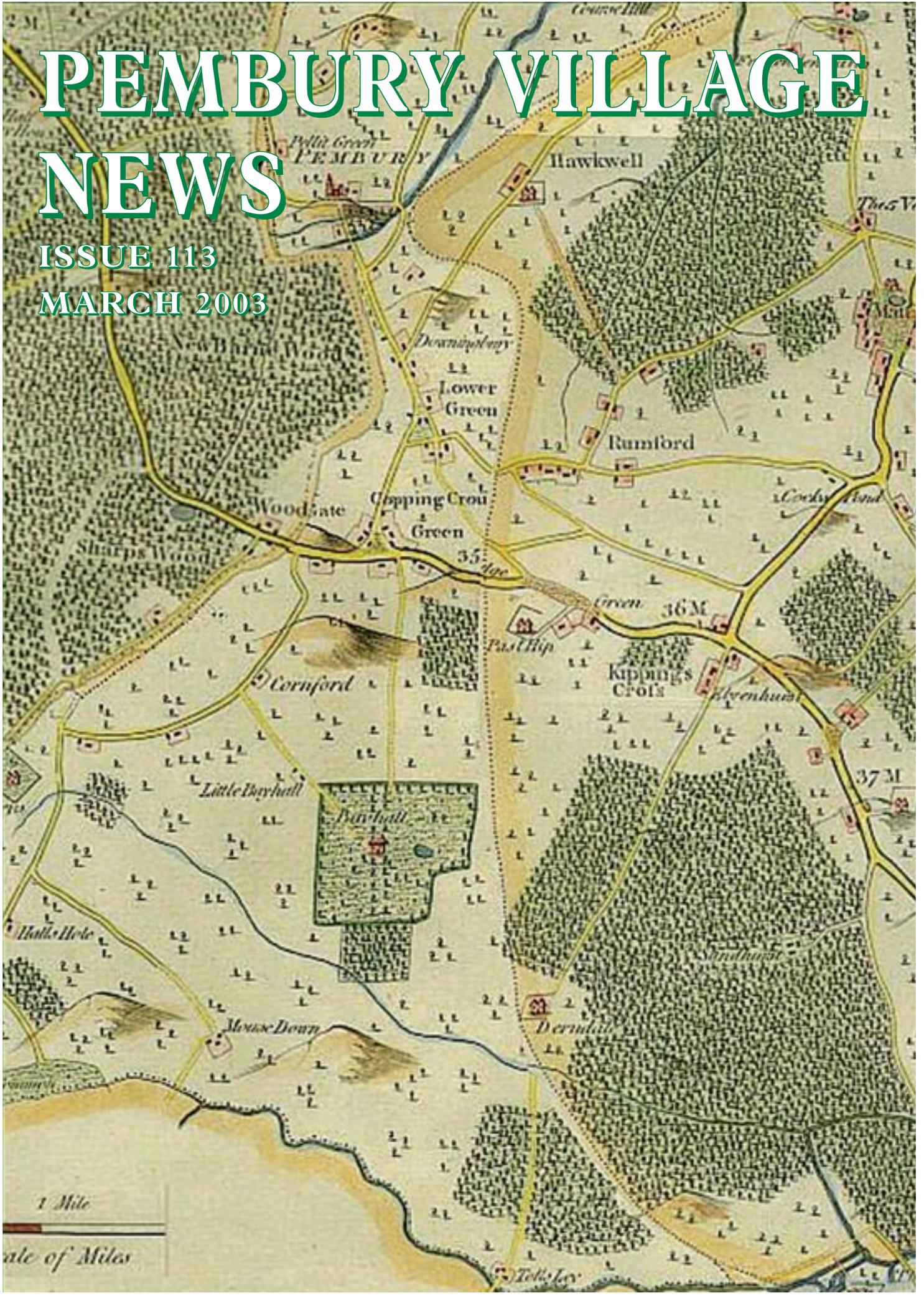


PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 113

MARCH 2003



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Cover illustration courtesy of Tony Nicholls

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 Alison Morton (Editor), Paul Barrington-King, Leslie Gregory,
 Nicola Kibble, Rosemary Latter and Ann Owen

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

FAME AT LAST!

SITTING WATCHING BBC 2's flagship business programme 'Working Lunch' on Monday 17th February, I suddenly heard "Pembury" mentioned. I almost dropped my sandwich!

There was a feature on broadband Internet access for rural areas, so I listened a little more closely. Donna Young from BT Broadband mentioned that one of their most successful initiatives working with communities was "Broadband for Pembury".

I have since emailed 'Working Lunch' explaining that the Pembury initiative came entirely from the village and was masterminded by Mark Leman who received a Certificate of Commendation from the Parish Council for persisting in getting a great facility for our



village. We did leaflet drops, articles in the Pembury Village News and local press, wrote to our MP, spread the word via our village e-group, etc., etc. Although we only have a 6,500 population, we got past our 200 threshold within 7-8 months.

Apparently, even though they need a mere 400 to get through BT's threshold of interest, Blackpool can only muster 58 so far . . . Keep on trucking, Blackpool!

EDITOR

Mark receiving his certificate from Parish Council Chairman Sarah Clarke.

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 May 2003.*

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.



GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE AWARDS SCHEME

DID YOU KNOW that your garden joined with millions of other gardens in the country make a nature reserve five times the size of greater London?

Gardens can fulfil a wide range of functions. It can be where the children play, where we meet and relax with friends, or a colourful backdrop to the house. With a little care and thought gardens can also be a vital haven for wildlife, such as butterflies, bees, birds and frogs.



Changes to benefit wildlife in an individual garden may be small, but collective action in many gardens can make a world of difference. For example, there is national concern about the decline of the sparrow at the moment.

Help wildlife in your garden with: Bird feeders, bird and bat boxes, hedgehog homes, plants for bees, butterflies and other insects, ponds, wildflower areas, native trees, shrubs and hedges, not forgetting messy areas!

The Gardening for Wildlife Awards Scheme encourages people to enhance the wildlife value of their gardens. You don't have to be an expert or have acres of space to help wildlife. Our judges are looking for the efforts made to encourage wildlife to your garden. Whether your garden is large or small, in the town or countryside, by making small and simple changes you could have a garden for wildlife.

There are categories for private gardens and school/community gardens.

The scheme is being launched on 20th March and the closing date for entries 31st May 2003.

To receive a free information pack full of tips and an entry form contact Rebekah Smith at the Kent High Weald Project,
Tel: 01580 715918,
email: rebekah.smith@kent.gov.uk. Or download the fact sheets from www.kentwildlife.org.uk

The Kent High Weald

Project focuses its activities in the Borough of Tunbridge Wells. Landowners, Community groups, schools and interested individuals are encouraged to take part in a wide range of projects that contribute to the conservation and enhancement of the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and adjoining Low Weald.

Contact us at: KHWP, Council Offices, Cranbrook, Kent TN17 3EN.

Tel: 01580 715918 Fax: 01580 712064.

Visit our Web Site at:

<http://www.kenthighwealdproject.org>

The project continues to link people and places, habitats and species, landscapes and landowners. It is also about partnerships between volunteers, community groups, schoolchildren, youth groups, landowners, local businesses, Parish, Borough and County Councillors who have all contributed in making the project so successful in achieving real results.

BO-PEEP NEEDS A FACELIFT!

PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL and The Pembury Society are launching a competition inviting residents to design a new sign for Bo-Peep corner. The old sign was badly damaged in high winds and this is an opportunity for creative talent in Pembury to put forward their ideas.

“It would be nice to move away from the nursery rhyme,” says Hugh Boorman, Chairman of the Amenities, Allotments and Environmental Improvement Working Group on Pembury Parish Council.

“Historically, the area had nothing to do with lost sheep, but as the highest point in Pembury the name meant a look-out point or ‘peeping’ place,” adds Derek Johnson, Chairman of The Pembury Society. Quite whether it was looking out for His Majesty’s Excisemen in times gone by is another question . . . !

