

DEDHAM

Parish Magazine



A summer sunset, photographed by Danny Knowles

September 2022



Dedham Parish Magazine

First Published in 1876

September 2022

DEDHAM PARISH CHURCH
dedham-and-ardleigh-parishes.org.uk

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DEDHAM PARISH MAGAZINE

The deadline for magazine entries is the 10th of the month

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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: Ann Shaw **Tel: 322 192** or Sue Browne **Tel: 07778 198 118**

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 would like a lift to church contact
Ann Shaw **Tel: 322 192** Ruth Higginson **Tel: 322 598**

First Steps: Want to get back involved with church but don't know where to start?
Contact Liz and John Reed **Tel: 323 770**

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

SEPTEMBER 2022

Sunday, 4th September

9.30am Rise N' Shine Dedham*
11.00am Morning Prayer Ardleigh
5.00pm Evensong Dedham

Sunday, 11th September

8.00am Eucharist Ardleigh*
11.00am Holy Communion CW
Dedham*

Sunday, 18th September

9.30am Matins, BCP Dedham*
11.00am Holy Communion, CW Ardleigh

Sunday, 25th September

8.00am Eucharist Ardleigh*
9.30am Morning Praise Dedham*
5.00pm ReVive@5 Dedham*

**Morning Prayer - Every Tuesday,
10.30am at Dedham Church**

**Online Prayer - Monday Morning at
7am and Friday Evening at 6pm**

* = services which are live-streamed

Ardleigh Friendship Group – every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month: 10am to 12 noon in Ardleigh Church - outside when weather allows.

ACTS Living Stones Prayer Group – every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month, 6.25pm at Ardleigh Church.


Men's Breakfast - Saturday, 9am at Dedham Vicarage.
For bacon butties, tea, coffee and chat.

Monday Lunch Club – Monday September 5th 12.30pm, Essex Tea Rooms. Phone Ann Shaw on 322192 to reserve a place indicating it is for the Lunch Club.

Walk and Talk- Thursday, 10am - Meet at Dedham Arts Centre at 10am for a walk, or 11am for a chat.

Mission Bake Sale- Saturday 24th September, 10am -12pm at Dedham Church

 **YouTube** Our services are on YouTube search Dedham and Ardleigh Parishes.

 *Follow us on Facebook, search DedhamandArdleigh*

Scan this QR code to access the Dedham and Ardleigh parishes website.



A word from the editor.

Hopefully by the time you read this we will have had some rain. This month sees the introduction of Newspaper Archive items. The British Library is scanning its collection of newspapers and uploading them to the British Newspaper archive website. Currently the website has more than 55 million scanned pages. Our local newspapers are well represented, for example the Essex County Standard has 4,350 issues comprising 25,080 pages covering the years 1831-1844, 1846-1897, 1899-1900. The scanned images are copyright, however you are free to transcribe the pages. An historic archive item is indicated in the text by this icon.



John Goldsbrough

THE CHURCHWARDENS

It seems a shame on a warm August afternoon to be looking ahead to shorter, colder days but we all know that one season follows another and before long we may be looking out at falling leaves and autumn colour. In addition, we know that the winter months will bring challenges to many in terms of rising costs of fuel and food.

As a church and community, we have been supporting the Colchester Food Bank with donations and with the kindness of volunteers who regularly transport our donations to Colchester. We are very aware that not everyone can get to a Food Bank and so we are inviting anyone who needs support in these difficult times to take from the boxes in the church porch.

With this in mind, we appeal to those who can donate tinned or packaged food or longlife milk to help us provide for local need. We anticipate that with local generosity, collections will still be taken to Colchester on a regular basis and we thank you for all the love you have shown to others by your donations small and large over the years.

You will see below an article about the appointment of one Rural Missioner to the nine parishes in vacancy and we extend a very warm welcome to Phillip Young and his family as he begins his ministry.

Vee and Peter

RURAL MISSIONERS - UPDATE

Following the articles that I wrote for the February and June editions of the magazine, I thought you would like to know that in late July the Bishop & Archdeacon of Colchester announced that, subject to appropriate DBS clearances, the Rev'd Phillip Young has

been appointed as one of the two Rural Missioners to the Harwich Deanery. He will be licensed to the parishes of Ardleigh, Beaumont-cum-Moze, The Bromleys, Dedham, Great Oakley, Little Bentley, Tendring, Wix & Wrabness and it is hoped that the Bishop of Chelmsford will license Phillip to his new responsibilities in early October.

Phillip is currently Curate in the parish of Wootton in Bedfordshire, and it is expected that Phillip, his wife and their three children will move after the end of the summer. It has also been confirmed that they will be moving into the vicarage in Dedham.



Phillip is the first of two Rural Missioners to be appointed to the 9 rural parishes in the Harwich Deanery and the second vacant position will be advertised in the near future. The position of Rural Missioner is a new one to the Church of England and it is important to remember that the two Rural Missioners will be responsible for discerning the needs of all nine parishes and allocating their time and talents accordingly.

Let us all pray for Phillip and his family as they prepare to move and as he prepares to take up his new ministry and also that the second vacant Rural Missioner position is filled as soon as possible following the post being advertised and interviews held.

The Deanery Synod Steering Group that I sit on will continue to meet to

oversee the advertising, interview and recruitment process for the second position and I will, of course, keep you updated with a further article as and when there is positive progress to report.

