



MELFORD

Issue 7 – April/May 2022

Matters

Inside this issue:

Photo: Steve Thomson

- Spring Events: Including Open Gardens and Country Park adventures – pages 4, 16
- Queen's Platinum Jubilee: Melford's celebration plans, including the Lighting of the Beacon and The Big Jubilee Lunch Street Party – page 18
- The Sound of Music: Where you can sing or play in a band – page 8
- Confessions of a Vet: Behind the scenes at our local vets – page 27



BESPOKE BLINDS AND CURTAINS

— LONG MELFORD —



Made to Measure Blinds & Curtains

RollerBlinds | VerticalBlinds | VenetianBlinds | RomanBlinds | PleatedBlinds
Shutters | Curtains | Poles&Tracks | Accessories

Why Choose Bespoke Blinds

We offer a full and bespoke service
No obligation measuring and home
consultation
Professional fitting service

Extensive range of curtain and blind samples
Excellent customer service
Child safety compliance to current safety laws
BBSA Members

www.bespokeblindslm.co.uk

Bespoke Blinds & Curtains
1 Brinkleys, Hall Street, Long Melford, Sudbury, Suffolk, CO10 9JR



ROBINS ROW

Insurance Brokers Since 1867

AN INDIVIDUAL SERVICE FOR ALL YOUR COMMERCIAL AND PERSONAL INSURANCE

**SPECIALISING IN MID TO HIGH VALUE HOMES,
COUNTRY HOUSES AND LISTED PROPERTIES
AND ALL COMMERCIAL INSURANCE SOLUTIONS**

TEL: (01787) 378205

EMAIL: ADMIN@ROBINSROW.COM

HALL STREET, LONG MELFORD, SUDBURY CO10 9JB

AUTHORISED AND REGULATED BY THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY

Editorial

Melford Matters has been going for a year now – our first issue was April/May 2021. A big thank you to everyone involved, including our advertisers. The magazine remains free for every household in the village only because the cost of printing (around £1,200 per issue) is met by the income we get from advertisers – please support them.

We held a thank you get-together for magazine contributors and deliverers to celebrate our first birthday in February at the Village Hall. It was well attended and a very enjoyable evening.

A special thank you to everyone who completed the survey in the last issue of the magazine. Some really good ideas came out of that. Winners of the prize draw for people who took part were Ann Underwood (a case of beer from Nethergate) and Helen Brabner (Afternoon Tea for two at The Long



Melford Tea Room). Please keep sending any comments on or ideas for the magazine to melfordmatterseditor@gmail.com.


I hope you enjoy this issue, which is packed with useful information about what's going on in Melford. In particular, please see advance notice about celebrations planned for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend including the Big Jubilee Lunch Street Party on 5th June (page 18) and an exciting new Summer Fete in Melford Hall's grounds on 9th July (page 14).

Our cricket club is looking forward to a long and enjoyable summer. And our football club's first team is battling against relegation and has four crucial home fixtures in April. Please go along and show both clubs the support they deserve (page 29).

Dave Watts, Editor

ALL ASPECTS LANDSCAPING
Fencing ~ Paving ~ Treecare
WWW.ALLASPECTSLANDSCAPING.CO
CALL NOW FOR A FREE NO-OBLIGATION QUOTE
f Follow us on Facebook
We cover all hard and soft landscaping with many years of experience.



**FENCING * DRIVEWAYS * PATHS & PATIOS
BLOCK PAVING * GARDEN GATES & WALLS
TURFING & SEEDING * GARDEN CLEARANCE
DIGGER WORK * KERB STONES
ALL TREE WORK & HEDGE CUTTING
GRASS-CUTTING LARGE/SMALL AREAS**

01284 624089 ~ 07384 351944

Would you like your daily newspaper delivered?

Home news delivery in Long Melford from the Kiosk in Sudbury

☎ **01787 319 498**
✉ info@localnewsdelivery.co.uk

Contact us for daily delivery of national and regional newspapers as well as a full range of weekly and monthly magazines

S & K

News Limited

The Kiosk
3 Borehamgate
King Street, Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 9EG

Community Matters

Easter Egg Hunts at Melford Hall

Melford Hall reopens on 6th April. Join us to enjoy the tranquil gardens and the daffodils, irises, and crocuses that can be spotted in the grounds. The newly regenerated Mirror Pond is the perfect spot to relax, watch the reflections and look for newts. Step into the Hall to discover its history and the stories of the people who shaped it.



Having fun on the Easter Egg Hunt

We'll be holding our popular Easter Egg Hunts. Join us for an Easter adventure along our family-friendly trail in the gardens, with fun activities along the way and a chocolate egg at the end. Trails run from 13th to 18th and 20th to 24th April, from 12 to 4.30pm (last entry is at 3.30pm). Trail packs are £3 each and can be picked up from our visitor entrance. For more information visit www.nationaltrust.org.uk/melford-hall

News from the LM Poppies (formerly the WI)

We had a good turnout for our first speaker of 2022. The wonderful Margo and Linus came to talk to us about Hearing Dogs for Deaf People. Linus was put through his paces showing us how he lets Margo know of visitors to the door, when traffic is near while out walking, and most importantly the fire alarm. He gives Margo a lot of confidence and he also had the waggiest tail we've ever seen.



We're already planning for the rest of the year and the summer months will be busy. Our next day trip is in June, when we'll be swanning down river in the River Stour Trust's electric boat to have a lunch at the Henny Swan, then back up river to

Sudbury. June is of course also the Queen's Platinum Jubilee and we'll be taking part in village celebrations.

Long Melford Litter Pickers

We recently received a donation from The Georgian Club, which has enabled us to buy ten litter pickers and five bag hoops for the group. The equipment received its first outing at the end of February, when it was used for the Spring Clean Suffolk/Great British Spring Clean. Seven sacks of litter were collected from Cordell Road, Cordell Place, Olivers Close, Station Road and Rodbridge.

If you'd like to join the group on its twice monthly litter picks, please phone 01787 375329 or email longmelfordlitterpickers@gmail.com.

Kentwell Welcomes Spring

Kentwell Hall has lots going on this Spring beginning in April with its Lambing Weekends. You can see new-born and young lambs – you might even see a lamb being born. And Easter is one of the most popular times to visit Kentwell, with family-friendly activities, acres of gardens and woodlands and an Easter Trail to explore (which includes dozens of decorated eggs to find, plus an 'Egghead Challenge').

The Tudor May Day celebrations are from 30th April to 2nd May. Step back in time and enjoy the event, including a May Queen, a May Tree, garlanding, processions and traditional entertainments, all accompanied by authentic live music.

For details see www.kentwell.co.uk/events



A May Day procession at Kentwell

Community Matters

Open Gardens Is Back

We're pleased to announce that Long Melford Open Gardens is back on Sunday 29th May 2022 10am-4pm. Tickets will be £6 per adult and free for children. You can buy them from Breakout, Budgens, Carter Jonas, Dilly Dally and Jessica Muir Gallery during the lead up to the event and on the day from the gardens themselves. A ticket entitles you to entry to all of the private gardens listed on the map and the gardens at the Church and Melford Hall.



Visitors enjoying Melford's Open Gardens

This year, all the money raised will be split between Melford in Bloom and Cure CJD in memory of Robert Clubb who started and organised Melford Open Gardens with his wife Melonie for 12 very successful years.

The gardens range from amazing small container gardens to some of the larger stunning grounds within the village. Some will be offering refreshments and the village pubs and hotels will have their gardens open too.

There's still time to include your garden in the event – please call Paul on 01787 378035 or email contact@themill-longmelford.com by 15th April at the latest.

