



MELFORD

Issue 18 February/March 2024

Matters

Photo: Holly Jones-Warren

**Over £5,000 Raised For
Good Causes**

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celebrations**

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Melford Matters Shines in Parish Magazine Awards

The biggest kick I've had editing Melford Matters is people telling me how much they look forward to receiving it, how much better it is than other village magazines and how professional it is.

Now the National Parish Magazine Awards has rated Melford Matters in the top 5% of nearly 450 entries in the A4 category for 2023. That's remarkable, considering the magazine had been going only a little over two years when judged. The winner was a Berkshire mag that's well over 100 years old and has 44 pages with full colour throughout – now there's a target.

Farewell and thanks to everyone involved

After three years and 18 issues, this will be the last edition of Melford Matters that I edit. But it's good to be leaving on a high.

I'd like to thank everyone who has made it work so well. That includes the committee, the wonderful contributors who make the content so compelling and those who go out in all weathers to deliver the magazine.

Special thanks go to Phil Buck and my wife Chris. Phil has designed the magazine with great flair, computer wizardry and remarkable patience. Chris has sub-edited the copy, making sure it's easy to read and jargon-free. She's also written most of the headlines, sub heads and captions, organised the Community Matters section and written the Quizzes and a good few articles. This is also Chris's last issue.

I wish the new team well and hope Melford Matters continues to thrive.

Dave Watts, Editor



Melford Matters was rated in the top 5% of A4 sized Parish magazines





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Community Matters

Long Melford Open Gardens 2024 – We Need Your Garden!

Last year's Open Gardens was hugely successful – over 600 tickets were sold and more than £6,300 raised for charity. It's back this year on Bank Holiday Monday 27th May from 10am to 4pm.

Last year, the village was swarming with yellow tickets; with visitors enjoying around 25 gardens ranging from the very intimate, to the more grand and formal, making the event a feast for the eyes.

We hope the 2024 event will be just as successful. So we need as many people as possible to open their gardens.

This is a charity event and your garden can be big or small, perfect or messy, it doesn't really matter – what matters is that we have enough gardens to run a successful event. So why not sign up your garden for 2024?

To take part, please contact The Mill in Long Melford on 01787 378035 or email contact@themill-longmelford.com

Last entries must be in by mid-April.



Fun Times at the Club

The Long Melford & District Ex-Service and Social Club (aka the Working Men's Club) knows how to provide fun. Twenty five children loved their Christmas party, where they met Santa, received a gift and enjoyed wrapping Santa's helpers in loo paper to make them look like mummies. Forty five members went to the Pensioners' Christmas party where they enjoyed a wonderful spread and were entertained by singer Holly Cook.

Events Planned for next year include:

- 3rd February – John David and songs from the 60s
- 17th February – Scar band: Motown
- 9th April – Beer Gut 100 (a band not a competition).

If you'd like to join the club, just call in. Annual membership is just £12.50 for adults and £5 for the over 65s.

Free Help and Advice

Citizens Advice is a charity that offers free help and advice on topics such as debt, housing problems, benefits and tax credits, employment, energy bills and the cost of living. It can also refer people to food banks and sources of charitable help.

In 2023, the Sudbury & South Suffolk branch helped 93 Long Melford residents (up by 27% compared with 2022) with 616 different problems. Disability benefit applications were up 25% on the same period

for the previous year. Charitable support claims increased by 58% and issues about energy were up by 33%.

A total of £62,000 was gained for residents.

To contact Citizens Advice, call 01787 321400 or use the form on its website www.sudburycab.org.uk/contact/

**citizens
advice**

**Sudbury
& South Suffolk**

Breakout's Trusted Traders

Local trader Breakout is concerned that some residents of Melford and neighbouring villages have been victims of rogue traders. To help with preventing this, Breakout will be compiling a list of local trusted traders who have worked for local residents and come highly recommended.

Trades they plan to cover include plumbers, heating engineers, electricians, roofers, handymen, gardeners, builders, carpenter/joiners and mechanics.

If you'd like any trades added to this list, please email hello@breakoutlongmelford.co.uk.

Community Matters

Guides To Switzerland – Funds Needed

The Chadbrook Guides have chosen Switzerland as their planned destination in 2025 because it's one of six locations, including London, which has a Girlguiding World Centre. The Centres play an important role



Melford station in days past – sadly, not the Guides' departure point for Switzerland

within the Guiding Movement. They offer support, activities, places to stay and somewhere to meet Guides from other countries.

The Beetle drive held by the Chadbrook Guides in November went well, raising £123 for their Swiss adventure. On Sunday 3rd March from 10am to 4pm, they're holding a Model Railway exhibition in order to raise funds for their Swiss trip. It will be in the Village Hall. Entry is just £3 for adults and £1 for children to raise funds for the trip. They held one two years ago which was a great success. They're delighted to have Nigel Locke's Long Melford junction layout. So, why not go along and enjoy the exhibition and help raise funds?

LONG MELFORD HISTORICAL & ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The first meeting of LMHAS in 2024 will be on Thursday 15th February and will be the Society's traditional Members' Night. Three volunteers will each present a short talk on a subject of interest to them, with a historical and hopefully, local theme. Meetings take place in the Chamberlin room at the Old School Community Centre, starting at 7.30pm with £3 admission for visitors.

On 21st March we welcome Dr David Lawrenson with a talk on 'The History of East Anglian Markets'. And on 18th April, our AGM is followed by 'Overpaid, Oversexed and Over Here' with Dr Geoffrey Kay.

The Society was founded in 1969. Why not go along and support it? You're sure to see a familiar face, have a chance for a chat and enjoy the free refreshments at the end of every meeting.

Spring Events to Look Forward To

There'll be plenty to look forward to in Melford as the weather gets warmer. Here are a few dates for your diaries.

- **Nethergate Festival** The Easter Beer Festival Weekend will be from 28th to 31st March. There'll be a beer tent, live music and food vans.
- **Art Exhibition** Class Arts (a Melford based group) will hold its first 2024 exhibition at Borley Church on 6th and 7th April.
- **Country Park Dawn Chorus Walks** These successful walks will be repeated on the May bank holidays (6th and 27th), starting at 6.30am. To book, email jonathanewbank145@gmail.com
- **Long Melford in Bloom Goes Up in Flames** The switch to summer bedding is likely to be in late May. The colour scheme will be flaming red, yellow and orange. Let's hope the weather matches this! Watch out for a new low maintenance dry plant bed near the entrance of the Old School car park.
- **LeeStock Music Festival** Advance booking is essential for this event which is back at Kentwell Hall on 25th and 26th May. Details and tickets at skiddle.com/festivals/leestock/



2,000 people enjoyed Nethergate's Easter Beer Festival in 2023

Community Matters

Library Matters: It's All Go at St Catherine's

Melford's Library had a busy end to the year with visits from the Beavers and Squirrels in November, helping them to work towards their Book Readers badge. The Friends of Long Melford Library worked so very hard to put on the Christmas Fair as part of Festive Long Melford. The Friends managed to raise a phenomenal £930 for our village library. Thank you to everybody who supported our event.

