



# DEDHAM

# Parish Magazine

## March 2026



**The Royal Visit - February 5th**

# Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

150 years

March 2026

## DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH

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**Cover Photo:** Dedham Parish Council/  
TazzyBro Photography

## 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 Druiitt **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.

**The deadline for April 2026 Magazine entries is the 10<sup>th</sup> March 2026.**

**Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> March**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Ardleigh  
 9.30am Café Church Ardleigh  
 9.30am Rise N Shine Dedham\*  
 5.00pm Evensong Dedham\*

**Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> March**

9.30am Holy Communion Ardleigh  
 11.00am Holy Communion Dedham\*

**Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> March, Mothering Sunday**

9.30am Holy Communion Ardleigh  
 9.30am Morning Praise Dedham\*  
 5.00pm Revive@5 Dedham\*

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**

9.30am Morning Praise Ardleigh  
 9.30am Holy Communion Dedham\*

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> March, Palm Sunday**

11.00am Holy Communion Dedham\*

\* = Services which may be live streamed.

**Morning Prayer - Every Tuesday**

10.30am at Dedham Church



**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**




**Ardleigh Friendship Group: every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month: 10am to 12 noon - Ardleigh Church.**

**Ardleigh Craft Group: every 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month: Meeting at Ardleigh Church from 10am to 12 noon. Please contact Ardleigh Churchwarden if you are interested in joining the group.**

**Little Steps Pre-School Group: every 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month: 9.30am in Ardleigh Church.**

**Monday Lunch Club – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 12.30pm, Essex Tea Rooms.** Phone 322192 to reserve a place.

**Men’s Breakfast - Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March 9am - Breakfast, Bacon, Buns and Bible.**

**Walk and Talk - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 10am or 11am, Dedham Arts and Craft Centre.** 10am for a walk, or at 11am for just a chat.

**FROM THE REGISTERS**

**Funerals:**

Raymond Tucker

**Interments:**

David Albert Victor Carter  
 Sheila Edwards  
 Colin Edwards

**Weddings:**

Sarah Elizabeth Watson & Cameron  
 James Sant

*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,

I wonder how many of us experienced a bit of 'Royal mania' last month around the visit of Their Majesties King Charles III and Queen Camilla. Dedham was transformed from a relatively peaceful village to a highly secure public stage for their visit. People came from far and wide to get a glimpse of the couple (notwithstanding the chilly and wet climes that prevailed on the day!).

People prepared cakes, dance moves, songs and speeches for the occasion and some went to great lengths to get a happy snap or a handshake with either or both of them. And then, shortly after they departed, life as normal resumed. But the event left its impression upon us all through photographs, memories and the inevitable flurry of press coverage of the visit.

Only a few months ago at Christmas time, we remembered the coming of another royal. Not in a peaceful English village, but in a fairly modest home in a small city in the Middle East. His arrival attracted some attention (both at home and abroad), but was otherwise fairly unremarkable. But his legacy and what He came to teach and to do for humanity was unimaginably profound.

He came to rescue us from the difficulties and darkness that sap us of the fullness of life to which many of us aspire.

He came to deal with the spiritual isolation we face because many of us find ourselves in dark and hopeless paths in life we never thought we'd end up. And He came to demonstrate the sin-forgiving, death-defeating victory He won from us through His sacrifice once for all upon the cross.

The Church is currently in the season of Lent. At this time Christians often try and slow down and pause or take time out to examine themselves, to turn away from what seems to rob them of life and hope, to give up something so that they might seek God more intentionally.

Do you ever feel life goes at such a pace that it seems to just pass you by? Why not take some time to slow down, to 'unplug from the matrix' and to reconnect with your Maker? We'd be delighted to help you to do that. Just head to our group website [www.tendingdedhamparishes.org.uk](http://www.tendingdedhamparishes.org.uk) and find a service near you.

*Best wishes,  
Phillip*

## MISSIONS BAKE SALES



The dates for the 2026 Mission Stall are as follows:

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May is our first real mission stall. The Horticulture Society Plant Sale is also outside the church 9-12 noon.  
Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> June 10-12 noon.  
Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> July 10-12 noon.  
Monday 31<sup>st</sup> August 10-4pm bank holiday.  
Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October 10-12 noon.

