
The Melling Leaflet

JULY 2025



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Melling Residents Community Association

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Activities include:

Pensioners Tuesday Club

Thursday Bingo Night

Tai Chi (Beginners & Advanced)

Saturday Morning.

Social Events as Advertised

All Sky & BT Sports televised on Big Screens



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Editors Notes

To all Melling villagers who love to read the Melling leaflet.

As a Parish Council, we are taking over the preparation and printing of the leaflet, due to Barbara and her team retiring from producing this great magazine.

We would like to say a big thank you to you all for creating such an informative and thought-provoking leaflet. We hope to do it justice and still provide a range of interesting topics and articles.

If anyone would like to send in any tales, poems and articles to us for publishing, we would love to see them and would be grateful for the support.

Here is to the future 'Melling Leaflet'!

Kind regards

Sue Ledgerton, Chairman

Holy Rosary Services

Since the retirement of Fr. Des, services that were held at St. Mary's Aughton, will now be held at Holy Rosary Church, Altway, Old Roan, Aintree. L10 2LG, by Msgr. Philip Inch.

Service Times

Saturday 6pm

Sunday 10.30am



NEIGHBOURHOOD POETS

All the puddings were having a sports day
Ice creams were doing the three legged race.
Semolina balanced the egg on the spoon
and the trifle fell flat on his face.
The man with the gun was new to his job
he was anxious – beginning to fret
“Quick – tell me how I start the Jelly Race”
The crowd shouted
“You just say – Get Set”

Pam Quigley

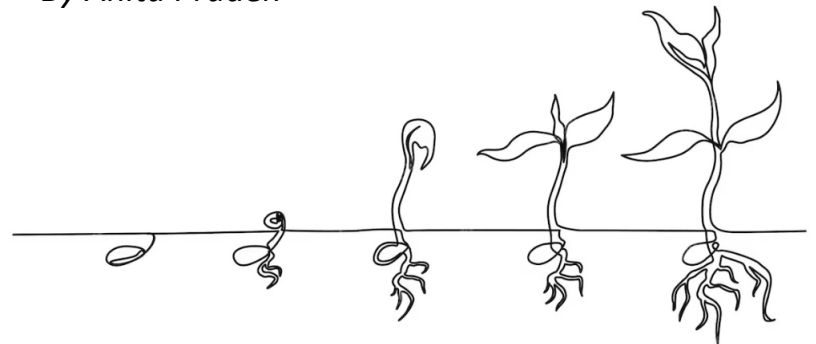
Published with kind permission from Pam’s brother.



New Beginnings

New life stirs beneath the earth
Restless to begin its rebirth
Sighing and swaying its hood unfurls
Pushing upwards with such urge
Stopping it waits then with a surge
Saluting green fingers tentatively emerge
The sun shines down to bless the earth
Looks in awe towards the rebirth
Watches and beams as the hood unfurls
Seeing it grow with such an urge
Sends down heat to make it surge
Into the plant that now will emerge

By Anita Pruden



A word from a Local Playwright

Steve Bird, Local Writer

Steve Bird is a local writer, born in Kirkdale, raised in Kirkby and has been a Melling resident for over thirty years. We asked him how he started his new found career after he retired from the automotive industry.

I had always been interested in writing song lyrics and poetry since I was a young man. So, there was an underlying wordsmith somewhere in me trying to get out. When I retired in my late fifties, I began getting involved with local writing groups. One of which, “Writing on the Wall” from Liverpool 8, took me on a six-week writers-course at Liverpool central library. Bird is a local writer, born in Kirkdale, raised in Kirkby and has been a Melling resident for over thirty years.

We asked him how he started his new found career in poetry and writing for stage and film. This course gave me a better understanding of the technical aspects of writing and gave me the confidence to take my work further. It also changed my direction and I became interested in writing for the stage. Over the years, I sent out many scripts to many theatre groups, and eventually a London/Manchester based theatre group called “Kimbo Theatre” chose a short play of mine called “Jilted Jenny” for a night of ghostly tales based over two nights in the Baltic Market.