The Suffolk Libraries Book Festival will take place from Friday 23rd to Sunday 25th February with online interviews with Lee Child, Tracy Borman, Anthony Horowitz and more. For full details and to buy tickets, please visit suffolklibraries.co.uk.

Saturday 23rd March will be Suffolk Libraries Day, a day to celebrate our Library Service. An event will be held in the Library to mark the occasion. Please visit the Library's website (reached via suffolklibraries.co.uk) or pop in for full details.

The Silver Band's Busy Pre-Christmas

Long Melford Silver Band had a demanding build up to Christmas. It began in October with a weekend away in Ypres, Belgium, where they were fortunate to be able play at the Menin Gate Remembrance Service on Friday 27th. It was their first visit since 2019 and Covid.



The Christmas Concert was a great success



Having fun making Christmas decorations

On 15th December they gave their annual Christmas Concert in the Village Hall, attended by more than 100 people. This was the first 'proper' sit-down concert with their new Musical Director, Frankie Ayers. All in all, the Band gave seven performances in November and December, beginning with a Christmas Fair in Clare and ending in Hall Street on 23rd December.

The Band is looking forward to more concerts throughout 2024 and will, as always, welcome new players especially 2nd row cornets, trombones and basses.

April Calls from Melford Poppies

The Melford Poppies had a wonderful evening at the Bull on 13th December, with Secret Santa, a quiz and a sing-a-long of all the favourite Xmas songs. But now it's time to look forward to 2024.

Melford-based journalist and author, Simon Edge will be the WI's speaker at our meeting on 11th April. Amongst other things, Simon's books take an amusing but affectionate look at the history and people of this part of Suffolk.

In addition to our April meeting, we're also hosting a film night of Calendar Girls at the Village Hall on Friday 19th April. All ladies welcome. Entry is £7 and includes a welcome drink. Further refreshments (including – true to their WI roots – tea and cake) will be available during the interval. There will also be a raffle. All proceeds from the event will go to St Nicholas Hospice.

Long Melford WI meetings take place at 7.30 pm at The Bull on the second Thursday of the month. All ladies are welcome.



Melford Poppies' top brass warming up for a Christmas celebration at the Bull

Community Matters

Litter, Litter Everywhere and We Need More to Pick It Up

Melford's Litter Pickers want to recruit new members to bolster the core of regulars who turn out each month. Although they report that the lay-bys appear less strewn with bottles, cans and food rubbish, there are still problems.



The Litter Pickers helped clear up after the Big Night Out. Ten big bags of rubbish were collected from Kentwell and the Upper Green. Project 7 has offered to donate money to help with our campaign.

We're looking at putting cigarette grates outside the Co-Op and other places of concern. Cigarette grates are like 'boxes' costing around £15. There are some outside the ex-servicemen's club, although they don't look as if they're being used. The Litter Pickers will be approaching the pubs to ask if they will buy one and put it outside their premises.

Keep Britain Tidy is running a national campaign, including TV ads, saying 'Bin your Butt'. Those of us who live in Melford have certainly heard of that before. The Litter Pickers want to ask the Parish Council to consider funding more permanent posters and places to stub out cigarettes in the village.

Our Scouts Need You

The Long Melford Scout group, along with the Melford Litter pickers, performed the arduous task of clearing the litter after the Big Night Out. Many thanks to them. The Squirrels and Beavers had wonderful visits from Santa. There was plenty of party food and both groups relished the party games. These included snowball games and box stacking which requires team work.

You can see from the photo how much the children enjoyed themselves. Being a member of a scout group isn't just about fun, it's about resilience, learning valuable skills and team work. They need leaders for the Squirrels, Beavers and Cubs if this is to continue for as many children as possible. If you're interested in helping, please email Carolyn Spraggons at Carolyn.spraggons@suffolkscouts.org.uk



News from our Medical Practice

Practice Manager Scott Hanson writes:

Work continues to ensure the last few points raised by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) in its June report are corrected in preparation for their next visit. This should see the practice returning from a Requires Improvement to a Good rating. It looks like they will inspect again in late January or early February.

We're nearing the end of the 2023/4 flu campaign. If you haven't yet had your flu vaccination and wish to receive it, please contact the practice to book an appointment.

We continue to recruit reception staff and should any readers wish to apply, please send your CV to the

practice marked for the attention of the Practice Manager.

We're also looking for new members of our Patient Participation Group (PPG). If you're interested in joining it, please email longmelford.reception@nhs.net and your details will be passed on to the PPG chair.

Finally, the number of people failing to turn up for their appointments is still too high – 149 in the four weeks before I wrote this. If you need to cancel or change your appointment, please contact us as soon as possible. Not doing so wastes staff time and prevents others getting appointments.



Community Matters



MELFORD MOVIES

On 9th February we'll be screening **Living** (12A). Bill Nighy stars as a humourless bureaucrat who at the eleventh hour makes a supreme effort to turn his dull life into something wonderful. Our film on 8th March, **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry** (12A), features Jim Broadbent who decides to walk over 500 miles to deliver a letter personally.

Screenings are at the Village Hall. Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7.30pm. Adults £5; Under-16s £3. Refreshments and raffle. If you'd like to reserve seats, please email melfordmovies@icloud.com.



Good Neighbours End 2023 on a High

Together with the Friends of Long Melford Library, Good Neighbours held a mini-Festive Long Melford in November. Lots of raffle tickets were sold, along with some beautiful pottery, wooden craft items and Christmas cards. Our last session of 2023 on Thursday 21st December also had a very Festive theme, with mince pies, sausage rolls, Christmas jumpers and of course some little gifts from Santa.

Our regular Coffee Morning slots will continue in 2024, on every other Thursday from 10am at the Old School. Please come along – if you need assistance to get there just call on 07504 249179 and leave a message. Good Neighbours would love to see you.



The very festive coffee morning

A First for Melford ... Albeit Back in 1816

Some years ago, Suffolk Record Office mounted a display in Holy Trinity of the church's history. It had some fascinating items including the record of the birth of Siamese twins in Melford. The entry in the original register reads,

"Rose, the wife of William Sheap, was delivered of a child, with 2 faces, 4 armes and 4 legges."

