



PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 147
Autumn 2011



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Cover photograph of The Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury by Nick Evans

Editorial Working Group:

Louise Fowlie (Editor), Paul Barrington-King, Masha Bayles, June Crowhurst, Janet Ditchett, Carrie Heiss, Mel Karpinski, Sally Osborn and Kathy Wallwork.

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, precis, alter, correct grammar and spelling) any item published.

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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EDITOR'S NOTE

I have been the editor of the Pembury Village News for over three years now and during that time I have witnessed many wonderful events in our Village. It is really evident to me that we have a fantastic community spirit in the Village and it has been a privilege to be able to bring reports of these events to you through this magazine.

The time has now come for me to hang up my editor's hat. The next issue, winter 2011, will be my last issue and we are now looking for another individual to step in and take the floor.

When I first began, I wasn't sure how much I would be able to bring to the magazine. The thought of being an editor hadn't even crossed my mind until I was approached to consider the role. However, it soon became obvious that the magazine is appreciated both within and outside of our Village. People from all over the country, and indeed the world, have been in contact to comment on the magazine, of which they have either been handed a copy or viewed online. It really is a truly rewarding role to see how much people appreciate the PVN.

The editorial team are also a very supportive and fantastic team of people who will help the new editor settle in really quickly; they were remarkable in welcoming me to the role. I would really like to thank them for all the support they have given me over these last three years and I am sure that they will be as caring and generous with the new editor.

As editor, you will be responsible for receiving all of the articles for inclusion in the magazine, editing them to fit on the pages and liaising with the typesetter to ensure the magazine is ready for printing each quarter. You will need to:

- be computer literate;
- have access to the internet – the majority of the articles are received via email;
- enjoy bringing event news and information to the Village;
- have around 15 hours to volunteer each quarter to put the magazine together.

If you are interested in finding out more or think you could help, please do contact me via email on pvn@pembury.org or telephone the Parish Council on 823193.

Thank you for your support and kind words of appreciation during my time as editor. I hope that you have enjoyed the variety of articles we have brought you.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Louise Fowlie

Editor

Copy for Next Issue

Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Parish Office, c/o 6 The Grove before

1st November 2011

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it (and photos attached separately) in by email to pvn@pembury.org



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CHAIR'S REPORT

Wow, what a fantastic evening Picnic on the Green was this year! It's all thanks to you for making us aware that changes were needed and that the music must reach and cater for all ages.

The Hog Roast was another excellent find and added to the whole ambience of the evening, with more people than ever on the Green. The evening went off really well and it was a truly lovely evening.

We owe our grateful thanks to James and Carol Cunningham of the Camden Arms who very kindly sponsored the ABBA Tribute Band and for the generosity of the supporting band, Dr. Bones.

A huge thank you to all my colleagues on the Parish Council whether Councillors or Staff, you all worked so very hard that evening to ensure a successful time for our Village.

We are already thinking about next year and invite other businesses to sponsor something for the evening; whether it could be a performing act or something as necessary as portaloos. Please have a think and let's have a really inclusive evening. Please contact the Parish Office (details on inside front cover) if you could assist financially. It would be so fantastic to have more on board.

On another note, thank you to the pet owners who have taken responsibility for their dog's waste. The Village is already looking and smelling fresher and the children can play safely without getting dog waste on them. Let's keep it up.

Very sadly our editor of the Pembury Village News is to leave us at the end of the year. We are really going to miss Louise as she has been such a pleasure to work with. If you think you could take on the role of editor and be able to help keep the Pembury Village News fresh and alive, please do get in touch. The editorial team will always assist any applicant settle into the role, so please have a think about it. We look forward to hearing from you.

June Crowhurst

Chair Pembury Parish Council



DEACON BILL EASON

It is with great sadness that we announce that Deacon Arthur William Eason passed away on 3 August 2011. Bill was a beloved character of our Village and supported many various activities in Pembury over the years. I was privileged to have known Bill for around 20 years and he always brought a smile to my face with his wonderful personality and cheery spirit.

Bill was an active member of the St. Anselm's Catholic Church in the Village and was ordained a Deacon in June 1988. He spent years giving his life to his ministry and visiting the sick and housebound, visiting people in hospital and the hospice and supporting the church throughout. Our thoughts are with his family at this time.

Editor





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MUSICAL PICNIC ON THE GREEN

On a fine evening in June, Pembury hosted its very own music festival. At least 700 people crowded onto the Village Green to partake of their own picnic or the Hog Roast.

The atmosphere was expectant as 'Dr Bones' band played for the first part of the evening; the music could be heard all round Pembury. After the interval the two girls from an 'ABBA' tribute group entertained us, to the great delight of all the children who crowded round and were singing along with them.

It was a great night and a tribute to the Parish Council who spearheaded the whole event.

Janet Ditchett

Editor: Dr. Bones will be playing again during the day on 1 October at The Pantiles to raise money for the Bridge Trust and that same evening in the King William Pub in Pembury.



DR. BIKE COMES TO PEMBURY!

An extremely successful day was enjoyed by all who attended the bicycle maintenance day on Sunday 10 July at the Recreation Ground. Paul Barrington-King liaised with Pembury Parish Council and secured the services of Matt Evans from Revolution Cycleworks (aka Dr. Bike) to offer free bike servicing to villagers for the day. The only cost for the attendees was for any replacement parts needed. Twenty-six bicycles of all shapes and sizes were repaired by Matt's magic hands and made roadworthy once again. Paul and the Parish Council Vice Chairman, Kevin Edser, were in attendance for the session and both were impressed with the feedback from the villagers who came along. Paul, who sponsored the day, summed things up when he stated 'It was a pleasure to organise this event. Too often bikes lie unused due to the often prohibitive costs of repairing them. The service that Matt offered was second to none and I look forward to employing his services for Pembury in the future'.



Paul Barrington-King

NEW PASTOR AT PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Induction Service for Pembury Baptist Church's new Pastor, Rev'd. Dave Baxter, will take place on Saturday 15 October at 3pm, with Rev'd. Stuart Davison, Regional Minister for South East Baptist Association officiating. Everyone is welcome to come and join in the celebrations. There will be refreshments after the service. Dave comes to PBC after previous work as Youth Pastor at Tonbridge Baptist Church and for the last seven years as Pastor of Strode Crescent Baptist Church in Sheerness. He is married to Amanda, a teacher, and they have one daughter, Hannah, who will attend Pembury School.

PBC is also pleased to announce that they have appointed a new Children and Youth Ministries Leader, Dan Brown, who will have oversight of the Sunday ministries of Creche, MiniZone, Promiseland and Deeper as well as the weekly youth small groups and social activity including the annual Youth Weekend Away and trip to Soul Survivor.

Jennifer Roberts





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PEMBURY BROWNIES

With only three meetings in May, 3rd Pembury Brownies decided to learn about all the emergency services. We visited the Police Station in Tunbridge Wells where we were shown the courtroom, the cells, and the police vans (after practising how to safely cross the road!). The Brownies earned their Crime Prevention badge, and were presented with memorabilia of the occasion.

We invited a Paramedic along to one of our meetings where we learnt how important it was to know our ABC! The girls had fun putting each other in the recovery position, and we ended the evening with a variety of bandages in strategic places! We all gained our First Aid badge.

Our final emergency services meeting was at the Fire Station in Tunbridge Wells, where Mr Knight showed us the fire engines and all the gadgets. He took us into the office and explained how emergency calls come in and how the fire-fighters react to the emergency. The Brownies thought it was hilarious that Brown Owl had to put on Mr Knight's fire-fighting gear! All the Brownies had a practice with the hose, which was difficult to handle as it was so large and heavy. We were lucky enough to sit in the back of the fire engine and Mr Knight sounded the siren, which was very loud. We all had a lovely experience, and gained our Fire Safety badge.

We would like to thank all the emergency services for their help in learning more about what they do, and helping us to earn the three badges. Also, thanks to the Unit Helpers and parents who accompanied us on our quests.

Wendy Plane,
3rd Pembury Brownies



AMBERSIDE DANCE STUDIO

This year's show, 'What a Feeling', in July was a smash hit! With excellent coaching from Victoria, Paul, Sadie, Jean-Pierre and Jess, organisation by the dedicated and hard-working Paula, and fabulous dancing by the performers, both of the performances went smoothly.