Pet Foodbank

Prices are rising and making ends meet can be difficult. I've started a pop-up pet foodbank. So if you'd like some dog or cat food for your pet, or for anyone you think may be struggling, then call or message me. Pet food donations are welcome and all requests for help will be dealt with in strict confidence – call Lisa on 07867 514975.

FLUMPS's News for Spring

The Friends of Long Melford Primary School (FLUMPS) are organising some fun events for the children which will also raise funds for the school.



The diary begins on 1st April with a fundraising Rule Break Day – something that those of us who went to school back in the Dark Ages could never have dreamt of. FLUMPS has listed seven rules which the children are allowed to break at a cost of 50p per rule. For example, they'll be allowed to have an unhealthy snack at break, colour their hair and swap an item of uniform for their own clothes – a full uniform swap will cost £2.

On 7th April, there will be two after school discos – one for the younger children, followed by another for years 4-6. There will be an entry fee and the children will get refreshments and a glow band.

A Jubilee Family Picnic will be held at 12 noon on 26th May. It will be the first time that the families have been together at the school since the start of Covid – expect quite a celebration!

Help from the CAB

Are you worried about how you're going to pay your fuel bills?



In April, energy bills are set to go up by a typical £693 per year for many households. So, now is the time to start looking at what help is available. You may be eligible for the Warm Home Discount, Winter Fuel Payment or for a grant from the Household Support Fund.

We can offer you a benefits check to make sure you're getting everything you are eligible to receive. Call Sudbury & District Citizens Advice, for free advice, Mon – Fri between 10am and 1pm on 01787 321400 and leave a message and someone will call you back. Alternatively, contact us via email at advice@sudburycab.org.uk or by using the contact facility on our website www.sudburycab.org.uk

Community Matters

Melford in Bloom Goes Red, White and Blue

Melford in Bloom will be planting red, white and blue displays in May for the Jubilee. On the Chad bridge there will be white planters alternating with mixed red, white and blue planters. The hanging baskets on Little St Mary's will be all white scaevola and surfinia, to catch the eye.



Photo: Steve Thomson

New barrels are set for the west side of Hall Street and at the entrance to Braithwaite Road (Bull Lane). All our barrels will include lovely trailing geraniums, verbena, calibrachoa and more, plus big centrepieces of cosmos and argyranthemum.

We're looking for volunteers – for more information please contact jonathanewbank145@gmail.com. The work, typically an hour a week, is healthy and we attract many kind comments from passers-by when working on our summer displays.

Suffolk & Essex Small Animal Welfare

SESAW is holding an Easter Fair at the Old School from 10am to 3pm on Sunday 3rd April. It's our first big fundraiser since 2019.

SESAW

You can expect a warm welcome with the usual wide selection of stalls, crafts, flowers and plants, raffle, Jeanette's Terrific Tombola, and yummy homemade cakes and snacks. Meet SESAW stalwart Frank Payne who has led an interesting life with plenty of tales to tell. He'll be selling and signing copies of his autobiography. All proceeds will go to SESAW. For more information see www.sesaw.co.uk

'Torch Relay' Coming Through Melford

As part of the Festival of Suffolk 2022 and the run up to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, a lighted torch will be carried for over 550 miles through 250 towns and villages in Suffolk between Friday 13th May and Wednesday 1st June. It's due to come through Melford at around 5.40pm on Wednesday 18th May on its way from Lavenham to Sudbury. It will be carried by a 'local hero' from Melford riding in a rickshaw. Please come out and cheer it on its way.

Pat Davey to the Rescue

Long Melford Heritage Trust would like to say a big thank you to Pat Davey for her £600 donation to the Centre raised by her book sales at Tudor Cottages in Hall Street. Pat's donation will go towards a much needed additional display case. This will be used to exhibit the many interesting finds from the recent archaeological excavations in our historic village.



A 2022 Farewell to the Community Market

The Community Market will not be returning to the Old School this year. It was a success in that it enabled local groups to raise funds again after lockdown. A few societies also recruited new people to join them.

But we're unable to continue with the markets as new classes at the school are now running on Thursdays. Thank you to all who participated and helped make this a success.

Suffolk Art Society Exhibition

For details of the exhibition in Lavenham in May and June, see the advert on page 7. It will transfer to Holy Trinity, Long Melford, from 21st July to 7th August.

Parish Council Matters

The **Annual Parish Meeting** will be held on **Thursday 28th April at 7pm in the Old School**. It would be good if as many parishioners as possible came along to that. It's **not** a Parish Council meeting but your chance to hear what the Parish Council and various village organisations have been up to in the last year – and to have your say. There hasn't been one in the last couple of years because of Covid restrictions. Refreshments will be served after the meeting.

By the time you read this, a new parish councillor should have been co-opted to fill the vacancy left by Jayne Lines. They will serve until the next elections in May 2023.

Volunteers worked hard over the winter to clear ditches and improve drainage on the Melford Walk. Smart new signs have been put up at most entrances too. And by the time you read this there will be four sets of handrails to help pedestrians descend steep sections safely.

The first stage of work to prevent damage to the Upper Green caused by vehicles when the ground is wet has been completed. This includes gates (which can be opened when the ground is dry and closed when wet) opposite the Black Lion and at the eastern end of the Trinity Hospital car park and re-inforcing some of the Green's surfacing that has been damaged east of the Hospital. The next stage is to resurface the Hospital car park with a similar material to that on the Old School car park. And there is more work to do on repairing damaged parts of the Green.

Sir Richard Hyde Parker 12th Baronet

Sadly, Sir Richard died on 14th March at Melford Hall. He was born at the Hall in April 1937 and lived there all his life. Among many other things during this time, he was a member of the parish council and county council, a church warden, founder member of the church restoration fund, chairman of Trinity Hospital and High Sheriff and Deputy Lieutenant of Suffolk. He is succeeded by his son William Hyde Parker.

The Suffolk Art Society ART EXHIBITION

at
The Church of St Peter & St Paul
LAVENHAM



SATURDAY 21ST MAY – SATURDAY 4TH JUNE
Saturday 21st May & Sundays 12am – 6pm
Monday 23rd - Saturday 4th June 9am - 6pm

FREE ADMISSION

www.suffolkartsociety.co.uk

Supporting
because
you matter
St Nicholas
Hospice Care


...delivered in a click

**QUALITY LANDSCAPING GOODS FROM A LOCAL,
FAMILY-OWNED SUPPLIER IN FINCHINGFIELD**

**Fencing | Landscaping | Gardening
Ironmongery | Forestry & Viticulture**

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £50



Opening hours:
Monday - Friday: 07:00-18:00
Saturday: 08:00-17:00
Sunday: 08:00-16:00

Order online at: www.sure-green.com

Visit us at:
Viridis House, Toppesfield Rd,
Finchingfield, Essex, CM7 4NZ

Contact us:
sales@sure-green.com
01376 503869

For trade enquiries:
trade@sure-green.com
Or call David on: 01376 653320

Trade accounts available

FREE Click & Collect

Local HIAB Delivery

Music Matters

The Sound of Music in Melford

Have you ever thought that your fabulous singing in the bath or shower ought to be shared more widely with your fellow villagers? Of course you have, you know you shouldn't keep such talent to yourself. Well, here are some of the local options for singing or making music in public.

Singing is good for so many things – well-being, breath control, developing a talent you might not realise you have, and offers the chance to give a lot of pleasure to other listeners. Why not try one of our local groups and see how much fun it can be?

