

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 107
Autumn 2001

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Please note: The Editor's decision is final on whether or not to publish any item submitted. The Editor reserves the right to edit (that is to cut, précis, alter, correct grammar and spelling) any item published.

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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NEWS

Sadly, we have to report the deaths of two more village 'stalwarts', Mike Paveley and Jim Smith. People like Mike and Jim contributed to village so much – you saw them here, there and everywhere. Others smiled at their enthusiasm for their interests, but they were unstinting in their efforts to help others. They had other commitments – family, work, other causes – but always managed to find the time to help speak to people and organise events which gave pleasure to others.

PEMBURY IN OLD

POSTCARDS by Mary Standen, published by the European Library

Available from local bookshops and newsagents in time for Christmas! Due to be ready in October 2001. The European Library has been publishing books in this series since the 1960s and have a list of over 5,000 titles of places in this country and also abroad.



COMPETITION

Would you like your painting, photo or sketch to feature on the front cover of the Pembury Village News? We are running a competition (with money prizes!) which is open to all non-professional artists/photographers of all ages who either live, work or go to school in Pembury. The theme is Pembury in any of the four seasons. More details on page 15. Even if you are not a prize winner, we may use your entry at a later date. If we do, we'll send you a gift voucher to say 'thank you'.

DR NINA WELCH

Dr Welch is moving on from the surgery in Lower Green Road and says, "I have enjoyed living and working in Pembury and I have now decided that the time is right to leave Waterfield House. I will continue to live in the village and work in practices in the surrounding area". We wish her the very best of luck in her new work activities and will no doubt see her regularly around the village with her family.

COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Editor before 1st November 2001.

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it in on disk or by e-mail. If you do not have a disk, we can supply you with one.



MIKE PAVELY 1930-2001

READERS will be sad to hear of the death in July of Mike Paveley who was a very active member of the community here in Pembury as well as in groups in Tunbridge Wells.

Mike was chief co-ordinator of Neighbourhood Watch in Pembury, chairman of the Tunbridge Wells Amateur Radio Society, Secretary of the very successful Pembury Gardeners Society and a member of the Tunbridge Wells Philately Society.

Much respected for his commitment to others, his organisational ability and selflessness, Mike had been an electronics engineer during his professional life. He was born in Shooters Hill, London in 1930 educated at the Torridon Road Elementary School and later at St Dunstan's College in Catford.

He started his working life with the old Westminster Bank in London, but was soon called up for 19 month's National Service, serving with the Royal Signals. Demobbed in 1950, he went back to the Westminster Bank and then on to the Standard Bank of South Africa, working in Nairobi, Kenya. During the Mau Mau emergency, because of his passion for amateur radio, he was recruited into the Signals Wing of the Kenya Police Reserve on a part-time basis and served there for the duration of the crisis.

Called back to the UK because of his father's serious illness and death, Mike met his future wife Gill. They were married in Beckenham in 1956 and went back to Nairobi where two of their three children were born. Returning to England in 1960 with his family Mike joined R W Gunston (Seeds) in London where he remained for 35 years, travelling widely until his retirement in 1995.

We would like to extend our sympathy to his wife Gill and their three children, Peter, Bill and Micheala. Mike was very committed to his village interests and he will be fondly remembered by all those who came into contact with him.



*Mike at the Village Hall Opening
September 2000*

VILLAGE FETE ON THE GREEN

IT RAINED and it poured but it nevertheless all happened on the Green! Pembury's traditional style village fete on 7 July was an outstanding success. Attractions included – amongst many others – tombola, 'Whap the Whobbit', bran tub, 'Hook the duck', treasure hunt, mini golf, Guess the TV programme and the 'Footpath Walkers' (notorious) matchstick game. The tea tent with home-made cakes provided by the WI and barbecue courtesy of Speaghts Butchers were very popular on a rainy day!

West Kent College provided a very wide variety of live music of an extremely high standard and 'groovers' of all ages were seen to be thoroughly enjoying it. Plants, bric-a-brac, sweets, books, and preserves plus produce from local commercial organisations proved very

popular. A ‘buxom wench’ gallantly roved around selling sweets between the showers. The Camden Arms provided hot lunches and, of course, beer, the latter at an extremely good price, helping the day go well.



Over 20 prizes for the grand raffle included champagne (Nat West), gift vouchers (Barsleys, Marks & Spencer, Sainsbury and Tesco), a reflexology session, a gift from Chanel, Sunday lunch for two at the Jarvis International, basket of fruit, haircuts (Head Masters), Pembury wine and free tickets to the Hop Farm.

Kevin Lynes, the newly elected County Councillor, opened the fete at 2 pm and was very pleased to be able to meet many Pembury residents. Over £500 was raised for two local charities, Headway and Compaid, both of whom had stands at the Fete.

The Fete was put together at fairly short notice by a dedicated team of the Parish Council Public Relations Group (Rosemary Latter, Paul Barrington-King, Wendy Withycombe, Gill Matthews, Alison Morton) and with input from Derek Johnson from the Pembury Society. Thanks must also go to the other helpers who helped set up and take down at each end of the day.

However, the lynchpins of the whole event were Paul Russell and Parish Clerk Barbara Russell who not only did all the ‘donkey work’ beforehand of organising the stalls, highways and health and safety, borrowing equipment, securing raffle prizes, etc. but turned up at 9 am on the day until 8 pm to prepare and run the whole event.

Yes, it was hard work, but it was also a great success and a lot of FUN!

See you next year . . .



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BIG JIM SMITH

SADLY, on 18th July 2001, one of Pembury's most colourful characters passed away. This was obviously a great shock and loss to Hilary, his wife, son James, daughter Nancy and Jim's grandchildren, Amber, Ben, Matilda and Connie. There are probably many people in the village who knew Jim by sight or those who thought that he had something to do with football.

However, it goes a lot deeper than that. Jim, like a lot of us, could be a very stubborn person, and once his mind was made up, it was like trying to knock down the Berlin Wall to get him to change it. It was Jim's stubbornness and vision that was largely responsible for the completion of the new Woodside changing rooms.

Jim and I would often be at loggerheads, but I am grateful that we were able to converse on the Sunday

lunchtime in the Black Horse before he died. Jim was also a very kind and loving person, immensely proud of Hilary, his children and grandchildren, and of the visit to Nancy and her family in Australia last year.

Jim grew up in Walthamstow, where he met Hilary and they eventually married in 1966. The honeymoon was in Norfolk, but even then Jim threatened to come home if he couldn't see the World Cup Final on TV. Jim, Hilary and family moved to Pembury in 1971 and not many years passed before he teamed up with Stan Moxon, another passionate football fan, who together helped create the Snickers-full Football Clubs that are Pembury's hall mark today. Jim was also a very kind person and a prolific fund-raiser. Not only for the clubs, but also for many charities especially those associated with cancer.

I am sure Hilary will forgive me when I say that Jim was better at extracting money from people than Dick Turpin the Highway Man. In the football season, especially on a Sunday, Jim would always sit in his favourite seat, just short of the bar in the Black Horse. He would invariably have raffle tickets or some other means of fundraising in his possession and the situation was very similar to some of the wildlife programmes, with the predator very gently luring the prey into the trap, then suddenly Jim had pounced and extracted the cash.

I hope that today's football club members will not forget the contribution made on their behalf by Big Jim and also Stan Moxon but also for the time that their efforts meant they were away from home and families. Big Jim will never be forgotten and I am sure his many hundreds of friends will echo those sentiments.

Hugh Boorman



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PEMBURY F.C. TRIBUTE TO JIM SMITH

THE DEATH of our Chairman, Jim Smith, has overshadowed our recent on the field activities. Jim was a Pembury man at heart, well known throughout the village and we know that there are many outside of our club who share our loss. We as a club, however, could not respect his passing without paying tribute to a man who was an integral part of our club for so many years. Jim's involvement in local football was second only to his family. Although he did not play the game himself his devotion to the administration of it for others was exemplary.

