



DEDHAM

Parish Magazine

June 2026



Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

150 years

June 2026

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

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

PARISHES OFFICE

Assembly Rooms, High Street, Dedham.
CO7 6HJ.

Tel: 322 136

Office hours - Monday and Thursday 9am
to 1pm.

Parishes Administrator Sianne Mann

Email: stmaryda@gmail.com

CHURCH WARDENS

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

MUSIC

Director of Music Antony Watson
Tel: 322 425

ASSEMBLY ROOMS Tel: 323 921

CHURCH FLOWERS

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

DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

Editor: John Goldsbrough
Email: dedhameditor@gmail.com
Advertising: Victoria Collard
Email: dedham.advertising@gmail.com

**The deadline for the JULY/AUGUST
2026 Magazine entries is the 10th JUNE
2026.**

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Cover Photo: A Wisteria in full bloom.

Can we help?

Sometimes things in life can just get too much to cope with on your own... **Psalm 34:18:** *The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.* If you would like some support or know of any one who would, please contact: Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598.**

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

If you have been bereaved or know of anyone who has, please contact Vee Druitt **Tel: 322 000** or Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598**

If you need any further support, please contact the Parishes Office Tel: 322 136 and your call will be returned.

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

Sunday, 7th June

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Ardleigh
 9.30am Cafe Church Ardleigh
 9.30am Rise n Shine Dedham*
 5pm Evensong Dedham*

Sunday, 14th June

9.30am Holy Communion Ardleigh
 I I am Holy Communion Dedham*

Sunday, 21st June

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

Sunday 28th June

9.30am Morning Praise Ardleigh
 9.30am Holy Communion Dedham*

* = 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 6th June
 9am - Breakfast, Bacon, Buns and Bible.

Monday Lunch Club – Monday 8th June 12.30pm, Essex Tea Rooms.
 Phone 322192 to reserve a place.

Walk and Talk - Thursday 11th June
 10am or 11am, Dedham Church and **The Marlborough.** 10am for a walk, or at 11am for just a chat. Phone 0771 245 6198 for more details.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Marriages

16th May - Lois Rachel Lindley and Jack Edward Voller.

23rd May - Isabelle Alice Verry Williams and Christopher George Rudyard Wheeldon

29th May - Ellis Susan Johnson and William Richard Brown



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




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.

Dear Friends,

In our churches we have just finished our season of Annual Parochial Church Meetings. This is where, along with our legal obligations as charities to report on our finances and resources etc, we look back over the last year to give thanks for achievements and blessings, as well as look forward with hope and anticipation to the coming year.

It is so easy to take for granted the many good things that quickly fade in our memories, if we are not careful. I commend taking a moment to reflect on our personal lives too. Remembering past successes and blessings can uplift us. Our meetings have certain business items to cover, not least in electing Church Wardens and Church Council members.

It is therefore also a good time to show our appreciation and thanks for those who have served over the last year, for their duty and service. Of course, there are many who serve in the church and our thanks extend to the many volunteers who help, often behind the scenes, week by week.

Did you know it is the Annual Volunteers' Week, 1-7 June where a UK-wide campaign celebrates and recognises the contributions of volunteers. Launched in 1984, this initiative has been running for over 40 years, providing organisations and communities a platform to thank current and past volunteers for their invaluable efforts.

Many organisations rely on volunteers to keep going, as does the church. Since the Covid Pandemic, volunteers are harder to find. Our parish churches serve not just the church community but are there for the local villagers too.

This year across our group of nine churches we are conducting over 20 Marriage Services – the highest since the

pandemic.

You can help and volunteer to support the church for example by joining a church yard working party, being part of a flower rota or cleaning rota for the church or singing in the choir. Keep a look out for these requests in our parish magazine articles and on porch noticeboards.

Volunteering and helping is very much part of being a Christian Disciple. The early church felt it important to choose Deacons to help distribute food to the widows of their community, (See Acts Chapter 6). The tradition of serving others continues today in much the same way – food banks, often supported by community and church congregations, are very much a modern-day equivalent.

Enjoy the summer; enjoy serving others if you get the opportunity and remember in the first week of the month to thank any volunteers you meet. Of course, if you join us at one of our services or come along to an event we are hosting, (often involving food you notice!) we would be happy to serve you!

