

# PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 120  
WINTER 2004

PEMBURY VILLAGE  
NEWS

ISSUE 126  
SUMMER 2006

ISSUE 124  
WINTER 2005

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Issue 134  
SUMMER 2008

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Cover photograph by Editorial Working Group

## *Editorial Working Group:*

Alison Morton (Editor), Paul Barrington-King, Rosie Bass, Masha Bayles,  
Rick Bayles, Janet Ditchett and Kathy Wallwork

*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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## GOODBYE, EDITOR

**A**FTER NEARLY nine years at the helm, Alison Morton is leaving the Pembury Village News after this issue, as she and husband Steve are leaving Pembury and going to live in France.

Alison took over from Henry Plant at the end of 1999 and has masterminded the transformation of the News from a rather staid black and white publication into the full colour vibrant 'glossy' which is eagerly received by both Pembury residents and those further afield. She and Steve also started the PVN website ([www.pembury.org](http://www.pembury.org)) in 1998 as one of only four local authority websites in Kent at the time. It is now an invaluable resource not just for Pembury but reaching out across the world with contacts from Canada, South Africa and Australia.

Combining her business and organisational experience with her intellectual, computing and personal networking skills, Alison has successfully produced a much admired magazine quarter after quarter. It is such a vital link for Pembury residents in keeping them informed and in reporting on local events.

She modestly says it is all down to teamwork and praises the Editorial Working Group, Laurie Frowde of Folderspring who sets the magazine, Heronswood Press who print it and the volunteers who distribute it. This is indeed a skilled and cheery support team which contributes significantly to the success of the News, but it is Alison who has led the team and has the final word with her red pen!

Working in the City, civil service, six years as a signals officer in the TA and setting up and running her own translation business as well as bringing up a son (with husband's Steve's help, of course), then going on to take a Master's degree in history, I don't know where she found the time! She was also a strong moving force behind the raft of Golden Jubilee events in the village in 2002, let alone the annual fete, fireworks and musical picnic and other special events such as BBC's *Any Questions*.

**We are now looking for a successor as Editor.** The magazine may indeed change in its appearance, size and way it is produced as a result. The new Editor needs, above all, to have sound writing skills and to be able to organise a team made up of other volunteers. There is a strong and experienced support team in place which would be able to provide help and advice at all stages. If you would like to find out more, do contact me either by email at [CWCO@aol.com](mailto:CWCO@aol.com) or tel. 823402.

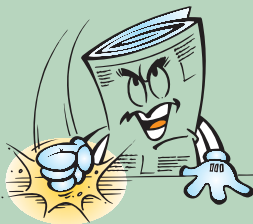
**David Coleman**, Chairman, Pembury Parish Council



### **COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE**

*Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Parish Office, c/o 6 The Grove before  
**1 August 2008.***

*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](mailto:pvn@pembury.org)*



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## NEW COUNCILLORS

### KEVIN EDSER

I was born in Teddington in January 1959 and grew up in Surrey. Leaving Esher County Grammar School I joined Sir Robert McAlpine as a trainee civil engineer and gained an HNC in Civil Engineering.



My working life has been spent entirely in the construction industry, moving from the technical side to management, working my way up from Site Engineer, through Site, Project and Contracts Management and achieving an Associate Director's role with Dew Pitchmastic, a National, Oldham-based civil and building contractor. I later joined local specialist building contractor, GML in Horsmonden as Operations Director, where I continue to work.

I met my wife Carole in 1987, married in 1991 and our son Daniel was born in 1995. Carole is Tunbridge Wells born and bred and works part time for a stocks and shares analysis company in Tunbridge Wells. Daniel currently goes to Mascalls in Paddock Wood and is becoming an exceptional guitar player. Carole and I moved to Pembury in 1995, shortly after Daniel was born.

---

### PATRICK GILLAN

I first came to Pembury in 1983. In 1986, I moved with my wife back to Scotland until returning in 1992. I have three wonderful children 19, 16 and 12, who live with their mother in Scotland. The oldest has just been accepted by Edinburgh University to study Interior Architecture. Like many people, I commute to London where I work as a client relationship manager for a national healthcare company, delivering specialist nursing care to adults and children



---

### ANDREW J. PROCTER

I have lived in Woodhill Park, Pembury for the past 12 years and enjoyed every minute of it. My wife Kathy and I have been married for 22 years and I have two grown-up sons and one stepdaughter. I achieved the young maturity of 60 years in May.



Born in Leeds, Yorkshire, I was educated at the local Grammar School and later gained a Pure Science degree from the University of London in 1969. Moving into business management, I have worked for several companies involved with magazine

I have always been interested in football, playing for my primary school and my grammar school team. Later, I played as goalkeeper for Galleywood FC (Essex) on Saturday and Sundays, but a move from Chelmsford in 1987 and a back and knee injury put paid to my playing days!

I became involved with Pembury Athletic Youth FC in 2002 when Daniel joined the Under 7 age group. Carole came home one Saturday from training saying they needed a coach. I went down the following Saturday and was joined up on the spot. I obtained my FA Level 1 coaching certificate in 2003 and subsequently took on the Secretary's role.

I have assisted coaching the Under 7's through to the Under 10's, helped the club achieve its FA Charter Standard Status and obtain the massive £382,500 grant from the Football Foundation for the new Pavilion in Lower Green Recreation Ground. I was asked by the club and Pembury Parish Council to oversee the building works of the pavilion.

My other interests include collecting and listening to all genres of music and dabble at playing bass guitar to accompany my son's guitar and keyboard playing. I am very keen in continuing to make Pembury a great place to live and improving the facilities for the young people in the village.

with long term illness. In my time off, I enjoy reading; my favourite book is The Labyrinth by Kate Mosse.

Favourite TV programs include The Apprentice, Gavin and Stacy and Heroes. I also enjoy the odd flutter so you might find me at the dogs in Brighton or putting a bet on at Lingfield. On Saturdays, you may well find me at the Camden Arms drinking my favourite beer, and on Sundays I attend church. Faith has always played an important part in my life and in this sense Pembury Baptist Church has shown me a warm welcome. Both my partner and I have a keen interest in local communities which is why I decided to become a Parish Councillor in order to give something back to the village. A place I am proud to call home.

---

and book publishing, latterly printing, mainly at director level. I currently work for a printing company in Tunbridge Wells.

My interests include gardening, photography, DIY, motor sport and cars in general. Now I can add local politics to the list! My wife and I also enjoy visiting our 'compact and bijou' apartment in Spain as much as work commitments allow and we are both attempting to learn the language.

By joining the Parish Council I hope I will be able to give something back to the community and the village environment which have given me so much pleasure and enjoyment during the past 12 years.

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# ANNUAL PARISH MEETING



**A**ROUND 50 PEMBURY residents gathered in the Village hall on the very last day of March to hear about what the Pembury Parish Council had been up to in the past year.

David Coleman, Chairman, gave a brief résumé based on the Annual Report that had been sent out to all residents with the Spring edition of the Pembury Village News. The most recent triumph was the new Lower Green Recreation Ground pavilion, achieved through a strong partnership with Pembury Athletic Youth Football Club. Combining a large Football Foundation grant and other grants from KCC, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and, of course, Pembury Parish Council with moneys raised by the Club members and supporters, Pembury now has an impressive and well-appointed new facility. (Special report on pages 20-21)



Improvements did not stop here! David outlined the next stages of the Parish Council regeneration project in the recreation ground. The first phase of recreational improvements, the new children's playground, had proved very popular and well used. Tenders were being received for the next stage, the special multi sports youth area (towards which a lottery grant of £50,000 had been won) and a path from Westway to Woodhill Park and, following that, an 'action play area' for older children. Work on the youth multi sports area and path should start during the summer.

Annual village events, such as the Musical Picnic on the Green in June and the fireworks display in November, continued to be very popular with Pembury residents. The 'It's a Knockout' held in September for teams of young people in Pembury was a resounding success and is scheduled to run again this year.

