

MELFORD

Issue 29 December 2025/
January 2026

Matters



Holy Trinity Church
Photo: Holly Jones-Warren

Festive Long Melford

Get into the Christmas spirit and support our local shops on 29th November

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More Housing in Melford?

Neighbourhood Plan under review in response to Government housing target for the village

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New Businesses

Melford welcomes a cigar shop, a dog groomer and a new hearing service

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welcome!

Welcome to issue 29 of your village magazine. We have another packed issue for you, starting with full details of next weekend's irresistible Festive Long Melford (p.4). We have news of three new businesses in the village (pp.20/21) as well as a Melford in Bloom update (p.6) and much more.

We are indebted to Clive Albon for giving us access to his fascinating archive of news reports covering Melford in the late 19th and early 20th centuries: we have introduced a new feature to the magazine on p.8 called the Court Report, in which we have reproduced the account of some local legal proceedings. We hope you find it interesting and we would be delighted to hear from anyone who has further information about any of the people named in the published reports.

We are pleased to mention that the Acton Garden Club has been in touch with news about their group and we have details of their meetings in the New Year on p.25. If anyone is interested in establishing a gardening group in the village, we would be delighted to promote your meetings and activities.

Don't forget the full magazine – in colour throughout – is available online at longmelfordvillagehall.co.uk/melford-matters (or scan the QR code on the right). If you know someone who would like to read the content but is not based in Melford, please let them know about the digital version.



We welcome and value all comments on the magazine and its contents. Please do get in touch at content@melfordmatters.org.uk.

Happy Christmas folks!



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Community Matters

Festive Long Melford

Our charming village of Long Melford will once again come alive with festive cheer on **Saturday, 29th November 2025, from 11.00am to 4.00pm**, as residents and visitors gather for the much-loved Festive Long Melford village event. This year promises to be the most magical yet, with an array of new attractions, family-friendly activities and seasonal treats spread throughout the village.

New for 2025, the event will feature a **sparkling ice rink** and a **giant bouncy snow globe**, offering fun for children and adults alike. Visitors can glide across the ice, capture festive selfies, or simply soak in the joyful atmosphere as Christmas lights twinkle across the historic streets.

The village will be bustling with entertainment and activities at every corner. **Santa's Grotto** in the village hall will be a highlight for little ones, while **Messy Church** crafts and the **Primary School Fair** add to the community spirit. Around the village hall and The Bull, families can enjoy **children's rides**, **donkey rides**, and even a visit from **The Grinch** and **Christmas Elves**.

Local businesses and venues will be joining in the celebrations – Brown Sugar will host appearances from **Elsa and Anna**, Cafe Hygge will feature a **live singer**, and Clark & Son Butchers will be welcoming traditional **Morris Dancers**. Visitors will be able to savour **mulled wine**, **mince pies**, **BBQ treats** and **hot drinks** from stalls like Project 7, Mansel Hall, and Nethergate's Pop-Up Bar.

With festive music from the **Long Melford Silver Band** and the **Boxted Silver Band**, plus the chance to shop for unique gifts and crafts, this event is a perfect way to begin the Christmas season. Supported by Long Melford Parish Council, Long Melford Village Memorial Hall and local volunteers, the 2025 celebration is set to capture the true spirit of community, joy and togetherness.

To conclude the event, Rev. Lawson will lead the **Christmas Tree light switch-on at 4.00pm** on Little Green. As well as corny Christmas jokes there'll be community carol singing to get the festive season under way.

Festive Long Melford

Saturday 29th November 2025 11am - 4pm

Come and embrace the Christmas spirit at our annual festive village fair.

New for 2025 - an ice rink and bouncy snow globe!

Bring all the family along to enjoy live entertainment, festive activities for kids, and the chance to meet Santa!

A huge thank you to all the businesses mentioned on the map as well as...

Long Melford Parish Council
Long Melford Village Hall
Pat Davey for fundraising
Richard Kemp
Liz Malvisi
John Nunn

for their generous contributions

All day in the village
Balloonist
Face Painting



Ice Rink
Village Hall
Santa's Grotto
Messy Church Crafts
Primary School Fair
Donkey Rides
KLR Beauty
Christmas Elves
Brown Sugar
Elsa & Ana
Clark and Son Butchers
Bar Rumba
Morris Dancers
Long Melford Tea Room
Long Melford Silver Band
Gather
Tombola
Library
Festive Event
Eliza's Pantry
The Grinch

Snow Globe
Nethergate Pop Up Bar
Project 7
Hot Food/Drink
The Bull
11am-3pm
Children's Rides
Craft Fair
BBQ
Cafe Hygge
Live Singer
Boxted Silver Band
The Woolpatch
Christmas Selfie Spot
Mansel Hall
Festive Fayre
Mulled Wine
Mince Pies
Little Gems
Christmas Gifts / Crafts
Balloonist and Elves



As 2025 comes to an end, we have been busy focussing on worthy causes: we donated more money to the *1st Chadbrook Girl Guides*, our chosen charity for the year. In addition, we decided to donate to a Christmas charity and picked the *Salvation Army Christmas Present Appeal*. The group was also busy making poppies for the *Long Melford Working Men's Club* for their Remembrance display.

Upcoming events:

- **Thursday 4th December**
We will get into the swing of the festive season by putting on our Christmas jumpers and dishing out the Secret Santa gifts.
- **Thursday 8th January**
This meeting will bring the opportunity for the group to learn about the planned activities for the New Year, along with a quiz involving English phrases and the popular Chinese Raffle.

Meetings are held in **The Bull Hotel** from 7.15pm. Do come along and try us out. The meetings are fun, friendly and you will be made welcome.

We also have a coffee morning group, two book clubs, a supper club, a craft group, a social pour group and a walking group – lots of ways to meet up with your WI friends.

Considering joining Long Melford WI? Contact amy@melfordestate.co.uk for more information.

Neighbourhood Watch

Hello again from Neighbourhood Watch. We are working hard to keep the residents and businesses of the village safe. We've had lots of new members recently, which is great. Do please tell your friends and neighbours about our Facebook page, 'Long Melford Neighbourhood Watch', and encourage them to join us too.



As the days get shorter and the nights get longer, it's very important to keep everything locked up, and not leave anything to chance.

SmartWater kits (using the award-winning forensic marking technology) are now available to protect your valuables. This technology offers marking solutions which assign exclusive forensic codes to your valuables and assets.

Please message us via our Facebook page or call me on 07967 472488 if you'd like one of these kits free of charge.

We aim to advise our members via our Facebook page of any suspicious or criminal activity as soon as possible and also encourage you to report everything to the police. Google 'Suffolk Constabulary' and follow the prompts.

Take care, stay safe, and look after each other!

Stuart Finch

Admin – Long Melford Neighbourhood Watch

Long Melford Village Memorial Hall

Situated in our beautiful village, the hall is the perfect venue for your event, however large or small. It offers a large function room with a stage area and a fully equipped kitchen. Tables and chairs are available free of charge if you need them and there is a large car park for the use of your guests. Whether your event is a family party, a wedding reception, a fundraising evening, an exercise class, a regular community event or a simple meeting we are sure the Memorial Hall will suit your needs.

	Monday - Thursday	Friday - Sunday
Commercial rate	£16 per hour	£19 per hour
Standard rate	£13 per hour	£16 per hour
Melford resident rate	£10 per hour	£13 per hour
Audio visual equipment available @ £25 per session		

To book Long Melford Village Memorial Hall for you event visit our website
<https://www.longmelfordvillagehall.co.uk/how-to-book/>
 or call 07379 894325



Melford in Bloom

Our winter pansies, primulas and grasses are now in, and we hope they really sparkle by next spring. The summer plants lasted from May until November, and we felt the bridge and hanging baskets did particularly well despite challenging weather.

