

MELFORD

Issue 32 June/July 2026

Matters

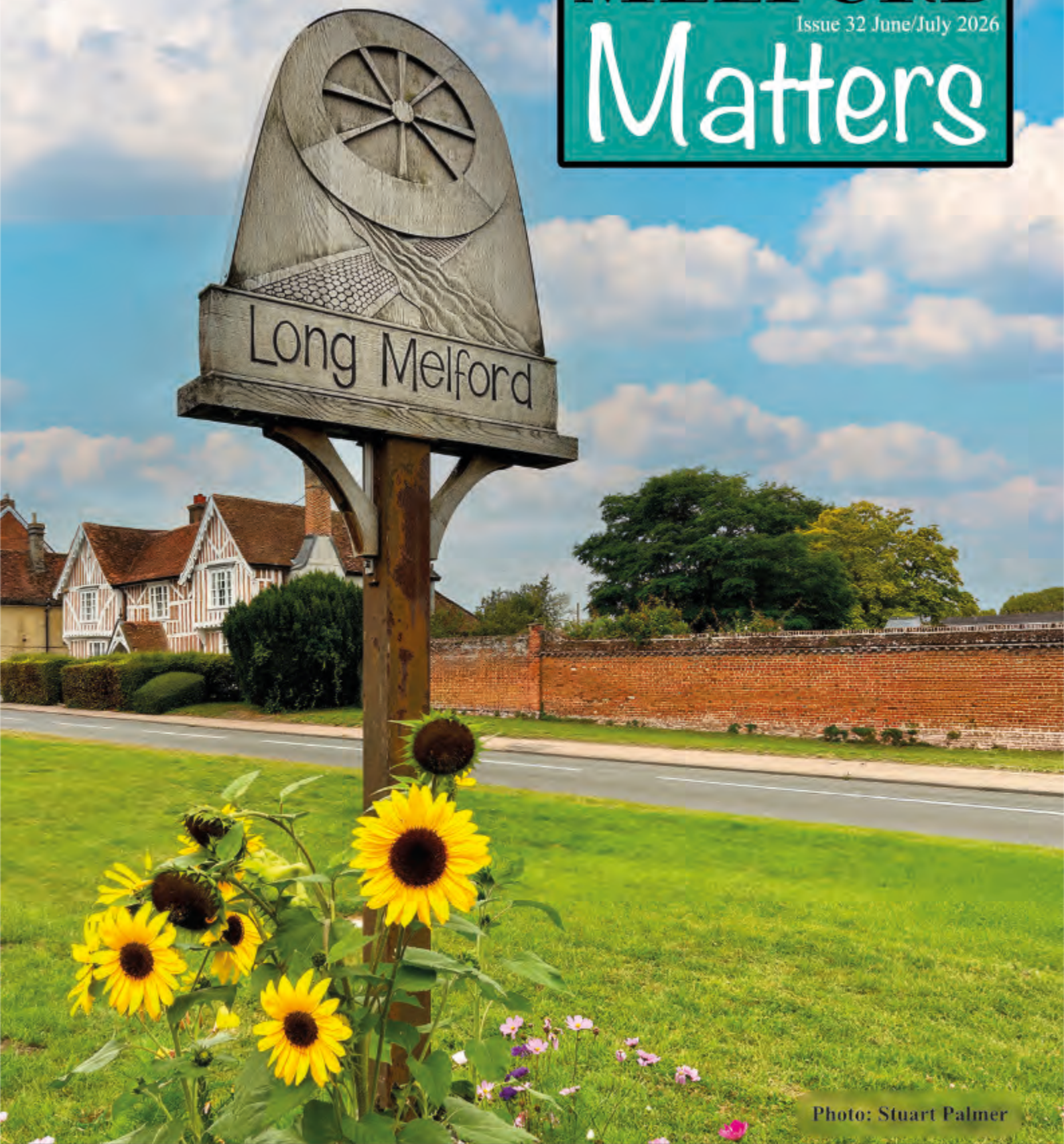


Photo: Stuart Palmer

Project 7 Annual Review

Two awards won and £15,000
donated to local groups and
charities

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A Great Summer Ahead

The Long Melford Fete,
Concerts in the Church, Music
on the Green and more

Pages 5, 14 and 20

Unity Healthcare News

An update on the handling of
calls and consultations, and
how clinical decisions are made

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welcome!

Welcome to issue 32 of your village magazine. Have you noticed how there's always something happening in Melford? We have struggled with this issue, to be honest, as we have so many interesting articles to try and fit in about all the various groups and activities in our lovely village. It's a nice problem to have.

We are very grateful to Melford-based company TCM Soil Solutions for advising us on the perils of bamboo and their campaign to combat this invasive plant (p.25). Marking National Volunteers Week, (1st-7th June), we have a detailed look at some of the many ways in which folk volunteer in Melford (p.8). We've also tried to help everyone navigate the imminent changes to our rubbish collections (p.9). There's a fascinating account of the

many adventures being enjoyed by pupils at the village school (p.27).

Also, please make a note in your diary not to miss the Melford Village Fete on Saturday 11th July from 12.00-4.00pm. It's a brilliant event for all age groups and you can find out about some of the new attractions as well as old favourites (p.5).

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

We welcome any feedback about the magazine – please get in touch at content@melfordmatters.org.uk.



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Community Matters

Project 7 Awards

Well, what a year for Project Seven! We were nominated for and won the award from BBR Radio Suffolk's "Make a Difference Award" in "The Fundraiser" category. We were also awarded the Colin Cracknell Cup in recognition of all the help we've given to The Farm Machinery Preservation Society over many years. We have continued to run our successful BBQs at many local events, which has resulted in us donating over £15,000 this year to local groups and charities.



Our annual Presentation Evening was held on 11th March at Nethergate Brewery, conducted by our treasurer Graham Hardy, chairman Martin Maxim and our new president, Derek Challis. This new appointment was made following the resignation due to ill health of one of our founder members and president, Andrew Hagger. We thank him for his loyal support since the beginning of Project Seven in 1982 and for the tireless work that he undertook for many years in our main event The Big Night Out, the firework spectacular. Thank you, Andrew. Our committee has also lost Wendy and Andy Gill after 20 years of service – we are all so sorry to see them go.

The money raised this year was from our BBQs held at local events, but to enable Project Seven to continue to give this service we need more help. So, if you would like to get involved, please speak to any committee member. We have a schedule of all events we will be attending this year and any assistance would be greatly appreciated.

Please help us to help local organisations and charities. Thank you!

Project Seven

Long Melford Good Neighbours – A Thank You and a New Chapter

As I step into the role of chair of Long Melford Good Neighbours, it feels only right to begin by recognising the contribution of our outgoing chair, Helen Eaton. Helen has given a great deal of time, care and commitment to the scheme over the years. Under her guidance, Good Neighbours has continued to provide a vital service within our community – offering lifts to medical appointments, friendly support, and our much-loved coffee mornings at the Old School. Much of Helen's work has taken place behind the scenes – coordinating volunteers, supporting the team, and quietly ensuring everything runs smoothly. It is this steady dedication that has helped the scheme remain such a trusted and valued part of village life.