After moving into the area in 1971 Jim became involved in the running of both the Grievson Grant and White Bear football clubs. It was, however, with Pembury where his long term energies lay. Firstly with the Sunday club which he joined as treasurer in the early 1980's helping his good friend Stan Moxon, who also sadly left us only a short time ago. They were a wonderful combination and knowing them as we did, if there is a Sunday League in Heaven, it will not be too long before there is a new force to be reckoned with!

Jim became Chairman of the Sunday club in 1986 and was instrumental in structuring the merger with the Saturday club to form one in 1996. The esteem with which he was held was clearly demonstrated when he was elected the first Chairman of the united clubs, a position he held until his untimely death. It is also a measure of and a tribute to his leadership that the club has grown since then to become arguably one of, if not the, strongest club of its kind in the area.

Jim was, however, more than just a Chairman, he was a mentor, friend and counsellor to all, whether young or old, and there are many who have cause to be thankful for his guidance and help. Whilst he was a friend to all, Jim did have a close circle of friends with whom he would formally socialise and the Christmas dinner, Beaujolais day and Cheltenham week are a just a few of the gatherings where he will be sadly missed.

His infectious personality literally raised thousands of pounds for the club and it will be an impossible task to fill his shoes. His fund raising abilities also extended beyond us with significant donations made to various charities. His favourite beneficiaries were the cancer charities and his personal collecting vessel the cancer pig was always prepared for a flutter, at Jim's expense, to boost it's takings. Such was his generosity, however, that any good cause would receive his help.

There are many funny memories of Jim that are shared within the club – his sports quizzes, including the time when he slipped off the stage, and the club tours to Preston and Ronchin which we know will be treasured by those present forever.

Jim was also the Chairman of the Association of Pembury Football Clubs which he led by example. In this role he raised the profile of football within the village considerably through his close liaison with the Parish Council and his articles in Pembury Village News. Without doubt his finest hour was when the new changing rooms at Woodside were built. From conception to completion was a long and arduous task and it needed all of Jim's patience, character and determination to see it through. In the early stages of the project he fielded a great deal of criticism, much without foundation, over various delays in its progress but in his usual congenial manner Jim refused to react or buckle to the pressure and pressed on. He was without doubt the proudest man in the club when the pavilion was officially opened and it is a permanent testimony to his achievements on the clubs behalf.

The club must and will continue to strive forward as this would have been his wish and we know that he will be keeping a watchful eye over us. The fact that it is able to is a fitting tribute to the man himself and the foundations that he laid.

Whilst we write here to cherish and honour Jim, it is also an opportunity for us to thank Hilary and family for allowing him the time to spend with us. As we are sure you will agree that time was not wasted and has brought so much pleasure to so many. He was a compassionate and caring leader, a dependable and generous friend and a loyal servant to our club who will be sadly missed.

Andy Rice-Tucker and Phil Craxton

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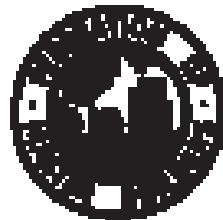
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PEMBURY IN BLOOM

FINALISTS of this year's competition met at Notcutts Garden Centre, Pembury, on Thursday 23rd August for afternoon tea and to hear who had won – a much-guarded secret until the presentation!

The competition is jointly organised by Pembury Parish Council and Notcutts with Notcutts providing prizes. Notcutts Centre manager, Jean Smith, and Parish Councillor Gill Matthews had judged the entries a few weeks earlier and awarded the certificates and prizes on the day. The Notcutts Best Garden went to Gary Lawrence of Middlefield with Cecil Curd of Stonecourt Lane second and Geoff and Sally Stafford of Greenleas third. Certificates of Merit went to 18 other entrants.

Gavin Groom of The Meadow won the Best Hanging Basket category with Valentine Smith of Lower Green Road second and Cecil Curd of Stonecourt Lane third. Certificates of Merit were awarded to 13 other entrants.

Best Allotment belonged again to Norman Brown of Beech House, Hastings Road with, Frederick Barden, Tony James and Barry Harden collecting Certificates of Merit. The Black Horse in the High Street won the Best Commercial Frontage with Burtons Solicitors, The King William IV, The Camden Arms and Your Move collecting Certificates of Merit.

The newest category for a container planted and maintained by a child was won by Ruby Upstone of Maidstone Road who also collected a particularly warm round of applause.

Jean Smith, the Centre Manager said, “Well done and thank you to everyone who entered this year's Pembury in Bloom. People have demonstrated their excellent gardening skills and as a result have all helped to brighten up the village.”

Prizewinners of Pembury in Bloom – from left to right: Parish Councillor Gill Matthews, Gavin Groom, Centre Manager Jean Smith, Ruby Upstone and Norman Brown



BUTTERFLIES

THREE APPEARS to be a marked absence of many varieties of butterflies that usually adorn our gardens at this time of year. Whilst this has been apparent for many years now it does seem to have reached crisis stage.

Whether it is a national phenomenon or a change in agriculture or horticultural practices is unsure. Perhaps grubbing out of some of their natural habitat in ivy-strewn hedgerows or increased use of pesticides and insecticides is to blame.

It has been suggested that rows of houses

could help to improve the butterflies by getting together and creating corridors of vegetation by developing a small plot in each garden to form a chain of nettles, wild grasses, flowers and small patches of ivy all of which would help to provide food, shelter and a natural breeding habitat for these beautiful creatures.

Please give it some thought and in the next issue there will be further information on which plants to use to create these breeding and feeding places.

Hugh Boorman

CROWBOROUGH & DISTRICT (SMALL-SIDED ALLIANCE) CLUB AWARD

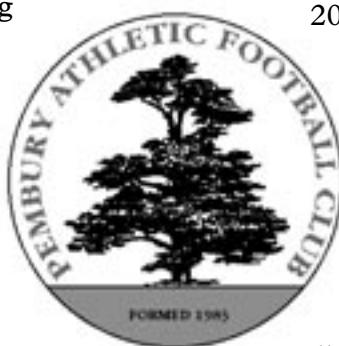
DAVID GOW, the Chairman of Pembury Athletic (Youth) Football Club, recently wrote to Hugh Boorman with “great pleasure and some pride” to tell him about the club’s recent award for the season 2000/2001.

THE CROWBOROUGH & District League (Small-Sided Alliance) Club Award is awarded by the member clubs, each of whom votes according to a strict plan which includes the following categories:

- Ground,
- Welcome,
- Attitude of spectators,
- Attitude of players
- Administration

As you can now see, this award is in effect an award for the whole village: an award for the Parish Council and Tony, the groundsman, for the provision of some of the best quality pitches in small-sided football; the parents (the spectators), the children (the players) and the adults (managers and administrators) who make the whole club run.

I would like to thank the Parish Council for their valued support. There are over 1,800 children in the small-sided alliance and it is their parents across Kent and Sussex who



have voted for Pembury.

I collected the award together with one of our young players, Alistair England, in Uckfield in front of an audience of some 200 people. Pembury was mentioned on no fewer than ten occasions with the under 11s winning the sportsmanship award for their age group and the under 9s as runners-up together with four players being rewarded for representing the League at inter-league level.

All of this comes on top of three other sportsmanship awards in the older age groups and many other Inter-League representatives in addition to the successes we have had on the pitch. Awards for these were presented at two previous award evenings during the last three weeks.

I do hope that the Parish Council can appreciate the success they have contributed to and that we are proud to have presented the name of Pembury in the positive light shown above.

On a final note, we are the first club ever to have won this award. In some ways, we have set the standard.

David Gow



MEET YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR – KEVIN LYNES

KEVIN was born in Bermondsey, London in 1959, and educated at Colfe's Grammar School in South East London. Since he was 24 he has worked for his own companies, and is a director of Tunbridge Wells Training, a software training company, as well as a director of various other internet and technology-based businesses. He is the current Chairman of Tunbridge Wells Business Forum.

