

A large, leafy tree in a grassy field with gravestones in the background.

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 117
SPRING 2004

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Please note: The Editor's decision is final on whether or not to publish any item submitted. The Editor reserves the right to edit (that is to cut, précis, alter, correct grammar and spelling) any item published.

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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THE HOSPITAL STORY . . .

MANY PEMBURY residents will be aware that the Deputy Prime Minister recently rejected the appeals under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 by Kilmartin against Tunbridge Wells Borough Council's decision to refuse planning permission for their scheme at Knight's Park. A public enquiry lead by Martin Pike BA MA MRTPI, the Inspector appointed by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM), recommended in December 2003 that the appeals be dismissed. This followed shortly after a decision in the High Court to dismiss an application for judicial review by Kilmartin that Tunbridge Wells Borough Council had not complied correctly with planning law in considering their Knights Park planning application.



The main comments by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, in his decision are summarised as follows:

- The Kilmartin proposals conflicted substantially with the local development plan; the Pembury site had a significant policy benefit as it was already a major developed site, not a greenfield site.
- The Kilmartin proposals would be inappropriate development in the Green Belt and that the benefit of the loop road which cut into the Green Belt would not in itself outweigh the harm to the Green Belt.
- Despite measures to mitigate their impact the Kilmartin proposals would appear as a conspicuous and inharmonious addition to the landscape; the proposal would be visible from a sufficient number of vantage points to have a significant detrimental impact. The Pembury proposal would cause less harm to the character and appearance of the locality than would the [Kilmartin] proposals.
- The proposals would have a dominating and overbearing effect on the occupiers of properties in Sherwood, especially in Green Way and Willow Walk areas. The effect on local people's living conditions would be substantially more than that of the Pembury proposal.

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

1 May 2004.

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it in on disk or by e-mail. If you do not have a disk, we can supply you with one.



THE HOSPITAL STORY *continued*

- Although the mitigation measures proposed by Kilmartin would resolve most of the impact on protected species, their development proposals would result in a substantial loss of habitat for skylarks, an important local species which would have a cumulative effect on several other species. Re-use of the Pembury site would cause far less harm to ecological interests than would the Knights Park site which merits SNCI (Site of Nature Conservation Interest) status.
- On accessibility and transport, there was very little to choose between the two sites; overall, there was some medium and long term advantage to the Knights Park site given the greater concentration of sites generating trips, e.g. leisure activities.
- Staff accommodation proposals at Knights Park would cause harm to the Council's housing and Rural Fringe strategies and compared unfavourably with the proposals at Pembury which did not have such shortcomings.
- Although more so at Knights Park, the report concluded that there was room for expansion at both sites.
- Although there would be inevitable short-time operational disruption at the Pembury site during construction and a longer build period, the phased programme devised at Pembury would be feasible and it was considered that the main Kent and Sussex site (in Tunbridge Wells) where most acute care took place would be unaffected.
- The difference in proposed costings of the two schemes was not a consideration at the planning stage so was given limited weighting.

In conclusion, the Deputy Prime Minister agreed that there was an urgent need for a new District General Hospital in Tunbridge Wells. He considered the Kilmartin proposals would be contrary to the development plan. He concluded their proposals would not be more acceptable than the Pembury scheme and that there was therefore no justification on planning grounds for approving the [Kilmartin] proposals.*

Pembury Parish Council has welcomed the decision as, at long last, it clears the way for the long overdue new hospital. It is, however, concerned that there will be an unacceptable delay in moving the new hospital forward. A year ago the local NHS trust had agreed arrangements with its medical and community partners and was about to commence the PFI (Private Finance Initiative) process of appointing a private sector partner. This ceased when the Knights Park appeals and legal challenges started.

It is now unclear when or how the PFI process will be undertaken or even if the replacement Kent & Sussex/Pembury hospitals scheme is still in the Department of Health's financial plans. This is a matter of great local concern and your Parish Council will be monitoring events closely.

**Please note: These notes form only a brief summary of the findings; the full text can be viewed by appointment with the Parish Clerk (Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm) 823193.*

KNOW YOUR COUNCILLORS . . .

KEITH FARLEY

I WAS BORN at Pembury Hospital an unhealthy amount of years ago and have lived locally all my life.

I succumbed to the polio epidemic of 1955/56 which left me with disabilities since the age of seven. After leaving hospital I continued my education at a 'special needs' boarding school. Throughout my teens and adult life I have been involved with both music and horses/ponies in one way or another.

Having learnt the clarinet and saxophone at school, I played with their orchestra and on leaving I joined a semi-pro cabaret band based in Tonbridge. At the age of twenty, I did two stints with Dance Bands onboard a cruise liner before deciding a life at sea was not for me! I am still involved with music and work in my spare time looking after my radio presenter friend's website and visit Radio Caroline's Studios at Maidstone monthly.

For 30 years I bred and showed Welsh Mountain ponies as well as being in full-time employment until a deterioration in my physical condition put paid to both activities. Even though I am now 75% reliant on a wheelchair, I am still in touch with the equine world through the Heron's Ghyll Carriage Driving Group of Riding for the Disabled and have enjoyed very much being able to compete successfully in the show-ring again.

I have found that getting about the village is far easier on my electric scooter than using a car and soon realised that after spending the last 20-30 years residing in Pembury that I may now be in a position to give something back to the village. I therefore consider myself very fortunate indeed at having been given the opportunity to serve on the Parish Council and will endeavour to carry out my allotted duties to the best of my ability.

Keith

Editor's note: Keith is a member of the Pembury Recreation Ground Pavilion Steering Committee which consists of representatives of the Parish Council and the Pembury Athletic Football Club.



MARGARET ARMITAGE

MARGARET ARMITAGE has lived in Pembury for over five years and in the Tonbridge/Pembury area since her teens. Before moving to Pembury, she lived in Horsmonden for 22 years with her husband and three children. Now widowed, she involves herself in local voluntary work at Pembury Hospital and is a volunteer receptionist at the Hospice in the Weald. She also belongs to the local fundraising Link group for the Hospice and is a relief helper at their Pembury shop.

Her interests are swimming, keep fit, short mat and outdoor bowls and she belongs to an Arts and Heritage Club involving theatre and social events.

She was a receptionist at Horsmonden Surgery and still assists at Child Health clinics at Brenchley and Horsmonden. Her original career after Art College was as a designer for the Marley Tile Co. and for the Economist newspaper.

Margaret is a member of the Planning, Public Relations and Christmas Lights/Pembury in Bloom Working Groups on Pembury Parish Council.

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M.O.T. TESTS

WHAT A WEDDING!

NEARLY 300 family members and friends of Wayne Alexander (Associate Pastor at Pembury Baptist Church) and Jemma Holmes, enjoyed a wonderful day at the young couple's wedding on 24 January. We understand it was very special for Wayne and Jemma too!

With Pembury Baptist Church too small for all those wanting to be there the wedding venue had to be changed. Jemma's family has associations with St John's Church Tunbridge Wells and the Vicar Giles Walters and Pembury Baptist's Pastor David Graham led a memorable service. Pembury Baptist Church worship band and singers helped the congregation rise to the occasion in song. Brilliant!

A finger buffet, reception and Wedding Breakfast, and an evening's entertainment and dance, added to the enjoyment. Wayne and Jemma left for a honeymoon in an undisclosed but warm and romantic place. It had been a delightful and very happy day.

Wayne has made a significant impact on the Baptist Church and the community since he arrived 18 months ago. He has introduced the Church to his friend Barney, has given many young people the encouragement and direction they needed, and he was the prime mover in the Village Survey. Jemma has been a member of the Survey Team; she works as a Carer for elderly people and with the young people at the Woodside and Mascalls Clubs.

Wayne and Jemma are two special people who will make a strong team in all they do together. They will continue living in Pembury.

Leslie Gregory



THE LEAGUE OF FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

MANY OF YOU may have seen the recent article in the Courier about the League – this year we are celebrating 50 years of support to Pembury Hospital. We have a proud record and I would like to pay tribute to all of our volunteers down the years who have contributed to our success.