On behalf of everyone involved, I would like to offer a sincere thank you to Helen for everything she has done. We are also very pleased that Helen will continue to be involved as a volunteer, and we look forward to her ongoing contribution.

Good Neighbours continues thanks to our dedicated volunteers, but we are always grateful for more helpers, particularly drivers. Even a small amount of time can make a real difference.

Our coffee mornings take place fortnightly at the Old School between 10.00am and 11.00am, and everyone is very welcome.

To contact us, call 07504 249179 or email info.lmgns@gmail.com. We are also on Facebook: Long Melford Good Neighbours.

Sue Banks
Chair, Long Melford Good Neighbours

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Community Matters

Long Melford Village Fete

The Long Melford Village Fete returns on **11th July between 12 noon and 4.00pm** and we are hoping for cooler and kinder weather than last year.

As well as new stands including a therapy pony and many more community-engagement stalls, the hugely popular traditional stalls will be back. They include the Dog Show, Hook-a-Duck, the village stocks, the hotly contested 'Chicken Chucking', donkey rides and Simon Webb's steam toys. Mr Whippy, Simply Ice Cream and cake stalls will all be waiting to welcome visitors. The village Scouts will provide their hugely popular wheelbarrow tombola and FLuMPS are organising their bottle tombola in addition to running and selling tickets for the raffle. And the fire engine, the combine and the tractor will be here (if harvest hasn't started) for the children to play on.

The wonderfully talented Long Melford Silver Band will provide the music whilst Nethergate and Bar Rumba will serve alcoholic refreshments all afternoon. If a cup of tea and a piece of cake are more your thing, the Long Melford Women's Institute will be filling one of the marquees with cakes and goodies and offering some welcome shade.



Timetable

12.00 noon	The Long Melford Village Fete opens
12.00 noon	Long Melford Silver Band performance
1.00pm	The Village Tug of War
1.30pm	Gun Dog Display, Seadogs Training including a public scurry. To enter, please meet at the arena
2.15pm	The Dog Show (main arena)
3.00pm	Long Melford Silver Band performance
3.40pm	FLUMPS raffle prizes to be drawn
4.00pm	The Long Melford Village Fete ends

It's going to be a busy occasion – last year despite the heat, there were over 2,000 people and we are hoping for a similar turnout again. All greens and verges will be open for car parking, except for the Lower Green (one closest to the entrance) and the Old School car park, both reserved for disabled parking.

Entrance is free but please bring as much change as you can, and let's make this as big a success as last year to raise funds for Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford Primary School and other local charities kind enough to run a stall for the day.

We look forward to seeing you all there. Any enquiries, please email amy@melfordestate.co.uk.





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Community Matters



Long Melford WI

Many thanks to Melford Movies for organising our annual film night. All their hard work resulted in an excellent start, collecting

£400 for our chosen charity, Petals – the Baby Loss Counselling Charity (www.petalscharity.org).

The group has had a busy few months supporting other worthwhile causes – we crocheted over 340 poppies for the Standing with Giants campaign (www.standingwithgiants.co.uk); to mark International Women's Day, the group donated toiletries to a women's refuge in Bury St Edmunds; the coffee-morning group donated money to the Long Melford Garden Centre's collection to buy a defibrillator and, after a request from the mother of a premature baby, a member produced a couple of knitted hats, jackets and a blanket.

And on the day of the London Marathon, 18 ladies took on the TCS London Marathon MyWay challenge, setting off at 5.00am to walk 26.2 miles and raising lots of money for various charities.

Highlighting our work on their Facebook page, the Suffolk West Federation of WIs said of Long Melford WI, "What an inspirational WI".

Upcoming Events:

- **Thursday 4th June**
Through the Keyhole: we will be guessing which house our members live in.
- **Thursday 2nd July**
Life of a Police Bodyguard/Looking after VIPs: Gary Egerton will be revealing a number of interesting stories about his time as a police bodyguard.

Meetings are held in The Bull Hotel from 7.15pm.

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

The WI is currently at full capacity and new membership is suspended for 6 months.



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Community Matters

Quiz Night

It's time to warm up the little grey cells for the return of the Stained Glass Fund's annual quiz. For the second year running, the host will be Downton Abbey's celebrated tiara-maker Andrew Prince. As one veteran broadcaster said of his most recent public performance: "If ever Andrew tires of the jewellery world, he could clearly take over from Graham Norton."

This year the quiz will take place on **Friday 17th July** at Holy Trinity Church. Doors open at 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start. Tickets are £15 a head, with a minimum of four per team and a maximum of six. The entry fee includes a cold supper (vegetarian option available) and soft drinks. Wine will be available by the glass or bottle, and you can also buy beer. There will be a raffle with glittering prizes. To book your tickets, email simon@simon-edge.com.

All proceeds go towards the conservation of Long Melford church's medieval stained glass windows. Featuring a roll call of 15th century aristocrats and grandees, these windows escaped two rounds of destruction in the Reformation and the Civil War and are regarded by experts as a unique national treasure. But they urgently require conserving if they are to survive. After six years of fundraising, four out of eight windows are now restored, with another one in progress, but funds are still desperately needed to finish the job.



This magnificent window, which has now been restored, features (centre) John Clopton, the owner of Kentwell Hall who masterminded the construction of Holy Trinity.

Reflections

Facing Uncertainty

Many people, young and old, are facing a future which is not quite what they expected. We can feel disappointed when things do not work out as we anticipated. Yet sometimes, it is in uncomfortable periods of change and challenge that we learn more about ourselves and about God.

I was recently struck by this poem written by an unknown soldier caught up in the wrongs and rights of the American Civil War, over 150 years ago. No doubt this man, born as he was into unsettled times, found that his life took a number of unexpected turns.

Rev. Matthew

*I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey.*

*I asked for health, that I might do greater things.
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things.*

*I asked for riches, that I might be happy.
I was given poverty, that I might be wise.*

*I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men.
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God.*

*I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things.*

*I got nothing that I asked for – but got everything I had hoped for.
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.
I am, among all people, most richly blessed.*

On another note, I am so thankful to live in a village where there is so much going on! Many of the activities are listed in the diary section of this esteemed publication. For our toddler and youth groups, services of various 'flavours', fundraisers, events, and socials ... do also have a look at the church noticeboards (in St Catherine's Road or in the porch at Holy Trinity) or the church notice sheet which can be found at the bottom right of the Long Melford church homepage www.longmelfordchurch.com. Thank you.

Community Matters

Volunteers' Week

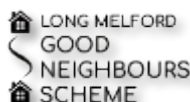
"Volunteering is the life blood of a community with unsung heroes holding it together and, through helping others, finding fulfilment". One can read statements like that, acknowledge their probable truth and turn the page without another thought. But, with the National Council for Voluntary Action's **Volunteers' Week** running at the start of June (see volunteersweek.org), we'd like to celebrate all the voluntary work undertaken by and for the community organisations in Long Melford.



The comprehensive directory at the back of the magazine (and the parade of logos here) does not cover all available. It is not until one wants help or advice or wishes to continue or explore an interest that one discovers a relevant body. Many of these organisations would not exist without willing persons keen to contribute a few hours a week or month to keep them going for the benefit of others.



