

## CLUBS & SOCIETIES

*Paw Slingo writes*

### HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5 March at 7.30 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms when the speaker will be Matthew Tanton Brown from the Place for Plants, East Bergholt. He will be talking about *Plants for Problem Places*. Come and join us. All are welcome.

*Daphne Langton writes*

### LADIES' FELLOWSHIP

At the first meeting of the year the Vicar gave a very interesting talk about some of the treasures of the church Muniment Room. On Wednesday 27 February, at 2.30 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms, we expect Natalie King, our Police Community Support Officer, to tell us about her first year of duty in Dedham. There will be a Bring & Buy.

*Geraldine Watson writes*

### ENGLISH-SPEAKING UNION

There will be an illustrated talk given by Irina Nikitina on the *Hermitage Museum of St. Petersburg*. The ESU Colchester Branch will be the hosts, at the 'mSchool' of the Colchester County High School for Girls, 7.30 p.m. on **Thursday 13 March**. Tickets are £6 for adults and £3 for students, which includes a drink and nibbles. For tickets contact Paul Sharpe ☎ 576 973 (or me on 322 130).

### DEDHAM VALE AONB

The Stour Valley Volunteers will be meeting on Saturday 26 March, from 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m., to remove hybrid poplar trees on the meadows around Flatford. This will improve the views, as well as providing mulching for a hedge planted last year. If you would like to help ☎ 01473 264 263. [www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org](http://www.dedhamvalestourvalley.org)

*Ian Rose writes*

### U3A

Our lectures, which are held in the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt at 2.15 p.m. will be:

12 Mar: *My Experience as a Parish Priest* by the Rev'd David Searle

9 Apr: *The European Space Programme* by D.C. Dale, former Technical Director of it.

Enquiries ☎ 392 870

*Friends of Dedham Church*

### Words & Music

Gould House, High Street, Dedham

Readings by **Patricia Eddington**

Music by **John Sinclair** *Guitarist*

Entrance: £10 inc. wine & canapés

**7.30 p.m. Friday 7 March**

Limited space - Book early

**John Sharman** ☎ 322 225

## DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

[www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk](http://www.dedham-parishchurch.org.uk)

e-mail: [office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk)

### MINISTERS (01206)

|   |                             |           |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Gerard Moate                              | <i>Vicar &amp; Lecturer</i> | ☎ 322 136 |
| The Vicarage, High Street, Dedham CO7 6DE |                             |           |
| Stuart Wilson                             | <i>Reader Emeritus</i>      | 392 572   |
| Chris Slocombe                            | <i>Hospital Visitor</i>     | 321 023   |

### CHURCH OFFICERS

|                 |                                |               |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Neil McShane    | <i>Churchwarden</i>            | 323 188       |
| Stuart Wilson   | <i>Churchwarden</i>            | 392 572       |
| Richard Hopkins | <i>Deputy Churchwarden</i>     | 322 361       |
| Sarah Oakley    | <i>Deputy Churchwarden</i>     | 322 034       |
| Antony Watson   | <i>Deputy Churchwarden</i>     | 853 139       |
| Mike Fisher     | <i>Financial Administrator</i> | 01394 388 237 |
| Liz Nickerson   | <i>PCC Secretary</i>           | 272 204       |
| George Beeken   | <i>Verger</i>                  | 865 264       |

### MUSIC

|               |                          |         |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------|
| Antony Watson | <i>Director of Music</i> | 853 139 |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------|

### CHURCH GROUPS

|                             |                                  |         |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------|
| Richard & Elizabeth Hopkins | <i>Junior Church</i>             | 322 361 |
| Vivien Chapman              | <i>Dedham Ladies' Fellowship</i> | 308 549 |

### FLOWER ARRANGERS

|               |                     |         |
|---------------|---------------------|---------|
| Sally Gotelee | <i>Co-ordinator</i> | 322 652 |
| Barbara Ward  | <i>Weddings</i>     | 337 242 |

### DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

|               |                                    |         |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| Parish Office | <i>Editorial &amp; Advertising</i> | 322 136 |
|---------------|------------------------------------|---------|

### PARISH OFFICE at the Vicarage 322 136

**2.30 p.m. - 5.00 p.m. Monday - Thursday**

*Parish Secretary Betty Cox, Joan Edwards*

### DEDHAM C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL [www.dedham.essex.sch.uk](http://www.dedham.essex.sch.uk)

|                       |                    |         |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Mr Christopher Bailey | <i>Chairman</i>    | 230 404 |
| Mrs Heather Tetchner  | <i>Headteacher</i> | 322 242 |