Following on after that, I had joined a writers group called “Make It Write” based in Liverpool, and after a six-week training course, produced a night of short plays called “Twisted Tales” at the Hope Street Theatre, in which my second play “Something Blue” was produced. In the mean time I continued to work with a lady called Bryony Thomas from Kimbo theatre, who helped me to produce a set of four of my short plays in a show called “Second Glances.”

This successful run of six plays in one year kick started my new found career as a writer.

I was sixty- five when I got my first show produced, and since then I have written over thirty plays and have had over Fifty productions in many theatres including Hope Street, Valley community, The Casa, Story house Chester, Leverhulme and the Birkenhead little theatre.

I have won best short play awards at the Liverpool fringe for “Dancing with Catherine” and “Keeping Faith.” Also, the Derek Jacobi UK National Writers Award Runner-up for “These Dark Hearts.” We have also won many best actor and director awards.

In 2022 I wrote and produced a play called “Mothers Ruin” based on the true-life story of Gary Skyner, a Liverpool comedian and one of the worlds first Thalidomide victims. This play won best drama at the Liverpool fringe.

Last year I collaborated with my writer friend Paul Daley, and we wrote and produced a show about Everton’s move from Goodison Park to Bramley Moore called “On the banks of the royal blue Mersey.” This has been shown ten times last year and this year in Liverpool and Birkenhead, and we are still getting requests to show it again ... watch this space!

The greatest part of this journey has been meeting the very talented people we have on Merseyside, from writers, actors, directors to the back-room team, many of them whom have become good friends. So, if I can give any advice to anyone interested in pursuing an interest in the theatre, is just don’t hold back, go for it. If I can do it at sixty-five, anyone can do it.

If you have the desire, and the will to do it, like any career or interest, go for it.

My plans for this year, maybe another run out for our Everton show, and a follow up to it, and I am currently preparing for another run of “Mothers Ruin” later in the year. If you want to know more you can follow me on Facebook.

What's On

Afternoon Teas at the Tithebarn

Every Thursday, 12 til 2pm.

Tea, coffee, sandwiches and cakes.

All welcome.

No charge but donations welcome.

In Year 7 or above? Bored???

Want to make new friends??

Melling Youth Club

Every Wednesday 6.30 – 8.30pm at Caunce Hall
(on Waddicar Lane)

Follow us on Facebook Melling-Youth-Group

Scouts on Friday

Melling Scouts Hall

Cubs 6.30 – 8pm

Scouts and Explorers 8pm – 10pm

Pensioners Club

Every Tuesday afternoon
at the Ratepayers (MRCA)

St Thomas's parish look forward
to welcoming you to our annual

Summer Fayre

Saturday June 28th

1pm – 4pm

at

Melling's Tithebarn

Stalls

Raffles

Cake Sale

Entertainment

Traditional Morris Dancing performance

And the bar will be open!

For service times and queries for St. Thomas Church
please contact Barbara Nickson on 01515473565
or email: barbaraharold57@gmail.com

Melling Parish Council currently has vacancies for new Parish Councillors. If you are interested in doing something positive for your community and would like to apply for one of these positions please register your interest with the clerk by email to: clerk@mellingparishcouncil.uk

MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF MELLING PARISH COUNCIL

HELD ON 13th MAY 2025 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING

Present: Cllrs: Ledgerton (in the chair), Ashburner, Fuller, Harrison, Rogers and Todd.

3344: Election of Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ledgerton be elected as Chairman.

3345: Election of Deputy Chairman

RESOLVED that Cllr Ashburner be elected as Deputy Chairman.

3346: Apologies for absence

Cllr Baker.

3347: Declarations of interest - Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Melling Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.
None.

3348: Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th March 2025

RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 11th March 2025 be approved as a correct record.

3349: Public participation

None.