The audience was charmed by the tiny tots in 'Ma Na Ma Na', where little shiny green frogs and small girls in large white plaited wigs danced enthusiastically, remembering all their moves. I had never before seen 'Alice in Wonderland' danced rather than acted, but it worked rather well, and I especially liked the dormouse rising up out of the giant teapot to yawn and stretch and go back to sleep again. Sophie Bowen gave a good quality and well-rehearsed solo performance to the cheeky 'Hunny Bun', 'Rule the World' sparkled around the stage, while 'Two Bad Mice' and 'Mouse Waltz' involved a larger group of children dancing while elegantly holding their tails. 'Fireflies' was spectacular and the reappearance of 'Jai Ho' from an earlier year was given a new and lively interpretation, Turkish style. The show ended on a high with the entire cast, and audience, clapping to 'What a Feeling'.



A lot of hard work went into the show by the teachers and cast, but thanks must also go to all the supporting parents who chaperoned the young people, made and altered costumes, and made props; to the parents and family members who went to the performances; the sound and lighting engineers who did a wonderful job, and drama and singing coach Kimbo Godsall and her mum, Sue. Many of the costumes were made by the Principal, Victoria Mustill-King, working late into the night. The next show will take place in two years' time.

Kathy Wallwork

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THE TUNBRIDGE WELLS HOSPITAL AT PEMBURY

Tunbridge Wells Hospital becomes fully operational from Wednesday 21 September when its Accident & Emergency department opens at 2am. Dozens of inpatients will be carefully transferred from the Kent & Sussex Hospital in Tunbridge Wells during the days before.

Tunbridge Wells Hospital, which has cost £230m, is the first in the NHS where inpatients have an individual en-suite room to themselves. Many of these rooms have spectacular views overlooking nearby woodland – a vital factor in the healing process. For greater comfort, the League of Friends has generously donated £341,000 which paid for nearly 400 Freeview TVs to be installed in these rooms.



Back in January, women, children and outpatients were first to use the new hospital. Since then, it has quickly built up a reputation for highly-trained staff providing great care in great surroundings. The maternity department has been kept busy with mothers from a wide area choosing to deliver their babies at the Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury.

Valentina Osborn, 20, was one of the first to use the maternity unit in January when her son Hector was born. Clearly impressed by the new department, she said: “The place feels more like a hotel and I only remembered it was a hospital when I saw someone in a nursing uniform.”

As the hospital fully opens, the maternity department from Maidstone Hospital will transfer there to provide a centre of expertise for West Kent. It's estimated that nearly 100 babies will be born each week in the new hospital as a result. Back in Maidstone, mothers who are expected to have a straightforward birth can choose to have their babies in the more homely surroundings of a newly created £2.7 million birthing centre which also opens in September.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust is taking the opportunity to reconfigure trauma and orthopaedic services, making some of the biggest changes of their kind for many years. Trauma and orthopaedic inpatients from across the area will be cared for at the new hospital which will be a centre of expertise making best use of the staff's skills and modern equipment in specialist teams. Among them will be a pelvic reconstruction team – a major feature for the new hospital.

Patients requiring emergency surgery will now be taken by ambulance to Tunbridge Wells Hospital. Emergency general and emergency orthopaedic surgery (such as fractures of the hip) will be centralised in the new hospital. All planned inpatient orthopaedic operations (requiring an overnight stay) will also be carried out there.

Maidstone Hospital will become a centre of expertise for complex pre-planned inpatient general and cancer surgery. Both hospitals will continue to carry out day-case and 23 hours of operations each 24 hour period, outpatient clinics and run 24-hour A&E departments.

The new Tunbridge Wells hospital's main phone numbers are 01892 823535 and 01892 526111.

Nick Evans



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SNIPPETS

Pippins Farm Apple Day

Come along to the Apple Day on Sunday 16 October, 11am-5pm. There will be apple pressing demonstrations, a free litre of fresh juice per adult (bring your own container), juice and cider tastings, orchard tours, art and photo competitions and much more. Entry is £3 per adult with proceeds going to the Hospice in the Weald.

Old Church Heritage Days

Why not visit the Old Church on one of the Heritage Days (8 – 11 September, 2-5pm). Enjoy a cup of tea in the beautiful surroundings of this ancient building and learn more about its fascinating history.

Songs of Praise

On Sunday 18 September, 6pm, come and sing your favourite hymns and listen to some beautiful voice and organ solos at St. Peter's Upper Church. All welcome.

Hospice in the Weald

Tunbridge Wells 10K Run and 1K Fun Run - Sunday 18 September 2011.

Runs start and finish at Lower Cricket Ground, Tunbridge Wells. Start time 10am. The 10K is a challenging course through Broadwater Forest. The 1K Fun Run is open to juniors, mums, dads, grandparents,

etc. and is a lot less exhausting! New for 2011 – Pantomime Horse Race! All proceeds to Hospice in the Weald. For entry forms and further information call 820508.

Pepenbury Healthy Family Picnic and Fun day

Saturday 10 September 11.30am-3pm
Bring your own picnic and enjoy live music, bouncy castle, scarecrow and other competitions, healthy eating BBQ, café, side stalls, games, plant sales, donkeys and small animals, treasure hunt and woodland walk. Everyone welcome!

Do you want to host a coffee morning?

On Friday 30 September, Macmillan are hosting the 'World's Biggest Coffee Morning' and are asking people to hold their own coffee morning within their community. Various cafés in Tunbridge Wells are taking part, so if you can't host one at home, visit a participating café to support Macmillan.

Fireworks night

Don't forget our fireworks night on Friday 4 November in the Recreation Ground. See the posters nearer the time for more details. Remember to stay safe and bring a torch!

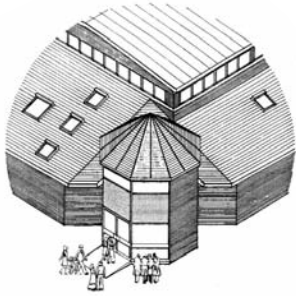
BOWLS CLUB

The ladies of Pembury Bowls Club lived up to their growing reputation for fine food, having served up a delicious buffet lunch and tea for sixty bowlers participating in the annual Mixed Turnaround Triples Tournament at the beginning of June. The weather did its best to spoil it, but didn't succeed. A very pleasant day was enjoyed by all with fortunes changing frequently. The team from Rotherfield were eventually and deservedly the winners. A very competitive team from Kings (Swanley) came a close second and the consolation prize was awarded to Bayham and Lamberhurst. The club would like to thank its sponsors, Henry Paul Funerals, for their continued support.



Our friendly and league matches are in full swing together with internal club competitions. Visitors are welcome to come and watch our matches and have a go on our roll-up afternoons on Mondays and Fridays. How about some of the younger members of the village trying their hand? It isn't as easy as it looks! You can follow the progress of our club on our website: www.pemburybowlsclub.co.uk

Barbara Scholten



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WE WILL REMEMBER THEM PART 3

Editor: In this series on the names on our War Memorial, Richard Snow continues with information of those killed during the First World War. If you have additional information, please telephone him on 825428.

LAWRENCE, Charles Edward - 55/110970 Stoker, 1st Class Royal Navy on H.M.S. Hawke. Son of Fred and M. Lawrence of Mill Cottage, Pembury. Died 15 October 1914, aged 21. Remembered on Chatham Naval Memorial, which commemorates those with no known grave, most of whom died at sea. His name is on the wooden memorial plaque at the Baptist Church.

LEONARD, Charles E. - 141151 Driver, 38th Field Company, Royal Engineers. Son of Charles Leonard of North Holly, East Farleigh. Born Bethersden. Enlisted Tunbridge Wells, resided in Pembury. Died 1 October 1918 in Salonika, Greece, aged 26, and is buried in Mikra British Cemetery, Kalamaria, Greece. Several of the casualties in this cemetery were victims of the worldwide influenza pandemic of 1918-19 and Leonard may have been one of them. His name also appears on the Bethersden and East Farleigh war memorials.

MACDOUGALL, Douglas Ritchie - 3609 Private, 1/5th Battalion, The Seaforth Highlanders. Son of James and Frances Macdougall of "Curlblows", Pembury. Native of Clapham, London. He lived in Pembury but enlisted in London at the start of the war and went to France. Died 13 November 1916 at the Battle of the Ancre, aged 26. Buried in Maily Wood Cemetery, Maily-Maillet, Somme, France.

McQUEEN, Albert Allan (appears on War Memorial as Mc'Queen) - 7634 Private, 11th Battalion, Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Son of Mrs A. McQueen of Pembury. Married to Agatha M. of St. Leonards-on-Sea. He was born in Pembury, but lived in St. Leonards. Enlisted in Tunbridge Wells in the Queen's Own Royal West Kent Yeomanry (Territorial Force) in February 1914 before transferring to the Royal West Kents. Died 8 June 1917, aged 22. Buried in Brandhoek Military Cemetery, Vlamertinghe, Belgium.

