

Meldreth Local History Group

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Welcome to the latest issue of our newsletter which includes news of what's been happening, our next event and recent additions to our website.

Recent Events and Developments

At our coffee morning in October 2018, Joan Gane presented a short slideshow of photographs illustrating some of the many changes the village has seen over the years. This prompted plenty of interesting comments and memories shared by members of the audience. Our website has a recently-added page, which shows these and other photographs: [Meldreth Then and Now](#).

At the [Holy Trinity Church](#) Christmas Tree Festival in early December, Meldreth Local History Group contributed a tree (pictured right) on the theme of remembrance. The tree recorded the sacrifice of the men from Meldreth who lost their lives in both World Wars. The Group's tree, decorated with hand-made poppies, drew many favourable comments and a photograph of it featured in the *Royston Crow's* article about the Festival.

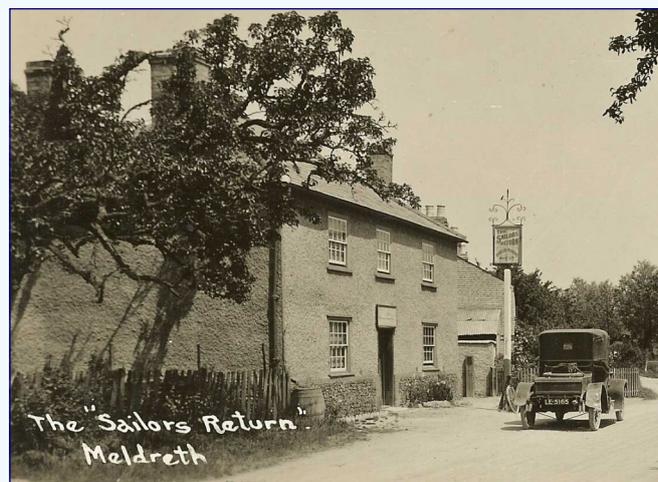
Meldreth Local History Group is always delighted to welcome new members and we're pleased to record that several people have joined us in recent months. David Marsh has already added a page to our website of June Turner's recollections of her childhood in the village: [My Memories of Growing Up in Meldreth](#) and Alan Williams has published a page on [Temple House](#) in the High Street, together with several pages on how Meldreth's historic buildings have evolved over the centuries: see [Building Evolution and Layout](#).♦



What's Coming Up Next

Do you know how many pubs and alehouses Meldreth once had and where they used to be? Come with us on a tour of the village's former hostelries at our next **Coffee Morning on Monday 1st April 2019, 10.00am to midday, Sheltered Housing Community Room, Elin Way, Meldreth**. The Coffee Morning will be combined with a brief AGM. All are welcome and refreshments will be served.

Besides its twice-monthly meetings, Meldreth Local History Group has a programme of visits to places of interest. These are open to regular attendees of our fortnightly meetings. In the recent past these have included trips to Elton Hall, the Manor House at Hemingford Grey and to the London Docklands Museum. We've also enjoyed guided walks around Legal London and the East End. In May some members will be going on a tour of the British Library.♦



During National Mills Weekend, 11th and 12th May 2019, Ralph and Kathryn Betts have kindly offered to open [Topcliffe Mill](#) (pictured) once more to raise funds for the Group. The money raised will be put towards an upgrade of our website. The site was designed a number of years ago and is now in need of updating to add new features and an improved design. Inevitably, this comes with a significant cost and, in addition to our own fund-raising, we are exploring what grants may be available.



[Project Waterlight](#), which focuses on the River Mel and was the subject of our Coffee Morning a year ago, continues to make good progress. Following the successful launch of its website in October last year, work on a film about the river continues and is scheduled for completion this summer. Watch out for further details in Meldreth Matters or on the Project Waterlight website.

Later in the year we hope to have a table at the Local and Family History Fair with takes place from 4th - 9th November at the Cambridge Central Library. ♦

Website Update

Our website has now grown to 629 pages, with a further 15 pages in draft form.

As well as the pages added by our newer members (see above), recent additions include a major new section on the River Mel produced by Bruce Huett and pages on the [Adcock](#), [Gray](#) and [Holder](#) families by Kathryn Betts, Helen Segura and Tony-Lynne Martin. Work on the Topcliffe Manorial Court Rolls has also continued - see [Lords, Leets and Barons](#), by John Crawforth.

One of the projects that members of MLHG are working on at present is the history of Meldreth Guides and Brownies. If anyone has any photographs or memories they would be willing to share please email Gloria Willers at gloria.willers@gmail.com. ♦

Follow us on Facebook!



Please don't forget that you can now find us on [Facebook](#), where we have over 300 followers. The Facebook page has been set up to complement our [website](#) and our [CCAN site](#). Each week this year we will be highlighting a different page on our website to show the range of topics that we cover. Some recent examples include: [Ken Winter's memories of growing up in Meldreth in the 1940s and 1950s](#); the [1908 fire](#); the [108 bus](#); [Allerton Terrace](#), [Hubert Ellis](#) and [Meldreth's first car](#). ♦

Group Merchandise

A range of merchandise is available and funds raised will go to supporting the continued work of the Group on behalf of the village. We have a booklet detailing five, circular walks around the village which was produced by the Meldreth Village Association as a Millennium project. Points of interest along the way are described briefly in the booklet and marked by numbered plaques and posts positioned along the trails. This booklet is priced at £3.50. Another booklet, priced at just £1, describes a more detailed circular walk around the village. Our full range of merchandise can be viewed [online](#). ♦

MLHG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman and Membership Secretary	Joan Gane (01763) 260129	Webmaster	Kathryn Betts (01763) 268428
Secretary	Gloria Willers	Other Committee Members	Tim Gane
Treasurer	Bruce Huett (01763) 232855		Ann Rogers
Publicity Officer	John Crawforth (01763) 262848		Linda Clarke