### ASSEMBLY ROOMS [www.dedham-assemblyrooms.info](http://www.dedham-assemblyrooms.info)

|                  |                              |               |
|------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| Mrs Tracy Woods  | <i>Clerk to the Trustees</i> | 323 921       |
| Mr Andrew Hodson | <i>Caretaker</i>             | 07968 445 572 |

### DUCHY BARN

|                      |                  |         |
|----------------------|------------------|---------|
| Mrs Caroline Merriam | <i>Secretary</i> | 323 333 |
| Mrs Gay Burfield     | <i>Bookings</i>  | 322 261 |

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## DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

# March 2008

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**8.30 a.m.**

Holy Communion *BCP*  
Every Sunday (not August)

**10.30 a.m.**

Family Service  
1st Sunday in month

Morning Worship *cw*  
2nd & 5th Sundays

Holy Communion *cw*  
3rd Sunday in month

Morning Prayer *BCP*  
4th Sundays

**6.30 p.m.**

Evening Prayer *BCP*

## JUNIOR CHURCH

10.15 a.m.

Family Service in Church

1st Sunday in month

In the Assembly Rooms  
on all other Sundays  
during school terms

**DEADLINE FOR  
NEXT EDITION :  
12 March**

**FUZZLE ANSWER**

Neon (Knee-on) Lights.



Details of the usual pattern of services can be found on Page 1.  
Special, additional, or changes to services are given below:

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

### PALM SUNDAY 16 MARCH

- 8.30 a.m. *Holy Communion* BCP
- 10.30 a.m. *Family Service & Distribution of Palms*
- 6.30 p.m. *Choral Evensong* BCP

### MAUNDY THURSDAY 20 MARCH

8 p.m. *Holy Communion 1552*

### GOOD FRIDAY 21 MARCH

12 noon - 3 p.m. **Vigil**



'THE EIGHT WORDS OF JESUS'  
IN THE PASSION  
ACCORDING TO ST. JOHN

### EASTER DAY 23 MARCH

- 6.00 a.m. *Tower-top Sunrise Service*  
followed by breakfast at the Vicarage

N.B. Please tell the Parish Office if you expect to attend the Sunrise Service

- 8.30 a.m. *Holy Communion* BCP
- 10.30 a.m. *Parish Communion* CW
- 6.30 p.m. *Holy Communion* CW

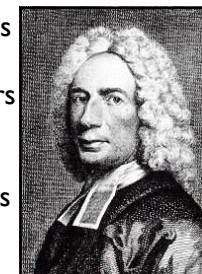
### SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER 27 MARCH

- 8.30 a.m. NO SERVICE
- 10.30 a.m. *Morning Prayer* BCP
- 6.30 p.m. NO SERVICE

*When I survey the wondrous Cross  
on which the Prince of Glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Hymns Old & New No. 549*

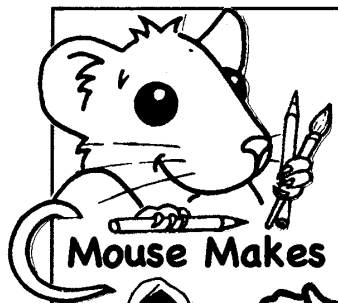
Isaac Watts (1674-1748), the eldest of eight children, was the son of a Southampton school-master who himself enjoyed writing poetry. He lived in the days of persecution of Dissenters (Christians who would not conform to Anglicanism). Watts' father was imprisoned twice and for more than two years he hid from his persecutors in London. Taught by his father, Watts began learning Latin at the age of four, and by 14 had a good knowledge of Hebrew, Greek and French. Because of his promise of outstanding academic ability a doctor offered to pay for him to go to Oxford or Cambridge but, because the universities required Anglican assent, Watts went instead to study with Thomas Rowe.