David Druitt

MY FAITH - The 5-letter 'F' Word

'This world is a global village son, remember to keep your life flowing like a river and not stagnate...'. I heard these words from my father often while growing up and as cool as they sounded, I had no idea of what they meant. Au contraire I'm sure from my Father's perspective they couldn't be any clearer coming from someone who had travelled around the world multiple times in an age where international travel wasn't yet for the masses.

Fast forward a few decades, and I can intuitively understand and agree with those words and use them as a philosophy for life – 'flow like a river and make sure you do not stagnate'. I have



been blessed with the opportunity to experience living across three continents so far and growing up as a Vicar's child. It has a been very comfortable and prepared me for living a nomadic life. The primary assets carried along with me directly relate to the love and

friendship of people met at each stop along the journey.

I can equate the very same to experiences and learnings gained, which are invaluable in defining my perspective of the many important ingredients of life: including an important one called 'Faith'. It has been an eye opener to what significance this 5-letter- word holds, and although synonymous with religion, it is also something that needs to be considered across daily living.

Going back to before I had understood the meaning of religion in my life, there still was this sense of confidence when making a decision: be it as small as choosing the right moment to cheer up an upset brother or as big as choosing subjects in school to get into the right career.

I now know that the underlying foundation of this confidence has always been faith that the outcome of my decision would be successful/good/positive. Even when my decisions were wrong, e.g. terrible timing to cheer up my brother resulting in me being flung across the room; or realising after getting into university studying medicine that I couldn't handle seeing blood... the outcome was good i.e. a forgettable crash-landing causing both my brother and I to break into fits of laughter, instantly cheering him up. I then leveraged Science and Maths to switch to Engineering and get into the progressive field of internet communications security which allowed me to learn and grow in my career.

I realised quite early on how important faith is, but it added a whole new dimension in my life when I was able to understand how it fitted into my journey as a Christian. I would describe it as the feeling of stepping into sunlight on a cold wintry day, where despite freezing surroundings, there's an instant feeling of

warmth knowing there's a heat-radiating glowing orb in the sky. I find that is the core of faith – an inherent sense of trust and confidence in an intangible entity that assures a positive outcome no matter what the circumstances.

I have found it influences every interaction – be it with people of different religious beliefs or with people of no religious belief, and inadvertently always changes an argument into a dialogue. I often say that it's important for everyone to have faith – be it in one's own self or even in a seemingly dead piece of wood.

Having said that, faith does come with its challenges, and often I have found myself doubting and being tested after a decision I have made. I hope I'm not the only parent who places infinite faith in my children expecting everything they do to be perfect all the time. Well, unsurprisingly it isn't, and as I am learning it actually shouldn't be... faith is not about an expectation of what the outcome will be, rather it is an expectation that whatever the outcome, it will be the right one.

It's this faith that my parents, family and friends continue to place in me that shapes me and gives me a responsibility to hold true and do my best in everything I do. Reciprocating placement of this faith is a necessary loop that encourages accountability and builds trust in relationships.

Having faith in each other should extend beyond the family and into the community – after all we are social animals for a reason!

FAITH has been instrumental in my life's journey thus far, and there's still loads to learn as in faith I continue flowing across this global village...

Akshay John

HAPPY MEMORIES OF BEING IN DEDHAM CHOIR.

David and I have always enjoyed being members of the church choir at St Mary's Dedham. It gave us a wonderful opportunity to meet people in the village. When we moved into Dedham, David's Uncle Donald Watson, who lived here and was already a member of the choir, introduced us to the choir and so began our journey.



Choir stalls as seen from the organ loft.

My first memory of choir practice was of the vicar, Canon Johnson who was quite an extrovert and had a certain charisma which amused the children, and his wife Dorothy who was the the musical accompanist and curbed his enthusiasm by increasing the volume of her playing much to our amusement.

It is interesting to note that the Church Wardens were General Birch and Brigadier Collingwood.

CHURCH NEWS AND FEATURES

We loved singing the hymns which were always chosen by The Choir Master and Vicar.

One of the last baptisms carried out by Canon Johnson was that of our daughter, Fiona, who was born on the 28th of February 1975. Her English God Mother, Alison Gascoigne, was a leading soprano in the choir and sang "Sheep may safely graze" from Handel's Messiah. (David had a moment of horror when the warm water was poured from a thermos flask into the font and steam arose from it!) Fiona slept through the whole service.

When Fiona was an infant, Gillian Christie, John Christie's, (one of our basses) wife, kept Fiona wonderfully entertained so that we could collect a sleepy child after choir practice. Fiona could not wait to join the choir and as soon as she was 8 years old she became a junior Chorister.

Ted Ely, the village baker, was in the Guinness Book of Records as the longest serving choir member!

At Christmas our gifted tenor and bass singers Roy Flewin, Leslie George and Don Watson sang the solo parts of the Three Kings Carol. David took part on another occasion as stand-in. When the Crib service was introduced, it was so popular that in subsequent years a second service was added. The Church was full, with seating in all available spaces, for Easter, Harvest, Crib services and Midnight Christmas Eucharist!

Over the years Dedham Church has hosted several radio and TV broadcasts. The earliest was for the BBC World Service. ITV broadcast live 2 Morning services as they had all the kit locally to cover Ipswich Town football fixtures! The latest was BBC TV Songs of Praise celebrating the Church's Quincentenary in 1992.