They were born on 26th April 1816. It was the first recorded birth of Siamese twins in England – a claim supported by the Guinness Book of Records.

Given they were born over 200 years ago, would they have survived infancy? How would the Melfordians of the 1800s treated them? Hopefully, the twins wouldn't have ended up in a freak show. Sadly, we don't know what happened to them.

Thanks to Long Melford Heritage Trust for the information above.

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Communication Matters

Have you been wondering what the recent roadworks in the village were all about? We've had a 'perfect storm' of gas, electricity, water and telecommunications providers all undertaking repairs or installations, but the majority of the works late last year were undertaken by telecommunications provider Gigaclear.

What have Gigaclear been doing?

They're installing fibre optic cable to almost every house and business in the village. They aim to use existing infrastructure (ducts, telegraph poles, etc) wherever possible, but in many areas they need to dig up the road or pavement to lay new ducts for their cables. The good news is that their street works are largely complete, and they're now laying the fibre cables in those ducts, installing equipment in their roadside cabinets and testing the service.

What's so great about fibre optic cable?

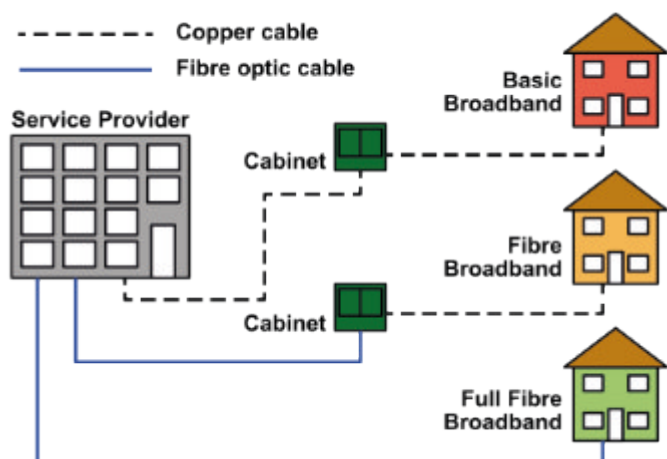
The existing copper cable used for phone lines was designed for speech, not data. So for a basic broadband connection, the download speed that can be achieved is very limited and drops significantly over longer distances. Fibre optic cable can support much faster downloads even over very long connections.

Haven't we got fibre already?

Although many properties in Melford already have fibre broadband (sometimes marketed as 'superfast' broadband), in most cases the fibre runs only between the exchange and the roadside cabinets dotted throughout the village. Although the potential download speeds are much higher, the actual speeds are reduced because the link from the cabinet to the customer continues to use the old copper cabling.

With a full fibre service (often marketed as 'ultrafast' broadband), the fibre runs all the way to the customer, enabling significantly faster connections – no matter how far the customer is from the roadside cabinet.

BROADBAND CONNECTIONS



BROADBAND DOWNLOAD SPEEDS

BASIC BROADBAND



Average 12 Mbit/s
Maximum 24 Mbit/s

FIBRE BROADBAND



Average 56 Mbit/s
Maximum 80 Mbit/s

FULL FIBRE BROADBAND



Average 149 Mbit/s
Maximum 900 Mbit/s

Very few in Melford yet have this service because the cost of installing the fibre on an individual basis is generally too great. However, by installing fibre throughout the village, Gigaclear can spread the cost.

Who needs all this speed?

For those who use the internet merely for email and website browsing, speed may not be an issue. But demand for high speed connections is increasing: many people now watch TV using streaming services such as BBC iPlayer, Netflix and Amazon Prime Video. Video-calling (eg. Zoom, Teams) is also growing in popularity. These services need strong, stable connections to avoid images freezing and stuttering. Internet connectivity is also being built into more and more home appliances. Even if you personally don't need full fibre, it could be a valuable marketing point when you sell your property.

For businesses, a fast stable internet connection can be crucial, whether for online meetings, bulk data transfers, or 'real time' data feeds.

How do I get full fibre broadband?

Visit Gigaclear's website (<https://www.gigaclear.com>) for details of their services and charges. Bear in mind that other providers might offer a full fibre service, now or in the future (County Broadband have also begun installing fibre cabling in some parts of the village, and BT Openreach have indicated that they plan to do so in the future). So it's worth shopping around.

How to find out about roadworks in advance

All roadworks on the public highway must be approved by Suffolk Highways. Details can be found online at <https://one.network>. This also includes other items potentially affecting the road network, such as skips and scaffolding as well as planned road closures (eg. for our Remembrance Day and St. George's Day parades).



Transport Matters

We Have Transport, You Can Travel

GoStart Community Transport is a voluntary organisation providing flexible and accessible demand-led transport. We aim to try and fulfil unmet local passenger transport needs. We support a variety of local people, including the elderly and those living in an isolated situation or experiencing loneliness.

GoStart has a range of vehicles including 16-seater minibuses and smaller five-seaters. All are fully accessible with side access ramps or powered tail lifts allowing for safe, easy access for pedestrians and passengers in wheelchairs.

Passengers can be picked up from their front door at a pre-booked time and taken to their destination, such as shops, medical facilities, visits to family or friends, or to engage in other social activities. Passengers are then driven safely home at a prearranged time. We also take groups of children to extra mural activities, provide transport support for other local voluntary and not-for-profit groups and run weekend trips for people who are lonely or isolated.

The return fare from Melford to Sudbury for shopping, social activities, or to attend an appointment at the Sudbury Health centre is £6. Prices start at £25 return to West Suffolk Hospital, Colchester Hospital and the NewMedica Eye Centre. Up to 90 minutes waiting time for patients to complete their appointment is included (and can be extended by prior arrangement). A carer or escort can accompany the patient for no charge.

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Business Matters

Many Happy Returns Jessica Muir Gallery

Hall Street's Jessica Muir Gallery celebrated 20 years in Melford last autumn – and will be continuing its celebrations throughout this year. In 2003 Jean Muir set up the gallery with her daughter, Jess, so that they could have a permanent base from which to offer their beautiful collection. Both have a background in the arts and rely on this to select items which complement their collections.

They offer an extensive range of jewellery, ceramics, textiles, original prints, decorative glass pieces and cards. To be selected, the artworks have to be offered to the gallery directly by those who've created them. They must be made in the UK and be individual and unique. Work inspired by the British countryside is always popular and Jean reports that "our sculptures of hares are much admired." The gallery is currently showcasing work from up to fifty different sources, including some who feature seasonally.