To celebrate our achievement we will be holding a Summer Ball at the Spa Hotel on Friday 11 June with the Kent and Sussex League – more details to be announced soon.

In the meantime our small army of volunteers continue to run our shop,



organise collections outside major stores, grand raffle draw and other fundraising activities.

We are holding a Jumble Sale at Pembury Village Hall on Saturday 20th March from 11am to 1.30pm, so please come and support us.

I would be pleased to hear from anyone who can find a few hours to assist us – watch out for news of our activities via our regular newsletters, check out our website at www.pemburyleague.org.uk or give me a call at the number shown below.

Gary Purdy, Chairman. Tel: 824940

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MIRAGE TO MIRAGE

STEWART AND Rachel Hodson from Pembury are swapping the British weather for the scorching hot deserts of the Sahara as we go to press. They are taking part in a gruelling 100km trek to raise money for Macmillan Cancer Relief.

Walking for seven hours each day and camping in the desert every night, Stewart and Rachel will encounter some of the most extreme and spectacular landscapes on earth during the nine day trip. A mix of flat desert terrain, 500m high wind blown sand dunes and the sweltering African heat will provide the ultimate challenge for the group of 60 trekkers.



“Being in the Sahara desert will be an adventure we are unlikely to forget,” says Rachel “it will be one of the toughest things we have ever done but knowing that we can make a difference and help people living with cancer makes all our efforts worth it.”

In the UK, four in ten people will be diagnosed with cancer during their lifetime and over a million people are currently living with cancer. Macmillan is a UK charity providing the expert care and practical and emotional support which is changing the lives of people living with cancer today.

Money raised by Stewart and Rachel will be used to help fund specialist Macmillan nurses and doctors who deliver the best in cancer care, build vitally needed cancer care centres and give financial help to those who need it most. One of the couple’s fundraising initiatives has been to design and produce (with support from local companies) a 2004 calendar with the Sahara theme. Priced at just £4 per copy, this is a great way to support Rachel and Stewart’s charity trek, with all proceeds going towards their sponsorship requirement. Call Rachel and Stewart on 825100, email sahara@pembury.org, or write to them at PO Box 134, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN2 4YB marking it for the attention of “Sahara Trek”.

Pembury’s own webmaster, Steve Morton has created a site especially for Stewart and Rachel’s trek called ‘Mirage to Mirage’. Go to www.pembury.org and click on the Sahara link on the home page.

The Sahara Hiking Challenge runs from March 13-21 2004.

TO TWIN OR NOT TO TWIN . . . ?

PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL has been informally approached about the possibility of twinning with the French village of Lompret to the north west of Lille. It has approximately 2,500 inhabitants, a part-time mayor, a variety of village clubs and societies, a web-site <http://lompret.mairie.59840.free.fr/> with details about the parish council, rubbish collections and photos of the village. Sound familiar? OK, so Pembury technically doesn’t have a mayor – all tiny French villages call their Parish Council Chairman ‘Monsieur le maire’ – but there do seem to be some similarities.



Your Parish Council is happy to co-ordinate the process, but it is up to interested Pembury residents to get the exchanges, joint projects, etc. off the ground. If you are interested in discussing the idea further with a view to making the project take off, please contact

Parish Clerk Barbara Russell on 823193
Monday to Friday 9am to 1pm or email pemburypc@hotmail.com or write to her at 6 The Grove, Pembury.

If we get a number of people interested in taking an active part, then we’ll meet up and start the ball rolling.

Alison Morton



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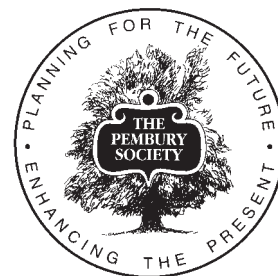


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THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

IF YOU ARE one of us who have a close interest in the weather and are also a watcher of BBC South-East you will immediately recognise the name and the face of Kaddy Lee-Preston. For those of you who do not or will not own a television receiver, she is a forecaster of meteorological phenomena – and a neat and most-times accurate forecaster she is! It is with considerable pleasure that I can report that Kaddy will be our guest Speaker at the forthcoming Spring Meeting of The Pembury Society which will be held on Thursday 22 April at 8pm at the Village Hall.



Members and their guests are invited to see and hear M/s Lee-Preston talk about the work she does as well as some of her adventures she has experienced during her spare-time hobby of cycling long distances for charity. So, come along. If you don't happen to be a member then call Ken Watts on 822770 and in no time at all you will qualify for a really great evening with a difference.

On another matter entirely, I would like to turn your mind towards a boring but potentially deadly situation. It concerns vehicle speeding, specifically along the High Street and Lower Green Road. It's not that it happens occasionally – it does all the time. The real question we should address is 'Why?' What is it that the two roads have in common that makes the majority of motorists who travel along them drive so fast? It could be that the High Street, for the most part, is extra wide and as such has an automatic effect on the brain that causes depression of the right foot. However, Lower Green Road is certainly not wide and carries clearly marked school warning signs, yet if one does drive down here as slow as 30mph following traffic can and will become very, very angry.

Therefore, let us consider the problem in an intelligent manner and come up with some suggestions and conclusions to solve the mystery. After all, most of those travelling down the two roads must be local because through traffic would use one of the two extra-fast bypasses. Maybe, there are forces at work that have their origins in Pembury's dark past which we do not understand. Letters to the Editor, please, whom I feel sure will value your thoughts.

Derek Johnson

YOUR PARISH NEEDS YOU!

A BIT OF FRESH AIR, a sense of purpose and giving your community a helping hand can all be achieved together if you become a distributor for Pembury Village News. From our reader survey in 2001 over 95% of residents are pleased or very pleased with the News and look forward eagerly to the next edition.

All you need to do, once a quarter, is put the magazine through the doors of fellow residents in designated roads. It takes on average between half an hour and one hour and can be done during the day, evening or weekend. Current distributors include people in full or part-time employment, parents at home, retired people, school students and, of course, your local councillors. The more people who become distributors, the easier the job is of getting the News to everybody in good time.

Our Parish Clerk, Barbara Russell, who organises the distribution would be very pleased to hear from you on 823193 (answerphone) or email pemburypc@hotmail.com

A TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE

CHARLES JAMES STANBRIDGE, born at Castle Hill, 21 October 1931 and died 9 August 2003. The following are extracts from a tribute given at Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on 22 August when 90 people attended.

“For those who do not know me, my name is Di Harris and I was a friend of Charlie.

I appreciate that many of you knew Charlie much longer than I did and will have many different memories of him but Charlie’s sister has asked me to say a few words and share my memories of Charlie.

I first met Charlie seven or eight years ago at our Pembury Baptist Church Monday Club where a group of lovely people meet for tea, coffee and a chat, perhaps a game of Scrabble then lunch, more tea and coffee and some more chat. On the odd occasion that Charlie didn’t attend one felt that something was missing. With his quiet presence Charlie was a gentle giant.

He was a very kind person who would do anything for anyone. He collected prescriptions from the chemist for various people; he collected newspapers from the newsagent at the crack of dawn and then delivered them to his friends and neighbours; he regularly gave the school lollipop lady (Margaret won’t mind me calling her that) an apple, along with the girls at the Natwest Bank and probably others as well. He had such a big heart.

Charlie played short mat bowls and was very proud to have won a doubles trophy. He also enjoyed their Christmas Dinner immensely. He belonged to the Darby and Joan Club and went to the WRVS Luncheon Club at which I am told he always sold the raffle tickets.

On Thursdays he could be found at the village market, held in the village hall, where he was always ready to buy his friends a cup of tea or coffee. He had also recently joined the Teaspoon Club at St Peters Church having won several raffle prizes, which he almost certainly shared with others.

If there was any event going on in the village then Charlie was there. As you can tell he just loved being out and about.

It was while he was out and about that he first knocked on my door and said, “I hear you need a gardener”. At first I was quite taken aback and thought perhaps that he had confused me with another Di, who comes to our church. I invited him in for a cup of tea. That was the real start of our friendship.



