

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 99 / Autumn 1999



PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Photograph showing the
seven newly co-opted
Parish Councillors is
on page 3.

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Cover photograph courtesy David Sellman

Parish News & Comment

COUNCILLORS' CORNER

BEING A new Parish Councillor, I have decided to write a few observations since taking on my new responsibilities. My new role is bringing me into contact with many of you. When I first decided to stand for the Parish Council Elections last May, I made it plain that I was keen to understand the issues and, as far as possible, address them on your behalf. So far most of the telephone calls I have received relate to the general state of hedges and grass cutting. A verge in Henwood Green Road was my first challenge. After some follow up the Parish Council have managed to arrange for the verge to be cut and I have subsequently ascertained the resident is satisfied.

As a Parish Councillor I am keen that we keep the village tidy and it has been emphasised to the Borough Council that we require more regular cutting of verges that are not the responsibility of the Parish Council. Also, as residents, we can help by making sure hedges that adjoin our footways are cut back. Recently I observed a blind person stepping into a main road because a hedge was overgrown. I realise we are not all gardeners but please consider our elderly residents and the partially sighted. A few quick snips of rapidly growing brambles does not take long and help keep our village tidy.

I hope further articles will appear from your Councillors in future issues of this magazine.

Councillor Brian Horgan

The next issue of this magazine will be a bumper 100th Edition. Is there is anything special you would like to see included within its pages? – Editor

Editorial Committee:

Henry Plant (Editor), Julia Campbell, Gill Matthews and Betty Roberts

COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE

Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this Magazine must be forwarded to the Editor before 1st November 1999.

E-mail –

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Internet site: www.pbss.demon.co.uk/pvn

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

EDITOR

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Tel: 823459

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PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

YOU MAY remember that after the May elections this year there were seven vacancies for Parish Councillors that had to be filled to enable the Parish Council to work effectively and efficiently as our local government representatives. On 6th September the Parish Council sat for the first time with its full quota of 13 members, the seven Councillors below having been co-opted by the Parish Council.



Left to right Cllr Mrs Janet Greenwood, Cllr Mrs Wendy Withycombe, Cllr Derek Flint, Cllr Mrs Rosemary Latter, Cllr David Mills, Cllr Mrs Alison Morton and Cllr Paul Barrington-King.

Now it is at full strength the Parish Council can once again go forward, looking after the interests of its local inhabitants.

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

THE FRIENDS of Pembury Parish Church enjoyed perfect weather for their annual Coffee Morning and Sale held on the Village Green on 4th September. The Committee would like to thank each and everyone who helped to make this event such a resounding success.

The sum of £548 was raised for the fund for the repair and maintenance of the Old Church.

Wonderful support, wonderful weather, wonderful result.

Ann Toler

YOUR CHANCE FOR POSTERITY

DURING the year 2000 there will be a wide range of events taking place in our village. However, the Pembury Millennium Committee believe that as we step into the next one thousand years we should make the effort to leave behind us a record for the future which describes and celebrates the people who make up the life blood of our community. What we have in mind is a bound book or books consisting of individual double-sided pages. A family or household would complete these pages and describe its individuals, the lives they lead and their aspirations for the future.

The book has been named Pembury People 2000 and its purpose would be to provide a permanent record of Pembury villagers at a personal level at the beginning of the millennium. This will enable future generations to look back to obtain a 'snapshot' glimpse of who these families or individuals were and what life was like for them at the time when the great date change occurred.

Once completed, the pages would be gathered in and collated and then bound in leather covers and, eventually, placed in the County Archives at Maidstone.

We want you to join in this project. If you agree, we will deliver to you a sheet of A4 paper, chosen and purchased because of its ability to resist the ravages of the years. You will then be able to be as creative as you wish because we want your character and that of the family individuals to shine through into the future.

Enthusiastic? – Good!

Concerned about what you might write?

Then here are a few suggestions:

The name of you and your family and the address.

How long have you lived in the village?

If you moved to Pembury, from whence did you come?

What you and yours have achieved in your

lifetime.

What special thing will you do in the future?

How do you see Pembury maturing and changing in the future?

Sketches, drawings, paintings.

Clubs and Associations to which you belong.

The way you spend your spare and leisure time.

Your chosen place of special interest in the village.

Where do you work and what do you do?

Educational achievements.

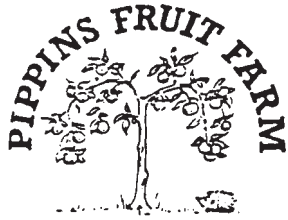
The happiest time that you remember.

With a bit of luck and a large dose of good husbandry the leather-bound books should survive through several hundred years so why not make the decision and make your mark for the future? As a first step, complete the form that is included in this issue. Then, before 30th September next, kindly place it in one of the marked collecting boxes located within the Post Office in Lower Green Road, the Post Office in Hastings Road or in the Hospice Charity Shop in the High Street. Once all the applications are received it can then be decided if the response has been such that we will proceed with the project. In which case those who have returned forms will be supplied with further details and the all-important sheet of long-life paper; this will be collected later. There will be no charge for entering this venture but a contribution of 50 pence or so will do wonders to help cover the costs of paper and binding.

We will need help with this project. So, please offer to give a helping hand to distribute to and collect from a few households and/or help with the collation of the completed sheets into the order they will be given to the book-binder. Just tick the box on the enclosed form.

Derek Johnson – Millennium Committee member

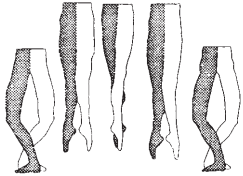
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GILL'S GARDEN

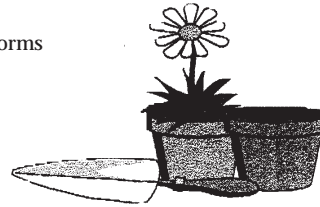
REMOVE remains of summer annuals and compost. If possible, incorporate organic matter when digging the soil before planting winter bedding, e.g. Pansies, Wallflowers, Bellis, Brompton Stocks and Polyanthus.

Plant Daffodils and other Narcissus, Crocus, Scillas and Iris either directly into the ground or in pots ready for spring. If plant pots are not frost proof remove to sheltered place or protect with bubble wrap.