A Liveryman of the City of London, he has various interests in the City, and more specifically in the Ward of Tower, where he holds a Ward Vote, and is Senior Warden of its Ward Club.

In Millennium Year, Kevin was invited to stand as Borough Council Candidate for Culverden Ward in Royal Tunbridge Wells, and was successfully elected in May of that year. In this capacity, he serves on Finance and Planning Committees, as well as being involved in an e-Government Working Group, and handling Media Relations for the controlling Conservatives. He has recently been appointed to the pivotal Central Board at the Town Hall.

In June, Kevin was elected to Kent County Council, where he has been invited onto the Cabinet Scrutiny Committee, Social Services Policy and Overview Committee, and is Vice-Chairman of the Ratification Committee, which ratifies decisions made by Cabinet.

Kevin tries to spend as much time as possible with his family – Louise, his wife, is a Governor at both Tunbridge Wells Boys Grammar and Tunbridge Wells High School – and his daughters Rebecca, aged five and Elise, just 18 months.

When he can spare a few hours, Kevin is a qualified private pilot, flying fixed wing aircraft from both Headcorn and Biggin Hill airports. “To try and put your life into a couple of hundred words” says Kevin “seems just impossible! I’m so lucky to have the support of a wife and kids that I think the world of, and even luckier to have been chosen to represent such an interesting and diverse area of Royal Tunbridge Wells. I’m giving maximum effort to my new role at KCC, and working hard for the people I represent. In Pembury, between the Parish Council, Borough Councillors and me, I think we’ll get the results we all want.”



FINNISH CHILDREN'S SONGS CONCERT

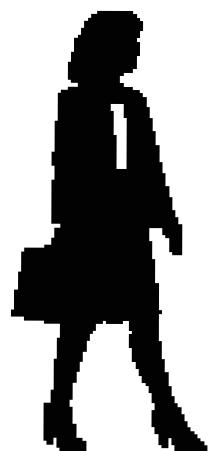
THE FINNISH Children's Songs Charity No. 1071157 wishes to thank everyone during the last nine years who helped in the sale of "Songs of Adventure" music books with audio-tapes and CDs written for children aged 4-9 and translated from Scandinavian languages 2,500 copies were distributed throughout the world.

Some of these Songs were sung in St Peter's Church, Pembury by the Sackville Singers at a concert in October 2000. £1,300 was taken personally to the Regional Children's Hospital in St Petersburg last Easter to enable families to visit their sick children in hospital.

Support came from the Bishop of Rochester, Miss Anne Widdecombe MP and the Finnish Ambassador who invited the Committee to a splendid concert at the Embassy. A 30-minute documentary showing these songs, with footage from Pembury and Finland went out from Helsinki Television.

A letter of thanks has been received from families in the Region of Leningrad Oblast – Russia and the Paediatric department of this hospital.

Elizabeth Coxon Taylor



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PEMBURY SOCIETY

THREE WAS a good turnout of members who supported the Society's tented stall at the summer Fete on the Green. Our theme this year was games for the youngsters of the community and these proved to be very popular. Whilst the weather did reduce the numbers of those who might well have intended to visit the event, many did brave the showers to enjoy the live music, the stalls, the refreshments and the barbecue and everyone seemed to have an enjoyable afternoon. We managed to enrol several new members and the smiling faces of those who visited our stall as well as those who were actually running the attractions made it all worthwhile.

On Monday 29th October we will hold the Society's AGM at the Village Hall and we plan to have a special speaker that evening to whet the interest and give pleasure to our members.

One of the main objectives of The Pembury Society is to keep a constant watch on prospective building development and expansion in and around our village. As house prices rise the bait being dangled in front of those who own an area of land attractive to housing developers grows forever higher until it eventually reaches a point where it submerges and drowns any qualms the vendor may have regarding the effect on the community of cramming more and more houses into the triangle of our village. It is a drip by drip situation over time and the unfortunate truth is that we have presently reached the point where the school, the roads, even the sewers of Pembury cannot support the resultant effects of more housing development. In the hope and expectation that we can keep our village a green and pleasant place in which to live, The Pembury Society have forged increasingly closer links with the Parish Council, Borough Councillors and other interested bodies both within and beyond our village to ensure that we are, whenever possible, all singing from the same hymn-sheet.

Derek Johnson

COVER COMPETITION RULES

Theme: Pembury in Spring, Summer, Autumn or Winter

OPEN TO ALL non-professional artists/photographers of all ages who either live, work or go to school in Pembury. By entering the competition you agree to be bound by the competition rules.

You must send in your name, address, telephone number and connection with Pembury on a separate sheet with each entry you send in. Please specify which season your entry relates to. Please take or send your entry/entries to either the Parish Clerk's office at 6 The Grove between 9pm and 1pm Monday to Friday or to the Editor at 2 The Coppice between 9pm and 5pm Monday to Saturday. If these times are not convenient, please telephone 824938 to arrange an agreed time.

Judges will be a professional photographer, an art tutor and a local resident and results will be announced in the Winter edition of the News.

Closing date: 15 October 2001

Prizes will be £35 for first, £10 for second and £5 for third. The judges' decision is final.

We will endeavour to return your original photograph/painting/sketch to you as soon as practical after judging. Pembury Village News retains the right to use any entry at any later date. If we do and you were not one of the prizewinners we will, however, send you a gift voucher to say 'thank you'.

PEMBURY IN THE PAST

100 YEARS AGO

I HAVE BEEN looking through the archives of the *Kent and Sussex Courier* for items of news of what was happening in Pembury 100 years ago as I thought that this would be a fascinating subject for a series of articles in this magazine.

One of the main items I found was regarding the teething troubles over the introduction of the telephone to Pembury. It appears that this created quite a stir, not over the novelty of the telephone but with telephone poles; so much so that a special Parish Council meeting was arranged at the beginning of July 1901 to consider the question of not only the unsightly appearance but also the dangerous position of the telephone poles erected by the Tunbridge Wells Town Council on the road from Blackhurst to Pembury and through the Village and to which many residents had objected. The meeting agreed to write to the Kent County Council, the Tonbridge Rural Parish Council and also to the Tunbridge Wells Town Council (Yes, they are the right names – they changed to their more well-known names of the Tonbridge Rural District Council and to the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council much later in their life) asking them to take down the poles and lay the wires underground to Pembury as they had done so as far as the Borough boundary at Blackhurst.

This letter seems to have created a response because later on in that month, it was reported that “Pembury was still to be cut off from the Municipal Telephone Exchange of Tunbridge Wells. Some of the residents do not admire the poles which have been put up, though they are the exact counter-part of others put up in the district covered by the Exchange and have called for them to be removed. As it will not pay the Authority to lay down a cable, there being at present only some seven or eight subscribers, Pembury will have to remain outside the radius of telephonic communication, at any rate until the subscribers number sufficient – about 30 – to warrant a cable being carried through, or until the telephone authorities are allowed to re-erect their poles”.

100 years ago! Fascinating tales, but when read today when even young children have their own mobile telephones and we are able to connect to the Web from our WAP phones, it seems that we are light years away from those days, doesn’t it?

In September 1901, it was reported in the *Courier* that a Mr Rendell had opened a branch Cycle Shop in the High Street, Pembury “where all repairs will be promptly attended to – Gun and Rifle ammunition in stock” – a strange combination of goods, it brought up a vision in my minds eye of a person riding shotgun on the back of a tandem!!

Another snippet which caught my eye, was the reporting of a cricket match in Pembury when they played a Hastings Second X1 – Pembury won the match, the

scores being Pembury 238, Hastings only managing 104 in the first innings and 120 in the second – nothing unusual in that but I noticed on looking down the team list the names of an O. Seymour, a W. Seymour and an E. Seymour, together with E. Spittals, E. A. Hobbs, a Dr. Malden, H. S. Brooke, E. L. Scott, F. Ellis and E. Penn (an old Pembury name) but what grabbed my attention was the name of one of the middle order batsman whose name was given as J. Doe! Now I wonder, as I did when I read the report, whether this was the batsman's real name or whether, even in those days, the name of John Doe meant as it does to us today that the reporter might not have known the batsman's real name. From a 100 years on I am sure we will never know!

PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

Henry Plant, our 'Past' reporter, has an intriguing puzzle for the news readers . . .

"I was speaking recently to Mrs Cole, a local lady, whose family was closely associated with the Club in the past, regarding a photograph (which is reproduced here) of a Pembury Football Club event which was celebrated during the 1945/6 season. She would very much like to hear from anyone who remembers the event and more importantly, the names of the team members.

Please contact the Editor if you can help put names to faces.

Henry Plant



YOUR LOCAL DARBY & JOAN CLUB

THE LOCAL Darby and Joan Club began some 45 years ago and has in its day been a very strong part of the community with some 100 members.

Today it is a slightly different story with a dwindling membership of 43 and many of the members reaching a much greater age. However, there is a lot of activity that goes on which would, I am sure, attract those who are 60 plus and would like to meet people with similar interests.

The Club meet once a fortnight in the Pembury Village Hall (see Diary Dates at the back of this magazine) at 2pm and finish between 4 and 4.30pm and regularly have speakers. They enjoy quizzes, play Bingo and card games, have Garden Parties, Bring and Buy and hope to arrange a Coffee morning for next year. The cost of membership is a very reasonable £2.50 per annum and 25p for tea/coffee with biscuits or cake at each meeting.

In the past they have had two outings a year, but because of falling numbers have been unable to arrange these because of not being able to fill a coach. On the positive side they arrange a free luncheon every October and are entertained by a Choir. They also have "a good knees up" at the annual Christmas Party (definitely not to be missed). Among the charities they have collected for have been Hospice in the Weald, Air Ambulance and The Lifeboats.

The Club is run by a small committee, but they are very keen to encourage younger members to take on the reins.

So if you are new to the village or even if you have lived here a long time, and would like to know more, then contact Doris Down (Chairperson) on 822323 for more information or just turn up to one of the meetings where a very warm welcome will be extended to you.

FRIENDS REUNITED <http://www.friendsreunited.co.uk>

Are you looking for an old school friend?

. . . or trying to organise a school reunion but not sure how to contact your old pals?

. . . or maybe you're just curious about what your old mates are doing now?

. . . or simply trying to remember their names?

Well, this website can help you. It's recently been gaining some publicity and having used it myself I found it easy to use and quite rewarding. The site holds details of all of the current UK based primary and secondary schools and also quite a few colleges. If your school no longer exists then you can add the details in the 'Find school' screen and they will endeavour to add the school a.s.a.p., usually within 2-3 working days.

Registration is totally free and you will immediately be able to see all the names of friends that went to school with you who have also registered their details on this site. There is a nominal charge (currently £5 per year) to then contact as many people as you wish.

The site owners are hoping that, with your help, the idea will snowball and the database will grow so that the site will eventually be the place to look when trying to locate an old school friend – no matter how old you are or what year you left school.

You only need enter your details once and so long as the person trying to locate you knows where you went to school and roughly the year when you left, then the chances of getting in touch again are VERY high!!!

Steve Morton

WHY WEAR A POPPY?

"PLEASE wear a poppy", the lady said,
And held one forth, but I shook my head.
Then I stopped and watched as she offered
them there,
And her face was old and lined with
care;

But beneath the scars the years had
made
There remained a smile that refused to
fade.
A boy came whistling down the street,
Bouncing along carefree feet.

His smile was full of joy and fun,
"Lady" he said, "May I have
one?"
When she pinned it on, he turned to
say
"Why do we wear a poppy today?"

The lady smiled in her wistful
way
And answered "This is
Remembrance Day,
And the poppy there is a symbol for
The gallant men who died in war."

And because they did, you and I are free –
That's why we wear a poppy you see.
I had a boy about your size,
With golden hair and big blue eyes.

He loved to play and jump and shout,
Free as a bird, he would race about.
As the years went by, he learned and grew,
And became a man – as you will too.

He was fine and strong, with a boyish smile,
But he seemed with us just a little while
When war broke out and he went away.
I still remember his face that day.

When he smiled at me and said "Goodbye,
I'll be back soon, Mum, so please don't cry".

But the war went on and he had to stay,
And all I could do was wait and pray.

His letters told of the awful fight
(I can see it still in my dreams at night),
With the tanks and guns and cruel
barbed wire,
And the mines and bullets, the
bombs and fire.

"Till at last, at last, the war was
won –
And that's why we wear a
poppy, son."

The small boy turned as if to go,
Then said "Thanks, lady I'm glad to
know.

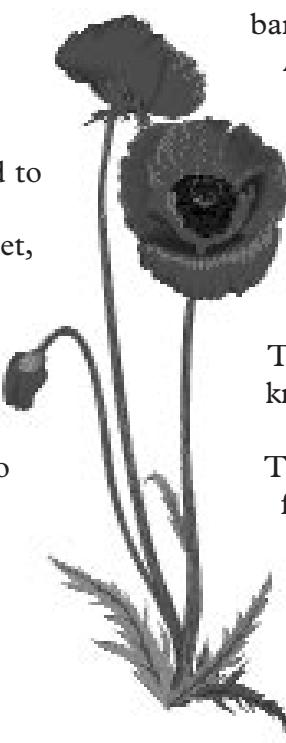
That sure did sound like an awful
fight,
But your son – did he come back
alright?"
A tear rolled down each faded
cheek;
She shook her head, but didn't
speak.

I slunk away in sort of shame,
And if you were me, you'd have done the
same:
For our thanks, in giving, is oft delayed,
Though our freedom was bought – and
thousands paid!

And so, when we see a poppy worn,
Let us reflect on the burden borne
By those who gave their very all
When asked to answer their country's call
That we at home in peace might live.

Then wear a poppy!
Remember – and Give!

*Poet unknown but is believed to have been
written in the 1920s.*



PEMBURY YMCA

WEST KENT YMCA has been running regular youth clubs in the village since 1989. During this time many young people have attended the various clubs and gained a great deal. The timber built building located at the Woodside Playing Fields, off Henwoods Mount has been a place where young people have had a sense of ownership of the building.

In recent years, mainly due to funding, YMCA have reduced the service to 2 clubs per week. The junior club is aimed at 8-11 year olds and meets on Monday evenings between 5.00 to 6.30pm, whilst the youth club follows on between 7.30 to 9.00pm and caters for 12-16 year olds. The Phoenix Twirlers also use the building.

Simon Stanley, youth work manager, said "Monday nights at the club are lively affairs with a wide range of young people using the Centre. Attendances are good and recent activities have included kwik cricket, T-Shirt design, portable golf course, and Disk Jockey skills. There is never a dull moment and the young people really welcome their time out at the YMCA". The Youth Club staffing is funded by Kent Youth & Community. The YMCA funds the Junior Club staffing, and a number of local people also volunteer their time and commitment to support the work.

During the summer holidays, the YMCA operates a very popular children's Play Scheme for 5-12 year olds. This costs only £1 per day and is subsidised by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and KCC Social Services. This fun filled scheme includes wacky games, arts and crafts, trips out, water games, bouncy castle, etc. Demand for the scheme is high and the thirty places on offer were fully booked within three to four days! The team are already looking at ways of extending the scheme next year.

Although the work is going well, the YMCA Board of Directors is concerned about the fabric of the building. The building is now quite old and upkeep and maintenance is costly. The building is now in need of major refurbishment, including wiring, heating and lighting etc. Limited funds could ultimately lead to the closure of this building, and over the coming months the YMCA will be looking at a number of possibilities. For further details ring the YMCA on 01892 542209

David E. Wallace, Chief Executive

PEMBURY EVENING WI WINS AT SHOW

THE LADIES of Pembury Evening WI were in victorious mood after winning the Garrett Cup at the Matfield and Brenchley Horticultural Show on the July 21st 2001.

