

Dedham Parish Magazine

November 2026



REMBRANCE SUNDAY - NOVEMBER 8TH

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

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Assistant Minister — Merv McKinney Tel: 322 136

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DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

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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.

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.

ACE
Member Editor 2026
Association for Church Editors

The deadline for the December 2026/January 2027 Magazine entries.

10th November 2026.

Contents/Editorial

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IN YOUR MAGAZINE

We would like to welcome Amelia Morris to the team. Amelia will be looking after the Advertising, a role that Sara Marshall carried out for many years. Also I would like to thank Sara for the work she did sorting out advertising issues over the Summer.

As the new website of the Parish Council doesn't include much of the Dedham specific information that has been built up over the years, I have created a website which includes the Dedham village items. Please check it out on e-voice.org.uk/dedham and let me know what you think.

John Goldsbrough

Scan here for e-voice.org.uk/dedham

Sunday, 1st November
8am Holy Communion (BCP) Ardleigh
9.30am Cafe Church Ardleigh
3pm Remembering loved ones Ardleigh
9.30am Rise n Shine Dedham*
5pm Evensong Dedham*

Sunday, 8th November
10.50am Remembrance Service Ardleigh
10.50am Remembrance Service Dedham*

Sunday, 15th November
9.30am Holy Communion Ardleigh
9.30am Morning Praise Dedham*
5pm Revive@5 Dedham*

Sunday, 22nd November
9.30am Morning Praise Ardleigh
9.30am Holy Communion Dedham*

Sunday, 29th November
4.15pm Light up Advent Service Ardleigh

* = Services which may be live streamed.
Morning Prayer - Every Tuesday 10.30am at Dedham Church

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

Ardleigh Craft Group: every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month: Meeting at **Ardleigh Church** from 10am to 12pm. 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.**

Men's Breakfast - Saturday 7th Nopvember - Breakfast, Bacon, Buns and Bible.

***Monday Lunch Club – Monday 2nd November 12.30pm*, Essex Tea Rooms**. Phone 322192 to reserve a place.

***Walk and Talk - Thursday 12th November 10am or 11am,* Dedham Church and The Marlborough**. 10am for a walk, or at 11am for just a chat. Phone 0771 244 6198 for more details.

FROM THE REGISTERS - OCTOBER

Baptism - Harriet Hitchcock

Confirmation - Cheryl Clark, Mark Clarke, Emily Haynes, Harry Haynes, Jack Haynes, Aashia John, Alice Marshall and Sophie Smith

Interment - Maureen Evelyn Burrell

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

Dear friends,

Well, here we are in November already, and the days are shorter, wetter and darker. In less than a month our diaries will be filling up with work Christmas parties, Carols, Crib Services and, of course, Christmas itself, with family, friends and all the festivities that come with it! Meanwhile, our screens bring us an endless stream of news, opinions and advertisements and the wider world can seem endlessly troubled.

But amidst the busyness, amidst the trouble, life needn't overwhelm us. The quieter pace of village life still affords moments of peace and calm: a neighbour stopping for a word during their morning walk, a light appearing in a window as dusk falls and the familiar sight of people meeting for coffee, lunch or an evening pint on the high street.

November also brings with it a time to remember, as we gather in reverence to acknowledge the sacrifices of those who've gone before us in the midst of the winter chill. Young or old, there is something healthy and right in acknowledging our collective gratitude for the peace we enjoy today.

Maybe that is one of November's gifts. It encourages us to look back with gratitude, to look around us with warmth and to look forward with hope. At the heart of the Christian faith is light that shines in darkness. The light doesn't necessarily or immediately remove the difficulties and challenges of this life, but it does remind us that darkness does not have the final word. And the light is personal - indeed, it is a person: Jesus of Nazareth, a man who knew well the endless demands of this life and yet was able to retain a peace and calm even in His life's darkest moment.

So when you're tempted to be overwhelmed, take time out to pause and to reflect, to remember what makes peace today possible and to consider the light that has come in to the world in the person of Jesus of Nazareth.

Happy November!

Best wishes,
Phillip

Pledge Day

The Annual Pledge day for St Mary's Church, Dedham was on Sunday the 11th October at the 11.0am Service. In accordance with tradition the Minister invited the Treasurer to make a short appeal to all present.

The aim is always to thank those who already make a contribution to the Church finances, as well as encouraging others to set up an online monthly donation.

If you would like to make a regular contribution the Dedham Church, our Bank details are:

Name: Dedham Parochial Church Council
Sort Code: 20 22 67
Account No. : 00279879

If you require any assistance, please contact the Parish Office or

Email: stmarydafinance@gmail.com

THE DEANERY CHOIR

Supporting Church music in the Tendring area

NOVEMBER

November 8th.

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the 11am Remembrance service. The anthem they will sing will be 'For the fallen' by Douglas Guest. During the Second World War Guest served as a Major in the Royal Artillery and was involved in the battle for the liberation of Caen, Normandy. He was 'twice severely wounded' sustaining a leg injury which left him with a permanent, though eventually slight limp.

His first major appointment came in 1945 as Director of Music at Uppingham School. From there he became Organist of Salisbury Cathedral, a post which he held from 1950 until 1957, before moving to become Organist and Master of the Choristers at Worcester Cathedral. His final post was as Organist and Master of the Choristers at Westminster Abbey from 1963 until 1981.

Advance notice.