MARTIN, Ronald Edward - 235892 Gunner, X 36th Trench Mortar Battalion, Royal Field Artillery. Son of George Martin of Pembury (A Carrier). Married to E.M. Martin, 17 Artillery Terrace, Guildford, Surrey. He formerly worked in the outfitting department of Messrs Reeks in Hastings. Enlisted June 1917 and sent to France in April 1918. Died 26 September 1918. Whilst working with the rest of the Battery in the line he was hit on the head by a shell splinter, dying instantly. Buried in Canada Farm Cemetery, Ypres, Belgium. His name appears on the wooden plaque at Pembury Baptist Church.

MARTIN, William - G/13518 Private, Royal Sussex Regiment. Husband of C.M. Martin of Romford Farm Cottage, Pembury. Born in the Village, he was employed by Batchellor's Stone Court Brickworks, Pembury as a tile maker. He enlisted in Maidstone in July 1915 and went to France in December. He lived in Stanley Road, late of Mays Farm Cottages, Pembury. After being on active service for seven months he received no less than 14 wounds and his left leg was blown off above the knee. He spent 16 months in hospital and was transferred to Rusthall V.A.D. He died from wounds on 13 October 1918, aged 33, and is buried in Tunbridge Wells Cemetery (grave ref: C.1.558). He was a member of the Tunbridge Wells Equitable Society and left a widow and three children aged 10, 8 and 3.

MERCER, Harry - 5190 Private, 20th Hussars. Born in the Village, son of Henry William and Susannah Mercer of 6 Church Road. He enlisted in Canterbury as a Reservist, served 7 years with the Colours, 2 years of which he was an officer's servant. His brother was in the Royal Navy. Died 30 October 1914 just four days after his 27th birthday. He is remembered on Panel 5 of the Ypres (Menin Gate) Memorial in Belgium.

MORPHETT, Walter - G/5006 Corporal, 2nd Battalion (92nd Foot), Queen's Own (Royal West Kent Regiment). Eldest son of Walter Morphett of Stone Court Farm, Pembury. Born in Pembury, going to the Village School, and enlisted in Tonbridge on 16 December 1914. He served with the Expeditionary Force in France from 14 April 1915 and was wounded by shrapnel under his shoulder and gassed at Hill 60 and invalided home where he spent time in hospital in Cheshire. He proceeded to Mesopotamia in December 1915. He died of malaria on 22 October 1918, aged 19, and was buried in Baghdad (North Gate) War Cemetery in Iraq. He is remembered on the wooden plaque at the Baptist Church.

Continued on page 16



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM PART 3 CONTINUED

NURDEN, Charles - G/12031 Private, 7th Battalion, Royal Sussex Regiment. Son of Stephen and Eliza Nurden of Canterbury Road, he was born in Chipping Norton, Glos. Husband of Maud M. Nurden of 6 Park View, Pembury. He was a gardener to Lady Adair for 11 years and was an ardent member of the Volunteer Training Corps. He enlisted in Tunbridge Wells in June 1916, proceeding to France in August. He was killed by a shell during the advance on Arras and was killed instantly on 9 April 1917, aged 39. He was buried in the field by the Regimental Chaplain. He was described as "a good and popular soldier, much missed". He is remembered on Bay 6 of the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

PANKHURST, Joseph - L/7384 Private 2nd Battalion, The Royal Sussex Regiment. Born in the Village and enlisted in Tunbridge Wells. Died on 23 December 1914 and is remembered on Panels 20 and 21 of Le Touret Memorial, Pas de Calais, France.

PARKES, William Alexander - WR/25991 Lance Corporal, 340th Railway Construction Company, Royal Engineers. Born in Brenchley the son of William Dunster Parkes and Mary Parkes of Mount Pleasant, Brenchley. Husband of Kathleen Ellen Parkes of Hawkwell Cottages, Pembury. He enlisted in Maidstone. Died of pneumonia and influenza in an English port on his way home from France on 13 October 1918, aged 27. Buried in All Saints, Brenchley Churchyard next to his brother Thomas Dunster Parkes who also died in the war. The family lost 3 sons in the war, the third was Reginald Parkes who died in October 1917 and was buried in France. William Alexander's son was William Arthur Parkes who was killed in World War Two and is also on Pembury War Memorial. William Alexander is also remembered on Brenchley War Memorial.

PENN, Charles Victor - 24007 Private, 2nd Battalion, East Lancashire Regiment. Son of Mr and Mrs W. Penn of Rose Cottages, Lower Green, Pembury. He was born in Blackburn. He died on 30 September 1917, aged 25, and is buried in Baillleul Communal Cemetery Extension (Nord), France. He also appears on the wooden plaque at the Baptist Church.

Richard Snow

PEMBURY CHURCHES TOGETHER

Following the success of two Village Fun Days and other Village events, the HOPE (Pembury Churches Together) team will be organising a series of fundraising events for a remote Pakistani community near Risalpur which was devastated by the 2010 floods. The poverty stricken community of Sais Mandi lost homes, crops and livelihoods in the floods.



Emergency food, clothing and temporary shelter had been provided, but the Sais Mandi community found, as with many emergencies, the focus of world attention moves on and local people are left to resolve remaining problems on their own. In this area of poverty, illiteracy and unemployment we, as the community of Pembury, can help. Such help must be financially accountable at all stages with regular feedback and exchange on the basis of one community helping another.

HOPE plans to join with Operation Mobilisation (OM), a charity already working in the area, to foster ways of breaking this cycle of poverty and deprivation by teaching old and young to read and equipping them with skills that provide an income. HOPE has been in close touch with Imran Gill, Regional Director of OM, who has identified a number of projects which would benefit the community of Sais Mandi and help it to develop. These include an adult literacy, sewing and computer centre and children's educational sponsorship.

HOPE will host a series of fund-raising events over the next year. Further information will follow nearer the time, but if you would like come along to a talk about Sais Mandi or join in the fun and fund-raising then please contact Helen on 825590.

HOPE Team



KENT COLLEGE

Parents, pupils, staff, Governors, former pupils and Friends of Kent College all joined together to pay tribute to a year full of achievement and triumph over adversity in July. We were delighted to have Jan Berry, former Chairman of the Police Federation and Government Advisor, as guest speaker as well as the Lady Mayoress in attendance.

Headmistress, Sally-Anne Huang, and Chair of Governors, Edmund Waterhouse, both spoke about the tremendous effort in continuing with the hugely successful 'Carmen' despite the theatre fire in March, and how the community spirit and positive thinking adopted by all lies at the heart of Kent College's success. Mrs Huang spoke of her delight at the forthcoming 125th Anniversary celebrations and building of the new Art and Library Centre.

The talented Music Department led a selection of performances from the Orchestra, Chamber and Senior Choirs. The audience were thrilled to have the chance to listen to Holst's 'Planets' and music from 'Carmen' which displayed the outstanding talent within this department. Prize-giving recognised success in all areas of the school and we were delighted to welcome back last year's Upper 6th who collected their A-Level Awards and Certificates.

Kent College pupils also had success recently at the Young Fashion Designer UK competition and the BA Crest Awards with pupils winning prizes and places as finalists in both competitions.

Emma Chandler



MY PLOT

The really odd weather this year has caused some things to go wrong on my allotment plot, and some things to be spectacular successes. But I have made some pretty daft decisions myself, which I can't blame on the spring drought. Firstly, I planted two packets of 'sugarsnap peas' either side of my wire supporting frame – thinking to grow a broad hedge. Of course they had no idea they were supposed to stay on their side of the wire and they became totally intermingled. Problem 1 - it's impossible to tell one plant from the other; problem 2 - they turned out to be a mangetout and an ordinary pea; problem 3 - a well-developed mangetout may in fact be an underdeveloped pea.

A well-developed mangetout that is actually a pea has a dreadful tough pod and no peas yet (left in picture). But if I wait to give the peas time to grow, and it was in fact a mangetout, they go all pale and distorted (right). The only solution is to pick them all so ridiculously small and young that I need twice as many (middle). Definitely not to be repeated!



My Victoria plums have grown so many fruits, the branches break. It's such a waste of everything from my tree's point of view; I don't know why it does it? It makes all the plums small (too much stone and too little flesh) and the inside ones get squashed with no space to grow. Then they rot in the tight bunch and the whole bundle rots.

Of this lot, I will have to take well over half of them off, so the remaining fruit grows large and healthy. I wonder if there's anything you can do with green plums – chutney perhaps? Instead of green tomato...