*Best wishes
Revd John Saxon*

IN YOUR MAGAZINE

This year is the 250th anniversary of the birth of John Constable. On Saturday 11th July there is an event in Dedham Church at 7pm to celebrate the anniversary. Dedham Church also features as part of the Constable audio trail of the 4.5 mile circular walk.

The Parish Council has launched an on-line consultation on the modernisation of the playground on Duchy field, see page 12 for more details.

John Goldsbrough

DAVID HARPER

On April 19th at our “Revive at 5” service we welcomed our speaker David Harper; a well known TV Antiques expert, who came to St Mary’s to talk about his conversion to Christianity.

David explained to us that his daughter had found faith after suffering many years with deep depression. David who called himself at that time, an agnostic, had been brought up as Christian, but thinking the religion to be boring, had delved into many other “spiritual” practices, but none had satisfied him.

After his daughters conversion (from the day she found God she emerged from the deep depression, and by faith has remained free of depression ever since), David decided to write a book researching “life and the universe” initially, but he later chose to examine what the Bible offered and to challenge its authenticity as a spiritual and historical document.

The book is called: **The God Conundrum: An easy guide to life, the universe and everything**

A critique: -

The book, as already mentioned, is a focused research into the origins of the universe, written from a critical perspective, which explores historical, scientific and philosophical themes, pertinent to our understanding of God.

David initially examines the theories of evolution, challenging both Atheism and Darwin’s theory of Evolution, to give the reader reasons why, in his opinion, God has been responsible for life from the beginning of time.

He then goes on to discuss aspects of the Bible, asking the questions, who is God, whilst establishing through his detailed research, the answer to the question was Jesus really the Son of God?

Is there historical evidence of his birth, death and resurrection, and what does that mean from a Christian’s perspective?

In the final chapters of his book, David details his own conversion to faith and deeply held views of becoming a born again Christian.

I wondered at the outset if the book might be too factual and a bit dry, but on the contrary, David’s approach revealing his analytical outlook to the subject matter, is presented in a format which clearly explains the facts, but for me the reader, was interesting- making me want to “keep on reading!”

In my opinion his writing reflects his charismatic but humble personality; he spoke to us with enthusiasm and conviction, capturing our attentions- and for me his book “speaks” in the same way - further exploring through solid research, his journey to find his faith and belief in Jesus.

A book, in my opinion, that is well worth reading with an open mind, in which David explores and seeks to explain to the reader why he is convinced that God is there for us all should we seek Him out and believe in Him.

I purchased two books; one for myself and another for a family member who is an atheist, but when I said this to David he challenged me to say, “read this book and see if you are still an atheist when you finish it!”

Liz Reed



Open Gardens this summer

AT THE VICARAGE (DEDHAM, C07 6DE)

FOURTH SUNDAY OF JUNE, JULY & AUGUST, 2-4 O'CLOCK

tearfund

A Christian charity tackling poverty across the world.

Tearfund partners with churches in more than 50 of the world's poorest countries. With the ultimate aim of ending extreme poverty, it addresses need and injustice through sustainable development and by responding to disasters and challenging injustice.

Tearfund's current appeals include a response to the humanitarian crisis in the Middle East and fundraising for girls' education in the Central African Republic.

<https://www.tearfund.org>



MISSIONS BAKE SALES



All the mission sales are in front of the church unless otherwise stated.

The dates for the 2026 Mission Stall are as follows:

Saturday 27th June 10am-12pm.

Saturday 25th July 10am-12pm.

Monday 31st August 10am-4pm, bank holiday.

Saturday 26th September 10am-12pm. Venue - The Duchy Barn

Saturday 31st October 10am-12pm.

Ruth Higginson

Revive@5

Looking
OUTWARDS

19 April: A journey to faith - David Harper
17 May: God's heart for the lost - Phillip Young
21 June: Life in the Spirit - Paul Harcourt
19 July: Sharing the Gospel - Paul Weston

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

POEM

WHEN I SAY I AM A CHRISTIAN, by Carol Wimmer

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting, "I've been saved!"
I'm whispering, "I get lost!"
That's why I chose this way."

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I don't speak with human pride;
I'm confessing that I stumble –
Needing God to be my guide.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong;
I'm professing that I'm weak
And pray for strength to carry on.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success;
I'm admitting that I've failed
And cannot ever pay the debt.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I don't think I know it all;
I submit to my confusion
Asking humbly to be taught.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect;
My flaws are all too visible
But God believes I'm worth it.

