

Meldreth Local History Group

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June 2013

Welcome to our second newsletter of the year.

The newsletter includes information on our current test pit project, together with details of a very different project that we have lined up for next year.♦

Understanding Our Past: Exploring the Hidden History of Meldreth

First test pit digging weekend: 8th & 9th June

As reported in previous issues of our newsletter, the Group has been awarded a Heritage Lottery Fund All Our Stories grant to fund the digging of 20-30 test pits in the village.

Following the official launch of the project by Dr Carena Lewis on 23rd March, we have been working hard and are now just days away from our first digs. We are very grateful for all the offers of help we have received and would particularly like to thank all those who have offered to have a test pit in their garden. Unfortunately, we are unable to dig all of the locations offered this year. Thirty sites have been selected and it is hoped that additional pits will be dug in future years. By the time the first pits are dug, over 50 people will have received training as part of the project.

On 8th and 9th June, ten pits, nine of which will be open to the public, will be dug at various locations around the village. The full [schedule](#) is included at the end of this newsletter and can also be downloaded from our website.

There is a [blog](#) of the project on the website, detailing all of our progress to date.

Once the June test pits have been dug, a preliminary report will be added to our website.

Test pits will also be dug on 6th & 7th July and 17th & 18th August. All July test pit owners and volunteers will be contacted later this month so that we can finalise details of the July weekend.



For further information please see our [website](#). There is a link to the project from our home page and more pages will be added as the project progresses. If you would like to volunteer to help on one of the weekends and have not already been in touch, then please [email](#) us.♦

Holy Trinity Church Fete, Meldreth

Saturday 15th June, 1.00 - 4.00pm

Group members will be manning a stand at Holy Trinity Church Fete on Saturday 15th June. We hope to have on display some of the artefacts found during the first test pitting weekend.♦

AGM: Monday 8th April 2013

Our sixth AGM was held on Monday 8th April at 10.30am. All members of the existing committee agreed to stand for re-election and the committee was elected en bloc. Following the formal part of the meeting, there was a short update on the test pit project. Copies of the minutes, the Chairman's Report and the PowerPoint presentation on the test pit project are available upon request.♦

Our Next Coffee Morning



Our next coffee morning will be held on Monday 14th October 2013 in the Sheltered Housing Community Room, Elin Way, Meldreth from 10.00am until midday. Please join us for free refreshments.♦

Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network

When we formed our Group in 2007, we were fortunate enough to be included on the Cambridgeshire Community Archive Network (CCAN). With the help of an archivist who visited us in Meldreth for approximately six months, we uploaded hundreds of items, including images, text and audio, to the [CCAN website](#). The site has recently been re-designed. At present, there is a link only to our own website, but later in the year we will change this so that our original contributions to the CCAN site can be viewed.♦

The Great War Between The Lines Project

This project is being undertaken by Cambridgeshire County Council in co-operation with partners in Northern France, Belgium and Brighton. The project aims to enhance the understanding of the heritage of the Great War and its legacy, with exhibitions, events and materials designed to build on the feeling of remembrance felt by the public in the lead up to the nationally important commemoration of the outbreak of the Great War in 2014.



Meldreth Local History Group will be participating in this project next year, once our current test pitting project has been completed. If you have any documents or images relating to Meldreth or Cambridgeshire during World War One, then please [email](#) us. Further information can be found on the [project website](#).♦

Recent Additions to the Website

There are now over 440 pages on our website. Have you seen the latest additions? They include [Holy Trinity Church Kneelers](#), [Birds of Meldreth and Their Eggs](#), [The Conningsby Family](#), [Meldreth May Fayre](#), [Meldreth's First Car?](#) and a [blog](#) of our test pit project.♦

Please remember that we have a range of merchandise available, including notelets, CDs and walk booklets. Please see the [merchandise page](#) on our website for full details.