*Isaac Watts*

When he was 15 years old Watts found the strict and stilted versions of Psalms (the only form of singing permitted in Congregational churches at the time) less than interesting. He said to his father, "*The singing of God's praise is the part of worship nearest heaven, and its performance among us is the worst on earth.*" His father responded, "*Young man, give us something better!*" Isaac Watts accepted the challenge; in his lifetime he wrote over 600 hymns, earning him the title "the father of English hymnody". Watts character developed so that he became known for his humility, generosity, learning, godliness, and gentleness of heart. He carried on a lively correspondence with people in New England. John and Charles Wesley and George Whitfield visited him. When a friend criticised Whitfield to Watts (for his use of unconventional forms of worship), Watts replied "My opinion is that Whitfield does more good by his wild notes than we do by our set music." Watts was buried in Bunhill Fields, London. A memorial tablet to him was later placed in Westminster Abbey.

"*When I survey the wondrous Cross*" has long been acknowledged as one of the finest hymns ever written, and was judged so by poets Matthew Arnold and Robert Bridges. Since 1833 the tune *Rockingham* has generally been used for this hymn in Britain (whereas the tune *Hamburg* is used in North America). It was published in 1790 by Edward Miller, although its actual composer is not known.



**Mouse Makes**

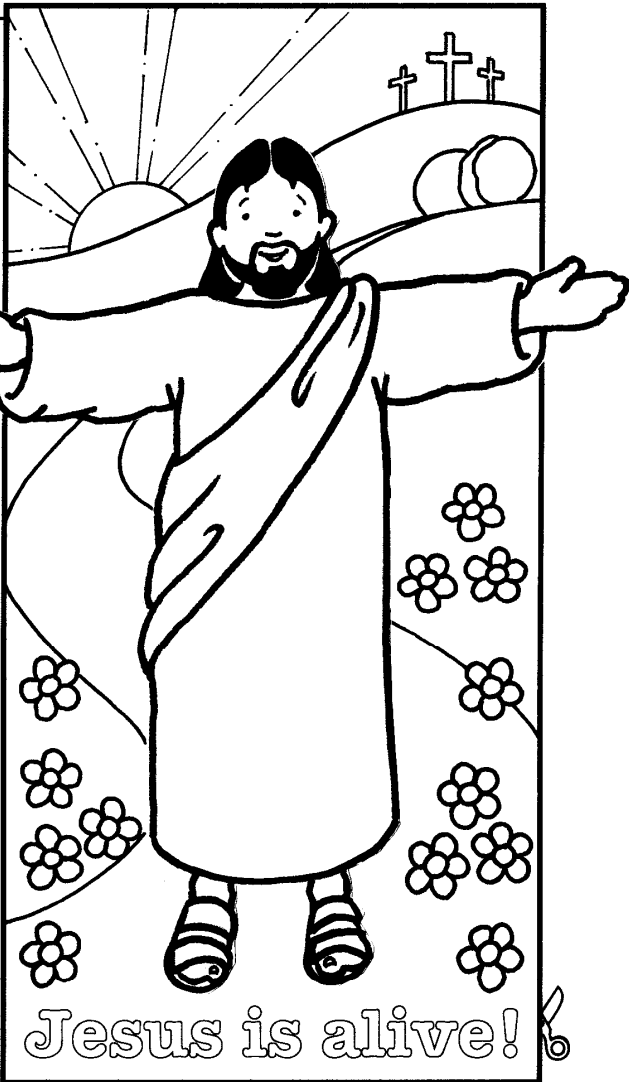
Mary talked to Jesus by the empty tomb.  
Read: John 20:10-18

Cleopas walked with Jesus on the Emmaus road.  
Read: Luke:24:13-35

Thomas saw Jesus and touched his wounds.  
Read: John 20:24-29

Peter ate with Jesus by the Sea of Galilee.  
Read: John 21:1-14

Thank you Jesus for being my Saviour and my friend.  
**Amen**



**Jesus is alive!**



Colour this picture then carefully cut out. Glue onto card to make an Easter greetings card or a window hanging.



Mar08



**KNOWLEDGE AND WISDOM**

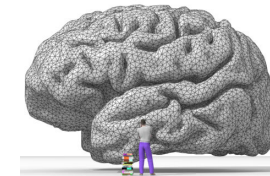
I have always been a magpie for information. When I was a child I enjoyed the challenge of remembering large amounts of trivial detail and then taking opportunities (often highly inappropriate ones) for showing off my recently-acquired knowledge, with a result which was to be expected; I gained a reputation for being a “know-all”, with the implication that I was, in important matters, a “know-nothing”.