On the 12th December the Deanery choir will be singing at **St Mary's Church, Lawford CO11 2JX** at the 7.00pm 'Living Christmas '26' concert.

This act of worship was devised by Graham Bell and is similar to a 'Nine lessons & carols' service but with carols written by living composers and arrangers.

This year the choir will make full use of the Copeman Hart organ, in the church, with the masterful Peter Clayton playing. There will be a retiring collection for church funds.

One not to miss!

Graham Bell, Deanery Choir
grahambell493@gmail.com

A LIVING CHRISTMAS '26

Music & arrangements by contemporary composers

with

THE DEANERY CHOIR

and Peter Clayton (Accompanist)

featuring the Copeman Hart organ

Saturday 12th December

7pm start

Gjeilo - McGlade - Stopford - Hill
Cavagnaro - Nicholson - Unterseher
Robinson - Syner - McDowall - Wells

St Mary's Church
Church Hill
Lawford, Manningtree
CO11 2JX

Retiring collection for Church funds


Revive@5
unchanging faith
in a changing world
20 September
Faith in the storms of life
18 October
Faith in a technological world
15 November David Campanale
Faith in the Public Square
Come and encounter God through contemporary worship, prayer and timeless truths applied to our world today
Refreshments from 4.30pm, service at 5pm
St. Mary's, Dedham CO7 6DE

THE FIRST HYMN

In the ancient ruins of Oxyrhynchus, Egypt, in 1918, a papyrus scrap was unearthed by archaeologists. It contained the earliest known Christian hymn, complete with both its Greek lyrics and musical notation. This is the world's earliest known Christian hymn and is called "The First Hymn" but it is also known as the Oxyrhynchus Hymn or P. Oxy. 1786.

The hymn dates back to roughly 250 AD and is housed at the Bodleian Art, Archaeology and Ancient World Library in Oxford, UK. The papyrus scrap was analysed at Oxford University and challenges traditional views of church history by revealing the rich musical practices of early believers and poetically invokes silence for the praise of the Holy Spirit.

"Let all be silent.
The shining stars not sound forth,
All rushing rivers stilled,
As we sing our hymn
To the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
As all Powers cry out in answer,
Amen, Amen."

The First Hymn has been made into a feature-length documentary hosted by Australian John Dickson. It follows the ancient song from its desert origins to its rediscovery today. As the story unfolds, composers Chris Tomlin and Ben Fielding reimagine the melody for modern worship, leading to a live concert performance. It was a sheer delight to watch the documentary unfold and witness the enthusiasm of all the participants so I wanted to share my enthusiasm with readers. You can stream 'The First Hymn' documentary on Apple TV and Google Play or other streaming services.

Rosemary Stokes, ACE

Oxyrhynchus (modern al-Bahnasa) was a prosperous ancient city in Upper Egypt, located roughly 160 km (100 miles) southwest of Cairo along the Bahr Yussef canal.

Name Origin: The Greek name means "sharp-nosed," referencing the local elephantfish (medjed) worshipped there as a sacred creature.



Tokyo National Museum - Tokyo, Japan

History: It served as the capital of the 19th Upper Egyptian Nome, growing into a major Hellenistic and Roman regional center with temples, colonnades, and a theater.

The Oxyrhynchus Papyri: The site is world-famous for its massive ancient rubbish dumps, excavated by Bernard Grenfell and Arthur Hunt between 1896 and 1907.

The Collection: The dry desert sand preserved hundreds of thousands of fragments. Oxyrhynchus Papyri are currently housed in institutions all over the world. A substantial number are housed in the Bodleian Art Library at Oxford University.)

About 10% are literary and religious texts (including lost Greek poetry by Sappho and early Christian writings/New Testament fragments), while 90% consist of everyday public and private documents.

DUCHY BARN CINEMA 2026-2027 SEASON



For our November offering, two of Hollywood's greatest stars come together in an adaptation of a C.S. Forester novel under the masterful direction of the late great John Huston. The film (rated PG) will be screened on Wednesday 25th November at 10 am in the Duchy Barn.

You can find out more about it by picking up a flyer at the back of St. Mary's Church or in the Duchy Barn itself. Suffice here to say that the film earned an Oscar for its leading man and garnered a number of nominations: for best actress, best director and best screenplay.

An adventure story set in 1914 at the outbreak of World War I, this movie is remembered as much for its gruelling on-location shoot during which nearly the entire cast and crew contracted severe dysentery and malaria.

Like the film projected in October, this was a special request from one of our regular spectators. It will be followed on 9th December by one of the greatest stories ever told but more about that next time …

Please put the following dates in your diaries:

- Wednesday 25 November at 10am
- Wednesday 09 December at 10am

Details of the films we are showing are printed on the posters and leaflets in St. Mary's Church and the Duchy Barn or can be obtained by calling the parish office on 01206 322136.

Entrance is free and a selection of drinks and cakes are served during the interval, half way through the film. ALL are welcome!

Please note that places are limited to 34 and we operate on a "first come first served" basis. Any children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

We very much look forward to seeing you there!

Dedham Church of England Primary School
would like to invite individuals, families, groups and local businesses to enter a Christmas tree into this year's

Christmas Tree Festival

which will take place in Dedham Church as part of the

Dedham Christmas Market

Saturday 28th November, 12:30pm - 4:30pm

Showcase your creativity, promote your group or business, or simply spread some festive and community cheer. There is no charge to either take part or to see the finished trees as we hope to create a wonderland of beautiful trees, seasonal music and refreshments for the whole community to enjoy.



