

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 122

SUMMER 2005



**PEMBURY IN BLOOM
ENTRY FORM
WITH THIS
EDITION**

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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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PEMBURY'S COMMUNITY WARDEN ON PATROL

YOU MAY have seen a tall, green and black uniformed figure walking around Pembury during the last few weeks. He is Tom Younger, Pembury's own Kent County Council community warden, now on duty after an intensive eight week training period. Commenting on his role, Tom says: *"We are the eyes and ears of the police rather than having any formal powers as such."*

Indeed, community wardens' responsibilities include 'responding to reported incidents of anti-social behaviour and providing a response to residents in times of crisis, mediating where possible, making referrals to the police and other appropriate agencies and acting as Professional Witness for Anti-Social Behaviour Orders when required, to ensure that problems are dealt with in a speedy manner in order to prevent further disruption.'

Wardens act as an important channel through which residents can contact the right people about community safety and crime issues, including anti-social behaviour. They are to listen to the concerns of local residents and provide advice. By establishing a visible presence in the village, Tom will provide reassurance to the public as well as gathering information about community safety problems such as burned-out vehicles, vandalism, graffiti, abandoned buildings

He also has the role of establishing community links through liaison with local community organisations, such as the Parish Council and the Pembury Community Partnership. He particularly wants to establish good relations with youth groups and individuals, and would like to set up additional activities which encourage younger residents to join in rather than feel excluded. His previous experience as a teacher and current involvement in youth activities in Tunbridge Wells should stand him in good stead.

In brief, Tom wishes to engage with people and establish a strong relationship with the local community. So, when you see him around, do say hello and feel free to discuss your concerns with him; he has a sympathetic and helpful ear. Contact Tom on 07813 694138.

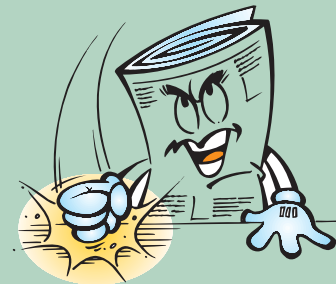


*Tom Younger with Barbara Russell,
Pembury Parish Clerk*

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 August 2005.*

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





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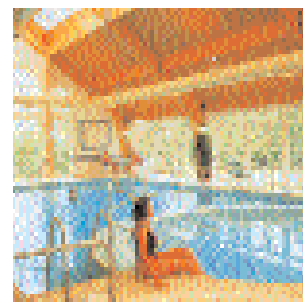
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BRUCE BALLANTINE 1942-2005

HIGHLY RESPECTED, unstinting in his friendship, clear-sighted, intellectual yet practical, cultured, civilised and courteous; these are a few of the tributes made about Pembury Borough Councillor Bruce Ballantine who died in March after a feisty battle against cancer.

David Mills, fellow Liberal Democrat Councillor, remembers: "It's been said that if you want something done you should ask a busy man! That seems to me to encapsulate Bruce's approach to life. He was a man of so many and such varied aspects. He had an extraordinarily successful business career, he worked in Europe, he devoted a great deal of time to his work for charity, for young people, for the arts, on the Borough Council – not to speak of his passion for golf . . . ! He gave everything to each of these but he could still always find the time to help someone who needed him.

"I first met Bruce towards the end of 1995. I had been elected to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council earlier that year and a number of mutual friends thought he and I could work well together. Busy as he was, he agreed to let his name go forward as a candidate for the following year's election.

"Having done that, of course, he became enthusiastic. I think he's the only candidate for election I've ever seen running from house to house when canvassing! That was the thing he enjoyed – going out and talking to people. By then he'd lived in Pembury for 25 years. The village knew him and trusted him. He'd been involved in community affairs for a long time already (he'd been a leading campaigner for the



by-pass, for instance, and had been a Parish Councillor for a time in the 1970s). So, he won the election in May 1996 and held the seat through several further elections until his death.

"So, he was a Borough Councillor for just under nine years. Not an unusually long period but he made a considerable impact in that time.

He held important and responsible positions in

such areas as 'Best Value'; he was Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee, one of the most important elements of the 'checks and balances' structure designed to monitor the Council's procedures. He was one of the few who thoroughly understood the intricacies of local government finance. He 'networked' very effectively, developing good relationships with other Councillors and Council staff. He followed this pattern in the community, too, he was always sensitive to Pembury opinion, and was able to achieve much for individuals, for this village and for the Borough.

During all this time he was as busy as ever in other fields. He would go to Brussels for the day on business and be back in time for a Council meeting. As a school governor (Tunbridge Wells High School and Tunbridge Wells Girls' Grammar School), he not only brought his expertise to serve the schools but helped with mentoring individual students. He was a patron of the Tunbridge Wells International Young Concert Artists Competition, a Trustee of Hospice in the Weald . . . one could go on, and on.

continued on page 7

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M.O.T. TESTS

BRUCE BALLANTINE 1942-2005 *continued*

Above all, he was a man concerned with people, who loved working with people and for people. A community-minded man. An esteemed and admired colleague. To so many of us and to our village of Pembury, a good and valued friend.”

Paul Barrington-King, Pembury’s other (Conservative) Borough Councillor adds: “As a fellow Borough Councillor I came to recognize that Bruce was not only a respected politician but also a fine human being. This was reinforced last year, as a result of the tragic loss of my young brother-in-law, Bruce took the time and trouble to convey not only his condolences to my wife and myself but also his unconditional support in the days that followed. The cruel way that he was taken from us has left many of us with a feeling of injustice and great loss. The great fortitude and dignity that his wife Barbara and their family displayed was an example to us all. Rest in peace Bruce, your efforts will long be remembered and you will always have a place in our hearts.”

Sarah Clarke, Pembury Parish Council Chairman until May 2005, recalls: “Bruce was a most supportive and outspoken representative for Pembury and I think that the representation at his funeral spoke volumes. He was concerned with the political process but at a local level he wanted always to do what was right for the village and for the very many people he looked after. He was wise and witty, a pleasure to be with and to work with.”

Born in Edinburgh 62 years ago, Bruce graduated from Edinburgh University then from the Manchester Business School with an MBA. He worked for BP for more than 30 years, in a wide range of jobs, finishing as a General Manager in BP Oil and BP Chemicals.

Bruce then worked in Brussels for many years and was strongly connected with the prestigious European Policy Centre there until his death. Bruce was Rapporteur of their Risk Forum and Director of their Better Regulation Programme. He was the author of many EPC Papers on European governance development, the role and politicisation of science and the precautionary principle. His particular strengths centred on the concepts of regulatory impact analysis, particularly relating to EU regulatory activities and the quality of risk management in the European Union. His contribution to these issues was pioneering.

He was a special adviser to various groups on issues affecting the competitiveness of businesses, with particular reference to small and medium sized businesses, regulatory reform and risk analysis. He also advised the OECD on regulatory reform as well as the Competitiveness Advisory Group, the European Commission and the Economic and Social Committee on a range of subjects related to improving the competitiveness of industry.

Bruce was the author of a number of reports and lectures on business strategy, entrepreneurship, information technology and innovation at leading European business schools and Senior Visiting Research Fellow at Kingston Business School.

“Bruce had an exceptional array of qualities – a strategic thinker, a fine intellect, technical expertise and a lucid writer. He was both a leader and a team player. Above all, he was a fine man. He will be sorely missed by us all.” (Hans Martens, Chief Executive, and Stanley Crossick, Founding Chairman, The European Policy Centre).

Bruce is survived by Barbara, his wife of 40 years, (active in Pembury particularly in the Evening WI and Pembury Tennis Club) and by their daughter, Alex, and son, Mark.