I love singing at baptisms weddings and funerals. It is interesting to see what hymns, music and readings have been chosen by the families, having consulted with Anthony Watson our music director and the vicar. Weddings and baptisms are such joyous occasions and the choir has the best view of the ceremony.

Why funerals you may ask? I think that they are a celebration of a person's life. The eulogy given by family and friends, the choice of hymns and readings are all so moving that I feel and enriched by this service.

If the families request live streaming for these services, so many families and friends can enjoy and participate in this digital world.

Geraldine Watson

THE DEANERY CHOIR

The Deanery Choir was formed in 2021 with the aim of supporting church music in the Tendring area. We sing in a four part harmony, both unaccompanied and with organ. We are able to provide music for various church services, including choral evensong, weddings and funerals, and for special festive times such as Christmas and Easter.

Experienced support can be given to those planning such services in the choice of appropriate music if required.

The Deanery Choir will be supporting the worship of the Holy Communion service at St George's church, Great Bromley, on Sunday 11th September at 10.30am.

For further information please email our choir organiser Graham Bell, grahambell493@gmail.com

St. Mary's Church Dedham



FLOWER FESTIVAL on the theme of CREATION

FRIDAY 7th OCTOBER 10am to 4pm

SATURDAY 8th OCTOBER 10am to 5pm (with live music to
soothe the soul played from 4pm-5pm)

SUNDAY 9th OCTOBER 11.30am to 4pm

Refreshments: sandwiches, cakes, teas and coffees.

ENTRY BY DONATION

CREATION FLOWER FESTIVAL

DEDICATE A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT.

The flower festival team is inviting you to take part by sponsoring and dedicating an arrangement of flowers, in commemoration of someone, or something special, (for example, a wedding anniversary, baptism or in memory of someone who has passed away). The arrangement will be attached to the pillars in the church.



WE ARE SUGGESTING £30 PER ARRANGEMENT TO HELP COVER THE COST OF THE FLOWERS FOR THE FESTIVAL.

ORDERS BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER.

Please contact Jill Strangward (01206 322006)

CREATION FLOWER FESTIVAL

CREATIVE WORKSHOPS - Release your inner creativity!

Running in conjunction with the flower festival, we are holding some workshops that will tie in with the theme of Creation. These will take place on Saturday 8th October in the Dedham Assembly Rooms and the Duchy Barn between 10.00-12.00 pm and 2.00-4.00 pm. Many of us may not realise that we possess an inner creativity, or perhaps you have always toyed with the idea of trying a new art form. Here is your opportunity to enjoy a couple of hours in a creative, friendly, and unpressured small group. Who knows where it might lead!

The workshops are being offered on SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER at 10-12.00pm and from 2-4pm. We are offering....

WATERCOLOUR classes run by Sue Bedford (Assembly Rooms)



A Sue Bedford original watercolour.

OIL PAINTING classes run by Avril Biggins (Duchy Barn)



POTTERY classes run by James Geary (Assembly Rooms)



A James Geary original bowl.

CALLIGRAPHY classes run by Philippa Black (Assembly Rooms)



THE COST IS £25 AND THE PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS THE ONGOING COSTS OF RUNNING THE CHURCH.

Please contact Elizabeth Hopkins on 01206 322361 to book BEFORE SEPT 30

The four tutors who will be holding workshops in the Hewitt Hall and the Duchy Barn during the Flower Festival are Avril Biggins (oil painting), James Geary (pottery), Philippa Black (calligraphy) and Sue Bedford (watercolour) have been interviewed about their art. The first two interviews are printed on the next page and the next two will be published in the October edition.

JAMES GEARY

Have you always had an interest in pottery or is it something you recently found out about and found you really loved doing?

I was lucky enough to do pottery at my senior school and all through my career in the City I hoped that one day I would be able to come back to it. Like riding a bicycle luckily it came back to me quickly and now I spend loads of time on the internet watching other potters, learning new skills and getting tips. *Who, or what, are your influences?*

I love the pots of Alan Caiger-Smith from the Aldermaston Pottery, though try as I might I can not replicate his fluid painting style. Also I adore the works of Lucie Rie – again her decorating techniques will take a lot to master. *How are you trying to take your medium as far as you can? Are you pushing your personal boundaries or are you happy with where you are now?*

I never stand still for long – you get tired to making the same thing, so I am always trying out new styles, new glazes and new techniques. Only dead fish swim with the stream. *Do you take commissions?*

I take a lot of commissions, but much prefer to take a lump of clay and see what happens on the wheel. The last thing I want to become is a conveyor belt.

And finally- how are you going to approach your workshop? Will it be structured and formal or will you let people follow their own instincts? After all this maybe the very first time they have held clay.

There will be some structure – a demonstration followed by the chance for each participant to try their hand at throwing a pot or two, coached by me. While that is happening, the other participants will be making Christmas

decorations, tiles or coiled pots. These will be fired in my kiln after the event.

SUE BEDFORD

Have you always had an interest in watercolours or is it something you recently found out about and found you really loved doing?

I have always been interested in painting with watercolours most especially flowers and using the wet in wet technique. Watercolour translates easily into fashion textile designs. The first company I worked for was a fashion store called “Cara” which was owned by Portmeirion pottery company. My designs were worn by characters on two well known soap operas.

Who, or what, are your influences?