Volunteers are the glue holding both these groups together, from a large group like the **WI** (with their many smaller specific-interest clubs) to the small like the **Litter Pickers**, the **Hospice Shop** and **Good**



Grief at the Old School. Others, like our **Parish Councillors**, the **Neighbourhood Plan Group**, **Good Neighbours Scheme** and the trustees of the Village



Hall, Community Association and Community Sports Trust, beaver away on what is almost a part-time job.



Although volunteering is largely an occupation for retirees, fresh 'talent' with ideas is necessary to keep things engaged, relevant and fresh. In today's world we are all busy, retired or not, so that truism about 'finding a busy person and they will usually manage to squeeze in one more thing' becomes self-fulfilling. This is a reminder that volunteering – at whatever age and stage of life – could benefit both oneself and the community.



The time commitment is not writ in stone, can easily be accommodated around personal life and is most definitely not for the rest of your days! Fears very relevant to putting up one's hand!



If you are new to an area, a great way of settling in and making like-minded friends is by involvement with your community. In turn, this will contribute to your physical and mental health, help prevent the potential isolation, despair and loss of purpose which comes from downsizing or leaving the workforce only to find that the things you have been wanting to do ... are not enough!



Interested in History? **The Heritage Trust** are doing incredible work joining up the dots on bygone Long Melford. You will be welcomed with open arms for their project surveying local 'pillboxes' or for a stint supervising the burgeoning Heritage Centre, chatting to tourists while dusting the artefacts.

Interested in our lovely **Holy Trinity Church**? Whether you're religious or not, there are so many different activities using volunteers to keep it alive, relevant and intact – from serving in its shop to singing in the choir, assisting with the Fusion youth group to fundraising for the stained-glass window renovation, or from flower arranging to brass polishing. None of which activities ask you to spend any time on your knees!



Interested in gardening? The **Park Friends** maintain the Country Park making it safe and walkable for the small children attending the outdoor school, residents and dog walkers alike. Ditto for the Railway Walk. **Melford in Bloom** do sterling work keeping our village welcoming, watered and blooming. They are looking (see p.9) for anyone with a sense of humour and car with a towbar to haul a bowser through the village from April to September! Could that be you?



Young parents, desperate for more 'me' time, might find that an hour at the **Football Club** or **Cricket Club** or with the **Scouting** and **Girlguiding** groups helps retain their sanity amid the relentless parenting.



Remember that old joke about how many people does it take to change a light bulb? One to hold the new bulb, one to hold the ladder, one to unscrew the old bulb, one to sweep up the pieces and one to administer first aid! The true answer is: more is better; there is a role for all.

So for all the 'unsung heroes' of Long Melford, our thanks – without **YOU** our community would not be so rich, vibrant and welcoming.

MELFORD FORGET-ME-NOTS

Smarter Recycling

A quick reminder that Babergh District Council bin collections change from **1st June**. The service will in future comprise:

- a weekly collection of food waste
- a three-weekly collection of paper and card (green-lidded bins)
- a three-weekly collection of glass, plastics, metal and cartons (blue bins) and
- a three-weekly collection of general rubbish (black bins)

By the time this is published, you should have received two new food waste containers (one for your worktop, another to be left outside for collection) and the green-lidded bin for paper and card. Collection days (for most in Long Melford, Tuesdays) will not change. The garden waste (brown bin) collection service will continue unchanged.

If you can't remember which bins are due to be collected, check our diary pages where we will include details as a reminder.

Long Melford in Bloom are keen to recruit a volunteer to help with watering their displays. If you have a car with a towbar and could help transport Billy, their bowser, through the village during the summer months, please contact Jonathan Ewbank by email jonathanewbank145@gmail.com or phone 07931 925420.



Melford Court Summer Fete

Melford Court Care Home will be holding a fun-filled afternoon of summer celebrations on **Saturday 20th June** between 2.30 and 4.30pm.

The Taste of East Anglia Food & Drink Festival is back at Kentwell Hall on Saturday 13th June between 10.00am and 5.00pm, 'showing off the best of local hospitality as well as up to 100 food and drink producers and some wonderful street food.'

Long Melford Open Gardens

**BANK HOLIDAY
MONDAY
25TH MAY 2026
10am until 4pm
Adults £7.50 Children - Free**

Gardens, refreshments and entertainment

All proceeds raised from the 2026 Long Melford Open Gardens will be donated to Long Melford Almshouse, Long Melford in Bloom, and the Long Melford Holy Trinity Church.

Just a reminder that the Funfair will be on the Green from **Wednesday 27th to Sunday 31st May**.

Circus

The **James Richards Circus** will be on the Green from **Wednesday 10th to Sunday 14th June**. Tickets can be booked in advance via

<https://www.ticketsource.com/jamesrichardscircus/james-richards-circus-long-melford/p-aeyzk>

Gainsborough, Turner & Constable: Inventing Landscape

To mark the 250th anniversary of the birth of the Suffolk-born artist John Constable (1776–1837), **Gainsborough's House** is holding an exhibition from **25th April to 11th October** exploring the tradition of landscape painting in Britain through three of its greatest exponents. Also on display will be works by David Dawson (b.1960) and Kate Giles (b.1962) inspired by Constable and his contemporaries. See gainsborough.org for details.

Suffolk Art Society Summer Exhibition

The exhibition will be held in **The Lady Chapel, Holy Trinity Church**, between **Friday 17th July and Sunday 2nd August**, from 9.30am to 5.30pm daily.

Diary Matters

JUNE			
Wednesday 3rd	9.00am to 3.30pm	Antiques Fair	Village Hall
	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
	7.00pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Thursday 4th	7.15pm	Long Melford WI (see p.6)	Bull Hotel
Wednesday 10th	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
Thursday 11th	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School
Friday 12th	7.00pm	Melford Movies Trailer Night (see p.10)	Village Hall
	8.00pm	Folk and Acoustic Club	Cock & Bell
Saturday 13th	10.00am to 5.00pm	Taste of East Anglia Food and Drink Festival	Kentwell Hall
Wednesday 17th	11.00am to 12 noon	The Arts Society Stour Valley – ‘Pierrot Heroes; the evolution of seaside entertainment’	Village Hall
	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
Saturday 20th	2.30 to 4.30pm	Melford Court Summer Fete (see p.9)	Melford Court
Wednesday 24th	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
Thursday 25th	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School
	1.45pm	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
Saturday 27th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Old School
	8.00pm	Live Music – Ranking 2 Tone	Working Men’s Club
Sunday 28th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Old School
	10.00am	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
JULY			
Wednesday 1st	9.00am to 3.30pm	Antiques Fair	Village Hall
	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
	7.00pm	Full Parish Council Meeting	Village Hall
Thursday 3rd	7.15pm	Long Melford WI (see p.6)	Bull Hotel
Wednesday 8th	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity

