunteers in her team a free hand to “express their own creativity”. An arranger may take one to two hours to prepare a “pedestal” display and Helen will only step in if asked. The volunteers are all women, aged from 35 upwards, “but men would be welcome”, Helen adds.

It is a formidable operation. The



volunteers work in five groups, some specialising, for example on altar displays, while Helen marshals forces of 10 to

15 for the main festivals. Weddings are co-ordinated by Wendy Sarton who is supported by members of the group. The whole group meets three times a year to share ideas.

Flower arrangers can claim expenses from a special church fund towards the cost of each project, but some provide their own flowers. Helen, who runs her own floristry business from her house in Monk's Lane, helps by obtaining flowers at wholesale prices.

Continue on next page ➡

DEDHAM PEOPLE

(Continued) Helen's unlikely journey from teaching and management consultancy to floristry has nevertheless had a certain inevitability. At five she removed flowers from her mother's garden and tried unsuccessfully to sell them. First inspired by her parents' garden, she has always been surrounded by plants and in 2010 she embarked on her floristry training which included a career course with the designer Michael Pooley.

On the terrace above her garden in the valley that falls down to Black Brook, she pointed to two small trees. "My children are Lauren, 13 and Olivia, 9. That's a bay (*Laurus nobilis*) and that's an olive." Now she has found a job that seemed all along to be her destiny: "I am so lucky to have work that I love," she says. "I was always meant to be a flower girl".

Max Wilkinson

IN MEMORIAM

John MacArthur



John, who died on 25 February, aged 82, moved with his wife Anita (who died in November 2014) to Mill House in Dedham, from Kent, in 1984.

The house hosted grown-up children, grandchildren, other family members and friends, especially on New Year's Eve. John commuted to London for almost three decades, where he worked in corporate finance.

They settled very well in Dedham, truly loving the village and its people, and the surrounding areas. They were loyal customers of local businesses and Anita re-established ties from school days in Ipswich. John and Anita

campaigned to keep a GP practice in Dedham and they helped to save Mill Meadow from development. They spent many years using their boats on the river, especially when grandchildren visited. They both loved and worked hard in their garden at Mill House.

John and Anita attended Mass at Ardleigh but they cared about all historic churches and for many years took part in a cycle ride in aid of The Historic Churches Fund.

The family would like to thank all who sent cards and letters, who were friends and neighbours, who cared for or visited them in recent years, who attended their funerals, or if they were customers of yours. You all contributed to their happiness!

Lucy MacArthur

HISTORIC DEDHAM

The Great House Fire

Great House, a late medieval timber-framed building which had been re-fronted with white Suffolk bricks in the mid eighteenth century, burned to the ground in the early hours of 1 December 1936 on the same night as the Crystal Palace fire. The glow in the sky over South London and the flames in the village could both be seen from the top of Shoebridge's Hill.

The fire, which was caused by an electrical fault, claimed no victims. The four occupants, Mr and Mrs J. R. Loe and their two Austrian maids, who were roused by the barking of their pet spaniel, climbed out on to the porch and were rescued by neighbours with ladders. A Dedham shopkeeper, Mr E. C. Ray, up early to meet the 6am mail van, was one of the first to

raise the alarm. By the time the fire brigade was called at 6.15am, the high wind which was fanning the flames had turned the house into an inferno. Two of the fireman had a narrow escape when part of the roof crashed down only moments after they had jumped clear. Jets of water from hydrants were directed on to the blazing mass until the sodden, smouldering wreckage cast a pall of smoke across the village.

Little House to the east, which shared a party wall, was extensively damaged but was not beyond repair. Great House had been completely gutted. The brick façade was still standing after the fire had been put out but it was in such a precarious state that it had to be demolished immediately.



Westgate House and Great House, High Street, 1 Dec 1936

The burnt-out site was bought by Spencer and Elsie Jackson and their son-in-law, the architect Raymond Erith who lived at Dalebrook House and designed the present house in 1937.

Lucy Archer

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DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CROWN STREET PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Residents on the east side of the village responded superbly at very short notice to our further questionnaire about our recent parking proposals. This survey was required by Colchester Borough Council as a condition for moving to the next stage of the process. There was a good response rate, with 88 per cent in favour, enough to secure approval from the borough council, which will undertake the statutory consultation later this year.