I have been influenced by many artists over the years. My current favourites are - Elizabeth Blackadder, Angie Lewin and Cedric Morris. *How are you trying to take your medium as far as you can? Are you pushing your personal boundaries or are you happy with where you are now?*

Yes! I’m always pushing myself forward. Last year I experimented with larger watercolour and ink landscapes. My recent “River Flow” pieces push the unpredictable nature of these media. *Do you take commissions?*

Yes I’m happy to discuss commissions. *And finally- how are you going to approach your workshop? Will it be structured and formal or will you let people follow their own instincts? After all this maybe the very first time they have held paint brushes.*

The workshop will be mainly about experimentation and playing with this versatile medium. We will start with some basic techniques and progress with painting flowers inspired by the Flower Festival!



The organ at the west end of the church, June 2022

Back in the summer of 2018, I wrote an article for this very publication explaining the need to urgently explore solutions to our ever-more fragile and unreliable Hill pipe organ.

One of the most striking features that seems to draw the eye of the many visitors to our church is the striking organ, high up in the West End gallery. It is often the subject of interest. Even more magical for many is that today, the organist plays from a remote console at the East end of the nave.

When first installed in 1843 the organ and organist were housed in a gallery at the west end of the church. It was moved to floor level in 1866, and then enlarged and moved again in 1887 to the east end of the nave. In 1971, it was dismantled and reduced again, before being housed in its current position in 1975. At this point, digital electronics were installed to link the console to the pipe organ itself, these

being upgraded in 1995. This configuration allows the organist to be close to the choir, though results in an time delay for the organist. Whilst much of the 1843 Hill pipework was retained, most of the original Hill organ was discarded in favour of some reworked parts from other organs. As such, it is no longer classed as an historic organ.

In 2004, I was cautioned by our organ technicians that we would soon be facing a major overhaul. The organ chamber is so overcrowded that it is impossible to allow for safe access much of the organ for maintenance and tuning. (Tuning involves two people – one to sit at the console and play the notes, whilst the tuner climbs inside the organ, tuning the approx. 2000 pipes, one at a time).

The digital link is also failing at an alarming rate. The organ has served us well for 180 years but is sadly well beyond repair. Exhaustive research has been done by an Organ Group to identify a solution. All options were explored. Several organ builders suggested rehoming a fine redundant Pipe Organ of good pedigree.

One such was identified, built by J. J. Binns of Leeds, dated 1902. Mr. Binns had a fine reputation of building good quality, robust organs that stand the test of time. They are affectionately known in the organ world as ‘battleship Binns’.

This organ was built for Kinning Park Town Hall in Glasgow at the time of Binns ‘golden period’ of pipe organ building. It was moved to Mosspark Church in Glasgow where it now resides.

The church is now owned by Harvest Church and the organ is no longer used. The proposal by the Organ Group to procure this organ was presented to a public meeting in Dedham Church in 2021, where it received overwhelming support by those who attended, following a robust debate.

Our chosen organ builder is

Nicholson & Co of Malvern,
Worcestershire.

The challenging task of raising the funds required has begun to secure, refurbish, update and install the Binns organ in Dedham Church. At a recent concert given by the Kelvedon Singers to kick-start the fundraising, an anonymous donor generously pledged the incredible sum of £100,000, which has prompted further generous donations, most of which are eligible for Gift Aid relief.

A fundraising committee is exploring events, grants and other sources of funding. It will be wonderful to bring this exciting project to fruition, so that the 'new' organ can fully serve the needs of our parish for generations to come, not only for Sunday services but also for festivals (Christmas, Remembrance, Easter, Harvest etc) weddings, Christenings, funerals, as well as for concerts, recitals and events. We also hope to be able to support future organists in their study of this fine instrument.

We hope you will want to support this fund raising to ensure that the church can continue its fine musical traditions and maintain the integrity of the building which is Grade 1 listed. We are two thirds of the way to reaching our target and with continuing support we hope to have the organ installed towards the end of 2024.

Antony Watson

Donations to the Organ Appeal can be made in two ways.

1. By Cheque, payable to Dedham PCC, and on the back of the cheque, write "Organ Appeal".

2. By Online Banking to Dedham PCC, Sort Code 20-22-67, Account No. 00297879 and importantly, using a Reference "Organ"

Cheques can be posted to, or left in

the Parish Office letter box at the High Steet, Assembly Rooms. Postcode CO7 6HJ, or personally handed to a Churchwarden.

If you are a UK Taxpayer, Gift Aid will add 25% to your donation, but you must complete the Church Gift Aid form, available at the back of the Church, or request one online at stmarydafinance@gmail.com.

Gift Aid forms should accompany your cheque, or if paying online, sent to the Parish Office as above. Any questions should be directed to Sara Marshall at the above email address, or to the Treasurer, John Reed at johnreed10@yahoo.com

KELVEDON SINGERS' CONCERT

On Sunday 3rd July the Kelvedon Singers very kindly came to Dedham Parish Church to give a Concert in aid of the replacement Organ Fund.

The Concert was called "Just a Song at Twilight..." and the programme ranged from Madrigals, based on some beautiful poems, to music written by Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Stephen Sondheim and Lennon & McCartney.

Just over 100 people enjoyed a really excellent selection of music sung beautifully by the Choir under the expert direction of Christopher Phelps, accompanied by David Mitchell and our own Antony Watson.

Tea and cakes were available before the Concert, with wine during the interval, and just under £2,000 was raised for the Fund for a replacement pipe organ. At the end of the evening, it was announced that an anonymous donor had pledged a very significant sum during the interval and our very grateful thanks to that individual.