All entries should be original, on A3 paper and submitted to the Parish Office at 6 The Grove (Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm tel. 823193) by **19th April**. Judges will be members of the Parish Council and

The Pembury Society and their decision will be final. The competition winner will have the honour of being noted as the sign designer and having made a lasting contribution to the village as well as receiving a £25 token.



NOTCUTTS’ GOLDEN JUBILEE BENCH

Notcutts’ Golden Jubilee bench is now in pride of place near the village War Memorial.



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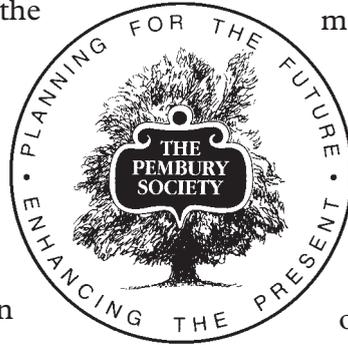


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THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

WITHIN A FEW DAYS of this edition going to press, the Government's Communities Plan will be made public. We will then see what has already been described as “the blue-print for the greatest house building and transport project since the Second World War”. This is expected to have a major impact on the southeast of England where pressure has been growing to provide better roads and railway communication and more modern schools and hospitals. Plus more housing.

Housing development has always been a major plank in the structure of The Pembury Society which was created to fight the continued spread of new building in and beyond the borders of our village. Our Founding Fathers said “Enough is Enough” because they knew that if this rate of development were to continue, our green and pleasant environment would rapidly succumb beneath tiled roofs and concrete slabs and would be lost for ever. To date, our track record has been successful and we stand four-square to defend the maintenance of the Green Belt around our village in order to preserve its character. During the next few years, however, we are going to witness the effects of what we are sure will be a high level of public and private investment development projects in Kent and East Sussex. As a community, we



are going to have to face the issues that these will bring.

There can be little doubt that if large amounts of public money are to be made available for new projects, then pressure will be put upon local authorities to modify or bend their presently entrenched attitude which is against development intrusion on to Green Belt land. When this expected relaxation of rules does occur it will be incumbent on all of us in Pembury to face the issues and not just look the other way. We must guard against any weakening of our resolve to protect the Green Belt around our village and be prepared to speak with one voice against any such erosion.

On a somewhat lighter note, members and prospective members will be pleased to learn that the Speaker at our Spring Meeting on the evening of Thursday 10th April will be a senior representative of the Dover Coastguard. The recent loss of the *Tricolore* in the English Channel (alright then, La Manche because it's on *their* side) and the subsequent collisions with that wreck by other vessels, bring home in stark relief the problems experienced by the Coastguards in policing the busiest shipping channel in the world. So, we can expect a special and memorable event that evening in the Village Hall.

Derek Johnson

PEMBURY ON THE BBC WEBSITE

PEMBURY FEATURES among the BBC website's 'Where I Live' local web tours. Steve Morton, webmaster of the Pembury Village News web site, created the Pembury tour for this series. You can find it at www.bbc.co.uk/kent/places/villages/pembury/pembury2.shtml

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PEMBURY PEOPLE

MY FEATURE FOR this edition will concentrate upon the youth of our village. Traditionally, I have focused upon more established and, it is fair to say, more mature personalities within the community. Recent developments regarding the provision and possible withdrawal of facilities for our youngsters have led me to seek some collective views from this group. I am hopeful that this feature will offer them an opportunity to convey their views about living in the village and their expectations for any improvements.

I have collected my findings into a dialogue that was reinforced time and again from various groups. The following is a snapshot that, if you wish, can be heard from many groups of youngsters in the village. Some of this makes uncomfortable reading but it might provide a valuable insight into a worrying predicament.

So is it good living in Pembury?

“Not compared to other areas. Our mates live in places that have youth clubs and things like skateboard areas.”

Did you know that the YMCA facility is under threat?

“No. Some people use it but we want things like a dance night and somewhere central to meet like the village hall – other groups use it, why aren’t we?”

You have a skateboard ramp.

“Yes, worn out and too technical. Half-pipes are okay if you are a bit expert but not if you are an ordinary geezer. It also gets taken over by people who just want to meet and get out of their skulls and drink”.

Do you use the woods for instance on your mountain/BMX bikes?

“Get told off by people walking their dogs. Mates have tried taking their mopeds and quad bikes over there but that’s even more dodgy and the old Bill will probably dive in.”

What about groups like the Scouts and Guides or sports clubs like the football organisations?

“Some of our mates do that and have a good time but it doesn’t interest us.”

What about the graffiti in the village?

“Not as bad as elsewhere. It’s normally the same blokes, you can tell by their tags. They’re bored like us.”

What about you girls – do you agree with the lads?

“Not really interested about the sport thing but why don’t we have discos and dances?”

Are drugs being used in the village?

“Big time by some people.”

What age?

“Mostly early teens onwards, mostly spliffs [cannabis] although Charlie [coke] is easy to get.”

Got bored with the temptations of drinking then?

“Do that as well.”

What’s your answer then?

“Dunno. Nobody seems to be bothered about us. Soon as I get old enough I’ll move somewhere else.”

continued on page 11

P. J. & J. M. Ditchett

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PEMBURY PEOPLE *continued*

“O tempora, o mores” – the times we live in, the way they behave today bemoaned the elders of ancient Rome. You might remember one of my first articles for the Village News where I asked people to listen to the youngsters of our community. Considering the perceived lack of provision for our youth it is commendable that so few have been tempted into vandalism and crime out of sheer frustration and boredom. It is facile to suggest that, as we did, they should make their own fun. It was Max Beerbohm who stated that using the past as a stick to beat the present is lazy and unproductive. This is another age with another culture that could benefit from guidance and the provision of badly needed facilities to offer an alternative option to ‘Playstation’ recreation [sic].

This is a galaxy away from the usual pillars of village life that I normally portray but these youngsters need to be listened to and feel valued. Wouldn’t it be nice, for example, if we could widen the opportunities for activity and turn our playing fields into real and exciting recreational areas rather than our sad frozen-in-time anachronism, complete with tumble-down pavilion, that currently exists.

Let’s breathe life into the playing fields and make them come alive. How about a designated mountain bike track, safely fenced-off from the other users of the woods and using only a tiny part of the many hundreds of acres on our doorstep? We, as a caring community, surely deserve and need to do better. The representatives of the village, parish, borough and county, have already started to respond and act upon these portents. This will be a start. I would beg that all of us living in Pembury support these initiatives to provide a deserving and worthwhile stage of opportunity for our young people to grow and develop. They are, after all, Pembury People . . .

Paul Barrington-King

PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB

THE CRICKET CLUB is preparing for the new campaign, which starts mid-April, with high hopes of another successful season and retaining the Kent County Village League and Tuesday Evening League titles. The Club will be running sides on Saturdays (two league sides), Sundays, the Tuesday Evening League and various Colts and mid week friendly games.



A large group of colts have been attending nets, and with their continued progress, they will be forcing their way into the senior sides. A very enjoyable evening was had in The Black Horse in November at the annual Mens’ Night Dinner when Carl Openshaw (Kent CC Chairman) gave an amusing but informative speech. Further social events are planned commencing with Ladies’ Night Dinner Dance at Lamberhurst Golf Club on 15th March.

The AGM will be held on Thursday 20th March at the Clubhouse. New members are always welcome.

Contacts: Hon Secretary – Andy Weaver (tel. 824362),
Colts Section – Keith Hemstalk (tel. 824492)

Peter Massie

OLD MAPS SHOWING PEMBURY

Tony Nicholls contacted us with his terrific collection of maps showing Pembury and we asked him to tell us a bit about them. Here we reproduce the first part of his fascinating article.