It was some time before I realised that knowledge, for its own sake, is not the same as intelligence, and still less is it wisdom. The extensive accumulation of information can make one like the out-of-control collectors, who just don’t know when enough is enough. It is so sad to see people for whom a hobby or interest has so taken hold of their lives that it has displaced their relationships and slipped into becoming mania, with no clear or reasonable boundaries.

What begins as a time away from everyday concerns, develops for a few sad souls into their only interest and then into the all-consuming concern of their lives. Enthusiasm is good, and knowledge is good, but the misuse of them is certainly possible. There is, observed one writer who had realised this possibility, “a very thin line between a hobby and madness”.

With this in mind, you may well think it ‘unwise’ that I have, in the past month, chosen to embark on a period of sustained research on a topic which I already know will be of interest to very few. So let me offer a word or two of explanation in my defence.

It is not in order to increase the amount of knowledge that I begin this period of study, since I’m quite sure I have already reached the age when I am forgetting things at a faster rate than I am learning them! Nor is it to try to impress anyone with the width of my learning, since the very nature of research is to concentrate on a small area of knowledge; what I’ve heard called “knowing more and more about less and less”.



Instead, I am doing it because I think the exercise of learning is good for the mind and also one’s whole well-being. I truly believe that an important aim of education is “to develop a life-long love of learning”. That is why I commended this phrase to our Primary School, and it has since become their motto.

The late Miles Kington suggested a very good way to tell the difference between knowledge and wisdom. “Knowledge”, he said, “is knowing that a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing that you don’t put it in a fruit salad”.

**Gerard Moate**  
Vicar & Lecturer

## CHURCH NOTICEBOARD



### TOWER FLAG DAYS THIS MONTH



- Monday 10 March *Commonwealth Day* ✓
- ✓ Sunday 16 March *Palm Sunday*
- ✓ Friday 21 March *Good Friday*
- ✓ Sunday 23 March *Easter Day*

## CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED

*Christianity Explored* is an 8-week course which is intended for anyone interested in finding out about Christianity. Using DVDs, booklets and discussion, the course will work through Mark's Gospel and begin to explain who Jesus Christ is and what he has done. You don't need to know anything about the Bible to attend; and you won't be asked to read aloud, pray or sing! You can ask any question you like or, if you prefer, you can just come along and listen. This course will provide a good foundation for those who wished to be Confirmed in the Church of England, if you want to be, but there will be no pressure to do so.

The next *Christianity Explored* course begins on **Wednesday 2 April**. The sessions will take place in the Vicarage on successive Wednesday evenings, **8 - 9.30 p.m.** For more information, contact the Parish Office ☎ **322 136** or email: [vicar@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk](mailto:vicar@dedham-parishchurch.org.uk)

### *From the Registers*

#### FUNERAL

29 January 2008 Ivy May WHITEHEAD (97)



## QUITE INTERESTING

### So, what is Easter?

Easter is the day of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. According to the Bible account, Easter is linked to the Passover. Passover celebrates the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt and lasts for seven days, from the middle of the Hebrew month of *Nisan*, which begins in late March or early April. Sir Isaac Newton was one of the first to use the Hebrew lunar calendar to come up with firm dates for the first Good Friday: he concluded either Friday 7 April 30 AD or Friday 3 April, 33 AD, with Easter Day falling two days later.

### How is the date of Easter decided?

Most people will tell you that Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the Spring Equinox, which is broadly true. But the precise calculations are unbelievably complicated and involve something called an 'ecclesiastical full moon', which is not the same as the moon in the sky. The earliest possible date for Easter in the West is 22 March, which last fell in 1818 and won't fall again until 2285. The latest is 25 April, which last happened in 1943 and is next due in 2038.

### Why the name, 'Easter'?

In almost every European language, the festival's name comes from *Pesach*, the Hebrew word for Passover. The Germanic word 'Easter', however, seems to come from *Eostre*, a Saxon fertility goddess mentioned by the Venerable Bede.

### Why Easter eggs?

They are an ancient symbol of birth in most European cultures and hens start laying regularly again each Spring. Since eggs were forbidden during Lent, it's easy to see how decorating and eating them became a practical way to celebrate Easter.



## FUZZLE

Part of a series of font word-puzzles or Fuzzles. Which phrase is conveyed by this?