Our thanks also to Christopher Phelps and all the very talented singers

who gave so freely of their time and talents. A memorable evening in so many ways.

David Druitt.

FROM THE ARCHIVES.

Essex Standard – Friday 6th May 1842.

**The British
NEWSPAPER
Archive**

The Queen has been graciously pleased to contribute 10 guineas towards funds for the erection of a new organ at Dedham Church.

Essex Herald - Tuesday 26 September 1843.

**The British
NEWSPAPER
Archive**

On Wednesday, fine-toned new organ was opened in Dedham Church, and sermon was preached on the occasion by the Rev. W. H. Whitworth. A collection was made amounting to £40. The organ was built by Mr. Hill, of London

The Ipswich Journal - Saturday 04 November 1843.

**The British
NEWSPAPER
Archive**

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST. The MUSIC of the SANCTUARY; A SERMON Preached at the OPENING of the NEW ORGAN in DEDHAM CHURCH, BY WM. HENRY WHITWORTH, M.A., Master of the Dedham Grammar School. R. DECK, Ipswich. T. KNIBB, Colchester Price 1s

The 1843 organ was restored in 1868.

The Ipswich Journal - Saturday 24 October 1868.

**The British
NEWSPAPER
Archive**

(Extract)
OPENING OF A NEW ORGAN AT DEDHAM CHURCH - YESTERDAY (Friday).

The old organ used to stand quite up in the belfry, upon a gallery erected for

the purpose, the height of which cannot be less than some 15 or 20 feet. This is evidently a very inconvenient place for the organ, and accordingly it is now placed upon the floor at the West end of the Church.

By removing the organ from its lofty situation, the fine peal of eight bells can now be got at, and have been rung during the past few weeks for the first time for seven years. The organ opened yesterday is not altogether a new one, but is the old one restored at a cost of £400, raised by voluntary contribution. It is now a fine organ and is in a most beautiful case of stained pine, with ornamental pipes in front.

The new organ was opened yesterday (Friday) by Divine service at the Church at 12 o'clock. The morning was very wet, rain falling heavily, notwithstanding which a large number of visitors attended, and the Church was almost full.

The prayers and lessons were read by the rector the Rev. Geo. Murray, M.A. A most eloquent and impressive sermon was preached by the Rev. Wm. Harrison, M.A., rector of Birch, Essex, who took for his text Revelations 14 chap. and 3rd verse "And they sang as it were a new song before the throne, and before the four beasts, and the elders: and no man could learn that song but the hundred and forty and four thousand, which were redeemed from the earth."

The organ had been erected by Messrs. Hill and son of Euston Road, London, and was presided at yesterday by Mr. Edwin Mens, the excellent and much esteemed organist of the Parish in his usual style. A second service was held in the evening. Collections were made after both services for the fund.

Note: Today - 10 Guineas = £1,480,
£40 = £5,650, £400 = £50,275

Way back in 2014 when I was working as a Haematology Nurse Consultant at Colchester General Hospital, I came across the charity Hope for Tomorrow whilst researching how I could develop a service that delivered chemotherapy treatment closer to patients' homes. Demand on the hospital service was ever increasing and we recognised that we needed a solution.

Hope for Tomorrow gave us that solution and enabled us to take treatment closer to patients. One in two people will develop some form of cancer in their lifetime and Hope for Tomorrow have made it their mission to make a difference to the way that that treatment for cancer is delivered; giving the gift of time to patients so they can spend it wisely, with those that they love. Their Mobile Cancer Care Units (MCCU) help patients to fit their treatment in to their lives, not the other way round.

After a few years of negotiation with the Hospital Trust and Hope for Tomorrow we successfully achieved our goal and our mobile unit "Maureen" was delivered in July 2016. We also received a nurse support car which allows the

after Maureen Dore, a patient representative on the original MCCU project team in 2006 with Hope for Tomorrow.

Hope for Tomorrow fund the vehicle and the nurse support vehicle in their entirety - including service and maintenance costs. Each unit costs £212 per day to run. Colchester hospital (East Suffolk and North East Essex NHS Foundation Trust) pay for fuel, supplies and specialist staff. The unit is staffed with two specialist chemotherapy nurses and a specialist driver for each visit and is out on the road four days per week.

Maureen spends Mondays on the hospital grounds where she is thoroughly cleaned, stocked up and maintained to ensure she is fit for service each week.

Once on-board Maureen, patients receive the same exceptional care, just as they would in hospital from our MCCU nursing and driver team. The big difference that our patients comment on is that there are a lot more smiles and it's a more relaxing, homely environment. In fact, because of the less clinical, stress-free environment on board the MCCU, the chemotherapy nurses on board say that many patients can tolerate their treatments better.

Our units are easily accessible, they are stationed in convenient, large spaces for example the Co-op car parks in Manningtree and Stanway, Tesco's in Tiptree and a car park in Halstead. Some patients are very reticent when we suggest they have their treatment on Maureen. They tell us that they are worried it may be cramped inside and ask if the treatment is different, but as soon as they get there, they see there's nothing for them to worry about.

The MCCUs are deliberately designed to accommodate four comfortable treatment chairs with ease, and the nurses on board administer the same medications that a cancer patient



nurses to have dedicated use of a vehicle to transport them and any additional supplies or equipment to the MCCU. Maureen was the sixth MCCU funded by Hope for Tomorrow. Each unit is named in memory of someone who has been affected by cancer. Maureen was named

would receive in hospital.