THIS IS NOT a history of Pembury. I have neither the authority nor knowledge to start down that track, but I have read many local history books. Most have been written by life long residents bursting with tales from the past, and nearly all suffer from the same irritating defect: the lack of maps and plans that would otherwise greatly assist the reader. I have two general criticisms with all local historians: (1) The author usually assumes the reader to be a local and comes with an inherited background knowledge of the area; (2) The author generally writes for today, giving little consideration for the fact that their book may be picked up in 10 or 20 years time as a reference work. Referring to key locations as “. . . the old brown building currently occupied by Jones the Butcher” is of no use to anyone. Jones the Butcher has long since been replaced by a Blockbusters Video shop, the building is now bright yellow, and the reader is climbing the walls with rage. This has happened to me many times – sheer frustration at completely losing the plot, when a few supplementary maps would work wonders. Histories, of any kind, can never have too many maps!

I have a passion for maps, and I have assembled a collection of edited sections of maps produced between 1580 and 1860 that may be of interest to local residents (These can be seen in full on the Pembury Village News website at www.pembury.org – Editor.) Maps fall into two categories; printed and manuscript. Manuscript maps are hand drawn and are one-offs. They generally reside in libraries, museums and record offices. All the maps shown here are ‘printed’. They were produced in commercial quantities and can still be acquired by map collectors for intimate scrutiny and hours of quiet drooling.



Robert Marden c. 1695. Note the spelling amendment. Originally entered as Pembury, considered an error and amended.

The early years

The reign of Elizabeth I was the age of discovery and a time when the countryside was first surveyed and mapped. The first atlas of county maps was produced by Christopher Saxton in about 1579 from a series of surveys carried out from 1573 to 1579. John Norden conducted another survey a few years later, but the epic atlas of the age came in 1611 from John Speed. His work was based mainly on the surveys of Saxton and Norden. Speed's maps were modified and reprinted for the next 160 years. The early editions did not show the roads. The first road atlas was produced in 1675 by John Ogilby, and was copied and repackaged for the next 100 years or so. The smaller road maps were set into pocket sized atlases for the busy executives travelling the King's highways by coach or mail wagon.

Publishing piracy was rife – copyright was unheard of – all map makers copied from their predecessors and re-branded the products as their own. Most maps claimed ‘from new and accurate surveys’, but there were very few new surveys, and the accuracy is dubious. Many publishers relied on submitted corrections for their updates. Spelling was not standardised in those days – the first common dictionary, by Samuel Johnson, did not appear until 1755.

Surveyors did not personally trek around to every village, every hamlet, up every muddy track, and along every river bank in the land to acquire their data. They probably visited key towns on main roads and drew data from local sources. It's anyone's guess as to the true extent of these surveys.

What's in a name?

Communications in those days was poor. There was no TV, no radio and no general means of sharing information. Most people very rarely left their village, and if they did, it was probably to go no further than the next village. Knowledge was gained locally and shared locally. Family and neighbours were the main source of what you were, where you were, and what you called it. If the people in the next village called it something different, that was their problem. There were no national standards.

Travelling surveyors would ask locals the names of towns and villages and would write down their phonetic interpretation of the name. The village may be pronounced slightly differently between residents and neighbours, or between neighbours to the north and neighbours to the south. Two surveyors asking six locals could end up with a dozen different names!

Imagine that Pembury had always been Pembury, and a surveyor happened on a local with a stammer – “It’s P . . . P . . . Peb . . . Pепенbery”. A trifle implausible? A village could be misnamed by accident or stupidity? Well,

during the compilation of Speed’s atlas a place name in Wiltshire had been missed, and they put ‘quare’ on the map – a note to go back and query the missing name. They forgot and the map got produced with the village named ‘Quare’. Subsequent piracy and lack of fresh surveying meant that this error was passed from atlas to atlas for nearly 150 years before correction. (Emanuel Bowen's map of 1755 correctly showed it as North Burcombe). This error is well documented, many are not.



Philip Symondson c. 1590

Village names were obviously spoken, and referred to verbally long before they were written. The majority of the population were illiterate and there was probably no distinction between Pembury, Bembury or Bemby in everyday speech. The phonetic translation onto paper was a truly haphazard process. It is also possible that the pronunciation later evolved to suit the modern spelling, resulting in a further twist in the evolution. Apart from the obvious names like Edenbridge or Gravesend, always treat the so-called ‘origins’ of place names with a degree of scepticism.

Robert Morden’s maps of 1695 and 1722 onwards did much to standardise the spelling of place names, but you will see many variations of Pembury through the ages, and not in a very progressive order. It was not until John Cary’s maps and the first ordnance surveys in approx 1790-1801 that the spellings of many place names were set in concrete.

Do not agonise over the spellings on old maps. Do not be tempted to configure some sort of evolution to the name of this village through its umpteen ancient spellings. The fanciful variations you see are mostly due to ignorance and misinterpretation.

Tony Nicholls

Concluding part in the next (Summer) edition of the Pembury Village News

These and other maps can be seen on the PVN website – www.pembury.org

Cover shows map by Hasted c. 1780

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ACTION ON WASTE – WHAT’S IT ALL ABOUT?

MANY OF YOU must either have accepted the new scheme as a *fait accompli* or are keen on recycling. But as you may have read and heard I feel the current scheme is, in its current form, not true recycling.

Many of you already have compost bins or use the brown bin during the main gardening periods, which is good because it’s a great improvement on taking garden refuse to Longfield Road or the Sunday utility vehicle. My main objections to this scheme are as follows.

Based on my intensive research about these schemes, I can say that without any doubt the most effective schemes, if we are truly serious about recycling, are kerbside collections. These would give our council the opportunity to collect plastic, cans, organic waste, as well as garden refuse, in segregated formats. This will then enable the council to pass on materials for re-use, reduce the amount of waste going to landfill and achieve the targets that are being set initially by the EU and central government.

The goal is waste minimisation and we must all try very hard. In attempting this target is it really right to reduce collections of household waste to alternate weeks? This diverts garden refuse from landfill with the detrimental result that our green bin waste smells and local vermin have a field day.

Within Waste Strategy 2000, consumers are strongly encouraged to separate waste for recycling and to compost kitchen and garden waste. This strategy also encourages consumers to participate in local debates on how best to manage our waste.

We were designated as a ‘pilot’ for this scheme which will be implemented in Tunbridge Wells in the autumn. I have tried very hard to work with our Borough Council on this issue but I am afraid they are not listening. However, Government policy strongly requests that they take part in debate.

Our next meeting is on Saturday 29th March 2003, in the Village Hall at 10am. All are welcome, whether for or against the scheme. We need effective dialogue. By doing this our Borough could receive direct funding from Central Government which has allocated some £150 million for such initiatives in their 2003 budget.

Brian Horgan

Chairman Actiononwaste

4 Cornford Park, Pembury, TN2 4PW 01892 822412 Web site: www.actiononwaste.co.uk

THOSE TEENAGE YEARS . . .

TO BE A TEENAGER today is not easy and parents often find it difficult to understand. Over the past two years a parent support group has been meeting in the village and has helped in some ways to bridge gaps and bring understanding.

If you feel that such a group would help you or if your child is reaching the teens and you want to be able to understand them better then please come along on Wednesday 30th April at 8pm in the Upper Church of St. Peter’s where a professional councillor with Fegans (Child and Family Care) will give a talk. This meeting is open to everybody; for further information please contact Vivienne on 823914.

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD NEWS

LOOK OUT FOR “Adventures in the Hopfield” at 7pm on Friday 30th May in the Village Hall. This promises to be a real must for those who enjoy a peep at the past locally. You may have read in the press about the discovery of a film made 50 years ago in and around Goudhurst. It tells the story of a London girl who runs away from home to join the hop pickers in Kent and stars child actors who went on to become household names: among them Jane Asher, Melvyn Hayes and Mandy Miller.

The film was rescued by Tunbridge Wells man Barry Littlechild, who has worked for the BBC. It has since been playing to packed houses around the area, and Barry is very kindly donating proceeds from the show to Hospice in the Weald. For further information please ring Rita Brown on 824490.



Also coming up is the Kent Messenger Walk for Kent Hospices, which is due to start from the Hop Farm, Paddock Wood on Sunday 18th May. For further details contact Richard Snow on 820534.