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DROP-INS INSTANT CONTAINER GARDENING

VILLAGE QUIZ MAY 2005

THE ANNUAL Village Quiz is now an established event on our busy social calendar. Superbly organized by the Pembury Scouts and Guides members, this year's event did not disappoint. The Master of Ceremonies, Keith Merrin who was ably supported by his son Adam, excelled himself by combining the qualities of Magnus Magnusson with Leonard Sachs! The 'Master of the Mike' kept us entertained throughout the evening with canny expertise.

Janet Ditchett's hard work in the provision of the questions was

well-rewarded as we were tested across a broad spectrum of knowledge. The endeavours of the kitchen team kept us fed and watered as we fought our way through several rounds with much good humour and competitive banter. With twenty-six teams battling up to the final minutes we reached the climax with the worthy winners, the Pembury Footpath Walkers, retaining their title. They won a cheque for £200.00 to be donated to the charity of their choice. For those who have not experienced the great enjoyment and good organization of this function, I would recommend that you sign up for next year at the earliest opportunity.

Paul Barrington-King



Left to right, Peter Parfitt, Brian Toseland, David Coleman (Pembury Parish Council Chairman), Neil Franklin, Kathryn Franklin, Martha Toseland and Margaret Pettitt.

PEMBURY MILLENNIUM RECORD GOES TO PEMBURY LIBRARY

DEREK JOHNSON, immediate Past Chairman of the Pembury Society and Simon Galwey, last Chairman of the Millennium Committee, recently presented Pembury Library with the official copy of the village's record of the Millennium year in Pembury. The original Pembury Millennium Book went to the County Archive in Maidstone in November 2004 (see Pembury Village News, Winter 2004 edition).



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PEMBURY 2005?

THIS IS what remained of the YMCA building at Woodside playing fields in April as piece by piece it was demolished by children too young to be called vandals.

It had served the village well as a youth club and local social centre and was in the process of moving to the football club use. But children, apparently uncontrolled by family or friends (or even 'authority'), decided otherwise.

David Coleman

Editor's postscript: As the building was a health and safety hazard, the Parish Council has now had it demolished and cleared.



PARISH BREAK-IN – A BLIP

THE BURNT-OUT shell of a truck, smoking and still warm, was discovered in front of the Woodside Road Parish depot by an allotment holder on the morning of 19 March. Parish officials were called out and were shocked to discover that it was the remains of the Pembury Parish Council Hilux work truck. Thieves had broken into the depot during the night, stolen a trailer with mower and, perhaps frustrated in that they could not move the truck, they set fire to it.

Police attended and after advice from the crime prevention team, the depot was secured and other minor damage remedied. However, the loss of the truck meant that a replacement vehicle had to be hired so that Parish Staff, already stretched by their increasing work load, could at least carry on with their basic duties.

Our aim in reporting this unhappy incident is not to cast a shadow over good community engagement or to cause depression to the 'good guys' who work hard to make Pembury a great place to live. Rather, it is to illustrate our resilience to cope with such things and to praise the resourcefulness of our groundstaff, our clerk and deputy clerk who worked hard to get everything back to normal.



On the positive side of the scales in Pembury are all the clubs, societies, youth groups, the community partnership, churches, the active school association, and village events like the quiz, musical picnic and fete, not to mention all the charity fundraising, community environmental work and all those little touches that most individuals bring like colourful gardens, politeness and friendliness in the streets and shops. So all in all, not a bad place to be . . .

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SNIPPETS

Vacancy for Parish Councillors

Due to the retirement of Sarah Clarke and Richard Crouch from Pembury Parish Council two casual vacancies have arisen. Anybody interested in applying for the positions should contact the Clerk of the Council, 6 The Grove, Pembury TN2 4BU, tel/fax 823193, email pemburypc@pembury.org as soon as possible for an information pack and application. A formal notice will be posted on Parish notice boards on 17 June.

Local election

Following the death of Borough Councillor Bruce Ballantine, an election is to be held on 30 June for a third Borough Councillor for Pembury, joining Paul Barrington-King and David Mills, our other representatives. Nominations closed on 3 June. Voting in elections is important; it is your chance to express an opinion so please think seriously about taking part. Polling stations will be at Pembury School and the Village Hall 8am to 9pm. Applications for postal votes must be with the Returning Officer at Tunbridge Wells Town Hall by 5pm on 22 June 2005.

Folk Music Evening

The Friends of Pembury Parish Church are holding an evening of folk music at 7.30pm in the Upper Church on Saturday 25 June. No tickets are required but donations in aid of the Organ Restoration Fund would be very welcome. Light refreshments will be available. We look forward to seeing you.

Having a Burn-Up . . .

A little gentle reminder now that the growing season is in full throttle to people who regularly burn garden rubbish. Please consider your neighbours who may be relaxing on a quiet Sunday afternoon in our very elusive British summer, or have just put their nice clean washing out in the morning. Often it just requires a little thought, a bit of give and take.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council gives the following advice: "Bonfires are permitted if they do not give off black smoke or cause nuisance to neighbours, so please be

considerate. If you wish to complain about a bonfire please call the Environmental Protection Team on 554235 or e-mail envprotection@tunbridgewells.gov.uk"

'Nuff said!

Pembury in Bloom

The closing date for all categories is Monday, 11 July 2004. Judging takes place shortly afterwards and the winners' names will be announced at a special presentation tea to be held at Notcutts. Entry forms are enclosed with this Village News, also available from Pembury Parish Council (contact details page 38) and from Notcutts Garden Centre, Tonbridge Road, Pembury.

A load of old rubbish . . .

I received an email recently with the following interesting comment: "With the advent of brown bins and green paper boxes, I have noticed that while the vast majority of residents are considerate and do not leave their bins outside on the street except on collection day, there are some homes, particularly around some of the public rights of way at the edge of the village, where individuals just simply leave their bins and green boxes outside their houses permanently.

While there was just one green bin, this was not too bad, although there was still the issue of someone interfering and emptying the contents all over the place if they took a mind to. However, with two bins and a paper box, this is unsightly to say the least."

It probably hasn't occurred to those leaving their bins out permanently that it could be a problem for others. Has to be worth a quick check to see if your bin collection is impeding the public rights of way or just looking a bit grim to other residents and visitors . . .

Doggy doo-doo

Most people would not relish having a public lavatory for humans on the verge in front of their house with the attendant mess and smell. Neither should householders have to put up

continued on page 15



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SNIPPETS *continued from page 13*

with the equivalent from dogs. Now, dogs are not toilet-trained like humans, but their owners can be. A Pembury resident has asked us to ask all dog owners to be responsible by using plastic bags and clearing up after their own dogs. She is fed up with picking up droppings and spending huge amounts on disinfectant outside her house.

The Parish provides special bins for the filled bags at the Lower Green Recreational Ground and Woodhill Park entrances and in the lane by Pembury School to the burial ground.

From Larkfield to Pepenbury

From 1 May 2005 Larkfield changed its trading name to PEPENBURY.
Find out more on page 25.

Printer's error

Our esteemed publisher, Laurie Frowde of TMH, has held his hand up to a (very rare) printing error in the last edition. The Chairman of Pembury Cricket Club is Denis Cole not David Cole as stated on page 21.

A Lost Friend

We were emailed from Australia with this query: "I am not sure if you can help me or not but I am hoping you may help me locate a dear friend. She is Lucia, daughter of the Elliston Family who lived at The Oast, Past Heap Farm, Pembury TN2 4BL.