Allotments had become increasingly popular and the Parish Council has facilitated the setting up of an allotments holders' association (See page 39 for contact details). Pembury was blessed with a very wide range of clubs and associations catering for every interest. The Pembury Community Partnership set up by the Parish Council had been increasing its activities in addressing youth and community issues; sharing ideas and information, accessing funding and promoting joint working between County, Borough and Parish councils, schools, churches, youth groups, police, business and village organisations.

David emphasised the vital need for individual residents to contribute to the health and well-being of Pembury; whether becoming a parish councillor, helping with a club or group, reporting failing lights, potholes, or vandalism/crime, proposing new ideas, attending parish events or just picking up litter.

County Councillor Kevin Lynes outlined some of his activities, emphasising the need for residents to get things done and make change happen. He mentioned two practical, effective Kent initiatives in April;

Report a Pothole (Tel: 08458 247 800 or online at <http://www.kent.gov.uk>) and the Local area Agreements which could give access to community grants, possibly up to £25,000.



Paul Barrington-King, one of Pembury's three Borough Councillors (June Crowhurst and Mike Tompsett are the others), reported on the Borough. A particular hope of Paul's is to increase waste recycling, aiming at 47%. Possibilities being explored are doorstep collections and getting plastic recycling rolled out on a larger scale.

Paul took the opportunity of the Annual Parish Meeting to present his cheque to the Parish from his sponsored bicycle ride from Wiesbaden last year. The money will go towards the new youth facilities in the Recreation Ground..

See you next year!

**Editor**



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## PEMBURY VILLAGE QUIZ NIGHT 2008

**T**WENTY-TWO TEAMS of six people filled the Village Hall for this year's Parish Council Quiz night on 9 May. The quiz, run by and in aid of the Scouts and Guides, is a firm fixture in Pembury's calendar. The teams represented many of the organisations in the village; all were hoping to win the cup and the cheque for £250 to give to a charity of their choice. Keith Merrin was a very able quiz master and his great strength of character kept us all going to the end with the help of Adam on computer and the Trefoil Guild acting as scrutinisers.

Quick-fire rounds interspersed the themed rounds (Geography, TV Addicts, Cars, Science, Pembury Hospital(!), Drink, China, Dingbats, Animals and the traditional Pot Luck) with a 'long round' on anagrams. The top places varied throughout the evening, but the final result was first place to 'Pembury Plonkers' (formerly 'The Dipsticks') with 'Universally Challenged' second and 'The BOFS' in third place. The winning team received the cup from Parish Council Chairman David Coleman and the cheque which they donated to the Hospice in the Weald.

It was a very enjoyable evening, the wine and beer flowed and the raffle tickets all sold. Many thanks go to all those who came and took part, those who kindly donated raffle prizes and especially everyone who helped to organise and run the evening.



*Cllr. David Coleman, Pembury Parish Council Chairman, presents the cup to the Pembury Plonkers.*

After all the expenses have been paid there will be a total profit of approximately £400 which will go the Scouts and Guides to help maintain the headquarters building. Specifically, they will spend the money raised on 'Project Daylight', to try and get windows in the building.

If you didn't win this year then better luck next year. See you then!

**Janet Ditchett**, Secretary of the Scout and Guide Management Committee

---

## RESULT!

**T**WO PEMBURY residents were walking near the Woodside playing fields one evening in May and saw two people in a car on the playing fields.

The pavilion had been graffitied, having only been painted over that day, and the two walkers approached the young men asking to look in their boot. At this, the young men sped off but our walkers noted the registration number. This was reported

to PC Martin Pemble who promptly followed it up. He later rang the Parish Office and told them that the person owning the vehicle had admitted to both sets of graffiti and had been arrested.

Many thanks to our community-minded Pembury residents and to PC Martin Pemble for their smart and effective action.

**Barbara Russell**,  
Clerk to Pembury Parish Council

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## CHARLES AMHERST'S ALMSHOUSES

ON 17 APRIL 2008, Sally Stafford held a Tea Party at her home for the Trustees of the Almshouses and the residents.

The occasion was the retirement of Mrs Amanda Everett as a Trustee. She had served 15 years as the WI nominated Trustee and has worked hard over those years on behalf of the residents.

Rev Matthew Jackson, the chairman of the trustees, presented her with a gift on behalf of the other trustees; we will welcome a new trustee at the next meeting.

**Janet Ditchett**



*Rev Jackson, Jean Perkins (seated) and Amanda Everett*

---

## PEMBURY RAINBOWS

THIS YEAR is the 21st birthday of the Rainbow section of Girl Guiding UK. This section was formed for girls age 5 to 7 to join the movement before entering Brownies at age 7. The rainbows now wear a red and grey uniform and learn through play. We have two Rainbow units in Pembury, a Tuesday group and a Thursday group, who meet in the Scout and Guide Headquarters building. Some of the Rainbows joined with other members of the units at the Scouting St George's Day Parade in Tunbridge Wells on Sunday 27 April.

**Janet Ditchett**



*The Rainbows proudly carry their unit banner at the Parade.*



*Rainbows at Calverley Grounds for St George's Day Parade.*



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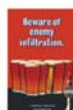
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## SNIPPETS

### LOCAL ELECTION RESULTS

The results for the election for a Borough Councillor to represent Pembury were:

Paul Barrington-King (Conservative)

1,230 votes

Christopher Hoare (UKIP) 110 votes

Jacqueline Prance (Liberal Democrat)

472 votes

Turnout was 41%

Paul Barrington-King continues as a Borough Councillor for Pembury – warm congratulations to him.

---

### STRAWBERRY TEAS . . .MMM!

Come and have a strawberry cream tea at St Peter's Pembury Old Church on Saturday 5 July from 3-5pm and listen to Robert Reid playing jazz.

---

### DEACON BILL EASON

There is a celebration Mass for the 20th anniversary of Deacon Bill Eason's ordination and his retirement on Sunday 22 June at 10.30am, followed by a buffet lunch. Contact Janet Ditchett on 822586 for more information.

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### HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

The inaugural Moonlight Walk on Friday 20 June will be one of the highlights of the 2008 fundraising calendar. The sponsored walk will start at 10pm from Hospice in the Weald and follow a circular route towards Tunbridge Wells. Part of the route will be lit with flaming torches. Walkers will return to the Hospice for chocolate treats, hot chocolate and marshmallows. For further details call Tanya Ingham on 820533

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### WORZELS NEEDED!

How about this for a concept? In Pembury we are surrounded by apple orchards and you can be sure that there was once a thriving cottage industry in the making of cider. As a project, both Rick Bayles and Paul Barrington-King would like to hear from anyone who has knowledge of making

cider in the hope that we might form a working group to produce a small scale Pembury brew. If we can achieve this, perhaps we could have a Pembury Autumnfest Barn Dance to sample the profits of our labours with any monies generated going to a worthy cause.

Contact either Rick at [rick@bayles.demon.co.uk](mailto:rick@bayles.demon.co.uk) or Paul on [pvbk@hotmail.com](mailto:pvbk@hotmail.com)

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### PEMBURY MUSICAL TALENT 1 NOVEMBER 2008

PMT is back again! Due to the immense support and appreciation for PMT last year I am planning to run it again this year. It was the first time that I undertook such an event and I am very grateful to all those who helped with it last year; apologies to those who I did not thank in the newsletter after the event! Altogether we raised £665.16 for the Pembury Youth Club; and this year all the proceeds will go to Demelza House Children's Hospice, a very worthy cause. PMT will take place in the Village Hall on 1 November 2008; however, only 150 tickets are available, so get in quick! I can confirm that three bands have already agreed to play again, and I hope the event is as fun as it was last year.

**Bill Slessor** (tel. 824528)

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### BABY CLINIC

Pembury's Child Health Clinic is moving from Waterfield House Surgery to Pembury Baptist Church, starting 3 July 2008. The Child Health Clinic will be running on the first and third Thursday of the month from 1.30 until 3.30pm. The clinic is open to everybody, regardless of what doctor's surgery you are with or where you live. It is available to all preschool babies and children and the health visitors are on hand to discuss any needs you have.

