



PEMBURY

YOUR VILLAGE NEWSLETTER
DECEMBER 1976 ISSUE No.1

11

PEMBURY 2000 (?)

The tree still stands where once we played,
Though now its dull leaves give no shade,
The trough where once the horses drank
Is choked with weeds, dried and dank.
The ancient church whose bell we tolled
Now looks just broken down and old.
That Village Green where oft we stopped
And watched Horse Chestnuts as they dropped
Is now a paradise for cars.
No Village shops, just coffee bars.
Where once the blackbirds sang their song
The traffic grumbles all day long.
For progress this high price we pay,
The sad lost dreams of yesterday.

A.C.Miller
Sept.1976.

contents

Poem	1 Bypass Campaign	9
Parish Council News	3 Conservation Area	11
Toy Appeal	5 Village Diary	12
Pembury 2000	6/7 Editor: D. Hawes Richards	
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tennis

The Council have agreed to let Pembury Lawn Tennis Club use the hard tennis court in the Recreation Ground during the winter months. From October 1st to April 31st the Club hours have been fixed at 2-3pm on Saturdays and 10-11am on Sundays. In each case the Club can have the next hour as well if no-one else has booked it in advance.

Advance booking for everyone who is not a member of the Club is essential. This must be done through Derek Betts, 132 Henwood Green Road, during shop hours only.

The charges are 30p for singles per hour and 50p for doubles per hour, and the key to the court must be obtained from Mr. Betts and returned immediately afterwards.

Players must have a valid receipt, for production if necessary to any Parish Councillor or employee.

The Tennis Club would welcome any new members, at any time - please contact the Secretary Mrs. S. Balderstone, 28 Lower Green Road. Tel: 3035

dogs

The most difficult subject for an Englishman to write about - particularly when footpaths come into it.

However, your Council tries not to avoid its responsibility for the well being of the whole village, even if it means inevitably offending some parishioners.

It is asked, with monotonous regularity, to "do something about the disgusting state of the footpaths". A nearby Council has gone as far as constructing a special dog lavatory, but your Parish Council has been more modest in its immediate aims. It has asked the Borough Council to erect 37 notices on prominent lamp standards drawing your attention to the fact that "IT IS AN OFFENCE TO PERMIT A DOG TO FOUL THE FOOTWAY - PENALTY £20".

The Parish Council ask all dog-owning villagers to please try and remember this message when out with their pets - we all walk the pavements at some time or another and it can be very unpleasant.

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GYPSIES

The Village has for some years past been resisting the siting of gypsy caravans within the Parish boundary - only in October the Council voted by a narrow majority to continue this resistance.

However, as it is not the controlling authority, discussions are still under way between Borough and County Councils - it is the K.C.C. who have the legal duty laid on it by Act of Parliament to find suitable sites.

Several parishes attended a meeting at the Dower House early last month to hear the latest proposals and make their own comments. Our Village is being discussed as one of the current alternatives to have a three pitch caravan site - possibly in Hepsbrook Wood off the B2015 (Maidstone Road). Our representatives at this meeting were not at all satisfied with this proposal even though it was talked about as being alright after the by-pass is built. They asked that the whole line of the western by-pass is examined to find a suitable small area left over by the construction works that could be turned into a site for three gypsy caravans. The Borough representatives agreed to look further into this suggestion.

book group

PEMBURY CHILDREN'S BOOK GROUP have moved to the School House. We are open on TUESDAY afternoons at 3.30pm - 4.30pm. Our books are from the Tunbridge Wells Library and all children up to age 11 years are welcome to come. There is no charge.

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TOY'S APPEAL

For many years the Mayors of Tunbridge Wells have conducted a very successful Toy Appeal, and many children in Homes, or cared for as foster children, or in Hospitals who might otherwise miss the pleasure and excitement of personal gifts and treats, have received toys, fruit and sweets.

The Present Mayor, Mrs. Myrtle Streeter is continuing the Toy Appeal for the whole of the Borough. Any help you can give in the form of gifts or donations, will be much appreciated. Please contact the Mayor's Secretary at the Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells.



PEMBURY

recommendation 2D – LEISURE –

The Pembury Community Association held a Public Meeting at The Village Hall on 13th October 1976 to report progress on the Community Centre project. The Meeting was attended by some 100 people and was opened by Dr. Loden.

Reports were given at the Meeting as to the grant situation, namely the grants to be awarded by the local authority to the Community Association Council for the construction costs; planning applications; the financial situation and the appeals committee fund raising. After these reports, the Meeting was thrown open for questions.

As far as the construction costs and grant applications are concerned, it was confirmed that the building was to be of conventional construction in several stages, the first stage of which would include a small hall approximately the size of the Village Hall, which with partitioning could be divided into four smaller units for club meetings and a bar and kitchen facilities to provide catering for entertainments. It was confirmed that the total cost of the first stage would be some £100,000.00 - this figure to include a figure of £20,000.00 as an inflation guard. £80,000.00 relates to the construction of the unit itself and to the provisions of car parking facilities and outside works. The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council have offered a grant of £17,500.00 towards the figure of £100,000.00 which should then be doubled by the Department of Education, making a total of grant assistance offered of £42,500.00. A figure of £47,500.00 therefore has to be raised by the Village and Community of Pembury and unless this is raised the grants offered cannot be accepted and the project cannot go ahead.