The competition was keen this year as six WIs from around the villages entered. This win was the first time that we have won since the competition started in 1983.

The theme for the display was a Ruby Wedding from which we had to produce seven items.

Rosie Latter
Vice President of Pembury Evening WI



MY PLOT

I HAVE BEEN reading up on rhubarb recently. Having taken mine for granted for years I panicked when my ‘number two’ clump flowered! I suddenly wondered whether rhubarb was one of those plants that blooms then promptly dies? It is called number two because it’s the second clump to sprout in the spring – number one clump being outrageously early and number three being later. I remember a few years ago, when a neighbour’s plant bloomed. The giant white spike fascinated me because I’d never seen one before. I commented on it and my neighbour said, “I think I’m supposed to cut it down”. I asked him not to because it was so lovely . . . How selfish could I get?

Anyway, his rhubarb survived and so has mine and it’s not noticeably different from before. The books all recommend “Cut out any flowering stems” but only one gave a reason – that the stems may be pale afterwards. Phew! Panic over. Nevertheless, I have promised myself not to become complacent again. A yearly feed of compost and a five-yearly ‘lift & separate’ is needed for what, as every book pointed out, is a vegetable because it is a stem, rather than the product of a flower . . . not that that makes any difference to any of us!

I tried using rhubarb leaves one year to deter a disease called clubroot. It affects types of Brassica like cabbages, cauliflower and broccoli and makes their roots deform which stunts the growth of the plant. A fungus in the soil causes the problem and once you’ve got it, you may need to wait several years before that soil can be used for Brassicas again. I had suffered from this problem mildly so before transplanting some cabbage seedlings into open ground I lined the holes with rhubarb leaves. I had one row with protection and one without. The results were very inconclusive. Maybe there wasn’t much clubroot fungus that year anyway!

Caroline Mazzeay

GILL’S GARDEN

SPRING BULBS are in the shops now, whilst not critical to plant immediately it is better to have them planted before the frosts set in.

Small bulbs, crocus and narcissus can be planted in rockeries or to naturalise under lawns. Hyacinths and daffodils needed for Christmas should be planted as soon as possible and tulips not planted before November. Aconites, erythroniums (dog tooth violets) and snowdrops give a good display under deciduous trees.

Tidy borders, cut back spent perennials and replant gaps with any cuttings or seedlings of perennials grown earlier in the year while the soil is still warm. Mulch hardy fuchsias to protect crowns from frost. Over-winter pelargoniums and fuchsias along with dahlias and gladioli in a frost-free place. A few cuttings of tender fuchsias and pelargoniums can be grown in a light windowsill in winter. Cuttings of lavender and sage can be taken to replace older straggly plants in the spring.

Plant up hanging baskets with small bulbs and winter bedding, also containers and window boxes. Pansies, wallflowers, tulips, daffodils, bellis along with small evergreen and euonymus

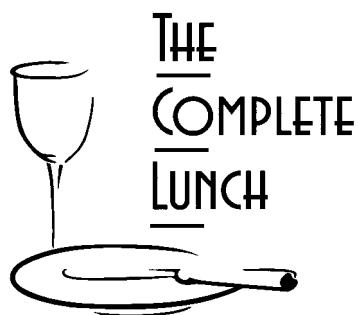
give a good spring display. Two layers of daffodils can be planted on top of each other in a container to extend the season. Colourful shrubs such as phormium (flax) hebe and greybeard, curry plant and ericas can look very attractive throughout the winter. Protect containers in very harsh weather either by moving to a sheltered position or with bubble wrap.

Autumn is a good time to plant an erica garden. These plants provide colour throughout the winter and interest all year round. If your lawn has suffered during the summer an autumn feed should help to restore it. Continue mowing using a high blade providing the ground is neither waterlogged nor frozen. A new lawn using turfs can be laid at this time of year. Plant evergreens and trees and move any shrubs that have outgrown their positions. Cut back tall roses so they do not work out of the ground with the winds. Remove dead flowers and cut back very soft shoots, this reduces die back. Leave main pruning until spring. Clear ground of any fallen leaves and protect ponds from falling debris.

Gill Matthews

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THE PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

IN APRIL 1996 Inspector Peach invited members of the Pembury Parish Council to a meeting at Southborough Police Station. He explained the reasons for forming a Community Working Group and the broad aims of the Group. The role of the Police was enforcement but the role of the Group was to ascertain the root cause of community problems, why they are occurring and research possible solutions, consulting with other groups and agencies where necessary. In order for positive action to be taken, the Police need the support of the Community.

The Pembury Community Working Group has representatives from the Church, the Parish Council, local shopkeepers, High Weald Housing, the YMCA and Neighbourhood Watch and meets approximately every other month.

The two main items concerning us at present are a drop-in coffee bar for teenagers and the Youth Bus. The idea of a drop-in coffee bar for the youth of the village has been discussed by the Parish Council and others for a number of years. At present there is a suggestion that 73 Lower Green Road be used as a drop-in coffee bar. This is to be put before the School Governors for their consideration at their next meeting.

Several years ago the Leisure Board of the Borough Council with the support of the then leader of the Council, a local resident, purchased and equipped a double-decker bus with a computer and television. The Parish Council went to some trouble and expense to get the Bye-Laws amended in order that the Bus could park on the Recreation Ground. I attended the first visit of the bus which seemed to be successful and enjoyed by all. However, there were problems subsequently getting a driver.

We understand that the bus is now back in use and has been seen in Cranbrook. We are now trying to persuade the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Youth and Community Development Officer that Pembury should be re-instated on the itinerary.

Ron Abbott

HOSPICE 5TH BIRTHDAY

AT THE beginning of September the Hospice shop, in the High Street, was five years old. It continues to raise valuable funds towards the running of the Hospice.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our customers – past, present and future – for their support and donations.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the volunteer staff, without whom we could not operate. We always need more volunteers, if you would like to join us, for a minimum of three hours per week, telephone me on 825526.

Happy birthday – and good fortune for the next five years.

Lynne Berry, Shop Supervisor

Richard Snow, Fundraising Director, adds:

Thanks to all who have given so much time and enthusiasm over this period to support the Hospice. Helpers are still always welcome, and should call in at the shop.

The full range of Christmas cards and gifts are now on sale in the reception area of the Hospice.

This year there is a special hospice calendar with monthly floral illustrations kindly donated by a professional artist selling at £3.99.

In addition the Hospice cookbook 'Meals in the Weald' with a foreword by Rory Bremner is on sale priced at £9.99. This makes an excellent Christmas present and can be bought at the Hospice or the Hospice shop in the village.

We are looking for a volunteer van-driver (with van) to pick up goods for our shops. Enquiries to Kim Brophy at the Hospice on 820500.

Forthcoming dates for your diary include: October 24th Putting on the Glitz Fashion Show, November 5th Christmas Market, December 6th Tree of Light Dedication Service and Carols. All events are held at the Hospice, where further details can be obtained. To dedicate a light on the hospice Christmas Tree in memory of a loved one costs just £5 and includes a personal message, which is attached to the tree. Forms are available at the Hospice reception or the Hospice shop.

Richard Snow

David Salter

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ROSIE'S RECIPE CORNER

Starter – sufficient for 4 people

Ingredients:

Small tin of crab 200g,
6 halves of chopped walnuts,
mayonnaise/plain yoghurt,
seasoning, balsamic vinegar,
a few capers (optional),
a little lemon juice,
some small salad leaves and a
couple of pears.

Drain the crab and mix it with equal amounts of mayonnaise and yoghurt, a little at a time until you have a firm mixture. Add a few chopped capers (if using) then a teaspoon of balsamic vinegar to taste. Add the chopped walnuts. Season to taste.