KNEE  
LIGHT  
LIGHT

Answer at the bottom of page 16

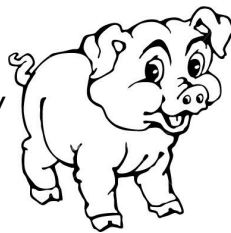


Barry Stewart writes

Coming to Dedham as a 'Towney' it seemed a little strange at first but after three years I am appreciating country life and people. I have decided to join the farming community. To this end I have written to the Secretary of State for help and advice. Here is a copy of my letter:

Dear Secretary of State,

My farming friend recently received a cheque for £3,000 from the Rural Payments Agency for *not* rearing pigs. I would now like to join the 'not rearing pigs' business. In your opinion, what is the best kind of farm not to rear pigs on, and which is the best breed of pigs not to rear? I want to be sure I approach this endeavour in keeping with government policies, as directed by the E.U. under the Common Agricultural Policy. I would prefer not to rear bacon pigs, but if this is not the type you want not to be reared, I will just as gladly not rear porkers. Are there any advantages in not rearing rare breeds such as Saddlebacks or Gloucester Old Spots, or are there too many people already not rearing these? As I see it, the hardest part of this programme will be keeping an accurate record of how many pigs I have not reared. Are there any Government or Local Authority courses on this? My friend is very satisfied with this business. He has been rearing pigs for



forty years or so, and the best he ever made on them was £1,422 in 1968. That is until this year, when he received a cheque for not rearing any. If I get 3,000 for not rearing 50 pigs, will I get £6,000 for not rearing 100?

I plan to operate on a small scale at first, holding myself down to about 4,000 pigs not raised, which will mean about £240,000 for the first year. As I become more expert in not rearing pigs, I plan to be more ambitious, perhaps increasing to, say, 40,000 pigs not reared in my second year, for which I might expect about £2.4 million from your Department.

Incidentally, I wonder if I would be eligible to receive tradeable carbon credits for all these pigs not producing harmful and polluting methane gases? I understand that you also pay farmers for not growing crops. Will I qualify for payments for not growing cereals to not feed the pigs I don't rear? Please could you also include the current DeFRA advice on 'set-aside fields? Can this be done on an e-commerce basis with virtual fields (of which I already have several thousand hectares)? In view of the above you will realise that I will be unemployed, and will therefore qualify for unemployment benefits. I shall of course be voting for your party at the next General Election

Your obedient servant, etc.

Betty Cox writes

## VILLAGE QUIZ

The seventh annual Dedham Village Quiz, organised this year by the Dedham & District Horticultural Society, was held on Saturday 9 February, with 20 teams competing, all representing local organisations and groups. Quizmaster David Druitt, ably assisted by Vee Druitt and Beth Mitchell, made all teams think hard and ensured that the competition was keen and fair. Our grateful thanks to them.

The winners were the *Dedham Parish Council* team, closely challenged by the WEA, with the Village Statement



(Dissolved) Group taking third place. As highest-placed team not having organised the event previously and despite being 'dissolved', the Village Statement Group

have the honour of next year's quiz organisation.

The raffle, prizes being donated by local businesses, raised £293, and the full proceeds of £942 will be divided equally between the Horticultural Society's chosen charities: *The Acorn Village*, *Mistley* and *Hearing Dogs for the Deaf*.

Next year's competition is planned for **Saturday 7 February 2009** – so get revising!

John Mitson writes

## SILENT VIGIL

Five years ago, in February 2003, a small group of us began meeting in Church between 9.30-10.00 a.m. on each Saturday morning, to pray for a peaceful solution to the threatened invasion of Iraq. Some of us were part of the million or more who marched in London on 15 February that year to protest against that invasion.

Now, five years on, each Saturday morning this Vigil is still held when in total silence we as individuals contemplate our concerns and prayers. It is a time of silence and serenity among the busyness of everyday life. Anyone is welcome to join us. If you would like to know more, do get in touch ☎ 323116.

## VICARAGE 'OPEN HOUSE'

*You are invited to the Open House at the Vicarage*

**10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Saturday 8 March**

Home-bake / Books / Plants

We would welcome donations of home-made baked goods and preserves.

*In aid of local and overseas missions.*

Anne-Marie ☎ 323 139

Margarita ☎ 322 136



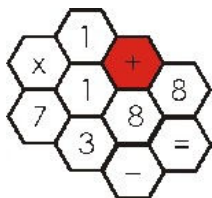
## CHALK TALK

Christine Henderson writes

### PUZZLES @ PRIMARY SCHOOL

Lots of exciting things have continued to happen since our fun Arts Festival, culminating in a very successful Challenge Week.