Rock Choir

The Rock Choir is well known and loved locally for its varied and joyous performances of a wide range of music. It is led by Adam Abo Henriksen and puts on shows supporting local and national charities and has even had a recording session at Abbey Road Studios. It is described by a member of ten years standing as “celebrating the sheer joy of singing”. The group meets weekly on Mondays 8 to 9.30pm at Long Melford Football Clubhouse and costs £10 per week. Why not go along for a free taster session on a Monday evening and see for yourself, or find out more on <https://rockchoir.com>



Melford's Silver Band

If you prefer making music with an instrument, our much-loved Silver Band is currently looking for trombone and cornet players to join. For details, contact Mike Murkin on 07584 070315 or mikemurkin@hotmail.co.uk. The band rehearses on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9pm at the Old School. The band is a familiar sight at village occasions and performs at many events throughout the year. Band members are particularly looking forward to playing at the Jubilee Lunch in Melford on 5th June.

Holy Trinity Choir

A different tone is struck when the church choir meets every Thursday to rehearse and prepare music for services on Sundays when the primary purpose of the choir is to support the worship. The choirmaster, Nigel Brown, says “whilst auditions are not rigorous, an ability to hold your line and pitch is helpful! The ability to read music – even a little bit – will help, though is not compulsory.” The choir would welcome singers of any age in all the voice sections - Soprano, Alto, Tenor and Bass. There are plans to try to re-introduce young singers to the choir to give them the opportunity to enjoy the pleasure of singing and to develop their skills and offer a hobby.

Choir members aren't expected to attend every service and often major services such as Easter and Christmas feature an 'invitation choir'. How much time you wish to invest is entirely up to you. The music choice is varied and all-encompassing from Tudor to Contemporary. Why not get in touch with Nigel Brown (Organist and Choirmaster) on nwbrown@btinternet.com or on 07904 000494 for more information? Or come along to a rehearsal at Holy Trinity on Thursday evenings from 7 to 8.30pm. Sit in with this friendly group of people and see

Music Matters

how you get on. Parents of children who are interested can sit in on rehearsals and might even discover an interest or ability in themselves. Please don't be shy in coming forward – you'll be very welcome.

Pop Chorus

For a change of pace, how about the Pop Chorus? If you like the idea of singing unashamedly to great pop songs in harmony to professional backing tracks, then Pop Chorus may be for you.

No need for experience, auditions or the ability to read music. The group offers feel-good singing for adults of all abilities whilst having a lot of fun. Sessions are run on Mondays during term time at Melford Village Hall at 7.30pm – contact Yula on 07788 585441 for pricing and more details.

We might not have any major hills, but Melford is certainly alive with the sound of music – with such a wide range of musical options, there should be something to suit everybody's level of talent.



The largest Antiques, Interiors and Lifestyle retail Centre in the East Anglian region

16,000 sq. feet of display areas over 4 extensive floors

Fine quality Antique Furniture, Art and Collectables from the 17th Century onwards

Vintage, retro and later furniture

Glassware and porcelain

Bronzes, silver, silverplate and other metalware

Lighting, carpets, crafts and artisan gifts

Regular auctions of between 200-400 specially selected entries

Savour your purchases whilst enjoying the fine selection of food and drink in the Pullman Tea Room (closed Tues)



Mon - Sat 10.00am to 5.00pm; Sun 11.00am to 4.00pm
The Old Maltings, Hall Street, Long Melford, CO10 9JA

Diary Matters

Regular classes & workshops at Long Melford Village Memorial Hall

Mondays	Bounce classes – Jules Cooper	www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford	9.30 to 10.30am
Mondays (from 25/4)	Strollercise – Marina St Leger	07917 333712 www.strollercise.co.uk	1.30 to 2.30pm
Mondays	Beau Dance for 6 to 10 year olds	Holly Cook 07512 692289	4.00 to 5.00pm
Mondays	Pop Chorus – Yula Andrews	07788 585441	7.30 to 8.30pm
Tuesdays	Pilates – Michelle Cowcher	michellecowcher@gmail.com	10.00 to 11.00am
Tuesdays	Bounce & Bounce Beats – Jules Cooper	www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford	6.00 to 8.00pm
Wednesdays	Zumba classes – Dawn Thompson	www.bookwhen.com/dawnzumba	7.30 to 8.30pm
Thursdays	Bounce Barbells & Bounce – Jules Cooper	www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford	6.00 to 8.00pm
Thursdays	Indoor Kurling (1st and 3rd Thurs)	Drop in for a free taster session	2.00 to 4.00pm
Fridays	Baby Ballet	sudbury@babyballet.co.uk 07580 693747	9.30am to 12 noon
Monthly	Cultural Talks (3rd Tuesday)	The Arts Society Sudbury	11.30am to 12.30pm
Monthly	Cultural Talks (3rd Tuesday)	The Arts Society South Suffolk	2.00 to 3.00pm
Monthly	Lecture series (4th Tuesday)	Suffolk Family History Society (Sudbury)	2.30 to 4.00pm

Regular classes & workshops at the Old School

Daily	Yoga Studio – Áine McGovern	www.longmelfordyoga.co.uk 07840 030545	See website
Mondays	Card making – Pauline Andow	01787 228790	12.30 to 2.30pm
Mondays	Archery for Beginners	Terry Chittock 01426 160053	7.00 to 9.30pm
Tuesdays	Upbeat (Heart Support Group)	Hilary Neeves 01359 232678	9.00am to 1.00pm
Tuesdays	U3A Art	Vernon Lever 01787 310511	1.30pm to 4.00pm
Tuesdays	Sophia Paper Kite Yoga	Sophia 07968 165185	6.00 to 9.00pm
Tuesdays	Yoga with Clare Turner	clareturneryoga@gmail.com	5.45 to 7.15pm
Wednesdays	Life Drawing	John Garbett 01787 378798	10.00am to 12.30pm
Wednesdays	Keep Fit – Heather Mahony	sheather.mahony@btinternet.com	10.00am to 11.30am
Wednesdays	Friendship Dancers	Robin Hart 01787 269613	3.00 to 5pm
Wednesdays	Tudor Archers	Terry Chittock 01426 160053	7.00 to 9.30pm
Wednesdays	Silver Band	Mike Murkin 01787 312605	7.30 to 9.30pm
Thursdays	Zen Yoga - Fiona Dinning-Cole	yoga@nowandzen.guru 07967 706041	10.00am to 11.30am
Monthly	Photography Group (1st Monday)	Derek Challis 01787 373738	mornings
Monthly	LM Poppies (WI) (2nd Thursday)	Jane Ebejer melfordinn@outlook.com	7.30pm to 9.30pm

Regular classes & workshops at The Melford at Stoneylands (LMFC clubhouse)

Mondays	Rock Choir	Adam Abo Henriksen 07840 024591	7.30 to 9.30pm
Tuesdays	Beau Dance for adults	Holly Cook 07512 692289	7.00 to 8.00pm
Wednesdays	Art Class	Edd Terran 01787 370923	1.00 to 4.00pm
Thursdays	Beau Dance for 11-15 yr olds	Holly Cook 07512 692289	4.00 to 5.00pm
Thursdays	Boxercise	Ivan Ambrose 07484 617943	6.30pm
Saturdays	Colts and Fillies Junior Football	Ian Ambrose 07970 384576	Call for details
Sundays	Colts and Fillies Junior Football	Ian Ambrose 07970 384576	Call for details