With help from sponsors and volunteers, we now maintain over 100 barrels, baskets etc. Our main support comes from the Parish Council but huge thanks also to Long Melford Open Gardens, the Village Hall, Nethergate, Pure Elements, East of England Co-op, Stour Valley Taxis, the Ex-Servicemen's Club, Webb Truck Equipment, The Sewing Kabin, Tanswell's Bakers, Tanswell's Finest Tobaccos, Long Melford Tea Room, Bespoke Blinds, Breakout, BB Gas Heating & Plumbing, Blackwell & Co, David Burr, ALH Gridley & Sons, Scutchers, Cllr. John Nunn, The Black Lion, Cherry Lane Garden Centre and The Hare.

We would like also to extend our thanks to the Fire Station and the Jackson family for water, to LM Groundcare for watering and to Constitution Hill Garden Nursery for going 'above and beyond'. Also, to our brilliant volunteers for watering, TLC and dead-heading.

Why not volunteer or become a sponsor? Contact: jonathanewbank145@gmail.com.

Project Seven Awards

Project Seven were privileged to be nominated for BBC Radio Suffolk's annual 'Make A Difference Awards' in the 'The Fundraiser Award' category, which is presented to a person or organisation that goes the extra mile to raise money for local charities.

We're so pleased to announce that we were successful and won the award, which was presented to us in recognition of over 40 years of fundraising, at a ceremony in Ipswich on 17th September.

Four members of the committee attended: Graham Hardy, a founding member; Martin Maxim, chairman; Joe Skippen, a new member and Alan Cummins, who as our youngest committee member is part of the future of Project Seven.

Launched in 1982 at Long Melford Working Men's Club by a group of seven young men intent on helping the local community, Project Seven has, since its inception, helped over 200 organisations. It's hard work but a very rewarding hobby!

The current year has proved very successful for us, as we've also been awarded The Colin Cracknell Cup in recognition of all the help that we've given to the *Farm Machinery Preservation Society* over the years. We were proud to receive this award at the society's annual ploughing day, on 5th October at Great Henny.



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Melford Court Report

Welcome to our first Court Report. We hope you enjoy these snippets of locally administered justice, evocative of so many aspects of our social history. By way of context: Justices of the Peace tried minor crimes such as petty theft, fighting and drunkenness, sitting alone or in small groups without a jury. These courts sat regularly, at least quarterly, and were known as Petty Sessions. The use of pubs for inquests was commonplace until early 20th century licensing legislation brought it to an end. They were often the only convenient local building with space to store a body and accommodate the hearing.

If readers have any further information about any of the events or people mentioned in the public records summarised above, we would be pleased to add any additional details you can supply.

27 November 1891 - at the Long Melford Petty Session Daniel Drury, John Woodhouse, William Rising, Henry Sansum, Alfred Day and Elizabeth Hines were all summoned for neglecting to send their children to school. The case against Hines was dismissed. All other Defendants were fined 6d plus 2/6d costs. A month was allowed for payment.

15 December 1891 - an inquest was held at the White Hart Inn, Long Melford, into the death of Elizabeth, wife of Arthur Cotter. The jury returned a verdict of "death from blood poisoning and pneumonia".

8 January 1892 - at the Long Melford Petty Session Samuel Drury, mat maker of Long Melford, was summoned for being drunk in Melford and taken into custody. He was fined 5/- plus 3/6d costs.

Parish Council Matters

The Melford Walk – The Melford Walk volunteers held a very successful working-group session, cutting and raking the wildflower area near Roman Way, along with cutting down some of the overhanging trees along the footpath and trimming back the blackthorn. A **BIG** thank you to all the volunteers for giving up their valuable time to look after this wonderful village.

Fly Tipping – This has become an increasing issue over the past couple of months, with items being dumped near the recycling bins in the Old School car park. Only small electrical items that fit within the opening of the bin are to be placed in the electrical bin. If it is too big to go in there, please arrange a time to dispose of it at the local recycling centre in Sandy Lane, Sudbury.

As we are approaching the end of the year, I also thought I would take this opportunity to look back over the past twelve months. Long Melford now has a fully inclusive play park, with an enclosed toddler area in Cordell Place that I hope will bring children and families enjoyment for many years to come. Melford In Bloom brightened up the village once again with some beautiful floral displays and colours, and let's not forget Music on the Green, which was a huge success. What a fantastic example of a community coming together.



So, all that is left for me to do is to wish you all a very Merry Christmas. Too soon? No never!

Clare Lee, Parish Clerk



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MELFORD FORGET-ME-NOTS

Christmas Trees

A huge 'Thank You' to Fay Benning who took over the task of organising the Christmas Trees on buildings from Little St Mary's through Hall Street and up to High Street.



Thanks also to the residents and businesses who participate and to the team of volunteers who manage to get the trees up in good time for Festive Long Melford. If you'd like to have a tree on your building or would be able to help with the removal of trees in January, and perhaps be on the call list for future years to help out, Fay's email address is faybenning49@gmail.com or send her a message on 07795 250818.

Could you spare a couple of hours to help keep our lovely village clean and tidy? The **Long Melford Litter Pickers** go out twice a month and would be delighted to recruit some new pickers!

Dates are in the diary, for details of where to meet call Claire on 07899 696491.

Bingo!

Stour Valley Men's Shed will be holding a **Bingo Night** on **Friday 19th December at 7.00pm**. £10 a head entrance fee includes six games of bingo and a sweet treat. Join us for a fun festive evening. Raffle with great prizes & dabbers for sale on the night.

Booking in advance is essential, by emailing stourvalleymensshed@gmail.com or calling/texting 07949 411133.



Baffled by your smartphone? Perplexed by your laptop? Daunted by the internet?

Whether you have just a quick question or need hands-on help, the *Digital Workshops* at the village hall could hold the answers you're looking for. These informal one-to-one sessions are held from **2.00 to 4.00pm on the second Wednesday of every month**. To book a free place, please contact **Communities Together East Anglia** on 01449 7070310.

Christmas Fair

If you can't make Festive Long Melford on 29th November, there are more opportunities to pick up Christmas gifts, hampers and other treats at the **Big Christmas Event** which will be spread over both the village hall and the Old School on **Sunday 7th December from 10.00am to 3.00pm**. It's so big, it will return to the Old School the following weekend, **Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th December from 10.00am to 3.00pm**.



The great Melford Seed Swap will be back next year. As well as a tsunami of seeds there will also be our popular Gardeners' Tombola. Saturday 28th February 2026, 10.00am to 12 noon at the village hall.

Long Melford Silver Band Christmas Concert

As well as participating in Festive Long Melford, the Silver Band will be performing their popular **Christmas Concert** at the village hall on **Saturday 20th December at 7.30pm**.

See their website, <https://longmelfordsilverband.co.uk>, for booking information.



Culture Matters



Melford Movies' film on **12th December** is **Paddington in Peru** (PG). The nation's favourite bear, Paddington, returns to visit his beloved Aunt Lucy at the Home for Retired Bears, leading to a thrilling adventure in the Amazon rainforest and the mountains of Peru. With a star-studded cast including Hugh Bonneville, Julie Walters, Olivia Coleman, Antonio Banderas and Ben Wishaw (as the voice of Paddington), this is a great, fun movie for young and old alike.

No Melford Movies season would be the same without a Judi Dench film and **Philomena**, our film on **9th January**, is a classic. Inspired by a true story, the film sees world-weary journalist Martin Sixsmith (played by Steve Coogan) help Philomena in the search for her lost son.