Hanging baskets can also be planted with Pansies and Ivies. Remember to water regularly if under a porch or canopy.

Hardy annuals can be planted in well-drained soils; Alyssum, Candytuft, Clarkia and Poppies. Prune rambler Roses and place nets over ponds to prevent the water being polluted by falling leaves. Rake leaves from lawns and borders.

Dig up Gladiolus corms and Dahlias and store in a dry, frost proof place. Transplant trees and plants while the soil is moist and warm.



In late autumn prune deciduous hedges and carry out any major cutting back. Reseed any worn patches in the lawn and aerate to encourage good drainage and stimulate root growth. If moss is a problem use a proprietary moss killer after which all the dead moss should be raked away.

Clean lawn mower and repair if necessary before storing for winter.

Gill Matthews

MY PLOT

HELLO, I'm not Rob - I'm Caroline, but I couldn't let Rob's busyness stop you all from hearing about allotment life. When I read out Rob's message in the last issue my husband told me I should do it instead. I don't suppose I'm any better qualified than anyone else, but I'll give it a go. Perhaps we'll end up with a whole team of contributors keeping you informed of everything that's going on!

Well, it's been a pretty good growing season this year, that's for sure. All that early rain followed by the wonderful weather in June and July has made everything grow like mad. Also - I hardly dare say it - it hasn't been bad for pests and diseases either.

My raspberries have done really well, with plenty eaten straight off the canes (pickers rights!), even more eaten at home with ice cream, a good quantity frozen and about twelve pounds of jam too! What I tend to do is to sort them as I pick them. The perfect fruit gets eaten or frozen, whilst the imperfect ones (squashed or only partly developed) go into the pot.

In fact it's been a good soft fruit year all round for me: Victoria plums, gooseberries and strawberries. It will be so lovely to get stored fruit out of the freezer next February.

The broad beans did all right, although I don't

think I planted enough to last the year through. Onions, now there's a different story. I've got enough onions to last through to next year and beyond. I have never tried growing onions from seed - only the baby onions called 'sets'. I must have gone a bit mad when I bought the sets last spring; how else did I ever end up with so many?

My last special mention, before I admit to a disaster, goes to my globe artichokes. These are not exactly a common sight on the allotments but I love them and besides tasting gorgeous they look stunning: giant purple thistles the size of a Christmas pudding - and home to an amazing array of wildlife.

OK then, the flop. French beans. Second year in a row. I have no idea why but they just haven't thrived and the crop was pathetic. Still, try again next year. They are worth the trouble I'm sure.

Next issue I'll be able to let you know how my sweet corn got on. It looks good now but isn't ready to pick yet.

Finally, a question. There are tools for almost every job to do with the soil - some more mechanised than others - but where oh where is there a gadget for picking gooseberries? It's the most painful job going. Come to that, why can't the prickles be bred out of the plants altogether!

Caroline Mazze

PEMBURY IN BLOOM

Whilst Pembury failed to gain a certificate in the South East in Bloom competition the village was congratulated by the judges for the efforts of the local people, businesses and the work of the groundsmen regarding general tidiness of the village. A special thank you to everyone involved.

The finalists of the Pembury in Bloom Notcutts Competition were treated to an afternoon tea at the garden centre before the presentation of the awards. The winners were kept a much-guarded secret until the event. They were:

Notcutts Best Front Garden Prize

1st – Mr John Beech, Camden Avenue

2nd – Mr and Mrs Robert Davies,
Henwood Green Road

3rd – Mr Gary Lawrence, Middlefield

Best Hanging Basket Category

1st – Mrs Gail Beeching, The Coppice

2nd – Mr Gary Lawrence, Middlefield

3rd – Mr Gavin Groom, The Meadow

The Notcutts Rose bowl for the Most Attractive Commercial Frontage

1st – Mr and Mrs Edward Leung,

Pembury Chinese Cuisine

The Notcutts Trophy for the Best Allotment

1st – Mr Fredrick Barden, Beagles Wood Road.

Jean Smith, manager of Notcutts, said, "We thoroughly enjoyed judging the competition. The entries were all very good, despite the heavy rainfall the gardeners have had to endure. It's time for everyone to start planning for next year's competition."

The picture below shows (left to right) Jean Smith (Notcutts Garden Centre Manager), John Beech (winner of the Notcutts Best Front Garden Prize), Frederick Barden (Winner of Notcutts Trophy for the Best Allotment) and Gill Matthews (Pembury Parish Councillor).
Gill Matthews



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THE LEAGUE OF THE FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

THE LAST few months have been very busy for us all here, starting with the opening of a vital new cancer screening room within the Hospital in late December at a cost of £138,600 provided by the League of Friends. This was followed in June when the President of the League of Friends, Viscountess De Lisle, handed over a new mobile X-ray machine to Pembury Hospital.

The purchase of the mobile unit from funds raised at last year's Summer Fete will allow patients to be X-rayed on the Jacoby Ward rather than having to move to the Kent and Sussex Hospital. Chairman of the League of Friends, Gary Purdy, said, "We are delighted to be providing equipment which enhances the care of patients at Pembury."

The photograph below, *which is shown here with the kind permission of the Kent and Sussex Courier*, shows Lady De Lisle (right), President of the League of Friends for Pembury Hospital, handing over the mobile X-ray machine to Mary Symes (left), Chairman of the Trust Board. Also pictured are members of the League of Friends; Sylvia Oliver-Smith, Frank Eling, Diane Gyford, senior radiographer, Gary Purdy and Mavis Somerset.



Also in June, in conjunction with the Rotary Club of Southborough, we helped organise a charity walk in the beautiful gardens of Penshurst Park and the Estate. This raised approximately £2,000.

The Pembury Hospital Fete which took place on the 28th August was a complete success raising approximately £17,500. It is hoped that out of the money raised it will enable two 'Birthday' beds and two foetal heart monitors to be purchased for the Maternity Unit.

More information can be obtained from Elaine Leather on 01892 723971.