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## THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

THE PEMBURY SOCIETY'S recent Spring Meeting was very well attended. The audience, which included five new members, heard two very different talks, but both were equally interesting and informative.

The first was by Sean Furey, a director of the Kent branch of the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England. Kent, he informed us, has the largest membership of any county group (60,000) apart from Cumbria/Lake District. There are, however, a lot of issues in Kent that need monitoring by a group such as this and the larger the membership the more influence the group has. Current issues included the proposed rail depot at Barming, the lorry park for 'Operation Stack', and the controversy of Lydd Airport versus the proposed Dungeness C reactor at Dungeness power station.

Nearer to home they are keeping an eye on 'back garden development' worrying many people in West Kent, and on the improvements to the A21. He acknowledged that CPRE sometimes comes across as against all development in rural areas, but he assured us this is not so and they do appreciate that things must change, but not without careful consideration.

After coffee, Roy Brazier from 'Pepenbury', the home for adults with learning difficulties in Cornford Lane, gave a very informative talk about the work they do there. He explained about changing attitudes since the home was originally founded in Larkfield, 80 years ago.

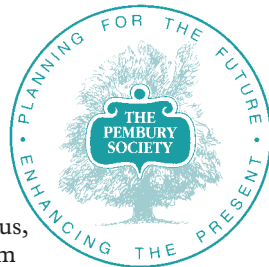


*Left to right: Sean Furey (CPRE), Pembury Society Chairman Ken Watts and Roy Brazier (Pepenbury).*

The home runs several work related schemes, including catering for local functions and a scheme for helping people get suitable employment. There are also the coffee shop and plant stall both open to the public every weekday. He also mentioned the social side and how Pepenbury has close links with a similar home in France.

Pepenbury considers itself part of Pembury but, because it is tucked away down a country lane, it sometimes feels a bit isolated. We all know that 'Pepenbury' exists but this talk gave us an opportunity to learn more about what actually goes on there.'

**Kathryn Franklin**



The move to Pembury came when they were compulsorily purchased to make way for the M20. He explained how the clients now make their own choices and if they want to live in the community and if this can be achieved with support, then that is what happens. Some people prefer the sheltered environment offered by the home, and that is OK too.

## PEMBURY PEOPLE – STEVE MORTON

WHEN WE hear the name ‘Morton’ in Pembury we can rest assured that it is linked to some activity that will benefit our community. Steve and his wife, Alison, have been an essential part of the fabric of Pembury for as long as many of us can remember. Although the list of achievements is long, the most visible legacy of Steve’s endeavours is our village website which offers a vast menu of information for anyone with an interest in Pembury. He has also proven to be adept as a Vice-Chair of the Parish Council with a keen eye for any planning detail that needs careful appraisal.

Steve was born in Higher Bebington, Wirral in March 1959 on his father’s birthday. He attended the local primary school (Brackenwood), passed the 11+ and progressed to Wirral Grammar School for Boys. The school’s claim to fame is that the former Labour Prime Minister Harold Wilson (later Lord Wilson) had attended the school for a time in the 1930s.

He left school at sixteen with a handful of GCSEs and upped sticks to train with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) at Hanslope Park near Milton Keynes. As part of his early training forays he spent a week in 1976 at the BBC World Service site in Crowborough. Staying at a hotel in Tunbridge Wells he, like many of us, remembers the scorching summer we endured that year.

He completed his training after three years as a radio technician, and worked at a station called Creslow near Aylesbury. Steve recalls “By this time, I was living in a flat right in the heart of Milton Keynes . . . the new city!! More like the biggest building site in UK at the time! . . . I hardly recognise the place these days. All the trees have grown and you can’t see the houses from the main roads to keep your bearings”.

In 1983, after spending four years or so as a shift worker and having bought a house with his shift pay, he was called in to see the Officer in Charge and told he was being posted to Cyprus . . . No warning, or ‘would you like to go’ . . . “Morton, you are going to Cyprus”. En route, he was posted to another station in Buckinghamshire to learn about receivers and other technophile ‘fodder’.

Steve adds “So in July 1983, I found myself in a very hot and sticky Limassol, in Cyprus. When I think back, I wonder how I survived. The office gave me a three bedroom house, fully furnished and rent free. It was like living in a furniture show room!! My own possessions didn’t amount to much then . . . record collection, clothes, a few household things, oh and a motley collection of radio equipment . . . I had become a radio amateur in 1979 (G8SFR)”.

However, there were compensations . . . With his *pocket money* Steve bought a new car (an Austin Maestro – eat your heart out, Lewis Hamilton!). He was “So proud my first new car as they hadn’t been on sale long in UK back then. So I spent the summer settling in and adjusting to a totally different lifestyle. At the station out there I worked with another engineer maintaining all the equipment . . . and when I say all, I mean all . . . from the air conditioning to the aerials, the tea urn to the teleprinters . . . You are an engineer, you fix it!”

In September 1983, Steve was given responsibility of the ‘Military Wing’. It was a rarely used, large room that was normally kept under lock and key, with much obscured glass windows and loads of kit. He recounts “I got it all checked over for the next detachment visit that month for a certain lady from the TA unit in Tunbridge Wells. Who was leading the detachment? Captain Alison – yes, you guessed! I must have been quite a sight! My style of dress for work in Cyprus was very laid back and not much different to these days. Out there first choice was a t-shirt and shorts. On occasions, such as when sorting out teleprinters (horrible oily things), I would wear a white overall and I must have looked an odd sight when asked to go to the Military Wing to sort something or other out with my hairy legs sticking out from under this white coat!”

Steve justifies his subsequent courting strategy, and his penchant for ladies in uniform, with “As usual, with any visitors to the station we would entertain them with visits to the local restaurants and taverns. So I volunteered my services to chaperone Alison around for the week. Of course, making sure she got back to the officers mess each night” (*Alison is this true? Absolutely! Such a gentleman!*)





Having managed to get Christmas leave in Blighty in 1983, he soon made contact with Alison. He popped down for a few days to see her before flying back to the Isle of Aphrodite. Keeping in contact by taped messages and written letters (no internet back then) he wangled a flight back to UK in June 1984 and they became engaged. Having initially been told that he was serving in Cyprus for three years this was curtailed and Steve returned to the UK in the summer of 1985. The couple were married in September that year in Tunbridge Wells.

In December 1985, Steve joined the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) at their Radio Regulatory Division opposite Waterloo Station. Not used to office life, he states “I was driving a desk . . . not a tool box in sight. Scary!” After selling the house in Milton Keynes, Mr and Mrs Morton started looking for a new home to reduce the tiresome commute. Fate (and the estate agent!) led them to house hunt in Pembury – Alison was a local Tunbridge Wells girl, so knew the area. Despite the by-pass construction about to start, they quickly saw the potential of their present abode in The Coppice and took up residence in April 1986.

Settling in to his career, Steve mentions “Driving a desk processing radio applications was OK, if a little tedious, but it was a useful introduction to the very early PCs which would come in useful one day. Someone spotted my engineering talents and asked me to work at the radio labs in Surrey at RAF Kenley. That was in July 1988. I was now also a young dad with Philip being born in January 1987”.

He worked at Kenley until October 2004 and he adds “It was a great place to work, I eventually became the deputy head of the laboratory, but the place closed at Christmas 2004. He took a year out, his ‘gap year’ and enjoyed the summer before starting a new job with Dstl as their RF Spectrum Manager, with Steve commenting, “I was never going to be very far from radio of one sort or another”.

Steve recalls, “All my career I’ve worked in smallish teams, even now although I’m only a cog in a very large wheel. So becoming a Parish Councillor in 2002 wasn’t too strange, a small dedicated team with a common goal in mind . . . to see the best for Pembury.”

“I’ve not been a stranger to committee work, following in my father’s footsteps to a certain extent. I’ve been on various committees, some you might find amusing . . . somehow, I ended up as a fund raiser for the Milton Keynes Ladies Football Team! The manager worked on the same shift as me . . . honest! Others have been rather more obvious, given my radio background”.