When I say, "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain
I have my share of heartache,
Which is why I seek His name.

Source - ACE monthly newsletter for magazine editors.



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area

June 7th

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Mary's Church, Little Bentley CO7 8SE** for the Choral evensong service at 6.30pm. The anthem will be 'Lord I trust thee' by G.F. Handel. Born in Halle, Handel spent his early life in Hamburg and Italy before settling in London in 1712, where he spent the bulk of his career and became a naturalised British subject in 1727.

He was strongly influenced both by the middle-German polyphonic choral tradition and by composers of the Italian Baroque. In turn, Handel's music forms one of the peaks of the "high baroque" style, bringing Italian opera to its highest development, creating the genres of English oratorio and organ concerto, and introducing a new style into English church music. He is consistently recognised as one of the greatest composers of his age. The choir will also sing a Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis setting by Walmisley and the Preces and Responses by Peter Clayton.

June 14th

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the I I am communion service. The anthem that they will sing is 'Teach me, O Lord' by Thomas Attwood. Thomas Attwood studied under Mozart and he was friendly with Felix Mendelssohn. In 1796 he was chosen as the organist of St Paul's Cathedral, and in the same year he was made composer of the Chapel Royal.

For the coronation of George IV, he composed a setting of the traditional anthem 'I was Glad', which was also used at the coronations of King William IV and Queen Victoria.

Graham Bell, Deanery Choir



CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH

THE DEANERY CHOIR

JUNE 7th 2026

6.30pm Start

Organist - Peter Clayton Conductor - Sally Pudney

Walmisley - Clayton - Handel

St Mary the Virgin Church

Little Bentley CO7 8SE

Quotations:

"A moderately bad man knows he is not very good; a thoroughly bad man thinks he is all right." CS Lewis, from Mere Christianity

"Love is not found in perfection, but in daily choices that honour, nurture, and reflect God's enduring love." Christopher Falconer

"No man stands taller than when he stoops to help a child." Often attributed to Abraham Lincoln

LOVE YOUR BURIAL GROUND WEEK / CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE 2026



The dates for 2026 will be Saturday 6th to Sunday 14th June and we look forward to burial grounds across the country joining us to discover and share the range of wildlife found.

Churches Count on Nature is part of Love Your Burial Ground Week, focusing on the brilliant wildlife to be found in churchyards and chapel yards. It is organised by Caring for God's Acre (the conservation charity for UK burial grounds) in partnership with the Church of England, the Church in Wales and A Rocha UK.

Love Your Burial Ground Week has been running for many years, encouraging all who help to look after churchyards, chapel yards and cemeteries to celebrate these places in June with special events – perhaps a history talk, picnic, voluntary work party or whatever your church community chooses!

Churches Count on Nature 2026 runs at the same time as Love Your Burial Ground Week, and focuses on the wildlife in churchyards and chapel yards.

Caring for God's Acre also encourages volunteers to record sightings of animal and plant life in these places, ideally using the Beautiful Burial Grounds Project section of a smartphone app called iNaturalist.

Full details at: <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/about-love-your-burial-ground-week-with-churches-count-on-nature/>



ABOUT CARING FOR GOD'S ACRE



Caring for God's Acre is the conservation charity for Burial Grounds across the UK.
Protecting Wildlife - Preserving Heritage
- Involving People

Caring for God's Acre was established in 2000 as a national charity, promoting the conservation of burial sites and supporting the people who look after and maintain them. Many burial sites are managed by a few volunteers who are keen to preserve both the monuments and the wildlife but want guidance on how best to achieve this.

Our input can help them to preserve rare species of plants and wildflowers and we advise on management of grassland to encourage wildlife whilst still allowing access to visitors and relatives. Issues such as lichen on gravestones and monuments falling into disrepair are also part of our remit and we run a telephone and email advice service for burial ground managers, signposting to other experts if required.

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



The City of Colchester Band

Musical Director : Jayne Barnes

Present a
Summers Evening Concert

Dedham Parish Church
6pm on Saturday 6th June 2026

£10 at the door or call Jill Strangward 01206 322006 to
reserve a seat : all funds go to the running of the church





Essex County
Fire & Rescue Service



A message from local fire officer Nick Singleton.

As Station Manager in Colchester, protecting our community is at the centre of everything my team and I do. Over the past year, firefighters across Essex have responded to 731 house fires and here in Colchester alone there have been 62 house fires. Behind every number is a home, a family, and a life affected.