You may have noticed the hospice special needs vehicle driving around on Tuesdays picking up patients to come into the Day Hospice.

We urgently need more drivers for this vehicle on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. It's not like a van to drive, just like a car. Handles very well!

If you have a clean driving licence and can spare a couple of hours in the morning from 9.30am and a couple of hours in the afternoon from 3.30pm on one of those days, please contact Kim Brophy on 820529 for more details.

PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

WE HOPE TO START our summer season in the middle of April.

We meet on Wednesdays and Fridays from 5.30pm to dusk and on Sunday mornings from 10.30am to 12.30pm, on the tennis courts in the Recreation Ground.

New members are always welcome. So, if you play or even if you have played in the past and would like to take the game up again, why not come along and join us?

For more information, please call Sheila Smith on 822405 or Barbara Ballantine on 822156.



SNIPPETS

NEW NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH GROUP SET UP

Residents of Henwoods Mount have set up a new group in an effort to combat a spate of smashed windows, garage doors kicked in and general intimidation. Scheme co-ordinator David Brett reported how police liaison officer PC Eric Baldock had given them tips on crime prevention; not leaving wheelie bins for burglars to climb on to gain access and also carry stolen goods away; shutting windows properly – burglars use fishing lines to ‘catch’ keys lying near open windows. PC Baldock added that a Neighbourhood Watch scheme could unite community relations as neighbours looked out for one another. Local Pembury Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator is Gill Pavely on 822605.

OH! POOH!

Ray Heaseman has reported that people are putting dogs’ mess in the bin outside the post office opposite the school and the kids are getting it all over them [apart from the smell!]. Perhaps a little more care in dumping the dumps . . . ?

PEMBURY OLD CHURCH

Pembury’s 12th century Parish Church will be opened every summer Sunday afternoon between 3pm and 5pm from 11th May until September 14th. There is a comprehensive range of fund raising items for sale. These make excellent gifts for family and friends and all profits go towards the maintenance and repair of the Old Church. The Friends of Pembury Parish Church will be delighted to welcome you to this peaceful ancient Church.

DAWN HODGSON who ran a chiropodist surgery from Dr Singh’s former surgery in Lower Green Road is now operating from 67 Hastings Road (the same building as the dentist). Her contact numbers remain 824916 and 07761 583756.

SOME SAD NEWS TO REPORT . . .

Caroline Mazzey reports that Tony, who was featured with his wonderful potatoes in ‘My Plot’ in the last issue, has sadly died. He will be greatly missed by other ‘plotters’ on the allotments.

COFFEE MORNING AND SALE – ADVANCE NOTICE!

The Friends of Pembury Parish Church will hold their annual Coffee Morning and Sale on Saturday 6th September 2003 between 10am and noon on the Village Green or, if wet, in the Upper Church.

There will be many attractive stalls including cakes, handicrafts, gifts, best selling paperbacks, posh junk, fruit, preserves, plants, FPPC items, a raffle and refreshments. Do please put this date in your diaries, your support is needed to make this event successful. Ann Toler 824071 and Biddy Willson 822029 are always ready to collect ‘non perishables’ during the year so give one of us a ring when you have your spring clean.

IMPROVING PEMBURY

Plans to improve the appearance of the area each side of the entrance to Camden Avenue are being considered. Trees, new pavement, benches, planters etc. all form part of the plan being considered by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

MAYOR’S CHARITY QUIZ

A team from Pembury took part in the Mayor’s Charity Quiz in Tunbridge Wells on 11th January. Team members were John Duffy, Denzil Edwards, Cllr Nicola Kibble, Cllr Rosie Latter, Amanda Masters, Cllr Alison Morton, Cllr Steve Morton, and Philip Morton. The competition from the other teams from across the Borough was extremely fierce. We were 6th at one stage, but ended at 16th out of 49. Not too bad, we thought, for our first attempt!

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SNIPPETS *continued*

SCIENCE FOR THE COMMON GOOD
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An afternoon of workshops and activities exploring:

- the geology of the Common and surrounding High Weald Landscape
- the rise and fall of the great Wealden iron industry
- the science behind renewable energy
- the wildlife of our countryside

Hot and cold refreshments will be available. Organised by the Kent High Weald Project, The South East Alternative Science Network (SEASoN) and The Wealden Home

Educators Network (wHEN). For more information contact Rebekah at the Kent High Weald Project 01580 715 918

PEMBURY IN BLOOM

This competition run by the Parish Council in conjunction with Nottcutts, who generously donate the prizes, will be taking place again this year. Now is the time to do the planning and groundwork to getting that garden/allotment/ frontage up to the mark by mid-July . . .

AEROBIC/KEEP FIT

If you are interested in a class in the village please contact Paula 822161.

THE VILLAGE MARKET

ANYONE WHO is a regular at the Village Market (Village Hall on Thursday mornings) will acknowledge the great variety of people and commodities that contribute towards its success. Among other things it is a good meeting place for friends and neighbours. There is plenty to talk about over cups of tea and coffee, as well as the serious business of buying and selling.

Many people make a bee-line for Muriel's cake stall. The goodies there do not hang about! Sue's comprehensive spread of groceries, fruit and vegetables (locally grown so very fresh) always draws customers. And it is attractive for chocaholics too! Peter supplies Sue with cups of coffee to keep her larynx moist as she intersperses people's purchases with plenty of talk, most of it personal and caring, which so many older folk appreciate.

Those regulars keen to chat over a cup of coffee include Charlie, Rose and her brother-in-law Bill. You may not know them personally, but you will have seen them about the village. Bronwen makes a powerful cup of coffee – I usually ask for a little more milk to stop my hair curling. ("What hair?" someone says!) Eve, also at the serving hatch (keeping an eye on Bronwen?) is a mine of information. She kept me in conversation about Yorkshire, its beauty and its railways, for quite a while recently.

Carole and John from St. Peter's have a stall regularly, with a wide range of children's toys and games, books and tapes. Rita and Ruth oversee a stall in aid of the Hospice and other local charities, and plant and woodcraft stalls with Iris and Ivy, are usually there adding interest and attraction.

Browsers are welcome. Nothing is hurried. Being there makes a pleasant morning. If you don't know the people I've mentioned, then come and meet them, and others too. Even if you leave your shopping for a visit to Tesco's you might be tempted to buy a little, but more important you will have begun to form some friendships.

Leslie Gregory



PEMBURY IN FEBRUARY



Pembury was shrouded in deep snow in February – view of the Ridgeway



Old Church undergoes a refit (also in February, but with sunshine!)

PEMBURY ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP

MANY THANKS to the volunteers who have worked feverishly through the first quarter of this year on Saturday mornings clearing out brambles and old hedging along Redwings Lane.

This involves digging the ground between the gaps in the hedgerow then covering the dug area with a matting to prevent the growth of weeds.

We then slit the matting in five places per metre in a 'W' formation and insert new saplings or 'whips' as they are called. When we have covered the roots we insert a support cane, then finish off by winding a plastic cover around cane and whip to provide protection against rabbits who love to nibble at the bark, which would kill the new, young plant.

Many thanks to Peter Jervis of Downingbury Farm for his co-operation which should result



in a few years' time in a thick new hedge of Hazel, Hawthorn and Guelder rose. Thanks also to volunteers Graham Smith, Brian Horgan, Melvyn Cole, David Mantz, Caroline and Arthur Mazzey and Gavin Boorman.

We shall start again in March on clearing Rowly Hill.

Hugh Boorman

INTRODUCING ONE OF YOUR NEW PARISH COUNCILLORS – SALLY OSBORN

SALLY, WHO has lived in Pembury since 1986, joined the Parish Council in September 2002 and is a member of the Amenities and Allotments Working Group and the Community Working Group. Married to David with two grown up children Theresa and Richard, Sally became a grandmother for the second time in the last few months.

You may have seen Sally at Nottcutts Garden Centre where she works as the IT/stock controller. Her other interests include helping to run The Thursday Club, an evening club for physically and mentally challenged adults in Tonbridge. She also enjoys cycling and walking, for both of which there are plenty of opportunities in Pembury!