Charlie decided that I needed some patio pots and plants. So, off we went to various garden centres. Looking back, it seems that God knew that I did need a gardener as Charlie taught me to plant patio containers and our garden looks so much prettier and far more interesting.

I believe that nobody crosses our paths by chance and God knew that Charlie one day would need some help and I was there when he needed someone to fill in forms that he didn’t understand, to take him to hospital and hold his hand when he needed reassurance. I am really thankful to God for giving me time for Charlie.

I know that other friends were sent to help Charlie, as Charlie was sent to help others like Ray, who he visited in hospital and in return used to take him to the doctors. Vic, his very dear friend of many years, would often accompany Charlie on outings and cook him Sunday lunch. There were many other friends who will have their own fond memories.

Charlie gave far more than he received and the lovely thing is that we as Christians are taught that our left hand should not know what our right hand is doing – that means we shouldn’t boast about the good deeds we do and Charlie certainly didn’t.

So, dear Charlie – we, your friends in Pembury are going to miss your friendly wave as you rode past on your ‘pop pop’ and your presence on the seat on the village green chatting to everyone who went by. We are so sad that your big heart had to fail you but we thank God for the privilege of knowing and loving you.”

PEMBURY PEOPLE

P J and J M Ditchett B.PHARM M.R.PHARM.S

SINCE MY LAST article I have had many conversations with residents on the subject of local amenities and in particular the value of our village shops and enterprises. Iris Murdoch(!) recounted the proliferation of businesses that once existed on our streets and offers us some serious thoughts and concerns as to how we might retain those that remain. The answer appears to be simple – use it or lose it. This is particularly important as a result of ever-increasing competition from the ‘major players’ for shops such as our village chemist. Mark Twain observed *“The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don’t want, drink what you don’t like and do what you’d rather not”* but another option, of course, is to take advantage of the services offered by our pharmacy.

The Ditchetts, well-known as the custodians of this business, have recently stepped down after a long and extremely popular tenure and ‘handed over the baton’. Peter was born in Salford, Greater Manchester and Janet in London and they met at the School of Pharmacy in London where they both qualified as pharmacists in 1963. Peter stayed at the college as an assistant lecturer and Janet worked at The Royal Free Hospital. In 1967 they moved to Cardiff where Peter lectured at the School of Pharmacy and Janet worked in retail then at various hospitals in South Wales. In 1978 Judith, their daughter, was born and in 1984 the family moved back to Kent and took over the chemist’s shop in Pembury. The staff were marvellous and soon Janet and Peter were accepted as residents in Pembury. They attend the Catholic Church



of St Anselm’s where Peter is a member of the SVP Society (St Vincent de Paul) and Janet helps with the music. Judith attended St Augustine’s School where she is now a teacher.

The constant nature of change in Pembury is reflected when Janet states *“We have seen*

many changes in the village since we came here with eight changes of doctor, three dentists, three changes of parish priest and three different vicars at St Peters Church”.

Peter’s interests include the Tonbridge Camera Club and The Black Horse, while Janet is involved with the Scout

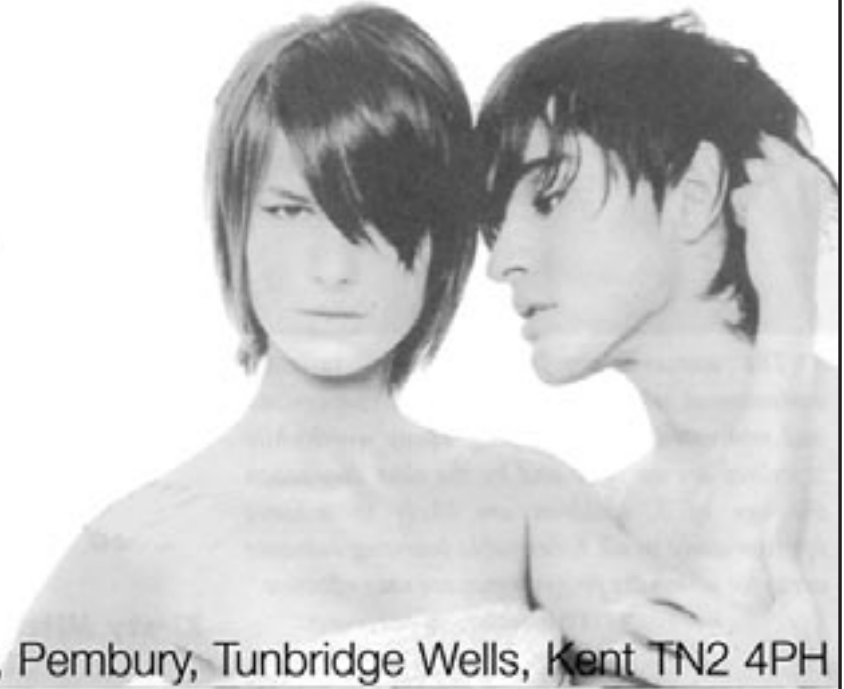
and Guides where she is at present Secretary of the Scout and Guide Management Committee as well as a Trustee of the Almshouses. Janet feels that Pembury is a unique and special place to live and has a quality of daily life that is rarely found elsewhere – a true community.

To conclude, the Ditchetts offer this final sentiment *“We have both enjoyed our time serving the residents of Pembury and have made many good friends during our time at the shop. We were sorry to leave but the time for retirement has come. We were very surprised at the generous gift from the customers in Pembury and are donating the cheque to the Pembury Hospice in the Weald. Our best wishes go to all the residents of the village for a happy 2004”*.

Although some might argue that good health isn’t everything, many will reply that without it everything counts for nothing. Janet and Peter’s service to the village has helped many of us in the quest to stay healthy and on behalf of us all may I offer them both our sincere thanks and heartfelt wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Paul Barrington-King

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SNIPPETS

Annual Parish Meeting will take place in the Village Hall on Monday 22 March at 8pm. This is a public meeting open to all who live in the Parish and it is a chance for residents of Pembury to learn about what has been happening in the village over the past year and to put questions to Parish, Borough and County Councillors. The councillors want to hear your views and your ideas about the future of the village. This is the place where you live – take part in its life.

Pembury Library in Henwood Green Road has extended its opening hours and is now open on Tuesday 10am-6pm and Thursday 10am-5pm. This means that they will not close for lunch on these two days so giving more time to find information, borrow books and use the computers and other facilities available in the library. Other times are Wednesday 10am-1pm, Friday 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm and Saturday 9.30am-1pm.

For further information please contact Lesley Glover on 822278

Pembury Youth Club

All change! Although the YMCA will not be able to continue to run the club, a new group called 'The Friends of Pembury Youth Club' has been formed to make sure that activities continue in some form for the young people in Pembury. Contact is Wayne Alexander of Pembury Baptist Church tel. 825590

Nature trail

Pembury Parish Council was represented when the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells opened a new Nature Trail in the RSPB Tudeley Woods Reserve off Half Moon Lane on 12 November. This trail will give additional access to a delightful and well-managed remnant of ancient forest which dates back to the 12th century Wealden Iron Industry.

Pembury Scouts and Guides

The Annual General Meeting of the Scout and Guide Management Committee was held recently when the committee and officers of

the committee for 2004 were nominated. There are still vacancies for two co-opted members if anyone is willing to help manage the building. The hall is in use every night of the week with eight Scout and Guide units, the Judo Club and the Majorettes also using the facilities. We are thankful for all the help we get from the Parish Council to keep us afloat but still wish the vandals would leave us alone. We are hoping to open the halls next year for Cub and Brownie pack holidays to keep the building in use for 52 weeks of the year. Anyone interested please contact Mrs J Ditchett or the Guide or Scout leaders.