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PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

PEMBURY SCHOOL SUMMER FETE

The Fete held in the School grounds on Saturday 31st July was once again a tremendous success. The sun shone and at least 1200 people came through the gate. The Fete was opened by a 'Parade of Decades' led by Queen Victoria (Christina Lundberg) followed by children from the School carrying pictures of their chosen decades. This was followed by a Fancy Dress Parade with a variety of entrants ranging from Punks and Hippies to Margaret Thatcher and World War II pilots. Everyone had an enjoyable time and all the stalls were kept very busy throughout the afternoon.

At least £3000 was raised for the School, which will go towards the development of the School grounds.

FUTURE EVENTS

We are now looking ahead to our Autumn/Winter fund raising events. We are holding two events for the children at the school – a Magic Show on Friday 1st October and a Disco on Friday 12th November – details will be given out at the school nearer the time.

On Thursday 14th October we are putting on a Ladies Fashion Show. Last year this event was well supported and all those who came had an enjoyable time. The evening begins with models parading on the catwalk and then there is an opportunity to look at the clothes available to buy on the night. The evening ends with a bit of fun where ladies in the audience have the opportunity to model a garment of their choice. All ladies welcome – tickets will be on sale at the school and also at Ditchetts the Chemists from Monday 13th September 1999. In November we are having a Christmas Fayre – Saturday 27th November from 12 noon until 3pm.

Anyone who would like to have a stall at the Fayre should contact me on 01892 924403.

There will be a visit from Father Christmas to entertain the children. Refreshments will include mulled wine, tea and coffee, soft drinks and hot/cold snacks. We will have a Xmas Raffle and an assortment of stalls including a Chocoholics Tombola, Cupped Wine and a "secret" area where children can take their presents to be wrapped out of the sight of Mum and Dad.

We look forward to seeing everyone at both of these events.

Helen Hendley, Secretary to the PSA

PEMBURY SCHOOL – POETRY ANTHOLOGY

THIS TERM pupils in Year 4 entered a Poetry Competition to have their poems included in a 'Growing with Trees Anthology'. The Anthology, published as a 'Big Book', was produced to celebrate the National Year of Literacy with a view to its use in schools during the Literacy Hour. There were over 2200 entries so Pembury is very proud that two of our pupils, Helen Boorman and Ian Westrope, have had their poems published.

Helen and Ian were invited to the Polka Theatre in Wimbledon, together with Miss Louise Morgan, the Environmental Studies Consultant, to the launch of the Anthology. Michael Rosen, the famous children's poet, presented Helen and Ian with their certificates and a copy of the Anthology.

Christina Lundberg,
Acting Headteacher

TREES

Trunk is gnarled and bobbly like an old man's wrinkled hand.

Branches like fingers twisting and turning in the wind.
Leaves are green, red, orange like coloured fingernails.

Blossom pink and delicate like soft baby's skin.

By Ian Westrope, Age 8

THE CONKER TREE

I am a conker tree,
I live on the village green in Pembury,
I've stood here for many years,
Through sadness, laughter and tears,
As the village changes all around me,
I shall remain the same old tree,
In the spring my leaves unfold,
Although I am so very old,
In summer I do provide
Thick leaves where children hide,
In Autumn I have conkers,
And children under me go bonkers,
In winter when it is snowing,
The roots under me keep on growing,
For many more years I will remain,
And the seasons will come again and again,
I will stand here as proud as can be,
In the middle of Pembury.

By Helen Boorman, Age 8

SPORT IN THE VILLAGE

PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

It is amazing how fast a summer can go and another football season arrive. It only seems just a few weeks ago that we were all celebrating another successful season and looking forward to the long lazy days of summer. All of a sudden training takes a more earnest meaning, player registration forms are being passed around, kit requirements for the next season are sorted out, the pitches are marked out and before you realise it the new season's fixture lists arrive. The first weekend in September heralds the start of the new campaigns.

Before the excitement of the new season sweeps over us I thought I should take time to introduce you to the team off the pitch. It is a great honour for me to be chairman of a club which not only has five good teams on the pitch but is also endowed with, I believe, the best team off the pitch. I have been involved with Pembury football for over 15 years as chairman and treasurer of the Sunday side until becoming chairman of the amalgamated club.

Life President – Stan Moxon, the very popular member of the village who will need no introduction to you. Suffice to say that Stan worked very hard for many years on behalf of the club and indeed was responsible for setting up the Sunday club.

Vice-Chairman – Robin Turner, who for many years was chairman of the club as well as being a founder member and for many years chairman of the Juniors. He is also joint manager of the Sunday Reserves. Currently he is the most 'mature' player on the club's books!

Saturday Secretary – Mick Waterman, who has taken on the job this year from his son Stephen, who previously filled the role. Mick was a player for many years for both the Saturday and Sunday sides. In recent years he has helped manage both the Saturday 1st and 2nd teams. Welcome back Mick.

Sunday Secretary – Phil Craxton, who has performed this job for 15 or more years and continuously maintains a high standard which has more than once been recognised by the West Kent Sunday League. He played for both Saturday and Sunday teams and on his retirement became manager of the Saturday reserves before becoming manager of the Saturday 1st team, a job which last year he shared with Ian Presnell who this season has had to stand down for business reasons. Phil is hoping to appoint someone shortly to share the manager's job.

Treasurer – Andy Rice-Tucker, who continues to play for the Sunday 3rd team which he jointly manages. He is currently in the second, or is it third, twilight of his playing career. The older he gets the more medals he seems to win.

MANAGERS

Saturdays

1st Team – Phil Craxton (see above)

2nd Team – Nick Witham has been actively involved with the club for several years, after supporting his son who plays for the Saturday club. He shares the managing with Andy Whittaker who has been a player for the club on both days for many years.

Sundays

1st Team – Jointly managed by Tim Nagle, player for the village clubs for more years than he cares to remember, and Gary CoIdwell, the genial host of the Black Horse which is the club's base.

2nd Team – Robin Turner (see above) and Andy Davis, who joined the club 10 or more years ago as a player on both days, share the function. Andy continues to play on Sundays.