The gallery has survived in challenging retail times by being flexible about how it operates and focussed on customer needs. They're always keen to offer a personal service and help you find that special piece to meet your needs. Telephone and website sales are available, and they try to do everything possible to accommodate changing shopping habits. Further information about the gallery can be found at jessica-muir-gallery.square.site

Congratulations Jean and Jess and happy anniversary from Melford Matters. Here's to the next twenty years!



One of the gallery's hare sculptures



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.

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Diary Matters

February	Event	Venue	Time
Thursday 1st	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Thursday 1st	Parish Council – Full Meeting including Planning	Old School	7.00pm
Saturday 3rd	My Long Melford Farmers & Makers Market	Old School	9.00am to 1.00pm
Saturday 3rd	John David – Songs from the 60s	Ex-service and Working Men's Club	
Wednesday 7th	Antiques Fair	Village Hall	9.00am to 3.30pm
Thursday 8th	The Arts Society Stour Valley – Arts and Crafts Movement and Arts and Crafts in English Churches	Village Hall	12 noon to 3.00pm
Thursday 8th	LM Poppies (WI) – Valerie Butler – valeriejbutler@btinternet.com	Bull Hotel	7.30 to 9.30pm
Friday 9th	Melford Movies – Living (12A)	Village Hall	7.30pm
Friday 9th	Folk & Acoustic Club	Cock & Bell	8.00pm
Saturday 10th	Flower Workshop - Anne Brown - www.justanneflowers.co.uk	Old School	2.00 to 4.00pm
Thursday 15th	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Thursday 15th	LM Historical and Archaeological Society – Members' Talks	Old School	7.30pm
Saturday 17th	Scar band – Motown	Ex-service and Working Men's Club	
Wednesday 21st	The Arts Society Stour Valley – Mad Men and Artists	Village Hall	11.00am to 12 noon
Thursday 22nd	Long Melford Litter Pickers		1.45pm
Sat 24th	Seed Swap	Village Hall	10.00 to 12 noon
Sat 24th /Sun 25th	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School	9.30am to 4.00pm
Sunday 25th	Long Melford Litter Pickers		10.00am
Thursday 29th	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
March	Event	Venue	Time
Saturday 2nd	My Long Melford Farmers & Makers Market	Old School	9.00am to 1.00pm
Sunday 3rd	Model Railway Exhibition	Village Hall	10.00am to 4.00pm
Wednesday 6th	Antiques Fair	Village Hall	9.00am to 3.30pm
Thursday 7th	Parish Council – Full Meeting including Planning	Old School	7.00pm
Friday 8th	Folk & Acoustic Club	Cock & Bell	8.00pm
Friday 8th	Melford Movies – The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry (12A)	Village Hall	7.30pm
Thursday 14th	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Thursday 14th	LM Poppies (WI) – Valerie Butler – valeriejbutler@btinternet.com	Bull Hotel	7.30 to 9.30pm
Saturday 16th	Flower Workshop - Anne Brown - www.justanneflowers.co.uk	Old School	10.00 to 12 noon

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 the editor, melfordmatterseditor@gmail.com, or advertising team, melfordmattersadvertising@gmail.com. Printed by Indigo Ross Design and Print Ltd.

Diary Matters

March (cont.)			
Wednesday 20th	The Arts Society Stour Valley – Discovering Macdonald Gill	Village Hall	11.00am to 12 noon
Thursday 21st	LM Historical and Archaeological Society – The History of East Anglian Markets	Old School	7.30pm
Saturday 23rd	Long Melford Book Fair – Quality second-hand/out of print books	Village Hall	10am to 3.30pm
Saturday 23rd	Suffolk Libraries Day – an event to celebrate our library service	Library	TBC
Thursday 28th	Good Neighbours/Friends of LM Library Coffee Morning	Old School	10.00 to 11.30am
Thursday 28th	Long Melford Litter Pickers		1.45pm
Thu 28th-Sun 31st	Nethergate Easter Beer Festival	Nethergate	Various
Sat 30th /Sun 31st	Antiques & Vintage Fair	Old School	9.30am to 4.00pm
Sunday 31st	Long Melford Litter Pickers		10.00am

Regular classes & workshops at Long Melford Village Memorial Hall

Mondays	Strollercise – Marina St Leger – www.strollercise.co.uk 07917 333712	9.30 to 10.30am
Mondays	Song Circle, Choir for Women – first session free, £7 thereafter – Anna 07957 484812	11.15am to 12.45pm
Tuesdays	Pilates – Michelle Cowcher – michellecowcher@gmail.com	10.00 to 11.00am
Tuesdays	Bounce – Jules Cooper – www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford	6.00 to 8.00pm
Thursdays	Mum & Tot Fitness – JTD_fitness – jo.h.thornley@gmail.com	9.45 to 10.30am
Thursdays	Indoor Kurling (1st and 3rd Thurs) – Drop in for a free taster session	2.00 to 4.00pm
Thursdays	Bounce – Jules Cooper – www.bookwhen.com/bouncelongmelford	6.00 to 8.00pm
Fridays	Baby Ballet – sudbury@babyballet.co.uk 07580 693747	9.30am to 12.00 noon
Monthly	Lecture series (4th Tuesday) – Suffolk Family History Society (Sudbury)	2.30 to 4.00pm
Monthly	Tea & Tech (2nd Wednesday) – Communities Together East Anglia – 01449 707030	2.00 to 4.00pm
Monthly	Lecture series (3rd Wednesday) – Arts Society of Stour Valley	10.30am to 12.30pm
Monthly	Lecture series (4th Wednesday) – Film Club Lectures – www.filmclublectures.co.uk	10.30am

Regular classes & workshops at the Football Club

Wednesdays	Men's Shed – Colin – sudburymensshed@gmail.com 07772870052	10.00am
Mondays	Bingo age 18+ all welcome, no need to book	7.00 to 10.00pm
Wednesdays	Men's Shed – Colin – sudburymensshed@gmail.com 07772870052	10.00am
Thursdays	Strictly Swing – Swing Jive/Lindy Bop Sarah Buldock 07956614824	7.00 to 9.00pm
Sat/Sun	Colts and Fillies Junior Football – Ian Ambrose – 07970 384576	Call for details
Sundays	LM Veterans Football – Dan Bull – 07925 867247	Call for details
Sundays	Strictly Swing – Balboa/Collegiate Shag Sarah Buldock 07956614824	7.30 to 9.30pm
Monthly	Pete the Feet – an evening of 50's music, free jive and stroll tuition (last Friday, not Sept) Pete 07974201878	7.30 to 10.30pm

Regular sessions at The Library (St Catherine's Church)

Tuesdays	Wordplay	2.00 to 2.30pm
Wednesdays	Top Time	2.30 to 4.00pm
Saturdays	Family Crafts and Lego Club	9.30am to 12.30pm