*Ruth Higginson*

## IN YOUR MAGAZINE

This edition of the magazine is a special edition celebrating the visit of Their Majesties, the King and the Queen to Dedham on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February. Rather than reproduce the press coverage of the visit, I have included individual stories from organisations involved in the visit. Some photographs from the private visit to Munnings Art Museum are also included.

As we belong to the Association of Church Editors (ACE), we have been given permission to use items from Tom Gordon's Reflections and Hymns at <https://swallowsnestnet.wordpress.com/>.

Tom Gordon is a former Church of Scotland parish minister and hospice chaplain who is now retired and living in East Lothian. He is also a member of the Iona Community. He writes a daily blog with a quote, reflection and short prayer.

*John Goldsbrough*

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### **“Restoration is imperative for the healing of the earth.”**

Robert Wall Kimmerer, Braiding Sweetgrass

When I was writing about “the bear ladies” in BBC TV’s Repair Shop yesterday, I used the word “restore” to describe the work they do, bringing old, damaged or worn soft toys back to life. And, as I was writing that piece, my mind went back to a prayer that was familiar for many decades to those associated with the Iona Community. It was part of the Daily Liturgy of the Community’s worship, and it was penned in the 1950s by George MacLeod, the founder of the Iona Community.

George’s prayers had a deeply mystical quality. Some of them have been collected in a lovely little book *The Whole Earth Shall Cry Glory* (<https://www.ionabooks.com/product/the-whole-earth-shall-cry-glory/>), and they’re well worth reading, pondering and absorbing in their beauty.

The particular prayer I have in mind is sometimes called “The Master Carpenter” prayer, and it runs like this:

*O Christ, the Master Carpenter,  
who, at the last, through wood and nails,  
purchased our whole salvation,  
wield well your tools in the workshop of your world,  
so that we, who come rough-hewn to your bench,  
may here be fashioned to a truer beauty of your hand.  
We ask it for your own Name’s sake.  
Amen*

It’s enough today to let George’s MacLeod’s words speak to you in their own way, and I’ll not elaborate on them with much comment. Read them over, several times, if you choose, and let the rhythm of the language and the power of the metaphors do their work. Whether we are “rough-hewn”, old, damaged or worn, isn’t it good to be reminded that there is always the possibility of restoration, redemption, repair, if only we would give ourselves to the possibility of that taking place?

If the ecologist Robert Wall Kimmerer is right when he suggests that “restoration is imperative for the healing of the earth”, isn’t it also imperative for your healing and mine?

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<https://swallowsnestnet.wordpress.com/>



Supporting Church music in the Tendring area

**March 8<sup>th</sup>**

The Deanery choir will be singing at **St Georges Church, Great Bromley CO7 7TS** at the **11am communion service**. The choir will sing 'Locus Iste' by William Byrd. William Byrd was an English Renaissance composer. Considered among the greatest composers of the Renaissance, he had a profound influence on composers both from his native country and on the Continent. He is often considered along with John Dunstaple and Henry Purcell as one of England's most important composers of early music.

Byrd's first known professional employment was his appointment in 1563 as organist and master of the choristers at Lincoln Cathedral. Residing at what is now 6 Minster Yard Lincoln, he remained in post until 1572. His period at Lincoln was not entirely trouble-free, for on 19 November 1569 the Dean and Chapter cited him for 'certain matters alleged against him' as the result of which his salary was suspended. Since Puritanism was influential at Lincoln, it is possible that the allegations were connected with over-elaborate choral polyphony or organ playing. Good Friday - 3rd April Advanced notice

The Deanery choir will be performing 'Requiem' by Cherubini at **St Edmund Church, Tendring. CO16 0BN** and also 'The Reproaches' by Healey Willan, a traditional prayer for Good Friday. This service starts at 7pm.

