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# *The Melling Leaflet*

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***SPRING 2026***



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## Melling Residents Community Association

69 Waddicar Lane, Melling L31 1DQ

**0151 546 3876**

**Activities include:**

**Pensioners Tuesday Club**

**Thursday Bingo Night**

**Tai Chi (Beginners & Advanced)**

**Saturday Morning.**

**Social Events as Advertised**

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## Editors Notes

Dear Readers,

Spring is on its way and we are seeing daffodils, primroses, crocuses and snowdrops in and around Melling as we enjoy the walks in our lovely area.

2026 finds Melling Parish Council producing the Melling Leaflet Magazine for the 2nd year, this is free for residents to pick up at various shops, pubs and businesses in the village.

Any residents wanting to send any stories, articles, poems etc should Email to: [leaflet@mellingparishcouncil.co.uk](mailto:leaflet@mellingparishcouncil.co.uk).

Melling continues to be very busy with traffic passing through constantly often at high speeds, which we will monitor. Also litter is becoming a problem in Melling with country lanes and the canal path becoming littered with people's rubbish.

Anyone walking or driving should take there rubbish home with them, so we can all enjoy litter free green spaces and enjoy the countryside.

Kind regards, Sue Ledgerton - Chairman of Melling Parish Council

## 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

## Retirement of Pat Clatworthy

We would like to say a big thank you to Pat Clatworthy who has retired from the Melling Parish Council after over 30 years service.

Pat was presented with flowers and a gift by present councillors Sue Ledgerton and Linda Ashburner at the pensioners party in the ratepayers club at Christmas.

Pat has contributed to the village of Melling with her support and ideas over the years and she will be missed by her colleagues.

We wish Pat a relaxing retirement and good health and hope she continues to enjoy the company of her friends at the pensioners club.

## SPORT QUIZ

1. Where did the first modern Summer Olympic games take place in 1896?
2. How many Premier League titles did Manchester United win under Sir Alex Ferguson?
3. Which boxer did Muhammad Ali fight in 'The Rumble in the Jungle'?
4. What is the name of the only racehorse to win the Grand National 3 times?
5. Which football club has stands named after Graham Taylor and Sir Elton John?
6. Which nation won the 2019 Rugby World Cup?
7. Andy Murray's first Grand Slam title was at which tennis tournament?
8. What country is Roger Federer from?
9. In darts, what is the highest score from a single dart?
10. Which football team's victory in a Champions League final is known as the 'Miracle of Istanbul'?
11. Which sport takes place in a velodrome?
12. Which Formula One team did Lewis Hamilton compete for from 2007 to 2012?
13. In karate, what colour belt comes right before black?
14. What is the national sport of Japan?
15. How many days does Wimbledon traditionally last?

## Message from Melling In Bloom

*Happy Easter to all Melling Residents.*

How beautiful are the beds and planters around our village - probably the loveliest show of spring flowers in years. This is thanks to the work and ongoing care by our volunteers. However, we do need more residents to join us please, as we consist mainly of people who have fulltime jobs, as well as a few much older founder members from when we first set up as Melling in Bloom over sixteen years ago. We older members will in time need to hand over to our younger folk.

Most of our volunteers keep the same role year after year, but when they are on holiday and unavailable to carry out our spring and autumn planting, many more hands are needed to do the "background" work, e.g. transporting compost, preparing planters, watering, weeding and being able to generally help out.

When members are working around the village, we receive many compliments - but their helping hands would be just as well received. Lots of you must enjoy looking after your own gardens – gardening can be very therapeutic.

We're sure that all residents want Melling in Bloom to continue, but we really do need more help to do so ... perhaps from anyone newly retired?

If you can help, please let us know.

Phone: 07710 073 627

or Email: mellinginbloom@outlook.com

*Thank you,  
Melling in Bloom Committee.*





### The latest play from Melling writer Steve Bird, *Grafton Nights*.

Following on from Local writer Steve Bird's award winning sell out show "Mothers Ruin" at Liverpool's iconic Epstein theatre this month, he has teamed up again with his writing partner Paul Daley from "On the banks of the royal blue Mersey" to open the doors of another iconic building, the Grafton ballroom, for a brand new comedy "Grafton Nights".

*Grafton Nights* is an hilarious celebration of Liverpool's legendary nightclub. We follow Kaz, Debbie and Maxine as The Grafton opens its doors for a one night only reunion, with hilarious effect. Come along, see some colourful characters, listen to some pop classics, grab a drink, and maybe even grab a granny.