3350: Annual Governance and Accountability Returns 2024/25

RESOLVED that:

1. The Annual Internal Audit Report 2024/25 be received;
2. Section 1 - The Annual Governance Statement 2024/25 be approved; and
3. Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2024/25 be approved.

3351: Appointment of Internal Auditor

RESOLVED that Batten Hughes be appointed as internal auditor to complete the Annual Internal Audit Report for the financial years 2025/26 and that their fee of £144 for the year be approved.

3352: Grant application.

RESOLVED that the grant application received from Melling in Bloom in the sum of £600 for the maintenance of the village green be approved.

3353: Lease of playing field.

RESOLVED that the ongoing lease of the playing field on Wheeler Drive be approved at a cost of £5.00 per year.

3354: Storage and correspondence address at the Alt Centre, Hightown.

RESOLVED that the annual cost of storage and provision of a correspondence address at the Alt Centre, Hightown be approved in the sum of £450.00.

3355: Christmas 2025.

RESOLVED that a budget of up to £1,100 exclusive of VAT for the provision of Christmas gifts for children attending Melling Primary School, Melling nursery, the Scout groups and also for the pensioners attending the Pensioners Club at the Ratepayers be approved.

3356: Location of noticeboards.

RESOLVED that:

1. The quote of £595.00 for the relocation of the boards be approved;
2. The relocation of the noticeboard currently at the former GP surgery to the village green be approved; and
3. The noticeboard currently on Prescott Road will be stored until a suitable alternative can be identified and approved.

3357: Long service award.

RESOLVED that:

1. With the addition of the words 'Long service award' at the bottom, the design of the award be approved; and
2. The cost of the plaque in the sum of £23.95 inc vat be approved.

3358: Appointment of representatives

RESOLVED that:

1. No representatives be appointed to LALC as membership was cancelled last year;
2. No representatives be appointed to MALC;
3. Cllr Fuller be appointed as representative to South Sefton Communities Alliance.

3359: Working groups

RESOLVED that all Cllrs be appointed to the Melling Leaflet working group.

3360: Litter picks.

Members were advised that the Cllr Fuller had booked onto a first aid course at a cost of £207.60 and that the current insurance allowed for groups of up to 20 participants.

3361: Melling Leaflet.

RESOLVED that a budget of up to £400 be set to purchase a laptop to assist with the production of the leaflet.

3362: Planning Applications

RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.

3363: Reports of meetings

None.

3364: Correspondence

The clerk reported on an invitation received from the 234 Squadron to their annual presentation event which Cllr Todd is attending and a response from Sefton to advise that they will look into whether they can assist with information about providing nature walks in the area.

3365: Accounts paid and for payment

RESOLVED that the amounts listed on the schedule be paid.

J Farrar – Clerk to the Council

★ Local Information

Melling In Bloom rely on volunteers, they give away their spare time to make our village a nicer place but sometimes there's not enough people power on the ground to do even the watering tasks! Never mind the hard work!!

Could you give a little of your time to help keep Melling Blooming? Perhaps to water a flower planter near you or to get the kids involved with the planting when it is time? If time is thin and you'd still like to support, you can show your thanks and make contributions here:

Melling In Bloom

Sort Code: 20-10-84

Acc Number 03831701

We really are grateful for all their efforts!

The old building of St Kentigans on Waddicar Lane is now **Melling Community Church** aka **The Hub**. They have various activities on through the week including Sunday service. All are welcome.

- **Monday** – Melling Community Gospel Choir practice at 7.30pm
- **Tuesday** – Hobby Hut at 10am
- **1st Tuesday in the month** – Communion and Prayer Meeting at 7.30pm
- **Wednesday** – Toast Wednesday 10am (collection for the food bank). Mini Makers at 6.30pm
- **3rd Thursday of every month** is 'Shoot' photography club 7.15pm
- **Sunday worship** – quiet reflective service at 9.30am. Informal service with coffee, chat, music and thought for the day at 10.30am

To find out more information please to their website at www.mbch.co.uk

The local **Tithebarn** is available to hire for parties and events. All enquiries to the Tithebarn Committee at mellingtithebarn@outlook.com

There are weekly classes at the Tithebarn.