Mayor's Charity Quiz

A team from Pembury took part in the Mayor's Charity Quiz in Tunbridge Wells on 17 January. Team members were Denzil Edwards, Kathryn Franklin, Peter Giles, Amanda Masters, Cllr Alison Morton, Cllr Steve Morton, Debbie Saunders and Larry Saunders. The range of questions was very good, but you did have to know those national flags . . . The competition from the other teams from across the Borough was extremely fierce. We crawled up the ratings steadily ending at 7th out of 45. An improvement on last year's 16th place! All of which leads quite nicely on to . . .

Pembury Village Quiz

Janet Ditchett has advised us that this is booked for Friday 14 May 2004. The format will be different this year, there will be tables of six people at £10 a table but if organizations wish they can book half a table and we will pair them off. The prizemoney will still be £200 for the winning team to be donated to the charity of their choice.

French Bike Ride

We have received the following: "Just a short note to say thank you for featuring our French bike ride in the Pembury Village News. Thank you for giving it such a prominent position and thank you for your thoughtful editing". Charlie Hambleton, P.A.Y.F.C. supporters

SNIPPETS *continued*

Pembury School Association

This year the PSA, have committed to the purchase of some major school equipment totalling in the region of £11,000. This includes £5,000 towards the computer suite, three stages of play ground equipment, the first of which has already been commissioned and a large shaded area to help protect the pupils during periods of hot sunny weather.

This work could only be committed to with the good will and backing of teachers, parents, pupils and friends during school functions and events. Let's hope the quiz night on Saturday 6 March made a good contribution.

Dates, dates, dates . . .

Putting together this quarter's diary, I have noticed that several good events have clashed; the fundraising disco for surgery equipment and the PSA quiz are both on 6 March; the Village Quiz and the Pembury School Association Auction of Promises on 14 May; and the Hospice plant sale and St Peter's Upper Church Spring Fayre are both on 15 May.

The ideal solution would be to have a village diary maintained by one person who could be consulted about possible dates for events. This person would need to be informed of any event so that it could be catalogued. They would then be ready to take enquiries by phone or post from event organisers.

Ideally, they would also be on email/internet and could have a page showing events already known on a web page that could be consulted (We can supply a separate email address and web page for free to the person taking this on).

This volunteer post would need a few hours a month and the person doing it could specify times for telephoning e.g. between 6pm and 8pm. This could save an enormous amount of teeth-gnashing and help maximum attendance at all village events.

Bo-Peep Sign

Derek Johnson, Chairman of The Pembury Society reports:

"There were several submissions for the design of the replacement sign and some of

these were very good. Right now the problem is being addressed regarding the need in the future to repair or renew a painted sign because of the rain and the wind that is experienced at this, the highest point in the village. The thought is that if it were possible, an all-metal structure would last much longer and might even look more dramatic. Features from some of the submitted designs could be brought together and incorporated in the new sign. All-in-all, the project is moving and we will keep you informed of progress as it occurs."

Could you hack it?

There are two Parish Councillor vacancies and we need to fill them. Could you get your head around planning issues? Could you help somebody to get their problem sorted out and enjoy the buzz of a successful job done? Could you get immense satisfaction from knowing you have served the community, the place where you live? Do you want to be involved on the inside track of what goes on locally?

Please contact Parish Clerk Barbara Russell on 823193 (answerphone) or email pemburypc@hotmail.com for an information pack and application form.

Easter sports activities

The Southern Association Football Academy is running football sessions for primary school age children between 13 and 16 April in the Lower Green Recreation Ground 8.45am to 12noon each day. If you require more information and/or wish to book a place please email lloyd_b@planet-safa.com or telephone Lloyd Biggs on (01424) 433726 or 07711 588272.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

is planning to put on multi-sports in the Lower Green Recreation Ground 19 to 23 April 10am to 12noon. The sessions are open to all children between 6 and 11 years old and the cost is £2.50 per child per session. More information from Gaby at TWBC tel. 01892 554201 or just turn up and have a great morning!

KENT COLLEGE

ON SUNDAY 7 December, Kent College Pembury gave a warm welcome to 90 senior citizens from Pembury. As part of the school's community links, the event is organised by resident Methodist Chaplain, Revd Jacky Quarmbury who said, 'The annual visit from the local elderly residents is one of the highlights of the school's calendar. Many of the visitors are housebound and this event is the only opportunity they have to take part in Christmas festivities.'

Staff volunteers picked up the visitors from their homes in Pembury using their own cars or school minibuses and brought them to the school where they were welcomed on arrival by the boarding students aged 10-18.

This year the visitors enjoyed watching a production of Charles Dickens' immortal tale of 'A Christmas Carol', which was staged by Year 11 GCSE drama students in the school's theatre. Afterwards the students helped the visitors walk to the dining hall where they pulled crackers, donned their party hats and enjoyed a tea of turkey, ham, quiche, salad and gateaux. The afternoon was rounded up with Christmas carols before the guests were taken home.



A Christmas Carol – Jenn Simpson aged 15 as the ghost of Christmas Present and Elise Stewart aged 15 as Scrooge in the performance of 'A Christmas Carol'



Students and visitors enjoying their Xmas tea



Kent College KC student Jocelyn Atkins aged 11 pulling a cracker with one of the visitors



Kent College student Akiko Fukui aged 14 with one of the visitors

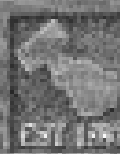
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ROGUE TRADERS are operating in our area. If you are approached at your doorstep by any person offering to carry out repairs to your property there and then, turn them away. Call 0845 3450210 (Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm) and report it to Trading Standards.

Sounds dramatic?

Well, unfortunately there has been a nationwide increase in bogus callers/doorstep traders. Trading Standards, Kent Police, Neighbourhood Watch and others are banding together here in Kent to launch a strong initiative to try to stop this.

What happens? In a lot of cases, the householder answers the door of their house and there are one or two blokes looking like genuine tradesmen and confidently claiming to have 'seen something on your roof', 'doing a check on boilers in the area', etc. Within a few minutes, they wangle their way into your house and start work. Shortly afterwards, about 20 to 30 minutes later, they claim to have fixed it and then demand payment, in cash.

Householders are bamboozled into paying hundreds of pounds, sometimes even being

accompanied to the bank to withdraw the necessary cash.

These bogus callers do not offer any identity documents or if they do (when pushed) they flash a card in front of your eyes so quickly that you cannot read it. It is really very difficult to refuse such accomplished con-men.

One helpful technique which helps you take control is to think ahead what you might do if faced with this problem. Try to think through what you might say, concentrating on the fact that it is you who is in charge. See yourself being polite but firm and refusing their blandishments. Practise saying 'no'.

Trading Standards can offer support and advice; they have had some success and last year saved 13 Kent consumers £91,000. Call them on 0845 3450210 to discuss your concerns and report incidents. If you would like some advice on crime prevention, you can call the police at Tonbridge Police Station (01732 771055) and speak to somebody from the Crime Reduction Unit. Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators can also be a source of advice.

Don't get doorstepped; be a Doorstopper instead!

PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLS CLUB

AFTER A LESS than successful first half to the season, Pembury Short Mat Bowls Club's five league teams had better results in January. We are now hoping to maintain our league positions by the end of the season in April.

Our first game after Christmas was with our old friends from Marden. Although we all enjoy a game of bowls with them, most of us also go for the wonderful tea they provide, which will be hard to match when they come to us for the return friendly in March.

We have had our best results this season in the Kent County Competitions. One triple team and two singles players reached the final knockout stage, which takes place in March or April.

We are always looking to enrol new members. The joining fee is just £10 and £1.50 each session on Tuesday afternoons fortnightly, each Thursday afternoon and Friday evenings.

For further information please contact Arthur Storey on 822509.

PEMBURY IN THE PAST

Steve Johnson's mother sent in a photograph which appeared in the Autumn 2003 edition of the Pembury Village News. He now writes . . .

“**M**Y MOTHER asked me to look out the attached school photo for the Pembury Village News. I have also enclosed a list of the names as best that I can remember. I should, and probably do, know more but the names are not coming to mind just now. Perhaps an incomplete run down is of no use but it was fun trying to recall from all those years ago!