*Graham Bell, Deanery Choir*

**STOUR CHORAL SOCIETY**  
**Mozart Requiem**

Susanna Rose *music director*  
Stephen Smith *accompanist*  
Anna Maria Rose *soprano*  
Joanna Arnold *contralto*  
Daniel Joy *tenor*  
Peter Grevatt *bass*

**SATURDAY 25<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026**  
**2.30PM**  
Mistley Parish Church, CO11 1ER

TICKETS: £15 (under 18 free)  
Available from:  
Howells Hardware Store, Manningtree  
Choir members, 07511 908213 or  
Info@stourchoralsociety.co.uk



**Luigi CHERUBINI**  
**REQUIEM**  
&  
**THE REPROACHES**  
Healey Willan  
**THE DEANERY CHOIR**

**April 3rd 2026**  
(Good Friday)

Peter Clayton ~ Organist  
Sally Pudney ~ Conductor  
**7pm start**

St Edmund King & Martyr  
1 The Street Tendring  
CO16 0BN  
Retiring collection for Church funds



## HOLY WEEK & EASTER

ACROSS THE TENDRING & DEDHAM PARISHES

Holy Week is a time to reflect on the life, death and resurrection of God's King, Jesus. We hope these services will enable you to draw near to Him in prayer, in silence, in service, in praise and in celebration of the victory over sin, death and hell He has won for us through these precious events and by faith in Him.

### **Maundy Thursday 2nd April -**

#### **Holy Communion with Foot Washing**

St. George the Martyr, Great Bromley - 19:00

St. Mary the Virgin, Dedham - 19:00

St. Mary the Virgin, Wix - 19:00 (Hand Washing)

### **Good Friday 3rd April -**

#### **Stations of the Cross**

All Saints, Great Oakley - 09:30

#### **Hour at the Cross**

St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh - 10:00

All Saints, Wrabness - 14:00

St. Mary the Virgin, Dedham - 14:00

#### **Cross of Christ Choir Performance**

All Saints, Great Oakley - 15:00

#### **Deanery Choir Service**

St. Edmund King and Martyr, Tendring - 19:00

### **Easter Saturday 4th April -**

#### **Easter Vigil**

St. Mary the Virgin, Little Bromley - 20:00

### **Easter Sunday 5th April -**

#### **Quayside service (with Holy Communion in church)**

Open Air Quayside Service, Quay Lane, Beaumont, CO16 0BB - 07:30

Followed by Holy Communion in Church

St. Leonard and St. Mary's, Beaumont-cum-Moze

#### **Holy Communion**

All Saints, Great Oakley - 09:30

St. Edmund King and Martyr, Tendring - 09:30

St. Mary the Virgin, Dedham - 09:30

St. Mary the Virgin, Ardleigh - 09:30 (BCP)

St. George the Martyr, Great Bromley - 11:00

All Saints, Wrabness - 11:00

St. Mary the Virgin, Little Bentley - 11:00

#### **Easter Praise**

St. Mary the Virgin, Wix - 15:00



## THE SUN INN.

Some weeks over the last 23½ years, are bigger than others. Last week, Their Majesties The King and Queen came to Dedham and The Sun Inn.

It was a tremendous honour to host Their Majesties during their visit to Dedham, meeting and thanking members of our local community. From fellow village businesses and Friends of Dedham Church to St Helena Hospice volunteers, Dedham Therapy Farm, and some of our brilliant suppliers championing British produce, including Thornington Mill and Danbury Ridge wineries, more than 100 people packed the pub throughout the morning, building a very real sense of anticipation ahead of their arrival at 11.40am. Countless more brave souls outside withstanding the weather.

The weather (always the weather) delayed proceedings just enough to mean Their Majesties departed with a bottle of gin rather than pulling a pint - but only after The Queen had lent a hand preparing some ravioli with Jack, our Head Chef

The King and Queen spent time talking to our teams, both front of house and chefs about their jobs, our menu and produce and apologising for getting in the way of lunch preparations! It was a special moment for the village and a number of our young team who were very proud to be part of the visit, getting the pub ready, looking after the visitors and resetting for lunch once everyone departed.

A day that won't be forgotten.

*Piers Baker*

## THE ESSEX ROSE TEA ROOM - TIPTREE PATISSERIE.

The Tiptree Patisserie team were proud to present a handmade celebration cake for Their Majesties, King Charles & Queen Camilla, marking the occasion of 25 years at The Essex Rose Tea House in Dedham and 140 years of Jam Making at Tiptree.