The closing date for entries is
Friday 20th November

If you would like to take part,
or for further information, please contact
Laura Valentine at Dedham Primary School
on 01206 322242 or via email at
christmastreefestival@dedham.essex.sch.uk




THE BIG BREAKFAST
THE ASSEMBLY ROOMS, DEDHAM
Saturday 14th November 2026,
8:30am – 11:30am
FULL THREE COURSE BREAKFAST.
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE.
Entry by donation, all proceeds going to the church.



I'm Arin Andrews, your **Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal Organizer** for Dedham. I just wanted to reach out personally and say how proud I was of our village last year. Together, we raised just over **£10,000** — an incredible achievement that was only possible because of our wonderful volunteers, local businesses, Dedham Primary School, and Dedham Church. I'm genuinely grateful to every single person who played a part.

This year's Poppy Appeal runs from **Thursday 22nd October through to Remembrance Day, Wednesday 11th November**.

We'll once again have our stall on the Royal Square, and our brilliant volunteers will be out doing house-to-house collections. If you'd like to join us — whether for a couple of hours or a day — we'd love to have you. It's a lovely way to meet people in the village and be part of something meaningful.

Our knitted poppies were a real highlight last year, thanks to the talented volunteers who gave their time to make them. They looked beautiful and were incredibly popular. If anyone would like to knit some more this year, just let me know and I'll happily send you the pattern.

Local businesses: if you'd like to support the Appeal by having a collecting tin, please do get in touch. Your help makes a huge difference.

And finally, if you need Poppies or any Remembrance items but can't make it to the stall, I'm more than happy to deliver them anywhere in the village. You can reach me on **07941 952125.**

Arin Andews



Dedham Parish Magazine - December 1926

Remembrance Day

Miss Saunders has been more successful than ever in her organisation of the collection for Earl Haig's Fund on Armistice Day. This year the sum collected came to £19/6/2.

We note that Miss Saunders in sending us this information, calls the 11th November "Remembrance Day," and we think there is good reason why in future the day should be so named, that we keep in mind not only the end of the most terrible war in history, but at what fearful cost of life that end was purchased.

The collectors associated with Miss Saunders were Mrs. Rendall (for the War Memorial Wreath), Mrs. Macdonald, Miss Russell, Miss Aldous, Miss Downes and Miss Parish.

Note: Using the Bank of England inflation calulator, the sum collected equates to £1,075.95 in todays terms.



Dedham Parish Magazine - November 1876

EGYPT ANCIENT AND MODERN.—A lecture on this subject will be given sometime in November, by the Rev. Randall T. Davidson, M.A. Particulars will be announced in due course.

SALE OF WORK AT DEDHAM.—Through the kind permission of H. R. Edwards, Esq., a sale of work, on behalf of the Dedham National School Folding Desk Fund, was held at Hillands on Thursday afternoon, September 28th, at 3 o'clock. In the morning it rained almost incessantly, but about 1 o'clock a change set in, which continued during the whole afternoon. Great praise is due to those who conducted the sale, as altogether a sum of about £24 was realized; we are glad to say that the Schools are now furnished with the number of desks required, and that the room can be converted at a very short notice into a lecture, meeting, school, dining or tea room as the desks can be made into seats, desks or tables as occasion requires. We cannot close this notice of the sale of work without speaking in terms of the highest praise of the admirable arrangements which had been made by Mr. and Mrs. Edwards, and which contributed in no small degree to the success of the undertaking. We trust that the parishioners will pay a visit to the schools and inspect the desks, which are so much better adapted for the requirements of the children than the former desks.

CONCERT AND READINGS.—On Monday evening, October 2nd, an entertainment—consisting of Vocal and Instrumental Music and Readings, was held in the National Schoolroom at 7 o'clock. The room was full, and a very pleasant evening was spent. Those who took part were Mrs. Tomkin, Miss Edwards, Miss Dunnage, Miss E. Ellis, The Misses Dunnett, Rev. J. G. Mills, Rev. Dr. Ashwin, Mr. Simons, Mr. Cox, and Mr. J. W. Brooke. A similar entertainment will be given on Tuesday, November 7.

The British NEWSPAPER Archive - *Clipping*

Essex Standard 03 November 1876

Harwich v. Dedham.

Played at Dedham on Saturday last, and resulted in a complete victory for Dedham, by three goals to none. Harwich had to act on the defensive throughout, a result which maybe attributed to the superior opportunities for practice enjoyed by their opponents, and the advantage they had in playing on their own ground. In a good team Chitty made as usual a first-rate back and the Shorts did good service as forwards. The following are the respective teams:—Harwich.—Major Marindin, R.E. (Capt.), Rees, and Richardson (half backs); Arnot, Brice, Bolster, Edwards, Husbands, Rees, Sewell, Tucker, and Woodcock.—Dedham.—Austin and Chitty (backs), Downes, Lawson, H. Lermit, L. Lermit, S. Lermit, E. G. Short, E. Short, V. Shortland, W. Wyatt.

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT – MONDAY, 5th October 2026

Public Forum

Residents raised a number of issues including speeding in the village, planning application in Coopers Lane, exercise equipment on the playing fields,hedging at top of Crown Street and funding for the Fun Run and Christmas Market.