Waste Collection Schedule – June and July 2006																	
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	June	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	July	Black bin	Refuse (general waste)
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Refuse			1	2	3	4	5	Paper and card	Green-lidded bin	Paper and card
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	Paper and card	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Recycling		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	Recycling	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Refuse		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	Refuse	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Paper and card	Blue bin	Recycling (glass, plastics, metal and cartons)
29	30						Paper and card	27	28	29	30	31			Recycling		
Food waste will be collected every week on the same day as the other collection (unless advised otherwise)																	

Food waste will be collected every week on the same day as the other collection (unless advised otherwise)

Diary Matters

JULY (CONTINUED)

Thursday 9th	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School
	7.00pm	An evening of mediumship with Sue Breen – £20 cash entry	Football Club
Friday 10th	8.00pm	Folk and Acoustic Club	Cock & Bell
Saturday 11th	12 noon to 4.00pm	Village Fete	Field next to Old School car park
	8.00pm	Live Music – Ben Smith	Working Men's Club
Wednesday 15th	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
Friday 17th	6.00pm	Stained Glass Fundraising Quiz Night (see p.7)	Holy Trinity
Saturday 18th	10.00am to 3.30pm	Book Fair	Village Hall
Wednesday 22nd	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
Thursday 23rd	10.00 to 11.30am	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School
Saturday 25th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Old School
	7.00pm	Drag Bingo – tickets via Eventbrite	Football Club
Sunday 26th	9.30am to 4.00pm	Antiques and Vintage Fair	Old School
	10.00am	Long Melford Litter Pickers	
Wednesday 29th	1.10pm to 2.00pm	Melford Music Lunchtime Concert (see p.14)	Holy Trinity
Thursday 30th	1.45pm	Long Melford Litter Pickers	

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
Tuesday	9.00am to 1.00pm	Upbeat (Heart Support Group) – Hilary Neeves – 01359 232678
	11.00am to 12.00pm	Bumblebees Sensory and Messy Play – Jenni Bray – bookwhen.com/bumblebeessuffolk
	1.30 to 2.30pm	Seated Exercise Class – Jane 07944 919328
	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
	7.30 to 9.30pm	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
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 6.45pm	Bounce – Jules Cooper – www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford
Wednesday	7.00pm	(1st Wed) Long Melford Parish Council – Full meeting
	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 6.45pm	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)

Tuesday	5.45 to 6.45pm	Hula Hooping Class – Toyah 07917 610231
Friday	7.30 to 10.30pm	(First Friday) Bygones – Beverley Walker – beverleyjdring1@gmail.com

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 August/September need to reach us by **1st July**.



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.

Culture Matters



The new **Reading Quest** launches on **18th July** and runs through the entire summer holidays! We've teamed up

with East Anglian children's book creator Matt Robertson (*The Time Travel Sleepover* series, *There's Nothing Funny About Bums* and *I Am Not the Easter Bunny!*), so grab your magnifying glass and join our 'Curious Creatures' as they explore the library this summer. It's free to join and suitable for all children, so sign up and pick up your case file filled with reading missions and activities and earn your medal, certificate and an invitation to our secret end-of-summer party.

We have some capacity to take on more Home Library Service customers, so if you or someone you know would benefit from one of our volunteers visiting them at home with books or audiobooks, please get in touch.

Long Melford Library, St Catherine's Church, Long Melford CO10 9JU. Tel: 01787 737060.

Nick's Picks

If you went to the cinema to see *Project Hail Mary*, why not pick up a copy of the book by Andy Weir from the library? The story follows Ryland Grace who wakes up from a coma on an interstellar spacecraft as the sole survivor of an imperative mission to save planet Earth. But he doesn't know that yet, as he now suffers with amnesia. Grace has momentous decisions to make as he pieces together his distant past and his current mission.

The Tiger Who Sleeps Under My Chair, a dual-timeline novel by Hannah Foley, weaves the two stories of fossil-obsessed Emma and her brother James in 1884 and football-mad Jude and Rosie in 2023 and explores sensitively children's experiences of mental health difficulties. Contrasting the attitudes of the Victorian era with today's, this book is suitable for children 9+ and shows the importance of friendship and the role of society in helping people get through tough times.

Both books are available in print from Suffolk Community Libraries.



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Culture Matters

Melford Music

We warmly invite you to our new season of weekly **lunchtime concerts**, to be held in our beautiful church every **Wednesday at 1.10pm from the beginning of June until the end of August**.

The 2026 programme features a varied and engaging selection of music performed by talented local and visiting musicians. We are delighted to open our new season by welcoming back the exceptional pianist Joanna Lam, whose performance was so much enjoyed two years ago. Also in June, we are looking forward to another visit from the ever-popular Rock Choir. In July, in response to widespread interest, Lizzie Gutteridge will present another fascinating programme demonstrating ancient musical instruments from the period when the church itself was built.

In addition to these special events, each concert is planned to offer something for everyone, from familiar classical favourites to lighter works and occasional discoveries. Whether you are a regular concertgoer or simply looking for an enjoyable lunchtime break, you can be assured of a high-quality and rewarding musical experience.

There is no entry charge and no need to book in advance. Light refreshments are available before the performance and a retiring collection will be taken in aid of the upkeep of our beautiful church. We look forward to seeing you at our first concert on **3rd June**.

MELFORD MUSIC presents

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fine music in a fine church

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3 JOANNA LAM Piano	1 MAV DUO Mixed styles from Colombia, Cello & Harp
10 CheGO Chelmsford Guitar Orchestra	8 ALTHENA ENSEMBLE Violin, Oboe, Flute & Piano
17 STACKS OF SAX Saxophone Ensemble	15 LIZZIE GUTTERIDGE Music from around the time of Holy Trinity Church
24 ROCK CHOIR A variety of great tunes	22 JEFFERY WILSON and JOHN HUMAN Clarinet, Saxophone & Piano
	29 ROCOCOS An 18th century grand tour, Baroque Quartet

AUGUST

5 PHILIP PRIOR	Organ
12 SACKVILLE PIANO TRIO	Piano, Violin & Cello
19 STEPHEN GUTMAN	Piano
26 BEECH DUO	Guitar & Violin

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The organisers reserve the right to change recitals without notice
#MelfordMusic | @MelfordMusic #SummerRecitals

MELFORD MOVIES

There have been some great movies released in the last year, from the grand finale of the *Downton Abbey* story to the multi-award-winning *Hamnet*, so we have a fantastic shortlist of films for our 2026/27 season. (It's not too late to nominate films – email us at melfordmovies@icloud.com.)

The season will begin on **21st August** and will then revert to our usual schedule on the second Friday of every month from September through to March.

To help decide our programme of films, we will be holding our usual **Trailer Night on Friday 12th June**, when we screen the trailers for our shortlist. Please do come along, enjoy a glass of wine and some snacks, and vote for the films you would most like to see included in our programme. The event is free and open to all. Doors open at 7.00pm and the first trailer will begin at 7.30pm.