Steve’s interests include a passion for photography and he explains, “I’ve always had a camera of one sort or another since an early age. It’s photography that I get the most pleasure from these days; mainly outdoor activity such as buildings, street scenes, landscapes etc. These days, I shoot nearly everything in digital although I still have a film camera.”



Another twist in Steve’s destiny soon became apparent. He adds, “In May 2005, we purchased a house in France, as a holiday home. We have enjoyed 4-5 visits a year over there, always looking forward to the next visit, never wanting to come home. The house is in a small village similar in size to Pembury, but with a population of only 850 people . . . about the same as the Ridgeway estate! My Woodworking ‘O’ level has been put to good use in the last few years with various DIY projects and my Technical Drawing ‘O’ level has also helped me design the kitchen!”

Good news for France, but sadder news for Pembury is that the Mortons are planning to settle in France, with Steve retiring from full-time employment. He states “It will be a whole new challenge and one we are both looking forward to, but we’ll be maintaining our links with Pembury. I will continue to maintain the Pembury website. We hope to come back for visits and raids on Marks & Spencer! Yes, I will certainly miss Pembury, it’s been a special place to live and I have lived here longer than anywhere else to date. When I think back over the years, it’s clear that Pembury people like to get involved in things and enjoy community events. Thankfully, the village in France is similar in also having village events and an equivalent of the Parish Council!’ (*Watch this space!*)

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## FIRST IMPRESSIONS OF PEMBURY – Rick and Masha Bayles

**L**AST SUMMER we were manically rushing around the county trying to find a new home after our first choice fell through and the buyer for our London flat was getting impatient. Initially, we ruled Pembury out as 'too posh' and 'not us'. Let's say we got it wrong on both accounts. We found our house in Heskett Park on the last week when we were still looking. For a while we had a nagging feeling that we might have made a mistake. Was it really 'us'? Difficult to tell when light is fading away at three in the afternoon and all plumbers and builders seem to be avoiding us.

Now, when the days are getting longer and we are getting closer to sorting out our house needs, we can reflect on our choice. Was it right? In short – we love it here. The village is so diverse and beautiful, so full of life. Our neighbours are fantastic.

We briefly lived next door to Melvyn Cole, born and bred in Pembury. Through him we got to know the past of the village and our immediate area – certainly not lacking excitement and surprise even in comparison to London. Other neighbours were helpful from day one, feeding the cat when we didn't get home on time, welcoming us to the area, introducing us to local life. That and the requests for help to move a new kitchen with a massive cooker, pull out a 10-foot tree and move a greenhouse across the road. Country ways, we keep telling ourselves. You get what you give. People do look after each other, unlike back in London. Even our cat is a happier creature with a busy social life barely popping in for meals.

So any regrets? No, not on my part. I even stopped wishing misfortune upon the people of our first choice property and switched to giving thanks for landing in this fantastic place. Everything is close by and we still feel like we are in the country. Won't trade this place for the world. Can't wait to spend our first summer here.

**Masha**



I'm London born and bred but I'd reached the point where I didn't really want to live there anymore. London's always a great place to visit . . . but so is Death Valley!

When we arrived in Pembury, at the end of October last year, we talked more to our immediate neighbours in the first 24 hours than we had in the first two years at our London flat! This was the sense of community I was looking for and I feel we really

lucked out with this place. I mean, what's not to like about a village with four pubs?! Even our "sophisticated" city friends are impressed when I tell them my local has free wi-fi in the bar.

On a more serious note – we do think the village is pretty much perfect. A real sense of being in the country yet everything is so near to hand. Unfortunately I still have to work in London but I can be in the office in just over the hour door to door – sometimes I couldn't achieve that living in north west London.

We ended up here almost by accident, but what a touch of serendipity that was. We almost missed Pembury but, luckily, Pembury found us.

**Rick**

## CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

**T**HE SUCCESSFUL outreach in Pembury is under threat of closure due to a lack of funding. The CAB adviser, Leo, has seen an average of three clients per week; helping them in areas such as benefits, housing, relationship breakdown, legal, consumer, immigration and debt.

However, unless further funding is found, Pembury residents will have to travel to either Tunbridge Wells or Paddock Wood for further advice. If you can help fund this essential project, please contact Pi Townsend (Head of Bureau) at manager@twcab.cabnet.org.uk.



# PEMBURY'S HALF-MILLION POUND PAVILION OF

**S**ATURDAY 3 MAY, almost exactly a year from the sod-turning ceremony marking the official start of the pavilion project, saw its completion celebrated – the culmination of a ten year dream.

MP Greg Clark, Cllr Barbara Cobbold, the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells and Cllr David Coleman, the Pembury Parish Council Chairman, each gave a few words, but the day belonged to the PAYFC members from the youngest child to the most senior official.

Thanks to a Football Foundation grant of £386,502, Pembury Parish Council together with Pembury Athletic Youth Football Club (PAYFC) was able to commission a football and community pavilion consisting of four changing rooms and club room facilities which will be used by the village's young footballers as well as by community groups.



Celebrated by the young players and supported by the people and agencies who made this new beginning possible, heartfelt thanks went to the Football Foundation, Pembury Parish Council, Kent County Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, the Kent FA, Pembury Primary School, the Schools at Somerhill, Tunbridge Wells Courier Heart of the Community Award, the villagers of Pembury and, of course, the parents and supporters of the PAYFC members themselves.

## Editor



*From left to right: Hugh Boorman, Cllr June Crowhurst, Ben (youngest playing of PAYFC member), Mayor Barbara Cobbold, Cllr Kevin Edser (back), Philip (oldest playing member of PAYFC), David Gow (back), Cllr David Coleman, Parish Clerk Barbara Russell, Carole Edser.*



# ICIAL OPENING



## So what's there?

The brand new facility boasts four full-size changing rooms and showers, two officials' changing rooms, (all to Sports England's strict specifications), separate male, female and disabled toilets and a 1000 sq ft club-room area with a fully fitted kitchen adjacent. Whilst primarily suited for football, and is the home



*Mayor Barbara Cobbold, County Cllr Kevin Lynes, David Gow (Chairman PAYFC), and Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark.*

on to the Recreation Ground where the recently installed children's play equipment is located. Later in 2008, further play equipment for older youths, including a multi sports surface area, is programmed to be built by Pembury Parish Council.

For more information and enquires, please contact Carole Edser on 823643, or email on [pemburypavilion@msn.com](mailto:pemburypavilion@msn.com)

of Pembury Athletic Youth FC, it can be hired out for other events, sporting or non-sporting and many other occasions, such as meetings, seminars, training groups and children's birthday parties. For certain events, hot or cold buffets can be supplied with morning coffees/ afternoon teas etc.

Sitting in the corner of the Lower Green Recreation Ground, the club room's double doors open up directly





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### Independent Schools Inspectorate Report

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## HOPE 2008

**P**EMBURY CHURCHES – Baptist, Catholic and Church of England – are working together to bring good hope into our community. Hope 2008 is founded on prayer, and so each Sunday the unified Christian congregation prays for a named road in the village. Residents of that road receive a leaflet in advance inviting them to contact any of the churches to raise any particular concerns or issues they would like prayed for.

On the first of the community action days, Sunday 27th April, some 60 people from each fellowship set off on a damp but nonetheless lively afternoon to collect litter from all parts of the village. To judge by the vast quantity of litter collected, the combined effort made a

difference, for a while at least, and sounded an optimistic note for the arrival of Spring.

The next big event is the **Village Fun Day on Saturday 12 July** from 1pm to 5pm in the Recreation Ground. Many village organisations are taking part and there will be stalls, games, live bands and fun for all the family. Any profits will go to local charities. HOPE to see you there.