I have a feeling her mother may have been a doctor . . . can't be too sure. I met Lucia 16 years ago in Airlie Beach, Australia and saw her last in 1994 when she visited me again with her son Shannon, then aged approx 12 months

old. I am hoping that maybe someone will know of her parents or their whereabouts which may lead me to Lucia. – Tristin Tyler (formerly Green)"

Any helpful replies please to either webmaster@pepembury.org or to the Editor by post (see page 2 for details)

Coffee morning – advance notice

The Friends of Pembury Parish Church will be holding their annual coffee morning on the Village Green on Saturday 3 September between 10am and 12 noon. If wet, then in St Peter's Upper Church.

There will be many attractive stalls including cakes, handicrafts, gifts, books, 'posh junk', preserves, plants FPPC items, a tombola and, of course, refreshments. Do put this date in your diaries and come along and support us. For more details, contact Bidy Wilson on 822029 who can also collect any non-perishable items.

The FRED Club

Fun, Recreation, Endeavour, Determination – these are the aims of the club which is for people with physical disabilities from 16 to the young at heart. Members meet on Wednesdays at the YMCA Centre in Sherwood between 10am and 14.45pm.

The FRED Club is looking for a new co-ordinator, ideally somebody or a couple nearing retirement who could spend some time running this lively and extremely rewarding club. Contact Mrs Daisy Fletcher on 540618 for more information.

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WARDEN SURGERIES

TOM YOUNGER, our new Community Warden (featured on page 3), will be holding regular fortnightly surgeries in conjunction with High Weald Housing Association.

He will be at Camden Court between 1pm and 3pm every other week with effect from 6 June. He will be happy to discuss any village issues or to chat generally.

Do call Tom on 07813 694138 for more information.

FOUR MORE YEARS – THANK YOU PEMBURY!

AS I WRITE this piece, the County and Parliamentary elections are over for another four years. Our new Member of Parliament is Greg Clark who takes over from Archie Norman.

For me, it was a hard fought campaign. One third of my constituency – St James' ward – is brand new to me, and my opponent has been Borough Councillor there for seventeen years!

Nevertheless, the people of Pembury and

Sherwood have thankfully returned me once more as County Councillor, and I can continue to do my best for you all.

My first four years saw a great deal of action – the youth facility, a major road maintenance programme, a new KCC Community Warden, new classrooms at Pembury Primary School – the list goes on, and most if not all of these initiatives are at a crucial stage.

Many of you will have seen the red tarmac 'bands' at the key entry and exit points to the village. These contain speed limit roundels, and they will shortly be augmented by giant picket screens holding further speed limit signs. These 'village gateways' have been installed with great success in Five Oak Green and elsewhere across the County, and it is hoped that speeds will decrease once they are installed in Pembury. However, just in case further persuasion is required, you will recall the 'SpeedWatch' initiative. KCC funding is

now with the Parish Council, and Kent Police are organising training for our band of resident volunteers. Whatever else might occur in Pembury, we hope all speeding traffic will pass by!



Kevin Lynes, County Councillor for Pembury and Greg Clark, new MP for Tunbridge Wells

You may have seen in the local papers, news of Pembury's Community Warden, Tom Younger. One or two of you have mentioned seeing Tom with Nigel Bond, his 'shadow' from Hawkhurst, patrolling the

village. At this stage, Tom's job is to get to know the area, and meet the various organisations in Pembury, picking up snippets of information and intelligence as he begins to integrate into village life. If you see Tom in his green and black KCC Community Warden uniform, please say hello!

As I begin my next four year term as County Councillor for Pembury, I'd like to close by giving you my contact details – I'm here to help, and if there's anything you'd like to discuss with me, or anything I can assist with, please feel free to make contact:
Telephone (Home) – 01892 890922
Telephone (County Hall) – 01622 694101
Telephone (Mobile) – 07834 308015
eMail: kevin.lynes@kent.gov.uk
website: www.kevinlynes.com

Thanks again for putting your faith in me – I promise I won't let Pembury down.

Kevin

“WHEELIE” FOR TSUNAMI

LIKE MANY people, the Rangers in Pembury were shocked by the Asian Tsunami and wanted to do something to help.

In true Guiding spirit they organised something different – a sponsored “Wheelie” Appeal, five laps of a circuit on any form of wheels. The event was held at Longmead, the Tunbridge Angels football ground on Saturday 5 February. There were over 30 girls, and a very strange selection of wheels: bikes, scooters, roller blades, prams, a Tesco trolley, a wheelbarrow, a wheelchair . . . You get the idea.

We had great fun and raised over £700 for the Tsunami Appeal. Thank you to the parents who stood and laughed with us and to the Guiders who gave their time once again.

Moira Allan, District Commissioner



Angela Baker and Vicky Penfold starting one of their five laps

PEMBURY ATHLETIC YOUTH FOOTBALL CLUB UNDER 9's

THE UNDER 9s team is part of the incredibly successful PAYFC, which involves nearly 300 youngsters. This young team has had a remarkable season with its many victories being gained by an inclusive and non-selective approach. This was ably demonstrated when I accompanied them to a series of matches in Holland where they triumphed against some very high-class opposition from Rotterdam and Amsterdam (4 wins, 2 draws and 2 losses). The officials and parents involved with this team have worked tirelessly; the coaches are excellent (contact Steve Dunkerley for more info 07834 841192).

I have worked with Mark Brunton from VitalNuts of the Little Hawkwel Business Centre, Pembury (third from the left, back row, in light blue shirt) to assist securing a three year sponsorship for the team and was very pleased to attend the official launch with Mark. James Cunningham, landlord of the Camden Arms in Pembury kindly supported the launch by providing free food and refreshments.

With our community efforts now hopefully coming to fruition to improve our village recreational facilities, we are now beginning to offer our youngsters the facilities they deserve and all of us in Pembury can share in the support and success of our youth.

Paul Barrington-King



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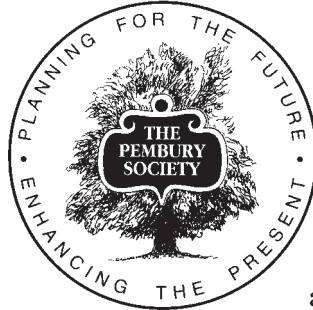
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THE PEMBURY SOCIETY SPRING MEETING

MANY PEOPLE know Christine Sayell through her work with Pembury Baptist Church, but a packed village hall learnt a lot more about her on the evening of 7 April. Christine was the guest speaker at the Pembury Society Spring Meeting and her impassioned talk was thought provoking.

After a visit to Maputo in Mozambique Christine and a group of friends were so shocked by the living conditions of some of the orphans that they embarked on fund raising to ensure that the childrens' lives would change. There is now a school, fresh water and much better living

conditions. Christine also sponsors two children from the orphanage.



The talk was illustrated with a series of slides which emphasised how happy the children were in their new surroundings. I think that everyone came away from the hall that night full of admiration for Christine and her team and also perhaps thinking how lucky we are with our lives.

It was encouraging to see so many people at the meeting and look forward to seeing you at the Village Fete.

Jan Hovey

PEMBURY SCHOOL FETE – SATURDAY 2 JULY

THE BEER will be cold, the BBQ hot, and the entertainment totally traditional. This year promises to be a fun-packed day for everyone. The brave can tackle the mega-assault course, whilst the less adventurous can browse the many stalls – including sweet mine, coconut shy, white elephant etc. For our entertainment, we have Amberside Dance Studio, as well as traditional maypole dancing and tug-of-war. The young ones will love the bouncy castle, Punch & Judy and under-5s play area.

Add the date to your diary now – gates open at 1.30pm.

JOANY BONES RETIREMENT CONCERT

TWENTY YEARS ago, Joan Bruno went to a guide meeting with her daughter. She stayed to help and now after 18 years as a qualified leader she has hung up her hat (and that changed several times over the years). She doesn't regret any of it, *"I have done so many things with the girls I would never have done if it wasn't for the Guides,"* she says.