3rd Team – Andy Rice-Tucker (see above) and Alan Moxon jointly manage the 3rd Team – N.B. Alan, who, contrary to public opinion, is not the oldest registered player on our books, although he is the only still playing founder player/member of the

Sunday team, which was established nearly 30 years ago. He started his village career with the Saturday side even earlier than that!

Councillor Hughie Boorman, who is the club's representative to the Association of Pembury Football Clubs, completes our team. He is the only person who has played football in five different decades for village

sides. The Saturday club owes a lot to Hughie's enthusiasm when they went through a sticky patch many years ago.

On behalf of the players and myself may I thank the 'off pitch' team for all the hard work they put into making the club what it is.

Thank you!

Jim Smith, Chairman

PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

70 YEARS OLD AND PROUD OF IT!

As many people will know the Pembury Bowls Club has been celebrating its 70th anniversary this year and all the members who have been involved are feeling very pleased with the Club's achievements in the current season.

On 30th June the Green looked very resplendent with two marquees and the boundary fencing decorated with brightly coloured bunting. This, coupled with a number of garden chairs, tables and parasols, gave a festive air in keeping with the occasion. The happening was the visit of the President and Council of Kent County Bowls Association to play a match against the Club and so mark the passage of time from 1929 to 1999. To add a spot of gilt to the gingerbread, Pembury Bowls Club actually won the game and we all went home very happy – perhaps helped by the presence of a beer tent during the afternoon. The members' support for this event was terrific.

The photograph below, taken before the Match, shows left to right: Mick Bannister – Secretary K.C.B.A, Vic Steeple – President K.C.B.A, Arthur Ross – President Pembury Bowls Club and George Roberts – Hon. Secretary Pembury Bowls Club.

The Club plays in the Weald League and has two teams in the first division of this competition. The 'B' team must have taken the importance of the year very much to heart as it was successful in winning this league by a healthy margin. This is a first time achievement by the 'B' team although previous 'A' teams have won the title in the past.

Well done everyone and now you know how, then keep it up!

George Roberts,
Hon. Secretary



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PEMBURY VILLAGE FAYRE

The Pembury Village Fayre is 'Your Village Fayre'.

The Organising Team try to cater for all tastes and interests by combining the traditional stalls and events with new and exciting attractions such as the Dog Show and the larger Assault Course runs.

This year we think we got it right with almost record breaking attendance and making approx. £3500 for the youth of the Village.

But it's what you think that matters! For the Millennium Fayre on July 15th 2000 we want to make it a bigger, better, sunnier event that everyone in the Village would want to attend, and we would like you to help us by way of giving a little of your time to respond to the following:

STALLS

Would you like to see more – and if so what sort?

EVENTS AND ATTRACTIONS

What caught your eye and what can we add?

LOCAL CONTENT

Do you think there is enough from within the Village? If you were able to add a stall what would it be?

Thank you for taking the time to consider these points and your reply to one of the following would be most welcome:

Ian White (PAFC)
– Tel: 824301.
Fax: 825002

Laurie Frowde (PAFC) –
Tel: 822826. Fax 546921.
E-mail: themeetinghouse@lineone.net.

Colin Forward (PAFC) –
Tel: 825436.

Mike Cartwright (Scouts) –
Tel: 823235.

Jill Palmer (Guides) –
Tel: 824406.



PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL

There are still a few Millennium Mugs for sale. If you haven't ordered your Mug yet please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council, Barbara Russell, on 823193 as quickly as possible before they sell out.

PEMBURY IN THE PAST

PEMBURY BOARD SCHOOL

You will remember in the last issue I wrote about how the present School in Pembury came about following the Education Act of 1870. As promised I am setting out extracts of the School Logbooks taken from notes given to me by the late Ivor Bennon who was headmaster of Pembury Primary School from 1951 to 1976. The first date of interest is

June 10th 1872 – This morning at 9 o'clock I commenced my duties as Master of Pembury Board School. I found on questioning those present about names which appeared in the old Class Register that several of the elder scholars were at work in the fields.

June 11th 1872 – I find the children particularly backward in Arithmetic. There is scarcely a scholar in the school who is thoroughly master of the multiplication tables. I appoint the scholars home lessons every evening and I give 15 minutes every morning to the examination of these lessons . . . We do a great deal of simultaneous reading in the course of the day.

July 17th 1872 – F. Chantler, G. Chantler, S. Chantler, B. Hartridge, E. Rhodes have made considerable progress in Arithmetic during the last few weeks. *Joseph Spyer*

January 6th 1873 – This morning at 9 o'clock I commenced my duties as Master of this School. The greater part of the morning was spent in individual examination of the children but I cannot say I was favourably impressed by their attainments. They behaved very well throughout the day. My wife took the needlework class from 1.30 to 2.40. She says the girls are brisk at their needlework but not particular as to neatness or regularity of stitch.

James Thompson Brown

Friday, January 10th 1873 – This morning the postman, who is authorised by the Board to look up those who ought to attend an elementary school, called in and asked permission to look over the register to see what children really attended School now.

Tuesday January 14th 1873 – We still keep on drilling away at tables. Class II can now say all backwards with the exception of 12 times. I said one day last week, in a tone of surprise, to Harriet, who is 10 years old, "How have you ever done your sums right if you do not know your tables?" She answered, with the greatest naivete "Please, Sir, I never did do one right."

Monday, January 20th 1873 – A great many of those present have very bad colds and keep up an incessant coughing. I have had a bad throat which has, the last three mornings, prevented me giving a very long Bible lesson; instead of half an hour it has occupied but 15 minutes.

Week ending April 18th 1873 – Commenced school duties this week on Wednesday. Charged but half fee this week to the scholars. Susan Chantler, aged 13 years, left for Service. George Hodgkins, aged 14 years, also left to go to work.

Week ending May 16th 1873 – On Wednesday taught another school song towards the twelve required by HM Inspector on his annual visit.

Week ending Thursday June 5th 1873 – The school week ended on Thursday instead of Friday. One of the monitors, Elizabeth Chantler, had to present herself at Tonbridge for examination as a candidature for Pupil Teachership. As it was necessary for me to accompany her the School had a holiday.

Week ending July 18th 1873 – Attendance very fluctuating this week, partly in consequence of whooping cough, partly on

account of haymaking and, to some extent, it is affected by fruit picking.