Caroline Mazzezy



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PEMBURY IN 1965 - HOUSES

This article is taken directly from a WI Scrapbook dated 1965 and is a picture of life in the Village at that time.

Pembury Village in 1965 is growing very rapidly in common with many villages in the South East within a 40 mile radius of London. There is no information available as to the population before 1960, when it was at 3000, at 1963 the number had grown to 4015 and today it is estimated at about 5000.

Various factors have contributed to this expansion: young people are marrying earlier and setting up their own homes, the South East of the country is prosperous, so that many more people can afford cars, scooters and motor bicycles. And there seems to be an increasing desire among families to live outside towns where they can enjoy country pursuits and pleasures at the weekends.

Until the last five years, development in Pembury was on a smaller scale. A pair or a small group of houses or bungalows was built, each with its own quite large garden. In many cases the purchaser of an individual plot would have commissioned his own house, thus giving a pleasant and varied architecture to roads such as Romford Road, Lower Green Road and Woodlands Road.

This has always been the English pattern of growth with buildings of varying dates and styles side-by-side.

By 1965 this pattern has completely changed. With the enormously inflated cost of land, due to the ever-increasing demand for houses of stereotyped design, with ever smaller gardens, but always a garage or carport, usually some central heating, only one fireplace, and, if space can be found, a downstairs cloakroom.

Doors, windows and fittings are standardised for cheapness, and the general effect of some estates is monstrous, e.g. the Pembury Garden Estate, where a large number of terraced houses is being built; though these houses, selling at £4,600 are well planned inside, with well equipped kitchens of adequate size and an attractive, spacious living room. The large living-dining room is another feature common to most buildings in Pembury at the present time.

The largest and most expensive houses under construction today are four chalet bungalows in Romford Road, each has four bedrooms, two bathrooms and at £6,750 seem to provide good value for money.

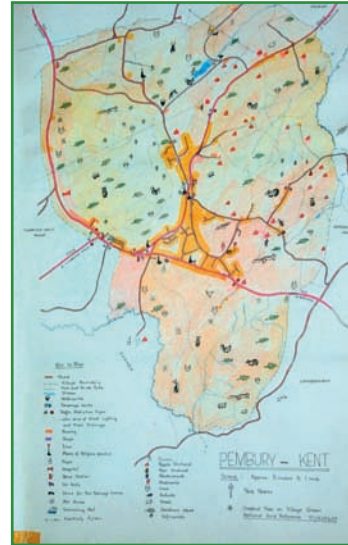
One could level quite strong criticism at another development. These houses of box-like structure with single span roofs, small rooms, no back doors and minute gardens divided by wire fences and selling for £4,500 can really only provide somewhere to live with few possessions or interests.

Yet another estate has the stairs running up through the middle of the living room. Surely in 1965 this impractical and comfortless idea could have been avoided.

So great is the demand for houses that both these estates appear to be selling quite well.

Private building is at a standstill this year, no further permits to build will be granted until the new sewage works is finished, probably in 1966-9.

During the past five years, some attractive estates have been finished and are becoming mature with ornamental trees, shrubs and flowers in the carefully tended gardens. Here one might mention Gimble Way and Gimble Grove, where detached and semi-detached houses are interspersed with bungalows, and Woodsgate Way, Woodhill Park and Greenleas where the same plan has been followed, with the addition of a few split level houses where the ground is suitable.



Continued on page 20



PEMBURY IN 1965 – HOUSES CONTINUED

In these estates wide grass verges in front of the houses look more attractive than the small fenced off front gardens of earlier estates. Today more attention is being paid to the general layout of an estate. Wherever possible established trees are preserved and add much to the appearance.

Council building has been going steadily on in Pembury since 1914 when the housing estate in the Bo-Peep area was begun. This development was curtailed during the First World War, continued between the wars, and was finally completed in 1945. Houses and flats of one or more bedrooms in the Bulls Place area were started in 1939 and finished about 1945. This is now a large established housing estate.

Another large Council estate is now being finished in Romford Road. There is a fine view over the country as one enters. Here the local authority has borne in mind the needs of different sections of the community. There are 53 dwellings in all, made up of two and three bedroom houses, six two-bedroom flats and the same number of one-bedroom flats.

The shops in Pembury are mostly the small type of village shop and are scattered among the roads, serving the various communities in this widely scattered village, so that, wherever one lives, one is never far from shops where the day-to-day needs of the housewife can be met. The main shopping area is the High Street. Here the wind of change is blowing. A house agent (Country Estates) is in business, a wine and spirit merchant has opened up, also an ironmonger and paint shop. There are now also two banks, a dry cleaner and a hairdresser. There are two post offices, one in Hastings Road and the other at Lower Green.

In 1960 a very pleasant group of one-bedroom flatlets for the elderly was built on land given by Lord Camden, next to the Church. These provide accommodation for 29 men and women. Here there is a warden in residence and the cost of a flatlet is £2-3s weekly, including central heating and the use of a common room and laundry room.

Opposite Camden Court is a row of Almshouses.

At the opposite end of the village in Henwood Green Road is Pembury Court, another development for older people. These flatlets run by the Hatton Trust are rather larger but there is no warden to supervise and help over central heating.

Janet Ditchett

PEMBURY TREES - ASH

Although this isn't a very good picture, it is our best 'public' example of an Ash tree - in the library car park. The Ash is a large woodland tree so it's understandable that people don't welcome them into their gardens. Ash trees are graceful and airy, so it's a shame that we are so poor in them. There is another small tree just inside the allotment grounds and one coming along nicely in front of the school at the top of Church Road.

Ash is a much-prized timber as it is easy to work and is very strong whilst remaining flexible. It is also the most versatile firewood, burning wet or dry, green or brown.

In the spring it is extremely late to open its leaves - which makes the little weather-forecasting rhyme [Oak before Ash = splash i.e. dry summer; Ash before Oak = soak i.e. wet summer] complete and utter nonsense! It also loses its leaves really early in the autumn. A short, sharp growing season.

In the winter they are often seen covered by hanging clusters of brown seeds, which are eaten by many animals and birds. And they are often festooned with Ivy.

Caroline Mazzezy



Fraxinus excelsior



BISHOP'S TEA AT THE HOSPICE

Recently the Right Rev'd. James Langstaff, The Bishop of Rochester, visited Hospice in the Weald to meet staff and patients.

The informal visit began by meeting some of the Hospice staff before joining patients for their usual service of Holy Communion. The Bishop then went on to meet the new Hospice in the Home team and was told about developments the Hospice is making to help patients stay at home as long as they wish.

As well as meeting staff, Bishop James spent time with patients and families in the Day Therapy Centre, joining them for tea and cakes. The Bishop spent time chatting to patients and their family members before going to the In-Patient Unit to meet with more patients and their visitors.



Pam Vale-Taylor, the Hospice Chaplain said "We were delighted that he was able to make time to spend an afternoon with us and see our work at first hand. The visit was very special to patients and many of them commented how much they enjoyed their afternoon. Spiritual care and religious care is very much an equal part of the holistic care that the Hospice provides for patients and the Bishop's visit really endorsed that."

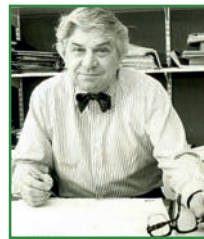
The care provided by Hospice in the Weald is about positivity and emphasising the quality of life for their patients. The Bishop of Rochester reinforced this idea with his visit to patients and he also learnt about the developments the Hospice is making to build on this care in people's homes. For more information about the Hospice in the Weald, visit their website: www.hospiceintheweald.org.uk

Amy Prime

DEREK HAWES RICHARDS 02.02.1933 – 23.05.2011

Following a long illness, Derek Hawes Richards sadly passed away in May this year. Derek was born in Torquay and studied architecture in London where he became the youngest fellow of his institute. In 1970 he moved to Pembury with his wife Hazel and two daughters, Lisa and Sophie.

Derek soon became involved in village life and became a member of the Pembury Parish Council. He had a vision for the future of the Village and was instrumental in starting the Pembury 2000 Action Committee. He was a leading activist in campaigning for the Pembury by-passes which involved blocking the former A21 and marching through the Village!



Derek was a lifelong member and activist of the Liberal Party and served as the local County Councillor for 12 years where he was Chairman of the Arts and Libraries Committee.