'A Trip Down Memory Lane' was the title of the excellent concert put on in her honour. It was a magnificent achievement organised by 'Jay' with her two noble assistants who will continue running the 1st Pembury Guides for many years to come.

Janet Ditchett



Joan, left, with Jay

PEMBURY ONLINE COMMUNITY FORUM

PEMBURY HAS had an online email group since March 2001, it was created following a comment at the Annual Parish meeting that year. It has had its ups and downs over the years. Some months there have been lots of messages, other months hardly anything at all.

The group has had one failing in that some of the topics have been a turn off for some people. Any message sent to the group ended up in everyone's inbox whether the subject interested them or not.

Enter the new Pembury Online Community Forum. This is similar to the email group in that people can register on the Forum and view the messages and reply to the messages. But it is different in that the messages are not sent out as email into your inbox, so when you visit the forum you can choose which messages to read and which ones to ignore.

If you are looking for a comparison, listening to the news on the radio is like the email group, to get to the story that interested you; you have to listen to all of the stories. Where as with, say, a newspaper or the Pembury Village News you can pick out the stories that interest you, which is like our new Forum.

There is a link to the Forum on the Pembury Village News website www.pembury.org Once on the forum, click on the Register icon, it will then present you with a form to fill in, the minimum information required is a username, password and your email address. Your email address is not made public. There are also fields for details about yourself, but filling these in is optional. Use of the Forum is free, and is open to everybody.

Once you log in you will be able to see the topics that we have set up to start off with. These have been created based on subjects that have been discussed over the years on the Pembury email group. New topics are being added all the time and there is a specific area for requesting and discussing new topics. And virtually anything goes as far as subject matter is concerned . . . as long as it's legal, of course!

At the time of writing there are about 24 people registered on the forum and the number of articles posted to the forum is about 240 but increasing on a daily/weekly basis, with a spread of subjects across all topics.

The new forum has encouraged new people in the village to join in, people that were not previously on the email group.

Jody Lloyd, one of the new forum members, said "This forum is achieving open communications for the whole community both informative information for all to share and the added ability to feel actively involved".

If you would like more details then contact me

Steve Morton – stevemorton@pembury.org



PEMBURY PEOPLE – BETTY HOWELL

BETTY HOWELL, long-time resident of Pembury and Chief Executive of the Pembury-based charity – Compaid Trust.

Many of us in the village are aware of the excellent work undertaken by our many local charities. The Compaid Trust, based at Pembury Hospital, is one such charitable organization and it is their Chief Executive, Betty Howell, whom I have featured as this edition's Pembury Person. I recently had the opportunity to visit the headquarters of the Trust and, apart from recognizing many familiar faces, I was astonished to see the breadth of inclusive computer-based activity being facilitated by Betty's devoted team. Everything from computer-based learning programmes to full scale production of materials such as celebratory cards is provided.

Betty began her working life as a tracer but her abilities were soon recognised and she became one of the first female draughtsmen in the country, working for the GPO and later for Hunting's at Bedford. *"In those days"*, recounts Betty, *"women did not wear trousers to work and I was not allowed on the GPO tower construction site."* Later, a suggestion by Betty led to all utility vehicles and operators in the UK being identified with Day-Glo yellow paint. Betty added *"They tried pink but the men refused to wear the jackets!"*.

Betty with her late husband, Eric, moved into the house in Pembury she still lives in today as a result of Eric's company being relocated to Tunbridge Wells in 1972. Betty, who was brought up in Essex, remembers how quiet Pembury seemed in the early 1970s even though the A21 ran through the village and there were no traffic lights. Despite being diagnosed as having progressive rheumatoid arthritis in 1974, Betty began volunteering for local charities such as Meals on Wheels and the WRVS Luncheon Club. *"I got told off by my GP*

when he discovered I was carrying the heavy boxes containing the hot meals", says Betty. *"He said that most of the elderly people I was serving were fitter than me!"* In addition to this considerable workload she also helped run the local Pembury village Cubs and still gets recognised by members of her old pack.



Betty first met Lorna Ridgway, the founder of COMPAID Trust, at the Seven Springs Leonard Cheshire Home in the late 1970s and in 1986 found herself 'promoted' to being book-keeper for the new charity. As Betty states: *"I'm a quick learner and Lorna certainly kept us on our toes"*. COMPAID Trust, which now helps disabled adults through the use of computers for therapy, education and recreation, began as an advice centre but quickly changed

when it was realised what a powerful tool computers can be in helping disabled people develop new skills.

When Lorna Ridgway died in 1994 Betty took on the responsibility of running COMPAID Trust, by then based in two temporary buildings in the grounds of Pembury Hospital. Betty adds *"We now have a fleet of nine special needs-adapted vehicles that we use to bring clients to our Day Centre and we run a dial-a-ride service taking elderly and disabled people to shops and amenities"*. Not content with one 'social enterprise', Betty and her staff have developed the highly successful Office Bureau service, offering short-run, specialist printing for weddings, special occasions, etc. The Office Bureau is responsible for COMPAID's unique range of greetings cards, using artwork created in the Day Centre. The distinctive cards provide additional income and also promote the charity. I am sure that all of us in Pembury accord with Betty when she concludes that *"I'm proud of what COMPAID Trust has been able to achieve and the support the local community gives us"*. So say all of us!

Paul Barrington-King



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BENTINCKS FARM AND THE CASE OF THE PHANTOM SIGN REMOVER!

ONE SATURDAY morning in February we drove out of our farm to find that someone had removed all four signs bearing the name of the farm at the main entrance. Two of the signs we had carved out of wood and two were made from those “stick on” letters that are reflective at night.

Suddenly we were nameless . . . the sign on the secondary entrance disappeared at Christmas even more dramatically when the gates were stolen. The sign on that occasion was a minor loss although curiously half the sign reappeared in the road side ditch between Matfield and Brenchley in early April. So we were completely nameless apart from the one sign that was left . . . that was the original sign for the farm before we changed the name.

This was not vandalism as we are all used to in the area. This was done so that all the signs were removed unscrewing the wooden sign from on top of the old sign so as not to damage it – the lost letters are now roaming around somewhere and have still not been recovered.

Why did we change the name of the farm?

The access to the farm had been altered in the 1980s, separating Herring Mill Farmhouse from Herrings Mill Farm. In 1995 Herrings Mill farm and Three Towns Farm were merged together and the name of the farm for the farming community and postal purposes became Herring Mill Farm. The separation of

Herring Mill Farmhouse and Herring Mill Farm had, by the time we bought the farm in 2003, started to cause a lot of confusion.

Herrings Mill Farm is not actually shown on the Ordnance Survey map but Three Towns Farm is, as is Herring Mill House on Bramble Reed Lane. This didn't help for people trying to deliver things to the farm! Often the Herring Mill farmhouse would have to redirect delivery men back up Romford road. Some of them would end up half way up their garden before they could be stopped!!

So we decided, as we moved in, to change the name of the farm to make it clear going forward that the farm entrance wasn't next to Herring Mill farmhouse. Once we had decided to do this we had to think of a name. We wanted to follow farming tradition and use a family name – “Bentinck” is a family name and therefore has strong connections for all of us.

We love the farm and the name change means that everyone knows where we are and how to find us and hopefully Bentinck Farm will replace Three Towns Farm on the next update of the ordinance survey map. In the meantime, we have put up new signs but would love our old ones back.

Please give them back!!

Kate Lindsay-Bayley and family
Bentinck Farm, Romford Road, Pembury

PEMBURY SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

WE MEET every Monday evening, except Bank Holidays, in the Catholic Hall from 7.45pm until 10pm practicing and learning new dances. Admission is £2 which includes tea or coffee and biscuits.