From attending incidents locally, we know that cooking is the leading cause of house fires, accounting for 18%, followed by electrical devices/appliances at 14%. Many of these fires were preventable with small changes, such as never leaving cooking unattended and regularly checking electrical appliances and cables. One of the most worrying findings is that smoke alarms were only present in 81% of homes where fires occurred. Smoke alarms provide an essential early warning and can make the difference between escaping safely and being overcome by smoke.

We have also seen that 51% of house fires in Colchester occurred in properties with only one occupant. This

highlights how important it is for people who live alone to have working smoke alarms and a clear plan for how they would escape in the event of a fire.

The positive news is that help is available. Essex County Fire and Rescue Service offers free Home Safety Visits to residents across Essex. During these visits, firefighters or members of our safety team can offer tailored advice, help you plan an escape route, and install smoke alarms where they are needed.

These visits are completely free and could help protect you, your family, or someone you care about. If you or someone you know could benefit, please take a few moments to book a visit.

Phone: 0300 303 0088

Online: www.essex-fire.gov.uk

Email: home.safety@essex-fire.gov.uk

ARDLEIGH SURGERY

AccuRx Scribe introduced

The surgery is now using AI speech-to-text technology called AccuRx Scribe to help clinicians focus more on patients instead of note-taking. Patients can opt out if they prefer.

Extended Access appointments

Additional appointments are available through The Mayflower Medical Centre in Harwich, including both face-to-face and telephone consultations.

Pharmacy First scheme

Patients under 65 without chronic conditions are encouraged to use pharmacists first for minor illnesses, helping reduce GP demand. Pharmacists can also refer patients to GPs if necessary.

Minor Eye Conditions Service

Patients with issues such as red eyes, itchy eyes, or styes are advised to contact participating optometrists, who can often provide same-day treatment and direct referrals to hospital eye services.

DEDHAM
PARISH
COUNCIL

COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND CONSULTATION



Help shape the future of Dedham's playground on The Duchy Field! Our playground has been in place for 15 years and is now in need of modernisation. We'd love to hear from you - share your feedback and ensure it meets the needs of local children and families. Please scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/dedhamplay



wider discussion about the need for a 20mph speed limit through the village.

Dispute Regarding Payment of Essex Legal Services Invoice

The discussion regarding challenging the invoice payment was noted, and further

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING REPORT – MONDAY, 13TH APRIL 2026.

Ardleigh Surgery

The surgery has left the Colte Partnership and has reverted to operating as a single surgery. See: <https://ardleighsurgery.nhs.uk>.

It was suggested that it may be valuable for the Parish Council to have a representative on the Surgery Patients Group.

Water on Castle Hill

It was noted that the issue is due to blocked drains, which is an Essex Highways matter and has already been reported.

Yellow Lines

The situation regarding the need for yellow lines at the bottom of Crown Street, at the junction with Brook Street and Manningtree Road, was discussed again. Cllr Beeton stated that the matter had been considered previously, but concerns remain regarding the lack of parking near the school. It is therefore unlikely that the yellow lines will be extended to the crossroads.

Speeding Through the Village

It was noted that speeding along Crown Street is becoming worse. Activated speed signs were suggested as a possible solution, which also prompted

conversations will be held with the relevant solicitor.

Water Meadows Update

It is hoped that double yellow lines extending beyond the bridge will be installed following the local elections.

A site visit with Babergh Council is planned for Tuesday 26th May at 10:00am.

The idea of a PCSO monitoring the river area was also discussed and will be considered further. Police have stated they will try to increase their visibility in the area.

Colchester City Council will be installing a CCTV camera in the Mill Lane car park within the next two weeks to help monitor anti-social behaviour.

Constable 250 Update

The Dedham Constable event will take place on Saturday 11th July at the church. Additional events are also planned across the area during June.

Local Plan Consultation

Dedham Council demonstrated its support for Langham Council and its campaign regarding proposals for nearly 900 houses. Members were reminded that Black Brook is likely to experience significant increases in water discharge as a result of the development.

Infrastructure and Community Areas

A contract has been agreed with Sage Groundcare Services for footpath maintenance.

It was proposed that bollards be erected in the Royal Square area designated for street traders. The Council requested further clarification from NEPP regarding the option of monitoring the space should alternative arrangements be agreed.