Week ending Friday August 22nd 1873 –
Broke up to-day for a holiday of six weeks.
This is the last week we shall make use of
the National School Room; we commence,
after the vacation, in the New School.

DID YOU notice how the school broke
up for the summer at the end of
August for a six week holiday? I suspect the

main reason for this was because most of
the children went fruit and hop picking
during this time. This way the school
avoided a lot of absenteeism during
September.

In the next issue I will set out the notes of
the Headmaster as the pupils commenced
their school year on October 13th 1873 in
the new school buildings.

Henry Plant

BRITISH LEGION TEAM

The demolition of the village hall, previously the British Legion Hall, brings back memories of times when the local British Legion had a larger membership and were involved in many activities.

The attached photograph shows the Pembury Branch cricket team in 1959 having won the 'Tuff' cup. The 'Tuff' cup was a knockout competition for the Legion branches throughout Kent and East Sussex.

Pembury having attempted to win the trophy for several years finally achieved their ambitions in 1959 under the captaincy of Arthur Cole.



PICTORIAL PEMBURY IN THE PAST

I am including on this page three photographs, the larger shown with the kind permission of the *Kent & Sussex Courier* and the two smaller photographs with the kind permission of Mr John Beech hoping to tease your memory.

The first is a picture taken on 22nd June 1979 showing the presentation of "Cheque for Year of the Child" to the 3rd Pembury Brownies.

Can you recognise any of the Brownies, Guide Helpers or Brown or Tawny Owl? If so, I would be pleased to hear from you.

The second photograph taken from beside the Camden Arms (then known as the Camden Hotel) shows in the middle background the present day business premises at the corner of Lower Green Road and, more importantly, shows quite clearly the various buildings which were then erected on the corner of the Village Green. I think one of the buildings was a blacksmiths. Do you know what the others were?

The third photograph shows what the top of Lower Green Road looked like before it became a part of the one-way road system around the Green. Can you guess what year the photos were taken?



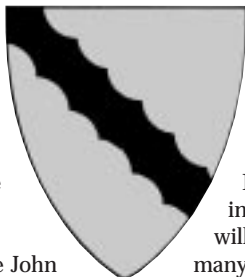
Henry Plant

THE RISE AND RISE OF THE CULPEPER FAMILY

IN THE LAST issue of this magazine I said that one of the earliest recordings of the Culpeper family was in the 1300's but having had the pleasure of meeting a well known local Goudhurst historian who has a very deep knowledge of that family, we have established a much earlier presence locally and in other regions of Kent and Sussex.

The Culpepers had branches of the family at Bayhall, Bedgebury, Hollingbourne Place, Greenway Court, Oxon Hoathe, Aylesford, Hardreshall, Exton and several more and obviously had a great influence on life during the period.

The family tree of the Bayhall line mentions the dates of 1199-1216 and King John. It also mentions Thomas Culpeper, the next in line John Culpeper and then another Thomas Culpeper of Brenchesle 1276, from whom there were four sons: Sir Thomas, who married Marjery of Bayhall and who was executed at Winchelsea in 1321; John, who married Joanna and had his estate confiscated and then restored by Edward the Third in 1327; Nicholas, who was imprisoned and then released by Edward in 1327; and Walter, who married Joanne and was executed in 1321.



A brief scan of the history shows that the Culpeper family frequently fell in and out of grace with the various monarchies and this may have been because they were so powerful they were a match for any authority. This, of course, may not be the case but later on we will deal with the execution of the Culpeper who dallied with King Henry VIII's wife, Katherine Howard, who was in fact a cousin of the Culpeper.

Also, inscribed on the wall of one of the cells in the Tower of London are the words, "Be faithful unto death and I will give thee a crowne of life. T. Culpeper of Aylesford, Kent, T. Fane 1544."

It is believed that the Fanes were an influential Sevenoaks family but that we will follow up. Later on all these and many more chapters of Culpeper history will be expounded on to the Culpepers being dispatched to the Americas and the West Indian plantations, and the Culpeper revolution at Almermarle 1675-1689.

The design of the coat of arms of the Culpeper family shown above is in heraldic terms known as a bend engrailed, the centrepiece being red on a background of argent (silver).

Hugh Boorman

TASTE BUDS

I recently attended a meeting at a hotel in the South West where we stayed for lunch. Food is one of my favourite pleasures and the starter that we had at lunch was so delicious that when I got home I rang the hotel and, having complimented them on the meal, they let me speak to the chef. Whilst the main ingredients have probably been experienced by you at some time the sauce was his own concoction.

The main ingredients were:

1. A bed of rozzo or red oak leaf lettuce.
2. Strips of slightly crispy chicken and bacon – about 2¹/₂ inches long.
3. Roasted pine nuts.

4. Scattered with small strawberries, raspberries and blue berries.

SAUCE

1. Half-pint reduced orange juice.
2. One teaspoon of grain or Dijon mustard.
3. One teaspoon of honey quickly loosened in the microwave.
4. Half cup virgin olive oil.
5. Red wine vinegar approx. 1/3rd quantity of the oil
6. Garnish with poppy seeds Serves 4

I can assure you this is a starter to remember so, go on have a go!

Hugh Boorman

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THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

OUR PARTICIPATION at the Village Fayre was a great success in that it gave us the opportunity to reinforce our presence in the community and to gather in new members, which we did, and the games for everyone, which we staged, were well supported throughout the day. The Treasure Hunt was so popular that we very nearly ran out of location flags as the four o'clock deadline approached. When it did the worthy winners were Young Ollie and his pal. The brainteaser game for adults, Place the Location of Photographs of Pembury, was equally successful and by the end of the day there were four players who tied with winning points; the final winner was drawn from the four by an independent referee David Mant. The correct answers were: 1-J, 2-C, 3-M, 4-A, 5-I, 6-B, 7-G, 8-N, 9-K, 10-D, 11-F and 12-L. Thanks to all who joined in the fun and double thanks to the Pembury Society team who ran the stand and created such a convivial day.

The Society organised an additional event this year, which was a meeting at Notcutt's Nursery where an excellent demonstration was given on the art of creating hanging baskets. If, when walking in the village, you spot a really special hanging basket you can reasonably wager that the owner belongs to the Society!