**Hope Team**



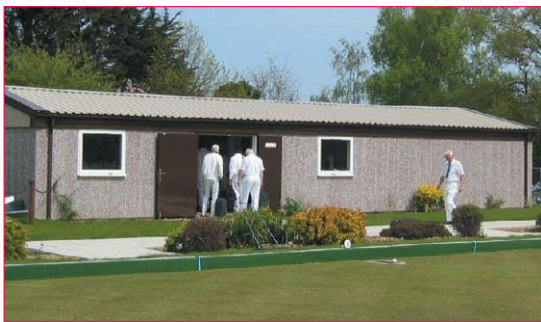
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## PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

**I**T WAS WITH great delight and much pleasure that members welcomed Bayham and Lamberhurst Bowls Club to our first match of the season on 26 April. At last we were able to entertain our fellow bowlers and give them tea in our wonderful new clubhouse. The dedicated members worked tirelessly to make sure the clubhouse was ready for the new season and congratulations must be given to their achievements. Our task now is to improve the green over the coming years, this is an uphill battle with so many teenagers invading the green to play football!

Our Open Day on Monday 26 May will have happened before this edition of the News is published but anyone is welcome to come and try at any time, just come along and speak to a club member. Happy bowling!

**Barbara Scholten**, Competition Secretary 823445







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# PEMBURY IN THE PAST

## PEMBURY DURING THE 1940s

**H**UGH BOORMAN'S articles in previous editions of the PVN about gardening for butterflies have sparked an idea in a completely different direction. Robin Kenworthy, who lived near Bo-peep in his youth, during and immediately after the Second World War, the News about his memories of the vast number of different butterflies that could be found in Pembury at that time. This e-mail was passed to me because of the significant historical content and it set me thinking. How about a project to collate the memories of those older residents of Pembury who also spent their youth in the village during the 1940s? Even to those of us who are fast approaching retirement, this is history.

To start the ball rolling here are a few of Mr Kenworthy's memories, together with a few bits I have picked up from other people through my interest in local history. I hope this will encourage the older readers to think back and also prove interesting to everyone else.

Firstly, there are those memories that are directly related to the hostilities. Mr Kenworthy watched the Battle of Britain from Kings Toll Farm where they were hop-picking. He can also remember where many of the defences were. I have heard that there was a 'bandstand' on the Green that was actually a pill-box; is this true? I was also told by someone who was living in Canterbury Road at the time that she lost her windows five times because of bomb blast and on at least one occasion there was more substantial damage. The Mary Standen collection includes a contemporary account by Rex Turner (who many people will remember) of some of the more dramatic action over Pembury, and also a partial list of ARP wardens based at the Lower Green end of the village, together with their addresses.

Possibly, pig keeping was more common then anyway, but pig keeping in Pembury during the war seems to have been quite popular. Mr Kenworthy remembers them at several locations; on the allotments at Woodside, on Henwood Green Road where the footpath cut across to Belfield and even in Baggesons nursery at Woodsgate Corner. His family kept chickens, as I expect did a lot of others, and there were also some kept on the Woodside allotments. People supplemented their diet with rabbits.

Farming practices have obviously changed beyond all recognition in the last 60 years. Apart from hopping, Mr Kenworthy remembers helping with the threshing at Pastheap Farm. In those days before mechanisation he remembers a steam traction engine in the village as well as a threshing machine. Men with shotguns shot the rabbits as the corn was cut and stooked and after the corn had been taken in he would gather the dropped ears and the loose straw for the chickens.

Then, finally, there are the people of the village. Mr Kenworthy's mother was sometime secretary of the WI, Col. Bishop lived at Knights Ridge and Highfield was occupied by a Mr Atkins.

If you would like to share your memories of life in Pembury during the war and immediately afterwards please contact me either by e-mail through PVN (marked for my attention) or directly at 11 The Meadow or telephone 823212.

**Kathryn Franklin**



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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

THE WI IS a national organisation established in 1915, divided into Federations for administrative purposes. Our West Kent Federation celebrates its 90th anniversary this year and in 2010 Pembury will also be celebrating 90years since opening their first WI.

The WI in Pembury meets monthly in Pembury Village Hall. There are two independent Institutes; one meeting in the afternoon and one in the evening. The programmes are varied and interesting with a friendly social atmosphere. See page 35 "For Your Diary" for details.

As well as the monthly meetings there are opportunities to join in with outings, classes, fun events, team and individual sports, and many more social and educational activities.

The WI also supports local causes and national campaigns:

Campaign launched 2005 – WI members take action to stop excess food packaging;

Campaign launched 2006 – 72,000 sign WI petition to save the dairy industry;

Campaign launched 2007 – WI Carbon Challenge.

The WI Carbon Challenge was launched at our AGM on 6 June 2007. It will help us reduce our carbon footprint, gives tips on how to green our lifestyle and reduce our carbon emissions and calculate our own carbon footprint using the WWF carbon footprint calculator.

The WI in Pembury will be supporting the village Fun Day on 12 July as part of our commitment to the local causes and we look forward to meeting many Pembury residents

To contact us for further details see page 39 "Village Organisations" Pembury Afternoon and Evening WIs.



## ACT ON IT!

THERE ARE so many talented people out there in Pembury – and only a tiny proportion of them are in Pembury Players . . .

Every time the school choir performs, or Year 6 do their annual Production; when events like the recent Pembury Musical Talent show take place, or the dozens of girls at Amberside Dance Studio perform; when the Pembury Youth Theatre Academy puts on a show, or when numerous other individuals join one of the several other dramatic organisations like The Oast, Trinity, LAMPS or TWODS – to name the first few that come to mind – there is the possibility that they don't know they could be part of Pembury Players here in the village!

Certainly you won't get the 'big theatre' experience that the Assembly Hall provides, but it's made up for by the 'full package' that being part of a small company provides. The only thing bought in is the script and everything else

is done by 'Players'. If you joined, you could be doing directing, choreography, poster design, programmes, tickets, or making costumes, props or scenery – as well as being on stage! If you do want to go on stage you can speak, dance, sing, all of them; or none! There are also musicians, sound engineers and make-up artists – and a vacancy for a costume master or mistress.

We do welcome children although we are not a youth organisation. Youngsters need to be secondary school age – we know from experience that show week can be exhausting – and preferably accompanied by a parent.

If you think any of these things sound fun, then come along on a Thursday evening at 8pm in the village hall. We will be starting on next year's pantomime on Thursday, September 4th and you will be made very welcome.

THE END (to thunderous applause)

**Caroline Mazzeo**



## ELECTIONS OVER FOR ANOTHER YEAR!

**W**E HAVE just come through the Borough elections and Paul Barrington-King is re-elected for Pembury for another four years. As we put the rosettes and clipboards away again for another year, it's a stark reminder that the County Council elections are just twelve months away.

However, it did rather turn my thoughts to Pembury's achievements past, present and future. There's been a real sense of team working between Parish, Borough and County Councillors for several years now. The Pembury Community Partnership under the chairmanship of David Coleman is an excellent forum for all the various agencies in Pembury to come together, update each other and work jointly for the good of Pembury.

Tom Younger and Nick Brown continue to provide a sense of safety as KCC Community Warden and Police Community Support Officer respectively. Our primary school now has a superb new £1.2million classroom extension, and young people enjoy excellent youth activities at the Baptist Church. For younger villagers the Parish Council's new play equipment is both used and valued, with a promise of more to come.

May also saw – as you'll read elsewhere in this issue – the opening of the new PAYFC football pavilion thanks, in 2008, to the largest single successful bid to the Football Association in the UK, alongside funding from the Parish Council and myself as County Councillor.

As I write this piece, I'm preparing to visit residents of the new Cornford House elderly care facility in Cornford Lane. Opened just a few weeks ago, the old cream house has gone, replaced with a spacious state-of-the-art building set in beautiful surroundings.

And the icing on the cake must surely be the start of building works on Pembury's new hospital, marking the culmination of years of persuasion, lobbying and debate by MPs, the community and Councillors at all levels.