Dance is on Wednesdays at 7pm to 8pm and

Jilly's Yoga is on Thursdays from 6.45pm to 8.15pm.

Monthly Bingo at the **Ratepayers (MRCA)** by Janet Paul. All proceeds go to charity and community funds. (Thanks Janet for all your efforts in the community).

Prize Bingo for £10 all in 12pm – 3pm

Everyone welcome for bingo, raffle, tea, coffee and cake

The dates are:

Friday 27th of June

Friday 25th of July

Friday 29th of August

Friday 26th of September

Friday 31st of October

Friday 21st of November (Christmas Special)

Melling Ratepayers is available to hire for private functions.

All Sky and BT sports televised on big screens.

Social events as advertised.

To find out more contact them on 0151 5463676

They also have a weekly bingo on Thursday nights at 8pm and Tai Chi every Saturday 11.30am – 12.30pm.

If you would like to advertise or contribute with feelgood material to the **Melling Leaflet**, then please email us: leaflet@mellingparishcouncil.uk

POP QUIZ

1. What is the name of the Beatles first album?
2. Who is the lead singer of the band Oasis?
3. What band released the hit song Bohemian Rhapsody
4. What is the highest selling single of all time in the UK?
5. Name the song that was UB40's first number 1 hit which was written by Neil Diamond?
6. Which was the first single to sell over 2 million copies in the UK?
7. What was the first hit single for British band Roxy Music?
8. Which British artist sang backing vocals on Carly Simon's hit record, You're So Vain?
9. What is the real name of Sting from The Police?
10. Which city were the Gibb brothers, of Bee Gees fame, born?

Answers on page 16.

Is That A Fact?

The place name 'Melling' originates from Anglo Saxon times and is derived from the name Maella. Maella refers to a family who settled close to the area in the 6th century. The surrounding settlers were known as Mellingas, followers of the Maella family.

During the English civil war, a minor battle took place on Melling land! The evidence of cannonball fire can be seen on the old building of Melling House. There are also remains in the grounds of a defensive wall... and so the legend goes, Oliver Cromwell was said to have been part of it!

In the 1870's a pottery factory was opened in Melling. They produced jugs, mugs, muff warmers, whiskey jars and many more items. This is the reason for the names of the roads on the Bellway estate! Clay Drive and Artisan Place for example.

Did you know there is a history book *Melling Through The Ages* by local resident Carol Fitzgerald? Copies are ordered in batches of ten. If you would like one please email: Cal_Fitz45@protonmail

If your special day is in this quarter... Happy Birthday to you!

July's main birthstone is Ruby and it's birth flowers are Delphinium and Water Lily. August's main birthstone is Peridot and it's birth flowers are Gladiolis and Poppy. September's main birthstone is Sapphire and it's main birthflowers are the Astor and Morning Glory.

Simple recipes taken from a leaflet created by the people of Melling.

Main Course Recipe - Cranks Nut Roast

1 chopped onion fried in oil or butter

8ozs nuts, ground quite finely

(Cashews, Hazelnuts, Brazils etc, any combination works)

4 ozs fresh wholemeal breadcrumbs

½ pint of hot veg stock with 1 teaspoon of yeast extract

1 teaspoon of dried mixed herbs

Salt and Pepper

Mix everything together – it will be quite slack and moist.

Turn into a greased dish and bake for 30 minutes.