The handmade cake, in a traditional book shape was skilfully made by their patisserie chefs, with layers of Victoria sponge and Little Scarlet Strawberry Conserve, finished with hand piping and edible flowers. The cake was sliced by Her Majesty and enjoyed by guests of the special occasion and local customers.

Outside the Essex Rose, their Majesties stopped to speak to Nick Wickenden, Tiptree Museum Curator, about the blue plaque that was erected in 2024 for Alice Lee (1858 - 1939). Alice was a highly respected mathematician and craniologist who was recognised for her contribution in demonstrating that intelligence is not limited to skull capacity. Alice was born in Dedham and lived in the village until she went to University in 1876 (Also the year of the first issue of the Dedham Parish Magazine).

Alice was awarded The Reid Scholarship by Bedford College, (tenable for 2½ years) entitling her to free instruction at Bedford College, London (value 24 guineas per annum, and 15 guineas a year towards the expenses of the College Boarding-house). She became one of the first women to graduate from London University. She was also among the first class of women to attend Bedford College to study higher mathematics. Alice received her PhD in 1901 from the University of London.

Note: 24 guineas equivalent to £2,550 today.

*John Goldsbrough*



### **DEDHAM CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

Thursday 5th February 2026 will be a day fondly remembered by the staff and children at Dedham Primary School. The excitement began the week before, when the children were told about Their Majesties' visit and, finally, understood why they had been rehearsing one particular song quite so much! The audible gasp which echoed around the hall was very special indeed, and subsequent rehearsals saw a new level of enthusiasm and commitment to getting it right. There was even an outdoor rehearsal on the playground when the rain stopped for five minutes! Our chosen song was *The Sun Comes Up* by Andy & Becky Silver which highlights the importance of respecting and appreciating our wonderful world.

Of course, the sun didn't come out that day, but it didn't dampen anyone's spirits, and we were immensely proud of our children. We received a lovely letter from Jennifer Tolhurst, HM Lord-Lieutenant of Essex, praising the children for their 'outstanding contribution' to the day's events. Our gift for Their Majesties was a willow bee created by our school council and a matching bee will soon find its home next to our school pond. When the children see the school bee, they will be able to think of Their Majesties looking at its sibling in the palace gardens!

*Laura Valentine*

### **MUNNINGS ART MUSEUM.**

On Thursday afternoon, 5th February 2026, The King and Queen took a tour of the Munnings Art Museum in Dedham, Essex. The museum is at Castle House, the former home of the East Anglian artist Sir Alfred Munnings (1878-1959) and is celebrating its 65th anniversary in 2026.

Munnings is most well-known for painting horses and The King and Queen viewed a selection of his most recognisable pictures including *Ponies in the Ringland Hills, Norfolk (1911)* and *My Wife My Horse and Myself (1935)* – a portrait of the artist and his wife at Castle House.

Their Majesties also looked at pencil studies, done at various racecourses on the backs of racecards, and letters and photographs from the museum's large archive of personal ephemera. Charles Proudfoot, a long standing volunteer who talked to The King about some of the historic documents said that, "The visit has been a real honour."

Following the tour of the pictures, Their Majesties viewed the newly restored Garden-Room at Castle House, for which they later unveiled a commemorative plaque, and spoke with a number of artists involved in the museum's activity programme. Museum Director Jenny Hand said "the museum is a special place for artists, we hope that coming here inspires both beginners and accomplished painters alike".

Finally, Their Majesties went into the former working studio of Sir Alfred Munnings, which still houses his brushes and easels, and met and chatted with fifty of the museum's volunteer room stewards who greet visitors each year.

*Jenny Hand*



**Image: - Piers Baker,The Sun Inn. Preparing ravioli with Jack, The Sun's' Head Chef.**



**Image: - Piers Baker,The Sun Inn.**



**Image: - Piers Baker, The Sun Inn. The King talking to the front of house team.**



**Image: - The Colchester City Brass Band.**



**Image - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Image - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Image: - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Images: - Tiptree Patisserie/Essex Rose.**



**Image: - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Image: - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Images: - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Image: - Dedham Parish Council/TazzyBro Photography.**



**Image: - Munnings Art Museum. Inspecting the painting "Two Lady Riders under an Evening Sky", 1911.**



**Image: - Munnings Art Museum.**



Images: - Munnings Art Museum.