Our AGM will be on Thursday 21st October 1999 at the Village School, Lower Green Road at 7.45pm for 8pm. Following the formalities of the meeting the speaker for the evening will be Mr Paxton of HM Land Registry who will describe some of the remarkable things which have occurred recently in the registration of your land and house on the newly computerised central register. This has the promise of a very good meeting so do come along.

Derek Johnson

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

PEMBURY LINK GROUP'S Quiz Evening in May was much enjoyed by the teams of four who took part, thanks largely to the skills of Chris and Di Woodward from Tunbridge Wells who ran the quiz for the Link Group. Chris introduced several original features – if you don't know what jokers and dingbats have to do with quizzes you should enter the next one to find out! The Spiceless Girls, the team entered by Sheila Balderstone, achieved the highest scores and was rewarded with a bottle of wine for each member. The lowest scoring team, whose shall remain nameless, was presented with four lemons! The evening raised nearly £200 for hospice funds.

In the six months ended 30th June 1999, 253 new patients were referred to Hospice in the Weald, which is 25% more than in the same period last year and underlines the great need for the services being provided and equally the great need for continuing fundraising. As regards the latter, October will be a busy month, with the always popular Pippins Country Fair on Saturday the 2nd, a Barn Dance, also to be run by Mr and Mrs Woodward, in the Catholic Hall on Friday 22nd and, for the adventurous, something really different – a sponsored "firewalk" on hot coals! This event, which will be professionally run in full accordance with Health and Safety Laws, will take place at the Land Registry in Hawkenbury on Wednesday 20th at 7 pm. Entries must be received by 8th October and further information can be obtained by phoning 820500. There are already a lot of entrants so those who don't fancy joining them can still come as spectators. Provided all these events and others around the area are sufficiently successful, it is hoped that four more of the remaining unopened bedrooms can be staffed from early in the year 2000.

Do you think you have got "a certain something" to help me promote my new coffee bar at the Hospice? I am recruiting more helpers to serve teas and coffees but I also need someone to help raise our profile in the community. If you think you can help please call Barbara Young on 820529 during office hours.

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CHEERS FOR PEERS MILLENNIUM AWARD SCHEME

MILLENNIUM AWARDS are small Lottery grants which enable individual people to put their own bright ideas into action fulfilling a personal goal and, in doing so, enriching their communities for the new Millennium. The Millennium Award Scheme is part of a £200 million programme of grants to individuals administered by not-for-profit organisations across the UK and funded by the Millennium Commission.

The Millennium Commission has awarded Tunbridge Wells Borough Council £242,000 to run the 'Cheers for Peers' Millennium Award Scheme. The scheme will provide grants to young people aged 15-21 living within the Borough of Tunbridge Wells. The grants will fund peer education projects that will benefit the Award winner, other young people and the wider community. The value of each grant will vary from £1800-£2200 depending on the project that is being funded.

The 'Cheers for Peers' Millennium Award Scheme will be launched at the end of September 1999 when the first application round opens. There will be 90 Awards over the three-year life of the scheme. Young people with a good idea for a peer education project will be invited to contact Vince Foster (Peer Education Co-ordinator) to talk through their ideas prior to making an application for an Award. The project must be of benefit to the wider community and address an important social issue. For example drug abuse, health concerns, smoking, etc. Successful applicants will be trained before embarking on their project - learning about how peer education works, communication skills, group work and other skills to help them to complete their project successfully.

On successful completion of their project each individual Award winner will receive a certificate and become a member of the Millennium Awards Fellowship in recognition of their personal achievement and commitment to the community.

Young people interested in taking part in this exciting Award scheme should, in the first instance, contact: Vince Foster, Peer Education Co-ordinator, or Pat Gruse, Grants Administrator at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS. Tel: 554042/554043.

VILLAGE HALL PROJECT - 1999-2000

DEMOLITION took place late July and early August of our old Village Hall, built in 1932 for the British Legion. The final event in the hall was a fund raising Final Fling disco held on the 10th July 1999. Approximately 80 people attended the disco, dancing the night away to 60's and 70's hits presented by the Witchdoctor Disco. It was a warm evening so plenty of alcoholic refreshments were consumed at the bar run by my wife Elisa and daughter Verity. The disco raised approximately £450.

The overall fund raising is going well and we have now reached £410,000 - our targetboard has been updated accordingly. Future events are being organised by several organisations in the village. Recently the Evening WI staged a Saturday market which raised over £200. Pembury Short Mat Bowlers have recently donated £350. Our village collection jars are doing well, so far raising over £300. Please keep popping your loose change into the jars, every little helps.

I have recently also written to many of our local businesses requesting monetary support or material donations. Jarvis International (Pembury Resort) kindly donated Dinner for Two with Bed and Breakfast which was our first prize in the disco raffle. Burtons Solicitors made a cash donation of £100, which was received with thanks.

It is hoped our new hall will be completed by May 2000. To celebrate this the Fundraising Committee is hoping to stage various events. Possibly another disco by the Witchdoctor Disco. Also I have been contacted by The Royal Tunbridge Wells Orpheus Male Voice Choir who intend to present a concert on our behalf in our new hall.

This project is going very well. In December's issue I shall update you all on our progress. Regards to all.

Brian Horgan, Chairman Village Hall
Fundraising Committee - Telephone 822412.

GOOD NEWS FROM THE ROYAL OAK

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KNEELERS FOR PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH TO CELEBRATE THE MILLENNIUM

OUR HALF WAY target has been met – 56 canvasses have now been stitched and 47 of these have been made up into finished hassocks and they are looking really good. If the remainder of the canvasses are handed in at this rate our efforts will certainly be on view in the Church during the early part of next year.

If, for any reason, you are having a difficult time or suffering a mental block with your kneeler (we've all been there) please get in touch – we will probably know someone who can help.

May I remind everyone sponsoring a kneeler or stitching their own, that a brief

potted history' is needed – this will be placed next to a photograph of your kneeler to let future visitors understand the reason behind your support of this project as well as adding your personal touch. If you have not already let me have yours will you please give it some thought and get in touch.