Regarding the on-street trading policy, it was noted that amendments may be brought to future meetings. It was therefore agreed to defer a decision on one trader's request to trade in Royal Square until the policy has been finalised.

The terms and conditions for the Dedham Fun Run were agreed. The possibility of introducing a small fee for traders in future years will be discussed at a later date.

Communications

The new website is scheduled to be launched at the next meeting.

Dedham Sports Club

Contracts for electrical works were agreed. The agenda for the upcoming meeting with the Sports Club was discussed and agreed.

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING REPORT – MONDAY, 11TH MAY 2026.

Douglas Bourn was re-elected as Chair of the Council. Councillors agreed not to proceed with the election of a Vice Chair at this stage.

Public Forum.

Residents raised several local matters during the public forum: The Council agreed to install signage in the Drift reminding cyclists to take care when riding through the area. Support was expressed for the idea of holding a Summer Fete in 2027, with councillors agreeing it would be a positive community event. Concerns were again raised regarding persistent dog waste issues within the village.

Munnings Oral History Project

The Munnings Oral History Project is now underway, with more than 20 residents expected to take part in interviews.

Constable 250 Celebrations

A number of Constable 250 events are planned in East Bergholt during June. Publicity has also begun for the Dedham event, supported by Greener Dedham, which will take place in the Parish Church on 11th July and focus on "Constable and the Countryside." Councillors also suggested showing a film about Turner and Constable in the village.

Sports Club

The Sports Club AGM is scheduled for 12 May, where new officers will be elected.

Parish Plan

Numerous comments have been received from businesses and residents regarding the Parish Plan. These responses will be discussed in detail at the June meeting.

Ardleigh Surgery Patients Group

The Council agreed to continue following up involvement with the Ardleigh Surgery Patients Group.

Finance, Standards and Procedures

Councillors approved payment of the revised invoice from Essex Legal Services.

Planning Report

There was no meeting of the Planning Group during the month. Cllr Bourn agreed to follow up with the City Council regarding outstanding queries relating to Petalo Lodge.

Infrastructure Group

Dedham Old Boys Football Club requested permission to play matches on Sundays in addition to Saturdays. Before any agreement is reached, the Council will seek clarification regarding: Policies on foul language during matches Parking arrangements and potential

impacts on Royal Square. Councillors also noted that Sunday football fixtures could occasionally conflict with village events such as Remembrance Sunday and the Dedham Fun Run.

Further discussion also took place regarding the proposed Royal Square bay for street traders. A formal proposal will be presented at the next meeting.

Communications

The Council's new website is expected to launch once councillors upload their details. Further discussion took place regarding the new council logo, although it was noted that the design had already been approved the previous year. Councillors were reminded of the need to use SharePoint, and it was suggested that additional training may be required.

Election of Councillors to Sub-Committees

The election of councillors to sub-committees was deferred until the next meeting to allow further discussion on the roles and functions of the groups.

Next Meeting

The next Dedham Parish Council meeting will take place on 1 June 2026 at 6:30pm.

Cllr Douglas Bourn

CONSTABLE AND THE COUNTRYSIDE

On Saturday July 11th there will be a major event to celebrate Constable 250 in the Parish Church from 7.30pm. Speakers will include Susan Owens, Emma Roodhouse and Professor Jules Pretty.

'I should paint my own places best', Constable once announced. True to his word, he rarely travelled in search of spectacular scenery but instead took lifelong inspiration from the places he knew and loved. Susan will introduce and

read passages from her book Constable's Year which explores Constable's close relationship with the Suffolk landscape. Dr Susan Owens is an award-winning writer and former Curator of Paintings at the V&A.

Emma Roodhouse is an art curator and researcher specialising in Suffolk artists and leading on the Constable 250 project. She has curated major exhibitions for Colchester and Ipswich Museums, including landmark shows on Constable and Turner. She has published extensively on early Constable and produced the first book on the Ipswich and Colchester collections, *Creating Constable*.

Jules Pretty is Emeritus Professor of the Environment and the Society at Essex University, award winning author about nature, climate change and people, creating stories about transformation that will lead to action for change,

There will also be a poetry reading from Patrick Marlowe, a Colchester-based theatre director, playwright and occasional actor. Locally he has worked at the Mercury Theatre, Eastern Angles, and for Packing Shed Theatre, for whom he is about to direct a festival of new writing by local playwrights. Plays from the Park in Castle Park in Colchester and will be appearing in *The Haywain*, a new play about the characters depicted in the Constable painting, which will be touring to, among other places Christchurch Park in Ipswich and Flatford Mill.