## **A thank you from Dedham Parish Council.**

Dedham Parish Council would like to thank residents for the warm welcome given to King Charles III and Queen Camilla on Thursday 5th February. Despite the wet weather, hundreds of people turned out to meet them.

The Parish Council helped organise the visit, working to identify local community groups, businesses, and charities to take part. While it was not possible to include everyone, we hope those involved enjoyed a memorable day.

Special thanks go to Dedham Primary School pupils who braved the rain and sang beautifully, sharing a message about protecting the environment.

The visit was coordinated by the Lord Lieutenant of Essex in partnership with Colchester City Council. The Parish Council was thanked by the Lord Lieutenant for its role in organising the day and supporting the involvement of so many village groups.

A private but equally important part of the visit included time at Munnings Art Museum, where Their Majesties viewed paintings and artefacts, met volunteers, and unveiled a commemorative plaque.

Dedham Parish Council also plans to plant a tree in the village to mark the occasion of the Royal Visit.

*Douglas Bourn  
Chair, Dedham Parish Council*



## Dedham Parish Council Meeting Report – Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

### Trading in Royal Square

A space has been created in the Square for trading, and appropriate signage will be erected.

### Parish Plan

Letters are to be sent to all organisations and businesses in the village outlining the Parish Plan and seeking their views on priorities for Dedham.

A proposal will be developed to create a strategy informed by the Parish Plan, including a timetable. Information gathered will be used to produce an action plan for works and developments within the village. Timescales will be agreed once responses to the letters are received, after which the next stage will be the production of a detailed action plan with agreed timescales.

### Dedham – Munnings and

### Constable Update

Plans are underway for the research project, and the Council agreed to cover the costs of the Essex Record Office.

### Constable 250th Anniversary

There is a proposal to hold an event in July at the Church, featuring short talks about Constable with musical interludes. It was also suggested to identify whether anyone currently organises village walks, which could potentially include areas featured in Constable's paintings.

### Local Plan Consultation Update

Proposed developments in neighbouring villages will have an impact on Dedham. These include plans for 900 houses in Langham, 150 houses in Boxted, and approximately 12 properties in Dedham. Rainwater runoff from Langham will feed

into Black Brook, which flows through Dedham, and this could have significant flooding implications.

### Sports Club

A partnership meeting between the Council and the Sports Club is to be arranged. Unfortunately, a pipe burst at the Sports Club during the cold period has caused damage, and an insurance claim will be made.

### Budget and Precept for 2026/2027

The proposed budget for the year is £265,150, with a precept of £44,693. This represents minimal increases from the previous year.

### Report and Recommendations from Planning Group Meeting

The main item for discussion was plans for Shakespeare House, which the Group supported in principle.

### Bus Service Timetables Update

A new bus company, Konnect, is now operating services for Dedham. Updated timetables are displayed on village noticeboards, on the website, and at bus stops throughout the village.

### Communications

The Council now has access to an IT specialist who can assist councillors with IT issues, website development, and communications. It was agreed to review the Parish Council's new logo.

### Training

Councillors were reminded that they agreed to undertake training when signing the Code of Conduct upon accepting their position.

*Douglas Bourn*  
Chair of Dedham Parish Council

Scan to access the Parish Council website.



# DEDHAM HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

[www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com](http://www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com)

## SPRING SHOW

All welcome to exhibit - no charge

**SATURDAY 21 MARCH 2026**

2 - 4pm

Assembly Rooms, Dedham

Admission: members and children free  
non-members £1



**Plant sale**  
**Raffle**  
**Refreshments**



Kindly supported by



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### A CROWD, A HOST, OF GOLDEN DAFFODILS

It's March! Finally! And the spring equinox is just a few weeks off which means serious sowing and planting can get underway and brings our Spring Show on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March. We've brought it forward a couple of weeks to avoid the Easter holidays but also to catch increasingly early-flowering daffodils (*Narcissus* if you want to get Latin about it).