Our Saturday dances, which are more formal are held in the Village Hall on alternate months i.e. our next dances will be 13 August, 8 October and 10 December which is our annual Dinner Dance. Cost of admission here is £3. Contact Mrs Marion Warren 01892 547617 for more details.

PEMBURY IN THE PAST

Hop Picking 1950s

Our regular correspondent Eileen Hicks has sent in a photo of hop pickers at the Cedric Forbes Farm, Kippings Cross.

Left: Peggy Brooks with daughter Brenda; middle: Kitty Stewart; right, Jack Brown and Dolly Brown, all of whom lived in Bulls Place, Pembury.



Margaret Gritten (maiden name Francis) lived in Pembury from 1936-1958, married and moved to the West Country and after 38 years retired to Spain.

“This is a treasured photo as I was lucky enough to win the show. Photo taken, I think, July-Aug 1937.

Hopefully the unknown names will be available from a member of the village.

Photo taken July-Aug 1937 in the Pembury Recreation ground. It was the annual Baby Show for the Pembury Fête. I have tried to name as many as I can.

Back Row (left to right): Mrs Duke with daughter Milly; Mrs Foord with Daphney; Mrs Francis with Margaret – (my mother);

Next four – unknown.

The nurse – Nurse Smith – was for many years the Pembury midwife who delivered many a Pembury person!

Front Row: Mrs Lawrence with June; Next three – unknown; Mrs Flynn with Eileen; Mrs Woodhams with Shirley; Next one – unknown.

I hope this photo etc., will be of some interest. My daughter sends me the magazine as I am still very interested in the village. I had many happy years in the village. My mother passed away two years ago – she was 90 and had lived in Pembury since 1935. My father Charlie Francis died in 1985, a real village member and is known by many people who are still alive.”



PEMBURY VILLAGE TREASURE HUNT

SUNDAY 28TH August will see the running of a Pembury Village Treasure Hunt, starting and finishing at the Camden Car Park.

The first team will be set off at or just after 2pm for a course of about three to four miles on foot around the village. A map will be included to ensure that you don't get lost on the way round.

Clues will not be particularly difficult or mentally taxing, with the main object of the afternoon's amble is to give you the opportunity to see some of the lesser known

parts of the village which can often be overlooked. For those in dire need of refreshment at the end of the walk, you can visit the Camden Arms, where Steve will mark your answer sheets.

If you would like to take part please contact Steve Morton (email: stevemorton@pembury.org or tel: 824938) so that Steve can prepare enough question and answer sheets, the closing date for entries will be 25 August.

Steve Morton

PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FC UNDER 14s

THE YOUTH Football Club Under 14 squad recently enjoyed cup success in the Crowborough and District Junior Football League cup for their age group.

Having successfully made their way through the earlier rounds Pembury were faced with a final against a very strong team from Hastings, which had not lost a League or Cup match for about three years. We had narrowly lost to Hastings in the 2004 final but, having suffered two heavy defeats to Hastings during the season, players and supporters travelled in hope more than expectation to the final at Ringmer on 24 April. Team manager Jon Everest had assured the boys he was confident of victory, however the boys were clearly not so sure.

Despite starting promisingly, we were trailing 2-0 at half-time, even though Pembury had more of the attempts on goal. For the first 20 minutes of the second half Pembury played tremendously and scored three goals to lead 3-2. Was the dream of beating Hastings about to become a reality? Hastings exerted pressure but failed to threaten a goal. About 10 minutes from the end Hastings were awarded a dubious free kick 25 yards from goal. A speculative shot found its way into the goal – chins of spectators and players hit the floor.

The match finished 3-3 with no further goals during extra time leading to the agony or ecstasy of a penalty shoot out. Pembury players kept their nerve to win the cup, leading to joyful celebrations by players, club officials and supporters. The cup win was the highlight of the season for this age group who also finished runners up behind Hastings in the League. It is a real village success with 11 of the 14 players at the final living in Pembury. Congratulations to everyone associated with this age group.

The club continues to grow from strength to strength and we look forward to further success in future years.

Kevin Edser



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THE PLIGHT OF THE MAIDSTONE & TUNBRIDGE WELLS NHS SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB

THE MAIDSTONE & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust – Sports & Social Club Projects Committee has been asked to find a solution to the housing of the Sports & Social Club when the new PFI build starts. Unfortunately, the Sports & Social Club currently has no part to play in the new PFI build as all space is allocated to clinical needs. Since we have been part of the Pembury site for 30 years it is a shame to lose such assets for the staff and families of the Trust.

The Sports & Social Club Projects Committee has recently met Rose Gibb, Chief Executive of the Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust to negotiate our position. Rose Gibb gave us some key points she wants us to pursue to allow a new build and to evolve the business. She recommended the following:

1. To involve the local community;
2. To involve local business in a possible new build;
3. Partnerships with the community;
4. Allocation of space outside of the PFI footprint.

To date we have the backing of the Rt Hon

Ann Widdecombe, MP for Maidstone and The Weald, and Greg Clark, MP for Tunbridge Wells, who are working pro-actively in our favour. The next steps are the community involvement to assist with a solution and how we and the Trust can work together to rebuild our resources and benefit everyone.

I am requesting that anyone who reads this and can offer some help, advice or feels impelled to involve themselves with our projects committee to please feel free to contact me via our website <http://www.mtw-ssc.co.uk> or NHS discussion forum accessed through our website.

Our website is now split into three sections, NHS Discussion Forum, Sports & Social Club pages and the Sports & Social Club Projects Committee. On our site you will be able to find the next meeting dates and read our progress so far.

Thank you; I look forward to any community involvement.

Jody M. Lloyd, Chairman Projects Committee

PEPENBURY, FORMERLY KNOWN AS LARKFIELD (HALL)

MANY WILL have heard of us, many will not. Many will have driven past in Cornford Lane, been aware, but not really taken much notice of Larkfield, now known as Pepenbury. Some will know that we sell quality plants at competitive prices and fewer will have seen our craft shop and it will be news to nearly everybody that we will be opening a Charity Shop in Holden Park Road, Southborough in April or May.

For those who don't know, Pepenbury is home to 70 adults with learning difficulties; though no doubt you will have met some of our residents in the village or at Tesco.

It would be good if more locals visited us and bought from our good range of plants (especially from spring onwards) and looked in on our craft shop. In fact, we want to do more to encourage people to come down to see us and there are a number of exciting ideas that we have and that we would be pleased to share with you. If anybody is interested in knowing more, or, maybe, coming round in a group to be shown around, please contact (Nikki Richardson) on 822168 to arrange something. Anyway, you will have a chance to visit us on 18 September for our 'Taste of Kent' Autumn Fair.

Finally, any golfers amongst you might like to enquire about our Golf Day on 11 July. Just telephone Brenda Luff on 822168 for details and an application form.

Roy Brazier, Business Manager

JAN'S GARDEN VIEWS

OUR MOST favourite season of the year must surely be SUMMER. Of course, the weather is unpredictable, but we hope for long warm sunny days and balmy evenings to sit out and enjoy our gardens. June is one of the best months when all plants should be showing signs of renewed vigour, a time of expectancy for glorious blooms to come. We have enjoyed the first flush of May flowers as our spring bounty died away, and some of these can be encouraged to bloom a second time, such as the early hardy Geraniums. Cut them back to the base and water well, they will soon bounce back with fresh new growth and more flowers. The same can be done with several other perennials over the course of the season. *Alchemilla mollis* will produce fresh lime-green flowers with their delightful spangled foliage. Lupins, Delphiniums and early Heleniums will all give you extra blooms and do better still with a sprinkle of fish, blood and bone to boost their performance.