### **“Pothole Blitz”**

Over the last few years, Pembury has had more road repair and surfacing than most other areas in the Borough, and although it's never enough, the County Council announced in April its “Pothole Blitz” – setting aside five times its usual budget to repair potholes across Kent, and encouraging both Councillors and the public to report much-needed repairs on a 24/7 reporting line – 08458 247 800 or by email at [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways) by clicking on “Report a Fault Online”. It's clearly working, as in the last five weeks alone, dedicated ‘Find and Fix’ teams have repaired over 11,300 potholes across Kent, with more than 2,500 reported by the public to our Contact Centre.

### **Networking Evening**

For the second year running, I organised a ‘Pembury Networking Evening’ to bring together public, private and voluntary sector organisations from across Tunbridge Wells. The event was kindly hosted by Rev Matthew Jackson at St Peter's Church in the High Street, with excellent catering provided by “Kitcheners” at Pepenbury. Although the date coincided with school holidays, it was well attended, and gave an excellent opportunity to discuss Pembury issues, and as with last year's event, many relationships were made and strengthened, all to the benefit of Pembury and its residents.





## Mini-LAA

One of the major initiatives I'm promoting at the moment is a "mini-LAA" for Pembury. To break through the local government jargon, the LAA, or Local Area Agreement is a contract between Councils and Government, where each agrees a set of targets to improve their communities, and Government attaches reward funding on successful completion of those targets.

It occurred to me, that through the Pembury Community Partnership, we could do exactly the same thing at a local level for Pembury. On this basis, I've managed to get agreement from Kent County Council to a reward pot of £25,000 for Pembury. Now we need to agree the targets – probably four or five 'quality of life' improvements – across the next two years, and how we'd spend the money to benefit the village and its residents. If you have any ideas on either targets or what we could do with the money, let me know – [kevin.lynes@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kevin.lynes@kent.gov.uk).

## Blog Site now Open!

And on the subject of contact, I've set up a blog site – a kind of electronic daily diary. I try to keep it updated at least once a day, but it would be great to hear what you think of it – you can post your own comments to any of my articles. The address is <http://kevinlynes.wordpress.com>. I look forward to hearing from you online!

**Kevin Lynes**

# MINI WATER FEATURES AND GINGER BISCUITS



## Fun at Pembury Gardeners' show

Children can create a miniature garden in a seed tray to enter into the summer Gardeners' Society show and include a pond, pretty fountain or even a waterfall!

There are two age groups – under 7 years and 7 to 11 years and the gardens just need to be delivered to the village hall before 11am on the morning of the show on Saturday 12 July. There is no entry fee.

If cookery is more your pastime, then why not try one of the classes for cooked food? These are open to all ages and cost 15p per class to enter (only 10p to members of the Pembury Gardeners' Society)

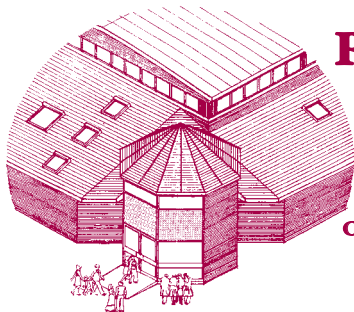


At this show you could make 5 Macaroons; a Swiss roll; a Ploughman's lunch; a Sponge-based fruit flan; 5 Ginger biscuits; 5 Brownies; a Carrot cake (6-7"); a Summer pudding; a jar of Strawberry jam or of Lemon marmalade. There's got to be something there that you fancy!

Or do you have an artistic eye for floral arrangement? You could create a Fathers' Day arrangement; something depicting "Coast" or "Afternoon tea". For novices, there is a class called "Reflections" for an arrangement using a mirror of water. The same entry fees apply.

To enter these or any of the other fruit, vegetable or flower categories, please telephone Ann Purton on 824223 for further information.





# PEMBURY VILLAGE HALL

## AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

Facilities include Main Hall, Meeting Room, Stage, Kitchen, Changing Rooms and Services.

Ideal for Club Meetings, Weddings, Anniversaries, Corporate Functions, Shows, Dances, Musical Events, etc.

CONTACT BOOKINGS MANAGER –  
RACHEL WINDUS ON 822837



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## MY PLOT

I HAD A LOVELY April on my allotments when I got totally organised and everything was neat and tidy. In fact, I often have lovely Aprils. It's afterwards when the going gets scruffy. April is before the main growing begins. There is a lull when all the seeds are in the ground, but they – including the weeds – haven't begun to show. Yet, I love this serene period . . .

. . . and then all of a sudden (it happens during Whitsun 'half term' week at the end of May) everything's up – a sea of green, some bits of which are treasured, but most of which are not. This is when I'm glad that I marked exactly where I planted my rows of seeds(!), which means I can see a ribbon of a slightly different green amongst the green carpet.

My new venture for this year is planting a vine. It was a Christmas present of a new red grape variety from Germany. German red wine is a closely guarded secret. It's absolutely nothing like the white wine that we get here. I'm told they only export their rubbish and they never export their red! Anyway, the slope of the allotments should be perfect for grapes because it is west facing and I am looking forward to putting Lamberhurst Vineyard out of business . . . ?

Other than that, it is going to be a year – if all goes well – of onions, onions and more onions. I've got them growing from baby onion sets, from seed, perpetual onions, shallots, spring onions, leeks from seed, self-seeded leeks from one that flowered last year and garlic. No one will want to come anywhere near us!

Talking of self-seeded leeks, I had self-seeded parsnips last year which turned out fine and since I am no good at getting parsnips to grow on purpose, I was glad to have ones that had got on with it without my help. The only trouble was they didn't plant themselves tidily; a grave offence that this year I have put right by transplanting them into neat rows! It really isn't sensible to move root vegetables because the bit that you want to develop into a lovely vegetable gets all crooked and damaged. But I tried to move them with a big chunk of soil still around the root and plopped them into a hole deep enough not to squidge them. Only time will tell if I end up with permed parsnips or not.

**Caroline Mazze**



## PROMISELAND – Coming to a school near you!

I N OCTOBER, Pembury Baptist Church is launching an exciting new children's activity called Promiseland, which will run every Sunday morning at Pembury School.

Each week, our aim will be to enable the children to have the best hour of their week, and to support families in bringing up their children. Promiseland will provide a safe environment where children from years reception to year 6 can have fun, make friends, and discover God's love.

With over 30 trained volunteers actively involved in this 'Saturday morning TV'



experience, Promiseland will be held in the school hall, and will include thirty minutes of fun activity stations, thirty minutes of dynamic 'large group' time all together, before splitting into 'small groups' of eight for the final thirty minutes.

Promiseland will be launching in October this year. Please email [promiseland@pemburybaptistchurch.org](mailto:promiseland@pemburybaptistchurch.org) if you'd like to register your child on this exciting adventure!

**Simon Cragg**  
Pembury Baptist Church



'Outstanding' is a word  
used frequently in our  
2007 ISI inspection report.

So when we claim to be  
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**SEVENOAKS KENT**

Tel: 01732 451334 [www.walthamstow-hall.co.uk](http://www.walthamstow-hall.co.uk)

Walthamstow Hall is a registered charity founded in 1838 for the education of girls.

**OUTSTANDING**



## PESTS OR JUST NATURAL?

**A**LL OF US love to admire our precious plants, especially the ones that are 'rare' and 'new hybrids'. We declare war on anything that could harm them and we won't stop until every potential enemy is dead. We use weapons of mass destruction and rarely think of the consequences to the rest of our garden.

I was no lover of snails, treating them like enemies and constantly looking for the perfect way to kill them. That was until a brave soul one day refused to withdraw into its shell and crawled onto my gloved hand. I was so stunned by its courageous curiosity that I wanted to have a closer look. It was cute with its four constantly moving tentacles, the shorter two for feeling and the longer ones that have eyes on the end. The pesty mollusc crawled without fear along my glove. Surprisingly, the feel from its crawl was pleasant. All of a sudden it wasn't a nasty pest, but a simple "God's creature". I made a connection.