There's no cost to enter the show and you don't need to be a member of the Society, and we have a great programme with classes for everyone. Just download the Schedule and Entry Form from our website where a search for 'daffodil' will return a few tips and images to help you exhibit. If you have any questions, just email [dedhamgardening@gmail.com](mailto:dedhamgardening@gmail.com) and we'll try to help.

The classification of daffodils can be confusing, so here's a run-down of the differences to help you choose what to exhibit. Don't worry about getting it wrong though – let us know when you bring your exhibit in and we can make sure it goes into the correct class.

Daffodils are typically yellow but there are also varieties in shades of white or orange. The flower itself has two key parts: the corona (also called the trumpet or cup) in the centre, which is surrounded by a perianth of (usually) six segments (the petals or tepals). This is important because it helps you put your daffodil in the right class when exhibiting.

Think of the daffodil lying on the ground with the corona face up. Sometimes it suggests a teacup resting on its saucer, and this gives a clue to one of the alternate names for the corona, the cup. Sometimes the corona is longer, so it's called a trumpet (imagine the cone-like shape of the musical instrument). Got that? Great.



Various varieties of daffodil

Next, daffodils are exhibited in thirteen descriptive divisions. Classes 1-6 are for trumpet daffodils, where the trumpet must be longer than the petals. To test, gently fold one of the petals forward over the corona: if it is the same length or shorter than the corona, then you have a trumpet.

Identify cupped daffodils by folding the petals forward again. If they are longer than the corona, then you have a cupped daffodil – some of the cups are small in diameter, others are much wider. Both count as cupped daffodils, 'small' or 'large'. You need large-cupped for classes 7 and 8 but can put small-cupped varieties into classes 11, 12 and 15, and – if the flower is small enough – 13 and 14 too.

Double daffodils can be difficult to classify correctly. The flower itself must be doubled, a peony-like mass of corona and perianth. A daffodil with two or more flowers on the stem (ie multi-headed) is NOT classified as a double daffodil unless each of those flowers has



Double      Double headed      Double and  
multi-headed

that peony-like mass. Our show schedule asks you to exhibit one or three stems in classes 9 and 10, so you can exhibit multi-headed varieties here, just make sure every head is a double. Good multi-headed varieties include 'Bridal Crown', 'Cheerfulness' or 'Erlicheer' ('Early Cheer').

Classes 13 and 14 are essentially for 'any other' type of daffodil. These include multi-headed varieties, as well as the weird-looking (I think) bulbocodium and the pretty split-cupped. Then there's the pheasant's eye, which has pure white petals and an almost flat corona with a red rim.

If you can't be bothered remembering all that, just find 12 daffs, make them look nice in a vase and enter class 15. And if you're not sure what you have, we don't mind if you circle all the daffodil classes on your entry form and we will help you out on the day.

The British weather being what it is, it doesn't matter if – on the day – you don't have everything you'd hoped to exhibit.

The Show is not just about daffodils of course. There are classes for other bulbs and, as it might prove too early for many tulips, we've created a dedicated class for grape hyacinths (muscaria) this year. Class 20 requires 12 stems of small or miniature bulbous plants with a minimum of three different varieties. There's nothing stopping you from

including miniature daffodils or muscari here, even if you've also used them in classes 13, 14 or 18, while scilla, puschkinia and ipheion all have smaller varieties. Although not officially bulbous, we ask our judge to be kind here so anemone, cyclamen and crocus (rhizomes, tubers and corms respectively) can also be included in this class.

Remember that a variety can be the same kind of plant but look different. For example, 'Dutch Master' and 'Mount Hood' are both trumpet daffodil types, but the first is an all-yellow variety, the second all-white. If they were miniatures (they're not, don't try it) they would count towards two of the three needed in class 20. For miniature daffs, where the blooms are usually less than 2 inches (50mm) in diameter, 'Tête-à-Tête', 'Rip van Winkle', 'Sun Disc' and 'Minnow' are all very different varieties.

For class 21, 12 stems of spring flowers, you'll probably have to draw on any hellebores, primroses, primulas, wallflowers, pansies or violas that you haven't already used in other classes. You can't use any bulbs or shrubs, so daffodils and spring blossom will be disqualified here.