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PEMBURY IN THE PAST

AFTER LOOKING at the Pembury School and Pembury Village News websites, Gerald Relf emailed us from Vancouver, Canada with his reminiscences . . .

“I found your history of the old school very interesting. I was born at Great Hawkwell in a small cottage which we believe was built on the site of the mansion that burned down and where a ghost is supposed to reside. I was evacuated from Croydon during the war, staying with my grandparents at Hawkwell and I attended the school during the first four years of the War.

“Mr Fenner was the headmaster at this time and occupied the house adjoining the school, the school was very crowded during this time, with so many evacuees, schooling was hectic. I had left a school in Croydon that had a new approach and were still teaching lettering/printing. When I arrived at Pembury School with its overcrowded class rooms they were already writing! It was like trying to learn a new language; with a teacher shortage I had to try and figure it out for myself. Mr Fenner had a nasty habit of walking around the classroom and would rap your knuckles with a short cane if he found you making a mistake; I received a few of these.

“I cannot remember ever having school meals there or a kitchen area. However, I do remember the sloping playground and playing rounders with one student who hit the ball with his bare fist up over the steeply pitched roof over into the girls’ playground; our team always won because of him.

“My grandparents’ residence was approximately 2/3 miles from the school, and until my mother purchased a cycle for me, I had to walk back and forth to the school. In the summer it was beautiful with colourful orchards on each side of the road. When I visited three years ago from Canada where I now reside, I certainly wouldn’t like to have walked from the village to Hawkwell; the road is somewhat busier than when I lived there! It was great to see the village and the school again. I was certainly lucky to have spent the worst of the war years there.



“I certainly noticed some changes in the village, the swimming pool had been removed, this was closed during the War fearing air attacks I suppose (actually, it was during the 1960s – Editor). My grandmother (her

family name was Turner) used to send me to Sunday School at the church in upper Pembury, with three pence for the collection. Being bad, I often played truant and spent the money on Smiths’ potato crisps, which from time to time were available in a small shop along the High Street. I would then walk back down on a path which took me behind the playing fields and the school, then down to the road that skirts the waterworks and up to No 5 Hawkwell. All went well for some time until my cousin visited Grandmother and let it slip that he hadn’t seen me at Sunday School. I paid for that and never did it again. I also noticed the spire had been removed from the church steeple.

“During September my grandmother used to pick hops on Brotherwood’s Farm. She used to make me stand and pick hops which I hated, but I suppose I had to help in some way. I still think how wonderful she was, having brought up 11 of her own children, only to be landed with three grandchildren, two of her own children and her husband all living in that small cottage for most of the war years. I still have cousins living in Pembury; John and Beryl Whiddett, who live at Littlegate Cottage, No 10 Stonecourt Lane. John is a lay preacher, Beryl used to be a nurse at Pembury hospital and has now retired.

“We did get some snow falls in the war year winters. It never used to bother me then, but now I hate it if we get snow – fortunately not too often – here in the Vancouver area of British Columbia where I have lived since 1966. I came by ship from Southampton, to Montreal and then across by train to Vancouver. It was November and at first I saw snow like I have never seen it before until we got to Vancouver where it was green and beautiful.”

Many thanks indeed for your web sites, all the photos and interesting articles.

Gerald Relf, Vancouver, Canada

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PEMBURY IN THE PAST

ALAN HAWKINS, formerly of Pembury, now in Tonbridge, brought in a photo of the St. Peter's Church Sunday School Outing to Hastings in 1945. He thinks it may have been very shortly after the end of the Second World War when civilians were allowed to go to the Hastings shoreline for the first time in many years.

Alan has worked hard to identify quite a lot of those in the outing:

Top row (standing): ? , B Vousden, ? , – Seymour, Michael Cook, Gerald Sturgeon, Miss Drew, Alan Hawkins, ? , Charlie Baldock, – Turner, Mrs Spracklin, Philip Spracklin, Keith Johnson, Mrs Figgett, ? , ? , ? , Colin Jenner, Edie Cook, ? , Rex Sturgeon, ? , John Beeching, ? , Brian Fry, Derek Fry.

Second row (standing): ? , Maureen Stevens, ? , Hazel Woods, Hazel Horne, ? , Marjorie Jenner, Stella Sturgeon, Mary Cowen, – Rice, Sheila Rice, Rev. Wiswell, – Fry, Sheila Knight, ? , Anne Jenner, Dorothy Dodds, ? , Rosalie Sivvers, Rosemary Horne, ? , Margaret McVicar, Angela Hubble.

Third row (mostly standing): Mary Standen, Mrs Johnson, ? , ? , ? , ? , Barry Sturgeon, ? , James Sturgeon, Angela Milam, Winnie Figgett.

Front row (sitting): Mrs Horne, Mrs Sivvers, ? , ? , Mrs Short, baby Short, ? , Mrs Jenner, baby Jenner, Mrs Fry, – Fry, – ry, ? , Mrs Rice, baby Rice, Mrs McVicar, Mrs Seymour, John Stevens, ? , ? , ? , Mrs Stevens, – Skinner, ? , Mrs Skinner, baby Skinner, Mr Steer, Mrs Steer.





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PEMBURY IN THE PAST

PEMBURY SCHOOL 1943-44, SENIOR CLASS

MARJORIE PARKS
(née Smith) now living in Eastbourne brought me this sepia photograph of her senior class. She has identified a fair few of them:



Top row, left to right:
Trevor Jarvis, ?, – Austin,
Gerald Larkin, – Akehurst, Stanley Clifton, Douglas Vousden, – Borer, David Baitup,
Ernest Astley, Billy King.

Middle row: Doris Kingsley, ?, Margaret Fenner, Doris Proud, Pamela Penn, Joan Sellings,
?, ?, Muriel Hawkins, Rosie Chapman, May Willard.

Bottom row (on chairs): Roy Barton, ?, ?, ?, Peggy Brown, Marjorie Smith, Winifred Kemp,
?, Bill Cook, Jim Obee, Basil –.

Sitting crosslegged at front: Dennis Green, John Gorrynghe, ? .

If you wish to contact Marjorie, we would be pleased to forward your letter to her.

Editor

1945 STREET PARTY

Readers may remember that in the Autumn 2002 issue of the News (page 28) we featured a photo of a 1945 street party. Malcolm Balderstone, now in Lower Green Road, wrote and told us about his memories of the occasion.

“**I** WAS THE little boy, aged 6¹/₂, sitting at the head of the table, wearing a white shirt and tie with horizontal stripes. I think Dickie Kirkham is sitting on my right. The two immediately behind Dickie could be John and Peter Adams.

“Mrs Miles is holding either David or Robbie Corbett. Half hidden behind her is Mrs Reich; her son Roger must have been there. The fair haired boy sixth down on the right is Brian Sparks. I believe his father had been a prisoner of war but had probably come home by then.

“I think that the man, left centre foreground in the lower picture, is Mr Baldock with his younger daughter Sally. Jane Baldock is seated, second from his left. The building referred to as the ‘tin chaple’ was two houses; Mrs Hyde lived in the left hand side, Mr and Mrs Thorne and daughter Pat in the right. So Pat was probably at the party.

“I think that the Georgie Stone referred to is my friend, Georgie Hyde, whose father died in the war. His mother remarried and became Mrs Stoner. Georgie sadly passed away several years ago.

“I lived with my parents at what was then No. 30. The houses were subsequently renumbered, odds on one side, evens on the other, and No. 30 became No. 23.”

PEMBURY IN THE PAST

DO YOU REMEMBER MISS OLIVE WALKER'S VENTURERS CLUB?

In Spring 2002 we printed a photograph sent to the Editor by Rosemary Ford (née Taverner) of 37 young Pembury girls, who had taken part in the 1946 theatrical production staged by Miss Olive Walker's Venturers Club. Rosemary challenged anybody to name them all.

The names are from bottom left to right – Treena Larkin, Gillian Murphy, Roslyn Sturgeon, Rosemary Figget, Eileen Brown, Wendy Corbet, Janet Murphy and Pauline Rice.