In response to concerns about a possible increase in traffic speeds down Castle Hill, we have submitted an application to Essex County Council for a new vehicle-activated sign on the approach to Coopers Lane.

The proposals, intended to reduce congestion in Crown Street, involve parking restrictions: around the bend approaching Coopers Lane, on the

greensward area, around the junctions with Southfields, Forge Street and Parsons Field and into Manningtree Road.

We continue to investigate possible sites for additional parking and if anyone knows of or owns land that might be suitable, please contact me.

PARISH ASSEMBLY, OPEN SESSION

Each year parish councils are required to hold two special meetings. One is **the annual meeting**, when the Chair and other representatives are elected for the next year. The second is **the annual parish assembly**, which is an opportunity for the Chair to present the council's annual report. This year both meetings will be held on **Monday 8 May**.

The annual meeting, at 6pm in the Assembly Rooms, will be followed at 7.45pm by **the assembly**. As well as the annual report, we will have an informal session, with refreshments, to enable village organisations and residents to raise any issues of concern. We will also be updating residents with proposals for a ditch mapping project with Essex County Council. We are seeking volunteers to help with aspects of this project.

Sheila Beeton



☎ **01255 871483** ✉ clerk@dedhamparishcouncil.org.uk

www.dedhamparishcouncil.org.uk

Patient choice: fact or fiction?

The Government says NHS patients have the right to choose hospitals and doctors, but what does that really mean?

Everyone has the right to be registered at a GP practice of their choice. But this right is limited: the government says that a practice may refuse to accept patients if it is full up or if a patient does not live in its catchment area. For residents of Dedham, for example, the real choice is between registering with the Ardleigh or the East Bergholt surgeries. An optional scheme was introduced several years ago for practices to take on patients who did not live in their area. This was aimed at those who, say, lived in Ardleigh, but worked in Chelmsford and wanted to register with a GP near their work. However this proved to be unpopular with practices and less than 5 per cent of practices nationally joined this scheme, mainly due to a lack of clarity about home visiting.

Patients also have the right to express a preference to see a certain doctor within the practice and the practice must try to facilitate this, where possible.

Every patient also has the right to choose a pharmacy to use for obtaining prescription drugs. This sounds straightforward, but it isn't. Official regulations say that GP

surgeries in designated areas may dispense, but only to patients who live more than a mile away from a pharmacy. This means that most people in Dedham must use the pharmacy in the village (or another town) but may not collect from the Ardleigh Surgery's dispensary, even if they are registered there.

Choosing a hospital. Government guidance (29 April 2016) says patients have the legal right (with some limitations) to choose which hospital they are referred to and which consultancy team they would like to see. However, this right is restricted by the contracts that the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has in place. For example, all orthopaedic referrals have to be sent to a triaging service first and cannot be booked outside this; and all suspected cancer referrals have to go to either Ipswich or Colchester hospitals. With some exceptions, patients may also ask for a change of hospital if they are not treated within a specified time.

Wherever possible the practice will try and comply with patients' wishes, but if you are not offered the choice that you think you are entitled to, you may complain to the CCG ☎918 731.

www.neessexccg.nhs.uk

Stephanie Durrant, Practice Manager

Ardleigh ☎230 224 Dedham ☎322 290
www.ardleighsurgery.nhs.uk

WHAT TO DO IN DEDHAM

DUCHY BARN COMMUNITY CENTRE

Coffee Morning

Tuesdays 10.30 - 12 noon

Thursdays 10.30 - 12 noon

Fridays 10 - 12 noon

Just turn up!

The Watercolour Group

Mondays 10.30 - 1.30pm

Anyone is welcome to join the group.

*Contribution £2 per session includes
tutoring and refreshment.*

Bridge in Dedham

Wednesdays 2 - 5pm

Thursdays 7 - 10pm

Duplicate Bridge. No partner needed.

Contact Judith Anderson Fowle

☎322 938

Military Veterans

The last Friday in the month 10.45am

Youth Club

Fridays 7.30 - 9.15pm

Open to young people from the village.