**The show runs for three nights August 6th to August 8th.**

**Tickets now on sale at Box Office**

**[www.epsteintheatre.com](http://www.epsteintheatre.com) | Tel: 03447360151**

If you loved the Grafton, you'll love this show, if you didn't go, come and see what you were missing.

## 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)

**MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF**  
**MELLING PARISH COUNCIL**

**HELD ON 10<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2026 AT MELLING PRIMARY SCHOOL, WHEELER DRIVE, MELLING**

**Present:** Cllrs: Todd (in the chair), Baker, Lockett and Rogers.

- 3441:** **Apologies for absence.**  
Cllrs Ashburner, Ledgerton and Harrison.
- 3442:** **Minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026.**  
RESOLVED that the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2026 be approved as a correct record.
- 3443:** **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.
- 3444:** **Public participation.**  
A resident attended to express an interest in the advertised vacancies.  
A representative from Smoke Free Sefton attended to provide information about support for smokers within the Sefton area.
- 3445:** **Casual vacancies.**  
The resignation of Kate Fuller was noted.  
RESOLVED that the casual vacancies be noted.
- 3446:** **Bus services.**  
It was noted that a date is now awaited for a meeting with Liverpool City Region about the 345 bus service.
- 3447:** **Community event.**  
RESOLVED that the MRCA would be contacted to try to agree a date for a community event in July 2026.
- 3448:** **Melling leaflet.**  
RESOLVED to revise the publication schedule for the leaflet to three editions each year in April, August and December.
- 3449:** **Reports of meetings.**  
None.

- 3450:** **Correspondence.**  
The clerk reported on correspondence from the Tithebarn Committee confirming that they did not wish to pursue a grant application to fund a defibrillator at the Tithebarn at the present time.  
The clerk reported on a thank you card received from the children attending Melling Youth Club.  
A resident noted that there were issues arising with a long line of parked cars on Tithebarn Road that is difficult to pass and was advised to contact the Ward Councillors.  
A resident has advised that they have been chasing Sefton about litter picks and this has resulted in some areas being cleared.
- 3451:** **Planning Applications.**  
RESOLVED that the applications in the schedule circulated be noted.
- 3452:** **Laptops.**  
It was noted that laptops to be used solely for Parish Council business would be desirable for the purposes of data protection and complying with new audit requirements.
- 3453:** **Banking services.**  
This item was deferred to the next meeting to consider options for payment cards.
- 3454:** **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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:leaflet@mellingparishcouncil.uk)

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

*Caribbean Cream Trifle*

Chocolate Sponge or Swiss Roll  
Raisins  
Bananas  
Rum  
Orange Juice  
Walnuts  
Custard  
Cream (Double)  
Dessicated Coconut  
Coffee

Soak raisins in Rum overnight.  
Chocolate sponge base, add raisins, walnuts (chopped), orange juice.  
Then a layer of sliced banana & dessicated coconut.  
Make custard, add 1 teaspoon of coffee dissolved in 1 tablespoon of hot water.  
Whipped cream on top.  
Decorate top with banana, coconut or chocolate.

*Chocolate Biscuit Cake*

MELT TOGETHER  
6 ozs Cooking Chocolate  
4 ozs Butter  
1 tin Condensed Milk

MIX WELL WITH  
10 ozs Rich tea biscuits, crushed  
1 oz Raisins  
2 ozs Walnut pieces

Pack into a foil lined tin and chill (or freeze).  
When ready to serve, defrost if necessary and cover with a further 6 ozs of melted chocolate and decorate with walnut halves.

*Almond Slices*

PASTRY  
4 ozs S.R. Flour  
2 ozs Margarine  
Pinch of Salt  
1 Egg Yolk  
Enough Water to bind

Mix all ingredients and roll out to fit tin approx 11" X 7"  
Spread with Raspberry Jam

TOPPING  
4 ozs Castor Sugar  
4 ozs Icing Sugar  
4 ozs Ground Almonds  
2 oz pkt Semolina  
Whole Egg & Egg White  
Few Drops Almond Essence

Mix ingredients together and spread over pastry and jam.  
Sprinkle flaked almonds over top.  
Bake middle oven Gas Mark 5, 350°F for 25-30 mins until lightly browned and firm to touch.  
Remove from oven and cut into about 12 to 14 slices. Leave to cool.

*Tiffin*

½ lb Rich tea biscuits  
4 ozs Margarine (block)  
2 tblsp syrup  
1 tsp Cocoa

Melt margarine and syrup in a pan.  
Crush biscuits and sprinkle on the cocoa powder.  
Add this to the melted margarine and syrup — then stir well.  
Press the mixture into a greased, flat tin and cover with melted chocolate.  
Cut into squares when cool.

