

THE DEDHAM VALE SOCIETY

The tragic news of the death of Wilfrid Tolhurst our Chairman

Dear Dedham Vale Society members and friends,

You may have heard the dreadful news that our Chairman, Wilfrid Tolhurst was killed earlier this week in a sailing accident off the south coast of France .

On behalf of the Society I am sending our heartfelt condolences and sympathy to his widow, Anne, his children and grandchildren and all his family.

Wilf was an outstanding chairman with a deep love of the Dedham Vale and a passionate commitment to preserving our beautiful and priceless heritage. As a planning lawyer he had a full understanding of the issues which came before the committee and his wise and shrewd leadership was instrumental in the many successes of the Society in recent years.

Wilf was a man with whom I worked in harmony for many years and as well as a close personal friendship we had a relationship of complete trust and mutual respect.

He was a man of many parts and his loss will be keenly felt in the numerous fields where he was a leading light.

I shall be posting a full appreciation in due course.

The Dedham Vale Society and his multitude of friends have suffered a grievous loss and I am still in a state of shock as I write.

Regards to all

Robert Erith
President, The Dedham Vale Society

24th September 2008