Mark Dempsey ☎07503 009 790



The Duchy Barn is also available
for private hire: £15 per session
for local groups; £40 for parties.

Contact Anne Rowledge ☎322 394

ASSEMBLY ROOMS



Horticultural Society AGM

Wednesday 3 May 7.30pm

County Council Election

Thursday 4 May 7am - 10pm

Antiques Fair

Sunday 7 May All Day

Little Squigglers

Thursdays 10 - 12 noon

Messy Play and Creative Classes for under 5s.

✉sarah@littlesquigglers.co.uk

Dedham Films

Wednesday 17 May 7pm

See page 17 for details.

Art Exhibition

Weekend 20 - 21 May 10am - 4pm

*Tea & Cake being sold in aid of
Essex Air Ambulance.*

*For information and to make a booking
for the Assembly Rooms please
contact Tracy Woods ☎323 921*

✉info@dedham-assemblyrooms.info

SPORTS PAVILION

Parent and Toddler Group

Tuesdays 10.30 - 12 noon (Term time)

Baby Clinic with a Health Visitor

First Tuesday in the month (Term time)

£2.50 per session incl. snack and drink.

Lost idyll of a leisured class

Munnings and *The River*, the current exhibition at Castle House, Dedham, is an exuberant collection of more than 40 of Munnings's dreamy oil and water-colour paintings of rivers.

The first painting that one sees is *The Path to the Orchard*, a sun-filled scene with sky blue reflections shining on the River Waveney. It sets the scene for this celebration of Munnings's love of rivers, especially the Stour.

Alfred Munnings and his wife Violet reputedly bought Castle House (now the Munnings Museum) to be near the Stour, which they regarded as their playground - canoeing, picnicking and riding horses on its banks.

Set against the dark walls of the gallery's new colour scheme, the Stour paintings shine out. The interesting series, *The Pink Parasol*, is enhanced by a well preserved actual parasol on display. The artist's poems, and letters between him and John Masefield, the one-time Poet Laureate, can also be seen.

My favourite paintings are *Stour at Night 1935* and *Floods Near Nayland* which capture the watery qualities of a riverscape. They are more subtle than his slighter paintings, which shy away from the originality of his contemporaries. By famously hating modernism, Munnings narrowed his field of vision and cut himself off from

artistic experiments, which might have made his paintings of picnics and race horses a little more daring. As he was painting *The Path to the Orchard* in 1909 (with its harsh reds of unlikely riverbank flowers) much of the artistic world was abandoning the heavily draped world of the Pre Raphaelites.



But Munnings continued with his careful, sentimental paintings of the idyll of an English leisured class. For example, *Taggs Island*, a greasy painting with its empty bottles of champagne, was exhibited in 1919 (fragment above), when the devastations of the Great War and the flu epidemic were all around him. Still, artists are not obliged to reflect their times. If Munnings was artistically unadventurous, his paintings still have power to charm and, as one of my students said, "evoke a time that has gone". Now in another era, it is a rare treat to be in the artist's fine house looking at paintings of scenes nearby that one can still visit and enjoy. Jenny Hand, the museum's director, encourages visitors to share their own Stour stories – as I did on a postcard. And, in the sunny spirit of Munnings, she wants to know: has anyone been proposed to on the river?

Philippa Black

Skippers ahoy!

The launching of Dedham's electric passenger boats is a welcome sight for the dozen volunteer scrapers, painters and maintenance engineers who have been working on them in a Langham barn through the winter.



Kathleen boat

The two boats, *Trusty II* and *Kathleen*, are part of a small fleet owned and operated by the **River Stour Trust**, a charity established 44 years ago to preserve and improve access to the non-tidal part of the river. Four other craft operate further upstream between Sudbury and Great Henny. The Dedham boats, one at Le Talbooth, above the lock and one below at the Boathouse quay, can each take eight passengers. Jax Horswill organises the rota of 25 volunteer skippers, who include retired professional seamen and engineers. She says the trust is always looking for more volunteers (men and women) to train as skippers or for other tasks which have included designing bridges, maintaining and repairing locks and looking after river banks.