Each presentation will be interspersed by music on the organ, cello and harp that reflects the local environment and Constable's time.

The event is supported by Greener Dedham and tickets cost £12 from: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/constable-and-the-countryside-tickets-1985370749356>

CONSTABLE

AND THE COUNTRYSIDE



Saturday 11th July 2026 | 7pm | Tickets £12
Dedham Parish Church

A fascinating evening of words and music in beautiful Dedham Church. Talks by Susan Owens, Emma Roodhouse and Jules Pretty will focus on Constable and his connection with the Dedham Vale countryside, and on that landscape today. Proceeds from the event will support the Eco-Church initiative at Dedham Parish Church. The programme includes organ music and a cello performance in honour of Constable's love of the cello. Refreshments available.

Scan the QR code for tickets or visit:
constable.eventbrite.com

GOLDING CONSTABLE'S KITCHEN GARDEN - JOHN CONSTABLE (1776-1837)
COLCHESTER & IPSWICH MUSEUMS | IPSWICH BOROUGH COUNCIL COLLECTION

Event supported by:

Greener
DEDHAM

250
CONSTABLE

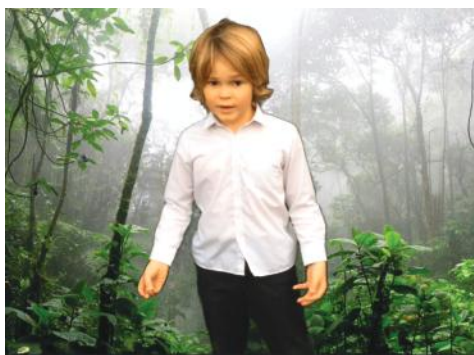




Digital technologies have advanced more rapidly than any other innovation in history and this development is reshaping industries and daily life at an exponential rate. As a school, we are constantly researching and reflecting on the ways in which we can enhance teaching and learning through the use of technology. Our teachers integrate technology into evidence-informed pedagogy; it supports, not replaces, established and effective classroom practices. This means that you will still see children reading books, pond-dipping, learning to sew, painting and engaging in role play! Our high expectations of behaviour and presentation of work also remain, but technology is enabling us to enhance our curriculum offer. We are excited to share with you a small insight into some of the work that has taken place over recent months.



Here, children in Class 5 are using a collaborative document to work together to produce a film script about earthquakes. The children then went on to film what they had written and used editing skills to create the final documentary.



Green screen technology is used right across the school. Here, it was used to enhance French weather forecasts in Class 5 and geography work on biomes in Class 3.



This term, children in Class 5 used augmented reality to create the ruins of a Maya city on the school field. Children were then able to walk through the city and demonstrate their historical understanding by recording an audio tour of what they could see. AR was also used by children in Class 4 in the spring term when they learned about the layers of the rainforest and the animals which live there.



Children in Class 4 have used digital mapping alongside traditional mapping to track the Viking invasion. This enabled them to view satellite images and discuss reasons why these places were chosen by the Vikings as good places to invade. The ability to research effectively and to find reliable information is a key skill, and in Class 6, they put this into practice in science earlier this year when learning about the Linnaean system of classification and the circulatory system.

Laura Valentine

“Now is the high-tide of the year”

We're into the middle of summer now and the garden is hitting its stride. Around the garden I can see shades of pink and purple as the balls of allium flowers pop from the borders; delicate clouds of fluffy thalictrum float above spires of purple linaria and pink and white foxgloves, while the colours and scents of roses surround it all.



Thalictrum

Although there is plenty going on, the garden experiences something of a changeover in June and some spring-flowering plants and bulbs may be looking past their best. So if daffodil and tulip foliage has yellowed and dried out, I'll cut it off at the base. I will also lift them out of pots and containers and replace them with the dahlias that are coming on well now.

Towards the end of the month I'll prune established, deciduous (those that lose their leaves in winter) shrubs that finished flowering in spring and early June. I have weigela and deutzia in the

garden, but other examples are the flowering currant, Japanese quince and the mock orange.