Screenings are at **Long Melford Village Memorial Hall**. Doors open at 7.00pm and the film begins at 7.30pm. **Entrance £5**. If you'd like to reserve seats, please email us. Refreshments are available before the film starts and during a short interval. Each screening includes a raffle in aid of a different local charity or good cause – email us if you'd like to nominate one.



The Melford Movies team
melfordmovies@icloud.com



We're excited to be taking part in another Festive Long Melford! The Friends of Long Melford Library's Christmas Fair takes place on **Saturday 29th November** from 10.00am to 12 noon. We'll have delicious homemade preserves and jams, cakes and fudge for sale, as well as beautifully presented scented winter bulbs including hyacinth and indoor narcissi. These all make perfect Christmas gifts or a treat for yourself! There will also be a raffle and children's prize draw. All proceeds raised help support your library and our work in the community.

We are pleased to be welcoming back the Society of Bookbinders on **Saturday 6th December** from 9.30am to 12.30pm. There will be demonstrations on making and repair from the experts, as well as a chance for adults and children to make their own book.

We'll be offering free hot drinks over the colder months. The library is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 10.00am to 1.00pm and from 2.00pm to 5.00pm, and Saturdays from 9.00am to 1.00pm.

Nick's Picks

An Accidental History of Tudor England: From Daily Life to Sudden Death by Steven Gunn and Tomasz Gromelski is a history book looking at daily life through the unusual lens of (mostly) accidental death. This book paints a vivid picture of the past by reminding us that the securities and dangers we take for granted are very different from those our ancestors had to contemplate. If you've ever wondered what work, home and social life were like for ordinary Tudor people, this will put you right in their shoes.

The Amazing Book of World Mythology by Stella Caldwell is a collection of 20 stories beautifully illustrated by 20 award-winning artists, all with cultural ties to the story their work depicts. With tales from King Arthur and the Holy Grail to the trickster Monkey King, this collection will transport children aged 9+ across the world.

Both books are available in print from **Suffolk Community Libraries**.

Holy Trinity Long Melford

with St Catherine's



Christmas Services

- Sat 29th Nov. Messy Church**
all day *at the village hall, part of Festive Long Melford*
- Sun 7th Dec. Traditional Advent Carols**
6.30pm *choral service with readings and reflections*
- Sun 14th Lights of Remembrance ***
6.30pm *remembering loved ones, refreshments 6.00pm*
- Sun 21st Main Carol Service**
6.30pm *raise the roof with well-known carols!*
- Wed 24th Crib Service**
3.00pm *dressing up in nativity costumes optional!*
- Wed 24th Midnight Mass**
10.45pm *an atmospheric communion service*
- Thurs 25th Christmas Day Communion**
10.30am *please bring your presents to show!*

* To have a name read out, please call 07804 558160 or email chadbrookoffice@gmail.com.



A Welcome ... (adapted)

We extend a special welcome to those who are single, married, divorced, widowed, straight, gay, confused, well-heeled or down-at-heel. We especially welcome wailing babies and excited toddlers.

We welcome you whether you can sing like Pavarotti or just growl quietly to yourself. You're welcome if you're just browsing, have just woken up or just got out of prison. We don't care if you're more Christian than the Archbishop of Canterbury or haven't been to church since Christmas 10 years ago.

We welcome you if you're having problems, are down in the dumps, or don't like organised religion. We welcome those who are inked, pierced, both or neither. We offer a special welcome to those who could use a prayer right now, or had religion shoved down their throats. We welcome pilgrims, tourists, seekers, doubters ... **and you!**

Why not lift your spirits above the drudgery of doom-scrolling and the daily news? You are welcome at our Christmas services or at any of our regular 10.30am services every Sunday.

(This is livestreamed: Google 'Holy Trinity Long Melford Facebook' ... you do not need a Facebook account to watch.)

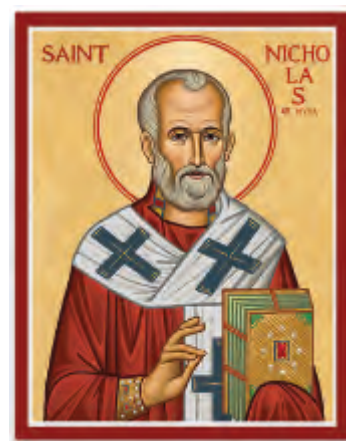
Santa Claus...

When we see Santa Claus in shop windows or on Christmas cards, with his red suit, sleigh, and sack of toys, it's easy to think he's a purely modern invention. But the truth is that Santa's story reaches deep into Christian history – all the way back to a kind bishop who lived more than 1,600 years ago.

Saint Nicholas was born around 270 A.D. in what is now southern Turkey. He became Bishop of Myra, and was known for his compassion, fairness, and generosity. The most famous story tells of how he secretly gave three bags of gold to a poor father so his daughters could marry and avoid poverty. Legend says he dropped the gold down the chimney – where it landed in their stockings by the fire – leading to today's traditions of stockings and 'Secret Santa'.

As his legend spread through Europe, Nicholas became 'Sinterklaas' in Dutch. When Dutch settlers moved to America, his name softened into 'Santa Claus.' In the 1800s, Santa got a makeover: he was dressed in fur, given a sleigh and reindeer, and made to live at the North Pole. Later, illustrators like Thomas Nast and advertisers such as Coca-Cola helped fix his modern image – round, rosy-cheeked, and dressed in red.

Saint Nicholas reminds us that Christmas giving isn't about spending money: it's about sharing love quietly and freely, and expecting nothing in return. Indeed, generosity is at the heart of Christmas, when Christians believe that God gave the gift of his Son to a troubled world. I do hope that whatever November and December brings, you can both give and receive something of that love this Christmas. You would be most welcome to any of our services.



Rev. Matthew

Diary Matters

NOVEMBER	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
Saturday 29th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School
	10.00am to 12.00pm	Library Christmas Fair	Library, St Catherine's Road
	10.00am to 4.30pm	Festive Long Melford	Throughout the Village
Sunday 30th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School
DECEMBER			
Wednesday 3rd	9.00am to 3.30pm	Antiques Fair	Village Hall
	7.00pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Thursday 4th	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School
Saturday 6th	9.30am to 12.30pm	Society of Bookbinders – (see page 10)	Library, St Catherine's Church
	10.00am to 12 noon	Flower Arranging Workshop – Just Anne Flowers – anne.brown48@hotmail.co.uk	Old School
Sunday 7th	10.00am to 3.00pm	Big Christmas Event – stalls and food (see page 9)	Old School and Village Hall
Wednesday 10th	11.00am to 12 noon	The Arts Society Stour Valley – ‘Three Wise Men’	Village Hall
Friday 12th	7.00pm	Melford Movies – ‘Paddington in Peru’	Village Hall
	8.00pm	Folk & Acoustic Club	Cock & Bell
Saturday 13th	10.00am to 12 noon	Flower Arranging Workshop – Just Anne Flowers – anne.brown48@hotmail.co.uk	Old School
Saturday 13th/ Sunday 14th	10.00am to 3.00pm	Big Christmas Event – stalls and food (see page 9)	Old School
	10.00am to 5.00pm	Dickensian Christmas – https://www.kentwell.co.uk/dickensian	Kentwell Hall
Thursday 18th	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School
	1.45pm	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
Friday 19th	7.00pm	Bingo Night – £10 per head (see page 9)	Stoneylands Football Club
Saturday 20th	7.30pm	LM Silver Band Christmas Concert (see page 9)	Village Hall
	From 8.00pm	Karaoke	Working Men's Club
Sunday 21st	From 4.00pm	Father Christmas travels around Long Melford (see page 15)	
Sunday 28th	10.00am	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
Wednesday 31st	From 8.00pm	Live Music – ‘Cakehole Mafia’	Working Men's Club