The Dedham boats cruising down to Flatford Mill and up to Stratford St Mary are in great demand during the season from Easter to October. The trip to Flatford takes about 30 minutes at a stately 3½ mph and trips run regularly from 11am to 5pm.

Revenue from the trips (£5 per person one way and £1 for a dog) and from private hire helps the charity meet the cost of maintaining the river and its locks. The trust hopes to finish repairs to the lock at Stratford St Mary by the end of this year. If the Dedham lock could also be repaired, as the trust hopes, the Stour would once again be navigable from the tidal barrier at Cattawade to Langham. In the 18th century, barges took their cargoes all the way up to Sudbury. But now the two Dedham-based boats are separated by the defunct lock at the Mill and there is no nearby landing stage. ✉jax.horswill@gmail.com

Max Wilkinson

HELPING THE LIFEBOAT

A charity evening in aid of the Clacton Lifeboat will be held at Hilltop Nursery, Weeley Heath, CO16 9DN on **Saturday 6 May** from 6.30 to 9.00pm. It includes a hanging basket demonstration, a talk on shrubs with questions and answers, special promotions on plant sales and a tombola. Tickets, £5.00 include a glass of wine, obtainable from RNLI shops and from the nursery. Steve Cole ✉stevencole733@btinternet.com

LITTLEGARTH COTTAGES VACANCY

There is a vacancy at No. 4 Littlegarth Cottages in Dedham. The four Littlegarth Cottages were the gift of Miss Betty Mallett to the community.



The Trustees of the Trust that administers the gift are the Vicar and Churchwardens. All income from the Trust is used to maintain and improve the cottages. The Trust Deed says its objects are *"to house those in need or those who are elderly and in need or to use the Trust assets for the furtherance of religious and other charitable works"*. The accommodation is suitable for a couple or small family.

If you think you may qualify or if you would like further information please contact Clerk to the Trustees Tracy Woods on ☎**323 921**, by email ✉tracy.woods@btinternet.com or contact Parish Office (see page 4). Closing date for applications: **15 May**.

DEDHAM LUNCHEON CLUB

The Dedham Luncheon Club will meet on **Monday 8 May** at 12:30pm at the Essex Rose. Meetings will be back to the first Monday of the month from the meeting on the **5 June**. Visitors to the village are increasing with the warmer weather so booking is advised. Quote *"Monday Lunch Club"* for 15% discount. Essex Rose ☎**323 101**.

Christine Frost

FREE WILLS FOR THE CHARITABLE

St Helena Hospice has arranged for seven north east Essex solicitors to offer a free service during **June** to anyone who wants to make or alter a Will. In exchange for waiving their fee they will ask that a donation should be made to the charity.

The Colchester hospice helps people with incurable illnesses to live well and die with dignity and choice. To do this, it relies on the local community to help raise £5.8 million per year. One in five of its patients is supported by a gift left in a Will. Last year it received some £1.6 million in bequests.

The solicitors taking part in the scheme are: Alistair Keeble ☎**01255 818900**; Birkett Long ☎**204129**; Fisher Jones Greenwood ☎**5788282**; Goody Burrett ☎**577676**; John Fowlers ☎**713900**; Powis and Co ☎**01255233400**; Sparlings ☎**733733** (Colchester) or ☎**392201** (Manningtree).

Bookings for a **June** appointment can be made directly with the solicitors from **mid-May**. For further information on the hospice's Wills Month or on leaving a gift in a Will please call the hospice fundraising office on ☎**931 468**.



www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/makeawill

DEDHAM NEWS

MISSION CAKE SALE

The Mission Team have had a successful year in 2016, supporting a missionary family in South Africa and Beacon House, a Colchester homeless charity. Through the summer cake stalls, bric a brac sales, produce sales and the Christmas Fair we have raised £2,454. We thank all those who supported these events.

The cake stall will be held in the porch of Dedham Church on **Saturday**



13 May from 10am to 12 noon. This month's sale is to raise funds for **Christian Aid Week**. We are always looking for volunteers to bake or to help on the stall. Please contact *Ruth Higginson* ☎**322 598**.