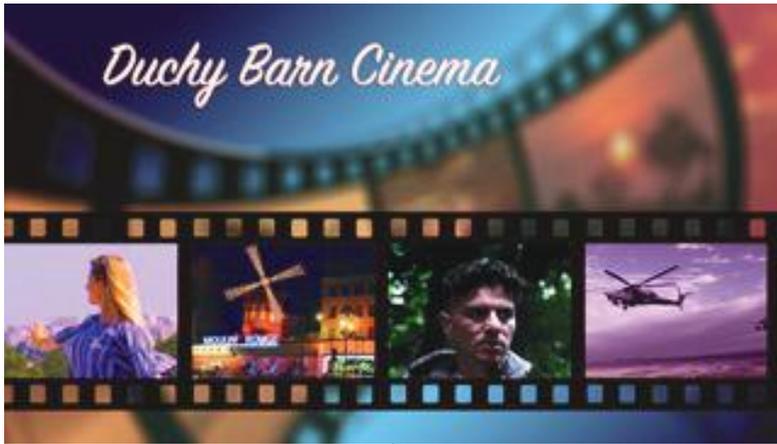
Do have a look at the schedule on our website. It would be great to see more people taking part and supporting Dedham's gardening group. I know the show sounds a bit intimidating but we're a friendly bunch and are happy to help and offer advice and encouragement.

Even if you don't exhibit, make sure to put the afternoon of 21<sup>st</sup> March in your diary and come along for a look around, a hot drink and the raffle! We'll see you there.

*Elliott Frisby*

[dedhamgardening.wordpress.com](http://dedhamgardening.wordpress.com) - QR code





Nestled on the edge of Royal Square behind the War Memorial and beside the path leading towards the playing fields, is Dedham's historic Duchy Barn. Renovated in 2002 and further improved in 2018, it serves as a community hub for the village.

As such it provides the ideal space for a host of activities, the latest of which is the cinema club which launched its first showing in November 2025. Cosy and full of character, the Duchy Barn is an extremely pleasant location in which to while away the time in a convivial atmosphere, especially during the winter months. All the films are free and come with an accompaniment of warm drinks, cookies and cake!

Film sessions start at 10:00 am and normally take place on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Movies being screened are advertised in both the Duchy Barn and in the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, a stones throw from the barn. If you're a visitor to Dedham, you'll probably want to see this magnificent church, a real gem at the heart of Dedham. While you are there, why not pick up a leaflet and join us for a film if you've got time? Everyone is welcome!

Over the coming months, we're aiming to show a selection of some of the best films ever made, from the past and present, showcasing a range of styles and genres. These will include some well-known favourites as well as, hopefully, a number of films that will be new to you. Subtitles are generally left on and not just for the few foreign films we'll be showing. We welcome any suggestions you may have for future offerings. We aim to finish before 1:00 pm.

The Duchy Barn was equipped with a new projector and sound system as well as blackout curtains in anticipation of this venture, sponsored by St. Mary's Church. The next two films in March and April are scheduled as follows:

- Wednesday 25th March at 10:00 am
- Wednesday 22nd April at 10:00 am

Please consult the posters and flyers on display for a brief outline of every film on offer. A short introduction is normally given at the start of each session and there is an interval half way through. Please note, as this is a small venue, seating capacity is limited to 30 and we operate on a "first come, first served" basis. We very much look forward to welcoming you to the Duchy Barn on the next occasion!



**ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER (15) 2025  
DIRECTED BY PAUL THOMAS ANDERSON**

**Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> 2026,  
7:30 PM - 10:00 PM**

Washed-up revolutionary Bob (DiCaprio) exists in a state of stoned paranoia, surviving off-grid with his spirited, self-reliant daughter, Willa (Infiniti). When his evil nemesis (Penn) resurfaces after 16 years and she goes missing, the former radical scrambles to find her, father and daughter both battling the consequences of his past.

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Our skipper training programme begins in the spring each year and is open to both men and women. After training you are free to give as much or as little time as you would like between Easter and October and would join a friendly group of people dedicated to conservation and the health of the River Stour and its wildlife. But it's also fun, and enjoyable to be doing good in such a beautiful and historic area.



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[www.riverstourtrust.org](http://www.riverstourtrust.org), or ring Kevin Taylor on 01206 322122

### 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](mailto:dedhamartsociety@gmail.com) or visit our website: [www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk](http://www.dedhamartsociety.co.uk).