The week started with a visit from Alan Lee, the Ipswich Footballer, who inspired us all to take part in sport and to always try to do our best. There were puzzles and challenges to stretch the mind both in subject based activities and through games from the puzzle box, ending with a whole school maths trail on a beautiful Spring morning.



The *Bible Explorer* sessions which had been so enjoyed were celebrated by the children, in a special assembly, when they acted stories from the Old Testament including using 77 hand signs. All part of a being a successful school.

Sarah Curtis writes

### SMARTYS

The children at *Smartys* have had a busy and fun-packed first half term. The arts and crafts area has been as popular as ever, with the making of many great creations! The Chinese New Year has been a recent topic, and some of the children have taken home Chinese lanterns that they made and decorated. During the colder weeks, the children have had great fun with tents set up inside, pretending to be on camping adventures! Since we said goodbye to our older children, (who left before Christmas to start primary school), we have seen the younger ones growing in confidence and building some strong friendships. We have also welcomed a few new children who have started the pre-school, and have enjoyed visits on a regular basis from those who wish to start soon. The children have recently been enjoying some bright, sunny days in our outside play area, and we are already starting to think about summer events and activities.

### MARLBOROUGH MIX-UP

Last month we reported the drama at the *Marlborough Head* public house. In the report we wrongly said that "Jenny and Sarah" were landlords. This is wrong and could lead to a misunderstanding. In fact the sole landlord is Jenny Pearmain, who grew up in Ardleigh. She took over the lease from a female couple, (one of whom had the same first name), in November 2006. Since that time Jenny has worked hard to improve the local reputation of the establishment, through offering a traditional atmosphere and a wide range of fresh home-cooked food. We apologise for the mix-up.

## NOTICEBOARD

### London Marathon 2008

In April Dedham sisters **Joanne and Eleanor West** will be running in support of *Action for M.E.*, the charity that exists to improve the lives of those with Myalgic Encephalopathy and Chronic Fatigue Syndrome, and to support research into the condition.

Eleanor is just one of residents of the Dedham area to have suffered through this disease – she is lucky to have come through it and to be able to consider running at all!

Your help will make a difference.

Please join their sponsors. Pledges and support can be given to:

[www.justgiving.com/jowest](http://www.justgiving.com/jowest) or [www.justgiving/elwest](http://www.justgiving/elwest)

or posted to: Jo and Eleanor West, Grove Hill House, Dedham, CO7 6DX



## Friends of Dedham Church

### Golf Day

Hintlesham Golf Club  
Tuesday 13 May 2008



For an entry form contact  
Beth Mitchell ☎ 322 072

Sally Gotelee writes

**LILIES FOR EASTER**



Easter will be soon upon us; if you would like to give a lily or lilies in memory of someone, please order them from me, ☎ 322 652. The flowers will cost £2 each.

The final date for ordering will be Monday 17 March.

**'EASTER FLOWERS' MEETING**

The next meeting of church flower arrangers will be on Tuesday 11 March at 10.30 a.m., at Whalleys, Dedham Road, Stratford St. Mary. *Please let me know if you will be attending. We look forward to seeing as many people as possible.*

**ANNUAL GIFT OF SERVICE?**

If you enjoy flowers and appreciate them around your home, then you will know how important it is that our parish church is adorned throughout most of the year (Lent and Advent are exceptions) with fresh flowers which have been carefully arranged.

We would welcome new volunteers to the Altar Rota, that is the list of those willing to provide and arrange the flowers near the Communion Table in church. It need only be once a year; and help and advice can be given.

Jean Flewin writes

**GIFT OF POETRY**

Just before Christmas last year Parish Councillors received a copy of an epic poem, as a gift from a Canadian who had visited Dedham Vale in 2007. Thomas Kelly, a resident of Gatineau, Quebec, was obviously inspired by his visit, for his poem runs to 96 lines. Parish Cllr. Christopher Garnett wrote to say 'thank you' to Mr Kelly, and recalled his own visit to Canada some time before.

Entitled *The Invisible Visible Bench*, and dedicated 'for the people', it tells of an "invisible bench with your name on it", and reflects on John Constable's talent in capturing an "*almighty chiaroscuro of Nature*", and of his not being so much appreciated by the English as he was by the French.