We really ought to wait till now to plant tender perennials such as Penstemons, Coreopsis and half-hardy Fuchsias, especially from cuttings you have taken last year. The young plants will have needed to harden off before planting into soil that has been improved with either compost or well-rotted manure/leaf-mould.

Annuals are very useful for filling spaces besides early flowering perennials that are over. They carry on until the first frosts and bring a blaze of colour where it is needed most. Don't forget to deadhead regularly for a continuous show of blooms. Do watch out for those beastly slugs and snails, they will destroy your efforts over night. Catch them with overturned empty halves of orange and grapefruit peel or our old favourite, small containers of beer – they can't resist it!

Staking and tying is necessary for your taller plants that need support, and prolongs the display. Any twiggy branches pushed into the ground will help and soon become disguised with foliage. Garden centres have supports for plants to grow through which are a good idea. Some, like Hollyhocks and Delphiniums, are

best tied individually to tall canes. Pass the tie loosely round the plant first, then tightly to the cane.

Water is a very precious commodity and needs to be used sparingly. In times of drought there are ways to prevent drying out. Plenty of organic matter worked into the ground and a thick mulch laid will help a lot. Always water in the evening, as in the daytime it evaporates fast. Water plants that benefit well from regular watering, such as Roses. Water butts retain rainwater placed strategically by guttering that gives a continuous flow. There are drip systems made from porous piping which enables water to ooze evenly into the soil when placed around the plants. These are environmentally friendly, virtually invisible and can be taken up and stored during winter.

Wind as well as heat induces water loss, so move containers to a shady sheltered spot if planning a holiday. A garden left unattended for a week or two will survive, with a bit of planning and extra gardening. Shrubs will need to be cut back that have finished flowering. Remove all flower heads and weeds. Mow lawns as the last job before you leave.

Some essential summer jobs:

- Tulips that need lifting must be dried and stored when their foliage has yellowed and shrivelled.
- Feed your perennials every two weeks with a potash rich plant food.
- Roses need their second fertilizer feed during June or early July.
- Pests and diseases need to be dealt with promptly.

Enjoy your summer garden.

Happy gardening!

Jan Davies



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. . . AND WE ALL HAVE OUR PARTS TO PLAY, whether or not we are conscious of its significance. You too can act . . . read the following and ask yourself if it reminds you of a situation with which you can identify.

1. You come in from a shopping trip wearing a brand new pair of Jimmy Choo sling backs . . . “No darling, I only paid a two-figure sum for them. They were ever such a bargain.” And you scuttle upstairs, hide the receipt and pray that he doesn’t scrutinise the credit card bill too closely.

2. Late for dinner again, you bowl in through the front door, try to ignore the fact that there is an empty plate by the bin and an atmosphere sliceable with a spatula . . . “Okay, I did pop into the pub for a quick one, but I promise it was only a half.”

3. Realising that you have fierce Miss Plummer for maths today, and you haven’t done your homework (again!) . . . “Mum, I’ve got the most dreadful stomach ache, it’s so agonising, I don’t think I’ll even make it to the front gate without doubling over.”

Yes, admit it or not, EVERYONE can act – we all do it every day. Only it’s so much more fun to do it legitimately, dressed up as someone else!

Even if you simply have a penchant for singing in the bath, regaling your friends with awful jokes or generally showing off, what you need is a forum to do it all the time . . . and Pembury Players need people like YOU.

Currently we are a small (but perfectly formed?!) band of 14, enthusiastic but rather stretched when it comes to performing material that requires . . . well, more than 14!



If you’ve recently moved to the village, retired or decided that you want to expand your horizons in a creative and sociable way, we are the solution you have been looking for . . . right on your doorstep.

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Maggie Weaver – 824362 or
Rachel Bennett – 824421.

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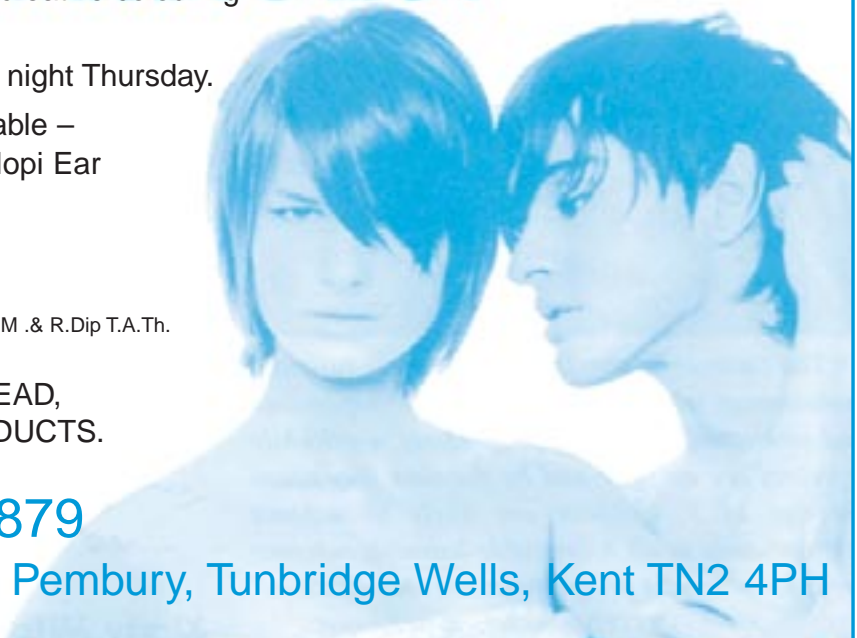
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MAIDSTONE ROAD

PEMBURY

(top of Colts Hill)

Telephone: 01892 824184

1ST PEMBURY SCOUT GROUP NEWS

10 FACTS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT SCOUTING

- Scouting is the UK's largest co-educational youth organisation.
- There are 30 million members of the Scouting movement around the world.
- There are only a few countries in which Scouting does not exist.
- With support from the World Organisation of the Scout Movement, Scouting is gradually being introduced to Iraq.
- Over 100,000 people take part in Scouting every night of the week.
- An estimated 500million people have been Scouts since Scouting was formed.
- World Scout Jamborees (the next is in Chelmsford in 2007) involve participants from more countries than the Olympic Games.
- There are currently more members of the Scouting movement than at any time in the movements near 100-year history.
- The Scout Association's youth programme for young people – male and female – aged 6 to 25.



- DYB DYB DYB DOB DOB DOB [note the spelling] hasn't been used in Scouting since 1967. But, when it was used, it was an acronym for Do Your Best and Do Our Best.

We are now urgently looking for new leaders/adults for our Scout Troop in order to keep Scouting going in

Pembury. If you are interested in joining the local Scout Group and be one of the facts above then please ring 01892 511383 and leave a message or email pembury@tunbridgewellsscouts.org.uk

ScoutsReunited is a service that aims to help current and former Scouts from the United Kingdom and around the world meet up with old friends. Registration is free.

- **ScoutsReunited** allows you to find out what your old Scout friends are doing now;
- **ScoutsReunited** is supported by The Scout Association's official database. The site can help you contact the millions of people who have been in Scouting since it was founded in 1907;

The ScoutsReunited website is www.scoutsreunited.co.uk

BROWNIES

ON 27 MARCH, 3rd Pembury Brownies set off for Carrotty Wood in Tonbridge for their annual holiday. Sixteen brownies enjoyed activities including swimming, craft, cooking and a low-rope course complete with 'swamp area' with lots of mud!!!! They achieved their agility badge with the help of young leaders Nicola and Lianne. Kestrel and Barney also helped with the cook's badge and kept us all fed and watered throughout the four days.