Diary Matters

JANUARY 2026

Wednesday 7th	9.00am to 3.30pm	Antiques Fair	Village Hall
Thursday 8th	7.15pm	WI Meeting – Quiz and Chinese Raffle	Bull Hotel
	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School
Friday 9th	7.00pm	Melford Movies – ‘ <i>Philomena</i> ’	Village Hall
	8.00pm	Folk & Acoustic Club	Cock & Bell
Wednesday 14th	7.00pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Wednesday 21st	11.00am to 12 noon	The Arts Society Stour Valley – ‘ <i>The Ballet Russes; When Art Danced with Music</i> ’	Village Hall
Thursday 22nd	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School
Saturday 24th Sunday 25th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School
Sunday 25th	10.00am	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
Wednesday 28th	6.00pm	Public Meeting re: Neighbourhood Plan (see pages 16 & 17)	Village Hall
Thursday 29th	1.45pm	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
Saturday 31st	8.00pm	Live Music – ‘ <i>The Good, The Bad, The Ugly, and Jim</i> ’	Working Men’s Club

REGULAR EVENTS AT LONG MELFORD OLD SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Daily	See website	Yoga Studio – Clare Turner – www.longmelfordyoga.co.uk – 07377 068885
Monday	Mornings	(1st Mon) Photography Group – Derek Challis – 01787 373738
	12.30 to 2.30pm	Card making – Pauline Andow – 01787 228790
	5.00 to 8.00pm	Slimming World – Vicky Stebbings - vickystebbing@gmail.com
Tuesday	9.00am to 1.00pm	Upbeat (Heart Support Group) – Hilary Neeves – 01359 232678
	1.30 to 4.00pm	U3A Art – Vernon Lever – 01787 310511
Wednesday	10.00am to 12.30pm	Life Drawing – John Garbett – 01787 378798
	10.00am to 12.30pm	(3rd Wed) Good Grief Bereavement Support – june@ggbereavementsupport.com
	11.00am to 12.00pm	Keep Fit Laban Dance Class (50+) – 07856 080344 – sheather.mahony@btinternet.com
	3.00 to 5.00pm	Friendship Dancers – Robin Hart – 01787 269613
	4.45 to 6.30pm	Elizabeth School of Dance – classes for 4-10 yrs – info@elizabethschoolofdance.com
		Silver Band – Mike Murkin – 01787 312605
Thursday	7.30 to 9.00pm	(3rd Thurs) LM Historical and Archaeological Society

PTO for Regular Events at the Village Hall, Stoneylands and the Library →

Diary Matters

REGULAR EVENTS AT LONG MELFORD VILLAGE MEMORIAL HALL

Monday	9.30 to 10.30am	Strollercise – Marina St Leger – www.strollercise.co.uk – 07917 333712
	11.15am to 12.45pm	Song Circle Choir for Women – Anna – 07957 484812
	1.15pm	Health in Motion – Yoga with Paul – info@health-in-motion.co.uk – 07930 332120
Tuesday	10.00 to 11.00am	Pilates – Michelle Cowcher – michellecowcher@gmail.com
	11.30am to 12.30pm	Move it or Lose it! Fitness class for over 60s – amanda.anderson@moveitorloseit.co.uk – 07921 913 398
	2.30 to 4.00pm	(4th Tues) Lecture Series – Suffolk Family History Society (Sudbury)
	6.00 to 8.00pm	Bounce – Jules Cooper – www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford
Wednesday	7.00pm	(1st Wed) Long Melford Parish Council – Full meeting
	2.00 to 4.00pm	(2nd Wed) Digital Workshop – Communities Together East Anglia – 01449 707030
	10.30am to 12.30pm	(3rd Wed) Lecture series – Arts Society Stour Valley
	10.30am	(4th Wed) Film Club Lectures – www.filmclublectures.co.uk
Thursday	9.45 to 11.30am	Pre and postnatal Fitness (child friendly) – JTD_fitness – jo.h.thornley@gmail.com
	2.00 to 4.00pm	(1st and 3rd Thurs) Indoor Kurling – Drop in for a free taster session
	6.00 to 8.00pm	Bounce – Jules Cooper – www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford
Friday	9.30am to 12.00 noon	Baby Ballet – sudbury@babyballet.co.uk – 07580 693747

REGULAR EVENTS AT STONEYLANDS (LONG MELFORD COMMUNITY SPORTS TRUST)

Monday	10.00am to 2.00pm	Stour Valley Men's Shed
Tuesday	1.30 to 2.30pm	Keep Active, Keep Fit – Exercise class for seniors – Jane 07944 919328
	6.00 to 7.00pm	Hula Hooping Class – Toyah 07917 610231
	7.00 to 8.00pm	
Wednesday	10.00am to 2.00pm	Stour Valley Men's Shed
	7.45pm	Football Kick-off
Friday	7.30 to 10.30pm	(First Friday) Bygones – Beverley Walker – beverleyjdring1@gmail.com
Saturday	3.00pm	Football Kick-off

REGULAR EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY AT ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Tuesdays	2.30 to 3.00pm	Wordplay (Tot Rock and Baby Bounce)
Wednesdays	2.30 to 4.00pm	Top Time
Saturdays	9.30am to 12.30pm	Family Crafts and Lego Club

If you would like your activity or event listed here, let us know the details by emailing content@melfordmatters.org.uk. Details for February/March need to reach us by **5th January**.



Melford Matters is a not-for-profit community initiative funded through advertising and donations. It is produced and distributed by volunteers. Accounting and other support is provided by the Village Hall Committee, but editorial decisions and any opinions expressed are independent of the Committee. The magazine welcomes contributions from everyone in the village. For further information please refer to the Long Melford Village Hall website, longmelfordvillagehall.co.uk/melford-matters, or email us at content@melfordmatters.org.uk, or the advertising team, advertising@melfordmatters.org.uk. Printed by Indigo Ross Design and Print Ltd.

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SUNDAY 21/12/25
Leaving Rodbridge Hill at **4pm**
and then a pre planned route
around the village, with the
following approximate timings:

Theobalds Close, around Westropps, along Station Road, past Skylarks Way, around the Roman Way Estate

4:35 pm - Down St. Catherine's Rd, into Meetingfield, then along Hall Street turning down Bull Lane

4:55pm - Past Chadburn, Middle Way, Baile Walk and then into Braithwaite Road

5:15pm Cordell Road, Cordell Place, Laurel Drive, Swantfield

5:50pm Travelling up the Green towards the Black Lion and across to 6pm Harefield.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page 'FATHER CHRISTMAS TRAVELS AROUND LONG MELFORD' for live on the night updates!



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Long Melford Neighbourhood Plan

Need to Review? Build 750 Additional Homes in the Parish?

The Parish Council has established a working group to examine the need for a review and the issues to be considered. It is important that any review takes account of local needs and opinions. This article covers all the main issues that might be reviewed; the current full list can be viewed via the Parish Council website: www.longmelford-pc.gov.uk.

The need to review the Long Melford Neighbourhood Plan (LMNP)

The present LMNP was adopted in October 2022 and it has achieved significant benefit for the village (see panel below). The two critical benefits of any Neighbourhood Plan are:

- It becomes part of the Development Plan, along with Babergh's Local Plan, and must therefore be followed by Babergh District Council in deciding planning applications, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.
- It increases the Parish's share of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) from 15% to 25% (see panel on CIL opposite).