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Culture Matters

Song Circle Serenade for a Centenarian

On 9th March the Long Melford branch of *Song Circle*, run by Anna Winton Mills, heralded the start of local Melford man Mr Bernie Hood's 100th-birthday celebrations. Following regular rehearsals at the village hall, a mini concert was performed just for Bernie. The music included *White Cliffs of Dover* and *If You Loved Me*, finishing with a rousing rendition of *Drunken Sailor* complete with timed foot-stomp ending! There was charming chatter from Bernie, smiling faces and laughter, not least from Bernie who, being a former altar boy, joined in enthusiastically with the singing. A birthday cake with candles (not quite 100!) was presented and photos taken throughout the morning by the talented Gavin Mills. Many thanks go to him and our other helpers. Bernie has lived a remarkable life, now recorded in his own published book *A Colourful Life*, in which he details growing up in the 1920s, his experiences of the Second World War, starting up a business and most importantly meeting Joy, the love of his life. They were married for 75 years.

Choir leader Anna later summed up the morning: "What a lovely event being able to share our happiness in singing, especially for such an extraordinary gentleman. It was our pleasure. Happy 100th Birthday Bernie!"



Bernie Hood celebrates his 100th birthday with members of Long Melford's Song Circle
Photo: Gavin Mills

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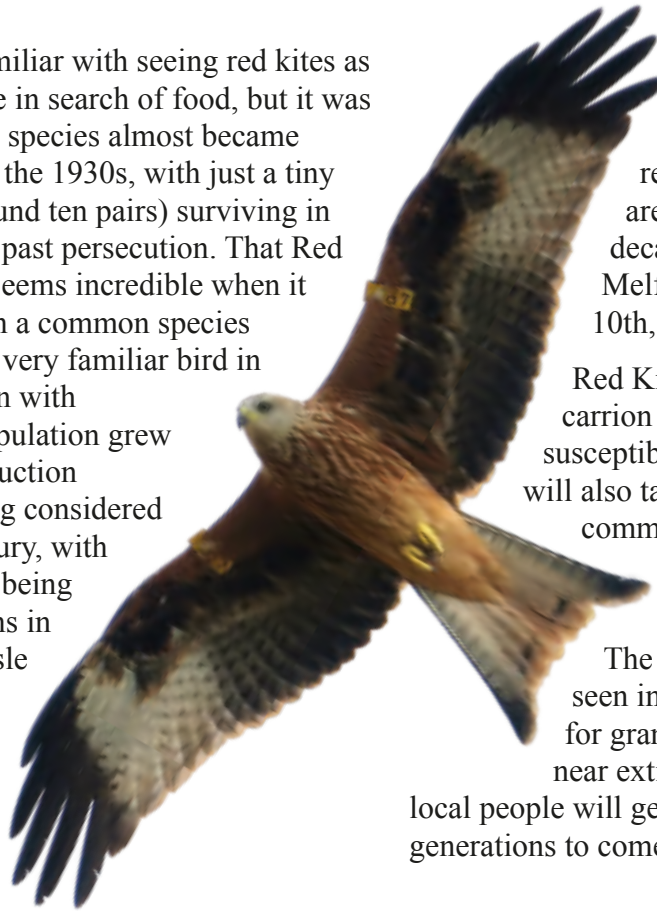


Nature Matters

Red Kites

Many readers will be familiar with seeing red kites as they soar over the village in search of food, but it was not always this way. The species almost became extinct in the UK during the 1930s, with just a tiny remnant population (around ten pairs) surviving in Mid Wales – a legacy of past persecution. That Red Kites became so scarce seems incredible when it had previously been such a common species across the UK – it was a very familiar bird in Shakespeare's time. Even with protection, the Welsh population grew very slowly and reintroduction programmes started being considered during the late 20th century, with the first birds eventually being released into the Chilterns in England and the Black Isle in Scotland in 1989.

The reintroduced birds formed local breeding populations and slowly spread from these and other release centres.



Suffolk sightings slowly increased – for instance, there were just 18 sightings across the county in 2000. Birds were reported more regularly in the local area towards the end of the next decade and the author's first Long Melford sighting occurred on March 10th, 2012.

Red Kites are frequent feeders of carrion – a habit that makes them susceptible to illegal poisoning – but they will also take small mammals and birds and commonly feed on worms and beetles in fields when farming operations make these available.

The fact that they are now so easily seen in our skies should not be taken for granted – as their previous decline to near extinction shows – but hopefully local people will get to enjoy the sight of kites for generations to come.



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Nature Matters

Country Park

A very enjoyable dawn chorus walk took place at the Country Park on the first May Bank Holiday, with 21 participants led by our very own birding experts, Cliff Dark and Jonathan Ewbank.

Bird highlights included two cuckoos wheeling around the park in hot pursuit of each other and in plain view, as well as a lovely garden warbler in strong voice – with blackcaps, blackbirds, song thrushes and chiffchaffs adding to the morning chorus. The walk concluded with a super breakfast by the dipping pond, supplied by Juwls at The Bug Stop Café.



The park still has two pairs of breeding swans that keep a fair distance from each other. Ollie and Villanelle have sensibly nested hidden away in the pits, but Rodney and Olivia have made a rather precarious nest near the riverbank. Just a reminder to be mindful with your dogs and always keep them under close control, especially during the bird breeding season.



In July Juwls will be celebrating her first year of The Bug Stop Café. When asked what her highs and lows have been, she said that she just loves meeting people and chatting with her customers, but it can get a bit lonely when the weather is bad and no one visits the park. Juwls has been awarded a 5-star food and hygiene rating and serves up delicious filled breakfast buns, home-baked cakes and biscuits (some of which are vegan and gluten free) and tasty coffee roasted by The Barista's Shed in Sudbury. Doggy treats are also available and Juwls' ethos is to try and keep everything as reasonably priced as possible. In April, Juwls held a children's



crafting workshop with 'The Artful Leopard': participants did some amazing paint and printing on fabric, using everyday objects to create different textures and effects. Over the summer months, Juwls is planning some more sessions for children such as making bug hotels, as well as other crafting sessions. Make sure you follow The Bug Stop Café on Facebook or Google Maps to see what's on at the café.

And finally, we are so pleased to have some new picnic tables and benches at the park. We realised that some of the old ones were literally on their last legs!

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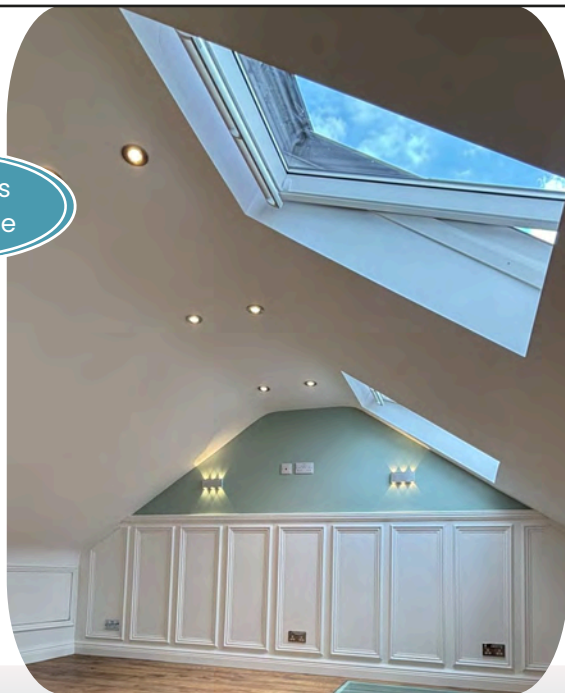
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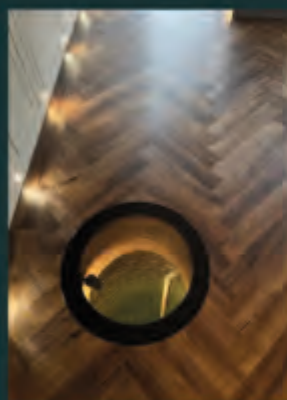
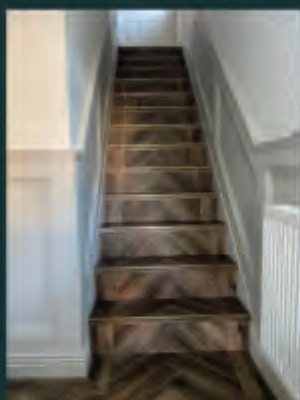
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Business Matters