Maureen combines the friendliness and comfort that the patients want, with the standard of treatment that they require. The units can treat up to four patients at any one time and on most days approximately 20 patients will be attending.



Receiving treatment on Maureen saves patients travelling time to hospital and waiting time for treatment when patients attend the clinic. Patients tell us it makes attending for treatment less stressful and gives them back their independence so that their treatment does not dictate their lives. The availability of the MCCU also takes pressure off the Collingwood Centre at Colchester Hospital so that patients with more complex needs can be seen quicker.

Patients give very positive feedback for the service they receive and genuinely seem to enjoy their visits. For example, Peter said, “There are much better things I can get on with rather than spending it in a car and of course, travelling itself now is very expensive with the high fuel costs, so I’m grateful for that. The fact that I can just pop down the road is brilliant. “People who come on to the bus for their treatment think it’s absolutely fantastic that they

have this amazing service pretty much on their doorstep. I know patients who visit for the first time don’t know initially what it’s going to be like and they’re a bit worried about it. But as soon as they can see what it’s like, they totally relax. It might sound a bit strange, but I actually look forward to going. The girls are so accommodating and nothing’s too much trouble.”

Susan says, “The unit is just four miles up the road from where I live, much closer than the hospital which requires travelling on the notoriously congested A12. Using the unit means no more being held up in traffic and no more waiting to get my treatment. On the unit I’ve found it to be so much quicker. I’m on Phesgo, which is administered over 15 minutes, as opposed to three hours if it’s done intravenously at the hospital, so my husband can drop me off and wait in the car for me rather than go backwards and forwards. It also means I can pop into the garden centre or do the shopping in the time it would take me to get the hospital! Susan’s treatment is carried out every three weeks, with a blood test required the day before. At one time, this would have meant two consecutive days of making the trek to Colchester, but not anymore. “The bus – as we call it – has been an absolute Godsend; the nurses and drivers are so lovely and make the experience much less stressful than it could be.”

Maureen recently celebrated her sixth birthday and has benefited hundreds of patients in north-east Essex. For further information and to make donations please visit www.hopefortomorrow.org.uk

Joanne Tonkin, Senior Cancer Nurse



COMIC HERO RUN MAKES AN EPIC RETURN!

St Helena Hospice's Comic Hero Run is back for 2022 and is set to be better than ever – and registration is now open! You are invited to join the event on Sunday 16th October in Colchester's historic Castle Park to take part in either a 1km, 5km or 10km fun run to raise money for your local hospice. Sign up today at www.sthelenahospice.org.uk/comichero

CHARITY FOOTBALL MATCH IN AID OF CANCER RESEARCH UK



On Saturday 30th July Dedham Old Boys Football Club and Lawford Football Club played a charity match, at Lawford, in aid of Cancer Research UK. This was the fourth time that the two clubs have competed for The Chris Clark

Challenge Charity Cup which was established in 2017. Lawford won this year's match on penalties after normal time finished at 2 – 2. The match raised a total of £2335.00 for Cancer Research UK. Both clubs would like to thank all those who came along to watch the match and donated to this charity. In previous years the two clubs have raised a total of £2853 in support of

Colchester Hospital Cancer Centre, Macmillan Cancer Support and Dementia UK. The two clubs have agreed to do it again next year.

Andy Bell

DEDHAM PARISH COUNCIL



The next Dedham Parish Council meeting will take place on Monday 12th September at 6.30pm in the Duchy Barn. The Agenda for the Parish Council meeting always includes an open session - Have Your Say and visitors reports (CBC and County Councillors). Questions may not be answered at the meeting but may go on to the next agenda. A maximum of 3 minutes per person/group to make representations to the Parish Council, a total of 15 minutes.

To access the Parish Council website dedhamparishcouncil.co.uk just scan this QR code.



MY GUIDE DOG TRAINING EXPERIENCE (POSTSCRIPT)

The Bishop of Colchester with trainee Guide dog Carlo and Marjorie Culham after Carlo's last service at St. Mary's Dedham before commencing his training at Reading. Bishop Roger gave Carlo a special mention and blessing during the service.



DEDHAM VILLAGE QUIZ

On the 11th June the 20th Dedham Village Quiz was held in the Assembly Rooms and 13 teams competed for the honour of being crowned Champions. The winners this year were John Goldsbrough and his team, and they took the much-coveted Cup home with them.

The evening raised £1,450 for the Colchester Korban Project, which is a Christian charity providing supported housing for 16 – 25 year olds who have found themselves in crisis.

The Quiz was first held in 2002 and has been held every year since, apart from 2021 when Covid restrictions were in place. The original idea was to bring all parts of the Village together and teams represented a whole variety of Village organisations or activities. Whilst not the intention to raise money, a profit was made in the first year and the evening has made money every year since.

In the early years the winning team undertook to arrange the Quiz the next year and they could choose the Charity to whom the “profit” would be donated. These have been mainly local Charities and whilst detailed records have not been kept, it is estimated that approx. £30,000 has been raised over the 20 years.

The WEA and the Tennis Club share the honour of each having won 5 times with the Parish Council taking the Bronze medal with 3 wins.