Middle row – Maureen Stevens, Sandra Edmonson, Jean Young, ? this girl had auburn hair, lived only months in Pembury, Jill Drury, Rita Young, Sylvia Drury, Anita Wheeler, Peggy Brown, Rosemary Groves and Sheila Rice.

Top row – Mrs Hudson who worked at Walkers (now the Chinese take away), Jean Tolhurst, Shirley Chandtler, Rita Tolhurst, Valerie Fry, Janet Sturgeon (I was a daffodil), Yvonne Perkins, Hazel Horne (the Fairy), Rosemary Taverner, Jean Fuller, Christine Pomfret, Pauline Stevenson, Stella Sturgeon, Mary Wickenden, Winnie Figgett, Heather Hearsey, Pauline Sturgeon and Margaret Francis.

The play took place twice at Pembury Institute which is now the library. Just one I cannot name – help, Rosemary!

Of course, we are all old aged pensioners now – what wonderful memories!

Janet Field (née Sturgeon)

(I had a little help from Victor Vater, another veteran of Pembury.)

PEMBURY OUTDOOR BOWLS CLUB

THIS SEASON, which starts at the end of April and ends in September, will be the Pembury Bowls Club 74th year. Over those years the club has seen many changes and 25 years ago it had hardly a dozen players. Its fortunes changed when players from a factory in Paddock Wood joined the club, which encouraged new local members to join.

With Pembury Parish Council's permission, a portacabin was installed by members creating a new club house which over the years has been enlarged to include toilets, a kitchen and increased seating facilities. Three years ago with the help of a sports club grant the club installed an automatic watering system. This year with the help of a grant from the Borough Council, we intend improving the ditches surrounding the green.

This is a mixed club, involving ladies and gentlemen in all our friendly matches. In fact, all our internal club competitions are mixed, with the exception of the ladies and mens' singles.

On the first Bank Holiday in May we welcome anyone from the age of fourteen onwards who wants to try bowls to come to our Open Day; experienced members will give tuition and we supply the bowls. This year we are hoping to resume our friendly with the Parish Councillors, whom we haven't played for a number of years.

As an ex-council member, this was my first introduction to bowls and fourteen years later having given my fishing rods to my sons, I am now the Club Captain.

New members are always welcome, just ring me, **Arthur Storey** on 822509.

BLUE PETER CAKE SALE AT PEMBURY SCHOOL

CAKES FOR CLEAN WATER?

THOMAS PRICE in Year 3 at Pembury School was watching an item on Blue Peter about their Water Works Appeal to raise £500,000 to help provide clean water in Uganda and Tanzania. He decided he wanted to help and he and his Mum, Carolyn Price, asked the school if they could hold a cake sale and Mrs Thewlis, the head teacher, readily agreed.



Mums, Dads and children baked their hearts out and on Tuesday 21st January Year 3 sold cakes and biscuits to their schoolmates in the school breaks. They raised an amazing £113.00! The cheque has duly been sent off to Blue Peter.

Well done to the 'bakers' and to the enterprising spirit of Year 3!

ALL CHANGE AT RAINBOWS

AFTER MANY years' hard work Jackie Fichtmüller – also known as 'Dusty' – has retired as Rainbow Leader. Jackie's last evening was just before Christmas when the Rainbows gave her a card they had all signed and a tapestry set.

Jackie will be popping in now and again to keep an eye on things in her role of District Commissioner. Anyone who may be interested in helping with a Unit can contact Jackie on the number listed in the Organisation Directory at the back of the Village News.



Three new leaders – Helen Hill, Diane White and Lindsey Reynolds, now lead the Rainbow unit. Between them they have eight children – seven of whom are girls, so they bring with them lots of energy and new ideas. We wish them all the best in this new challenge.

Moira Allan,
1st Pembury Brownies.

Left to right: Helen Hill, Diane White and Lindsey Reynolds.

CHURCH SERVICES AT EASTER

St Peter's

13th April Palm Sunday	8am	Holy Communion – Upper Church
	9.45am	Blessing of Palms and outdoor procession from Village Hall car park to Upper Church. Eucharist with Dramatic Reading of the Passion
	11.30am	Matins – Old Church
	6.30pm	Taize Service of Music and Meditation
17th April Maundy Thursday	8pm	Eucharist of 'The Last Supper' – Upper Church
18th April Good Friday	10am	Family Service – Upper Church
	11am	United procession of witness from the Baptist Church to Pembury Green with short service at 11.15am on the Green
	12 noon	'An Hour at the Cross' – Old Church
19th April Easter Eve	8pm	Candlelit Easter Vigil service – Old Church
20th April Easter Day	8am	Holy Communion – Upper Church
	9.45am	Parish Eucharist – Upper Church
	11.30am	Holy Communion with hymns – Old Church
	5pm	Evensong – Old Church

St Anselm's*

13th April Palm Sunday	10.30am	Mass	
	7pm	Mass	
18th April Good Friday	12noon	Stations of the Cross	
19th April Holy Saturday	5pm	Confessions	
20th April Easter Sunday	10.30am	Mass	<i>*Unconfirmed at time of going to press</i>

Pembury Baptist Church

13th April Palm Sunday	10am	All-Age Service
18th April Good Friday	10am	Meditation
	11am	Walk of witness to the Village Green
	11.15am	Interdenominational service on the Green
20th April Easter Sunday	10am	Celebration worship
	7pm	Celebration worship

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ROSIE'S RECIPE CORNER

THE THEME this time is Easter, which is a very important celebration in the Christian calendar. It is a time for exchanging gifts of Easter eggs as a token of renewed life and of

preparing special fare for Easter. Young Spring Lamb is traditionally served for Easter lunch to symbolise the innocence of Christ.

However, as with all major events it is always useful to make something in advance so here is a recipe for a SIMNEL CAKE.

Ingredients:

450g (1lb) marzipan
175g (6oz) butter
175g (6oz) soft light brown sugar
3 eggs
225g (8oz) self-raising flour
1 tsp allspice
2 tbsp milk
450g (1lb) mixed dried fruit
50g (2oz) walnuts, chopped
50g (2oz) mixed peel, chopped
1 egg white, to glaze

Preparation time 20 minutes

Cooking time 2½ hours

Heat oven to 170°C (325°F/Gas 3).

Roll out one-third marzipan to a 20cm (8in) round. Cover remainder.

Cream butter and sugar until light and fluffy, gradually beat in eggs. Sift in flour

and spice, and stir in milk. Fold in fruit and nuts.

Grease a 20cm (8in) cake tin and spoon in half cake mixture, level and place marzipan round on top.



Spoon in remaining cake mixture and cook in a pre-heated oven for 2½ hours.

Reduce oven to 150°C (300°F/Gas 2) after 1½ hours. Cool cake.

Roll out two-thirds of remaining marzipan to fit top of cake, brush with

egg white and place on cake. Roll remainder into 12 balls, secure on cake with egg white, grill for 3-5 minutes.

You can make this cake up to two weeks in advance and store in an airtight container or freeze without marzipan topping.

Table setting: Take time to make the table look special for this festival. Include spring flowers and dyed eggs as a centrepiece.

What to drink: Serve a rosé wine or, as this is a special event, try a chilled sparkling rosé Burgundy, such as Crémant de Bourgogne.

Happy Easter

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MY PLOT

AS I WRITE this it is one of those 'false Springs' we sometimes get in January, mild and sunny, but bound to change if I so much as open a seed packet. One year I planted about seven packets of cabbage, broccoli and kohlrabi seeds too early. Then I waited for the next three months of interminable rain to end while my seeds all rotted in the ground. Then I started all over again.

I'd be lying if I pretended that allotmenting in winter was a constant joy. One Sunday when the weather wasn't too bad and I hadn't been there for weeks, I really couldn't be bothered, but I got 'sent'. Hours later I returned with swede, broccoli, cabbage, artichokes, spinach, potatoes and a large bunch of roses. I was glad I'd gone then.