Rabbits in Hall Street!? Look Again, it's a Hare Called Victor!

This is the dream of a young couple, Simon and Claire Larkins, who chose to make Long Melford their home and the ideal village in which to expand their *Hare Cottage Crafts* business. At local markets they realised that many small, mainly female-run, businesses lacked a platform from which to publicise and sell their own creations.

So, the idea was formed of using their own business to support other small concerns, sharing the same ethos – that of selling “homemade, natural products, using upcycling and environmentally conscious (e.g. biodegradable) items”.

Their original logo of a dapperly dressed hare led to the ‘eureka’ moment of giving him a joint family name of Victor and placing him amidst a company of artisans. *Victor and Company* was born and some 18 months later the doors of the shop opened on 1st April.



With products from 39 businesses under one roof, the shop has plenty to tempt. Your eyes will light up with delight at the sight of the many ‘*Curiosities and Artyfacts*’, including metal art, decoupage furniture, paintings and prints, jewellery and skincare products.

Set amidst a green forest, with Victor and his friends cleverly reflected in old mirrors, this is a felicitous combination of relaxation and browsing, whilst resting assured that every purchase makes an artisan happy. With a background of gentle birdsong emanating from a carefully lit tree, you can enjoy a cup of coffee or tea, both of impeccable provenance, sitting at a narrow wooden table resting on pillars cut from their own trees.

You may go in for coffee and come out with enchanting oven gloves (as I did), which shows the success of the approach. Luckily it was not the decoupage guitar drinks cabinet, which had also caught my eye! Visit and be entranced!

Victor and Company is open Monday to Saturday 10.00am-4.00pm (closed Tuesday), and Sunday 11.00am-4.00pm.



Claire and Simon Larkins

Swimming Pool for Dogs

Welcome also to new Melford business Paddling Pawz, an outdoor swimming pool for dogs.



Council Matters



Long Melford Parish Council

Music on the Green returns and I'm busy behind the scenes ensuring it's another smash hit! Save the

date: **Saturday 1st August, 1.00pm – 8.00pm**. Expect amazing local bands, local food and drink vendors, along with free children's entertainment, all courtesy of your Parish Council.



The **Small Electrical Bin** situated within the Old School car park has unfortunately been removed temporarily due to a significant fire at the Babergh District Council's contractor facility. I will update you all once an alternative contractor has been secured to restore the service.

New Parish Council Website – After months in the making, we now have a new website. Please do take a look at www.longmelford-pc.gov.uk. Those of you who may have visited the previous website, I hope will notice a vast improvement and find it easier to

navigate around. The website also has all the information you may need on the new waste and recycling service (see below) and a handy guide to what can be placed inside each of the bins.

In May the Council held their **Annual Parish Meeting**: the meeting concentrates mainly on the council's general 'housekeeping' that is required to keep us in check! However, part of this is allocating members to committees and working groups.

The Council have agreed the following groups and elected members to them:

- Finance and Infrastructure Committee
- Personnel and Governance Committee
- Neighbourhood Plan Committee
- Traffic and Parking Working Group
- Melford in Bloom Working Group, and
- Local Nature Reserve Working Group

Clare Lee, Parish Clerk,
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Suffolk County Council Election

The SCC election took place on 7th May, with Reform UK taking control of the council with 41 of the 70 councillors. For the Melford Division (which encompasses several surrounding villages as well as Long Melford), the votes cast were as follows:

Bill Davies (Conservatives)	491
Michael Holt (Reform UK)	1305
Matthew Marshall (Labour)	154
John Nunn (Independent)	1321 (elected)
Robert Parkes (Greens)	753
Alan Scott (Liberal Democrats)	130
Void/spoilt ballots	5

The turnout was 50.43%. Congratulations to John Nunn who was duly elected to the council.

The government is proposing to reorganise local government in Suffolk, creating three new unitary councils to replace the county council and the five district/borough councils. Although the boundaries have yet to be finalised, it's clear that Long Melford will be in the Western Suffolk Unitary Council. Elections to the new authorities will be held in May 2027, with the transfer of responsibilities to the new councils taking place on 1st April 2028.

Heritage Matters



Heritage Trust wins Prestigious National Award for Archaeology

The Society for the promotion of Roman Studies awarded Long Melford Heritage Trust their Britannia Prize in recognition of their archaeological team's outstanding voluntary contributions to researching Roman Britain over the past ten years.

This comes on the completion of the latest geophysical ground penetrating radar survey, the results of which were presented to a packed audience at the village hall in April. The survey revealed a fascinating picture of the northern suburbs of Roman Long Melford (under the current football and cricket fields), confirming the presence of a Roman Fort which, although short lived, went on to form the foundation of the settlement.

Evidence was found of a very rare small arena, thought to be a Roman equestrian centre, along with two temples, the first recorded in Suffolk. Roads, buildings and signs of Roman agriculture were also to be seen, with an industrial area where iron smelting and a large tannery operated beside a road leaving the settlement in the direction of Cambridge.



A painting by Kenneth Dodd imagining the view looking east over the Roman fort, showing some of the features suggested by recent archaeological work.

Melford Court Report

June-July 1891 were relatively quiet in Melford as far as court proceedings were concerned, but there was some activity at a notable village landmark: as many readers will remember, there was a pub, originally called the Perseverance Hotel, on the corner of Station Road and The Drays. It was usually referred to by locals as The Percy.

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

*10th July 1891 - Long Melford Petty Session
Ebenezer Rising was charged with being disorderly
and refusing to quit the Perseverance Hotel, Long
Melford. He was fined 10/- plus 5/- costs.*

*24th July 1891 - James Minna of Alpheton,
Charles Thompson and David Gowers of Long
Melford were charged at the Petty Session with
neglecting to send their children to school. Minna and
Gowers, cases dismissed. Thompson, who faced two
charges, was fined 5/- including costs.*

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The triage GPs can identify who is best placed to help you with your problem and have access to a wide range of colleagues including GPs, registrars, advanced nurse practitioners, physician associates and paramedics, as well as pharmacists, physiotherapists, nurses and more. If you need to see a GP or need ongoing care with a specific individual, we can provide continuity of care with a person you may have seen or spoken with before. Urgent cases however are more likely to be booked with whoever is available soonest, depending on the circumstances.