Cut the pears in half, from the stalk down. Remove the core, take a melon baller and scoop out some of the pear, just enough to leave the pear halves able to stand up on the plate, stalk end uppermost. Fold the pear bits into the mixture. Wipe lemon juice over the pears to prevent discolouration. Place half a pear on a small plate, divide the mixture into four and place the salad leaves next to the pears upon which is placed the crab mixture. The idea is for the mixture to look as if it has tumbled out of the pear. If you have any chives you could place a few pieces over the mixture.

This is equally good with apples and instead of crab try prawns, tuna or smoked fish.

Main Course

Take 4 small individual flan tins or Yorkshire pudding tins. Using short crust pastry, blind bake to make 4 cases. Sauté a small amount of vegetables, enough to fill the pastry cases. You could use courgette,

red peppers, onion, sweet potato or your choice. Fill the cases with the vegetables. Beat together 2 small eggs and a little milk and pour over the vegetables. Put in an oven 190°C, 375°F, Gas Mark 5 for about 15 minutes until set. Serve with vegetables of your choice e.g. new potatoes, broccoli, beans, peas etc.

Pudding

To finish with here is a Summer pudding. A delight in the summer months and a reminder of summer in the winter months and a good alternative to Christmas pudding.

Ingredients: 1lb of mixed red/blackcurrants and blackberries, 8oz of raspberries, 4oz of caster sugar, about 8 slices of white bread with crusts removed and a 1½ pint pudding basin.

Place fruit in pan with sugar and a cup of water and cook until soft giving a stir. Strain the fruit reserving the juice. Cut bread into three circles to fit the bottom, middle and top and shape the remaining bread to line the basin. Soak the bread in the juice, line bottom of basin, arrange shapes around the sides, put half the fruit in the basin and cover with the middle slice of bread, arrange rest of sides, add remaining fruit and cover with the top. Don't worry if it all doesn't fit, patches do not show. Place a saucer small enough to fit inside basin and put a heavy 1lb weight on top. Leave in fridge overnight. Turn onto a serving plate. Serve with your favourite cream.

N. Joy

If you have any favourite recipes to share with other readers, please send them in to Rosie Latter at 81 Beagleswood Road.

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A RABBIT'S TALE

ONE WEEKEND, during the latter part of 1940, I caught a very late train out from Fenchurch Street and, on my arrival at a dingy, ill-lit coastal area, I did wonder whatever had prompted me to this place. Usually, on a Saturday night; and especially during the winter months, my friends and I would be concerning ourselves at one of the snooker halls and probably end up afterwards for a couple of pints in the local. But it was this compulsive and 'on-the-spur-of-the-moment' escapade of mine and after a rough sort of journey on that part of the railway I did eventually turn up at one of my long lost, and almost forgotten relations, my cousin Cyril!

Climbing the grey, drab stone steps which led up to a dark hallway in an ill-lit street, I noted that his place of residence held all those essential characteristics pertinent to a Victorian atmosphere and with the intermittent cat-calls in the murky shadows of the alleyways; everything was reminiscent of one of those scenes likely to be found in a cheap paperback thriller of a fog-bound London of long ago.

My journey was to be rewarded by the usual felicitations showered on one after such a long absence and my apologies for such an abrupt arrival were waived – my cousin was delighted to see me. Soon, I was escorted to his study where I was initiated by his political baptismal fire and wrath! Catching up with the everyday family gossip was no problem and between coffee and sandwiches we did aspire to a lighter vein. But then he woefully exclaimed to me of the poverty stricken consequences of having highfaluting idealism and reflecting back on a war-torn world, I agreed!

Cyril's mathematical expertee-ism highlighted a new dimension, or as I would put it, Cyrillism plus Cyrillistics! Never before had I been confronted by a barrage of evaluations equated in the formulae of political economy and philosophy! Cyril – always ready to denigrate the rotten system of Man's exploitation by Man! But the lighter side of my relative was revealed when he told me a story of how, at the latter end of the war he had been employed as a clerk and forgot to switch off the lights from his place of employment. It wasn't long before the local police and air-raid warden came round to tell him he was in contravention of the Blackout Regulations and he, being the only one with the key, was whisked away to his office to 'Put that light out!'

Later on that night, the air-raid warning sounded and like so many others Cyril took to the nearest public shelter. It wasn't long before he got in conversation with some old boy, probably an old-age pensioner a bit down on his luck. Cyril then relates how the shrapnel was failing and the local defence were booming away when suddenly there was this terrific crash. Apparently a sneak raider had been hit and a piece of its fuselage had landed in the roadside outside where they had taken cover. With the all-clear now sounded the old fellow scrambled out and picking up a piece of the wreckage from the Luftwaffe, looked skywards, and shouted, "Thanks, mate! Just what I wanted for my rabbit's hutch".

It was early morning when we both retired to our respected places of sleep and waking that same morning from the couch and with the usual well-wishing, I made off to the railway station back to London. It had been some time since any real contact was made again between relations, but you know, there was one thing that really stood out vividly in my mind after that little story from my cousin. I kept on asking myself, "Do rabbits really need draughtsmen from Germany and mathematicians from England to secure some reasonable accommodation for themselves?"

Terrence St. John

HEADWAY – Tunbridge Wells & District

HEADWAY is a local Charity based on the Pembury Hospital site that provides services for helping brain injured people and their carers.

- In 1999 135,000 people in the United Kingdom were suffering from the long term effects of severe brain damage and this number is growing.
- Every year one million people attend hospital with a brain injury as a result of an accident
 - Of these 160,000 will suffer minor or moderate brain damage
 - Over 11,000 will suffer severe brain damage, most of whom will not be able to return to work and many of whom will need full time care for the rest of their lives.

What does Headway do to help?

We offer day centre services four days a week, providing social, leisure and therapeutic activities to assist the individual who is brain injured to achieve the highest possible level of functioning and quality of life. Our day centre is a hive of activity, an extremely happy and safe environment for the individual to enjoy the wide ranging activities.

We offer support , information and guidance to brain injured people and their families/carers through our Family Support Worker. A monthly Family Support Group is held at the day centre in the evening

Through holidays and weekends we offer respite for the families and carers of brain injured people. This year we have had two holidays for our members, one week in Cornwall and one week in Norfolk.

We hold monthly meetings, the first Monday of the month at 8.00pm to which anyone who is interested in, or just needs to know a little bit more about brain injury is welcome to join us. We have a wide range of speakers from professions and services that are involved with brain injury. A Calendar of Events outlining the years programme can be obtained from the day centre.

If you would like to help?

We are like many other Charities, in need of Volunteers. Our staff team is small, therefore we rely heavily on our Volunteers to assist us at the day centre working with our members either on a one to one or small group activities. If you feel you would like more information, please contact Libby Slattery Manager at Headway House Day Centre 01892 823120 – We would be delighted to welcome anyone who has a few hours to spare during the week and who enjoys working with people.

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OUR CRAZY LANGUAGE

Why is “crazy man” an insult, while to insert a comma and say “Crazy, man!” is a compliment?

Why are a “wise man” and “wise guy” opposites?

Why is “abbreviation” such a long word?

Why is “dyslexic” so hard to spell?

CRIME IN PEMBURY

THANKFULLY, the actual numbers of criminal offences per month stays very much the same and in this edition we have actually been provided with four months' figures – April, May, June and July – although April has been reported previously.

Unfortunately, July produced an unusually high figure for damage and theft in particular, bearing in mind it was a month where we had nearly maximum daylight hours. There was a spate of damage and nuisance in the Recreation Ground, culminating in the burning down of the Tennis Pavilion.

It is quite obvious that the type of person who does this has not got the courage to join an organisation that is competitive and might expose their weaknesses in team games.

Personally, I feel quite sorry for the police officers who have to attend instances of crime because it is them that we often criticise if they take longer than expected to arrive. Yet, local Commanders tell us everything is in order, response times satisfactory and officers on the beat are well represented. However, central government tell us a different story, with Mr. Blunkett, quite rightly in my opinion, advocating possibly a return of up to 25,000 additional officers on patrol nationally.