Local Giving

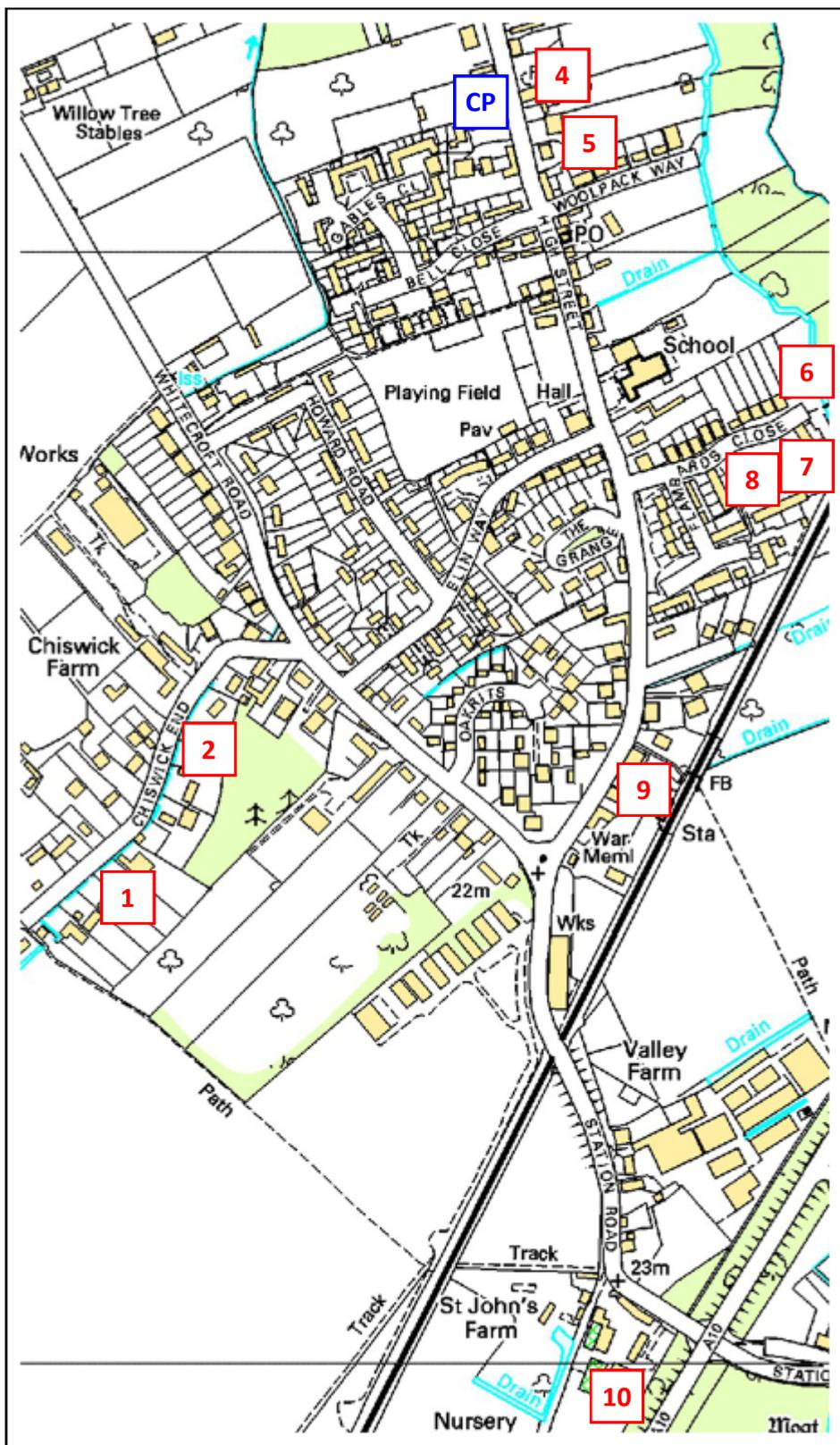
Apart from the occasional grant, the Group relies on donations and income from sales of merchandise to fund its activities. If we have helped you with your family history research, or you have enjoyed browsing the website, please consider making a donation via our [Local Giving page](#). Thank you.♦

MLHG COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairman	Joan Gane (01763) 260129
Treasurer	Bruce Huett (01763) 232855
Secretary	Kathryn Betts (01763) 268428
Membership Secretary	Joan Gane (01763) 260129
Publicity Officer	Terry Dash (01763) 260823
Committee Members	Tim Gane (01763) 260129
	Christine Duguid (01763) 260802

Understanding Our Past: Exploring the Hidden History of Meldreth

Test Pit Schedule: Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th June



Ten test pits will be dug in the village this weekend.

Nine of the pits will be open to the public from approximately midday to 4.00pm each day.

Details are as follows:

TP1	33 Chiswick End
TP2	17 Chiswick End
TP3	<i>not open to the public</i>
TP4	The British Queen
TP5	90a High Street
TP6	14 Flambards Close
TP7	Flambards Green
TP8	Flambards Green
TP9	14 High Street
TP10	Fieldgate Nurseries

The Finds Collection Point, marked as CP on the map, at 67 High Street (opposite the British Queen) will be open from 4.00 to 5.00pm each day.

You are welcome to visit the public pits. Please respect the landowners' property and comply with the health and safety guidelines provided at each test pit.

Thank you.

This project has been coordinated by Meldreth Local History Group, using an Heritage Lottery Fund All Our Stories grant.

More information on the Group is available by visiting our website, www.meldrethhistory.org.uk.

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Supported by

The National Lottery
through the Heritage Lottery Fund