It is now three days later and I'm looking out at snow!

I noticed on my allotment (when it was still mild) that there were crowds of seedlings where some summer salad crops went to seed last year. When the real Spring arrives all I will need to do is transplant them into tidy rows. Then I will feel smug.

I have just ordered some funky fruit trees that have two varieties on one trunk. There's an apple tree with both Golden Delicious and Sunset on it, a pear with Conference and Louise Bonne de Jersey, and a cherry with Bigarreau Napoleon and Van. I will be able to pretend that I own a whole orchard.

Caroline Mazze



JAN'S GARDEN VIEWS

SPRING! THIS is the wonderful time of the year after our long winter. The garden is already alive with a glorious display of spring flowers. Aren't they a tonic to wake up to everyday, together with our song birds that are so busy now with nesting.

You may find some bulbs have failed to bloom, which is disappointing, so they may be overcrowded or not planted deep enough. Deadhead bulbs as they finish blooming and leave foliage to die back naturally for at least six weeks before cutting down. It's not a good idea to tie their leaves together as they help to replenish the bulb. Give them a feed of Growmore or fish, blood and bone to guarantee a good display next year.

Your gardening efforts will be much more rewarding if you have freshly sharpened hoes, shears, secateurs and of course spades and forks together with a serviced mower. Clean pots, labels and twine all to hand help a lot.

Perennials should be showing through now. You can still split established clumps if not done last autumn, with the two spades back to back method. Cut out all dead shoots and make new plants. Fork in a slow-release fertiliser such as fish, blood and bone, or Growmore. Pick a mild day to do this to prevent too much shock to plants, and keep well watered. Push in canes or pea-sticks to support your taller plants.

continued overleaf

JAN'S GARDEN VIEWS *continued*

Planting new perennials? Consider plants to attract more butterflies that will help to increase their numbers. They include: the early summer flowering Yarrow (*Achillea*) which comes in pinks, mauves, white and yellow and blooms for several weeks in a sunny spot. For the back of the border the tall Golden Rod (*Solidago*) makes a brilliant display of yellow in midsummer. Stonecrop (*Sedum*) has thick fleshy leaves with flat flower-heads of pink or red and blooms during late summer and autumn. These all only need ordinary soil, but a little general fertiliser helps. They love the sun.

Hebe is a superb butterfly loving evergreen shrub that produces varying shades of mauve or blue flower spikes from early to late summer in sun. The lily has been voted our most popular flower but is quite new to some of us for our gardens. They grow well in pots and containers for patios and balconies in semi-shade. Plant in good quality compost with added humus plus a little sand for good drainage. A dwarf variety called Pixie comes in all colours for spectacular display and needs no staking. Taller varieties include Tiger Lily, a brilliant spotted orange, or the Stargazer, pink and white with heady perfume. All bloom through the summer. Plant now, onwards.

From April sow hardy annual seeds in sunny spots in fine soil enriched with a general fertiliser containing Potash. If you love Californian Poppies, Marigolds or Nasturtiums, sow seeds in poor dry soil with full sun and they will flower incessantly until the first frosts. They also re-seed themselves. Plant out hardy annuals raised from seed. Prick out half-hardy seedlings and grow on to plant out after frosts have finished.

There is pruning to be done. Prune rose bushes by shortening the main stems by half and side shoots to two buds. Cut to just above an outward-facing bud, slantwise. Remove small spindly stems. Apply a rose fertiliser lightly into the soil surface.

Winter flowering heathers need a light trim, but don't cut into old woody stems. Cut off Hydrangea heads and stems for a

shorter or taller bush and cut out older stems.

Prune Buddleias quite drastically. They soon produce thick woody stems and grow vigorously. Forsythia and Flowering Currant (*Ribes*) should be pruned after flowers fade. Hardy Fuschias need cutting down hard leaving one or two buds

to grow from the base of each branch. Prune half-hardy Fuschias lightly and use the 2in or 3in stems for cuttings which root easily in Vermiculite on a sunny windowsill. Feed shrubs with Growmore, or blood, fish and bone.

For your lawns, choose a dry day to brush off worm casts and rake out dead growth. Stab all over with a fork to let in light and air, then work in some sharp sand and lawn feed to improve growth.

As we move into May, hanging baskets and containers can be planted up with annuals and greenery. Moisture retentive crystals can be added to compost to help stop plants drying out. How about your own ready-made compost? Water and feed plants regularly. Plant Dahlia tubers indoors in fertilised soil and cover the crown buds with 3in of it.

In the midst of all this activity, do keep a watch for slugs and snails. A good bait is the shallow pots of beer which they cannot resist!

Happy gardening! **Jan Davies**



FOR YOUR DIARY

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

April

- 1 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 2 St Peter's Mothers' Union: CAB: Can we Help You? – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 3 Pembury Afternoon WI: Birthday party – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 4 Pembury Evening WI: Knickers and Things – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 5 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Camden Car Park – 2.15pm
- 7 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 7 St Peter's Photographic Club: Open Competition – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 7 Pembury Footpath Walkers AGM – Village Hall – 8pm
- 10 Pembury Society Spring Meeting – Main Hall, Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 12 Pembury Gardeners: Spring Show – Village Hall – 2.30pm
- 12 Pembury Sequence Dance Club: Dance – Village Hall. For details contact 01892 547617
- 14 Floral Art – Meeting Room, Village Hall – 8pm
- 15 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 22 St Peter's Photographic Club: Holiday photos – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 29 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm

May

- 1 Elections – all day
- 1 Pembury Afternoon WI: Resolutions – Main Hall, Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 2 Pembury Evening WI: Resolutions – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 3 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
- 7 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Alice Bates from Burrswood – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 10 RNLI May Fayre – Catholic Hall – 10.00am to 12noon
- 12 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 12 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
- 13 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 17 St Peter's Spring Fayre – Upper Church – 10.30am
- 24 Pembury Gardeners: Plant Sale – Village Green – 10am
- 27 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 30 Hospice in the Weald – Film: Adventure in the Hopfields – Village Hall – 7.30pm

June

- 4 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Rev John Dray: Ministry with Hearing and Visually Impaired – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 5 Pembury Afternoon WI: Ightham Mote – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 6 Pembury Evening WI: Goats & Other Strange Animals – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 7 Pembury Footpath Walkers: All day walk – details from 823212
- 9 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 9 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
- 10 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 14 Musical Picnic on the Village Green – 6.30pm
- 24 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 26/27/28 Pembury Players' summer production – Look for notices in the village near the time
- 28 St Peter's Upper Church Open Day – 10am to 4pm

CRIME IN PEMBURY

ONCE AGAIN, it is good news for Pembury with a 10% reduction in the crime figures for October, November and December 2002 compared with the corresponding time 12 months ago.

Unfortunately, criminal damage is still too high, with damage to property, cars and parish facilities being top of the list. Graffiti is also a regular annoyance but we now have a few names and very slowly, with the help of the police, we will catch them.

Full marks to the residents of Henwoods Crescent for banding together and forming their own Neighbourhood Watch group. This already seems to have achieved the desired result. If any other streets are being plagued by similar vandalism problems, please form your own group and we will get professional advice for you from the police.

On a more serious note, I expect that many people were shocked and alarmed at what I think is a very unfortunate statement issued by a senior judge advocating that burglars should not be imprisoned for their first break-in, but do community service as punishment instead. I consider this to be completely inadequate. This can only send out the wrong message to would be offenders who would take it that the punishment is nothing to worry about and that they would probably not have to serve it anyway. We really must turn the emphasis back on to helping the victims of such attacks and not feather-bed the perpetrators.

I can imagine the reaction of the arresting officer who, having spent hours completing his/her paperwork, sees the criminal walking away with two fingers in the air. Perhaps people who made these comments should consider whether they need to be more in touch with ordinary members of the public.

And finally, please remember to insist on obtaining an incident number when reporting a crime because we have too many incidents where numbers are not volunteered.

Keep up the good work.