I bet I know what option most parishioners would rather have.

Hugh Boorman

MONTH	Arson	Assault	Burglary other Type	Burglary	Damage	Deception	Drugs	Miscellaneous	Theft from Motor Vehicles	Theft	Theft of Motor Vehicles	Vehicle Interference	TOTAL
April	1				4	1		1	1	5			13
May		1	1		4	3	1	1		5	1	1	18
June	1		1	1	5	1				5		1	15
July		1	1		11		1	2	4	2	4	2	28
TOTAL	2	2	3	1	24	5	2	4	5	17	5	4	74
ROAD													
A21 B								1					1
Beagleswood Road											1		1
Bellfield Road						1							1
Brickfields		1											1
Bulls Place						1							1
Camden Avenue											1		1
Castle Hill						1							1
Church Road						1			1		1	1	3
Elmhurst Avenue			1								1		2
Hastings Road		1			1		1	1		1	1	1	6
Henwood Green Road									1		1	1	3
Henwoods Mount	1					1							2
Herons Way						1							1
High Street		1			2	4	1	2	1	1			12
Highfield Close						2							2
Kings Toll Road										1			1
Knights Close						1							1
Lower Green Road	1		1		4					3			9
Maidstone Road						1				1			2
Old Church Road										2			2
Petersfield									1				1
Romford Road				1						1			2
The Grove						1			1				2
Tonbridge Road					5	1				7			13
Woodhill Park						1					1		2
Woodsgate Way												1	1
TOTAL	2	2	3	1	24	5	2	4	5	17	5	4	74

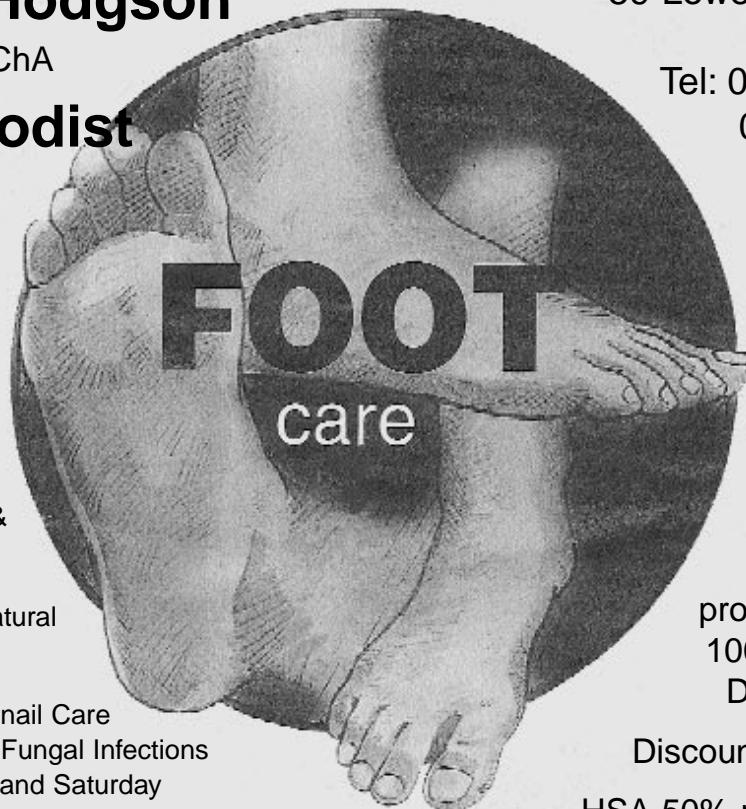
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LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

THE WEATHER was almost too good on Bank Holiday Saturday and appeared to have an effect on numbers attending the Hospital Fete. Visitors were, however, treated to a good variety of stalls and attractions, Punch & Judy and the Pearly King and Queen also in attendance to lend a hand.

Jayne Torvill opened the Fete in the presence of the Mayors of Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge & Malling and Southborough who stayed to help draw the Grand Raffle at the end of the afternoon.

Despite the lower attendance the League of Friends are well on the way to the target figure of £21,000 required to purchase a Drager 8000 Ventilator with a gross take of just over £16,500. This is a machine that helps newborn babies breathe if they are having difficulties and we do know that last year over 60 babies at Pembury would have benefited from this facility. To those of you who attended, thank you and we hope you had a wonderful day.

You can find further details of the League of Friends' activities at www.pemburyleague.org.uk or by calling in at the Hospital Shop or writing to us care of the Hospital.

Ken Marsh

THE ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH

THE ROTARY Club of Southborough, under the guidance of its new President, Frank Maynard, has announced ambitious new plans for the current Rotary year to support community projects in the area, particularly for the young and the elderly.

The Club raises funds through such events as its Family Fun Day in May, which this year raised £5,000 to be divided between Southborough and High Brooms Age Concern and local Rotary Charities; and its Charity Concert at The Victoria Hall in June when £1,400 was raised to be divided between Pembury Primary School, St Matthews Primary School, High Brooms, and The Chetverikova School of Russian Ballet.

The Club also gives service in the form of various projects for the elderly, such as the provision of smoke alarms, a theatre visit, an at home party with entertainment, and help in organising a grandparent day at one of our local primary schools. Projects to help younger people include Rotary reading support, the provision of Coping with Life CDs in primary schools, help with the Royal Tunbridge Wells Competitive Arts Festival (Immediate Past President, Nigel Stratton, is the new Chairman of RTWCAF), and support for environmental projects in primary schools and the community.

The Club has a busy programme of social events for its members and a series of interesting speakers at its weekly lunchtime meetings at The David Salomons Centre, Southborough. It welcomes new members, both men and women, and is always pleased to meet those who would like to know more about how to become involved. Initial contact could be with the secretary, Mike Raper on 01892 822095.

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Your Clerk Reports . . .

THIS SUMMER has been a very busy period for the Parish Council starting with the organisation of the Village Fete on the Village Green in July. Although the weather was inclement the atmosphere by far made up for the raindrops. It is hoped to repeat the event next year, so any offers of help with the organisation and on the day will be much appreciated.

Also next year the Parish Council is planning a couple of events to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee. In May, the Village Hall has been booked for a 'Posh Frock And Dinner Jacket 50's Dance And Buffet' and it is also hoped to stage an open air concert and picnic on the Village Green.

By now, the new tennis courts will be opened for play in the Recreation Ground. The lawn tennis courts became very costly and time consuming to maintain and could only be used for a very short period throughout the year, so the decision was made to hard surface them, with the help of a grant from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. This will enable the tennis club to play all year round. Anyone interested in joining them is asked to contact Mrs Ballantine on Pembury 822156. If you do not wish to join the club the courts will be available for informal play under the same terms as the old hard court, namely that permits are available on a monthly, two monthly or annually basis from the Clerk's office at 6 The Grove (Tel: 823193). This allows play at all times when the Recreation Ground is open except at the periods set aside for the tennis club.

Members of the Council have also spent much time in studying the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Local Plan Review and making comments to the Borough Council. The plan forms the basis of all planning decisions in the area and is, therefore, an extremely important document. The Parish Council has also been involved in attending seminars to discuss Best Value and Quality Parish Councils. It is very heartening to realise that Pembury Parish Council already fits most of the criteria of a Quality Parish Council.

Again, the village was entered for the South East in Bloom competition and, although not a winner, the village looked very good throughout the summer with the hanging baskets extending from the Alms Houses to Woodsgate Way, the Village Green always looking well tended and many individuals and businesses displaying wonderful blooms in their gardens and frontages.

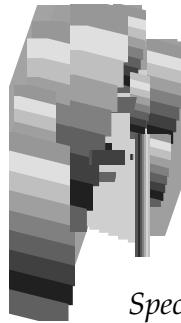
Finally, just to say that the Parish Council Office is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm at 6 The Grove. Please feel able to contact me to discuss any matter which you think the Parish Council would be interested in or be able to help with. If we do not know the answer we will do our best to find someone who does!