Many thanks to all the helpers as we all had a terrific week.

Our Activity Day on 7 April proved to be both interesting and fun with 11 Brownies completing their Science Investigator Badge. Some experiments being messy and some tuneful! Teddies were bandaged and plastered but sent home intact – the Brownies having tried their hand at First Aid. A busy fun day was achieved by all.

Thanks to Laura, Nicola and Elizabeth for all their help.

Brown Owl Wendy
3rd Pembury Brownies

RECIPES

SUMMER IS the time to get out the barbecue and get cooking out of doors so why don't you make your own burgers?



1lb minced beef
1 large red onion, finely chopped
1 egg
1 handful fresh breadcrumbs
1 tsp coriander seeds, crushed
Pinch cumin seeds, crushed
Salt and pepper

Mix ingredients together. Form into four balls and flatten into burger shape. Pre-cook in the oven for about 20 minutes.

Cook when required on barbecue and serve with a grilled bun, lettuce, onion and tomato. Add ketchup if required.

BARBECUED BABY CORN

For 4 servings

350g (12oz) baby corn

Sauce

1 small onion chopped
1 tbsp vegetable oil
2 tbsp tomato ketchup
1 tsp white wine vinegar
1 tbsp Demerara sugar
1 tsp made English mustard
2 tbsp Worcestershire sauce
2 tbsp water
salt and pepper to taste.



Preparation

Cook corn in boiling water for 3 mins, drain well

Fry onion in oil until soft, add remaining sauce ingredients, bring to boil, stirring well, boil up for 3-5 mins until mixture is syrupy.

Put corn onto a double thickness of foil. Pour sauce over. Wrap foil up to make a parcel, sealing edges well.

Cook on a barbecue rack above medium to low coals for 15-20 mins.

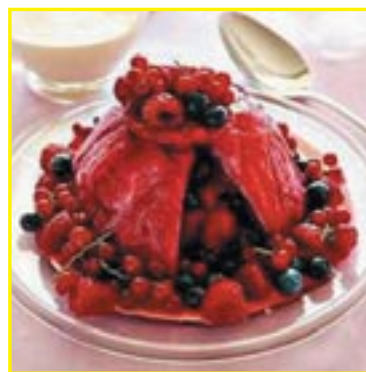
Serve with charcoal grilled kebabs, steaks or chops – or on their own.

SUMMER PUDDING

6 slices cut bread with the crusts removed

Fresh soft fruit as available: (blackcurrants, redcurrants, raspberries, strawberries and apple are suitable) stewed together, sufficient to fill a two-pint basin.

Add sugar and any other flavouring if required.



Line the basin with the bread and fill with the fruit. Add the last piece of bread to seal the top and place a small plate over the top to press the mixture into the basin. Leave overnight in the refrigerator and serve with a garnish of fresh fruit, ice cream or custard.

Enjoy!

Janet Ditchett and Rosemary Latter

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.

June

30 Local election – Village Hall and Pembury School – 8am to 9pm

July

1 Pembury Evening WI: Operation Knicker – Don Webster – Village Hall – 7.45pm
2 Farmers' Market on the Green – 8am to 12noon
2 Pembury School Association Fete: Pembury School – 1.30pm
2 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Camden Arms – 2.15pm
2 Kent College Prep School: Summer fair – 12noon to 3pm
2 St Peter's Photographic Club: Trip to Dunorlan Park – details 822030
6 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Outing – River trip to Bodiam Castle – details 822769
7 Pembury Afternoon WI: Reflections Past and Present – Village Hall – 2pm
9 VILLAGE FETE ON THE GREEN – 2 to 5pm
9 Pembury Gardeners: Summer Show – Village Hall – 2.30pm
9 Hospice in the Weald: Silver Anniversary Ball – Hop Farm, Paddock Wood – details 820500
11 Pembury in Bloom closing date – see enclosed leaflet
11 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
16 Pembury Hospital BBQ and Games – 12 noon to 3pm
18* Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm. Change from previously published date
30 Rhythm Dance Club – Details from Laurie and Pauline 01892 654867

August

3 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Members' garden party – contact Secretary for details 822769
4 Pembury Afternoon WI: Members' meeting. For details contact 822267
5 Pembury Evening WI: Members' meeting. For details contact 824969
6 Farmers' Market on the Green – 8am to 12noon
6 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
8 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
13 St Peter's Photographic Club: Trip to Lewes – details 822030
13 Pembury Sequence Dance Club: Saturday Dance – details Mrs Marion Warren 547617
15-19 Tunbridge Wells Borough Council: Multi-sports for children – Lower Green Recreation Ground – 9.45am to 12.15pm – call Elsie Rendall on 01892 526121
20 Rhythm Dance Club – Details from Laurie and Pauline 01892 654867

September

1 Pembury Afternoon WI: Venice – Village Hall – 2pm
2 Pembury Evening WI: Homeopathy, Alternative Medicine – Village Hall – 7.45pm
3 Friends of Pembury Parish Church: Coffee morning & sale – Village Green – 10am
3 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Bo-Peep Corner – 2.15pm
7 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Growing up in Pembury' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
10 PAYFC: Bike Ride to France – details 824022
10 Pembury Gardeners: Autumn Show – Village Hall – 2.30pm
10-11 'The Noise in Pembury' Community projects, teaching, worship, celebration – Pembury Baptist Church – Contact Jemma 825590 for details
12 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
12 Floral Art – Village Hall – 8pm
17 Dragon Boat Racing – Bewl Water – details of Compaid sponsored lake rescue 824060
18 Peperbury (previously Larkfield): 'Taste of Kent' Autumn Fair – details 822168
24 Barn Dance: British Heart Foundation fundraiser – Village Hall – 7.30pm. Tickets 824250

CRIME IN PEMBURY

IN THE LAST issue of the parish magazine, I stated that there should be a noticeable reduction in the next figures to be published, i.e. Jan, Feb, and March 2005. I couldn't have been more wrong. The figure actually rose to 74 and I cannot find an equal to that in the records I have kept.

Many thanks to the people who took the time and trouble to contact the police and obtain incident numbers, that is the only way we can get a picture of what is really happening on our streets. Whilst I do not like criticising police at local level, unfortunately a recent incident tells me that there is no improvement in communication facilities and response.

Certain local people, who had had enough of continual night-time yob harassment, foul language, emptying of rubbish bins, bottles being thrown at their houses, sometimes at 2.30am, contacted me because of their lack of confidence in the police system. So I took it on board to contact the police myself and despite telling them CCTV footage was available, 70 hours later no contact had been made with the complainant.

Regardless of what our three main party leaders tell us, whose endless rhetoric at election time would have us believe that they are all members of the Magic Circle, i.e. one

can produce 10,000 more police, another 25,000 and so on, it is time they stopped the waffle and collectively produced some positive action. They are fortunate in as much that they are provided with round the clock protection paid for by us, the taxpayer.

We should then ask ourselves when does a youngster become a nuisance, a bully, a petty criminal, a serious criminal? Does it start at home, with parents foul mouthing in front of their children and showing a total disregard for any discipline or law and order? Do these children then go to school and foul mouth teachers and disrupt classes? Do other children then follow suit? How many parents give the teachers, who are actually trying to provide a future for their children, a hard time, and so on?

Collectively, because we allowed it to happen, teachers' hands are very much tied and it must be extremely frustrating for teachers and good parents alike. How many parents are aware that their fourteen and fifteen year olds, sometimes younger are out on the street at 11.30 at night and what they are up to. They're certainly not waiting for the chippy to open! I would also say to some of the parents, when your children join a school, they join a club. Live by its rules.