PTO for Regular classes and workshops at the Old School →

Diary Matters

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	Slimming World – Vicky Stebbings - vickystebbing@gmail.com	5.00 to 8.00pm
Tuesdays	Upbeat (Heart Support Group) – Hilary Neeves – 01359 232678	9.00am to 1.00pm
Tuesdays	U3A Art – Vernon Lever – 01787 310511	1.30 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	Friendship Dancers – Robin Hart – 01787 269613	3.00 to 5.00pm
Wednesdays	Silver Band – Mike Murkin – 01787 312605	7.30 to 9.30pm
Monthly	Photography Group (1st Monday) – Derek Challis – 01787 373738	Mornings
Monthly	Good Grief Bereavement Support (3rd Wed) – june@ggbereavementsupport.com	10.00am to 12.30pm

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



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Holy Trinity Matters

Another Window Restored

In November, the third of our eight medieval stained glass windows was reinstalled at Holy Trinity, after months of restoration by specialists at Canterbury Cathedral.

Long Melford's array of portraits in medieval glass is unmatched in England. That's why we're raising close to £1 million to preserve it for future generations. We're delighted that we're nearly halfway there.

This latest restored window is the second to the right of the north door. It's particularly important because it shows John Clopton (see also p20). He was lord of the manor of Kentwell at the height of Melford's prosperity, and the driving force behind the construction of our spectacular church.

For a while, we believed this portrait had been mislabelled in the mid-20th century, and that it actually showed Clopton's son-in-law. Our conservators have now established beyond doubt that it really is the man himself. It's good to welcome him home, looking finer than ever.

Simon Edge



John Clopton, the driving force behind the construction of Holy Trinity



John Gedney, Clopton's brother-in-law, who became Lord Mayor of London



Christmas Festivities Matter



Some good sports dressed up as Christmas characters



Santa's reindeer took a break whilst he was busy in his Grotto



It wasn't just the adults who wore Christmas outfits

Festive Fun and Fund Raising

The Festive Long Melford Saturday in November was a great success and blessed by lovely sunny weather.

It also raised over £5,000 for local good causes.

- The Friends of Long Melford Primary School raised £1,600 for the school, with 150 children and adults.
- £1,700 was raised at Mansell Hall for the glass window fund by selling food, drinks, and tickets and viewing the model railway.
- Church and Tower tours made £275 for the church maintenance fund.
- The Friends of Long Melford Library raised £1,000 for the Christmas Fair.
- Project Seven made £500 for local good causes at the food and drinks stall.
- The organ grinder added £100 to Project Seven.



Mr Punch (where's Judy?)



The Rock Choir filled the air with their Green with people and...

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Christmas at Long Melford Primary School

Christmas is always a busy time at Long Melford Primary. It begins with Festive Long Melford, where many of our children were among the 150 who visited Santa.

In early December, Year 6 visited Melford Court as part of their Elf Day. They sang Christmas Carols with the residents and chatted to them.

Our children created decorations for three trees at the Sudbury Christmas Tree Festival. Our first tree was called 'A Year in the Life of Long Melford Primary School', the second was 'A Letter to Father Christmas' and the third was 'Merry Maths-mus!'. Our children wrote letters to Father Christmas and created decorations from 3D shape-nets. FLUMPS decorated the trees with them.



One of the school's three trees at the Sudbury Christmas Tree Festival

November was a huge
her.

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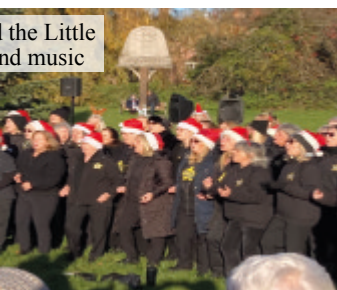
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Holy Trinity's stained
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y in the loft
or Holy Trinity's

raised £930 at their

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the Little
nd music



Zoe Keogh helped Rev Lawson
switch on the Christmas Tree lights

Thanks very much to the Long
Melford Events Group for
organising the day and to the
Parish Council, the Village Hall
Committee, Pat Davey and our
District and Parish Councillors
for sponsoring the event.

We held a 'Production
Week' in December. Our
youngest children all took
part in presenting Nativity-
style plays and musicals for
their parents. The first
group was Fox Cub
Nursery (aged 3 and 4
years), who acted out a
Christmas Story read by
their teacher. It was
adorable and loved by all
the parents and
grandparents there.



Fox Class were the next to perform. Their Nativity was
more traditional and made everyone feel more
Christmassy. This was the first time that many of these
children had performed before such a large audience, but
you'd never know – they were excellent.

Simmonds and Jemison Classes presented the musical,
'It's a Cracker'. This combined a modern story of a
family who had visitors to their Christmas Dinner, with a
traditional Nativity. Our children, aged between 5 and 7
years, told the story beautifully.

Those children who are learning musical instruments
with Mr Tom Potter (clarinet) and Mr Andy Rowe
(drums, guitar, keyboards and vocals), performed for
their parents. The whole school thoroughly enjoyed
the concerts.

We were extremely proud of our children who read
lessons and sang at Holy Trinity's Carol Service.

If you have a child who would like to join our Nursery
or our School, please contact our school office on
01787 379929.

Amanda Woolmer, Headteacher



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Community Matters

RBL Long Melford Branch Update

We'd like to thank the RBL members who showed their support at the AGM of the Long Melford Branch held at the Bull Hotel on 16th November. Ken Rowbottom (Chairman of Suffolk RBL) recited the exhortation and led a one minute's silence.

Audrey Wreford read an emotional report as she stood down as Chair of the Branch ensuring that it was to be left in the safe hands of a new committee led by Lady Hyde Parker who was confirmed as the new Chair and who thanked Audrey for her past efforts.

Other members of the new committee include David Martin (Secretary), Farley Boxall (Treasurer) and Graham and Rosey Eade. Further members will be added soon.

Site to be Sold

Following on after the AGM, there was a public meeting attended by about 45 people to discuss the future of the RBL site in Cordell Road. Phil Bradbury (RBL Property Manager) was due to attend but declined at short notice. He will be issuing a Notice of Sale of the former RBL site which will allow the National RBL to value the site and put it up for sale on the open market.

The National RBL has the right to sell the site at its own discretion. The option for our RBL Branch to run the site is not feasible as we do not have sufficient funds to maintain it. It was made clear that there is no realistic chance of stopping the sale. A community group could bid to purchase the site and the feasibility will be looked into once we have a valuation. If the site could not be purchased by such a group, it would be essential to ensure that the proceeds from the sale are used for the benefit of ex-service people in Long Melford and adjoining parishes.