Mobile Phone Coverage

An update was provided on a possible new site for the phone mast.

Legal Advice on Playing Fields

An extraordinary meeting of the Councill will be arranged to discuss further legal advice.

Playing Fields Working Group

The first meeting will be discussing car parking and grass maintenance. Concern was expressed about cars parking on the cricket pitch areas during football matches.

Strategy meeting and Parish Plan

Strategy meeting will be held linked to budgets and this will not include Parish Plan as the draft will not be ready in time.

Dedham Meadows Planning Enforcement Appeal update

A comment on the appeal by the landowner had been submitted alongside others from residents and other local bodies.

Meeting of Agencies on Usage of Meadows

A recent meeting of relevant agencies was held. The Parish Council suggested consideration needs to be given to the ways in which the meadows were now being used for recreational purposes, Babergh Council agreed to look into this.

From June to August the Council enforcement team made 144 visits on the Suffolk side of the river and spent 120 hours there in total and issued 162 penalty notices.

There was discussion about encouraging social media organisations and relevant agencies to promote responsible use of the countryside and local environment, particularly around the car park and surrounding areas during the spring and summer months.

To agree terms of reference for playground working party

This was agreed . The tender process will be discussed at the next meeting.

Terms of reference for Personnel Committee

Revised terms of reference were agreed.

Membership of Padel Group was agreed

Finance, standards and Procedures report

A copy of the documentation for the contract for Dedham Works was requested.

Grant applications Christmas Market, Dedham Fun Run

This was deferred to the next meeting seeking further financial information. It was further agreed to ask the Finance Group to look at the details of the proposal.

Planning report recommendations

The Council agreed to object to the proposed development at Oakview on Coopers Lane.

Infrastructure

Village Sign - Dedham Arts club are happy to complete the works needed.

Trading Bay update and Permit applications

NEPP have changed their views on the bay and have questioned to fish and chip van being there. This is being followed up as Council are very supportive of the van being based on Royal Square.

The Council agreed to appoint Moser Groundcare for grass matting work and cutting hedges from Frog Meadow to Manningtree Road.

Church planned pruning of Horse Chestnut tree

Clarification is being sought on pruning of tree in terms of transparency of the process.

Next Council meeting Monday 2nd November 2026, 6.30pm at Duchy Barn.

Cllr Douglas Bourn

The British NEWSPAPER Archive - *Clipping*

East Anglian Daily Times 19 October 1908

NO BONFIRE FOR DEDHAM.
The Clerk to the Dedham Parish Council asked the Lexden and Winstree Bench on Saturday to forbid the holding of a bonfire in Dedham Street on November 5th. The Bench granted the interdict.

HORSE CHESTNUT TREE



The large horse chestnut standing in front of Dedham Church is a beautiful and much loved tree which needs to be maintained in a good condition.

All the trees in the churchyard are inspected on a regular basis and we have been advised by two independent experts that this tree is outgrowing its strength and needs to be cut back to ensure its survival. This will also lessen the chances of old branches falling off and possibly causing damage or injury.

The work is scheduled to take place in the first week of November and will take approximately 3 days to complete.

During this time the footpath and part of the road will need to be closed; permission for this has been given by Colchester City Council.

DEDHAM PCC

Pupil Leadership

This year, we have launched a number of pupil leadership roles in school to give children the opportunity to take on active roles and responsibilities to help to enhance our school culture and environment.

We have always had a School Council, and this year, our Multi-Schools Council Ambassadors will be joining them in order to ensure that inclusion is at the heart of all we do. The Multi-Schools Council comprises ambassadors from more than 400 schools across Essex and the overall aim is to promote positive perceptions towards young people with educational needs and disabilities. One of our ambassadors recently presented to a number of secondary-school aged children about how schools can better support children with transition to high school. He shared his ideas of what primary school children might benefit from to help them feel better prepared, more comfortable and less anxious about moving up to the next stage in their education.

This year, we also have a team of Anti-Bullying Ambassadors who all completed 'The Diana Award' training in the summer. The team have decided to work towards achieving their 'Inclusion' badge this term through completing five different activities.

Applying to become a Play Leader is something which all children in years 2-6 can do. Their role is to lead games at lunchtimes, to help to keep the playtime resources organised and to support children with positive play. Each week, our two 'Head Play Prefects' choose to present two children with a 'Positive Play Award' in front of the whole school; it is certainly a job which the children love!



New this year, we also have Reading Champions who will not only help to organise the library books but also coordinate celebration days, choose and order new books, and promote a love of reading through a newsletter. We also have Digital Leaders in each class who will help to lead assemblies about online safety, promote care of our equipment, and help to share digital skills in lessons.





Another new role is that of Food Ambassador and these children will soon be leading some assemblies about allergies and helping to educate everyone about what a food allergy is and what to do if someone has an allergic reaction or anaphylaxis. They will also be sharing ideas for snack time and helping to enhance the 'dining experience'!

Our school pond is much loved and this year we have appointed four teams of 'Pond Caretakers' (appropriately named Frogs, Pond Skaters, Newts and Water Boatmen!) who love to help remove the excess pond weed and share their knowledge about our pond life with the rest of the school. We also have two 'Sensory Ambassadors' who approached Mrs Chester to ask whether they could put together a sensory library for those children who need a sensory diet as part of their provision in school.