Many thanks go to the Mothers Union and others for very generous donations – the 200 brass hooks have now been purchased from which the kneelers will hang.

Ann Toler – Tel. 824071

PEMBURY TREFOIL GUILD

HAVE YOU ever been involved with Brownies or Guides. Were you ever a member of one or more units in the Guide Movement? You may still be able to keep in touch with the organisation which so many young girls enjoy while growing up. The Trefoil Guild is for anyone between the ages of 18 and 80+, the Pembury unit has members from 26 to 93. We meet once a month and as well as enjoying ourselves also try to keep in touch with the current youth members of the Association in Pembury.

We have Rainbows, Brownies and Guides with approximately 100 girls at any one time passing through the units. They are always on the look out for young adults as leaders but not all of us have the time, so we can help both the units and help with keeping the building

running for use by both Scouts and Guides in Pembury. We need constant effort to raise funds for the building as well as for other good causes but also need the support of all the parents to help in these ventures

So if you have ever been a member of the Guide Movement, why don't you come and join the Trefoil Guild and join in our Guiding programme as well as keeping in touch with the young girls who are currently learning about life and enjoying their Guiding days.

Contact Janet Ditchett on 822586 or Maureen Redmond on 822224 or just come and join us on the last Tuesday of each month at the Scout and Guide Building at the far end of Pembury Recreation Ground, off Woodhill Park.

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WHAT IS NORMAL WEATHER

IS THERE any such thing? For thousands of years humans have tried to comprehend and even control the weather. A significant factor in the welfare of all living creatures, weather is the one most widely discussed topic and one of the least understood.

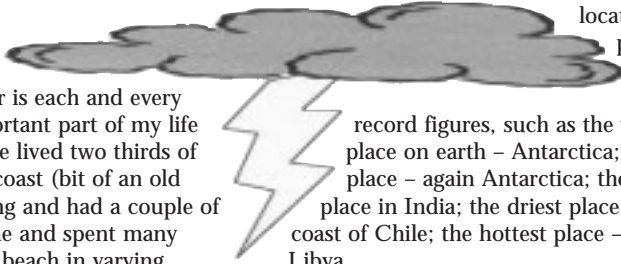
To me, ever since I was a very young boy, what the weather is each and every day has been an important part of my life because first of all I've lived two thirds of my life on the south coast (bit of an old 'sea dog'), been fishing and had a couple of small boats in my time and spent many hours walking on the beach in varying conditions and at all times of the year. All this and a lot more which has made me very aware of weather conditions indeed. I have always used two-wheeled transport (pedal cycle or motorcycle) in preference to a car, again exposing me to the elements.

Currently my weather recording activities have given me two articles in my local paper during the last 18 months.

The commencement of routine weather recording began as far back as 1814 in the city of Oxford – but let's look at the extremes of weather being recorded and with climatic changes taking place on the planet these

extremes are indeed becoming more extreme.

If I were to start quoting figures from books on things like record rainfall. etc., by the time you read this article those figures would be out of date. Inherently, some



locations on the planet will always have unchallenged record figures, such as the windiest place on earth – Antarctica; the coldest place – again Antarctica; the wettest – a place in India; the driest place – parts of the coast of Chile; the hottest place – a location in Libya.

Rainfall in the UK varies considerably, as you understand, from coast to coast. As we live here in the south east of England we can expect to see between 700-800 mm of rain annually: last year I recorded 860 mm at my home in Pembury. Rainfall is not an easy element to record as the site of the rain gauge has to be carefully chosen. In fact my site last year was rejected by the Water Company but I will re-apply when I move to a new address shortly.

However, my records fell only a few millimetres short of the professionally recorded rainfall, so I haven't done too badly.

Mike Stanford

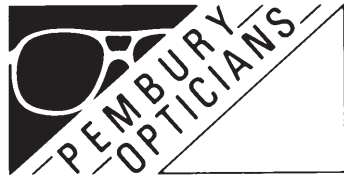
ENJOY A WALK? WHY NOT JOIN PEMBURY WALKERS

THERE ARE 21 miles of public footpaths in the Parish of Pembury, mostly across attractive countryside.

We hold regular local walks on the first Sunday of each month starting at 2.15 p.m. from one of three convenient points in the village. Exact dates and locations are always published in the Dairy of Events Page of this magazine. For the current locations and times please turn to Page 31.

We also help to look after the parish footpath network – e.g. reporting on broken stiles, access closures, overgrown paths, etc. An Annual General Meeting is held each November, together with an interesting illustrated talk by a guest speaker. This November our guest will be Mr Colin Morgan, the curator of Bedgebury Pinetum.

INTERESTED? Then please contact our joint secretaries, Neil and Kathryn Franklin, 11 The Meadow, Pembury – Tel. 823212.



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CRIME IN PEMBURY

THE GOOD news continues with overall crime figures down again whereas in the quarter Oct-Dec 98 the total crimes committed were 61 excluding non-indictable crimes. The figure for April-June 99 is now 57 including previous non-indictable crimes.

	Jan-Mar 1999	April-June 1999
Burglary (Dwelling)	2	3
Burglary (Other Types of Premises)	7	5
Theft of Vehicle	2	1
Theft from Vehicle	4	5
Criminal Damage (including damage to vehicles)	9	10
Shoplifting	0	0
Other theft (other than vehicle related)	12	6
Bilking (making off without paying)	5	12
Theft of cycle	1	1
Assaults (excluding sexual assaults) – ABH	5	9
– Common		1
Miscellaneous	15	5

There are obvious areas that still need a little more attention and with the darker evenings now descending upon us it is well worth that extra five minutes just checking all is secure before retiring for the night. Most of the assaults were from those attacking their own, younger people the worse for drink, and other undesirables, some from outside the village.

Car owners, please stop making it easy by leaving desirable objects on full view and even cars left running outside the papershop whilst the driver is inside buying ciggies, etc. I would have thought it would be very tricky to explain to police and Insurance Company should the car go missing.