Diary Matters

April	Event	Venue/details	Time
Sunday 3rd	Charity Model Railway Show	Village Hall. In aid of 1st Chadbrook Guides	11.00am to 4.00pm
Wednesday 6th	Antiques Fair	Village Hall	9.00am to 3.30pm
Thursday 7th	My Little Village	Village Hall	9.00am to 1.00pm
Thursday 7th	Parish Council: Planning Full meeting	Old School	7.00pm 7.30pm
Friday 8th	Folk & Acoustic Club upstairs	Cock & Bell poboap123@gmail.com	8.00pm
Saturday 9th	Book Fair	Village Hall	10.00am to 4.00pm
Thursday 14th	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Sunday 17th	Main Easter Service	Holy Trinity Church	10.30am
Monday 18th	Country Park Open Morning and Children's Nature Trail	Long Melford Country Park	9.00am to 12.00pm
Thursday 21st	My Little Village Easter Special	Village Hall	9.00am to 1.00pm
Thursday 21st	Long Melford Litter Pickers	For details email longmelfordlitterpickers@gmail.com	2.00pm
Thursday 21st	Long Melford Historical and Archaeological Society	Old School – AGM & talk by Simon Edge stained glass in Holy Trinity	7.30pm
Sat 23rd and Sun 24th	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School	9.30am to 4.00pm
Sunday 24th	Long Melford Litter Pickers	For details email longmelfordlitterpickers@gmail.com	10.00am
Thursday 28th	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Thursday 28th	Annual Parish Meeting	Old School	7.00pm
May	Event	Venue/details	Time
Sunday 1st	Charity Football match for Children with Cancer	Football Club	Gates open 1pm Kick off 3.00pm
Monday 2nd	Dawn Chorus Bird Walk	Long Melford Country Park jonathanewbank145@gmail.com	6.30am
Wednesday 4th	Antiques Fair	Village Hall	9.00am to 3.30pm
Thursday 5th	My Little Village	Village Hall	9.00am to 1.00pm
Thursday 5th	Parish Council Planning Full meeting	Old School	7.00pm 7.30pm
Thursday 12th	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Friday 13th	Folk & Acoustic Club upstairs	Cock & Bell poboap123@gmail.com	8.00pm
Thursday 26th	Good Neighbours Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Thursday 26th	Long Melford Litter Pickers	For details email longmelfordlitterpickers@gmail.com	2.00pm
Sat 28th & Sun 29th	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School	9.30am to 4.00pm
Sunday 29th	Dawn Chorus Bird Walk	Long Melford Country Park jonathanewbank145@gmail.com	6.30am
Sunday 29th	Long Melford Litter Pickers	For details email longmelfordlitterpickers@gmail.com	10.00am
Sunday 29th	Long Melford Open Gardens	Details on Facebook @LongMelfordOpenGardens	10.00am to 4.00pm

If you would like your activity or event listed here, let us know the details by emailing MelfordMattersAdvertising@gmail.com. Details for June/July need to reach us by **1st May**.

Heritage Matters

Coconut Matting – once a Major Melford Industry

If you've ever wondered why Coconut House in Hall Street, opposite the Bull, has what seems a rather exotic name, the answer lies with what was once behind it. And that was a large coconut matting factory which was built by Mr George Whittle in the 1880s.



Here comes a 'lurveverly' bunch of coconuts

In 1890, at the ripe old age of 12, Ernest Ambrose jumped at the chance to work at Mr Whittle's Mat and Matting factory. He spent his early working years there as an invoice clerk. Ernest started as a 'learner' which meant he wasn't paid a penny for the first 10 weeks. For the next year, he earned the princely sum of 2/6d (12½p) a week – worth just over £17 today. After that, his wages doubled.



Spot the Manager

In his book, *Melford Memories*, Ernest wrote that the factory was very busy and employed some 160 men and boys and a few women. They worked weekdays from 6am to 6pm and Saturday morning. All in all it was a sixty-six-hour week but they did get Saturday afternoon and all-day Sunday off. Sometimes the men would come in as early as 3am to get an urgent job done.

Ernest recalled that the mat makers liked a drink and were rough and ready types who were known as "Whittle's Rats". They were well known in Melford and ready to help in an emergency. For example, they were the unofficial fire fighters.

The weaving of the mats

The coconuts were imported from the Indian subcontinent. The coconut husks were brought up the Stour by barge from Mistley (east of Manningtree) to Sudbury Quay. From there, they were taken to Melford by train and then by horse and cart to the factory.



Some of "Whittle's Rats" about to spring into action

Heritage Matters

The coconut mat weaving industry was introduced into Suffolk around the middle of the 19th century. It found work for former hand loom weavers from the textile industry who had been made redundant after being replaced by machinery. The weaving of coconut fibre was entirely a hand loom industry.

Women were employed in the preparation of the yarn and men for the actual weaving.

The mats were sent mainly to retailers in London. However, some were sold in distant parts of the world such as Russia and Argentina.



Almost ready to leave Melford...

Angry Matters

During the 1880s a series of wage cuts caused widespread anger and eventually resulted in strike action. Feelings ran high culminating in a riot on Polling Day in December 1885. Melford suffered considerable damage. The troops were summoned from Bury St Edmunds to restore order. They arrived by train and marched from Melford station to read the Riot Act from the steps of the police station. The riot was quashed.

NEED A PLUMBER?



A P PLUMBING

**Professional service with
over 40 years' experience**

**All plumbing work
undertaken**

**Suffolk and all surrounding
areas**

Free estimates - call today

01787 282826 07940 516199

poultonplumbing123@gmail.com

3, The Old Orchard, Glemsford,
Sudbury, CO10 7SX

The Long Melford Tea Room



A wide selection of loose leaf teas

Homemade Cakes and Scones

Light Lunches

Traditional Afternoon Tea (*pre-book only*)

The small Tearoom with a big Welcome.

We look forward to seeing you.

Open 10-5pm

Closed Tuesdays and Sundays

1 Dudley House, Hall Street

01787 881361

Summer Fete

All the Fun of a Village Fete

The organisers of the Melford Fete are busy preparing our inaugural fete on **Saturday 9th July** in Melford Hall's grounds. FLUMPS, LM Primary School, the Church and Amy Hyde Parker are involved, along with various village groups.

There will be loads of attractions. We'll need some strong, hefty men to form teams for the Tug of War. And are there any women who'd like to form a team? Do you have a dog with star quality? The one with the waggiest tail? The one which looks most like its owner? Might he/she be a Dog Show prize winner?



There'll be loads of fun activities, from Tug of War to Splat the Rat

There will also be craft stalls, a coconut shy, stocks, splat the rat, tombola, face painting, beat the goalie, Shetland ponies and much more. We'll have many charity stalls too, so that village groups can raise funds.

The Community Association, which runs the Old School, will run the Produce Show. This used to take place in September, so July will give us scope for different fruits, vegetables and flowers. At the

Seed Swap in February, we gave out seeds so lots of you could get started on your entries.

Entry forms for the Show can be collected from Dilly Dally, Long Melford Tea Room and Breakout. There'll be lots more info in the magazine's next edition. Contact Rosey rosey26@me.com for the Produce Show, and amy@melfordhall.co.uk for stalls or events.

Confirmed Categories for the Produce Show

Fruit	– strawberries, raspberries and currants;
Vegetables	– carrots, beetroot, onions, potatoes, radishes, peapods, potted herbs and wonky vegetables;
Flowers	– roses, sweet peas, potted fuchsia, and an arrangement in a teapot;
Preserves	– a fruit jam, fruit marmalade and a chutney;
Baking	– Victoria Sponge, flapjacks and a Jubilee themed Show-stopper cake;
Art	– decorated pebble, photo of a family (any species), painting of Melford landmark (any medium);
Mystery Table	
Exhibit	– anything else you'd like to enter.
Children's	
Flowers	– an arrangement in a cup and saucer;
Baking	– six cupcakes, red, white or blue;
Group entry	– a model of a Melford landmark.

2022 Art Classes

Building on the success and based on feedback from the last classes, I am now running these again.

If you are looking for a group of like-minded artists and want to share and improve your ability, or even if you are an absolute beginner who would like to do the 12 week beginner's course to learn how to draw and then paint in oils...