Derek had many hobbies including photography, music, cycling, and camping. He was passionate about cricket, and in his youth he played for Torquay. As a keen cyclist he supported Sustrans, the National Cycle Network, and as a nature lover he supported the RSPB. He was a member of the Tunbridge Wells Symphony Orchestra for 30 years. Derek was also a past president of the Tunbridge Wells Chamber of Commerce. He leaves a legacy of his architecture in Pembury with his superb design of the Village Hall which was opened in September 2000.

During his time in Pembury, Derek contributed a great deal for the benefit of the Village and will be sadly missed by family and friends. His wife Hazel has received many lovely letters which are a great tribute to his life and would like to pass on her sincere thanks to everyone. It is intended that a memorial service will take place in the autumn to celebrate Derek's life.

Lisa Maddison-Brown



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PEMBURY SCHOOL

This July, Pembury School has said goodbye to two long-serving members of staff. Mrs Margaret Coverley is retiring after 26 years with us. She joined us in November 1985 as a Midday Meals Supervisor, and then in 1991 became our very popular and much-loved Lollipop Lady, seeing our children safely across the busy Lower Green Road, for 16 years. Margaret decided in 1992 that she wanted to be even more involved in the School so she joined our Teaching Assistant team, becoming a Senior Classroom Assistant 10 years ago. She has been valued as a TA by all staff and children alike and she will be missed enormously by all of us.

Mrs Margaret Coverley

We wish her a very long and happy retirement and thank her for the devotion that she has given to the School over so many years.

Mrs Jane Gardner

Mrs Jane Gardner is also retiring as our Acting Headteacher on 31 August. She started teaching at Pembury School in 1987 and, although there were some breaks in service, she has taught here for over 18 years.

Jane entered secondary education at Dartford West Secondary School transferring to Dartford Grammar School for Girls when she was 13 years old. She was a student at Bognor Regis College for Education where she obtained a 2:1 B.Ed from Southampton University. After her marriage to Roger she moved to Cambridgeshire before they finally settled in Pembury in 1981.



Her first connection with the School was when she enrolled her eldest son into the reception class in 1984.

She joined the Senior Leadership Team as Assistant Headteacher in 2006. When she was appointed in 2009 as Deputy Headteacher, a position she relished, she was able to work closely with Mrs. Thewlis and between them they really moved the School forward, culminating in our very good OFSTED report in May 2010.

When Mrs. Thewlis retired last year, we asked Mrs. Gardner to step in temporarily as Acting Headteacher whilst we looked for our new HT. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the appointment process took much longer than was originally envisaged but, nevertheless, Jane faced up to the challenge with her usual fortitude and enthusiasm. The past year has been challenging, exhausting, stimulating and never boring. But to her credit Jane has not let us down and for that she has our everlasting gratitude.

This year the School has made further progress under Jane's stewardship and she has left for her successor both a very good establishment, and enthusiastic staff and children.

We all wish Jane a very long and well-deserved retirement where she can enjoy all that she has not had time to do for the last few years. We shall miss her enthusiasm, sense of fun, encouragement and joy at just being with the children, and thank her most sincerely for all that she has brought to Pembury School over the years.

Norman Dodd

Chair, Pembury School Governing Body



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GREEN GARDENING - HEDGEHOGS

Since Beatrix Potter, hedgehogs have developed a strong public acceptance and adoration, being rated among Britain's most-loved garden animals. But their present decline in population gives ecologists serious concerns for their future.



Hedgehogs are one of Britain's truly native animals, roaming the Isles for the last 2 million years; possibly even longer. The name 'heyghoge' was given to the European hedgehog in Medieval Britain, meaning a hog-like animal living in hedgerows. They are easily recognised by their spines, hollow hairs made stiff with keratin (as found in our hair and nails). The iconic ability to roll into a tight, spiky ball makes their main defence against predators. Hedgehogs are fairly vocal and communicate through a combination of grunts, snuffles and squeals. They are mainly insectivores, which make them a powerful pest control agent; they'll even eat slugs, snails and other unpalatable bugs. They are not particularly territorial, instead sharing familiar grounds with other hedgehogs. On one night, several adult hedgehogs may visit a single garden or visit several gardens, making a trip of a few miles each. They have basic eyesight; excellent hearing and a superb sense of smell.

Despite this, hedgehogs are not as robust as you would think. 20% of hedgehogs won't see the outside of their nursery nest and a further 70% will die during the first year, half of those during their first winter. For the lucky survivors, 2 out of 3 will make it to old age. Hedgehogs suffer many diseases common to humans – cancer (very common), fatty liver disease and cardiovascular disease, plus fungal infections such as ringworm, bacterial infections and parasites. But two main threats to their lives are hibernation and humans.

Hibernation is a major undertaking for any mammal and is only used as a last resort due to climatic conditions and seasonal shortages of food. Not dissimilar to a coma, it reduces body functions to an absolute minimum. In hedgehogs, the body temperature drops from 33-37° to 10°, a heart rate of 190BPM to 14 and a breath rate from 50 breaths per minute to 13. But hibernating hedgehogs are not 'dead to the world'. They wake up every now and then for a quick snack or to move to a new hibernacula. Nest building is an essential skill for hedgehogs that they start practising as early as three weeks old and perfect by their eighth week. Their waterproof and insulated winter nests are usually made from dead wood and leaves. Unfortunately, so are our bonfires. Many hedgehogs are fried alive by an unsuspecting public celebrating Guy Fawkes' night. Be smart – move your stack just before you light it to prevent unnecessary deaths.

Other causes of death are cars, lawn mowers, slug pellets and rubbish. When driving after dark, take care to slow down and stop, if safe, to spare wild lives. Before strimming or mowing long grass, stomp through it and make loud noises – wildlife will get the message. Hedgehogs like to snooze in long grass during the day and often get killed by lethal blades.

You can find more information on how we can lessen our impact on hedgehog populations on www.wildlifeonline.me.uk/hedgehogs.html and www.britisshedgehogs.org.uk. If you have seen a hedgehog over the summer, Kent Mammal Group would like to hear from you – please email the details to records@kentmammalgroup.org.uk. And if you do want to entice these fascinating nocturnal dwellers into your garden, autumn is the best time to do so while adults and young are trying to fatten up for winter hibernation. No bread and milk though – hedgehogs cannot digest dairy or bread, although that doesn't stop them eating it. Instead, give them dried mealworms, peanuts, cat or dog biscuits or canned food. They also get very thirsty, so a shallow dish with fresh water is essential. With a feast like this, any passing hedgehog will be tempted. Don't be discouraged if you don't spot them straight away – they are very shy and only gradually become bold enough to emerge before midnight.

For any hedgehog emergencies contact the Hedgehog Preservation Society on their helpline: 01584 890801.

Masha Odintsova-Bayles

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More and more people are learning about our activities and joining in. Our membership has now reached over 200 but we continue to focus on ensuring that everyone is welcomed and introduced to new people and activities.

Events open to all the members have included trips to London theatres, concerts, the Turner Contemporary Gallery in Margate, the Olympic Games sites, Glyndebourne and Walmer Castle. There have been two excellent Lecture Lunches, one on the life and poetry of John Betjeman and the other given by Michael Fish on life as a TV weatherman. About 40 members also stayed in Suffolk with visits to the National Stud, Cambridge and Ely.



At the Christmas Lunch we enjoyed a delightful Harp recital. The Burns Night Supper was complete with Haggis, Scottish dancing and verse, humour and song by brave volunteers. We celebrated the Royal Wedding with meals lasting from 12.30 to 6pm! The year always ends with a barbecue – just like the schools we stop in July for a month's rest. So far the weather has always been good, food excellent and the musical accompaniment entertaining.

The real backbone of the organisation continues to be the 'Interest groups' – small groups of members with a common interest. These include the book circle, French and Italian conversation groups, woodcarving, watercolour painting (the results being shown at St. Peter's Arts and Crafts Fair in May), science and technology, family history, ten-pin bowling, table-tennis, rambling, Scrabble, flower arranging, jazz appreciation, art appreciation, quilting, poetry reading and many more. All these groups are run by volunteers who have some knowledge to share and they mostly meet in the leaders' homes or the Village Hall.

It is amazing that every day, somewhere in Pembury, groups are meeting and all these activities are going on. Who would imagine as they drive through the Village that it is throbbing under the surface with all these meetings of minds, so much laughter, creativity and continued learning? Many of our members say that it has changed their lives and that they have made many new friends.

You can find out more by contacting the Membership Secretary, Andrew Richardson, on 824012 or by just coming along to a monthly meeting and seeing us in action. Dates and times of our meetings can be found on the diary page of the PVN.