Having set and asked the questions for the last 20 years I decided that 2022 would be my last year and I sincerely hope that someone else will come forward and take on this role so that the tradition of running the Quiz to raise money for local Charities can continue for another 20 years or more!!

David Druitt,

THE DEDHAM EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Trustees invite applications from residents in the Parishes of Ardleigh, Bradfield, Dedham, Great Bromley and Stratford St. Mary for financial grants that are available in the following categories:

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Universities & Colleges of Further Education

Applicants must have lived in one, or more, of the five Parishes for at least 2 years prior to the application date.

For an application form, or further details, please contact the Clerk to the Foundation, Mrs. Claire Arculus, at dedhamefclerk@gmail.com or 07752201441.

Closing date for applications:- 31st October 2022.

MISSIONS BAKE SALES



24th September, 29th October,
10 am to 12 noon

WINDING DOWN

So it's September already and the gardening season feels like it's beginning to wind down. Sad to say this doesn't mean we get to put our feet up.

It's been a strange, hot and incredibly dry season with talk (as I write this) of an official drought and inevitable hosepipe bans. Let's hope you all found enough flowers to enter this year's Autumn Show.

Looking around the garden, I'm going to have a go at collecting seeds from some of my plants. Collecting them when they are hard, brown and completely dry, I'll store them in a cool dry place in brown paper bags, making sure they're labelled so I can identify them when I'm ready to sow in spring. As well as seeds, it's time to take softwood cuttings from fuchsias, salvias and pelargoniums and stem cuttings from some of my roses.



With salvias, select non-flowering stems and trim each below a node (where leaves join the stem) so they are 5-8cm long. Remove half the leaves from the bottom of the cutting, dip the end in hormone rooting powder and pop them round the edge of a pot of gritty compost. Water and put in a propagator or secure a plastic bag over the pot to main moisture and keep everything frost-free until the spring.

Roses are treated similarly, but

hybrid teas – propagated by grafting buds onto hardier rootstocks – seem to be harder to grow from cuttings. Rose cuttings should be about 25cm long and taken from this year's growth, just remove the soft tip and all but one leaf at the top. Rose cuttings can be left outside unprotected – in fact they can go in a trench in the border instead of in pots.



With cuttings comes cutting back. Lavender should have stopped flowering now and there are two schools of thought on pruning. Pruning this month means there is no delicate spring growth to damage, but you might not be sure if you are cutting back to a point where there won't be regrowth. Pruning in spring lets you check for new growth and avoid cutting back too far. Either way, just keep the pruning light.

Achillea seems to be going a bit mad in the garden and on the allotment this year, so I'll lift and pull the large clumps apart to replant so they can establish

GARDENING NOTES

before the cooler months. I'll do the same with Japanese anemones which are running riot in one of my beds, though they'll stay nice and contained in shallower, less fertile soil – just another example of how plants react differently for different gardeners.



I'm a huge believer in mulching (rather than digging which is just too much hard work), so will spend most of autumn putting a good few inches of homegrown compost on as many borders as I can manage. Mulch helps the soil retain moisture, can restrict weeds and protects the roots of plants over winter.

If you grow them it's important to keep the roots of rhododendrons and camellias well watered now (especially given the summer we've had) to ensure next year's buds develop well.

As we start putting this year to bed, we can also start looking forward to spring and now is the time to order and plant spring bulbs: daffodils, crocuses, hyacinths, fritillaries, camassia, alliums and more. Plant them two to three times their depth – though the deeper they are, the stonger the stems – and it will help ensure that they come back year after year.

Darwin tulips are the most reliably perennial, but wait until November to plant them to prevent tulip fire, which

leads to brown spots and withered and distorted leaves. I've tried saving some of the tulip bulbs I grew in pots this spring and will see if they'll come up again in the garden – if I can work out which colours they are.

You can also sow hardy annuals in preparation for next year. Marigolds (*Calendula officinalis*), various kinds of poppies, cornflowers (*Centaurea cyanus*), Ammi majus and foxglove (ok, technically that one's biennial) can all be sown now.

Sowing them now – ideally where they are to flower – means they can put down roots and be ready to flower by late spring. Sow in a definite pattern so you don't mistake them for weeds and thin them once they germinate.

As you can see there's plenty to do this month and don't forget our speaker evenings return on 5 October at the Assembly Rooms. Find out more on our website www.dedhamgardening.wordpress.com.

Elliott Frisby
Dedham Horticultural Society

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As the workforce transitions between generations, the number of jobs people have across their lifetime changes. A single lifetime job is far less likely in today's world than it would have been even just one or two generations ago. With workplace pensions now compulsory, it is not difficult to find yourself with several pension plans by the time you are 40 years old. But should you consolidate your pension pots? Why consolidate your pension pots? There are several potential reasons.

1. Save time

Recent research from the US Bureau of Labor Statistics found that people born between 1957 and 1964 had on average 11.7 jobs across their lifetime, this could result in 11 or 12 pension plans in circulation. Administering, managing and keeping up to date with this many plans can be extremely time consuming. Consolidating your pensions into one plan can make it easier to manage and save you time.

2. Save fees

On every pension plan you will be paying administration fees to each pension provider. This can be difficult to keep track of and not all providers charge the same fees. If you think a small difference in fees doesn't make much of a difference, look at the example below.

Imagine you are 39 years old and have a pension pot with £50,000 in it. You contribute £250 per month into your pension until you retire and receive a 6% investment return each year. If the pension provider applied a 2% annual management charge, your fund at retirement would be worth £334,046. If the pension provider applied a 1% annual management charge, your fund at retirement would be worth £420,767.