This class is for you!

Some of our beginners' work from 2021 class.



For full details e-mail or text me-
edd@schoolhousestudios.co.uk
 07779297058





THE SWAN LONG MELFORD

DELICIOUS FOOD | BEAUTIFUL GARDEN | LUXURY ROOMS

HALL STREET, LONG MELFORD, SUDBURY, CO10 9JQ
01787 468653



*Handmade Rugs
Runners &
Large Carpets*

*Experts in Restoration
& Cleaning*

**THE
RUG
&
CARPET
STUDIO**

The Old White Hart,
Long Melford, Sudbury
Suffolk CO10 9HX

Open Monday to Saturday
10:00am – 5:30pm

01787 882214

Order Online
Free Delivery

www.rugandcarpetstudio.co.uk

Young and Old Welcome the Spring

This lovely selection of local creatures at springtime was taken by some of the best of Melford's expert photographers – thanks very much to them all.



Steve Thomson



Kev Stubbings



Matt Byham



Kev Stubbings

Fragrance by Candlelight

Tel: 07968 577247

Nestled in the heart of Long Melford's Hall Street, we offer a good selection of gifts for all occasions



We stock Yankee, WoodWick, AromaWorks, Woodbridge Soy Candles and much more

*Open 10.30 until 4 Wednesday - Saturday
11 until 3 on Sunday*



*Fragrance by Candlelight
Waterloo House, Hall Street, Long Melford,
Suffolk CO10 9JL*

Message or call 07968 577247 for any enquiries

Country Park Matters

Country Park Open Morning on Easter Monday 18th April from 9am to 12 noon

There will be a guided walk round the park led by those who have worked on the breeding bird survey, explaining what they have done and where the nest boxes are. The results of the survey will be available along with tips on how to build your own nest boxes.

For children and families there will be a nature trail and reps from the Little Woodland Tribe nursery. We hope to have members of the Biodiversity group as well as a Nature Talk (subject to be confirmed).

Jenny Wren's café and Kind Heart Coffee will be open and providing delicious drinks and yummy food.



Kev Stubbings



Holly Jones Warren



Kev Stubbings



Steve Thomson



Lisa Tipper

Guided Dawn Chorus Walks

Following last year's very successful event we have two walks planned for this year, on May Bank Holiday 2nd May and Sunday 29th May, both starting 6.30am. For more information and to book a place email jonathanewbank145@gmail.com

More details on all events will be updated on the Long Melford Country Park Facebook Page and on our noticeboard in the park.

Scutchers

LONG MELFORD

Celebrating 30 years
(And still going strong)

Thanks to everyone for their amazing support!



www.scutchers.com



Opening times

Thursday, Friday and Saturday
12noon to 2pm (last orders)
6.30pm to 9pm (last orders)

Westgate St
Long Melford
Tel: 01787 310200

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend

To celebrate the Queen's amazing achievement of reigning for 70 years, there is to be a four-day Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June. The Queen overtook Queen Victoria as the longest reigning monarch in September 2015 and she is the first to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee.

Here are just some of the events and entertainment that are planned. The Long Melford Events Group hope that as many people as possible join in the fun. Let's make it a really memorable weekend.



Take part in history as Jubilee Beacons are lit up across the nation
Photo: Steve Thomson



Make Melford's the longest street party



The acrobats will do a turn

Blow me! Look what the balloon artist can do



Long Melford Silver Band will get you in the mood



Fire eaters will add some barbecue sauce to your lunch



Entertainers will be fanning the flames



Rockhouse will get you dancing in the street



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend

Thursday 2nd June

Lighting of the Beacon

In Melford, the celebrations will start with the lighting of the Jubilee Beacon on the Thursday evening.

Long Melford will be joining communities and people throughout the UK and Commonwealth, to come together to celebrate this momentous occasion. The village beacon on the top green will be lit at 9.45pm by Lady Hyde Parker. The whole village is invited to watch the lighting and take part in making history!

The Main Event

The Big Jubilee Lunch on Sunday 5th June

Long Melford will be celebrating the Queen's 70-year reign with possibly the longest ever village lunch throughout Hall Street. There's no charge to join in and the entertainment for the day is being sponsored by local businesses, the Parish Council and the Village Memorial Hall. The aim is for residents to celebrate together and we're hoping for a huge turnout from all over the village.

On the day itself...

Hall Street will be closed from 10am till 5pm and all vehicles will need to park elsewhere, just for the day.

From 10 to 11.30am you're invited to set up and bring your own tables (trestle, picnic or pasting tables will do) and chairs and choose a spot along Hall Street where you can sit together with friends

and family. There will be volunteer marshals ensuring that tables are lined up and appropriate space left down the middle of the road.

There are three options for organising lunch.

Option 1 – you bring your own picnic lunch

Option 2 – you collect your pre-ordered and pre-paid Jubilee picnic takeaways from our local businesses in the village

Option 3 – if you prefer the idea of joining in with the party atmosphere whilst dining at one of our pubs or restaurants, you can make your reservation directly with them

All those attending should aim to sit down by 11.45am and a float and classic vehicles will pass through Hall Street just before midday. Don't forget to bring your Jubilee flags to wave during the procession.

During the lunch there will be plenty of street entertainment, including acrobats, fire eaters, magicians, a balloonist, and the Silver Band.

After the lunch, the party continues with live musical performances in Hall Street, which include Rockhouse and Route 66. Pubs and cafes will be open and Nethergate and Bar Rumba will have pop up bars. You can leave your tables and chairs up if you want until the road has to open again at 5pm or you can put them in one of the holding areas that will be signposted, for collection on your way home.

Volunteers Needed. If you'd like to help in the run up to the event or on 5th June, please register your interest by emailing longmelfordjubilee@outlook.com. Help will be needed with leafleting ahead of the weekend, marshalling and setting up on the day and then clearing up etc. And see below and overleaf for other ways to contribute to the occasion.

Do you have a Classic Car? For the Jubilee lunch party on Sunday 5th June, we're planning a procession through Hall Street. This will include at least two of Felix's vintage buses and we'd like to have a selection of classic cars that celebrate our Queen's long reign too. If you'd like to take part on the day with your classic car, please send an email to longmelfordjubilee@outlook.com with a photo and short description of your classic motor. We'll be choosing a selection to join the procession.



Felix's vintage buses will be joined by classic cars in the procession

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Weekend

How Can You Get Involved?

The Melford Platinum Patchwork Panel

In honour of the Queen's Jubilee, we're making a unique Platinum Patchwork Panel. If you'd like to be a part of this, then all you need to do is drop off your own crafted patchwork square to Stuart at the Woolpatch in Hall Street by 7th May.

The square panels need to be fabric measuring 20cm by 20cm and able to be sewn to other panels to make up the whole patchwork. Your panel could be painted, drawn, stencilled or cross-stitched, knitted, crocheted etc. All designs, textures and colours will be welcome; you could focus on red, white, blue or platinum, or go abstract. Your panel could have a royal or Melford theme. Individuals



can drop off one panel each, or why not get together with a group of friends to create a collection of panels? Don't hesitate to pop into the Woolpatch anytime if you want more information or to see a few 20x20cm squares that have already been made.

The finished Platinum Patchwork Panel will be kept for posterity and showcased in the village so it can be admired by all.

Melford's Big Bunting Bonanza

We want Melford to be adorned in bunting for the Jubilee weekend and are encouraging you all to get involved in our Big Bunting Bonanza.

Stuart at the Woolpatch has got some easy peasy, printed bunting material that you can buy, cut out and simply attach to binding tape. He also has red, white and blue material if you want to have a go at making your own. Feel free to pop into the Woolpatch to get a simple guide to making bunting.