Y 2000



that the first stage of the Community Centre to be completed with all possible speed.

Mr. John Goulder of Maidstone Road, Pembury confirmed that he had been the Chairman of the Appeals Committee and that the Appeals Committee was desperate for volunteers to help with fund raising so that all villagers could be approached for gifts and covenants. So far there has been only a few active members on the Appeals Committee and they were unable to do all the work on their own. Mr. Goulder appealed to the Meeting for volunteers to help fund raising, but only four persons answered such request.

Throughout the Meeting there were questions as to method of raising the amount of £47,500.00. A vote was then taken as to whether or not financial support should be given from the Rates. There was a vote at which 21 people voted for a Rate grant and 45 people voted against with many abstentions. It was however confirmed at this Meeting that any vote taken could not be binding on Pembury Parish Council.

There was discussion as to access to the proposed Community Centre on the recreation ground and it was confirmed by the Meeting that car parking facilities were divided between Westway and Woodhill Park with entrances from both ends for vehicular access but with no through road.

At the Meeting many questions were asked as to the proposed use of the Community Centre and it was confirmed from the Chair that these details would have to be held over until the building was under course of construction. Dr. Loden did however remark that this time next year, namely in October 1977, if fund raising had been successful the next report meeting could be held in the new Community Centre.

Pauline & Peter Mills

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our by-pass campaign

Since we last reported to you:

1. We have held another traffic count on Thursday 14th October. 30 committed individuals sat in the rain and counted 22,000 vehicles - 9,000 on the B2015 and 13,000 on the A21.
2. We have begun to collect signatures for our petition. Preliminary indications show a response rate of 70 per cent.
3. We have visited the Kent County Council and advised them that our traffic counts have shown that the volume of traffic passing through Pembury has increased by 50 per cent since their 1972 count. We also discussed lines for the two by-passes. They told us that the line for the B2015 should be firmed up by the end of 1976 so that a public participation exercise can be started early in 1977. The results of our counts and the signatures secured on the petitions will play an important part in this exercise, in order to ensure that the work is started in 1979 and finished in 1980.

Responsibility for the A21 will pass from the Kent County Council to the Department of Transport in April 1977, but we discussed ways in which the priority given to the Pembury section of the A21 by-pass could be improved. We suggested that consideration should be given to a "mini" by-pass from Woodsgate Corner to Fletcher's Farm. The Kent County Council representatives agreed to consider this proposal and include it in their brief to the Department of Transport in April.

A. F. BRUCE

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success story for PEMBURY

* * * * *

In the summer issue of the newsletter it was reported that the Pembury '2000' proposals for a special area to be created around our Village Green had been welcomed by the Borough Council.

The Borough have now announced that formal approval has been granted by them to a Conservation Area in Pembury. The boundaries enclose the Village Hall and Sunhill Court, the Roman Catholic Hall, the Almshouses, the Vicarage and Camden Court and Hotel.

The Parish Council will now be looking at ways of improving the appearance of this area and particularly at persuading the County Council to stop our Village Green being used as a traffic roundabout.

If you have any suggestions for any improvements, please contact the Editor at once. Do not be put off by the description, it is quite simply a case of trying to make the centre of the Village a better place to look at and live in.

for your diary

- DEC. 21 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
- JAN. 4 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
4 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
7 Pembury Evening WI - Crime prevention - V.Hall 7.45pm.
8 Pembury Society - Footpaths Walk 2.30pm. Bo-peep
14 Conservative Association - Dance V. Hall
17 Parish Council - Dower House 8pm.
18 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
31 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
- FEB. 1 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
4 Pembury Evening WI - "The heads other half" -
Mrs. Everett - wife of Headmaster of Tonbridge School.
6 Pembury Society - Footpaths Walk 2.30pm. Stonecourt
Bus Terminus.
14 Horticultural Society - "Floral Art" V.Hall 8pm.
14 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
15 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
24 Horticultural Society - AGM V. Hall 8pm.
28 Parish Council - Dower House 8pm.
- MAR. 1 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
4 Pembury Evening WI - Members evening -V.Hall 7.45pm.
12 Pembury Society - Footpaths Walk 2.30pm. Camden Hotel
14 Parish Council - Allotments, Planning, Amenities
14 Horticultural Society - "Floral Art" V.Hall 8pm.
15 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
16 PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING V.Hall 8pm.
28 Parish Council - Highways, Planning, Finance
29 Darby & Joan Club - R.C.Hall 2 - 5pm.
31 Horticultural Society - "Herbs and their uses" -
V.Hall - 8pm.

Every Friday - W.I. Market - Village Hall - 10.30 - 11.30a.m.