We have such passionate and motivated children at Dedham Primary who care greatly about our school community and who want to make a positive difference. We had so many applications from children aspiring to be a leader in our school and we are excited to see how they will embrace their new roles and work to be agents of change this year.

Laura Valentine



Dedham Parish Magazine - December 1876

The following names of girls attending the National School are adjudged by the Trustees to fulfil the conditions laid down by them in order to participate in the Eyre Clothing Charity:
Second Participation. — Sybil Arnold, Ivy Cardy, Nora Coomber, Rose Denny, Violet Ellis, Winifred Goodchild, Joyce Hammond, Mary Jackson, Dorcas James, Cicely Moore, Irene Raison, Rose Sage, Phyllis Sparke, Lily Stanley, Vera Stuteley, Olive Venables, Lily Watson, Gladys Wordley.
First Participation. — Violet Denny, Minnie Double, Sylvia Frost, Violet Minter, Rose Reason, Joan Spain.

Make Every Month Count

As autumn comes to a close this month and herbaceous perennials continue to die back, it's a chance to look around the garden to see what if anything will look good in this and later winter months; the quiet periods of the garden.

Too often, we only think the look of our garden and judge its planting when it's at its peak. We remember the roses, the peonies and borders overflowing with colour — and conveniently forget these emptier months when little flowers.



Anita Austvika on Unsplash

Fortunately, November is the perfect time to take an honest look at the whole gardening year.

Make a garden calendar

The good news is that the first task is designed for these darker evenings, ideally with a dog warming your feet or a nice fire.

I'll get a sheet of paper and write the months from January to December. Then I write down what I remember happening in the garden during each month. When did the first flowers appear? When did the main border look at its best? When did the garden get a bit dull?

This helps me see if May and June are overflowing with interest (say, peonies and roses) while August, November and February are more disappointing. The exercise gives me a shopping list — but a very different kind. Instead of buying plants simply because I like them (and there's nothing wrong with that), I can think about buying plants that fill a specific seasonal gap.

Think beyond flowers



Bernd Dittrich on Unsplash

Year-round interest doesn't mean having something flowering every day of the year. Winter stems, berries, bark, evergreen foliage, autumn colour, seedheads and attractive plant shapes all count.

A cornus can provide colourful stems in winter. Amelanchier offers spring blossom and autumn colour. Sarcococca provides evergreen foliage and lovely scented winter flowers.
Ornamental grasses can keep their seedheads into winter, while hellebores and snowdrops can bring life to the garden when most plants are dormant.



Don't clear everything away

One of the biggest changes in modern gardening is the recognition that dead-looking plants can still have value. Seedheads can look beautiful in frost and provide food for birds. The stems of perennials give structure and shelter to wildlife.

Rather than cutting everything down in November, decide what genuinely needs clearing and what can remain until late winter.

Think about how you might repair the weakest month. If February is your weakest month, you might add snowdrops, hellebores (I'm all for adding hellebores) or a winter-flowering shrub.

If August is disappointing, consider plants such as echinacea, rudbeckia, verbena bonariensis, dahlias (feed the addiction) or late-flowering salvias (I can highly recommend 'Cerro Potosi').



Yoksel Zok on Unsplash

But remember, you don't need twenty new plants. Two or three carefully selected additions could make a surprising difference.

November's planting opportunity

Autumn is a good time to plant many trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials, provided the ground isn't waterlogged or frozen. It is also an excellent time to divide congested perennials and move plants that are in the wrong place.

I'll be doing some pruning: a large gooseberry bush needs a trim to open it up and make it easier to harvest and I'll give some of my taller roses a very light cut back.

I've bought some pansies this year and, of course, I'll be planting out and potting up some tulips and maybe some more daffodils.



Ilinca Roman on Unsplash

I'm pretty sure I can't get any more roses in, even if it's bareroot season and there's usual a bigger, cheaper (and completely tempting) range.

So here's your November challenge: Identify the two least interesting months in your garden and choose one plant for each. And remember: a beautiful garden is a succession of good moments, not one spectacular summer.

Our next evening talk is on Wednesday 4 November when we learn more about Henstead Exotic Gardens in Beccles from owner Andrew Brogan. Join us at 7.30pm at the Assembly Rooms on Dedham's High Street.

Elliott Fisby

dedhamgardening@gmail.com.

The British NEWSPAPER Archive - *Clipping*

Evening Star 12 March_1914

DEDHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the subscribers of the Dedham Horticultural Society was held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday evening, Mr. W. W. Hewitt presiding over a large attendance. The accounts were adopted. The receipts, including the balance in hand of £9 15s. 8d., amounted to £97 2s., whilst the expenditure came to £79 1s. 10d., leaving a balance in hand of £17 11s. 2d. It was mentioned that the cost of the band (£9 4s. 8d.) had been mainly met by a special donation from Miss Hewitt of eight guineas. The gate money was a record, viz., £23 9s. 11d.

The retiring officers were accorded hearty votes of thanks, and were re-elected, viz., President, Mr. W. W. Hewitt; honorary secretary, Mr. A. C. Sayer; honorary treasurer, Mr. J. Eley. Acting on the suggestion of Mr. Sayer, the name of Mr. Smale was added to his as joint secretary. The names of Messrs. W. A. Langton, E. W. Norfolk, and W. Passiful were added to the Committee, which was re-elected en bloc; Mrs. Collingwood, Mrs. Smale, and Miss Given-Wilson were added to the Ladies' Committee.