The difference between RBL Branch and RBL Social Club was clarified and that the Social Club had not followed its financial responsibilities since 2019, resulting in the site being closed. It was made clear that the social club would not be allowed to restart by National RBL. Social clubs are licensed by the National RBL to use their name and logo but are not part of the RBL.

Long Melford RBL Branch Committee

Brain Matters

A Quiz on Love, Lovers, Couples and Pairs

February brings St Valentine's Day. So, the theme of this issue's quiz is love, lovers, couples and pairs.

1. Who wrote the poem which begins 'My love is like a red, red rose'?
2. In the classic film rom com 'When Harry met Sally', Billy Crystal played Harry. Who played Sally?
3. With which English hero did Lady Hamilton have an affair which began in 1798?
4. Torvill and Dean won a 1984 ice skating Olympic gold dancing to the Bolero. Who composed the music?
5. Zinc is one of the metals which make up the alloy brass. What is the other one?
6. Which TV sitcom features the married couple Alison and Mike Cooper?
7. With which country does the Dominican Republic share an island in the Caribbean Sea?
8. What is the name of Fred Flintstone's wife?
9. According to Roman mythology, who was the goddess of love?
10. For how many years have a couple celebrating their Ruby wedding anniversary been married?

Answers on page 30.



Heritage Matters

Kentwell Over 900 Years Old and Full of Stories

The first recorded reference to the manor of Kentwell appeared in the Domesday Book of 1086. In the years that have followed, Kentwell has had its fair share of misfortune.

Challenges on the battlefield and in law

From the late 14th century, successive generations of Cloptons (an ancient Saxon family) occupied the manor for 300 years. They developed it into the Kentwell we would almost recognise today.

Sir William Clopton fought in the Battle of Agincourt in 1415. Having survived this, he had to resist a legal challenge from a rival claimant to some of his land. Sir William died in 1446. His effigy lies atop his tomb in the Clopton chapel of Melford Church.

His heir, John Clopton (see also p15), supported the losing Lancastrians in the Wars of the Roses. In 1462, with the Yorkist King Edward IV now on the throne, he was one of five men arrested on charges of conspiring to restore the deposed Henry VI. Four of them, including John de Vere, lord of the manor of Lavenham, were executed on Tower Hill. Clopton alone was pardoned. To give thanks for his narrow escape, he set about greatly enlarging Long Melford's church, with no fewer than 90 windows filled with stained glass. John's son William carried on building at the Hall. In 1487, he was knighted at the wedding of Prince Arthur (older brother of Henry VIII) to Katherine of Aragon.

In the late 16th century, another William Clopton welcomed Elizabeth I to Kentwell. She was apparently unimpressed with her stay and called it 'Hungry Hall' (hence Hungry Hall Lane). Williams's wife deserted him. In 1589, he died so suddenly that poison was suspected. William's half-brother and heir and his widow accused each other of poisoning William.

Disaster and debt

The Clopton family were in decline by the early 17th century. Decades later, Thomas Robinson bought Kentwell. He was knighted by Charles II and was responsible for planting the famous avenue of trees. He died in London after jumping from a window trying to escape a fire.

Drawing to promote the sale of the Kentwell Estate in 1838
Photo provided by Long Melford Heritage Trust



Heritage Matters

In 1782, Richard Moore inherited Kentwell and amassed huge debts from gambling and overspending on Kentwell. He was supposed to inherit his godfather's enormous wealth but sadly for Richard, his benefactor died intestate. Richard's personal life was also disastrous – his wife had an affair with an employee. Richard began divorce proceedings, almost unheard of then. This was granted but costly. Richard

was made bankrupt and sent to debtor's prison where he died in 1826. A Canadian, Robert Logan, bought the estate. He died, yet another owner in debt in 1838.

Next came one of the estate's more 'interesting' owners, Captain Edward Starkie Bence. He stood outside a voting booth preventing those he didn't favour from voting. Also out of favour was his eldest daughter who fled Kentwell by climbing out of a window to elope with an estate cowman. Edward is also remembered as the magistrate who, in 1885, read the Riot Act in Long Melford.

Kentwell Hall and moat in 1910 when one of the more 'interesting' owners Captain Edward Starkie Bence lived there
Photo provided by Long Melford Heritage Trust



Kentwell was let to a series of tenants until 1971 when the current owner Patrick Phillips bought it. The house was in a state of disrepair, but he and his wife Judith have revived its fortunes by restoring it and opening it up to the public for many popular events.

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Pause for Thought

Past, Present, Future

Most of us will tend towards one extreme. Some of us like living in the future – planning, saving, and dreaming or worrying about “what it’s going to be like”. Others of us are happier to live in the past, taking pleasure in memories of people, events, and traditions from the “good old days”.

I wonder which way you tend? Whereas both planning for the future and having memories are healthy pursuits, we also need to learn how to live in the here and now.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus had compassion for the people who were harassed by life and full of worries. Though he himself had plenty to ponder



regarding his past and future, his counsel was not to worry, to trust God, and to let each day worry about itself. This is good advice – I remember reading that Winston Churchill once recalled a story about a man on his deathbed who had “a lot of trouble in his life, most of which did not happen”!

Let’s pause today and spend a moment to simply enjoy being alive, giving thanks for a blessing.

Rev Lawson

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Parish Council Matters

Clare Lee, our Parish Clerk, reports:

- **Anglian Water Improvements** – Anglian Water have started installing a new water main between Swan Lane and Bull Lane. The work is scheduled for approximately 18 weeks (so up to mid-May). Temporary traffic lights will be in place around the area the work is being undertaken to ensure the safety of the public and workforce. A weekly update of where the work will be taking place will be posted on the Council's website and Facebook page and the Village Facebook page. The work will also include a road closure on Bull Lane for one week starting Monday 19th February. Any queries or concerns whilst this work is being carried out should be directed to Anglian Water's Nigel Plumb on 07584 582378.
- **Parking Bollards** – The Parish Council's replacement of our wooden parking posts with stronger black and gold ones that look like metal was due to begin on 23rd January. The work will be undertaken in two phases. The second phase of the work will start in April. Where possible, our contractor will work within the Anglian Water road closure areas to minimise disruption.
- **Council Tax 2024/25** – The Parish Council agreed its Budget for 2024/25 at its January meeting. This included setting the amount that the PC receives from your Council Tax bills at £175,000 – an increase of just 4.75% on the 2023/24 amount for a typical household.