Mr McCarthy was in his first year at the school as I seem to recall. The main thing I can remember is the favouritism he showed to the girls which we boys always complained about.

The photo was clearly taken on a bright day as there is a lot of squinting going on but I do not know if it was the beginning of term in September 1968 or summer 1969.

Only a handful of the children went with me to Sandown Court Secondary Modern School, as it was then called, and I very soon lost touch with my friends who were all cleverer than me and went to the Tech or Skinners' schools. I left school and went in the Merchant Navy at 17 so was only in the Village for a few weeks of leave after that.”

Steve Johnson



Mr McCarthy's Class 1968/69

Back Row: Left to right: Adrian Moore, Stephen Frazer, Clive Young, Roger ???, Stephen Johnson, Christopher Beeching, Alan Stace, Stephen Watson, Andrew West, Brian Berry.

Third Row: Stephen Rogers, Susan Amerey, Julie Perret, Gillian Edwards, Christine? Abbot, Rosemary ???, Phillip Meakins.

Second Row: Unknown, unknown, Vivien Britten, Susan ??? Ginette Baker, unknown, Heather Avenall, Susan Giles.

Front Row: Sian Morgan, unknown, unknown, Angela Perry, Mr McCarthy, Karen Chandler, unknown, Julie Willard, Carol Standen.

MARY STANDEN'S ARCHIVE

MARY STANDEN, a life long resident of Pembury, was well known for her local history publications and extensive knowledge of the history of Pembury. When she died she donated her archive to the people of Pembury, via the Parish Council. This archive will, ultimately, be deposited on permanent loan, in the village library. This will allow everyone access to it. In the meantime, however, it is essential that this valuable collection is properly catalogued and the task is currently being undertaken, on behalf of the Parish Council, by the Pembury local history group.

The material is very varied and very interesting, covering as it does the period from 1550 to modern times. The oldest information is contained within photocopies of documents that are held in the county archive in Maidstone and include mention of land at 'Rolley'. So we now know that Rowley Hill (Church Road) has had that name for at least 450 years.

Even more interesting is a single handwritten sheet of paper that lists the ARPs and firewatchers in Pembury during the second world war, together with their addresses. Jack Standen (Mary's father) was one of their number. One address, mentioned twice, was Downingbury Place and as T. Baitup lived at No. 11 there must have been a whole terrace. Do any of our older readers remember where these houses were as the history group would be delighted to be able to locate them? There is also an extensive collection of church magazines dating from 1904 almost to the present day. Some of the runs are quite long and as they include general advertising for businesses in Pembury and Tunbridge Wells as well as church news and articles they will prove extremely interesting.

This is just a little of what will be available for you to browse through and I hope it has whetted your appetite.

Kathryn Franklin



TED FIGGETT REMEMBERS . . .

Ted Figgett, who now lives in Norfolk, contacted us with the following:

“A FEW WEEKS AGO I spent several days with my sister who lives in Henwood Green Road. She showed me the Winter 2003 edition of your excellent Pembury magazine in which I was particularly interested to see the 1905 photograph of Beeching's shop on page 25.

I lived at No. 1 Church Road opposite the shop from soon after I was born in 1935 until 1945 when my father was demobbed from the army and took up employment in Langton Green. I remember the Beechings well and as a boy I was a great friend of John who lived in the house behind the shop. John was a year younger than me and thus one year behind throughout our schooldays at Pembury and Skinners'.

During the 1940s, local families used to enter their weekly grocery orders in a notebook and when the orders were made up they were delivered by Arthur Beeching on a bicycle with a large box container on the front. He didn't have to travel far to deliver our order!

At the end of an alleyway to the left of the shop were some steps leading to a cellar. This alleyway can be seen in the 1905 photograph, just behind the boy who is standing by the front wheel of the bicycle, between the shop and the garden railing. During 1940 several bombs fell on Pembury, and I can well recall sheltering in the cellar during the air raids with members of the Beeching family who lived in the house above.



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PEMBURY IN THE PAST *continued*

I returned to Pembury in 1947 when my father became the vergier of St Peter's Church and resident caretaker of the Church Institute, now known as Hop House. We lived in the cottage attached to the Institute where our postal address was 60 Lower Green Road.

During my recent visit I walked down to Lower Green to look at the old Beeching shop and my former homes at 1 Church Road and 60 Lower Green Road. The cellar of the shop still appears to be there although a large Royal Mail pillar box now stands at the entrance to the alleyway. Directly across the road, the house I remember seems to have been amalgamated with the one next door to form a larger dwelling.

The biggest changes, however, have taken place at the old Church Institute which now houses the local library in what used to be the badminton hall. The cottage has been converted into offices which were 'To Let' at the time of my visit. When I walked into the library, can you imagine my surprise when on a noticeboard, among a selection of newspaper articles about the Church Institute, I found a photograph of myself together with a group of friends taken outside the Royal Oak Pub in 1958. The photo had been given the heading, "Men's Day Out" and our names had been written underneath. With the exception of Arthur Cole, the others were all contemporaries of mine and most of us, including Arthur, played for the village cricket team. I wonder whether whoever placed the photograph on the noticeboard realised that one of the so-called "Men on a Day Out" actually lived in the Church Institute?

The librarian was very interested when I told her of my past connection with the Institute, and that I had in fact lived in the cottage from 1947 until 1959 when I left to live and work in London. My parents continued to live there until my father retired in 1971. Although the interior of the main building has changed almost beyond recognition, just being there brought back many happy memories of my childhood and early adult years.

Ted Figgett

PEMBURY MEMORIES

Mrs Eileen Childs wrote to us from Australia with the following thoughts . . .

When . . .

Chalket Lane led to woods full of wild flowers.

Bluebells, primroses, violets and wood anemones all gathered by eager children in the spring.

The hopgardens in Hawkwell Road spanning to Church Road where a smooth, silky stile was a short cut.

The house on The Green occupied by Mrs Cairns and her brother, Mr Dixon.

The hospital, formerly the union where tramps and road wanderers stayed overnight. Much poverty for returned servicemen in those days.

Milk was carried in churns to the housewife's door. She produced a jug for a pint or quart of milk.

Arthur Beeching sang his little ditty – 'When will Pembury have street lights'?

The May Day dancing at the school. On at least one occasion the children went to Matfield for the event.

Tunbridge Wells too . . . Happy memories of shopping on Christmas Eve. Often snow and sleet in the air. The street stalls offering their wares in Calverley Road competing with the opening of Woolworths (1926?) and Marks & Spencer (1927?).

The penny bazaars. Two in Camden Road and at least one in Calverley Road. Forerunners of Woolworths?

These memories occurred 70-80+ years ago. Probably not too many people remember these jottings. They would have to be as old as me!

Eileen Childs (née Budd)

David Salter

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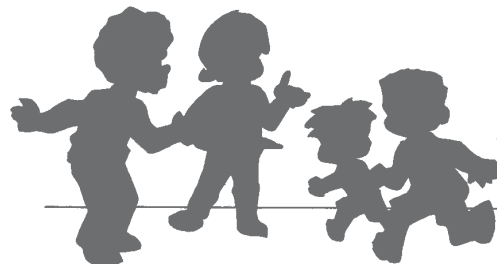
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HOSPICE NEWS

FOUR PEMBURY runners (at the time of writing) are running for Hospice in the Flora London Marathon on 18 April. They are Jennifer Siddle, Kevin Waterman, Howard Watford and Justin Young. Good luck to all the runners once again this year in the country's biggest event for charities fundraising. Hospice has more than 20 runners taking part.

If you are not up to the Marathon, then the Ladies 5K Flora Light Challenge in Hyde Park London on Sunday 5 September might suit you. This three mile fun run is for 20,000 ladies. Last year Hospice sent a team of 71, and are looking for joggers, walkers, crawlers to take part and raise sponsorship for the Hospice. Further details are available from Richard Snow on 820534 or e-mail richard.snow@hospiceintheweald.org.uk. (Apply now as entries will probably close by June.)