CHARITY WALK

Breast Cancer Now is organising a riverside walk on **Monday 8 May** to raise money for research into breast cancer. It starts at 9.30am from the Boathouse Restaurant in Dedham with 6 milers splitting off near Langham and 12 milers heading off towards Stoke by Nayland. Costs from £10 to £25. *Helen Allen* ☎**391 654** or **078509167**

✉helen.m.allen@icloud.com

www.breastcancernow.org

MIDNIGHT LADIES' WALK

On **Saturday 27 May**, 9.30pm to 2am, St Helena Hospice is organising walks of 3 or 7.5 miles, starting and finishing at Weston Homes Community

Stadium in Colchester, CO4 5UP. This year's midnight walk theme is disco divas and the event is open to ladies age 11 and over. It costs £10 or £15 paid in advance, or £15 or £20 on the night.

Many of the ladies walk in memory of a loved one or because the hospice has supported them personally.

www.sthelenahospice.org.uk

FUNERAL ADVICE

On **Saturday 13 May** from 10am to 2pm representatives from the Hunnaball funeral services company will be in Dedham Church to offer advice, as part of a national awareness week organised by Dying Matters, a charity that aims to promote discussion about death, dying and bereavement. See page K for contact details.

www.dyingmatters.org

OPEN GARDEN

An open garden event is to be held in aid of the Clacton Lifeboat at The Hall, School Road, Tendring. It will be open from 2pm to 5pm on **Sunday** and **Monday 28, 29 May**. As well as magnificent gardens, full of azaleas and rhododendrons, there is a lake and various smaller gardens of interest. There will be country craft stalls, wildlife displays, produce stalls, a classic car display, music and dance displays, a beer tent and refreshments. Adults, £5, children under 12, free. *Steve Cole* ☎**01255 821 759**.

CLUBS & SOCIETIES



CLUB IN FOCUS: Dedham Tennis Club

Dedham Tennis Club's season is now in full swing, with a busy agenda of special events and regular fixtures. The courts, set in the heart of the beautiful village green, are open to players of all abilities and ages who would like to become members.

The club's junior section actively joins with local schools such as Dedham, Lawford, Highfields and Ardleigh to promote the game. There are regular junior coaching sessions at the club on **Wednesday afternoons** and **Saturday mornings**. The club's holiday camps and its junior team are going from strength to strength. For details: ✉toby@dedhamtennis.org.uk.

For adults, there are three social tennis club sessions a week (**Tuesday mornings, Wednesday evenings and Sunday afternoon** - the last with tea and cake). Six Dedham teams are entered in the Colchester and District League, and participation in many other inter-club events is supported. The club arranges regular fun tournaments such as the forthcoming Indian League Format event, the singles challenge ladder and the club championships.

The club also has a great social scene with some regular annual events such as the quiz night, an annual cricket match, a golf day and a ladies open. Among the special events, this summer there will be a Scandi themed Summer Food Festival. The club will also be launching a podcast series later in the year.

Membership starts from £20 per year up to £170 for full family membership. Non-members can book a court for occasional use (£8 per hour) online

www.dedhamtennis.org.uk

✉communications@dedhamtennis.org.uk

Dan Harty

DEDHAM CRICKET CLUB

The club has started its season of 18 to 20 friendly matches, ending in mid September. It includes a two day tour at the end of June to the north Norfolk coast, with excellent fixtures at Holkham Hall and Castle Rising. The club welcomes players of all abilities and ages. Most matches are played at the beautiful ground just behind Dedham Church. They start at 1pm to 2pm with most games being 30 to 40

Continue on next page ➡

CLUBS & SOCIETIES

(Continued) overs per innings and finishing around 6 to 7pm. Games are competitive but the club ensures that all players are given the opportunity to shine and enjoy the matches.

For more information contact: *Neil* ☎0781 3018 403, *John* ☎07860 280 570, *Nick* ☎07828 502 300.

DEDHAM FOOTPATH GROUP

Sunday 7 May Meet at the rear of the car park, Mill Lane, Dedham at 10.30am for a 4 to 5 mile walk. The walk leader is *Geoff D'Arcy* ☎323 489.