Barbara Russell

PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

PEMBURY NOW has two beautiful all-weather tennis courts in the Recreation Ground! So, for the first time ever, Pembury Tennis Club will be able to play throughout the winter. We will meet every Sunday from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

If you play tennis and would like some exercise, please come and join us on any Sunday on or after 7th October. Contacts: Barbara Ballantine 822156 or Sheila Smith 822405.



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FOR YOUR DIARY

REGULARS

Village Market – Village Hall – Thursdays 9.30am-12 noon

OCTOBER

- 2 Darby and Joan Club - Village Hall - 2 pm
- 3 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'The Fascination of Stained Glass' - Upper Church - 8 pm
- 4 Pembury Afternoon WI : 'All the World's a Stage' – Village Hall – 2.15 pm
- 5 Pembury Evening WI: Photography - Autumn Landscape - Village Hall - 7.45 pm
- 6 Pembury Footpath Walkers - depart Stonecourt Lane - 2.15 pm
- 7 Harvest Thanksgiving - Upper Church 9.45am, Old Church 5 pm
- 8 Parish Council Meeting - Village Hall - 8 pm
- 8 St Peter's Photographic Club: Hastings Results – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8 pm
- 8 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 13 Pembury Sequence Dance Club Dance – Village Hall – 7.30 pm
- 16 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2 pm
- 20 Pembury Bowls Club: Race Night – Village Hall – 7 for 7.30 pm
- 22 St Peter's Photographic Club: Hastings Results – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8 pm
- 24 Hospice in the Weald: Putting on the Glitz Fashion Show – contact Kim Brophy 820500
- 27 Pembury Gardeners: Halloween Disco & Supper – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 29 Pembury Society AGM – Village Hall – 7.45 pm for 8 pm
- 30 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2 pm

NOVEMBER

- 1 Pembury Afternoon WI: AGM – Village Hall – 2.15 pm
- 2 Pembury Village FIREWORKS – Recreation Ground, Lower Green Road – 7 pm
- 2 Pembury Evening WI: AGM – Village Hall – 7.45 pm
- 3 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Camden Car Park – 2.15 pm
- 3 RNLI Autumn Fair – Catholic Hall – 10 am to 12 noon
- 5 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 5 Hospice in the Weald: Christmas Market
- 7 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Live and Work Study – Upper Church – 8 pm
- 12 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8 pm
- 12 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 13 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2 pm
- 17 St Peter's Autumn Fair – Upper Church – 10.30 am
- 24 Pembury Bowls Club: AGM – Village Hall Meeting Room – evening
- 26 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8 pm
- 27 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2 pm

DECEMBER

- 1 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15 pm
- 3 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 5 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Christmas Supper – details to be advised
- 6 Pembury Afternoon WI: Christmas Party – Village Hall – 2.15 pm
- 6 Hospice in the Weald: Tree of Light Dedication Service and Carols
- 7 Pembury Evening WI: Christmas Party – Village Hall – 7.45 pm
- 10 WI District Carol Service – Upper Church 7.30 pm
- 10 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8 pm
- 10 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 11 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2 pm
- 31 New Year's Eve Disco – Village Hall – evening

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Mr Kevin Lynes, 5 Downs Cottages, The Down, Lamberhurst, Kent TN3 8EX

Borough Council

Mr Bruce Ballantine, 6 Maidstone Road TN2 4DD. Tel: 822156

Mr Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way TN2 4DN. Tel: 823966

Mr David Mills, 125 Ridgeway TN2 4ET. Tel: 825577

Parish Council

Cllr Paul Barrington-King, 22 The Coppice TN2 4EY. Tel: 825144

Cllr Hugh Boorman, 52 Henwood Green Rd TN2 4LH. Tel: 823068 *Chairman – Amenities and Allotments*

Cllr Mrs Sarah Clarke, Little Stanton,

Romford Road TN2 4AY. Tel: 823932

Cllr David Coleman, 22 Ridgeway TN2 4ER. Tel: 823402

Cllr Dick Crouch, 17 Highfield Close TN2 4HG. Tel: 823164

Cllr Derek Flint, 1B Beagleswood Road TN2 4HX. Tel: 824829

Cllr Mrs Janet Greenwood, 1F Beagleswood Road TN2 4HX. Tel: 824472

Cllr Brian Horgan, 4 Cornford Park TN2 4PW, Tel: 822412

Cllr Mrs Rosemary Latter, 81 Beagleswood Road
TN2 4HZ. Tel: 822059

Cllr Mrs Gillian Matthews, 2 Gimble Way TN2 4BX. Tel: 822057

Cllr David Mills, 125 Ridgeway TN2 4ET. Tel: 825577

Cllr Mrs Alison Morton, 2 The Coppice TN2 4EY. Tel: 824938

Cllr Mrs Wendy Withycombe, 23 Westway TN2 4EX. Tel: 823034

Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council

Mrs Barbara Russell, 6 The Grove, Pembury, Kent TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193.

Email: PemburyPC@hotmail.com

Chairman of Parish Council

Vice Chairman of Parish Council

Chairman – Planning

Chairman – Finance

Chairman – Burials,

Environmental and Highways

Chairman – Public Relations

**Chairman – Christmas Lights/
Pembury in Bloom**

**Chairman – Pembury Village
News Editorial Committee**

CHURCH TIMES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

Upper Church

8.00am Holy Communion
9.45am The Parish Eucharist and Junior Church
10.00am Holy Communion (Wednesdays)

Old Church

11.30am Matins (except first Sunday, Holy Communion)
Evening services as advertised on Church noticeboards

CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF ST. ANSELM – PEMBURY

Sunday Mass 10.30am
Holy Days – Vigil Mass 7.30pm
Confessions: Sunday 10.15am

Weekday Services:
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Tuesday – Communion Service 7.30am

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And you want to smile but can only sigh
You're watching the telly and the signal goes
You go to pick a pansy but can only find a rose
You come home from school and the day's been bad
You want to chuckle but you're too mad
So you go to have a soak in the bath
Only to find the basin's in half
You're listening to your music and there's a power cut
And you want to laugh but can only tut
You're trying to cut your meat but you've got a blunt knife
Why, oh why, is this a hard life?
But you'll go on and in the end you'll win
The secret of life is never to give in.

Anna Russell

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

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Secretary: Mr R. G. G. Whitlock, 6 The Forstal.

Tel: 822115

CAMDEN GREEN BADMINTON CLUB

R. Holt, 50 Ridgeway. Tel: 823830

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Mrs Doris Down. Tel: 822323

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

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Tel: 822373

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

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David Gow. Tel: 824119

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Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY F.C. SATURDAY

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PEMBURY F.C. SUNDAY

P. Craxton, 31 Batchelors. Tel: 823928

PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

N. & K. Franklin, 11 The Meadow. Tel: 823212

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Pastor David Graham

Church Office. Tel: 825590

Youth Specialist: Doug White 823898

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Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

Simon Galway. Tel: 822866

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Derek Johnson. Tel: 823150

PEMBURY STOOLBALL CLUB

Mrs Sandy Rice-Tucker. Tel: 822483

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Tel: 823235. And Jackie Fichtmüller, 19 Bellfield Road,
Pembury. Tel: 823002

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs J. Tompkins. Tel: 823123

Branch Leader: Mrs J. Aust. Tel: 823963

ST. PETER'S PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Events Secretary, Carol Wakeford. Tel: 822030

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Burleton. Tel: 823250

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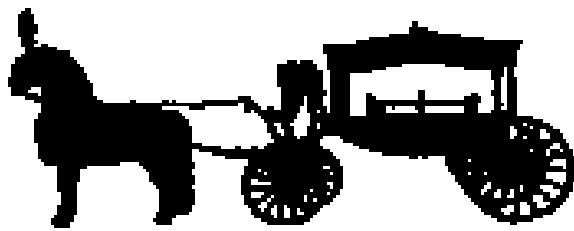
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