Ginny Hearne, one of our resident crafters, has already started making bunting for the village and there will be bunting crafting sessions over the next couple of months – if you would like to join a bunting group, please email longmelfordjubilee@outlook.com

If you can donate any red, white or blue material or binding tape, please drop it off at Ginny's at Virginia Cottage in Hall Street (next to the Cock & Bell), or at the Woolpatch, and our crafters will be happy to get sewing.

Let's make sure Long Melford is awash with bright bunting over the June Jubilee weekend!

The magazine welcomes contributions from everyone in the village. Content should focus on information that will benefit and inform the village and villagers. Where there is limited space, priority will be given to local and community information and updates that benefit all. Where there is competition for remaining space, the editor will act fairly to ensure contributors and community organisations are treated equitably. Contributors and advertisers are responsible for ensuring that their content is accurate, free of obscene, abusive or discriminatory language and not libellous or in breach of copyright. The magazine will prioritise, but not be limited to, securing adverts from local businesses. Errors and omissions excepted.

Melford Matters is affiliated to Long Melford Village Memorial Hall for accounting purposes and forms an extension to the Village Hall's objectives. It is a non-political 'not for profit' community initiative run by an Editorial Committee of volunteers. The team comprises Phil Buck, Sue Buck, John Nunn, Stuart Palmer, Lisa Tipper, Chris Watts, Dave Watts and Philip Windsor. Special thanks to Alex Windsor for the cover design and to Steve Thomson for the cover photo. Melford Matters is printed by Indigo Ross Design & Print Ltd.



Edward Charles Interiors is a family upholstery business and has had a showroom in Ringers Yard, Long Melford for 7 years. The business has been established since 1971 with a workshop in Essex.

www.edwardcharlesinteriors.co.uk
01787 377705
edwardcharlesinteriors@btconnect.com

**EDWARD
CHARLES
INTERIORS**

*Bespoke
Handmade
Furniture*

We make bespoke handmade upholstered furniture such as made to measure sofas and chairs, as well as headboards, ottomans etc.

We also offer a full reupholstery service including furniture in the home, as well as pubs, hotels and also vintage cars, boats, horseboxes and caravans.



Spiritual Matters

An even greater test?

Brexit ... Covid ... and now war in Ukraine, but the war in Ukraine could well be the most significant.

Despite the many divisions we experienced during Brexit, and some very ugly stereotyping, the majority of people, to their credit, have managed to get along with those holding very different views about the role of the UK and Europe.

Despite the tragedy, isolation, frustration and emotional exhaustion as a result of the pandemic, we seem to be emerging at last thanks to the heroic efforts of many, and it is hard to deny that there have been some blessings.

But the situation in Ukraine may demand more. We will again be forced to think about what really matters in life ... and what is superficial dross (of which there is much). Sadly, evil is a reality in this life and confrontation is sometimes unavoidable. Let us pray that at a personal level and as a nation we can have the strength of character to protect the vulnerable from oppression, and to seek the peace of all who are caught up in this horrible conflict.



Rev Lawson

Our main Easter Service is at 10.30am on Sunday 17th April.

Library Matters

We were due to move to the Royal British Legion on Cordell Road in March but you may be aware there has been an issue affecting the RBL which has prevented our move. At the time of writing, the outlook is still uncertain but we're exploring our options and have been granted a further 4 weeks to remain at the URC until the end of April. We've been very grateful for your support. Please visit our website or Facebook page for the latest news. We'll keep you updated and are looking forward to welcoming you to our new location!



The Library can stay at the URC until the end of April

Since the relaxation of restrictions last July, we've welcomed over 1,500 people to our regular events. Our Top Time sessions have been an invaluable social connection particularly for those who live alone. At our Wordplay sessions we've enjoyed meeting some of those 'lockdown babies' for whom Wordplay is the first opportunity to meet people from outside their own family.

Wordplay (Tot Rock and Baby Bounce): Join us every Tuesday at 2.30pm for action songs and rhymes, suitable for children 0-5 years old.

Top Time: Our social group for the over 50s meets every Wednesday at 3pm.

Family Crafts: Every Saturday from 10am-12 noon we have a new craft for you to try out! Suitable for children aged 3-11.

Tel No: 01787 377525 www.suffolklibraries.co.uk
melford.library@suffolklibraries.co.uk
www.facebook.com/longmelfordlibrary



REBOOT! REBOOT! REBOOT! KICKSTART YOUR SYSTEM with THE ARTS SOCIETY SOUTH SUFFOLK

We offer a series of 10 illustrated talks given by experts in all aspects of the Arts on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m. in the **Village Hall** for approx 1 hour. Refreshments available.

TRY US FOR FREE! Contact: Carole Ashton
Membership Secretary by tel/email, 07766
107880 / creevesashton@gmail.com quoting code
MM5.

For full membership details: Visit our website
www.tassouthsuffolk.org.uk

TUESDAY 17 MAY at 2 p.m.

THE GEORGIAN HOUSE AROUND THE WORLD

The years between 1750 and 1850 produced one of Britain's most successful exports – the Georgian House. Its design was eloquent and versatile, particularly suitable for hot climates and a wide variety of building materials. Follow the Georgian House model around the world via Ireland to America, Australia, New Zealand and homeward via Capetown.

HALL STREET OF LONG MELFORD

Hall Street, Long Melford, Suffolk CO10 9JL ☎01787 464828

📷 @hallstreetsuffolk

🌐 www.hall-street.co.uk



GANT • RODD & GUNN • HACKETT
FYNCH HATTON • EDEN PARK • LOAKE



WATSONS PLANTS

Watsons Plants is bursting with a beautiful array of perennial plants. The quality of our plants is second to none and we are confident they will be thriving in your garden for years to come. We have a substantial choice of quality shrubs and garden plants at hugely competitive prices. For the discerning gardener or enthusiastic beginner, we have something for everyone.

Louise Watson 07952 638016
Chris Watson 07941 640560

Watsons Plants Ltd, Bury Road
Depden, Bury St Edmunds

Suffolk, IP29 4BU

enquiries@watsonsplants.co.uk

watsonsplants.co.uk



Spitfire Mowers

Sales – Service – Repairs

ASPEN – long-life fuel for small engines

From trimmers to chainsaws,
hedge-cutters to mowers,
industrial to domestic, we
have it covered.

We have access to 1000s of parts.

www.spitfiremowers.co.uk

Find us at Unit 4B Clockhouse Farm,

Cavendish Lane,

Glemsford, CO10 7PZ

Phone us on 01787 736618



Brain Matters



An East Anglian Quiz

In this issue you can test your knowledge of our neighbours, Cambridgeshire, Essex and Norfolk. Answers on page 30.

1. In which county was Horatio Nelson born?
2. What Island is connected to the mainland by a causeway known as the Strood?
3. In which century was the University of Cambridge founded?
4. In which royal residence did George VI and George V die?
5. In which county is the picturesque village of Finchingfield?
6. Through which one of these cities does the Great Ouse flow: Chelmsford, Ely or Norwich?
7. Where is the HQ of Essex County Cricket Club?
8. The author of 'Black Beauty' was born in Great Yarmouth. What was her name?
9. What was the earliest Roman town in Britain?
10. Which actor won a BAFTA for his role as the Cambridge professor Stephen Hawking in the 'Theory of Everything'?



Who wrote 'Black Beauty'?

Nature Matters

Welcoming Nature into Long Melford

By the time you read this, birds will be nesting, and other creatures will be out of hibernation. The Biodiversity Group and other volunteers have been very busy over the winter making and putting up bird and owl boxes in the Country Park and along the Railway Walk.