Friday 26 May Meet at Dedham War Memorial at 6.30pm for a local ramble before the AGM at the Marlborough Head at 8pm. *Martin and Pauline Broom* ☎322 578.

www.essexinfo.net/dedhamparishcouncil/walks/dedham-footpath-group/

MEN'S PROBUS CLUB

At the recent AGM of the Stour Valley club for retired professional and business men, Graeme Forsyth became president for the year with Brian Rolfe as vice president, Paul Woodgate as secretary and Peter Stanway-Williams as treasurer.

On **Wednesday 3 May** Liz Bruce will talk about The Women's Royal Voluntary Service in World War II.

On **Wednesday 17 May** Chris Parfitt talks on "The Arctic Circle Express".

The club meets at the St John Ambulance Headquarter, Manningtree CO11 1EB and welcomes new members. Contact *Dave Carman* ☎01255 880 202.

STOUR VALLEY U3A

On **Wednesday 10 May** Emma Roodhouse, Art Curator of the Colchester & Ipswich Museum Service will talk about Leonard Squirrel, the prolific East Anglian painter, concentrating on the artworks in the Ipswich Borough Council collection from 1912 to 1978.

Meetings at 2pm at The Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt CO7 6TP. Annual membership £12.

www.stourvalleyu3a.org.uk

Graeme Forsyth

DEDHAM ARTS GROUP

The next painting outdoors meeting will be on **Wednesday 7 June** at 10.30am at Cressing Temple, Braintree, with its famous medieval barley and wheat barns, 16th century granary and walled Tudor pleasure garden with fishpond. Access is free, parking, tearoom and picnic tables.

www.dedhamartsgroup.com

Jill Wilson

THE GOOD NEIGHBOURS CLUB

The club welcomes new members. Please contact *Betty Callaghan* ☎322 116.

WHAT'S ON: FILMS



Wednesday 17 May 2017

La La Land

Directed by Damien Chazelle 2016
(Parental Guidance)



Mia, an aspiring actress, serves lattes to movie stars in between auditions and Sebastian, a jazz musician, scrapes by playing cocktail party gigs in dingy bars, but as success mounts they face decisions that fray the fragile fabric of their love affair, and the dreams they worked to maintain threaten to rip them apart.

Wednesday 21 June 2017

Lion

Directed by Garth Davis 2017
(Parental Guidance)



A five-year-old Indian boy gets lost on the streets of Calcutta, thousands of kilometres from home. He survives many challenges before being adopted by a couple in Australia; 25 years later, he sets out to find his lost family.



Friday 9 June 2017

Take That LIVE!

by satellite
from
O2 ARENA

Start at 8pm doors at 7pm

A live concert performed 'in the round' putting cinema audiences in the best seats in the house!

Tickets £10 online at www.dedhamfilms.co.uk
in person at Shakespeare House Gallery.

Assembly Rooms Dedham

Films admission 7pm Films begin 7.30pm Tickets £4 from
Shakespeare House Gallery or online www.dedhamfilms.co.uk

*Tickets for all films will be available from the date of the previous screening.
Refreshments available before the films & screenings and in the intervals.*

Contact Jax Horswill ☎322 328 or ✉dedhamfilms@gmail.com

WHAT'S ON: THEATRE, MUSIC

THEATRE

Friday 21 Apr to 13 May

Spamalot, Monty Python's show, The Mercury, 7.30pm.

Thursday 4 May

Every Brilliant Thing, Lakeside Theatre Colchester, 7.30pm.

Monday 8 to 13 May

Waiting for God, with Roy Hudd and Nichola McAuliffe, The Wolsey, 7.45pm.

Tuesday 9 to 10 May

Semblance of Madness! by John H. Newmeir, Lakeside, 7.45pm.

Wednesday 10 to 13 May

Yes, Prime Minister by Anthony Jay & Jonathan Lynn, Headgate Theatre Colchester, 7.45pm.



Sunday 14 to 27 May

Miss Julie by **August Strindberg**, Colchester Theatre Group, 7.30pm, Headgate Theatre.

Thursday 18 to 20 May

The Last Five Years, Eastern Edge Theatre, Headgate, 7.45pm.

Hysteria by Terry Johnson, Freud and Salvador Dali collide in London, The Mercury, 7.30pm.