Janet Richardson
Chairman



PEMBURY PLAYERS

Pembury Players is a Village institution and they manage to entertain the Village twice a year. The production in June this year consisted of three short plays each with a similar dialogue theme containing a humorous misunderstanding. The Interviewer ends up very craftily being interviewed by a determined lady. The young tenant squatting in his accommodation ends up doing a bunk so never does pay his rent, and the Council inspector, in the local theatre, has his head turned by some very clever acting on behalf of the theatre staff.

The Pembury Players enjoy entertaining us and work very hard to put on these productions. It's a pity the house is not full every night as it is well worth an evening out.

Thank you, Pembury Players.

Janet Ditchett

Editor: Pembury Players will be back to entertain us in the winter with their annual pantomime. More details will be published in the winter issue of the PVN and you can keep up-to-date with their activities on their website: www.pemburyplayers.co.uk





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WOODSGATE VS WOODGATE

As you may have noticed in the article I wrote for the last edition of the PVN (The Hastings Road by CG Harper) the confusion over Woodsgate, the place, and Woodgate, the surname, is not of recent origin. The two words are, however, completely unrelated to each other, although both are important in the history of Pembury.

WOODSGATE, the place, is a contraction of Wood's Gate: the gate belonging to the wood. I cannot say when the name took hold but it was well established by Elizabethan times. This even predates the existence of Pembury Road, which was built when 'the Wells' became a fashionable spa in the mid-seventeenth century, let alone the now notorious cross-roads at that location. So originally the highway at that point was just a straight piece of road with a gate across it where it crossed the wood's boundary. The wood in question is Southfrith Forest



which was an extensive area of ancient woodland in Tonbridge parish which stretched as far south as the boundary with Pembury parish. In medieval times, this forest was enclosed by a fence to provide a private hunting ground for the nobility but the road from Lamberhurst through Pembury to Tonbridge was well established by then as it had been a prehistoric trackway. Therefore it was necessary to provide a gate for access, hence 'Woodsgate'.

I have found several documents in the archives dated around 1600 which indicate that the name Woodsgate was well established by then. The earliest document I have found so far is 'the Rixon Indenture', a copy of which is in Pembury Library. It is dated 1590 and concerns the transfer of ownership of three pieces of land at Woodsgate. By this time, a small community seems to have grown up there as, in 1602, one Henry Terrie of Woodsgate, an alehousekeeper, came to the attention of the authorities. Again, in 1605, the Quarter Session papers tell us that 'The Highway between Woodsgate and Lamberhurst on the road between Rye & London is decayed and dangerous. Brenchley, Lamberhurst and Pembury ought to amend the way.'

So the gate dates from the time the forest was enclosed in medieval times and the name probably dates from soon afterwards.



William Francis Woodgate

Photo courtesy of Tonbridge Historical Society

WOODGATE is a surname and only became significant to Pembury's history at the beginning of the 19th century. In 1790 William Woodgate of Somerhill bought the Hawkwell estate from the Whyborne family who had owned it since the mid-sixteenth century. The Woodgate family had been well established in the Penshurst/Chiddingstone area for over 300 years when William's grandfather, John, bought Somerhill in 1712. They were very wealthy and had considerable influence in Tonbridge throughout the 18th century. William was a founder member of the Tonbridge Bank in 1792 but this collapsed in 1816.

Continued on page 30

PEMBURY LIBRARY OPENING TIMES



Monday:	Closed	Pembury Library
Tuesday:	9:00 am - 6:00pm	The Hop House
Wednesday:	9:00 am - 6:00pm	Henwood Green Road
Thursday:	9:00 am - 6:00pm	Pembury
Friday:	9:00 am - 6:00pm	TN2 4HS
Saturday:	10:00 am - 2:00pm	Tel: 822278
Sunday:	Closed	Email: pemburylibrary@kent.gov.uk

WOODSGATE VS WOODGATE CONTINUED

With ownership of the Hawkwell estate came the right to appoint a vicar of Pembury and so began the succession of Woodgate vicars, three in all, over the next hundred years. It was customary for younger sons of people of William Woodgate's standing to go into the church and who better to appoint to a living at one's disposal than your own son? The first Woodgate vicar, Stephen, was a son of William and he was followed by one of his sons and then, after a brief spell with someone else, a grandson.

Despite their financial problems when the Tonbridge Bank collapsed, the family were still rich by most people's standards and they still had considerable influence locally throughout the 19th century. It was during their time in Pembury that the Upper Church was built in 1847. Also, it was the Woodgates who got the new road known as Pembury Walks built in 1833 to replace the old road from the church to the turnpike road near Fairthorne.

The parish records do show that there had been one or two families called Woodgate in Pembury before the nineteenth century but, as to date, I have found no references to them in other documents, they were probably poor agricultural labourers and they certainly did not leave any significant mark on the Village.

Kathryn Franklin

A FASHION CATWALK SPECIAL

On the evening of Saturday, 24 September, there will be another Community event staged at St. Peter's Upper Church, and we are calling this 'A Fashion Catwalk Special'.

Doors will open at 7pm and the show - modelled by volunteer Pembury ladies! - will start at 7.30pm. Tickets are on sale now at the Pharmacy and the Post Office, or ring Carole Wakeford on 822030. Tickets cost £5 and include your first drink from the wine and juice bar.

The show, which is run by the company Travelling Trends, will take about an hour, after which ladies will be able to try on and buy the reduced price clothes that have been modelled. Over the years, Travelling Trends have managed to secure excellent contacts with wholesalers who buy direct from manufacturers of all the favourite high street stores, individual boutiques and designers. These wholesalers supply them with a constantly changing range of branded classical and fashionable items in an excellent range of sizes so they can confidently say that they carry something for everyone. The majority of the collection comes priced approximately 50% less than the retail price with many garments offering significantly higher reductions.

So Pembury ladies – get your ticket now for this 'Special Catwalk' fun evening plus the chance for some fantastic clothes bargains!

Derek Hollweg



WATERFIELD HOUSE SURGERY

The National Health Service, health of the nation, healthy eating, health checks, health and wealth. There seems to be a real preoccupation with health on television, in the papers and in conversation. I see friends join a gym and work out; others jog a few miles, and others cycle a dozen miles a week. All this is done to be healthy. But what is health? The World Health Organisation is perhaps a good place to start and they define it, “a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”. Like any definition it will always be incomplete, and recent events have taught me that you don’t appreciate what you have until you lose it.



I have enjoyed good health my whole life. I had nothing more serious than the occasional cough and cold until a day in early May when I was driving north on the M5. I don’t think the motorway was in any way to blame, but just past junction 23 I started to cough. Strange isn’t it that we can remember an apparently insignificant event so graphically. For me that was the start of a bout of pneumonia and 3 months signed off sick from work – a very long time to sit mostly with your own company and think about things.

Ask me now what I believe health is and I can recount everything that I had taken for granted all those years. No matter how much I struggled to get back to normal, the illness had a way of bringing me to my knees. I had no control over my condition. I could not be better by just willing it to be so. I took my pills and had the x-rays and started to learn to be patient. Patience is a virtue so my grandfather taught me and I thought I had it in abundance. Isn’t it wonderful how circumstance shows us the error of our ways and teaches us so much? It made me realise that although I would not have chosen to be ill, it provided me with an opportunity to look at things from a different perspective. As the weeks passed I became aware of everything I should be so grateful for: the love of my family; the support of my partners at work and the staff of Waterfield House; the care from so many patients in thought, word and deed; and the slow return of my health. I thought of the hospital staff that cared for me, the chemists who developed the antibiotics, the engineers who designed the blood analysers and x-ray machines. The list went on and on!

So now I am recovered and have returned to work, I still run late and talk too much. But I am now grateful for my health and will hopefully continue not to take it for granted. For those of you who do not have good health, I am truly sorry, and for those who do, I would say embrace it. Although it was an infection that caused my pneumonia, I do not think that anything could have prevented it. There are many infections that can hurt us, especially when we are young, so I am now even more passionate about the immunisation programmes that prevent infection.

I have learnt that health is a gift not a right, that working is a privilege and not a burden and that I have an awful lot to be grateful for. If I forget any of these, please feel free to remind me.

Dr. Cameron

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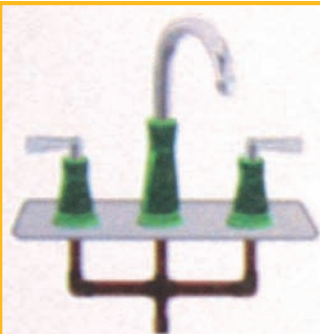
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PEMBURY PEOPLE: BIDDY WILLSON

Have your family always lived in Kent? No, on both sides of the family my origins appear to be from Northumbria and the Scottish Borders. During the first part of the 19th century a number of them, like so many others, came south and became involved in the industrialism of woollen carpets. Others moved into the south of England where several became academics and scholars. My father's occupation in the City of London brought him into contact with Oxford and Cambridge colleges as an investment advisor.