Linaria & Rose

Because these shrubs usually flower on last year's growth, pruning them now gives them plenty of time to develop new shoots that hold next year's flowers. I cut any damaged or dead stems and shoots right down to ground level; trying to create space in the centre of the shrub by cutting back to a bud that points out rather than in. Then I remove any weak, spindly or twiggy shoots so the plant focuses on producing strong new ones that will bear the best flowers. Once done, I'll give it a good liquid feed and then mulch to keep the moisture in.

If you'll have a go, do remember to check hedges and larger shrubs first so you don't disturb any nesting birds.

Some perennials will also benefit from a trim. You can cut the leaves of oriental poppies, pulmonaria, hardy geraniums, and chives back to the ground, then water in some tomato feed and in a few weeks, you'll get a fresh flush of leaves and likely more flowers.

This cutting back will likely leave some gaps in the border, so I will fill them with dahlias and cosmos grown from seed, maybe some pots of tall lilies.



Rose pillar

Don't forget when you're pruning that what you take off might also be used as a cutting to make you more plants. This time of year is good for softwood

cuttings because many plants have new non-flowering growth.

The technique works well on aubrieta, osteospermum, penstemon and pelargonium and deciduous shrubs like buddleja, fuchsia and hydrangea, and is invaluable for increasing stock of sometimes short-lived shrubs like lavender. It has the added benefit of the highest rooting potential of any stem cutting.

Take softwood cuttings early in the morning when plants are full of water and the cool gives you more time before they start to wilt. Look for non-flowering shoots and remove 10cm lengths by pruning just above a bud. Cut each just below the point where a leaf joins the stem – hormones here will stimulate root production – then remove the lower leaves and pinch out the very soft tip. Pop the cutting into free-draining compost so that the first pair of leaves are just above the surface.

Water from above and put the pot in a propagator or inside a plastic bag to create a humid environment. If you can provide bottom heat, this will help the cutting to root too, but a warm windowsill is fine – just don't let it get so much sun that it dries out! The cuttings should be well-rooted in 2-4 weeks when they can be potted on.

Whether you're cutting back or growing on, the longest days are upon us so there's plenty of time to do it all! But don't forget to spend some of that time relaxing and taking in all the resulting beauty of your efforts.

Elliott Frisby

dedhamgardening.wordpress.com - QR code





Dedham Parish Magazine - June 1876

Dedham Grammar School.

A pleasing testimony has recently been given of the high appreciation in which the headmaster of this school is held. It is known to many of our readers that the parish of Dedham, like most other places in the neighbourhood, we might almost say in the kingdom, was visited in the commencement of the year with an attack of scarlet fever.

Fortunately, the outbreak occurred just before the Christmas holidays; and Dr. Lermitt immediately stopped the return of the boys and in a few days secured houses in the neighbouring seaside place, Dovercourt, where the pupils were without loss of time assembled, and school work carried on as usual.

This, of course, involved very considerable trouble and expense; and in order to mark their sense of the promptitude displayed by the headmaster in the matter, his neighbours have just presented him with an address, accompanied by a sum of £240, as a "slight token of their sympathy and good will."

We are glad to learn that the disease did not spread in the parish. There were only three or four cases, and there have been no fresh cases for several weeks. The school has consequently reopened this term at Dedham, and will, we trust, go on and prosper, as it so well deserves.

Editors Note: Using the Bank of England inflation calculator £240 in 1876 is equivalent to £24,400 today.

BAPTISMS

May 7th Jessie Amy, daughter of Robert and Martha Ann White,

May 7th Alice, daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth Pain

May 7th George Edmund, son of George and Eliza Bird

May 7th William Gurden, son of William and Hannah South.

May 14th Ada Emily, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Hudson.

May 14th Ernest Samuel, son of John and Alice Webb.

MARRIAGES.

May 4th James Wordley to Emma Bull, both of Dedham.

May 6th William John Mark to Mary Ann Giblin, both of Dedham.

BURIALS.

May 4th Rosa Maria Garwood, aged 1

May 9th Thomas Giblin, aged 1 year.

May 12th Samuel Walter Watson, aged 18 years.

May 13th George Smith, aged 71 years.

NUMBER OF COMMUNICANTS.