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

#### **Dedham Art Society – March 2026 Thursday Painting Sessions**

##### **Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>**

AGM and members' focus discussion. Assembly Rooms, 2.00–4.30pm

##### **Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Members' painting together session – Echoes and Influences. Assembly Rooms, 2.00–4.30pm

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#### **Time for a smile: Mothers of the Famous.**

**Columbus' Mother:** "I don't care what you've discovered, Chris. You still could have written."

**Michelangelo's Mother:** "Mike, can't you paint on walls like other children? Do you have any idea how hard it is to get that stuff off the ceiling?"

**Batman's Mother:** "It's a nice car, Bruce, but do you realise how much the insurance is going to be?"

**Goldilocks Mother:** "I've got a bill here for a broken chair from the Bear family. Do you know anything about this, Goldie?"

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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. On 11<sup>th</sup> March, Andrew Baker, acclaimed cruise ship lecturer, will return to talk on, "The Anatomy of the NHS", and on 8<sup>th</sup> April Bernard Lockett's subject will be "The Heritage of Gilbert and Sullivan".

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

## MARCH 2026

- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Rise N Shine.
- Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Evensong.
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> - 12.30pm, Essex Rose Tea Room - Monday Lunch Club.
- Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6.30pm, Duchy Barn. - Dedham Parish Council Meeting.
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> - 7.00pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, DHS Meeting - Production - Plants for all seasons.
- Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> - 11am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> - 2.00-4.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Art Society.
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> - 5.00pm, Dedham Church - Revive@5.
- Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Matins.
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> - 7.30-10pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms - Dedham Films, ONE BATTLE AFTER ANOTHER.
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> - 2.00 - 4.00pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, DHS Spring Show.
- Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> - 9.30am, Dedham Church - Holy Communion.
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> - 10am, Duchy Barn, Films@Duchy Barn.

- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> - 2-4.30pm, Dedham Assembly Rooms, Dedham Art Society.
- Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> - 11am, Dedham Church - Palm Sunday, Holy Communion.

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## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Monday

- Meet up Mondays - The Sun Inn, 11am to 12pm.
- Social Table Tennis - Cancelled for the time being as a result of issues with the Sports Club.
- Watercolour Painting Group, Duchy Barn, 10am to 12pm.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 13:30 to 15:30.

### Tuesday

- Coffee morning - The Duchy Barn, 10:30 to 12pm.
- Morning Prayer - Dedham Church, 10.30pm.
- Mobile Post Office - Royal Square 09:00 to 11:00.
- Dedham Baby and Toddler Group Dedham Sports Club, 10am to 12pm (Term time).

### Wednesday

- Bridge in Dedham - Assembly Rooms, 1.30-5.00pm.

### Thursday

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

### Friday

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



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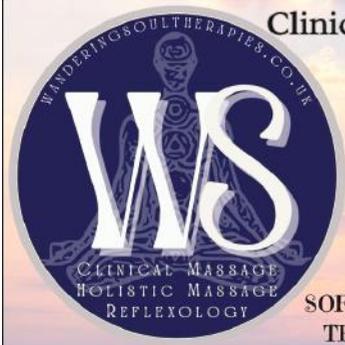
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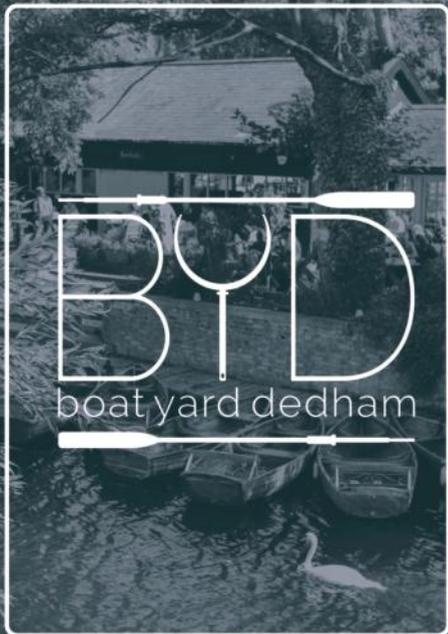
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