Where were you born? I was born in London and after the war broke out in 1939 my mother and I were evacuated to my grandparents in Buckinghamshire. Such schooling as I had took place alongside the headquarters of Bomber Command! After the war came to an end and my father was demobilised from the army, our family returned to London where I attended two day schools. After leaving school I worked in a bookshop in Oxford Street and then in the West End showroom of a smart traditional supplier of furnishing fabrics.

How did you meet Neil? I met my future husband, Neil, during this time at a fancy dress ball. At that time he was studying history and law at Kings College Cambridge and this led to many happy visits at weekends. Neil had been born and brought up at Kenward where we both still live.

When did you first visit the Old Church? It was through Neil that I was first introduced to Pembury and the Old Church. Neil can well remember Reverend Edwards as vicar of Pembury but the first vicar known to me was Douglas Wiswell. He took part in our wedding service in 1959. For a while we divided our time between Kenward and London (where our three daughters were born), but by 1972 we were living full time at Kenward and our son William was born in Pembury Hospital in 1977. For most of our grown-up lives we have both been regular churchgoers, first at Cambridge and subsequently in Pembury (especially the Old Church), like Neil's father and mother before us.

How did you become an active supporter of the Old Church? My first involvement in the business of being a dogsbody in church affairs derives from the setting up by Douglas Wiswell and others of the Friends of Pembury Parish Church (Old Church). This is a registered charity set up to draw in friends so as to enable the Old Church, after eight hundred continuous years of worship, to remain open for regular Sunday worship – even during the school holidays when Kent College girls (who also use the church during the school term) are away. The Friends are truly grateful to local residents (some now dead) for their generosity. I have been on the committee since it was set up; Sarah Clarke, for many years, has been our chairman. The Friends have been involved in a good number of events in the Village including barn dances at Pippins and Downingbury Farm in conjunction with the Upper Church.

What is your official title at the Old Church? I was greatly honoured about twelve years ago to be invited to fill the newly created post of Deputy Church Warden for the Old Church which enabled me to continue as a member of Pembury Parochial Church Council and to give voice, when necessary, to the interests and views of both congregations. I still enjoy my job!

Do you have time for any other interests? I'm no game player but I do enjoy country pursuits of many kinds (once a week I steward for the National Trust). Gardening is my principal activity and I especially love herbaceous borders. I must also say that cats are quite a feature in my life!

CRIME IN PEMBURY

Sadly, we are past midsummer already but hopefully there are plenty of hot, sunny days to come.

The crime figures for the Village are still showing a downward trend. April, May and June reported crime being 36, one less than the previous quarter but 11 lower than for the same period for 2010.

This is very encouraging but still higher than it should be. Let's aim for 25 for the same period next year and for July, August and September.

Theft offences relating to vehicles and their contents and criminal damage are still the areas of concern.

Please let me repeat the message – if you think a crime you have reported is missing from the crime sheet sent to me by the police, please contact me via the Parish Office.

Be careful out there!

Hugh Boorman

Recorded crime in Pembury

If a road name does not appear in the table below, it is because no crimes have been reported to Kent Police in that road during the specified period.

Crime type by reported month	Violent crime	Burglary dwelling	Theft from motor vehicle	Theft of motor vehicle	Criminal damage offences	Theft offences (exc. vehicle offences)	Drug offences	Fraud & forgery	Total recorded crime
April 11	2	0	6	0	4	5	0	1	18
May 11	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	6
June 11	0	2	1	1	2	2	4	0	12
April-June 2011	3	3	8	1	7	8	4	2	36

Crime type by road name	Violent crime	Burglary dwelling	Theft from motor vehicle	Theft of motor vehicle	Criminal damage offences	Theft offences (exc. vehicle offences)	Drug offences	Fraud & forgery	Total recorded crime
A21 A			1				2		3
BEAGLES WOOD ROAD					1				1
BRICKFIELDS	1								1
CHALKET LANE						1			1
CHURCH ROAD						1			1
DUNDALE ROAD			1						1
HASTINGS ROAD					2		1		3
HENWOOD GREEN ROAD	1			1					2
HENWOODS MOUNT					1				1
HIGH STREET						1			1
LOWER GREEN ROAD					1			1	2
PEMBURY ROAD	1					1	1	1	4
PENNS YARD						1			1
RIDGEWAY			1						1
ROMFORD ROAD			3						3
STONECOURT LANE					1				1
TONBRIDGE ROAD			1		1	3			5
WOODHILL PARK			1						1
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME	3	3	8	1	7	8	4	2	36

Data extracted from the Kent Police crime recording system (Genesis) on 1 July 2011 at 17:13 hrs.

Data based on crimes with a grid reference that is within the geographical boundary of Pembury Parish.

Due to data protection issues, we are unable to provide Burglary dwelling and Burglary other data at street level. Since these crimes are location specific (i.e. relate to a particular house or garage), where there is only one house in a road it can be identified. Although not shown by road name, the total number of crimes is shown within 'total recorded crime'.

FOR YOUR DIARY

For more up-to-date events, please see the online diary at www.pembury.org

Village Market - Village Hall, Tuesdays 9am-11.30am, term-time only.

Town & Country (High Weald Housing) - Clinic, Tuesdays 10am-11.30am.

CAB Pembury Library, alternate Tuesdays 9.30am-11.30am.

September

- 6 Pembury U3A – Village Hall – 2pm
- 8-11 Old Church Heritage Days – Old Church – 2-5pm
- 10 Pepenbury Healthy Family Picnic and Fun day – Pepenbury, Cornford Lane – 11.30am-3pm
- 12 Parish Council Meeting – Pavilion – 8pm
- 18 Songs of Praise – Upper Church – 6pm
- 24 St. Peter's Fashion Show – Upper Church – 7.30pm

October

- 1 Pembury Footpath Walkers – meet at Stonecourt Lane bus stop – 2.15pm
- 2 Harvest Choral Evensong – Old Church – 6pm
- 3 Floral Art Workshop – Village Hall – 8pm
- 4 Pembury U3A – Village Hall – 2pm
- 5 St. Peter's Mothers' Union – Coping with diabetes, Mrs Helen Nevison – Upper Church Room – 8pm
- 8 Evening WI: Story of the honeybee, Mr D.J. Marsh – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 10 Parish Council Meeting – Pavilion – 8pm
- 13 Afternoon WI: Flower arranging, Ann Purton – Village Hall meeting room – 2pm
- 15 Induction of Rev'd. David Baxter – Pembury Baptist Church – 3pm
- 15 HOPE Jazz evening – Pembury Baptist Church – 7pm
- 16 Pippins Farm Apple Day – Pippins Farm – 11am-5pm
- 29 RNLI Autumn Fayre – Catholic Hall – 10am-12pm

November

- 1 Pembury U3A – Village Hall – 2pm
- 2 St. Peter's Mothers' Union – Asylum seekers – the real story, Mrs Alison Lavy – Upper Church Room – 8pm
- 4 Evening WI: Rats revellers – moments from the musicals and craft competition – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 4 Fireworks – Lower Green Road Recreation Ground
- 5 Pembury Footpath Walkers – meet at Bo-peep Corner – 2.15pm
- 7 Parish Council Meeting – Pavilion – 8pm
- 7 Floral Art Workshop – Village Hall – 8pm
- 10 Afternoon WI: Social event – Village Hall meeting room – 2pm
- 18 Christmas Market – Hospice in the Weald – 10am-4pm
- 19 Christmas Market – Hospice in the Weald – 10am-4pm
- 26 St. Peter's Christmas Fair – Upper Church – 10am-12pm

December

- 2 Evening WI: 2012 Olympics and the legacy for London, Mrs Tricia Francis – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 3 St. Anselm's Christmas Bazaar – Catholic Hall – 2-4pm
- 3 Pembury Footpath Walkers – meet at Stonecourt Lane bus stop – 2.15pm
- 5 Parish Council Meeting – Pavilion – 8pm
- 5 Floral Art Workshop – Village Hall – 8pm
- 7 St. Peter's Mothers' Union Christmas Supper
- 8 Afternoon WI: Christmas meal – 2pm

PEMBURY PLATTERS

After such a warm and sunny spring, the summer had a lot to live up to in terms of weather and there were at least a few days that didn't disappoint! For our part, we've really enjoyed getting to know our neighbours and food is always a good excuse for getting together. So even if the weather itself isn't very predictable, other things are. From September onward, the days will be getting shorter and at some point we'll yearn again for warm socks and an extra blanket or log on the fire. I hope you enjoy these recipes as you snuggle into autumn.