It was resolved to hold the next show on the last Thursday in August, and the offer of Mr. Passiful placing his meadow at disposal was gratefully accepted.


STOUR CHORAL SOCIETY
Christmas Oratorio
JS Bach (Excerpts)
other seasonal music and carols
Soprano – Anna Rose
Tenor – Nick Rayner
Bass – Peter Grevatt
Music Director – Susanna Rose
Accompanist – Stephen Smith
SATURDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2026
2.30pm
Mistley Parish Church, CO11 1ER
TICKETS: £15, under 18s free
Available from:
Howells Hardware Store, High Street. Manningtree
Choir members, 07511 908213 or
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SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER 2026

12.30PM – 4.30PM
DEDHAM VILLAGE

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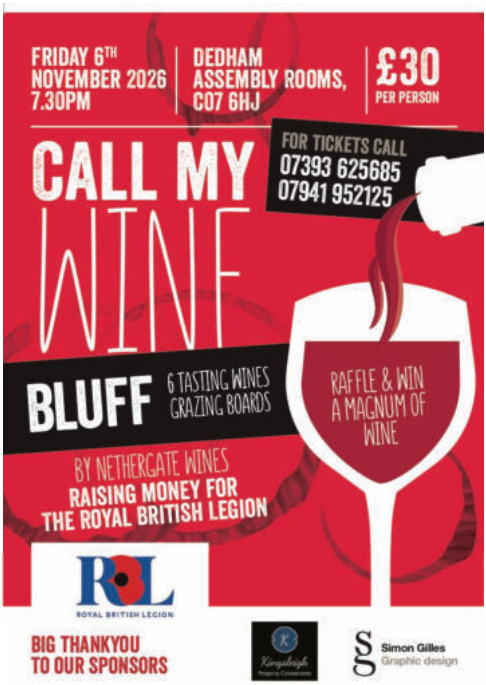
THANK YOU NOTICE

A very big thank you to you all for your kindness and support, and for all the lovely cards I have received.

I would also like to say thank you to Buster and Sally-Anne for their tireless support and taking such good care of me.

Love Selina

Submitted by Sally Fabig







DUCHY BARN COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Duchy Barn Community Centre holds its community coffee mornings on Tuesdays and Thursdays of each week from 10.30 am - 12 noon. The Barn is available to hire at very reasonable rates for small functions/celebrations/ group meetings etc.

Contact Anne Rowledge on 01206322394



Be scam phonecall aware. We know of a couple of recent scam attempts which fortunately were not successful.

The first one targeted the chair of one of the trusts in the village, however it failed because dual signatories were needed and the second signatory was highly suspicious. The scam was to say that someone was trying to take £16,000 out of the bank account and the only way to stop it is to log on and authorise the cancellation of the payment. No bank would ever ask you to do that. Calling back was discouraged by saying the fraud line was closed. They tried all sorts of tactics to hurry the person and make them panic etc... The main message is that no bank will ask you to log on or authorise anything and to always hang up and call again on 159 which safely puts you through to any bank.

The Stop Scams UK 159 Phone number is a secure, memorable 3-digit hotline (24/7) designed to connect you directly to your bank if you receive a suspicious or unexpected call about your money.

Stop, Hang Up, Call 159: If someone calls claiming to be from your bank or a financial service and you feel unsure, hang up immediately.

Interactive Voice Response (IVR): When you dial 159, an automated system asks you to name your bank and routes you straight to their fraud department.

Anti-Spoofing Protection: The 159 short code cannot be faked or spoofed by criminals, ensuring you speak to your actual bank.

Cost: Calls cost the same as a standard national rate call.

Coverage: Supported by major UK mobile networks and landline providers, connecting to participating banks that cover over 99% of UK current accounts.

Safety Tip: If you are calling in response to a suspicious incoming phone call, wait a few minutes or dial 159 from a different phone to ensure the line has completely released.

Purpose: This number is strictly for reporting or checking potential fraud—it is not for general banking enquiries.

The second scam attempt used a different technique to get bank/card details. Your editor received a call from a Private Number purporting to be from a Detective Sergeant in Kent Police, claiming that a nephew had been arrested and had given our address and phone number.

Suspicions were raised when the name of the supposed relative did not match. At that stage I requested his badge number and crime reference number and finished the call. A second call followed immediately supposedly confirming the details with an attempt to get bank details, that call was also terminated. A call to 101 confirmed that it was a potential scam.

101 is an easy to remember number which can be used to contact your local police about crimes or concerns that do not need an emergency response. The call will be free.

Remember call:

159 to contact the fraud department of your bank.

101 to call the police for non-emergencies.

ARDLEIGH SURGERY UPDATE

Flu Clinic

A Huge Thank You from The Ardleigh Surgery!

We are delighted to share that our flu vaccination clinic was a great success this year, with over 750 patients vaccinated in just four hours!

A big thank you to all our patients for your continued support and for choosing to have your flu vaccination with us. We truly appreciate your cooperation in helping us protect our community this flu season.

If you are registered with The Ardleigh Surgery and haven't yet had your flu vaccination, it's not too late! Please contact the surgery to book your appointment. If you already have an appointment, just ask the clinician seeing you and they will give you the flu vaccination if they are qualified to.

Thank you once again for your continued support!

Winter Is Coming! Stay Well This Winter

As we enter the colder months, coughs, colds and other seasonal illnesses become more common.