Your eConsult is triaged as soon as possible, with more urgent needs being prioritised so that they hear back sooner through a system of automatic "flags" that help sort them in order of urgency. Whilst we receive lots of positive feedback about how quickly we can respond to requests, at times when demand is higher this may not always be everyone's experience. We receive a significantly higher number of requests on Mondays so if your request is not urgent, please help us by submitting your eConsult on a different day.

Long-term conditions

Based on feedback from patients and members of the patient participation group, we are making changes to the way we manage long-term conditions:

- We have hired two additional individuals and developed a dedicated admin team to manage this process.
- We are adding a phone option to ensure that queries about long-term conditions can be managed separately.
- Instead of sending letters asking you to telephone reception, we will be asking our admin team to telephone you to arrange appointments and discuss your needs on a more personalised basis.
- When we call, we will request that you complete a short questionnaire and submit blood pressure readings to ensure that we have all the necessary information ahead of your appointment and can offer a more streamlined service.
- To help us see more people, our nurses and HCA appointments will be shorter – providing information in advance enables this to happen.

Growing GP workforce

We have reduced our reliance on locum GPs, previously deployed to meet recruitment challenges and manage change over the last couple of years. Over the winter we recruited a further five permanent GPs. Two more GPs who will be joining us soon. This will help us provide you with a better continuity of care while being a much more effective use of our resources. Our focus will be on building a range of additional GP services and providing career development opportunities for our GPs.

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Health Matters

Air Ambulance Service Need Your Support

From time to time, the distinctive yellow helicopters of the East Anglian Air Ambulance can be seen in the skies over Long Melford. Their crews deliver hospital-level care to people facing sudden medical emergencies, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Since 2015, they have been tasked within five miles of Long Melford 198 times and have provided critical support and treatment to 136 people. They're not just a fast transfer to hospital; they bring the emergency department to the scene, giving people the best possible chance when every second counts.

Their service is now at risk: Cambridge Airport, home to their Cambridge crew, will be closing leaving just one base in Norfolk. With no crew in the centre of the region, tasking times to patients who are facing time-sensitive, life-threatening emergencies, will increase dramatically – putting local lives at risk. As a charity, they rely on public donations for every mission they attend. They are seeking contributions to help raise the funds to build a new air base in the Cambridge area. If you'd like to support their work and protect the future of lifesaving care in East Anglia, you can donate via their website: eaaa.org.uk/base.



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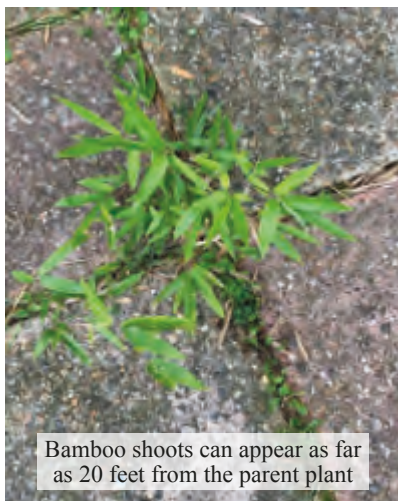
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Gardening Matters – Notes from the Potting Shed

How does your garden grow?

Late last year, **TCM Soil Solutions** were having a quiet morning in their Long Melford office. Then the phone rang. It was a concerned homeowner from Stowmarket who had read how destructive bamboo could be if left unchecked – she supposed it made sense as bamboo was growing through her decking. As the call ended, the phone rang again: another caller, this time about a neighbour's 'bamboo jungle'. Would this affect the caller's ability to move house? Possibly. Surveyor booked, the phone rang once again with another bamboo enquiry. How odd. As an invasive-weed removal company, TCM eradicate primarily Japanese knotweed and bamboo only occasionally. We contacted TCM founder Howard Downer: "Howard? Something is happening."

This spring, TCM launched its new **ByeByeBamboo** campaign to educate property owners about bamboo identification and removal. Dubbed the 'new Japanese knotweed', bamboo is now considered an invasive weed to be removed. Howard, who has managed the family-run firm for 26 years, is keen to raise awareness in Suffolk. "People don't yet realise the problems associated with bamboo. TV gardeners in the 1990s encouraged us to plant it because it grows quickly and acts like a screen, but with our warmer springs and summers, bamboo today has grown out of control. Running bamboo especially has a strong, fast-spreading root system that can produce new shoots as far as 20 feet from the parent plant. Last November, the press reported neighbour disputes and legal battles, especially around London. It's not something I want to see happen here!"



Bamboo shoots can appear as far as 20 feet from the parent plant

TCM encourage homeowners to check for invasive bamboo. There are two types: *running bamboo* (the invasive one) and *clumping bamboo* (still a problem but slower spreading). To identify running bamboo, look for tall, ornamental growth and hard, grooved stems – rounder stems suggest the clumping variety. Running bamboo is also likely to produce shoots several feet away from the parent plant.

As part of the ByeByeBamboo campaign, TCM are offering free identification. Simply upload your photos to their website tcmsoilsolutions.com or Facebook page or call them on 01787 377336 to book a survey.



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

Scouts

Well, the good weather is here and 1st Long Melford Scout group are making the most of it! We recently hosted our annual St George's Day parade in the village. Hundreds of young people and leaders from groups around the whole district came to Long Melford to celebrate the patron saint of Scouting. It was a truly wonderful spectacle to see so many marching from the Scout and Guide HQ up to Holy Trinity Church and we were once again grateful to everyone who came to support us on the day.



We were so proud of our Scout leader: Sarah Beatham-McDonald received her long-service award and has now been helping young people grow and develop their skills for 20 years. She puts the needs of others before her own and we are truly blessed to have her with us.

Also congratulations to Harry Moore, whose selfless and caring nature saw him receive one of our highest honours – the Colonel Probert award. In a short time as a young leader he has become an invaluable asset to our team and something of a legend to the young people he works with.



Now as we head into summer, we are looking forward to getting out and about as much as possible, with the words of our founder Robert Baden-Powell ringing on our ears, "The open air is the real objective of Scouting and the key to its success". So we have got various challenges that will take our intrepid young people outside, getting back to the core elements of Scouting, such as orienteering. Our Beavers will be heading over to Sudbury to follow the Talbot Trail, while our Scout section will take on the more challenging task of creating 'Strava art', made using GPS to create a picture while out and about.

Of course, our young people will also be practising fire lighting and camp skills, such as learning to put up tents, as many of them get ready for various camps and adventures later in the summer, and not forgetting a few adventurous activities like archery and climbing to enjoy. It's safe to say that our young people are looking forward to a fun-filled few months! Anyone looking to join us, please get in touch either through our 1st Long Melford Facebook page or email the section leaders (you will find their details in the directory at the back).

Lynda Badger, Group Lead Volunteer



The recent charity show was a great success, with visitors enjoying not only the model railway displays but also the Scalextric and Lego exhibits. The 1st Chadbrook Guides extend their gratitude to everyone who supported our fundraiser for the upcoming trip to Belgium.