A date for your diaries is Saturday 15 May when the Hospice holds its Plant Sale between 10am and 2.30pm. Loads of plants and stalls will be available.

Have you seen round the Hospice yet? Visits to the Hospice are available for individuals or groups on the following Mondays at 2.30pm: March 8, June 7, September 6, December 6. Places must be booked in advance at Hospice reception or by ringing 820500. Visits last around 1½ hours and a chance to have a tea or coffee and browse around the Hospice shop in reception.

PEMBURY OUTDOOR BOWLS CLUB

PEMBURY OUTDOOR Bowls Club will be celebrating its 75th year this coming season and during this time the club has had a strict dress code. The committee has decided to relax the dress code so that casual clothes can be worn with suitable flat-soled shoes for all internal club competitions and practice roll ups. We hope that this will encourage more new players to try the game. There are several sets of bowls available to use whilst learning the game. Also membership will be free for the first two months enabling new players to try the game before committing themselves financially.

More information will be advertised at a later date giving the exact date near the end of April when the Green will be open for games. League, friendly and inter-club matches are played during the season.

This year, the Colchester Bowls Club, who are on tour and staying at The Ramada Jarvis Hotel have asked us to arrange a friendly match on our green on Friday 6 August. On Sunday 6 June we are playing host to teams from other local clubs in a Triples Tournament with cash prize money of £225.

The work never stops in maintaining the clubhouse. This year we have been busy creating a much-needed changing room and decorating the interior.

Just moved into the village, newly retired or looking for some exercise plus friendly company, then please ring me, Arthur Storey on 822509 and I will be pleased to give you more information.





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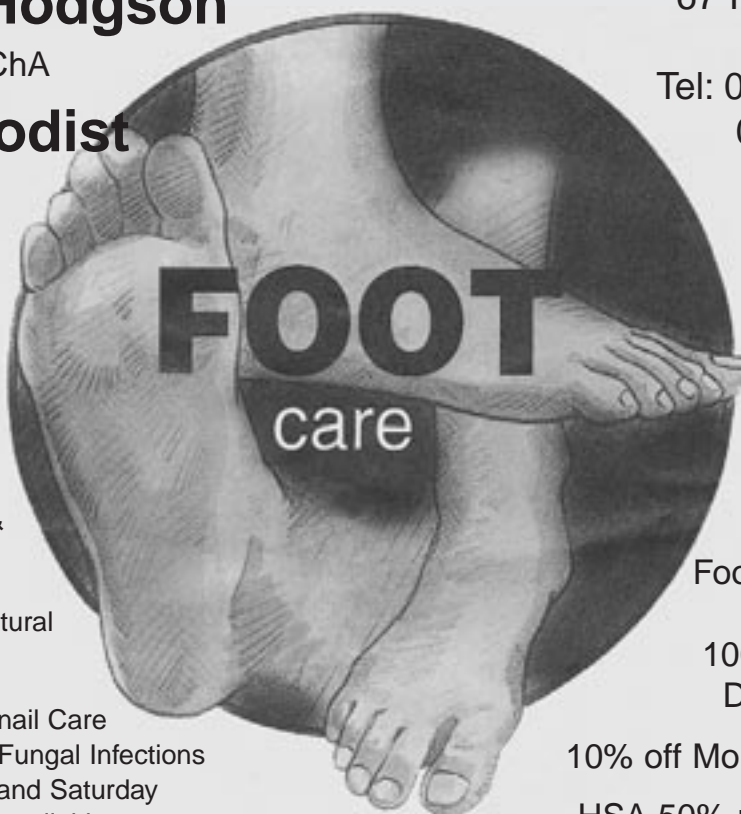
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VILLAGE SURVEY UPDATE

IT MAY SEEM a long time since some of you had a visit from the Village Survey Team or saw the preliminary results of the Survey at the Village Fete.

During the autumn there was further collation of information, discussion on how best to use it and planning what action could come out of it.

The need for facilities for the village's young people which was clearly a priority led to immediate co-operation between the KCC, the Parish Council and the Baptist Church, over the future of the Woodside Youth Club. The YMCA are relinquishing their responsibilities at the end of March.

The Baptist Church is already involved in running the club and is willing to do so on a permanent basis. The Parish Council and KCC will provide considerable back-up. Men from Blantyre House worked hard in December to redecorate the inside of the building so the young people now have a bright place in which to meet.

There have been discussions about a CAB-style information centre and a coffee shop/meeting place, but unfortunately to date nothing has been finalised.

Car parking and traffic speed were other matters of concern to Pembury residents. The Parish Council has been in regular contact with the Borough Council's Highways Department and hopefully some action will result. The double yellow lines at the junctions in Lower Green Road will help with parking congestion especially near the school, as long as the regulations are observed and enforced.

In the long term, other important issues raised in the Survey have already been looked at by the leadership at Pembury Baptist Church and it is hoped that specific projects will be announced before long. Yes, the follow-up to the Survey is definitely under way. Results **will** be seen, although however much we would like them instant miracles are unlikely!

Leslie Gregory, Village Survey Team

LITTER – A SONNET APPEAL

As oft around the village where I walk
Were I still young with energy enough . . .
To many friends and neighbours while we
 talk
Alas we see much rubbish in the rough . . .
On pavement or in gutters of the road
Those plastic boxes and abandoned chip
Some hungry folk with fish stroll by, their
 load
In litter bins they only need to tip . . .
So why defile the paths and village ways
With chocolate papers, cigarettes and
 muck
In wind and rain this wastage still it stays

As people pass it by and murmur "Yuk"
Would some bold spirit rise and 'cut a
 dash'
Don gloves and boots and with a willing
 heart
Go gather up the debris and the trash.
There must be brave souls who could
 make a start
Perhaps some folk with vigour and strong
 backs
Might gather up untidy waste in sacks!

Anon

JAN'S GARDEN VIEWS

IT'S THAT TIME of year again when we get the SPRING feeling! We are into a new year with hopeful resolutions which surely must include gardening as a fascinating and satisfying hobby. The more you learn the more there is to discover. In milder areas there have been reports of daffodils, primroses and snowdrops blooming together in early January. Is this a reflection of climate change we hear so much about?



As our gardening year commences, it is a good idea to keep a garden diary to help you keep track of what you plant and where. Successes and failures can be mentioned so that you can learn from any mistakes. A diary can act as a reminder in subsequent years of what you have achieved or have yet to achieve!

If you haven't pruned your Clematis viticella and other late flowering varieties, do so without delay, to a pair of buds 12-15 ins. from the soil. The bright stems of dogwoods (Cornus) that have been glorious through winter now need pruning to within two or three buds of the base of the plant. Ornamental grasses should be trimmed, lifted and divided in spring. Healthy pieces split off can be used to propagate new plants. They often need a tidy up after winds have taken their toll. Leave less hardy species until later to give extra frost protection. Many shrubs can be pruned now such as the summer flowering Spireas and Buddleias. Also any that flowered since autumn and now faded such as Heather, Daphne (lightly) and winter Jasmine, followed by Ribes (flowering currant) and Forsythia. Roses too need their annual prune and then a spread of fertiliser lightly pricked into the soil in April. After spring rains a mulch of bulky organic material should be applied to help keep soil moist and reduce weeds during summer months.

Perennials are springing into action now, so give them a boost and fork in a slow-release fertiliser such as fish, blood and bone or Growmore. The same applies to your trees and shrubs.

Hardening off, as it is called, is essential because harsher conditions can cause shock to half-hardy perennials such as Dahlias that have been in store over winter. These and other young plants need to be acclimatised to lower temperatures and wind before being planted in the garden for the summer. Gradually increase ventilation during the day and then if possible move plants to a cold frame, opening it in stages. Be prepared for late frosts.

After Tulips are over, the gaps could be replaced with Dahlias. Before planting, spray with a fungicide and insect killer to prevent leaf spot and capsid bugs – their two big enemies. Plant Dahlias in blocks and support with sturdy stakes. They will reward you with a blaze of late summer colour.