The simple truth is that snails are snails, the way nature has created them. They can't change at will and stop munching on your precious hostas or lettuces or lupins. We have declared them enemies, but they are just part of nature along with earwigs, vine weevils, moths, grubs and all sorts of flies. They can't change what they eat, but they do respond to their environment in a very sensitive way. Snails and slugs predominantly eat rotting vegetation. The volume of insects is controlled by predators. That is true in open environments, unlike our gardens. Unfortunately, we try to resolve a tiny problem of pests through military means with the same rate of devastation. Not always visible to the naked eye, the harm from chemicals in your garden is great. Chemicals severely alter the biochemistry of the soil as the micro-organisms that inhibit it are very delicate and can be easily destroyed. Unhealthy soil means unhealthy plants and this continues down the food chain.



Beneficial predators – frogs, toads, thrushes, black birds, tits and others simply move away to unspoiled locations leaving your garden open to the attack of pests. The worst thing is that by using chemicals to control this attack you are destroying your environment even further. It is a deadly circle. The only way out is getting rid of all your chemicals – and I mean ALL, and leaving the garden to itself. Yes, you may have a problem with weeds and pests initially, but if you leave it long enough, it will restore itself to its full health much sooner than you think. It really pays to be gentle with nature. So what if you loose one or two of your 'rare' specimens. I would rather have a healthy garden than a collection of ill rarities.

To aid your garden you may want to investigate the use of copper tools (tapes, bands and rings) and plastic products like 'hosta halos' that restrain the activity of slugs and snails. They are expensive but well worth it. See [www.greengardener.co.uk/slugextra.htm](http://www.greengardener.co.uk/slugextra.htm) Also, try a Bokashi composting system. Not only can you compost nearly everything, but the beneficial bacteria in Bokashi bran will help to restore the soil to full health in no time. Check out [www.recycleworks.co.uk](http://www.recycleworks.co.uk) for more information on EM products. Remember, a little effort goes a long way.

**Masha Bayles**

## CRIME IN PEMBURY

**F**OLLOWING THE sudden increase in the numbers of reported crime in Pembury for the months of October, November and December 2007, I did query the validity of the figures with the police who assured me that they were accurate.

These questions were also raised at the Annual Parish Council meeting in the spring and again they were confirmed as the reported crime figures. May I also say to the parishioner who raised the question as to whether the time the crime was committed could be included, the answer unfortunately is no on two counts: one being a logistical and reporting space available, one being a possible infringement of some information and statistical act.

Let's move on. The figures for the quarter of January, February and March 2008 can only be described as a disaster, even though we expected an increase. The original figures provided came in at 77 and thinking it was a mistake, I queried it, providing a copy of the village map and boundary. The figures have been returned showing a total of 85 reported crimes. I am not going to go into percentages but we now have a problem. If these figures are correct, and for this edition I now have to assume that they are, then the statement in the recent edition of the Kent & Sussex Courier that crime figures are down does not apply to Pembury.

In the last edition, I stated that a number of instances of criminal damage had occurred over the New Year period, but we now know that these are now occurring on a regular basis, averaging one every three days. Totally unacceptable. Even the fabulous new pavilion in the recreation ground has received damage before it was officially opened. That building belongs to all of us and it is bad enough when people's personal property is damaged. We need to start feeling angry, unless you want the whole quality of how we live and what we own dictated to by a small mindless minority who certainly don't deserve the freedom they have.

I will now with, I hope, the blessing of the Parish Council speak in the first instance with our village police officers and then hopefully with the vital service of Neighbourhood Watch and possibly formulate a whole village commitment to a united front to combat this scourge.

Keep reporting those crimes; get a crime number so that it gets into the statistics. Be careful out there!

**Hugh Boorman**

MONTH	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Fraud and Deception	Criminal Damage	Drugs Offences	Other Offences	Shoplifting	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Theft of Pedal Cycle	Theft Offences	Vehicle Interference	Violent Crime	TOTAL
<b>January 2008</b>	4	1	3	17				1	2		4		6	43
<b>February 2008</b>		1	3	6	2		1	2	2		3		4	24
<b>March 2008</b>		1	2	8		1		1	1	1	1		2	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	3	8	31	2	1	1	4	5	1	8	5	12	85
<b>ROAD</b>														
Beagles Wood Road													1	1
Belfield Road	1			2					1					4
Bulls Place											1			1
Canterbury Road				1										1
Chalket Lane											1			1
Church Road	1			1										2
Elmhurst Avenue		1												1
Forest Way												1		1
Half Moon Lane			1											1
Hastings Road				2										2
Henwood Green Road				1					1		1	1	1	5
Henwoods Crescent				1				1						2
Henwoods Mount				1										1
High Street			6	3						1			5	15
Lower Green Road				7									3	10
Old Church Road		1									2			3
Pembury Road			1											1
Petersfield				1										1
Redwings Lane									1					1
Ridgeway	1			2					1			1	1	6
Romford Road		1										2		3
Sandhurst Avenue								1						1
Sweeps Hill Close								1						1
The Coppice				1										1
The Forstal				2										2
The Grove					2									2
Tonbridge Road	1			1		1	1	1	1		3		1	10
Woodhill Park				5										5
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	3	8	31	2	1	1	4	5	1	8	5	12	85

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## FOR YOUR DIARY

**Village Market** – Village Hall Tuesdays 9.30am–11.30am

**Pembury Community Warden surgery** same days as above, 10am–11.30am

**Town & Country (High Weald Housing) Clinic** same days as above, 10am–11am

**WRVS Lunch Club** – every Wednesday at 11.45am in the Pembury Village Hall during the school term time.

**CAB Pembury Library** Wednesday mornings 9.30am–11.30am

### July

- 2 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Branch outing: Yalding Organic Garden – details 822769
- 2 Pembury Afternoon WI: 'Fun with Maths' with Norman Evans – Village Hall – 2pm
- 4 Pembury Evening WI: Greg Clark MP – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 5 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane bus stop – 2.15pm
- 5 Cream teas - St Peter's Old Church – 3pm to 5pm
- 7 Floral Art – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 10 Pembury Book Group – Pembury Library – 11am
- 11 Pembury School Association: Adult Disco – Pembury School – 8pm. Details 822259
- 12 Pembury Gardeners' Summer Show – Village Hall – 2.30pm
- 12 Pembury Churches: Pembury Family Fun Day – Lower Green Recreation Ground – 1pm
- 14 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 14 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm

### August

- 1 Pembury Evening WI: Members' meeting – details from 822307
- 2 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Bo-Peep corner – 2.15pm
- 4 Floral Art - Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 6 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Members' garden party and 'Bring & Buy'. Details 822769
- 7 Pembury Afternoon WI: Members' meeting – Village Hall – 2pm
- 11 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 14 Pembury Book Group – Pembury Library – 11am
- 14 TWBC: Multi sport sessions – Lower Green Recreation Ground – between 1.30 & 3.30pm
- 21 TWBC: Multi sport sessions – Lower Green Recreation Ground – between 1.30 & 3.30pm
- 24 Charity Fun Day: Georgina Somers Pink Ribbon Fund – Royal Oak – from 2pm
- 27 TWBC: Multi sport sessions – Lower Green Recreation Ground – between 1.30 & 3.30pm

### September

- 1 Floral Art – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 3 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Town mouse to country mouse' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 4 Pembury Afternoon WI: 'King William IV and Mrs Dora Jordan' – Village Hall – 2pm
- 5 Pembury Evening WI: Flowers and Fruit Demonstration – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 6 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane bus stop – 2.15pm
- 8 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 8 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 11 Pembury Book Group – Pembury Library – 11am
- 13 Pembury Gardeners' Autumn Show – Village Hall – 2.30pm
- 13-14 Pembury Churches: Community action weekend – car washing, gardening, cleaning/tidying community spaces, visiting/befriending, etc – from 10am. Details 825590
- 18 Hospice in the Weald Open Day – Maidstone Road, Pembury. Details 820508
- 27 Kent Police Male Voice Choir – Pembury Upper Church – 7.30pm

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## ST PETER'S UPPER CHURCH CONCERTS

**A**LMOST 100 villagers attended the Rebecca Hollweg concert at St. Peter's Upper Church on Saturday night 26 April, making the church look pretty full. The general feedback was that all really enjoyed Rebecca's mixed programme of gentle jazzy standards and her own songs – the bar was very popular too! The jazz standards Rebecca sang included Satchmo's "What a Wonderful World" and "Moonlight in Vermont" – the improvised instrumental solos from Phil Peskett on piano and Julian Ferrarato on violin during the concert also made the place buzz.