One last word goes to Mr Mike Fuller, Chief Constable of Kent. I attended the meeting at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council last year with many other parish representatives and, Mr Fuller, despite many promises, local people have yet to see any reduction in the level of local crime and harassment as discussed at that meeting.

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	Other Offences	TOTAL
January 2005	5	1	1	9	2		2	2	1	7		30
February 2005	4	2		6	1		3			5	1	22
March 2005	1		1	5	3	1	7	1		3		22
TOTAL	10	3	2	20	6	1	12	3	1	15	1	74
ROAD												
A21B							1					1
Beagles Wood Road				1			1					2
Bellfield Road		1					1					2
Brickfields				1								1
Bulls Place	2						1					3
Elmhurst Avenue			1	1								2
Hastings Road	2	1		2			1	1			1	8
Henwood Green Road				5			2		1	2		10
Henwoods Mount				1								1
High Street	2		1	2	6	1	1			2		15
Lower Green Road	1	1		6			1	1		1		11
Maidstone Road										1		1
Old Church Road										7		7
Romford Road	1			1								2
Tonbridge Road	1						2			2		5
Woodhill Park	1						1	1				3
TOTAL	10	3	2	20	6	1	12	3	1	15	1	74

REMOVAL OF UNWANTED VEHICLES

TUNBRIDGE WELLS Borough Council has reduced the cost of its service to remove and dispose of residents' unwanted cars to £15 until September 2005.

Unwanted vehicles that are abandoned illegally by their owners have a negative impact on the local street scene, can attract anti-social behaviour and be a target for deliberate fires. Their removal also has a significant resource implication for the Council.

To make the borough a cleaner and safer place the Council is keen to continue to reduce the number of cars abandoned in the area and by reducing the charge we hope to encourage more residents to use the service to dispose of their unwanted vehicles in a responsible manner.

When a car is taken all the pollutants and parts that can be recycled will be removed before the rest is disposed of. This is of greater benefit to the environment than just

dumping it and will also make sure the owner is not prosecuted. New legislation means that the last Registered Keeper is responsible for proper disposal and if the owner fails to ensure the old vehicle is properly dealt with they are committing a criminal offence and can be fined up to £2,500 or three months imprisonment, or both.

Cllr Paul Oliver-Smith, Portfolio Holder for Health and Housing, said: "Residents can help us to keep our borough a cleaner, safer place by using the unwanted vehicle disposal service. It benefits the environment because parts of the cars can be recycled. Abandoned cars are often subject to vandalism so this will reduce the amount of car fires which are a real hazard to residents and will save unnecessary calls to the fire service".

If you have an unwanted vehicle to dispose of please ring Environmental Services on 01892 554246 or 554178 and we will be pleased to help.

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

We praise God and hear
his word on Sunday at
10am and 1st, 3rd and 5th
Sundays at 6.30pm. Other
evenings to be announced.

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

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

COUNTY COUNCIL

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

BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

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

PARISH COUNCIL



Cllr David Coleman
22 Ridgeway TN2 4ER
Tel: 823402
Chairman of Parish Council
Chairman of Planning & Highways Working Group



Cllr Jennifer Ayres
21 High Street
TN2 4PH
Tel: 824922



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



Cllr Mrs Alison Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938
Chairman, Pembury Village News Editorial Working Group



Cllr Roger Parrett
27 Canterbury Road
TN2 4JT
Tel: 825948



Cllr Lisa Vanns
7 Penns Yard
High Street
TN2 4XY
Tel: 824138



Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council
Mrs Barbara Russell, 6 The Grove
TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193
Email: pemburypc@pembury.org



Cllr Steve Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938
Vice Chairman of Parish Council
Chairman, Finance, Audit & Personnel Working Group



Cllr Mrs June Crowhurst,
44 Elmhurst Avenue TN2 4DA
Tel: 824873
Chairman, Amenities, Christmas Lights and Pembury in Bloom



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



Cllr Mrs Sally Osborn
34 Canterbury Road
TN2 4JT. Tel: 822726
Chairman, Allotments, Burials, Environment & Environmental Improvement Working Group



Cllr Norman Starkey
71 Henwood Green Road
TN2 4LW
Tel: 823227



Deputy Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council
Richard Parsons, 6 The Grove
TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193
Email: pemburydc@pembury.org

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

ALZHEIMERS DISEASE SOCIETY

Simon Rooksby, Pineview Day Hospital
Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535, Ext 3515

BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Tel: Louise 823097

BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon Bill Eason. Tel: 824133

COMPAID TRUST

Computer Aid for Disabled People. Tel: 824060
Transport for Special Needs. Tel: 823488

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

CRICKET CLUB

Hon. Secretary: Andy Weaver. Tel: 824362

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

GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Mrs M. Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road. Tel: 822373

HEADWAY

Libby Slattery. Tel: 823120

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Ann Upton. Tel: 822006

KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Anne Lawson. Tel: 820204

LABOUR PARTY

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

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

David Mills. Tel: 825577

LITTLE RASCALS (formerly 'Meet-a-Mum')

c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

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

Assoc Pastor Wayne Alexander
Church Office. Tel: 825590

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Richard Parsons. Tel: 823193

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

Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY PHOENIX TWIRLERS

Dave or Chris Brett. Tel: 824233

PEMBURY PLAYERS

Chairman: John Hawker. Tel: 824327

PEMBURY PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Mrs C. Hughes. Tel: 668514

PEMBURY SCHOOL

Headteacher – Mrs C. Thewlis. Tel: 822259

PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Tracey Perrett. Tel: 823334

PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rosemary Rich. Tel: 825580

PEMBURY SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

Secretary: Mrs Marion Warren. Tel: 547617

PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

PEMBURY SOCIETY

Steve Morton. Tel: 824938

PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Revd. Heather Hughes. Tel: 824761

PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Sue Boreham Tel: 824385

Eve Fiddimore Tel: 518277

PEPENBURY (formerly Larkfield)

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

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Mike Raper. Tel: 01892 520171

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

SANDRA'S HOUSE

Pre-School Nursery, Mrs S. Toogood, Queens Folly,
64 Lower Green Road. Tel: 824252

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 823235

SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.

Tel: 823235 and Moira Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road.
Tel 822373

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs M. Adams. Tel: 822769

ST. PETER'S PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Events Secretary, Carol Wakeford. Tel: 822030

TABLE TENNIS CLUB.

John Burleton. Tel: 823250

TREE WARDEN.

Caroline Mazzei Tel: 822493

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP

Gill Pavely Tel: 822605

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT

SCHEME. Tel: 513969

VILLAGE HALL

Manager (bookings): Rachel Windus.

Tel: 822837

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Edna Morris. Tel: 822267

Evening: Mrs Elizabeth Bellchamber. Tel: 824969

WRVS LUNCH CLUB

Contact: Mrs Amanda Everett. Tel: 823280

YMCA

Simon Stanley. Tel: 534444



Kent College Preparatory School, Pembury

A balanced foundation for future success

Happiness + Confidence = Success



We believe that a happy, confident child is a successful one and our girls love coming to school. High academic standards, excellent SATs results and preparation for grammar and independent senior schools are at the heart of what we do, but we never forget that there is more to childhood and learning than examinations.

If you would like to know more about our approach to developing happy, confident and successful pupils, please contact Mrs Jones on 01892 820204 or visit our website at www.kent-college.co.uk

"A happy and secure learning environment ... teaching is very good overall and often excellent enabling pupils to achieve very well ... excellent wide-ranging programme of extra-curricular activities ... very high levels of pastoral care."

Independent Schools Inspectorate Report, 2004

Kent College Preparatory School is an independent school for girls aged 3-11.

Nursery class from age 3 with flexible attendance.

Old Church Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells TN2 4AX