Barn Owl and its box
Mark Draper (MD Photography)

Please continue to feed the birds to support the adults as they go about nesting and feeding young. However, the food you put out is not for the fledglings. Young of seed eating birds need insects – for example, Blue Tit chicks eat caterpillars and

it takes some 10,000 to rear a whole brood. You can really help by not using any chemicals in your garden and welcoming all insects, even if they do a little damage to your plants!

In spring, hedgehogs emerge and need fattening up ready to breed. Kitten biscuits (not fish) are ideal food and providing water and shelter really helps them. They roam over a large area each night so it's vital they can move between gardens.

Please don't be too tidy in your garden; leave some long grass and weeds. Planting bee and butterfly-friendly flowers is important, but don't forget that the caterpillars of common butterflies need plants such as nettles, ivy, thistles and grasses to feed on. Without food for the caterpillars the sharp decline in many of our species will only get worse. We need to do all we can to help them, and the Biodiversity Group continues to seek sites to create more wildflower areas.

Look out for our news and events on the Long Melford Facebook Page.

Jane Burch
jane_burch@yahoo.co.uk



Farm Shop, Cafe & Salon open 6 days a week
Cafe booking recommended
Salon by appointment
Closed Mondays



www.willowtreefarmshop.co.uk 01787 280341
Willow Tree Farm Shop & Cafe | Lower Road | Glemsford | CO10 7QU



Gardening Matters – Notes from the potting shed

Well, now that the clocks have changed, there's nothing to hold us gardeners back except, perhaps, April frosts. Do you remember last year when we had a frost in Melford nearly every night in April? If you have some fleece to hand (even old dust sheets will do), you can usually help your tender plants through a few light frosts. We heard a great tip recently to protect blossom on fruit trees when there is a late frost; apparently, if you position lighted tea lights (small candles) in jam jars under the tree canopy you can just keep the temperature high enough to save the blossom. It works even better if you can put a covering over the top of the tree for insulation. Definitely planning to try that at the allotment this year.

Making Good Compost

We've had a query from a gardener asking why their compost is turning out to be slimy. Essentially, we need to create a good balance of ingredients rich in carbon and those rich in nitrogen. Most of the former are brown, such as cardboard and small twigs and most of the latter are green, such as weeds and grass cuttings.

If you have too much green material, the result will probably be an unappealing slimy pile which can be rescued by incorporating small pieces of cardboard and woody prunings. The smaller the pieces when they go in, the faster they will decompose and create fabulous rich, dark compost.

You can also incorporate eggshells and all fruit and vegetable peelings, but no cooked food of any kind as this will attract rodents. The bin or heap should be covered to keep the heat in.

Depending on the type of container you use and the mixture of ingredients, you can have compost ready in a few months and turning it over every month or so will aid the process. It's a really cost effective way to make something to improve your soil and many compost bins are no larger than the brown garden waste bin.



Huge thanks to all who came to the Seed Swap in February and made it such fun. Here's hoping everything you took away will germinate spectacularly!

Please do keep sending your queries and tips in to Melfordmatterslifestyle@gmail.com

Happy gardening!

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



LIFECHECK

THERAPY

COACHING

TRAINING

SELF

Katrina Love

Trauma Therapist and Positive Mindset Coach

is now practising from
Long Melford

07747 345384

WWW.LIFECHECK.LOVE



VALETING SUPPLIES LTD

1C SMALLEY LANE LONG MELFORD CO10 9JH
(OPPOSITE RINGERS YARD)

- CAR CARE PRODUCTS
 - SEALEY TOOLS
 - CAR LUBRICANTS
- HOUSEHOLD ECO FRIENDLY
PLUS MUCH MORE

WWW.VALETINGSUPPLIES.ONLINE

FAMILY RUN BUSINESS



Chiropodist

Established & locally based (Alpheton)

- Quality foot care
- Caring service tailored to your individual needs
- Expert advice
- Experienced with additional nursing qualification

*If you are unsure as to whether chiropody is
for you, please do not hesitate to contact me.*

Elizabeth Gibson MSSCh MBChA
Health & Care Professions Council Registered
• Reg. No. CH20192



CLINIC
Casabella

Hall St. Long Melford
CO10 9HY

T: 01787 370300

HOME VISITING PRACTICE

Long Melford, Sudbury, Clare
& surrounding villages.

T: 01284 827380 M: 07798 806184

Animal Health Matters

All Creatures, a Few Great but Mostly Small

We asked veterinary surgeon Simon Culmstock, a Director and Partner at Melford's Swayne & Partners, to tell us about the practice and some of his fascinating experiences over the years.

“At Melford, we have around 15,000 appointments per year. Dogs and cats account for around 80-90% of our patients. The remainder includes rabbits, guinea pigs, gerbils, rats, reptiles, tortoises and birds. We haven't treated farm animals and horses since 2015 when we decided to concentrate on our rapidly growing small animal caseload.

Part of being a vet is being called on to think outside the box and be versatile. We treat wild animals, including swans, birds of prey, foxes, badgers, deer and hedgehogs. We don't charge for this, and always aim to return injured wildlife back to the wild.

As a student, I helped to look after a young elephant but it wasn't my most difficult patient. Pigs can be very difficult, as they're large and often aggressive and uncooperative. Not long after I qualified, I had to sedate a large pig. Halfway through the procedure, the pig woke up and chased me for a mile through woods surrounding the farm. I never did finish the treatment. Angry horses can be hard to treat, especially if you need to inject them. A biting and kicking horse that weighs a ton can be extremely daunting.

As for pets, small aggressive dogs can be tricky – they're very difficult to hold and can be lightning quick with their teeth. But very few of us get



Simon examines Olive in the Melford surgery

injured when working. Cat bites are most likely to send us to the doctor – cat mouths are mucky places, and a bite will often result in an infection, leading to an abscess or sepsis.

We have four vets and nine qualified veterinary nurses who offer a full range of services here. These include digital x-rays, blood pressure monitoring, a laboratory and ultrasound. We also offer home visits when needed. Our Bury St Edmunds practice is open 24/7 for emergencies. Bury also has a CT scanner, which enables us to diagnose more complicated conditions, such as spinal problems and chest complaints.

The unsociable hours are probably the worst aspect of being a vet. Crawling out of bed at 2am is no fun. Luckily, I have a very understanding family.

The best thing about being a vet is the variety. There's also an enormous amount of satisfaction in looking after a sick or injured animal and making it better. I consider it a privilege to serve the pet-owning community of Long Melford – all of our clients are lovely.”



The wide range of services on offer includes blood pressure monitoring

Tony Read Carpentry

**MDF Furniture maker,
2nd fix carpentry,
Wood-turner & kitchen fitter**

Tel: 07970 559227

Richard Kemp

County and Parish Councillor

01787 378149

richard.kemp@suffolk.gov.uk

Adam Kemp

Independent Financial Adviser

BA Hons, Dip PFS, Cert CII (MP & ER)

Pension, investment, mortgage, protection and equity release advice.

Please contact for free initial consultation:

01284 724013 (option 7) or 07988 961240

adam.kemp@amas.co.uk



Coach House Leather Workshop Long Melford

As an experienced, qualified Saddler I specialise in various leather repairs.

All horse tack/saddle repairs, dog leads, collars and training aids. Belts, bags, iPad and phone covers, etc. Also the above items can be made up new.

(I do not repair shoes and boots.)

**Call or text: Susie Negus
Tel: 07543321492**

50 DISHES • AWARD WINNING • CHILDREN EAT FREE*



**Sunday Buffet
12pm - 4pm**

£9.95

The Melford Valley, Hall Street, Long Melford, Suffolk CO10 9JT
01787 311518 / 310079

www.melfordvalley.com

*There are additional conditions, apply to the website or contact us for details.