However, the weight attached to LMNP Policies diminishes as it becomes out of date, which might occur in the following circumstances:

- Changes in local circumstances e.g. the vacancy of the British Legion site.
- Non-delivery of LMNP Policies e.g. sites allocated for development not coming forward.
- Compliance or not with Government planning policy and with the strategic policies of Babergh's Joint Local Plan Part 1.

Achievements of LMNP 2022

- The potential for additional Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts.
- It has been a significant consideration in 17 planning decisions in LM
- Community Objectives delivered e.g. parking bollards in Hall Street. See PC website www.longmelford-pc.gov.uk.

Non-achievements of LMNP 2022

- None of the sites allocated for development in LMNP has yet been brought forward.
- The LMNP was not sufficiently advanced to influence the planning of Skylarks (see panel re Skylarks for details of this development)

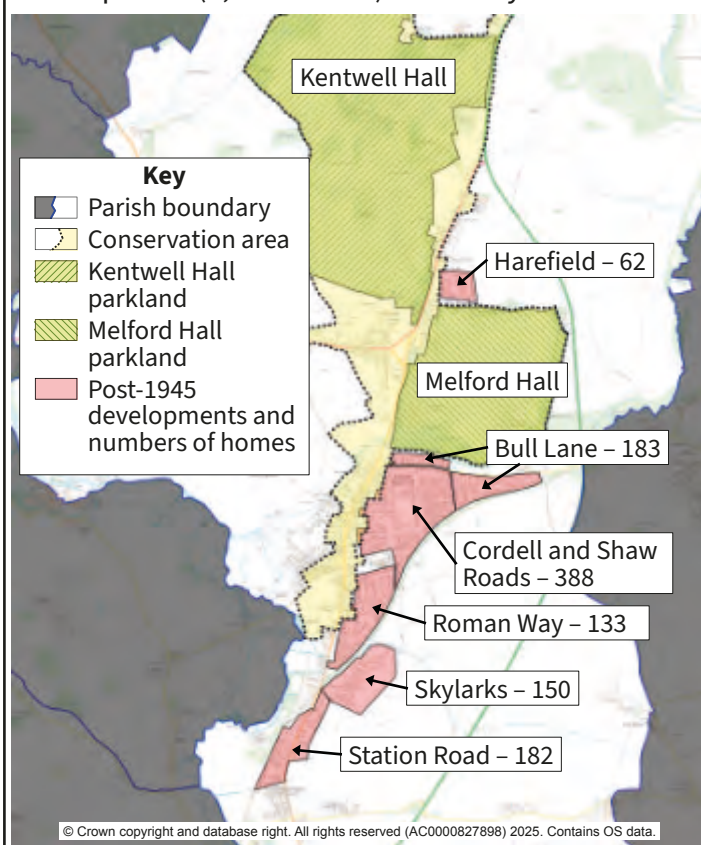
Skylarks (150 homes)

This development provides a useful learning experience. It was permitted on appeal. LM Parish had limited influence on the proposals, because:

- LMNP had not progressed sufficiently to be taken into account in the decision.
- LM Parish Council opposed the application and thus had little influence on the proposals that were eventually permitted.
- The Parish Council however achieved some useful improvements later when the details of the development were considered
- The development has not proved to be as intrusive as feared.
- The developer has not complied with a number of commitments e.g. provision of hedgehog highways and water butts.

The Growth of Long Melford since 1945

The map shows the Conservation Area (the core of the village), the historic parklands and the most significant post-1945 developments, with the number of homes built in each area. The message from this is that Long Melford is an attractive residential location and that the character of the historic core and of the parklands has been preserved (possibly improved through additional spending of 'new' residents) in spite of large-scale development (1,184 homes) over the years.



Need to build 750 Additional Homes in Long Melford

The principal issue requiring a review, if the Plan is to be kept up to date, is a requirement on the Parish to allocate land to accommodate 750 additional homes over the next 20 years. This figure derives from the Government's aim to deliver 1.5 million homes within the life of this Parliament.

Babergh has provisionally passed this requirement on to local areas in proportion to their existing size. Hence the need for LM to provide for 750 dwellings, which would require approximately 42 hectares (for comparison the Skylarks development is 8.23 ha.).

The Government's Requirement for 750 Additional Homes in Long Melford

There are different ways in which the Parish might respond to this large housing requirement:

- We could ignore it in the expectation that the Government's target is likely to be missed and that a more reasonable target will emerge for the Parish. Meanwhile the door will be open for developers to submit substantial proposals and we will have little influence over their scale and nature.
- We could accept the 750 requirement and attempt to accommodate it as well as possible. This might be assisted by engaging with potential developers to develop a joint approach.
- We could do an assessment of the environmental and infrastructure capacity of the Parish, from which we would define the capacity of the Parish to accommodate new housing development. This might result in a different figure for the number of homes.

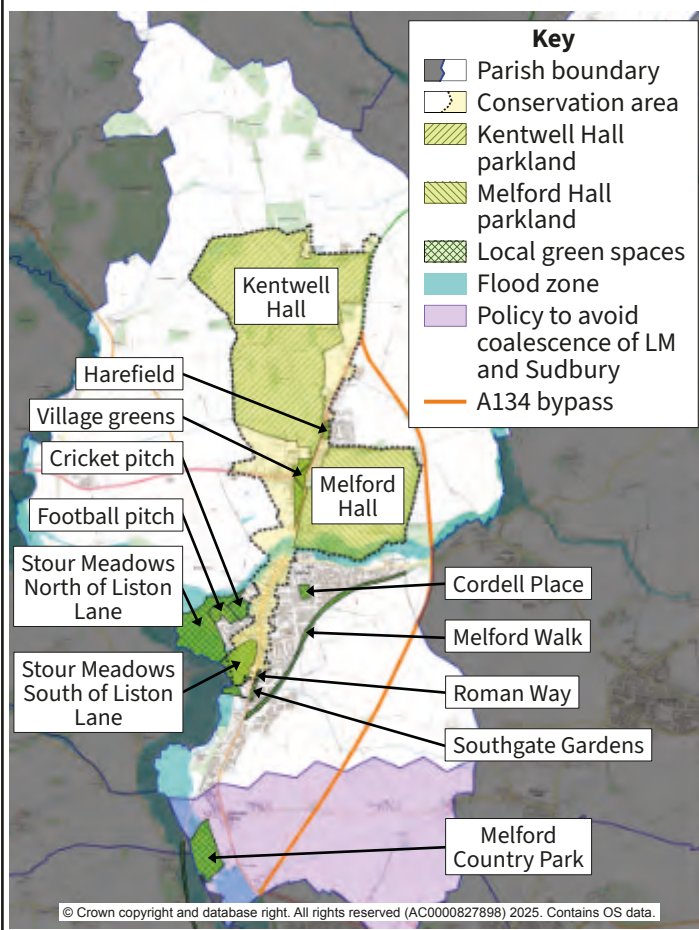
The recommendation of the Parish Council is that these three options be taken forward to an initial assessment, the outcome of which would be a recommendation that one or a variant of one be taken forward for detailed assessment. Key issues in this assessment include the capacity of local infrastructure and services (e.g. surgery, primary school, police and accessibility to, and parking in, the village centre) and improving the natural environment.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

This tax is levied on all substantial developments, the proceeds going now to Babergh (75%) and LMPC (25%). The Parish Council has received £269,842 in years 2022-2025. Items funded by LMPC from CIL receipts include: Country Park toilets, Hall Street bollards, play area in Cordell Place, defibrillators and more.

Development Constraints

Some of the most significant constraints on development, namely the parklands (of Melford and Kentwell Halls), flood plain and green spaces (including the village greens), are shown below.