This has become known as Confirmation Cake in our household because of its popularity with the young candidates.

*Welsh Cakes*

1 lb S.R. Flour  
8 ozs Margarine  
4 ozs Sugar  
4 ozs Currants  
3 Eggs  
Milk to mix

Rub margarine into flour. Stir in sugar and currants. Beat eggs and add them to the mixture with enough milk to make a stiff dough. Knead lightly on a floured surface, then roll out to ¼ inch thick, and with a 2 inch cutter cut out rounds. Heat griddle or heavy frying pan. Place cakes a little apart and cook for about 5 minutes until evenly browned. 2½ minutes on each side.

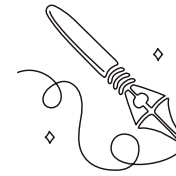
*Carrot & Leek Soup*

1 med. onion  
8 oz prepared carrots  
(sliced — not too thick)  
12 oz prepared leeks  
(1" slices)  
1½ pints vegetable stock  
(made with 2 vegetable stock cubes)  
1 oz porridge oats  
1 tblsp cream or plain yoghurt (if desired)

1. Saute onion in tblsp of vegetable oil  
2. Add carrots, leeks & stock — bring to the boil and allow to simmer  
3. When vegetables tender add seasoning to taste  
(I like black pepper)  
4. Add the oats and cook for a further 3-4 minutes

At this stage the soup can either be liquidised or left chunky.  
Stir in cream (if using) and heat for one minute.

This is a quick, thick nourishing soup to which you can add more stock if you wish. Sometimes I use several types of vegetables e.g. carrots, swede, onion, leek, cabbage, mushrooms, potato, broccoli, cauliflower, cutting them to size dependent upon their speed of cooking, and using the same method.  
Serve with crusty bread, this can be a main meal.



## POETRY

### Slow Down

Is it strange to long for slow days  
filled with quiet moments of joy.  
The world seems to be in a rush  
but I choose to remain still.

a.b

### Freedom by Oscar Wilde

With freedom there are  
Books and flowers;  
And the moon,  
Who could not be happy?

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### ANSWERS FOR THE SPORTS QUIZ

1. Athens, Greece.
2. 13
3. George Foreman.
4. Red Rum, he won in 1973, 1974 and 1977.
5. Watford FC.
6. South Africa.
7. U.S. Open.
8. Switzerland.
9. 60.
10. Liverpool FC.
11. Cycling.
12. McLaren.
13. Brown.
14. Sumo wrestling.
15. 14.

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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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## SPACE TO LET

## **Advice Service Survey 2026**

Melling Parish Council has the opportunity to offer the services set out in the table below to Melling residents by making a contribution towards the cost of the existing advice centre in Maghull to enable it to extend its service provision to Melling Residents. The services provided at the advice centre are set out in the table below:

| <b>Service Provider</b>        | <b>What's on offer?</b>                                                                  | <b>How often is it available?</b>    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <i>Sefton Citizen's Advice</i> | Face to face appointment service                                                         | Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday      |
| <i>Bell, Lamb and Joynton</i>  | Family law advice                                                                        | First Monday afternoon of each month |
| <i>National Energy Action</i>  | Advice regarding fuel efficiency and utility savings                                     | Every other Tuesday afternoon only   |
| <i>Halifax</i>                 | Community banker focussing on enabling residents to become familiar with digital banking | Every Monday                         |
| <i>Financial advisor</i>       | Gives information on a range of financial services including pensions and mortgages      | Once a month                         |
| <i>Sefton CVS</i>              | Outreach service for those who are socially excluded                                     | Twice a month                        |
| <i>Living Well Sefton</i>      | Bereavement assistance                                                                   | Twice a month                        |

We would appreciate it if you could take the time to answer the following questions for us:

- 1. Bearing in mind that accessing these services will require you to travel to Maghull do you think you would use it? YES / NO**
- 2. The cost of the service will be a total of £2,500 per year which is approximately £1.60 per household per year. Do you think that this represents good value for money for Melling residents? YES / NO**
- 3. Please provide your postcode and confirm that you are a Melling resident: .....**

*You can complete your survey online at the following link:*

<https://forms.gle/ghALRTcKu8XPC8uf7>

*OR return your completed survey to Melling Parish Council by*

*Emailing it to: [clerk@mellingparishcouncil.uk](mailto:clerk@mellingparishcouncil.uk)*

*Posting it to: 23 Lower Alt Road, Hightown, L38 0BA*

*Or sending a photograph by WhatsApp or text to 07421 354877*

**\*\*\*The closing date for this survey is 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026\*\*\***