A New Parish Councillor

At its December meeting the Parish Council unanimously voted to co-opt Stuart Palmer to fill a vacancy. We asked him for a few words about himself:

"I retired to the village six years ago. I wanted to get involved with my new community so I have a number of voluntary roles. I was a member of the village defibrillator working group where we increased coverage from 3 to 13 devices in the village. I am part of a team of volunteers that produce and publish the village magazine – Melford Matters. I am the Secretary of the Village Memorial Hall and most recently I have set up 'Tea and Tech' digital workshop in the village where I lead a group of volunteers to assist the over 55s to get online safely in a friendly environment. I love Melford and my aim in joining the parish council is to try and protect and improve the village."



Richard Kemp
County Councillor
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Nature Matters

Welcoming Nature into Long Melford

Let's start the year with a determination to do something to tackle climate change and help nature. We've seen the direct impacts of an erratic climate locally, driven by globally rising temperatures – the hot dry summer of 2022 and flooding in 2023. We really need to look after our planet if our grandchildren are to have a future. Many species are in decline and some face extinction, with the UK being one of the most nature-depleted countries in the world. Those of you old enough, will remember car journeys with windscreens splattered with dead insects. But no longer. Without help our pollinators will continue to struggle, putting food production in peril. No insects, no food, no future – it's a stark warning!

More Volunteers Needed

The Long Melford Biodiversity volunteers are doing our bit to reverse nature decline – encouraging birds by putting up nest boxes, supporting pollinators by developing more wildflower areas, planting trees and hedges and working with Melford in Bloom to use species that both insects and people can enjoy. We're looking for further areas in the village to plant trees and develop into wildflower areas – suggestions welcome.

But we can't do it alone. We urgently need more volunteers to help. We're a friendly bunch and undertake a range of tasks throughout the year but could do so much more. There are lots of things to be done – cutting back and raking on our nature reserves and wildflower meadows, planting bulbs and small plants, surveys of birds and flowers. We'd also love to have someone to run our social media, so we can spread the message about helping nature to everyone. Please get in touch if you'd like to help. All ages welcome.

You Can Play Your Part

In addition, everyone who has even the smallest garden can do something to help nature. Feeding the birds in winter; leaving out fresh water (or better still make a small pond); putting up bird boxes; growing flowers to attract bees and butterflies (many seeds and plants are now marked as such in the garden centres) and leaving a small area untidy (long grass, weeds, nettles, log piles, etc). If you need help or advice, we're happy to oblige.

Wishing everyone a Happy and Environmentally Friendly New Year.

Jane Burch, jane_burch@yahoo.co.uk



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biodiversity
group



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Gardening Matters – Notes from the potting shed

It's Seed Swapping Time

Did you know that National Seed Swap Day for 2024 is 27th January? We're not following that schedule, but are very pleased to announce that Melford's own seed swap will be back on **Saturday 24th February 10am to 12noon in the Village Hall**. This year we have more gardening groups than ever represented. These include the Nature Reserves Working Group, Melford in Bloom, the Biodiversity Group and the organisers of Open Gardens. Members of each group will be delighted to talk about their respective activities in the village and see whether you might be tempted to join any of them.

The seed swap is a lovely opportunity to catch up with fellow local gardeners or just come in for a cuppa and cake. Back by popular demand, we also have the gardening themed tombola, not to be missed! If you don't have any saved or spare seeds, please don't let that prevent you from coming; we have several hundred packets of seeds available and plenty more will arrive on the day. You're very welcome to help yourself to whatever you fancy from our huge selection and just make a small donation. We have an extensive choice of herb seeds, practically every type of vegetable seed you can think of, as well as an enormous range of ornamentals, including pink poppy



pepper pots, love-in-the-mist, larkspur, astrantia, lupins, yellow Welsh poppies and corncockles.

Gardening Tasks to Tackle Now

If you're ready to get cracking with the new season's gardening tasks, don't forget to start your aubergine and sweet/chilli pepper seeds off in the warmest conditions you can provide. The sooner you get your seedlings established, the greater the chance of the fruit ripening whilst we still have long hot days later this year. If you fancy some outdoor activity, spring mulching always pays dividends. If you can spread a thick layer of organic matter such as garden compost or leaf

mould around your shrubs, fruit trees and fruit bushes, it will help improve the soil structure, suppress weeds and lock in the winter/spring moisture before there is any risk of your plants becoming thirsty. Fruit will also benefit from a potash feed early in the season to help promote a good yield later this year.

Meanwhile, let's look forward to another wonderful display of spring bulbs, heralding another great year of colour and beauty in our lovely village.

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

Health Matters

Men's Shed's Doors Are Now Open

In November, the Stour Valley Men's Shed opened in its new permanent home in the old changing rooms at Melford Football Club. Members meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am to 2pm.

The Men's Shed movement began in Australia in the 1990s. There are now getting on for 2,000 Sheds worldwide and hundreds in the UK.

One of the main aims is to help tackle loneliness and mental health problems by providing a space where men can meet and build friendships. Women are welcome too.



Adrian Beckham, Secretary of our Men's Shed said, "It's a chance to get out and have tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat. We can also train people who want to learn carpentry or metalwork. We want to help the local community too, by doing free repairs to broken or damaged furniture or appliances and are looking for ideas for other ways to help."

Colin Muddimer, the Shed's Chairman said, "We've already done a lot of work, including knocking down walls, to make our new home habitable. But I'm afraid that we'll probably need a further £15,000 towards the cost of a new roof."

To contact the Shed call 07772 870052 or email stourvalleymensshed@gmail.com.

Liz Malvisi, Chair of Babergh District Council for 2023/24, said, "Stour Valley Men's Shed is my chosen charity for the year. There's a Burns Night fundraising supper at The Crown on 30th January, which I'm delighted to say is already fully booked.

Also, I'm having a Civic Service at Holy Trinity at 2.30pm on Sunday 3rd March – donations will be split between the Shed and the Church."



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Animal Health Matters

Old News is Misleading News About Our Vets

You may have seen an article in the Suffolk Free Press in November regarding our veterinary practice, Swayne and Partners, joining the Kin Veterinary Community. Understandably, there's been some concern over how this may affect Melford's veterinary services.




Simon wants to reassure everyone that he and the staff will be staying at the practice

But, and it's a BIG BUT, the owners of Swayne and Partners, including myself, made the decision to sell the business nearly three years ago. This followed a period of rapid growth and development of the practice. Consequently, it was becoming increasingly difficult to divide our time between being vets and running a business. A choice had to be made. We all thoroughly enjoy the clinical aspect of our work, so the decision was straightforward – we decided to offload the business.

Every member of staff has stayed at Long Melford to continue the work we love. I've been asked several times if the change means I'll be leaving, and the answer is a resounding NO. My colleagues and I will all be here, looking after the pets of the area in the same way that we always have.