Your Views Please

We welcome views on the issues raised in this article, especially on how the Parish Council should respond to the requirement for 750 new homes over 20 years. Please send them to clerk@longmelford-pc.gov.uk or drop them in at the Parish Office in Cordell Road.

We will also be consulting through:

- **Public meetings in the village hall** on Wednesday 28th January 2026 at 6.00pm and Saturday 7th February at 10.00am. Everyone welcome.
- **Engagement with village services** (e.g. the primary school) to understand their needs and their ability to serve significant additional population in the Parish.
- **Engagement with businesses** in the Parish to assess their needs.

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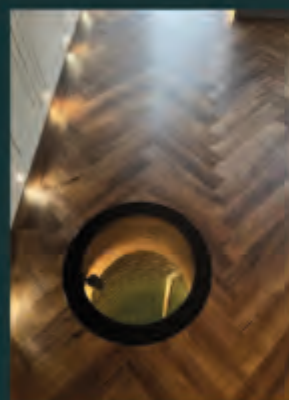
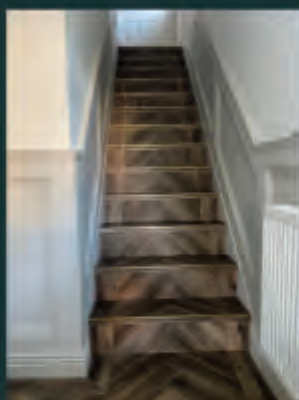
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Heritage Matters

LONG MELFORD HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Our new season is well underway, and we've already had three well-attended evening meetings. We are now based in the newly decorated Partridge Room at The Old School Community Centre, and we are hoping to hang some of our archive artwork there soon.

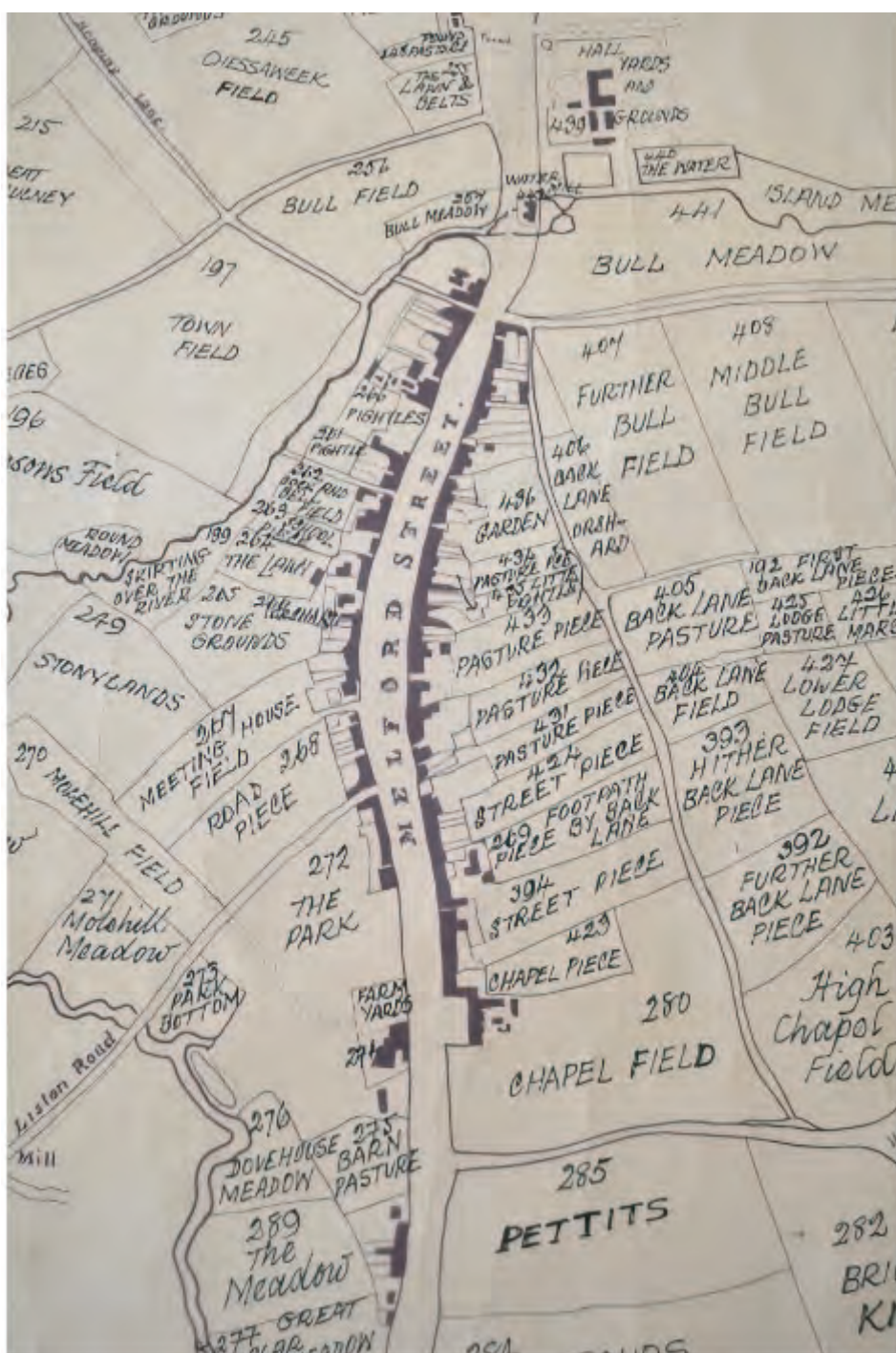
This edition, we need your help with a historical enquiry we've received from Mark Sumner, who is researching *George Gledhill Turner GC GM*, born in 1903 (see <https://vcgca.org/our-people/profile/1656/Geoffrey-Gledhill-TURNER>). He got in touch for some information relating to a business that George ran, following discovery of a document that states: '*Geoffrey founded the company Powell Turner in Oldham, Lancashire and in 1954 the firm moved to Long Melford in East Anglia, and he and his wife settled in Stambourne.*'

Mark would like to know where this company was in the village and what they did. He has an idea that it might have been one of three trades: accountancy, textiles or pharmaceuticals. Can you help him with the location and nature of the business? If so, please call 01787 375329 or email us at the address shown below.

Our archive group have discovered another gem, a wonderful map of Long Melford, dated 1820 and produced by Isaac Johnson, a surveyor from Woodbridge. Here's a glimpse of the Hall Street section. Do take a look at our website (<https://www.lmhas.co.uk>): under the Archive Group section you can download our catalogue, which lists around 500 of the items our team has processed so far.

We take a break from our evening meetings over December and January but are looking forward to our traditional **Members Night** at 7.30pm on **Thursday 19th February 2026**, when members of the Society will each give a short talk on a historical subject of their choosing.

New members and visitors (£3) are always welcome to attend our meetings. Details of our programme are available on our website and in each edition of *Melford Matters*. For further information, please email lmhas1969@outlook.com, or call our chairman Ian Sandham on 07586 354 414.



Business Matters

Life in the Slow Lane?...

... not an epithet to be attached to young and enthusiastic entrepreneur Theo Tanswell's progress through life to date. At the age of just 20 years, but with the wisdom and expertise way beyond, Theo opened the door of his tiny shop *Tanswell's Tobacco & Cigar Specialists* at Chestnut Terrace in Hall Street on 1st November.

Theo is no novice to the industry having done his research, built up a customer base through internet tobacco lounges and sourced rare cigars and tobaccos. He will stock *Cohibas* and *Havanas* as well as specialist tobaccos such as *Dokha* grown in the Middle East (snuff-like but smoked in a pipe) in glass-fronted, floor-to-ceiling, temperature-controlled humidors, as well as cutters, lighters and other essential items.