Friday 19 to 20 May

Lord of the Flies, from William Golding's novel, Make It Creative Learning & Talent, The Mercury, 7.30pm.

Tuesday 23 to 27 May

Our Man In Havana, from Graham Greene's novel, The Wolsey, 7.45pm.

Wednesday 24 to 27 May

One Good Turn, by the local writer Geoff Jacobs, Deben Players, 7.30pm, at Seckford Theatre.

Antony & Cleopatra by **Shakespeare**, RSC - LL, at Lakeside Theatre and at Odeon Colchester, 6.45pm.

Thursday 25 May

Letters To Windsor House, Shlt Theatre, Lakeside, 7.30pm.

Monday 29 May to 3 June

The Crucible by **Arthur Miller**, The Mercury, 7.30pm.

Tuesday 30 to 31 May

Face down in a land of freedom, truth and storytelling; in life, the media, and theatre, Lakeside, 7.45pm.

MUSIC

Saturday 6 May

Braintree Male Voice Choir, 7.30pm, at Coggeshall Church.

Lexden Choral Society, 7.30pm, at St Botolph's.

Essex Sinfonia and University of

WHAT'S ON: MUSIC, OPERA/MUSICAL, BALLET

Essex Choir, 7pm, at Snape.

Wolsey Orchestra, 7.30pm at Ipswich Corn Exchange

Artesian Quartet, Woodbridge Chamber Concerts, 7.30pm, at St Mary's.

Sunday 14 May

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

Handel & Bach with Emma Bishton (soprano), Lavenham Sinfonia, 7pm, at Lavenham Church.

Fitzroy Quartet, Studio Music Brightlingsea, 3pm.

Saturday 20 May

Colchester Symphony Orchestra strings, 7.30pm, at St Botolph's.

The Alke Quartet Woodbridge Chamber Concerts, 7.30pm, at St Mary's.

Saturday 27 May

Songs of the Isles, Ipswich Chamber Choir, 3pm, at St Andrew's Church, Rushmere.

Monday 29 May

Easter Oratorio by J S Bach, Suffolk Villages Festival, 6pm, at Hadleigh Church.

OPERA / MUSICAL



Lakme Opera

Sunday 7 May

Lakme By Léo Delibes, Swansea City opera, 7pm, at New Wolsey.

Tuesday 9 to 13 May

Guys and Dolls, Bury St Edmunds Amateur Operatic & Dramatic Society, 7.30pm at Theatre Royal Bury.

Saturday 13 May

Der Rosenkavalier by Richard Strauss, The MET - LL, 5.55pm, at Firstsite.

FESTIVALS

Bury Festival 19 to 28 May:
more than 50 events including films, drama and all kinds of music
www.buryfestival.co.uk

Frinton Festival 26 to 29 May:
from chamber music by Mozart and Dvorak to pop and jazz
www.frintonfestival.com

Aldeburgh Festival 9 to 25 June:
celebrates 50th anniversary with Britten's A Midsummer Night's Dream and Billy Budd
www.snapemaltings.co.uk

BALLET

Saturday 27 May

The Light Princess Ballet Cymru, Theatre Royal Bury, 7.30pm.

LL = live link by satellite

Many more events in my
FREE monthly *Guide* email.

SUBSCRIBE online
on **www.eamaa.org**

Max Wilkinson

NOTICEBOARD

DEDHAM CHURCH TOWER TOUR *Superb views across Dedham Vale!*

Tours of the 16th century tower can be booked 5 - 10 working days in advance (aged 8-16, must be accompanied); £12 for groups of 2 to 10 people. Tours last about 45 minutes. **☎01206 322 136** ✉info@dedhamchurchtower tours.co.uk

More details online: **www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk/towertours**



PARISH MAGAZINE EDITORS

We welcome contributions and suggestions. Please tell us about:

- What you think of the magazine
- Events in and around the parish
- Your views on local issues
- News and stories about people of Dedham - happy or sad
- Drawings, paintings or photographs for the front cover (now in colour!)



Please send your contributions and comments by email to

✉ **dedhameditor@gmail.com**

or by post to the Parish office (see page 2).

We look forward to hearing from you!

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