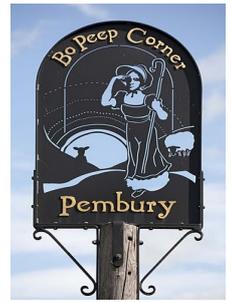


PEMBURY MATTERS

The Pembury Society Newsletter

Spring 2014



Your Chairman Reports

Dear Members,

Well what a wet winter but with the buds of leaves appearing on the trees, Spring is definitely here and most welcome it is!

Yet again, there has been much activity on planning. With the final decision made on Penn's Yard, our attention has been focused on supporting public consultation on Cornford Lane closure and preparing an action plan on dualling A21 between Tonbridge and Longfield Road.

Kathryn has been working as hard as ever and I would like to take this opportunity to thank her on behalf of our membership for all the effort she puts into representing The Pembury Society's views at crucial planning meetings. I would like to direct you to the Planning Report to get a fuller picture.

With many of our members now on email, we are able to communicate in a timely manner when critical dates and decisions are made, which worked very effectively with regards to Cornford Lane. I urge any members who are on email to ensure we have your up-to-date email address, so you can be included into any communications over the coming months, in particular with planning issues.

I think it is timely to remind our membership of the aims of The Pembury Society:

The preservation and protection of the beauty and character of Pembury

To promote and protect features of architectural and historic interest within the Pembury conversation area and throughout the village

Through developing a community spirit, to encourage residents to take pride in Pembury as a safe and attractive place to live in

Through the members of the Pembury Society, to ensure that an independent voice is heard in the right Quarters on those issues that are close to The Pembury Society aims

Our Spring meeting is dedicated to the third aim on encouraging pride in Pembury as a safe and attractive place to live in. We are very grateful to John Mazzezy from the Kent Rescue Service who is coming to speak about the events he and his team are faced with every day. I know it will be a very informative and inspirational talk. For more details, please see the report on the Spring Meeting. You will be most welcome to come along and listen and ask questions on **Tuesday 13th May at 7.45 pm in St. Peter's Upper Church.** We would also like to thank Douglas for allowing the use of his church. Our welcome at our last meeting was so warm, we would like to come back again!

Our plea for new members at our Autumn meeting did not fall on deaf ears, and I would like to introduce...

.....two new members of our committee: David Hanes and Mick Castle. We know that they will bring a fresh approach to our committee and look forward to their new ideas for ways to develop the impact of The Pembury Society in our village.

Our membership is growing, and if you know anyone who wishes to become a member please can you encourage them to get in touch with Dave Osborn
membspemburysoc@aol.com.

I look forward to seeing you at our Spring meeting in St Peter's Church.

Lea Owen

Planning Officers Report

Since our last Newsletter, as most of you will be aware, the application to build in the Greenbelt south of Penns Yard has been resolved, though not as we would have liked. It is a fact of life that some you win and some you lose and, unfortunately, despite the best efforts of everyone concerned, including all our parish, borough and county councillors, the people of Pembury were unable to convince the Inspector that this development should not be allowed. Hopefully this will be a 'one off' and we are not about to be inundated with other applications to build in the Greenbelt around the village. It is obvious that the original decision of the planners to recommend approval did not help our case, so if anymore similar applications are made it is important that we all make stronger representations to the planners at the earliest possible opportunity.

The other controversial issue that has come to light in the last few weeks is what to do about Cornford Lane. The few residents in the middle section have, quite understandably, had enough of the very real problems caused by the use of the road as a rat run at certain times of day when Pembury Road is clogged by too much traffic. They lobbied KCC (Transportation) to have the road closed and we understand it was only the vigilance of one of our borough councillors that stopped this happening without any public consultation. A one day exhibition was then held at the beginning of March at Pepingbury when several different suggestions to relieve the situation were put forward. This was followed by a public meeting in the Town Hall that was very well attended and everyone, including several from the floor who had not registered to speak, had the opportunity to have their say. The consensus from everyone, except the Cornford Lane residents, was that the problem is in fact Pembury Road and probably the traffic lights at the Halls Hole/Blackhurst junction in particular, rather than Cornford Lane itself. The 3 week period of consultation ended at the end of March and we now await the results of Transportation's deliberations, which are expected in May.

We are also still awaiting the results of the enquiry into the dualling of the A21 between Tonbridge and the Longfield Road roundabout, although we were originally told the decision would be made before Christmas. We are now told it is 'imminent'.

Kathryn Franklin
Preservation Officer
April 2014

Comments from the Promotions Officer

Spring Meeting- The meeting will be held on **Tuesday 13th May at 7.45 pm in St. Peter's Upper Church**. John Mazzeo from Pembury will speak about the Kent Fire and Rescue service and especially about urban search and rescue. John is the Station Manager in the Kent Rescue Service with responsibilities..

...that range across the Country and, at need, further afield. He illustrates his talk with a series of impressive and startling pictures of the wide variety of situations he and his team are called upon to deal with. These range from motorway pile-ups and collapsed buildings to “bariatric” emergencies such as extricating a 42 stone man from his house! John’s team is trained for overseas emergencies and he shows examples of his involvement in leading a UK International Search and Rescue Team in the Haiti earthquake and the Fukushima tsunami.

Speakers Do you know anyone in the Village or beyond who would be an interesting speaker for a future meeting? There must be loads of interesting people in our community who would love to share their experiences. Do let us know if you, or anyone you know would like to speak at a future meeting.

Bob Ogley Talk- Well-known local author and historian Bob Ogley will be coming to give a talk entitled “Spirit of Invicta” (the motto for Kent which means “unconquered”). This is a joint promotion with St. Peter’s Church as part of the WW1 Centenary celebrations and will be held in St.Peter’s Upper Church on Friday September 26th at 7.30 pm. Bob will talk about the characters and events of the 20th Century with an early emphasis on WW1, the 10 million soldiers who went through Folkestone, the VAD Hospitals, the wounded soldiers, a few of the heroes and the poets. Then he will talk about other events in that century including of course WW2.

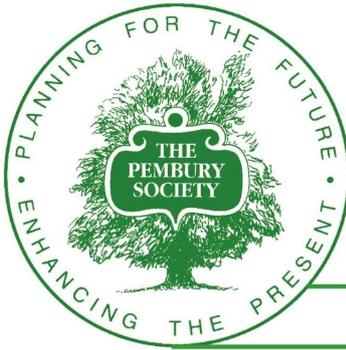
Make a note in your diary now of this very special event.

Website *Finally just a quick reminder to keep an eye on our website, which can be found on www.pembury.org/society-*

Richard Snow Promotions Officer.

Committee

Chairman:	Lea Owen	52 Hastings Road	822929
	leaowen@me.com		
Vice Chairman:	vacant		
Secretary:	vacant		
Treasurer:	Sally Osborn	34 Canterbury Road	822726
	membspemburysoc@aol.com		
Membership Secretary:	Dave Osborn	34 Canterbury Road	822726
	membspemburysoc@aol.com		
Preservation Officer:	Kathryn Franklin	11 The Meadow	823212
	kathryn.franklin@tesco.net		
Promotions Officer:	Richard Snow	1 Cornford Park	825428
	richardssnow@tiscali.co.uk		
Committee member:	Mick Castle	14 Elmhurst Ave	
Committee member:	John Evans	3 Woodhill Park	
Committee member:	David Hanes	7 Lower Green Road	



THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

Spring Meeting

**Tuesday 13th May 2014
at 7.45pm
in St Peter's Upper Church**

**Guest Speaker
JOHN MAZZEY
Kent Rescue Service**

Members free
Non-Members £3