May 7th - 3rd Sunday after Easter.... 87





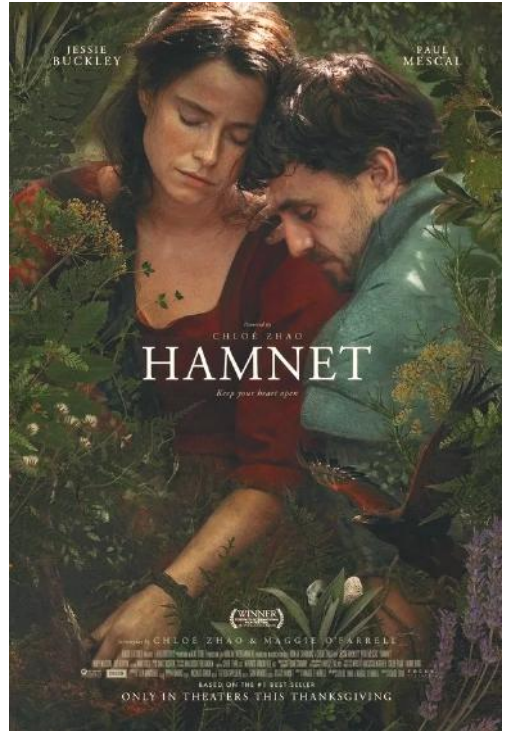
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FREE ENTRY FOR DEDHAM RESIDENTS
To mark the the 65th anniversary of the Munnings Art Museum on 4th June 2026 admission is free for all Dedham residents throughout June
Please bring proof of address

Oral History Project: the Museum in partnership with Dedham Parish Council is collecting stories and memories about village life, Sir Alfred and Violet Munnings in the mid 20th century (1920-1970). If you have a story or memory that you'd like to share then please contact the museum.

Munnings Art Museum, Castle Hill, Dedham, CO7 6AZ
The Castle House Trust is a registered charity no. 1151304
munningsmuseum.org.uk

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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 – June 2026 Thursday Painting Sessions

**Thursday June 25th, Assembly
Rooms, 2.00–4.30pm**

Members' painting together session –
Pastel



To mark the 65th Anniversary of the Munnings Art Museum admission to the museum through the whole of June is FREE for DEDHAM RESIDENTS. Please bring proof of address.

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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.

JUNE 2026

- Monday 1st - 12.30pm, Essex Rose Tea Room - Monday Lunch Club.
- Monday 1st - 6.30pm, Duchy Barn - Dedham Parish Council Meeting.
- Saturday 6th - 6pm, Dedham Church - Colchester City Band Concert
- Sunday 7th - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Rise & Shine
- Sunday 7th - 5pm, Dedham Church - Evensong
- Sunday 14th - 11am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- Tuesday 16th - Ardleigh Surgery, training day.
- Wednesday 17th - 7.30pm-10pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms - Dedham Films, HAMNET
- Sunday 21st - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Morning Praise.
- Sunday 21st - 5pm, Dedham Church - Revive@5.
- Thursday 25th - 2pm-4.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Art Society.
- Saturday 27th 10am-12pm Dedham Church - Mission Bake Stall.
- Sunday 28th - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- Sunday 28th - 2pm - 4pm, The Vicarage - Open Gardens.

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, 10:30pm to 12pm.
- Morning Prayer - Dedham Church, 10.30pm.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 9pm to 11pm.
- 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.



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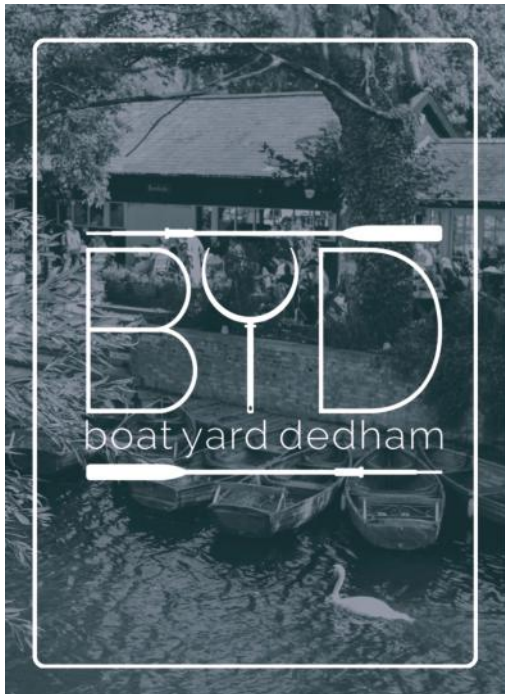
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