Rebecca sang some of her own compositions including "Love Me Back" and "Rocked by your Love" from her latest CD "Orange Roses". With the audience demanding an encore Rebecca and Andy Hamill performed her song "Dancing in the Kitchen", and on the way out one lady was overheard saying that was exactly what she was going home to do – dance in the kitchen!



The next concert at the Upper Church will be on Saturday 27 September at 7.30 when we will have a visit by the Kent Police Male Voice Choir. This year they celebrate their 30th anniversary and are very popular, and possibly rather better known, over in East Kent.

Tickets will again be £7.50 and will be available from August from Pembury Pharmacy; by phone on 824761; and by e-mail from [tickets@pemburychurch.net](mailto:tickets@pemburychurch.net).

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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION – OUR SERVICE TO YOU

**O**UR ENVIRONMENTAL Protection Team at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is setting out its standards of service so that customers and service users know what to expect from the team and what we need from you so that we can provide the best possible service.

Our service has powers under statute to investigate issues such as:

- Noise and vibration
- Odour, smoke and dust emissions
- Light pollution
- Accumulations of waste and noxious deposits

- Filthy and verminous premises
- Private drainage issues
- Air quality
- Contaminated land
- Some Industrial pollution control.

Where we have no powers we can offer advice or share action with other enforcement.

### **David Bower**

Environmental Health Officer

[David.bower@tunbridgewells.gov.uk](mailto:David.bower@tunbridgewells.gov.uk)

Tel: 01892 526121 ext 2073

TWBC, Town Hall, Tunbridge Wells,  
Kent TN1 1RS





## Citizens Advice Bureau FREE CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE

Pembury Library  
Wednesdays 9.30 to 11.30am

### WORKING TOGETHER AGAINST CRIME

**W**E CAN work together to reduce crime in Pembury and make your home more secure. If you are interested in purchasing a shed alarm or a Passive Infra Red system (PIR) for your property at a small cost, then please get in contact with our Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer.

Kent Police have obtained a limited number of property marking kits, which we are making available at a reduced cost. Using a property marking kit helps identify stolen property and deters thieves.

To find out more about these products, please contact our Neighbourhood Watch Liaison officer: Carey Amor, Neighbourhood Watch Liaison Officer Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks, Cranbrook Police Station, Wheatfield Drive, Cranbrook. Kent TN17 3LT  
Tel. 01580 711004 email: [carey.amor@kent.pnn.police.uk](mailto:carey.amor@kent.pnn.police.uk)

**Nicholas Brown**, Police Community Support Officer

### CHURCH TIMES

#### **ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES**

##### **Upper Church**

8am Holy Communion

9.45am The Parish

Eucharist and Jun Chch

10am Holy Communion  
(Wednesdays)

##### **Old Church**

11.30am Matins (except  
first Sunday, Holy  
Communion)

Evening services as  
advertised on Church  
noticeboards.

Contact tel. no. 824761.

#### **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**

Whether you are familiar with church or have never been to a church before, PBC is an enjoyable, caring and diverse community with activities all through the week for all ages.

Our services explore relevant life issues and are on Sundays at 10am for a family service (with children's activities) and 6.30pm for a café service. We'd love to see you there!

Please call 825590 or visit [www.pemburybaptistchurch.org.uk](http://www.pemburybaptistchurch.org.uk) for details

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# YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

## PARISH COUNCIL



Cllr David Coleman  
22 Ridgeway TN2 4ER  
Tel: 823402  
**Chairman of Parish Council**



Cllr June Crowhurst,  
44 Elmhurst Avenue TN2 4DA  
Tel: 824873  
**Vice Chairman of Parish Council**  
*Chairman, Amenities, Christmas  
Lights and Pembury in Bloom*



Cllr Janet Dichett,  
7 Cornford Park TN2 4PW  
Tel: 822586



Cllr Kevin Edser,  
49 The Gill TN2 4DJ  
Tel: 823643



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



Cllr Patrick Gillan  
1 Knights Close TN2 4EL  
Tel: 825324



Cllr Matthew Jackson  
4 Hastings Road TN2 4PD  
Tel: 824761  
**Chair Public Relations  
Working Group**



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



Cllr Andrew Proctor  
82 Woodhill Park TN2 4NP  
Tel: 823064



Cllr Jennifer Roberts  
21 High Street TN2 4PH  
Tel: 824922  
**Chairman, Finance, Audit &  
Personnel Working Group**



**Clerk to the Pembury Parish  
Council**  
Barbara Russell, 6 The Grove  
TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193. Email:  
clerk@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

## **Deputy Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council**

Yvette Allen, 6 The Grove TN2 4BU.  
Tel: 823193.  
Email: deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

## BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

June Crowhurst, 44 Elmhurst Avenue TN2 4DA. Tel: 824873

Mike Tompsett, 14 Gimble Way, TN2 4BX. Tel: 822711

## COUNTY COUNCIL

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

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# VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

## AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

## BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Louise Tel: 823097

## CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon Bill Eason. Tel: 824133

## CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

## CRICKET CLUB

Hon. Secretary: Andy Dawes, 17 Cornford Park, Pembury.  
Tel: 822862

## 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

## HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

## KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Mrs Sally-Anne Huang. Tel: 822006

## KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Mrs Ann Lawson. Tel: 820204

## LABOUR PARTY

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

## LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

David Mills. Tel: 825577

## LITTLE RASCALS

c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

## MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY

TW District. Tel: 0845 6037882

## NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

## NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605

## PEMBURY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Brenda Brown. Tel: 824163

## PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB

David Gow. Tel: 824119

## PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Wayne Alexander, Church Office. Tel: 825590

## PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

## PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

## PEMBURY COMMUNITY WARDEN

Tom Younger. Tel: 07813 694138

## PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Parish Office. 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 PAVILION BOOKINGS

Carole Edser. Tel: 823643

## PEMBURY PHOENIX TWIRLERS

Dave or Chris Brett. Tel: 824233

## PEMBURY PLAYERS

Margaret Weaver. Tel: 824362

## PEMBURY SCHOOL

Headteacher – Mrs C. Thewlis. Tel: 822259

## PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Frances Armstrong. Tel: 822259

## PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rachel Teigen. Tel: 825580

## PEMBURY SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

Secretary: Mrs Marion Warren. Tel: 547617

## PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

## PEMBURY SOCIETY

Chairman: Ken Watts. Tel: 822770

## PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

## PEMBURY U3A

Membership Secretary: Andrew Richardson.  
Tel: 824012

## PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Rev. Matthew Jackson Tel: 824761

## PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Karol Young. Tel: 823413

Julie Patten. Tel: 824479

## PEMBURY YOUTH THEATRE ACADEMY

Dee Barrington-King. Tel: 825144

## PEPENBURY

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

## POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

PCSO Nick Brown. Tel: 07772 226001

## ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Mike Raper. Tel: 01892 520171

## ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

## SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.  
Tel: 822325

## SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.  
Tel: 822325 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

## TOWN & COUNTRY (HIGH WEALD HOUSING)

Sally Hunter. Tel: 501605

## TREE WARDEN, Caroline Mazzey. 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

## WHEELCHAIR LOAN

(24 hour maximum, for Pembury Residents)

Pauline Hawker. Tel: 824327

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Margaret Buss. Tel: 822530

Evening: Mrs Angela Saunders. Tel: 822307

## WRVS LUNCH CLUB

Contact: Mrs Amanda Everett. Tel: 823280



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**Independent Schools Inspectorate Report, 2004**

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