We encourage all our patients to try self-care measures and seek advice from a local pharmacy as the first point of contact for minor illnesses and symptoms.

Your local pharmacist can offer advice on managing common winter illnesses and recommend appropriate treatments and prescribe antibiotics to help you feel better.

Stay warm, stay well, and take care this winter!

We would like to inform our patients that Dr Rozalia Zulkefli has sadly left The Ardleigh Surgery to pursue further studies elsewhere.

We would like to thank Dr Zulkefli for her time and contribution to the practice and wish her every success in her future studies and career.

Anima

An Anima account is no longer needed to submit a request, you can go onto The Ardleigh Surgery website and submit a medical or admin request without logging in.

Standing orders

Please be kind to staff, as the world is in turmoil and the life become stressful abuse of our staff is become a daily matter.

There are always less appointments than patients needing appointments so please fill in your ANIMA requests early in the day.

Patient feedback is very important to us, please if you can complete our friends and family forms after attending the surgery.

If you would like to have your say in how the surgery is run, please join our PPG group

Medication reviews- please book these early if you review falls week beginning the 21st of December 2026 to the 3rd of January 2027 to ensure that your review is not late.

Next educational shutdown dates are Thursday 12th November and Wednesday 9th December 2026. On shutdown dates the surgery and the dispensary will close at 12:30PM. Please pick your prescriptions up early.

The Team at Ardleigh Surgery

DEDHAM ART SOCIETY

We are a friendly and welcoming amateur art group who love painting together on a regular basis. From time to time we invite guest tutors, and at our other sessions we enjoy sharing ideas, supporting one another, and learning together in a relaxed atmosphere.If you'd like to find out more about the Dedham Art Society, please Email dedhamartsociety@gmail.com or visit our website: www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk.

If you're interested in coming along to a session, please do get in touch by email.

Dedham Art Society – November 2026 Thursday Painting Sessions Assembly Rooms, 2.00–4.30pm

Thursday November 12th
Members' painting together session – Members' Collaboration.

Thursday November 26th
Members' painting together session – Capturing Movement

The British NEWSPAPER Archive - *Clipping*

Chelmsford Chronicle 21 May 1926

ESSEX AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY

Mr. A. J. Munnings, R.A., of Dedham, has six pictures—most of them dealing with the same subject, the Royal Procession from Ascot, and in all these he paints the fine greys and the scarlet and gold of the grooms and outriders with that skill and masterly ease for which he is so noted. But Munnings at his best is to be seen in "Gypsies on Epsom Downs, Derby Week," where we find a happy riot of colour and play of light.

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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 of the month at 2.15pm in the Constable Hall, Gandish Road, East Bergholt, CO7 6TP. Guests are welcome for a charge of £4.

Please take a look at our website https://stourvalley.u3asite.uk/welcome/ for more information and contact details.

Dedham Art Society

WINTER EXHIBITION



The Sentinel Gallery Wivenhoe

Preview Evening
Monday 16 November 2026
6.00-7.30 pm

Exhibition Open Daily 10.00 am - 5.00 pm
Tuesday 17 November -
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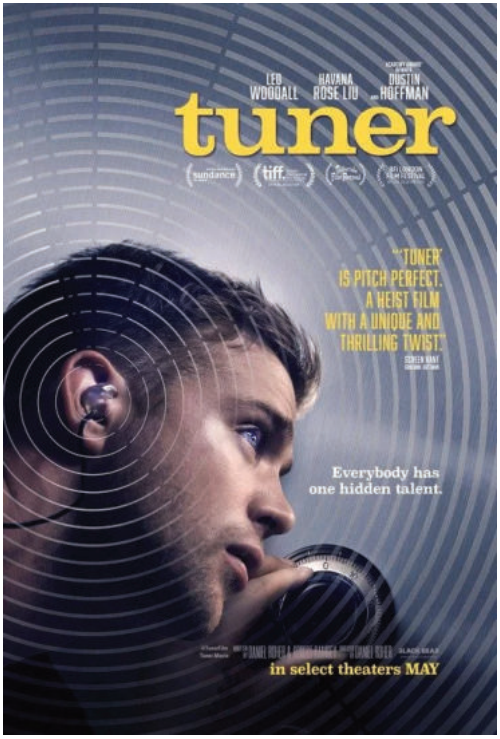
The Tuner (15) directed by

Daniel Roher 2026

Wednesday 18th November 7.30pm

Assembly Rooms Dedham

Doors Open 7pm for Refreshments



A talented piano tuner who suffers from hyperacusis discovers an unexpected aptitude for cracking safes, turning his life upside down. Starring Leo Woodall and Dustin Hoffman.

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/

The British NEWSPAPER Archive - *Clipping*

Suffolk Chronicle 10 April 1925

The annual parish meeting was held at the Memorial Hall, Dedham, last week, with Mr. J. P. Clover in the chair. An animated discussion arose from the condition of the horse-bridge leading into the meadows from the county bridge, the dangerous condition of which attention was called to. This bridge is on the Suffolk side of the River Stour and within the boundary of the Samford Hundred, and some time ago that authority, it is understood, caused a notice to be put up warning foot passengers of the danger of using the bridge, evidently with a view to avoiding their liability in case of any accident. Nothing, so far, has been done to remedy the condition of the bridge. This is the only means of access to the meadows, to the pleasant walk to East Bergholt and Flatford Mill, which is the great attraction to visitors to Dedham. Being outside the jurisdiction of the Dedham Parish Council, it is beyond their power to take active steps to remedy the state of things, but it was felt that, wherever the stigma fell, the authorities responsible would remedy the matter if their attention was called to it. The condition of Fen Bridge was also commented upon, but this being an accommodation bridge it was felt that the matter must be left to those who were personally concerned.