50 DISHES • AWARD WINNING • CHILDREN EAT FREE*

Steve White Electrical Services

Part P Domestic Installer

Fully qualified, insured and guaranteed

- Extra sockets/lights
- Fuse board changes
- Electric Showers
- Fault finding/repairs
- Outside power to garden/garage
- Immersion Heaters

FREE ESTIMATES

01787 281254 or 07920 841041



Over 20 years experience
Boiler Servicing and Installations
Landlord Gas Safety Checks
Full heating system power flushing

BB Plumbing and Heating

Ben Boxall

Mobile: 07894 856366

Based in Long Melford



Sport Matters – Cricket

Cricket, lovely cricket...

Melford's season begins on Saturday 16th April. We'll be fielding two Saturday teams competing in the Two Counties League and two Sunday teams in the Hunts Suffolk League. Why not come along and enjoy some relaxing afternoons watching in the sunshine? The bar will be open throughout every home game serving our local Nethergate beers.

There are adult nets every Tuesday from 6pm and new players of any age or ability are welcome. If you're interested, please get in touch with Neil Sawyer 07379 184210 neilsawyer@hotmail.com

Junior cricket is very important to LMCC. The teams play their matches at the weekends and we also have training sessions every Thursday from 6pm (starting on 21st April when boys and girls aged 16 or less can come along and enrol). There's Kwik Cricket on Friday evenings for the youngest members. For more information contact Phil King 07773 083360 phillipwking97@gmail.com

LMCC is hosting a Suffolk Over 50s match against Kent over 50s on Thursday 28th July and we hope that some LMCC members will be playing for Suffolk. We also hope there'll be lots of spectators there to support our county.



Finally, the club proudly flew the LMCC flag in Barbados recently when England played the West Indies in the T20 series.



Left to right: Jason Wade, Matt Hoadley, Phil King, Kieren Pettitt

Sport Matters – Football

The Villagers Will Battle To Stay Up

It's crunch time in the Thurlow Nunn Premier League. When the magazine went to press, our First Team was just above the relegation zone. Being in the Premier League is quite an achievement for a club of our size and we intend to stay up! We have four Saturday home games in April on the 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd, all kicking off at 3pm. So, come along and cheer on the Villagers. A warm welcome at the Ground and in the Clubhouse is guaranteed.

In the Reserves League Melford were doing well and in fourth spot – another good reason to come down and watch grass-roots football. You'll find all forthcoming matches on the club website longmelfordfc.com.

Long Melford Colts and Fillies is another success story – if you're interested in joining, contact Ian Ambrose on 07970 384576



On Sunday 1st May, we'll host a charity football match organised by Reserves Team Manager Dave Hennessey. Family and friends take to the pitch to battle it out for the Hennessey Charity Shield as they seek to raise money for Children with Cancer. Last time out they raised over £1,500. Gates open at 1pm, kick off 3pm. Tickets available on the day, Adults £10, Children £5, Under 3's free.



The First Team in front of the smart new clubhouse

Directory of Clubs and Societies

Group	Contact	Phone/email
Beading (Suffex Bead Club)	Victoria Power	07866 996124
Beavers	Carolyn Spraggons	01787 370686
Business Association	Jane Ebejer	01787 375862
Coffee & Cake @ St Catherine's	Margaret Taylor	01787 880875
Connect Toddler Group	Pam Tonks	07890 880976
Cricket Club	Ivan Newman	07944 893167
Explorers	Thomas Tracey	bovineesu123@gmail.com
Folk & 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		help@suffolklibraries.co.uk
Good Neighbours' Scheme	Helen Eaton	07504 249179
Historical and Archaeological Society	Julie Thomson	01787 375329
Holy Trinity & St Catherine's Church	Rev. Matthew Lawson	01787 310845
Keep Fit	Heather Mahony	01449 736662
Long Melford Community Sports Trust	Peter Turner	01787 468536
Long Melford Cubs	Stacey Cole	07368 519981
Long Melford Group Scout Leader	Stephen Spraggons	melfordgsl@aol.com
Long Melford Museum and Heritage Centre	John Nunn	01787 313496
Long Melford Litter Pickers	Julie Thomson	01787 375329
Long Melford Open Spaces	Graham Eade	01787 319120
Long Melford Parish Recorder	Julie Thomson	01787 375329
Long Melford Photographic Group	Derek Challis	01787 373738
Long Melford CE Primary School	Mrs Woolmer	01787 379929
Long Melford Scouts	Graham Souch	1stlmscouts@gmail.com
Long Melford Women's Institute	Jane Ebejer	01787 375862
Melford Music	John Watts	01787 310373
Neighbourhood Watch	Stuart Finch	07867 371564
Over Sixties Club	Mrs Albon & Mrs Woodgate	371413/376711
Old School bookings	Rosey Eade	01787 319120
Project Seven	Andrew Hagger	07980 526067
Royal British Legion	Martin Richards	01787 377567
Scout & Guide HQ bookings	Vicki Ramdhanie	lmsglettings@gmail.com
Silver Band	Mike Murkin	01787 312605
The Arts Society South Suffolk	John Ashton	07899 872222
The Arts Society Sudbury	Jan Spencer	07747 692377
Trinity Singers	Sue Roberts	01787 319850
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 MelfordMattersAdvertising@gmail.com. Amendments must be received by **1st May** to be included in Issue 08 – June/July 2022.

Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| 1. Norfolk | 5. Essex | 9. Colchester |
| 2. Mersea Island | 6. Ely | 10. Eddie Redmayne |
| 3. 13th century | 7. Chelmsford | |
| 4. Sandringham, Norfolk | 8. Anna Sewell | |

What's on at KENTWELL April to June 2022



We're just up the road – enjoy Suffolk's best kept secret!

Stunning, family-friendly country house gardens, woodland, grounds and farm – full of character and originality

April to Sept– House & Gardens Open
2 to 14 April – Easter Holiday Family Trails
15 to 18 April – EasterTide Special Event



30 Apr to 2 May – May Day Celebrations Special Event
28-29 May – Sheep Shearing Weekend
2 to 5 June – History Festival Special Event
25/26 June and 1/2 July – Tudor Kentwell Special Event

pre-book tickets on-line at www.kentwell.co.uk at discounted rates

house & gardens open • take-out teas • family events • living history • weddings • filming • tours • schools

www.kentwell.co.uk/events

Offer for local residents

2 for the price of 1 for any 'Gardens Open' day

pre-book one Gardens ticket and bring this ad with you, along with proof of address to claim your second ticket (excludes special events)

indigo ross

Spectrum House
Woodhall Business Park
Sudbury Suffolk CO10 1WH

01787 880 260
hello@indigoross.co.uk

indigoross.co.uk

Find us on:



design



print



web

THE GEORGE & DRAGON



Hotel

15 stylish and comfortable bedrooms, all with TV and tea/coffee making facilities

Wheelchair access throughout

Disabled help paging system

Free wireless internet access

Weddings

Approved marriage and civil partnership venue

Large gardens ideal for photographs and welcome drinks

Beautiful marquee with seating for up to 120 guests

Bespoke menus designed to your taste and budget

Buffet or full table service

Evening reception for up to 250 guests

Preferential rates for accommodation

Events

Private rooms for 30 to 90 guests, ideal for birthdays, engagements, anniversaries, wakes and other events or business meetings

Restaurant and Bar

Freshly cooked food

Sunday carvery

Bar meals



Join our local free loyalty club and get up to 25% off your food and drinks.

Hall Street, Long Melford, CO10 9JA

www.thegeorgeanddragonhotel.com

Telephone: 01787 371285

The George and Dragon Hotel



RECOMMENDED
BY RESTAURANT GUILD
2019



Another reason
to choose us.