The Guides are anticipating their summer camp, which will focus on fundamental outdoor skills. Activities will include cooking over open fires, working towards the pioneering badge and fostering friendships as well as lasting memories.

Long Melford Brownies enjoyed an excellent term, fully taking advantage of both the weather and the

grounds at the Long Melford Guide and Scout hut. Their adventures included earning an aviation badge through experiments to see how high and far their models could travel, as well as learning about everything that can fly. They also had water activities, played games and participated in team-building exercises. A particularly memorable evening involved working towards their meditation badge – keeping quiet was a challenge with 24 Brownies present ...

1st Long Melford Brownies (7-10 years)
longmelfordbrownies@gmail.com

1st Chadbrook Guides (10-14 years)
chadbrookguides@gmail.com



Long Melford CE Primary School and Nursery

During the spring term, we have been looking at enriching our learning outside the curriculum.

First Aid Course

In January, Sue Roberts joined us to teach first aid to all our classes except Nursery. Years 3 to 6 were taught what to do if they came across an unconscious person, including putting people in the recovery position and how to do CPR. They also learnt about wounds, fractures, breaks, bumps and burns. Reception, Years 1 and 2 learnt about wounds and bumps.

Learning first aid in primary school is an important life skill that will enable children to act calmly in emergencies and prevent injuries from worsening, while teaching responsibility, risk awareness, and essential techniques like CPR. Sue has already promised that she will return and give the training again next year!

World Book Day

In March, World Book Day became World Book Fortnight at Long Melford, for which children designed and coloured t-shirts and had lots of discussions around books and characters. A huge thank you to FLuMPS who bought every child a t-shirt and to Mel George for kindly donating fabric pens. The winning design for each class won a book voucher.

Year 6 Residential Trip

In March, our Year 6 children went to Thorpe Woodlands for a residential trip and had a fabulous time canoeing, biking, den building, climbing, playing team games, using the zip wire and caving.

Tractors into Schools Visit

A huge thank you to Hyde Parker Farms for bringing a tractor into Long Melford CE Primary School during February, as part of the 'Tractors into Schools' initiative organised by Suffolk Agricultural Association. Sir William, Lady Hyde Parker and Sean talked about how weather affects farming and helped us explore the tractor, including let us climb in it! It was a great morning and the children loved it!



At Long Melford, we take children from 3 years old (nursery) through to 11 years old (Year 6). If you are interested in coming to look at our school, please ring the school office on 01787 379929 to make an appointment.



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Quiz Matters

World Cup Quiz

The FIFA World Cup (that's football for anyone who skips the back pages!) takes place across Mexico, Canada and the USA this June and July. But what's your knowledge of the history of world cups like?

- Starting with the last World Cup (there's a clue if you wouldn't have known the answer otherwise!), only one host nation has ever been knocked out in the group stages. Which country, who also hosted the last world cup, was that?
- Which (German) player has scored the most goals in World Cup history?
a) Miroslav Klose, b) Gerd Müller, c) Uwe Seeler
- How often is the World Cup tournament held?
- The inaugural World Cup was held in 1930. Which country won it?
a) Brazil, b) Uruguay, c) Peru
- Which nation has won the most World Cups?
- Which instrument was famously banned by FIFA after the 2010 World Cup?
a) Drums, b) Vuvuzela, c) Bagpipes

- How many times has England won the World Cup?
- Which player did Zinedine Zidane headbutt in the 2006 final?
a) Cristiano Ronaldo, b) Gianluigi Buffon, c) Marco Materazzi
- True or False: the 2026 World Cup will have 32 teams?
- Which player scored a hat-trick at the 1966 final?
a) Geoff Hurst, b) Roger Hunt, c) Jimmy Greaves

See Answers on Page 30.

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Long Melford Cricket Club

T20s (short-form cricket with 20 overs per side) are back at LMCC, with the side's home games being hosted on a Friday night – what a way to end the week! As always the bar will be open, as will a BBQ most weeks, so if you want to end your week on a high note, come down to LMCC and support the T20 squad. You can see the fixtures on our website – or come down to the ground and collect a physical handbook so you never miss a game.

Friday 26th June sees LMCC host their annual Kwik Cricket tournament for club members aged nine and under. This tournament is made up of around six local teams involving around 50 young cricketers. It's always a busy night, and the bar will be open for parents and spectators and the BBQ up and running, so why not come down and enjoy the atmosphere and see some amazing young cricketers in action.



As always, LMCC prides itself on acknowledging our sponsors: we have many boards up around the ground and we frequently support our sponsors through our website and social media posts. So, if your company wants to explore a sponsorship option, please enquire through chairmanlmcc@outlook.com, through our social media channels or website. The image shows what your company's sponsorship board could look like. The boards pictured show two of LMCC's sponsors, Ambrose Cricket Development and Nethergate Brewery.



Long Melford Football Club

Another season ends at Long Melford Football Club, with a disappointing result but some good support. Generally, people have no idea of how difficult and expensive it is to maintain a local football club, but from 60 years of being involved I can tell you it is very hard!

Thank goodness Irish and Macca are at the club for next season: they have done a marvellous job since joining in January and August 2025 respectively. A host of others keep the club running and appear within the covers of our programme. All are unpaid volunteers and we thank every one of them. We are also grateful to all sponsors for their financial support, in particular our main sponsor Keven at KBS Groundworks. Thanks to all our loyal supporters, and all the players who have tried so hard for us.

We are now planning for next season: training starts in June at Lavenham. We need players for trials so if you are interested, please make contact with Macca, our manager. We will continue with the first team in the current league, but the Under-23s have been an expensive disaster this season, so they have been disbanded and we have applied for a reserve team in the SIL, for which we will need players. In addition, we are planning to boost our Under-18s team under

new managers Nathan and Mark and have an application for a women's team. All very positive stuff!

We are currently struggling to recruit match-day helpers and would love to hear from anyone wishing to get involved. And finally, we need someone to take over our super kitchen – this offers an opportunity to create one's own small business. Please contact Richard Kemp on 01787 378149.

Adam Kemp

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adam.kemp@amas.co.uk



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	Susan Banks	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 (Age 6-8)	Jen O'Reilly-Turner	jen.oreilly-turner@suffolkscouts.org.uk
Long Melford Cub Scouts (Age 8-10)	Lynda Badger	lynda.badger@suffolkscouts.org.uk / 07540 889754
Long Melford Scouts (Age 10-14)	Graham Souch	1stlmscouts@gmail.com
Long Melford Scout Group (general enq.)	Lynda Badger	lynda.badger@suffolkscouts.org.uk / 07540 889754
Long Melford Squirrel Scouts (Age 4-6)	Jody Vickery	jody.vickery@suffolkscouts.org.uk
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 **1st July** to be included in Issue 33 – August/September.

Quiz Answers

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| 1. Qatar | 6. (b) Vuvuzela |
| 2. (a) Miroslav Klose | 7. Once |
| 3. Every four years | 8. (c) Marco Materazzi |
| 4. (b) Uruguay | 9. False: it has been expanded to 48 teams |
| 5. Brazil (five times) | 10. (a) Geoff Hurst |

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