180 degrees gas mark 4

Serve hot with vegetables or cold with salads

Serves 4

Sweet Recipe - Luscious Lemon Cake

CAKE

4ozs soft margarine, 6ozs Caster sugar

6ozs of self raising flour, 4 tablespoons of milk

2 large eggs, grated rind of 1 lemon

SYRUP

3 round tablespoons of icing sugar

and 3 tablespoons of fresh lemon juice

Grease and line a 2lb loaf tin. Set oven to gas mark 4. Cream fat and sugar, add eggs, sifted flour, finely grated lemon rind and milk. Mix well to a soft dropping consistency. Put tin in, smooth top and bake for 40-45 minutes until firm. Mix sifted icing sugar with lemon juice and pour over cake as soon as it comes out of the oven. Leave in tin until cold. Serve and enjoy with a nice cup of tea or coffee!

'Charlotte Pagsy' by local resident Alan Unsworth

(Alan is a published author and you can find his books on Amazon)

Back in the middle ages	Victims of a feudal war
In times of dragons and pagans	Charlotte was left heartbroken
Lived peasants witches and wizards	Each day was filled with tears
Ghosts and shapeshifting shamens	She walked the glen with Rusty
Not far from Cherchebi village	In sadness for many years
Lived a beautiful peasant girl	One day a young soldier appeared
Her name was Charlotte Pagsy	Begged to sleep on the floor
T'was a dark and mysterious world	To rest up his broken body
She lived by Melinge rock	Before he was called back to war
By the side of a flowing brook	He went by the name of Alwyn
On the hill there was a pear tree	Charlotte nursed him till he was well
Not far from the Baro' nook	Something blossomed between them
Charlotte was etched with beauty	From sadness to love she fell
Fair locks that glowed in the dark	Love and joy had came her way
She sang like a guardian angel	After many a year she'd cried
With a voice like a crested Lark	Walking the meadow hand in hand
She trekked through the woods	With Rusty by their side
to Magele	Two soldiers appeared in the distance
Picked seeds nuts and fruit	The Captain then revealed
With Rusty her faithful dog	We've come to take you back they said
She sang love songs on her Lute	To the battle field
In the distance she could see her cabin	Charlotte was fraught with worry
It was a tragedy that she saw	She begged him not to leave
Her family lay strewn around	He had no choice, he had to go

And told Charlotte not to grieve	The snow was piled up two foot deep
She put her locket in his hand	Charlotte trudged towards the brook
They kissed and said their goodbyes	Through the darkness there was sorrow
He swore that he'd return one day	In every breath she took
He wiped the tears from her eyes	No one knows what happened next
Summer turned to winter	But she was never seen again
Still no news from the war	They searched for her everywhere
Snow was thick upon the ground	Down every country layne
Then she heard a knock on the door	They searched the Brook
Rusty barked and Charlotte jumped	and the Wood
The door was opened wide	Rusty fretted away
Standing there was the Captain	Not a sign of Charlotte Pagsy
With the locket held by his side	To this very day
I've got sad news the Captain spoke	Many a year has passed
Charlotte sunk to her knees	And many a century gone
He handed her the locket and said	The tale of Charlotte Pagsy
Alwyn died on the battle field	And the mystery that lives on and on
Devastation filled the air	On the road to Melinge
The snow was tumbling down	On the Cherchebi road
The Captain made his leave	Even the summers nights there
Charlotte crouched upon the ground	Can get eerily cold
The room was rich with emotion	You might hear her singing
She pulled herself up from the floor	Or the sound of a crested Lark
Threw on a shawl that was	Charlotte Pagsy playing her Lute
hanging there	In the evenings after dark.
Ran outside and slammed the door	

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M: 0774 531 6034



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Answers for the quiz:

- (1) A Hard Days Night (2) Liam Gallagher (3) Queen
(4) Candle In The Wind by Elton John (5) Red Red Wine (6) Mull Of Kintyre
(7) Virginia Plain (8) Mick Jagger (9) Gordon Summer (10) Isle Of Man

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Melling Tithebarn

Melling Tithebarn Committee are looking for
new members to join them.

If you would like to make a difference to the Community, are
interested in volunteering at events and have some good ideas
for events, to find out when the next meeting is, please contact
them on:

mellingtithebarn@outlook.com

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