The difference is clear to see. A 1% difference in fees can cost you £86,721 in investment returns.

3. Improve investment performance

One of the reasons we help clients to consolidate their pensions (if applicable) is to make their investments 'work hard' for them. By 'work hard' we mean ensuring your pension plan invests to deliver performance in line with your financial needs and goals. Understanding investment performance isn't something that comes natural to everyone.

As financial advisers we regularly see pension plans that are set up by employers taking no consideration of the individuals' financial goals. The worrying part here is employees are typically asked to tick low, medium or high risk – something they don't truly understand themselves!

4. Improve your options

Creating better options for yourself at retirement may also be a reason to consolidate your pension plans. Many older schemes, set up years ago, have reduced flexibility in accessing your funds as retirement approaches. This could reduce your options for income drawdown when you approach retirement.

Why you shouldn't consolidate

Pension consolidation isn't always the best option for everyone, after all, our circumstances are individual to us.

1. Loss of valuable benefits

Before charging ahead and consolidating your pensions, you should beware of any benefits you may lose as a cost of transferring from one pension plan to another. Some pension plans have

benefits attached to them, such as a guaranteed annuity rate or an enhanced tax-free lump sum amount above the standard 25%. You could also be losing any life insurance built into the plan.

2. Final salary pensions

If you're lucky enough to have one of these, also known as a defined benefit pension, it is likely more beneficial to keep with it. Final salary pensions offer you a guaranteed income for life and most are inflation proof, with pay-outs rising year on year in line with inflation. They also pay out to any surviving widow when you pass away, providing financial security and peace of mind for your family.

3. Current plans are performing

If you are comfortable analysing your pension plans investment performance and you can align performance to your own financial needs and goals in retirement, you may decide everything is going well. Should this be the case, why would you change anything!?! As the saying goes, if it's not broken, don't try and fix it!

4. Huge exit fees

It's important to identify the fees involved with transferring out of one plan into another. You could be faced with exit fees when consolidating your pensions. If you are closer to retirement age, then it may not be cost effective for you. How to consolidate your pension plans Pension consolidation itself couldn't be any simpler in today's world. Using online technology, you can collate all the details of your pension plans, access your accounts online and simply fill in a transfer request form on the providers website. Sounds simple enough right?

WRONG!

Whilst actioning the transfer requests may be, for want of a better word, simple, knowing you are transferring the right pension plan to the right pension provider is not so simple. In addition, you may not actually have all your pension pot information. If you have forgotten any old pension plans you may have, you can search for them through the gov.uk or alternatively seek help from a financial adviser.

When thinking of consolidating your pensions there are certain questions you'll need to answer:

- Which pension plan should I transfer?
- What are the exit fees?
- What benefits am I losing?
- Which pension plan should I consolidate to?
- What are my financial goals?
- What are my financial needs in retirement?
- What are my later life financial needs?
- How much do I need in my pension pot?

You will also need to understand the investment performance of your pension plans and the options available to you when the time comes for you to access your funds. Most importantly, when consolidating your pension plans, you should identify your retirement/later life financial needs and your own, bespoke, financial goals – what is it you are trying to achieve?

Answering the above questions can be rather daunting at the best of times, if it's not your profession. If investments are not your forte, you could seek the help of a financial adviser.

*Matt Lovell,
Fiducia Wealth Management*

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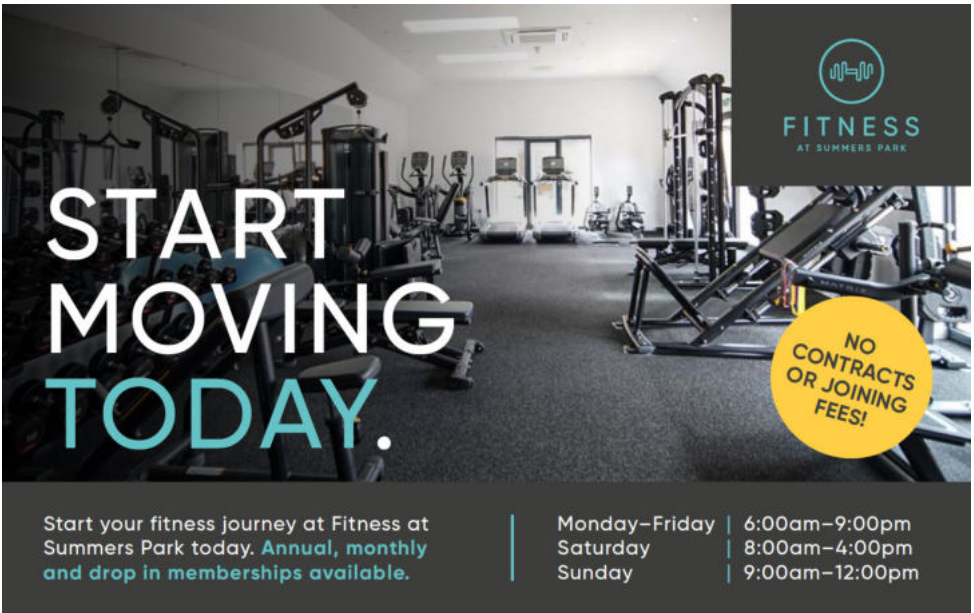
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