Cheeseburger Soup (serves 8)

Total comfort and a meal in a bowl. Several ingredients but a very easy preparation process.



Ingredients

1kg ground beef
4 tbsb butter - divided use
1 medium onion, chopped
2 medium carrots, chopped
2 large celery stalks, chopped
750ml chicken stock, slightly more if needed
4 medium potatoes, peeled and diced
40g (1 ½ oz) plain flour
340g (2 x 170g cans) Carnation Evaporated Milk
225g (8oz) diced pasteurised cheese product (2 packs of Kraft Singles works well; remove all packaging, stack together and dice)
¾ tsp salt
½ tsp ground black pepper
2 tbsb spring onion for garnish (if desired)

Preparation

Cook ground beef in a large saucepan over medium heat until just brown; drain and reserve liquid, set aside. Melt 1 tablespoon butter in the same large saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion, carrots, and celery at the same time, stirring occasionally for about 10 minutes or until tender. Add chicken stock, potatoes and cooked beef with the reserved liquid (optional but adds flavour). Make sure there is enough liquid to cover the potatoes and allow them to cook. Bring to boil, reduce heat to low; cover and let simmer for 10-12 minutes or until potatoes are tender. Melt the remaining butter in a small saucepan over medium heat. Add flour and whisk, stirring constantly for 3-5 minutes or until bubbly. Add to the soup; bring to a boil. Cook, stirring occasionally, for 2 minutes. Reduce heat to low, add evaporated milk, cheese, salt and pepper. Stir until cheese is melted. Garnish with a bit of spring onion for colour if you wish.

Blackberry and Apple Crumble (serves 6-8)

Most people already have their own favourite recipe but I couldn't resist something with blackberries this time of year. The secret to the crunch is the flaked almonds.



Ingredients

4 large cooking apples (or 6 smaller ones), peeled, cored and cut into chunks
1 tbsb water
3 tbsb sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
500g (17 ½ oz) fresh or frozen blackberries
For the crumble (this will yield a generous amount)
175g (6oz) plain flour
140g (5oz) cold butter
175g (6oz) demerara sugar
50g (1 ¾ oz) flaked almonds, buy them already flaked and give another fine chop

Preparation

Preheat the oven to 180°C (350°F/gas mark 4). Put the apple chunks, water, sugar and vanilla into a saucepan over low-medium heat until the apples are soft and mushy; this should take about 10 minutes. While cooking, stir every minute or so to prevent sticking. Taste and add more sugar if needed. Transfer the apple mixture into a pie dish or casserole dish and allow to cool slightly. Stir in the blackberries.
To make the crumble, rub the cold butter into the flour until it resembles coarse breadcrumbs. Don't rub too much or it will not be crunchy. Combine with the sugar and almond flakes and sprinkle the mixture over the slightly cooled mixture. Bake for 30-45 mins depending on the size of your dish. Serve warm with whipped cream or vanilla ice cream.

Carrie Heiss

PEMBURY GARDENERS' SOCIETY

The Pembury Gardeners Society held its 63rd annual summer flower show on Saturday 9 July. The entries were slightly down on last year due to weather conditions during the spring and early summer. The Sweet Peas and roses were of a high standard, and their perfume greeted you as you entered the hall. The prizes were presented by our president Mrs. Sarah Clarke. Unfortunately the children's classes were down on the last shows.



The winners of trophies and medals are as follows:

Sweet Peas: The John Gorrington award for most points in all Sweet Pea classes, the Doug Steward Cup for the best Vase and the National Sweet Pea Medal for Best in Show, Mrs. Brenda Brown.

Roses: The John Baggeson Bowl for most points, Mr. Peter Parfitt; Society Medal for best exhibit, Mrs. Hazel Wood.

Floral Art: the Helen Reeve Trophy for most points and certificate for best floral art exhibit, Mrs. Brenda Penfold.

Fruit and Vegetables: The R. W. Smeal Cup, Mr. Steve Jones.

Handicraft: The Mary Standen Cup for most points awarded jointly to Mrs. Beryl Whiddett and Mrs. Hazel Wood.

Cookery: The Miss Harthan Cup for most points, Mrs. Caroline Riley.

Junior Classes: The Maurice S. Mephram Cup went to joint winners Imogen and Oscar Riley.

Certificates were also presented to Oscar Riley and Imogen Riley for their junior exhibits and to Pembury School for their display of work.

Congratulations also to Steven Addley, one of our new exhibitors, who won the novice class in Floral Art, and his ship in the handicraft. Keep it up Steven.

Our thanks to all exhibitors and visitors to the show.

Pembury Gardeners' Society

CHURCH TIMES

Pembury Baptist Church

Romford Road

Sunday 10am and

Café style 6.15pm

Contact 825590

pemburybaptistchurch.org

St. Anselm's Catholic Church

Lower Green Road

Sunday 11am

Wednesday 7pm

Contact 833699

stjustusandanselm.org.uk

The Ordinariate of our Lady of Walsingham

At St. Anselm's Church

Sunday 9.15am

Tuesday 12pm

Thursday 10am

Friday 10am

Saturday 9am

Contact 825009

tunbridgewells-ordinariate.com

St. Peter's Church

Hastings Road and Old Church Road

Upper Church

Sunday 8am and

9.45am with junior Church

Wednesday 10am

Old Church

Sunday 11.30am

Contact 824761

pemburychurch.net

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

PARISH COUNCIL



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44 Elmhurst Avenue TN2 4DA
Tel: 824873
Chairman of Parish Council



Cllr John Bullocke
Quinces, Henwood Green Road,
TN2 4LW
Tel: 822613



Cllr Sean Cawley
Henry Paul Funerals,
10 High Street, TN2 4NY
Tel: 825505



Cllr David Coleman
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Tel: 823402



Cllr Janet Ditchett
7 Cornford Park TN2 4PW
Tel: 822586



Cllr Kevin Edser
49 The Gill TN2 4DJ
Tel: 823643



Cllr Patrick Gillan
1 Knights Close TN2 4EL
Tel: 825324



Cllr John Hine
68 Woodhill Park, TN2 4NP
Tel: 824393



Cllr Duncan Hope
80 Woodhill Park TN2 4NP
Tel: 824496



Cllr Melanie Karpinski
48 Maidstone Road TN2 4DE
Tel: 824466



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



Cllr Chris Snow
1 Cornford Park TN2 4PW
Tel: 825428



Clerk to Pembury Parish Council
Barbara Russell, 6 The Grove TN2 4BU.
Tel: 823193.
Email:
clerk@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Deputy Clerk to Pembury Parish Council
6 The Grove TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193.
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June Crowhurst, 44 Elmhurst Avenue, TN2 4DA. Tel: 824873

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Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586

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Church Office. Tel: 825590

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Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

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HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Graham Hayler. 9 The Gill. Tel: 824680

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Parish Office. Tel: 823193

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Tel: 834166

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c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

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Sunday Secretary: Phil Craxton. 823928

Chairman: Andy Rice-Tucker. Tel: 822483

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PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

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Membership Secretary: Andrew Richardson. Tel: 824012

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Karol Young. Tel: 823413

PEMBURY YOUTH THEATRE ACADEMY

Dee Barrington-King. Tel: 825773

PEPENBURY

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

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

PCSO Nick Brown. Tel: 07772 226001

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Nigel Stratton. Tel: 822936

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Nick Harrison. Tel: 07549 747529

SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Nick Harrison. Tel: 07549 747529 and Moira Allan, 9

Henwood Green Road. Tel: 822373

ST. ANSELM HALL ENQUIRIES

Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586.

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs M. Adams. Tel: 822769

TABLE TENNIS CLUB

John Burleton. Tel: 823250

THE ORDINariate OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Fr. Ed Tomlinson, 31 Henwoods Crescent. Tel: 825009

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Housing manager: Eleanor Dench.

Tel: 0845 8731 321

TREE WARDEN

Caroline Mazzey. Tel: 822493

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP

Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT SCHEME.

Tel: 513969

VILLAGE HALL

Manager (bookings): Rachel Windus. Tel: 822837

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Pauline Hawker. Tel: 824327

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Margaret Buss. Tel: 822530

Evening: Jane Jones. Tel: 823601



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