NOVEMBER 2026

- Sunday 1st - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Rise & Shine. 5pm, - Evensong,
- Monday 2nd - 12.30pm, Essex Rose Tea Room - Monday Lunch Club.
- Monday 2nd - 6.30pm, Duchy Barn - Dedham Parish Council Meeting.
- Wednesday 4th - 7.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Horticultural Society
- Friday 6th - 7pm Dedham Assembly Rooms, Call my Wine Bluff.
- **Sunday 8th - 10.45am, War Memorial Remembrance Service.**
- Thursday 12th - 2pm-4.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Art Society.
- **Saturday 14th - 8.30am-11.30am, Dedham Assembly Rooms, The Big Breakfast**
- Sunday 15th - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Morning Praise 5pm. Revive@5.
- **Wednesday 18th - 7pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Films - The Tuner.**
- Sunday 22nd - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- **Wednesday 25th - 10am, Duchy Barn Cinema.**
- Thursday 26th - 2pm-4.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Art Society.
- **Saturday 28th - High Street, Christmas Fair. Dedham Church, Christmas Tree festival.**

WEEKLY EVENTS

Monday

- Meet up Mondays - The Sun Inn, 11am to 12pm.
- Social Table Tennis, Dedham Sports Club, 10.30am.
- Watercolour Painting Group, Duchy Barn, 10am to 12pm.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 13.30pm to 15.30pm.

Tuesday

- Coffee morning - The Duchy Barn, 10:30am to 12pm.
- Morning Prayer - Dedham Church, 10.30am.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 9am to 11am.
- Dedham Baby and Toddler Group Dedham Sports Club, 10am to 12pm (Term time).

Wednesday

- Bridge in Dedham - Assembly Rooms, 1.30pm-5pm.

Thursday

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

Friday

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

A funny to finish with.

Jonah and the whale

One day, a teacher was talking to her Primary School class about whales, when a little girl had a question.

Little Girl: "Do whales swallow people?" Teacher: "No, even though they are much bigger than a person, they have throat pleats that filter their food of krill and plankton." Little Girl: "But Mrs. Thurston says Jonah was swallowed by a whale." Teacher getting angry: "Blue whales cannot swallow people." Little Girl: "Well, when I get to heaven I'll just ask Jonah if he was really swallowed by a whale." Teacher, still red with anger: "What if Jonah went to hell?" Girl: "Well, then you can ask him."

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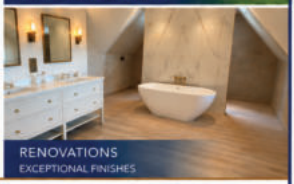
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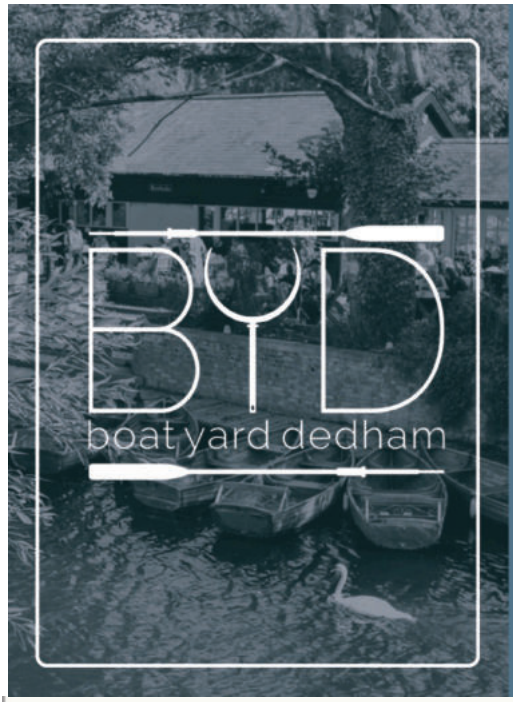
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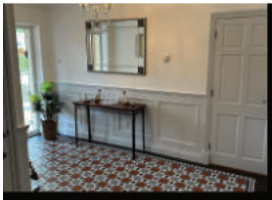
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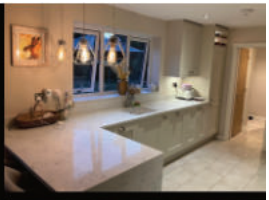
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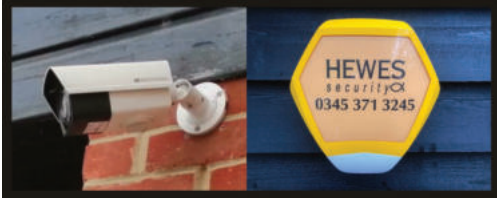
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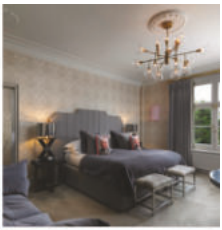
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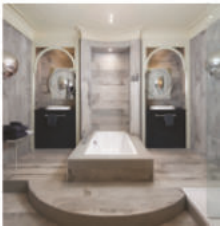
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