It ends with a soliloquy, addressed to those who follow after him, to reflect on the boundaries of place and time which are found in this beautiful place:



*Now visitors savour what's gone and what is / times of different ages, frontiers and cultures, / from the retreat of the ice and herds / to your bench, his genius, and their prayers.*

Parish Councillor John Osborn writes

**QUIZ SUCCESS**

The Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr. Mrs Valerie Guglielmi, in her opening remarks, congratulated the team from the Parish Council on their hard-fought success in the Village Quiz the previous weekend.

**PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

The four-year term of elected office for the present nine Parish Councillors will end with the Parish and Borough elections to be held on **Thursday 1 May 2008**. A new Council will follow and local people are urged to seriously consider putting their names forward for election. Being involved in local issues and contributing towards improvements in the local community can often be a personally rewarding experience. Any adult resident or working in the Parish of Dedham is eligible to stand for office.

Meetings of the full council are held on the second Wednesday of every month although it is customary not to meet in August or December. Forms should be available from the Parish Clerk, Mrs Jean Flewin, from early March, for submission before April 4. Members of the present council, details of whom are on the Parish notice boards, will be pleased to share their experiences with those showing interest.

**ALLOTMENTS IN DEDHAM**

An area of land close to the village centre has been offered as a possible site for local people to use for allotments. Precise details are yet to be released but it is hoped that there is enough local interest to allow this positive initiative to be developed. Residents wishing for more information or keen to register an interest are asked to contact Cllr. Simon Marrison ☎ 322 594.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Parish Council will next meet on Wednesday 12 March at 7.00 p.m. in the Assembly Rooms.



"Easter coming so soon after Christmas has almost turned Anthony into a regular churchgoer."



### Ten Years Ago **March 1998**

The Vicar announced, in his letter, that the first phase (as far as the Ringing Chamber) of the restoration of the Tower steps was about to begin; Freda and Malcolm Langton were recruiting people to take part in *Walk Kent*, a Christian pilgrimage and mission opportunity; Richard and Sue van de Ruit, in Uganda, and Andrew and Caroline Maclean, in Tanzania, had written to acknowledge the generosity of the parish church in supporting them and their work.

### Fifty Years Ago **March 1958**

“An exhibition of Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman remains discovered by Mr Felix Erith, with an explanatory talk by him, will be presented...” Preparations for the Passion Play were progressing, of which there would be nine performances in Holy Week - “the costume is medieval and there is a cast of more than 50 people all, with one exception, from this village”; the Rev. and Mrs C. Woods, of the Croft, Dedham, had presented a prayer desk to the church, “in memory of Nigel Julian” their son; In response to a question about whether the Church of England was State-aided (asked by Tom Driberg M.P. in the House of Commons) the answer had been a definite “No” - a point the Vicar wished to make clear to the parish.

### A Century Ago **March 1908**

It would seem that some challenges go with being Vicar here, and always have done: *The Vicar wishes it to be clearly understood that it is not permissible to place artificial flowers in glass shades on graves in the churchyard...if any are placed on graves they will be removed*; The purple Chalice Veil and Burse, which had been embroidered by Miss Given-Wilson and Miss Lang, were given by “two ladies, members of the Congregation”. It was hoped that “The white set may be ready for Easter”; Mr & Miss Hewitt once again “gave a treat to the children of the Sunday School” but were themselves, through illness, unable to attend. Instead, Sir Matthew Gossett distributed prizes.

### Dedham Floods 1939



**DONATION & CORRECTION** Last month's item and photograph of floods in Stratford Road caused several people to get in touch with the Editor. Among them was local architect Roger Barrell, who was able to provide the *Muniment Room Society* with another photograph (see above), which is clearly of the same incident, but dated 1939, and not 1937, as is written on the back of Mr Ray's photograph. This also shows another man, thought to be Jack Howe, who was late killed in action in Crete during World War II. Also, Mrs Coates, of Dedham Road, Ardleigh, telephoned to make a correction: “E.C. Ray”, (or “Shaver” Ray as he was known to many) whose archive had been donated, was the son of “Major Ray” (the “Major” being his name, not a title), and not the other way round. The Editor is grateful for the donation and the correction.

### WANTED

Dedham memories, especially photographs, particularly if they are or can be dated, and any people in them can be identified.

If you have photographs or other memorabilia that would not be wanted by your family, please approach the *Muniment Room Society* before permanently disposing of anything. ☎ 01206 322 136