Hugh Boorman

MONTH	Arson	Assault	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Criminal Damage	Fraud and Deception	Drugs	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Vehicle Interference	Theft Offences	TOTAL
October 2002		2		1	3	3	1	3		1	5	19
November 2002	1	2		2	4			1	1			11
December 2002	1	4	1	2	7			1			4	20
TOTAL	2	8	1	5	14	3	1	5	1	1	9	50
ROAD												
A21 B					1							1
Brickfields		2										2
Bulls Place					1							1
Camden Avenue					1							1
Church Road					2			1				3
Hastings Road	1				1			1		1		4
Henwood Green Road	1				1			1				3
Henwoods Mount					2							2
Hérons Way					1							1
High Street				2		3					3	8
Lower Green Road		1										1
Old Church Road			1									1
Petersfield					1							1
Romford Road									1			1
The Grove		4						1				5
Tonbridge Road		1		3	2			1			6	13
Woodhill Park					1		1					2
TOTAL	2	8	1	5	14	3	1	5	1	1	9	50

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

County Council

Mr Kevin Lynes, 5 Downs Cottages, The Down, Lamberhurst, Kent TN3 8EX. Tel:890922

Borough Council

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

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

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

Parish Council

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

Cllr Mrs Sarah Clarke, Little Stanton,
Romford Road TN2 4AY. Tel: 823932

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

*Chairman of Parish Council
Vice Chairman of Parish Council
Chairman, Planning
Chairman, Burials, Environment &
Highways*

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

Chairman, Finance

Cllr Leslie Gregory, 47 High Street TN2 4PH. Tel: 822343

Cllr Miss Nicola Kibble, 68 Herons Way TN2 4DN. Tel: 823326

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

Chairman, Public Relations

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

*Chairman, Pembury Village
News Editorial*

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

Cllr Mrs Sally Osborn, 34 Canterbury Road TN2 4JT. Tel: 822726

Cllr Mrs Gillian Pavely, 52 Maidstone Road TN2 4DE. Tel: 822605

*Chairman, Christmas Lights
& Pembury in Bloom*

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

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 Service:
Wednesday – Mass 7pm

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

We praise God and hear his
word on Sunday at 10am
and 1st and 3rd Sunday at
7pm.

We have many activities
during the week for mums,
toddlers, young people and
senior citizens. Ring the
church office 825590 for
details.

THE HATTON HOUSING TRUST

THE HATTON HOUSING

Trust was founded in 1948 by Elizabeth Hyatt Woolf to provide homes for retired gentfolk. There are 100 flats in the local area. In Pembury village, at Pembury Close, there are 24 flats. Close to the village amenities, it is a delightful community within the village.



Vacancies do occur from time to time and if you know of anyone who might be interested, please get in touch with the Secretary (Warners, Solicitors) 01732 770660.

SPRING GARDEN

Through my window I can see
A vision of colour, greeting me.
Scarlet tulips sentry straight,
Guard the primrose by the gate.

Daffodils that came to cheer,
Nod farewell until next year,
While velvet pansy faces stare,
With reds and blues, all mingling there.

Narcissus clothed in bridal white,
A cluster of heads, a wondrous sight
To blend with wallflowers cream and brown.
Their heavenly perfume drifts around.

A sprinkle of rain, a promise of showers,
To lift and refresh these beautiful flowers.
Forget-me-nots, Alyssums, see how they grow.
'Tis Spring-time's bounty, oh, what a show!

Jan Davies



VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

ALZHEIMERS DISEASE SOCIETY

Simon Rooksby, Pineview Day Hospital
Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535, Ext 3515

BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 823235

BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Tel: Louise 823097

BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Mrs J. Fichtmüller, 19 Belfield Road. Tel: 823002

BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION

Secretary: Mr R. G. G. Whitlock, 6 The Forstal.
Tel: 822115

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon Bill Eason. Tel: 824133

COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Hugh Boorman. Tel: 823068

COMPAID TRUST

Computer Aid for Disabled People. Tel: 824060
Transport for Special Needs. Tel: 823488

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

CRICKET CLUB

Hon. Secretary: Andy Weaver. Tel: 824362

DARBY & JOAN CLUB

Jim Woodhams. Tel: 823990

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton,
Romford Road. Tel: 823932

GIRL GUIDERS

1st Pembury Company: Mrs A. Baker,
Tel: 0771 264 3946

HEADWAY

Libby Slattery. Tel: 823120

HIGH WEALD HOUSING TENANT'S

CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

Ray Heasman. Tel: 822675

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD – PEMBURY LINK

GROUP

Chris Cooper. Tel: 825428

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Anne Upton. Tel: 822006

KENTISH VALE ROUND TABLE

Mr Everden. Tel: 834685 or 832823 (business)

LABOUR PARTY

Dave & Sally Osborn, 34 Canterbury Rd. Tel: 822726

LARKFIELD

Principal: Mr Roger Gibson, Cornford Lane. Tel: 822168

LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Bruce Ballantine. Tel: 822156

LITTLE RASCALS (formerly 'Meet-a-Mum')

Alison Burgess. Tel: 515714

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

Co-ordinator: Helen Dunkerley. Tel: 822529

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605

PEMBURY ATHLETIC (Youth) FOOTBALL CLUB

David Gow. Tel: 824119

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor David Graham. Assoc Pastor Wayne Alexander
Church Office. Tel: 825590

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY F.C. SATURDAY

Mick Waterman, 26 The Coppice. Tel: 824137

PEMBURY F.C. SUNDAY

P. Craxton, 31 Batchelors. Tel: 823928

PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

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

PEMBURY GARDENERS

Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY PHOENIX TWIRLERS

Dave or Chris Brett. Tel: 824233

PEMBURY PLAYERS

Chairman: Mrs G. Norman Draper. Tel: 823975

PEMBURY PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Mrs C. Hughes. Tel: 668514

PEMBURY SCHOOL

Headteacher – Mrs K. Thewlis. Tel: 822259

PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Linda Bowen. Tel: 825536

PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rosemary Rich. Tel: 825580

PEMBURY SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

Secretary: Mrs Marion Warren. Tel: 547617

PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

PEMBURY SOCIETY

Derek Johnson. Tel: 823150

PEMBURY STOOLBALL CLUB

Mrs Sandy Rice-Tucker. Tel: 822483

PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Rev. Stephen Sealy. Tel: 824761

PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Sue Boreham Tel: 824385

Eve Fiddimore Tel: 518277

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Mike Raper. Tel: 822095

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

SANDRA'S HOUSE

Pre-School Nursery, Mrs S. Toogood, Queens Folly,
64 Lower Green Road. Tel: 824252

SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 823235 and Jackie Fichtmüller, 19 Bellfield Road,
Pembury. Tel 823002

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs J. Tompkins. Tel: 823123

ST. PETER'S PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Events Secretary, Carol Wakeford. Tel: 822030

TABLE TENNIS CLUB. John Burleton. Tel: 823250

TREE WARDENS. Pat Cookson. Tel: 825739.

Caroline Mazzezy Tel: 822493

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT

SCHEME. Tel: 513969

VILLAGE HALL

Manager (bookings): Rachel Windus.

Tel: 822837

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Edna Morris. Tel: 822267

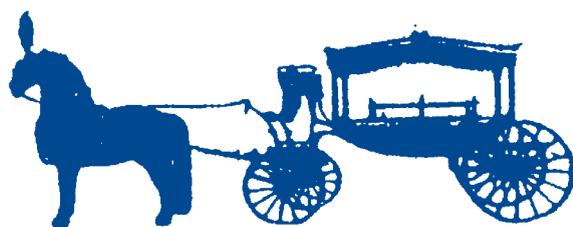
Evening: Mrs Chris Johnson. Tel: 823150

WRVS LUNCH CLUB

Tel: 822737

YMCA

Simon Stanley. Tel: 534444



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(Opposite the Kent & Sussex Hospital)

Tonbridge
01732 773202

6 Shipbourne Road
Tonbridge
Kent TN10 3DJ

(Opposite Tonbridge School)

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