The smallest slugs can cause great damage to young plants. Try luring them into one place with cabbage leaves or grapefruit skins and our usual beer traps. They feed mainly at night so water in early morning before they emerge. Don't let them deter you.

Happy gardening!

Jan Davies

MY PLOT

I HAVE DECIDED this year to really concentrate on veg that can be eaten fresh through next winter. The winter just gone, I had cabbages but the broccoli just disappeared – to such an extent that I can’t even prove that I tried – and I forgot to grow Swede altogether. So as well as remembering the Swede, I am going to try Brussels Sprouts for the first time. Half my family will not appreciate this at all. I also grew leeks and Jerusalem artichokes.

Jerusalem artichokes are lovely if you roast them (part of Christmas dinner for us) they go with cheese in any form you like and they give a special flavour to soup. I don’t know why they’re not better known. Those who have tried them, sometimes mention how windy they are! Jerusalem artichokes are totally different from Globe artichokes and I’ve no idea why they’ve ended up with the same name. Does anyone know? “JA” grow underground like potatoes and “GA” are flowers on a completely different plant. Another big difference is that JA are easy to grow and if you don’t dig up every last one, they’ll be sprouting all over the place next spring. All you need to get going is a few roots donated from someone like me and you’ll have enough forever. They grow very tall and sometimes get blown down in the autumn. But that doesn’t matter because by then, they’ve stopped growing and I just cut them to a stump so I still know where they are. No amount of frost seems to touch them.

GA are much less robust – they die on me when I’m not looking and I keep having to grow new plants from seed. My children love them, as do bees and butterflies (nice) and black flies (not nice) but I can’t depend on them at all.

I’m also going to try yet again to grow parsnips. The first year we cleared a derelict plot and planted parsnips, they were fantastic. All the old-timers at the allotments admired them and asked how we’d done it. We didn’t know and I’ve never managed it again ever since!

The best thing of all is pink fir apple potatoes. I accidentally discovered that these last all winter in the ground as ‘new’ potatoes. They are such a treat in January that I think the very long time they take to grow is well worth it.

Caroline Mazze

Editor’s Note: Caroline is also one of Pembury’s Tree Wardens



PHANTOM TREE PLANTER

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ROSIE'S RECIPE CORNER

I AM A MEMBER of the Pembury Evening WI and thoroughly enjoyed watching the film "Calendar Girls". I thought that this time I would offer a WI theme, so the following recipe was kindly given to me by Amanda Everett of Pembury Evening WI.

CHOCOLATE CAKE

Ingredients:

1 tablespoon vinegar
8oz milk
8oz plain flour
1 level teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
2oz cocoa
4oz margarine (soft would be OK)
9oz caster sugar
3 eggs (size 3)

Preparation

Add vinegar to milk. Sift flour, bicarbonate of soda and cocoa together. Cream margarine and caster sugar then add eggs one at a time beating well between each. Add flour, mixing alternately with milk mix. Mix well. (Mixture will be wet).

Divide mixture between 8-8½ sandwich tins and bake in a moderate oven 350°F, 180°C or Gas 4, for 30-35 minutes until firm to touch. (May need longer as ovens vary.)

When cool fill with chocolate butter cream filling or try it with a tin of cherry pie filling and dust with icing sugar or caster sugar if preferred.

I have tried this cake and could not believe that it contained vinegar, it is so fluffy. I highly recommend – Rosie.

The next recipe is one that I have kept which my mother used to make and is still in her handwriting.

CHOCOLATE RUM TRUFFLES

Ingredients:

4oz plain chocolate
1oz unsalted butter
1 to 2 tablespoons of Rum
Few drops of almond essence
1oz of fine cake crumbs
1½oz ground almonds

4oz icing sugar

2 to 3 level tablespoons of drinking chocolate powder.

Preparation:

Break chocolate into squares and place in a bowl with the butter. Place over a pan of very hot water and stir until melted. Stir in the rum and almond essence then the cake crumbs, ground almonds and icing sugar. Leave to cool for 1 hour and then roll into equal size balls. Toss in chocolate powder and transfer to sweet cases.

These would make an ideal Easter present for a grown up instead of the usual Easter egg.

TWO-FRUIT PAVLOVA

The last recipe is a Pavlova, which I often see at special occasion meetings at the Pembury Evening WI.

4 egg whites

8oz caster sugar

2 teaspoons cornflour

2 teaspoons white wine vinegar

10 fl oz double cream

12oz strawberries, hulled and halved

3 kiwi fruit, peeled and sliced

Preparation:

Heat oven to 140°C, 275°F, Gas 1. Line a baking tray with a piece of baking parchment. Whisk egg whites until stiff; gradually whisk in sugar.

Continue whisking until mixture is thick and glossy, then fold in

cornflour and vinegar. Spread over prepared tray to make a 30-35cm (12-14 in) circle, building up sides to make a thick rim. Cook for 1 hour, until meringue is dry. If meringue begins to brown, reduce heat of oven slightly. Cook, peel away parchment and place meringue on serving plate. When ready to serve, whip cream to soft peaks and spread over meringue base. Arrange fruit on top.

The meringue base can be made up to 12 hours in advance. Keep in a dry place until ready to decorate. After adding the cream and fruit, keep refrigerated until ready to serve.

Rosie Latter

Tel: 822059. E-mail:rosielatter@yahoo.co.uk



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CRIME IN PEMBURY

HAPPY NEW YEAR to Everyone! Now, the crime figures in the quarter leading up to Christmas were exactly the same as the previous quarter, 46 in total which is somewhat disappointing. Theft and criminal damage were again the league leaders, with many acts of sheer vandalism being committed.

But we also know that there is still a feeling of dissatisfaction with the police telephone response and that there are still crimes not recorded because the caller runs out of patience and hangs up.

Since Christmas there has been a spate of car crime, several in one evening, with laptops and musical equipment being stolen. Now we know you should be able to leave articles in your cars and feel safe about it – the fact is you can't, so please don't keep making it easy for the criminal.

There has also been an incident which was quite clearly pre-planned where two valuable lion shaped figures dating from the Victorian era were stolen from a prominent house owner's doorstep.

These were stolen to order and the offenders escaped by the skin of their teeth in what we think may have been a Sierra estate car.

One other thing, how much longer are we going to tolerate the continuous damage to bus shelters etc.

Very often, after a Friday and Saturday night, this village resembles some run-down, urban suburb. For goodness sake get angry about it and stop turning a blind eye to it.

Target for this quarter, Jan, Feb and March is 39 or less – let's make it happen!

Hugh Boorman

MONTH	Assault	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Criminal Damage	Fraud and Deception	Drugs	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Vehicle Interference	Theft Offences	TOTAL
October 2003	2	1	1	3	1				1	4	13
November 2003	2			6	3	2		1		1	15
December 2003	2		2	4	2		4			4	18
TOTAL	6	1	3	13	6	2	4	1	1	9	46
ROAD											
A21B	1			1							2
Beagles Wood Road							1			2	3
Bellfield Road				1							1
Brickfields								1			1
Church Road				2							2
Elmhurst Avenue				1							1
Hastings Road	1		1				3			1	6
Henwood Green Road	2									1	3
Henwoods Mount				1							1
Herons Way				1							1
High Street	1	1		1	6	2					11
Kings Toll Road										1	1
Lower Green Road				3					1		4
Maidstone Road				1						2	3
Tonbridge Road	1		2	1						1	5
Woodhill Park										1	1
TOTAL	6	1	3	13	6	2	4	1	1	9	46

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FOR YOUR DIARY

Village Coffee Morning – Village Hall Tuesdays 9.30am-12 noon, full market last Tuesday of the month same times. WRVS Lunch Club – every Wednesday at 11.45am in the Pembury Village Hall during the school term time.