The opening was a culmination of a four-year dream inspired by such classic films as *GoodFellas* and the 1980s' *Scarface*, in which mobsters were portrayed driving the action whilst enjoying a cigar.

This led to Theo's belief that there was a dividing line between cigar and other smokers, contrasting a quick nicotine hit with a slow thoughtful burn prompting ideas, decisions, reminiscence and relaxation. A nostalgic image maybe, but rare in today's time pressured world ... and so a business plan was born.



Theo outside his shop



Theo with some of his home-grown tobacco leaves

The W.H. Davies poem '*What is this life if full of care, we have no time to stand and stare...*' makes the point that a life lacking in moments of stillness is a poor one. A point with which Theo, the man known by family and friends as 'The Tobacco Baron', would emphatically agree. In his view, to enjoy smoking a cigar, you need time to savour the tobacco, allow moments to think over your life choices and simply watch life go by.

During the intervening years, Theo has mastered his trade, receiving accolades from experts in the industry for his expertise. He has grown tobacco in polytunnels in his garden with the long-term aim of visiting plantations and assessing their quality control, and his ambition is to become one of the first large-scale growers of quality tobacco in East Anglia.

Theo's shop is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10.00am to 4.00pm, and on Sunday from 11.00am to 3.00pm. Tel: 07897 779460.

Sales not made to under 18s. Smoking can seriously damage your health.



Scruff Street Dog Groomers

I'm Hannah, and I own *15 Scruff Street* in Smaley Lane. I've been a professional dog groomer for nearly nine years. Animals have always been a huge part of my life – I've loved them for as long as I can remember – so being able to turn that passion into a career has been an absolute dream come true.

After many years of working in the grooming industry and building up my experience, I decided it was time to take the next step and open my own grooming business here in beautiful Long Melford.

My aim is to create a calm, welcoming environment where every dog feels safe, relaxed and cared for. I know that a grooming appointment can be a big experience for some dogs, so patience, kindness and understanding are always at the heart of what I do. Whether it's a full groom, a bath and brush, or just a tidy-up, I treat every dog as if they were my own.

I'm excited to bring my skills and love for animals to the Long Melford community, and I can't wait to welcome lots of new furry faces through the door!

You can find me on Facebook. Just look up '15 Scruff Street'.

Check My Hearing

We're delighted to announce that Check My Hearing Ltd has joined the team at The Beauty Cave in Long Melford, bringing professional hearing care to the heart of the village.

Led by Joshua Knight, a fully qualified audiologist with over 20 years of experience, Check My Hearing provides ear wax removal, hearing tests, tinnitus support, and hearing-aid fittings in a friendly and relaxed environment.

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It is hard to believe we are already in the second half of the first school term – time really does fly! As the leaves fall and the days grow shorter, we are gearing up to make this a fantastic season of community spirit and fundraising for Long Melford Primary School.

Pat's Village Book Table

The wonderful Pat Davey is kindly raising funds for the children by selling her fabulous selection of books. You will find Pat's book table on Hall Street (opposite the Cock & Bell). Every purchase supports the school, so do stop by and grab a new read!

FLuMPS AGM

We held our AGM on Wednesday 12th November and elected the committee for the year, but it's not too late if you would like to get involved ... Please contact us to find out more about what we do and how you can help support our activities.

Festive Long Melford

Get ready to feel the Christmas spirit at Festive Long Melford, where FLuMPS will be joining in the

celebrations at the village hall. Come along and visit our Santa's Grotto, take part in our Christmas raffle, and enjoy refreshments and festive activities. It is a wonderful way to kick off the festive season and support our school community at the same time.

Coin Collection – Every Penny Counts!

We are launching a coin collection at the school, running throughout the year: we are collecting old, new, foreign, or UK currency. So, if you find any coins (or notes!) tucked away in drawers or left over from holidays, please think of us. Every contribution helps us make a difference for the children at Long Melford Primary. Please email FLuMPS or contact us via Facebook if you have any coins to donate.

Thank you, as always, for your incredible support. With your help, we're looking forward to another brilliant year of fun, community, and fundraising for our wonderful village school.

The FLuMPS Team

FLUMPS@longmelfordprimaryschool.co.uk

Facebook: Friends of Long Melford Primary School



1st Chadbrook Guides

During a weekend event, the Guides participated in activities to earn new badges introduced in July. They demonstrated culinary skills by preparing potatoes in multiple styles, as well as dishes representing various countries. Additionally, the Guides engaged in code-related exercises, group singing, and a rifle shooting session.



During this term, Chadbrook Guides have also taken part in a variety of fundraising events, such as hosting a stall at a fete and organising children's activities at the Sudbury Model Railway Club exhibition, all to help raise money for our upcoming adventure to Belgium in 2027.

1st Long Melford Brownies

This term, the Brownies completed their imagination badge, which was selected by our Young Leader from the new badges launched in July – probably because it features a unicorn. The Brownies have also spent time learning about themselves and exploring what makes them similar to or different from one another, making for an especially engaging term. Alongside this, we've enjoyed a variety of games, crafts, and singing together.

Brownies are aged 7 to 10 years and Guides 10 to 14 years. For enquiries, please register your daughter at Girlguiding.org.uk.





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Gardening Matters – Notes from the Potting Shed

Before we turn to outdoor tasks for this season, may we first deal with some important diary matters? We are delighted that **Acton Garden Club** have been in touch with Melford Matters and invited interested gardeners to try out their meetings. The details of when they meet are set out in the article below including the fascinating topics their speakers are covering in the New Year. Also, we know you have been wondering and the answer is – yes, **the Seed Swap will return!** Please make a note in your diary that it will be on **Saturday 28th February** in the village hall from 10.00am to 12.00 noon. Might this be a good time to check through your stored packets of seed and see whether any are surplus to your requirements? So long as they are viable, even if you have used some, they would be very welcome at the swap, along with any you have saved from your own plants this season.

After a very challenging growing season for many plants this year, it is more important than ever to feed and mulch perennials. If you can do this after a decent watering and when the ground is not frozen, your plants will benefit most. A thick layer of garden

compost, leaf mould or even straw will really help to lock in nutrients and moisture and inhibit weed growth when the soil warms up enough for that to be a consideration. This is also the perfect time to get new bare-root trees and fruit in the ground. Plentiful watering as they get established will see them well on their way.

There's still time to get some bulbs in for next spring and tulips are particularly happy to be planted at this stage, along with shallots and garlic so that they can be activated by the cold into producing well for next year.

While we're on the subject of bulbs, don't forget that fabulous gift-wrapped potted Paperwhite narcissi and hyacinth bulbs for Christmas will be available at the **Library Christmas Fair on 29th November**, but remember, they sell out fast and the Fair finishes at 12.00 noon!

Please do keep sending your queries and tips in to gardening@melfordmatters.org.uk.

Happy Gardening!

Acton Garden Club

We are a friendly little club that welcomes different speakers on gardening topics at Acton Village Hall every second Thursday of the month. In summer, garden visits replace our meetings.

In January our speaker will be Suffolk naturalist Hawk Honey, with a talk on 'The Forgotten Bees', and in February scientist and complementary medicine practitioner, Dr Gwenda Kyd, will look at some 'Incredible Edible (and Drinkable) Plants' and their properties.

Come and join us for a pleasant evening enhancing your gardening and plant knowledge with like-minded people. Bring this article for your first free meeting (normally £4.00 per meeting for non-members).