Kin Veterinary Community is made up of four practice groups, all very much in the Swayne and Partners tradition. I'd very much like to take this opportunity to reassure our clients that we fully intend to keep our practice as the friendly, local service that it has always been.

Simon Culmstock, Clinical Director, Swayne and Partners




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Coming Soon – the New Cricket Season

The new season will start on 20th April. Winter nets will continue till the end of March on Sundays at Cornard Sports centre from 3.30pm to 5pm. In April, outdoor practice nights will start on Tuesday evenings at 6pm at our ground. As always, we're looking for new members, both players and non-players to enjoy the club's friendly atmosphere.

The academy is going from strength to strength. Hopefully, we'll be running four hard ball junior teams – two under 15s, an under 13s and an

under 11s – as well as Kwik Cricket for younger players. We're always looking for more young players; our training sessions are Thursday evenings from 6pm to 7.30pm

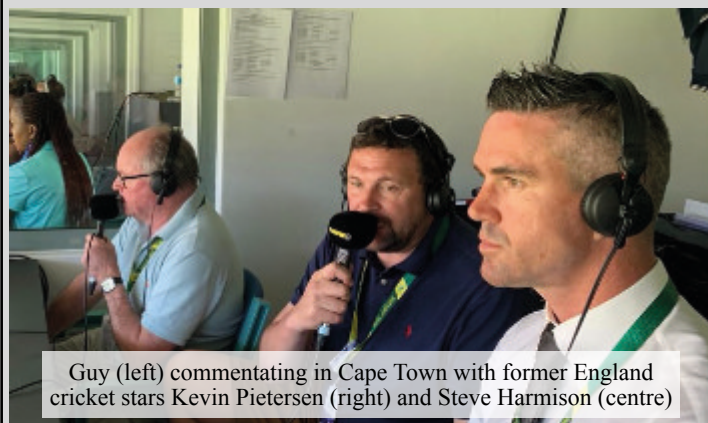
We're also looking into running an over 16s ladies' softball ball team. This will be run on a Thursday evening so that the parents of juniors can take part. We hope to start this in the spring; please keep an eye on our social media platforms for updates.



A View from the Microphone

We asked Melford resident and top sports commentator Guy Swindells to share some memorable career moments:

"I've been talking about sport on the radio for thirty years, and it still doesn't feel like a real job. I fell into it. I was working on the Independent Radio News financial desk when the sports editor shouted, 'Does anyone know about sport?' 'I do!' I found myself shouting back. Six months later I was at the Atlanta Olympics pretending I knew what I was doing.



Guy (left) commentating in Cape Town with former England cricket stars Kevin Pietersen (right) and Steve Harmison (centre)

It was much the same when I was being considered as a reporter for the Volvo Ocean Race. I was asked two questions; "Do you want to go round the world?" and "Do you know about sailing?" I only lied about one of them.

I've met some excellent people including my broadcasting hero Henry Blofeld. And Freddie Flintoff stands out. Once, when seeing Radio 5's Pat Murphy wearing a rather extreme Hawaiian shirt, Freddie greeted him with 'Afternoon Pat, see you sold the caravan and kept the curtains.'

It hasn't all gone swimmingly – while commentating at Wimbledon, Tim Henman told me to '..... SHUT UP!' (not those exact words) when I interrupted him serving for a match.

I was so proud of our country during the London Olympics. It was very special to be part of the Broadcasting Unit. If only I hadn't been asked to report on Greco-Roman Wrestling.

I even got to dance with Dame Kelly Holmes – it doesn't get much better than that."

A Welcome Present on Boxing Day

Languishing at the bottom of the League and games postponed because of poor weather have made this a miserable season for Melford's football team. But Boxing Day provided some much-needed cheer.

In front of a bumper crowd The Villagers held high flying Newmarket Town to a 2-2 draw. Some 43 points separated 'The Jockies' in second place and Melford second from bottom. But in the last minute of injury time the fans' favourite Hassan Ally got the equaliser. It wasn't a pretty game to watch but it was full of guts and determination.

Although it's been a challenging season, we can celebrate the commitment of our small band of volunteers who support us through thick and thin. Our thanks also to our sponsors. If you'd like to support The Villagers in some way, please give our Chair Geoff Thomas a call on 07724 131441.



Melford celebrating Hassan Ally's equaliser in the last minute of added time

Directory of Clubs and Societies

Group	Contact	Phone/email
Beading (Suffex Bead Club)	Victoria Power	07866 996124
Beaver Scouts	Carolyn Spraggons	carolyn.spraggons@suffolkscouts.org.uk
Chadbrook Guides	Rebecca Cox	chadbrookguides@gmail.com
Coffee & Cake @ St Catherine's	Margaret Taylor	01787 880875
Connect Toddler Group	Pam Tonks	07890 880976
Cricket Club	Ivan Newman	07944 893167
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	Nick Castell	help@suffolklibraries.co.uk
Good Neighbours' Scheme	Helen Eaton	07504 249179
Historical and Archaeological Society	Ian Sandham	07586 354414 Lmhas1969@outlook.com
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 Cub Scouts	David Lawrance	melford.cubs@suffolkscouts.org.uk
Long Melford Group Scout Leader	Stephen Spraggons	melfordgsl@aol.com
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 Scout Group Waiting List	Carolyn Spraggons	carolyn.spraggons@suffolkscouts.org.uk
Long Melford Squirrel Scouts	Lynda Badger	lyncarvell@hotmail.com
Long Melford Walking Group	Mike Turner	07733 102229
Long Melford Poppies (Women's Institute)	Valerie Butler	valeriejbutler@btinternet.com
Melford Music	John Watts	01787 310373
Neighbourhood Watch	Stuart Finch	07967 472488
Over Sixties Club	Mrs Albon & Mrs Woodgate	371413/376711
Old School bookings	Rosey Eade	schoolbooking1860@gmail.com
Parish Recorder	Geoff Randall	Melfordparishrecorder@hotmail.com 07519 626842
Project Seven	Andrew Hagger	07980 526067
Royal British Legion	John Nunn	nunnjohn@btinternet.com
Scout & Guide HQ bookings	Vicki Ramdhanie	lmsglettings@gmail.com
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 MelfordMattersAdvertising@gmail.com.
Amendments must be received by **1st March** to be included in Issue 19 – April/May.

Quiz Answers

- | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------|----------|
| 1. Robert Burns | 5. Copper | 9. Venus |
| 2. Meg Ryan | 6. Ghosts | 10. 40 |
| 3. (Lord Horatio) Nelson | 7. Haiti | |
| 4. Ravel | 8. Wilma | |

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