March

- 20 League of Friends of Pembury Hospital: Jumble sale – Village Hall – 11am to 1.30pm
- 22 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Village Hall – 8pm

April

- 1 Pembury Afternoon WI: Birthday party – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 2 Pembury Evening WI: Easter Flowers – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 3 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Camden Car Park – 2.15pm
- 5 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 12 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 14 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Flower Arranging – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 19 Pembury Footpath Walkers AGM – Village Hall – 8pm
- 19 Floral Art – Meeting Room, Village Hall – 8 pm
- 22 Pembury Society Spring Meeting – Main Hall, Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 26 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm

May

- 1 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15p.m.
- 5 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Hospice in the Weald – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 6 Pembury Afternoon WI: Resolutions – Main Hall, Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 7 Pembury Evening WI: Resolutions – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 8 RNLI May Fayre – Catholic Hall – 10am to 12noon
- 8 Larkfield Open Day – Larkfield, Cornford Lane – 822168 for details
- 10 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 10 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
- 14 Pembury Village Quiz – Village Hall – 8pm
- 14 Pembury School Association: Auction of Promises – 8pm
- 15 St Peter's May Fayre – Upper Church – 10.30am
- 15 Hospice in the Weald Plant Sale – 10am to 2.30pm
- 22 Pembury Gardeners: Plant Sale – Village Green – 10am

June

- 3 Pembury Afternoon WI: Alpine Spring in Bernese Oberland – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 4 Pembury Evening WI: Cooking for Royalty – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 5 Pembury Footpath Walkers: All day walk – details from 823212
- 7 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 10 Local and European elections – 6.30am to 10.30pm
- 12 Musical Picnic on the Village Green – 6.30pm
- 14 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
- 16 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Outing to Chartwell – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 17-19 Pembury Players summer production – look for notices in the village nearer the time!
- 23 Pembury Village Hall Management Committee AGM – 8pm
- 27 St Peter's Pembury Garden Tour – 1.30pm – details from 822030

CHURCH SERVICES AT EASTER 2004

St Peter's

4 April Palm Sunday	9.45am	Blessing of Palms and outdoor procession from Village Hall car park to Upper Church. Family Service with Dramatic Reading of the Passion
	11.30am	Holy Communion – Old Church
	6.30pm	Performance of Handel's 'Messiah' in Upper Church with members of local choirs
7 April Wednesday	8pm	Taize Service of music and meditation
8 April Maundy Thursday	8pm	Eucharist of 'The Last Supper' – Upper Church
9 April Good Friday	10am	Family Service – Upper Church
	11am	United procession of witness from the Baptist Church to Pembury Green with short service at 11.15am on the Green
	12 noon	'An Hour at the Cross' – Old Church
10 April Easter Eve	8pm	Candlelit Easter Vigil service – Old Church
11 April Easter Day	8am	Holy Communion – Upper Church
	9.45am	Parish Eucharist – Upper Church
	11.30am	Holy Communion with hymns – Old Church
	6.30pm	Evensong – Old Church

St Anselm's

4 April	10.30am	Palm Sunday
7 April	6.30pm	Stations of the Cross
9 April	12noon	Good Friday – Stations of the Cross
11 April	10.30am	Easter Sunday Mass

Pembury Baptist Church – 'The Week that Changed the World'

4 April	10am	Palm Sunday
9 April	10am	Good Friday Meditation
11 April	10am	Easter Day (for all ages)
18 April Easter Sunday	10am	Easter II



YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

County Council

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

Borough Council

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

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

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

Parish Council

Cllr Mrs Margaret Armitage, 2 Cornford Park TN2 4PN. Tel: 824208

Cllr Hugh Boorman, 52 Henwood Green Rd TN2 4LH. Tel: 823068

Chairman, Amenities, Allotments and Environmental Improvement Working Group

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

Chairman of Parish Council

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

Vice Chairman of Parish Council. Chairman of Planning Working Group

Cllr Richard Crouch, 17 Highfields Close TN2 4HG. Tel: 823164

Chairman, Burials, Environment & Highways Working Group

Cllr Keith Farley, 3 Beagles Wood Road TN2 4HX. Tel: 823440

Cllr Leslie Gregory, 47 High Street TN2 4PH. Tel: 822343 *Chairman, Public Relations Working Group*

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

Chairman, Pembury Village News Editorial Working Group

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

Chairman, Finance Working Group

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

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

Chairman, Christmas Lights & Pembury in Bloom Working Group

Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council

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

Email: PemburyPC@hotmail.com

CHURCH TIMES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

Upper Church

8.00am Holy Communion

9.45am The Parish Eucharist
and Junior Church

10.00am Holy Communion
(Wednesdays)

Old Church

11.30am Matins (except
first Sunday, Holy
Communion)

Evening services as advertised
on Church noticeboards

CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF ST. ANSELM – PEMBURY

Sunday Mass 10.30am

Holy Days – Vigil Mass
7.30pm

Confessions:

Sunday 10.15am

Weekday Service:

Wednesday – Mass 7pm

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

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church office 825590 for
details.

PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

AFTER A SUCCESSFUL Winter season playing Sunday mornings we will be starting our Summer season about mid-April. The Club sessions will be Wednesday and Friday evenings commencing at 5.30pm and Sunday mornings at 10.30am.

We welcomed several new members during the season last year and would be pleased to see more new faces this year. So if you are keen to play why not give us a call or just come along at any of the above times.

Contact – Barbara Ballantine 822156 or Sheila Smith 822405



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AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

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Simon Rooksby, Pineview Day Hospital

Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535, Ext 3515

BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.

Tel: 823235

BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Tel: Louise 823097

BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Mrs J. Fichtmüller, 19 Belfield Road. Tel: 825032

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon Bill Eason. Tel: 824133

COMMUNITY WORKING GROUP

Hugh Boorman. Tel: 823068

COMPAID TRUST

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Transport for Special Needs. Tel: 823488

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

CRICKET CLUB

Hon. Secretary: Andy Weaver. Tel: 824362

DARBY & JOAN CLUB

Jim Woodhams. Tel: 823990

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton,

Romford Road. Tel: 823932

GIRL GUIDERS

1st Pembury Company: Mrs A. Baker,

Tel: 0771 264 3946

HEADWAY

Libby Slattery. Tel: 823120

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD – PEMBURY LINK GROUP

Chris Snow. Tel: 825428

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Anne Upton. Tel: 822006

KENT COLLEGE JUNIOR SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Anne Lawson. Tel: 820204

LABOUR PARTY

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

LARKFIELD

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

LAWN TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

Bruce Ballantine. Tel: 822156

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Co-ordinator: Helen Dunkerley. Tel: 822529

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605

PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB

David Gow. Tel: 824119

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Pastor David Graham. Assoc Pastor Wayne Alexander

Church Office. Tel: 825590

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY F.C. SATURDAY

Mick Waterman, 26 The Coppice. Tel. 824137

PEMBURY F.C. SUNDAY

Phil Craxton, 34 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823928

PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

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

PEMBURY GARDENERS

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PEMBURY PHOENIX TWIRLERS

Dave or Chris Brett. Tel: 824233

PEMBURY PLAYERS

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Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

PEMBURY SOCIETY

Derek Johnson. Tel: 823150

PEMBURY STOOLBALL CLUB

Mrs Sandy Rice-Tucker. Tel: 822483

PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Rev. Stephen Sealy. Tel: 824761

PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Sue Boreham Tel: 824385

Eve Fiddimore Tel: 518277

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Secretary: Mike Raper. Tel: 822095

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SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.

Tel: 823235 and Jackie Fichtmüller, 19 Bellfield Road,

Pembury. Tel 825032

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs J. Tompkins. Tel: 823123

ST. PETER'S PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Events Secretary, Carol Wakeford. Tel: 822030

TABLE TENNIS CLUB. John Burleton. Tel: 823250

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Tel: 822837

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Afternoon: Mrs Edna Morris. Tel: 822267

Evening: Mrs Chris Johnson. Tel. 823150

WRVS LUNCH CLUB

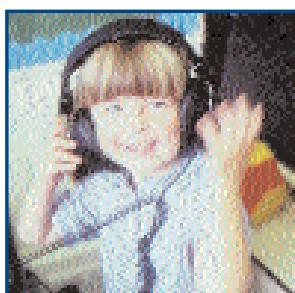
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