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Our expanding clinical team manages approximately 1,800 incoming contacts per week. The vast majority have their needs addressed within five working days, while urgent contacts are managed on the same day.

There has been much in the national news about the challenges GP practices are facing, such as contract changes, opening times and staffing pressures. However, you can be assured that we have this well under control and are in an excellent position.

Our focus going forward is to improve the 'customer service' experience, so that the care you receive from us is not only responsive but is also of a consistently high standard. In part, this includes learning from YOU: it would help if you can share your recent experiences of care from us, so that we can learn both from when it has gone well, and from when it has gone less well. You can send us feedback via this weblink, or by scanning the QR code.

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For regular updates, do sign up to our Facebook Page 'Unity Healthcare – Haverhill, Long Melford and Lavenham'.

For those interested in getting more involved, why not consider joining the Patient Participation group? Ask at reception (or phone 01440 841300) for more information.



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Health Matters

((Bounce)) into the New Year

If you're looking to fight off the effects of an excess of Christmas food and drink, the ((Bounce)) classes at the village hall might be just what you need.

Tuesdays, 6.00 to 7.00pm

((Bounce)), a class on mini trampolines comprising 45 minutes of cardio and 15 minutes of toning exercises.

Tuesdays, 7.15 to 8.00pm

A 3-week cycle of

((B)) Beats (with drumsticks to tone the upper body)

((B)) Belly (abdominal toning with no jumping)

((B)) Balance (yoga and pilates moves for agility)

Thursdays, 6.00 to 6.45pm

((B)) Barbells, a full body workout using light weights and high repetitions – no typical bouncing!

Book via www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford.



KEEP ACTIVE KEEP FIT

Perfect For Seniors

Long Melford Community Sports Trust
At Skyline Network Stadium
Home of Long Melford FC

"This class is ideal as it targets all the signs of old age by focusing on strength, co-ordination, balance and flexibility, while also giving a cardio work out – and all without getting down on the floor!"

Polly, Halstead Class

1:30pm
Every
Tuesday

All Abilities Welcome



Call Jane on 07944 919328

First Class FREE

Quiz Matters

A Christmas Carol Quiz

1. In The Twelve Days of Christmas, how many pipers are piping?
2. Once in Royal ... whose city?
3. Which of the following is an Advent carol?
 - a. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
 - b. Away in a Manger
 - c. Silent Night
4. How many times is "la" repeated in the first verse of Deck the Halls?
 - a. 16
 - b. 28
 - c. 64
5. Which beloved carol is also known by its French name, 'Minuit, Chrétiens'?
 - a. O Little Town of Bethlehem
 - b. The First Noel
 - c. O Holy Night
6. In which famous carol does 'the little Lord Jesus lay down His sweet head'?
7. What is the poor man doing when King Wenceslas turns up?
8. In 'O Come, All Ye Faithful', finish the lyric 'Come, and behold Him, born the King of ...'?
 - a. Angels
 - b. Lords
 - c. Men
9. Which carol, based on a Ukrainian folk song, was incorporated into John Williams's original soundtrack for Home Alone?
10. What does the carol 'We Wish You A Merry Christmas' assume everybody likes?



How many pipers were piping?

See Answers on Page 30.



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Long Melford Cricket Club

LMCC recently held their presentation evening at the Bull Hotel. Matt Hoadley once again won the most runs and sixes in a season, and this year we also had a new star of the show: young Jake Fisher, aged 15, took the most wickets this season and shared the Young Player of the Year trophy with Doug Oddie, aged 14. With young, talented players progressing into adult cricket and making such an impact in their first full season, the future is looking bright at LMCC.

This year John Stuck, long-standing member of over 20 years, presented the awards. John has represented Suffolk at minor county level and England at veteran age-group levels, scoring a century against Australia and over 200 hundreds in his long career.

Club legend Martin Maxim always manages to pick up an award and this year, it was for a great bowling performance of 5 for 28 against Copdock. Martin was also rewarded for 50 years as a player at LMCC. Well done, Martin!

The club will once again run its 100 Club starting in January. If you want to enter for £12.00 for a year, please contact Jason Wade on 07506 974362 – many cash prizes are up for grabs every month.

Indoor nets start again on the first Sunday in January so whether you're young or old, male or female, if you feel you want to play cricket, LMCC is the place for you.



Martin Maxim receiving one of his two awards from John Stuck



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Directory of Clubs and Societies

Group	Contact	Phone/email
Beading (Suffex Bead Club)	Victoria Power	07866 996124
Chadbrook Guides	Rebecca Cox	chadbrookguides@gmail.com
Connect Toddler Group	Pam Tonks	07890 880976
Cricket Club	Ivan Newman	07944 893167
Folk and Acoustic Club	Pauline O'Brien	poboap123@gmail.com
Football Club	Richard Kemp	01787 378149
Friends of LM Church Building Fund	Richard Michette	01787 377164
Friends of Long Melford Library	Nick Castell	help@suffolklibraries.co.uk
Good Neighbours' Scheme	Helen Eaton	07504 249179
Historical and Archaeological Society	Ian Sandham	Lmhas1969@outlook.com / 07586 354414
Holy Trinity and St Catherine's Church	Rev. Matthew Lawson	01787 310845
Keep Fit	Heather Mahony	01449 736662
Long Melford Community Sports Trust	Laura Murton	events.lmcst@gmail.com
Long Melford Beaver Scouts	Lynda Badger	lynda.badger@suffolkscouts.org.uk / 07540 889754
Long Melford Cub Scouts	David Lawrance	melford.cubs@suffolkscouts.org.uk
Long Melford Scout Group Lead Volunteer	Lynda Badger	lynda.badger@suffolkscouts.org.uk / 07540 889754
Long Melford Scout Group Waiting List	Lynda Badger	lynda.badger@suffolkscouts.org.uk / 07540 889754
Long Melford Squirrel Scouts	Jonathan Coote	jonathancoote82@hotmail.com
Long Melford in Bloom	Jonathan Ewbank	jonathanewbank145@gmail.com / 07931 925420
Long Melford Museum and Heritage Centre	John Nunn	01787 313496
Long Melford Litter Pickers	Claire Hargreaves	07899 696491
Long Melford Photographic Group	Derek Challis	01787 373738
Long Melford CE Primary School	Mrs Woolmer	01787 379929
Long Melford Walking Group	Mike Turner	07733 102229
Long Melford Women's Institute	Amy Hyde Parker	amy@melfordestate.co.uk
Melford Music	John Watts	01787 310373
Neighbourhood Watch	Stuart Finch	07967 472488
Over Sixties Club	Sandra Halls and Mary Cook	07722 028753
Old School bookings		schoolbooking1860@gmail.com
Parish Recorder	Geoff Randall	07519 626842 Melfordparishrecorder@hotmail.com
Project Seven	Sandra Basham	07900 614417
Royal British Legion	Amy Hyde Parker	amy@melfordestate.co.uk
Silver Band	Mike Murkin	01787 312605
The Arts Society Stour Valley	John Ashton	07899 872222
Upbeat Heart Support	Hilary Neeves	01359 232678
Village Hall bookings	lettings.longmelfordvillagehall@hotmail.com	07379 894325

Please notify us of any additions or changes by emailing content@melfordmatters.org.uk. Amendments must be received by **5th January** to be included in Issue 30 – February/March.

Quiz Answers

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. 11 pipers piping | 6. Away in a Manger |
| 2. David's City | 7. Gathering firewood (winter fuel) |
| 3. a. O Come, O Come, Emmanuel | 8. a. angels |
| 4. b. 28 'la's | 9. Carol of the Bells |
| 5. c. O Holy Night | 10. Figgy pudding |

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