To those who wish to continue damaging facilities within the Recreation Ground, be warned. There is now an Association of Sports Clubs, who total membership is approx. three hundred and some of those members are very protective of all the facilities. I can assure those who wish to inflict this mindless damage that should you be caught by the police or Parish Council the matter will be handled in the correct manner by Courts, etc. But it may very well be different if caught by club members. Two names have been given to us and those persons will be watched very carefully.

Let us also remember the vast majority of good youngsters in the village. Collectively we do very little to provide them with evening facilities other than Scouts and Guides and the YMCA, and Heather Hughes works tirelessly to provide a weekly meeting place. They, along with Scouts and Guides, will always welcome assistance, if only once a month. Surely it is worth it if we save one youngster from turning to crime.

Let us strive to get the crime figures down to 50 by Christmas and be vigilant.

Hugh Boorman

WATERFIELD HOUSE SURGERY ALTERATIONS

THE LONG awaited extension to Waterfield House Surgery has just begun and should hopefully be completed within approximately nine months.

The initial phase will mean the closure of the Reception area and Waiting Room and this will last in the region of six months. Whilst we will endeavour to maintain as normal a service as possible the major structural work that is being undertaken will inevitably mean a serious disruption to both staff and patients.

The only entry site to the building will be at the rear and we will have a temporary Reception and Waiting Room.

If our patients can have some patience during the building work, particularly in the initial stages, we would appreciate it and we will do our best to try to keep things running as smoothly as possible.

We hope to keep you in the picture with details at the Surgery, Ditchetts the Chemist and on the village noticeboards.



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FOR YOUR DIARY

OCTOBER

- 1 Pembury Evening WI: Practical Propagation for Small Gardens – St Peter's Upper Church – 7.45pm
- 2 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
- 2 Hospice in the Weald Gala Day & Pippins Country Fayre – Pippins Farm – 11am-4pm
- 4 Parish Council Meeting – Free Church – 8pm
- 4 Floral Art – Cricket Club – 8pm
- 5 Darby and Joan Club – Catholic Hall – 2pm
- 6 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Research Family & Local History – Upper Church Room – 8pm
- 7 Pembury Afternoon WI: Ladies Through the Eye of a Painter – Free Church Hall – 2.15pm
- 8 Parish Harvest Supper – St Peter's Upper Church – 7.30pm
- 10 Harvest Thanksgiving – St Peter's Upper & Lower Church – time tba
- 11 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 14 Pembury School Association: Fashion Show – Pembury School – 8pm
- 19 Darby and Joan Club – Catholic Hall – 2pm
- 21 Pembury Society: Annual General Meeting – Pembury School – 7.45pm
- 22 Hospice in the Weald Barn Dance – Catholic Hall – 8pm
- 25 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 30 RNLI Autumn Fair – Catholic Hall – 10am

NOVEMBER

- 1 Parish Council Meeting – Free Church – 8pm
- 1 Floral Art – Cricket Club – 8pm
- 2 Darby and Joan Club – Catholic Hall – 2pm
- 3 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Reliving an Italian Holiday – Upper Church Room – 8pm
- 4 Pembury Afternoon WI: AGM – Free Church – 2.15pm
- 5 Pembury Evening WI: AGM – St Peter's Upper Church – 7.45pm
- 6 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Bo Peep Corner – 2.15pm
- 8 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 14 Remembrance Sunday Service – St Peter's Upper Church & Old Church – 10.50am
- 15 Pembury Footpath Walkers: AGM – Free Church Hall – 8pm
- 20 St Peter's Autumn Fair – St Peter's Upper Church – 10.30am
- 20 Pembury Bowls Club: Xmas Fair – Pembury School – 10am
- 22 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 27 Catholic Church Christmas Fair – Catholic Hall – 2pm
- 27 Pembury School Association: Christmas Fair – Pembury School – 12noon-3pm
- 28 Advent Service of Light – St Peter's Old Church – 6.30pm
- 29 Parish Council Meeting – Free Church – 8pm
- 30 Darby and Joan Club – Catholic Hall – 2pm

DECEMBER

- 1 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Christmas Supper – details to be advised
- 2 Pembury Afternoon WI: Christmas Party – Free Church Hall – 2.15pm
- 3 Pembury Evening WI: Christmas Characters – Cricket Club – 7.45pm
- 4 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
- 6 Floral Art – Cricket Club – 8pm
- 13 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 14 Darby and Joan Club – Catholic Hall – 2pm

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Mr Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

Mr David Mills, 125 Ridgeway. Tel: 825577

Parish Council

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

Cllr Hugh Boorman, 52 Henwood Green Road. Tel: 823068

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

Cllr David Coleman, 22 Ridgeway. Tel: 823402

Cllr Dick Crouch, 17 Highfield Close. Tel: 823164

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

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

Cllr Brian Horgan, 4 Cornford Park, Tel: 822412

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

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

Cllr David Mills, 125 Ridgeway. Tel: 825577

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

Cllr Mrs Wendy Withycombe, 23 Westway. Tel: 823034

Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council

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

Chairman – Public Relations

Chairman – Amenities and Allotments

Chairman of Parish Council

Vice Chairman of Parish Council

Chairman – Planning

Chairman – Finance

Chairman – Burials,

Environmental and Highways

*Chairman – Christmas Lights/
Pembury in Bloom*

Chairman – Pembury Village

News Editorial Committee

CHURCH TIMES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

Upper Church

8.00am Holy Communion

9.45am The Parish Eucharist and Junior Church

10.00am Holy Communion (Wednesdays)

Old Church

11.30am Matins (except first Sunday, Holy Communion)

Evening services as advertised on Church noticeboards

CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF ST. ANSELM – PEMBURY

Sunday Mass 10.30am

Holy Days – Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Confessions:

Sunday 10.15am

Weekday Services:

Monday – Communion Service 7.30am

Tuesday – Communion Service 7.30am

PEMBURY FREE CHURCH

We praise God and hear his word on Sunday at 10am and 6.30pm.

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

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Wood. Tel: 835696

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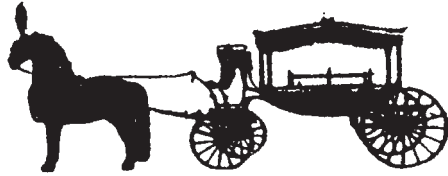
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