

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 139
AUTUMN 2009



CONTENTS

Musical Picnic on the Green	3	What Does Christmas Mean To You?	23
An Update from PAYFC	5	Wildlife In Pembury of Old	25
Pembury People – Huffy Wilson	7 & 9	Dieppe to Marseille – An Incredible Journey	27
A Time to Dance	9	Pempenbury Events	28
Pembury School Association	11	Pembury U3A	29
Snippets	13	Hospice In The Weald	29
Kent College	15	Green Gardening _ Trees Are Our Concern	31 & 33
Sweet Peas Beaten By Hot Spring	16	Library Opening Times	32
How Will You Change The World?	16	Your County Councillor Reports	33
Brownies	17	Crime In Pembury	34
RNLI Pembury Branch	17	For Your Diary	35
Use It Or Lose It	19 & 20	Rosie's Recipes	36
My Plot	20	Pmbury Trees – Cedar	37
“Extravangza” at St. Peter’s Upper Church	21	Church Times	37
Guiding Chimes	21	Your Representatives	38
Dr. Justine O’Neal	23	Village Organisations	39

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PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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MUSICAL PICNIC ON THE GREEN

THE VILLAGERS of Pembury were treated to an evening filled with music on Saturday 20 June. Families from all over the village came together on the village green to enjoy picnics and listen to the musical talents of the Pembury Players and Huffy Wilson.

The evening was organised by the Parish Council, and was even more popular than in previous years. The Council also used the evening to promote the new "Pride in Pembury" competition by selling reusable bags displaying their logo.

The Pembury Players started the evening off, playing music from ABBA, the Beatles and other popular covers. They were, as ever, very popular and several youngsters could be seen dancing in front of the band.

After a quick hand-over, local band Huffy Wilson took to the stage. They played several of their own songs, and several rock covers. The crowd were very impressed with the band, and demanded an encore after they had finished their set. The band's groupies cheered them along, and it wasn't long before the crowd were all on their feet singing along and dancing to the music. Huffy Wilson are the feature of our Pembury People article which can be found in this issue of the PVN.

The evening was a great success and a collection and money from CD sales have been donated to local charities. We eagerly look forward to next year's picnic.

Editor



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 November 2009.

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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AN UPDATE FROM PAYFC

SUMMER TOURNAMENTS

A number of Pembury teams have taken part in Football Tournaments across the region during the past months. On 17 May, the Pembury Athletic Youth Football Club held its own annual tournament at the Schools at Somerhill in Tonbridge. Despite the occasional shower it was a very successful event with more players than ever participating. 87 teams of young footballers from across Kent, East Sussex and South London took part in the event, with ages ranging from the Under 7s to the Under 12s. We estimate that in the region of 2500 people attended throughout the day.

A huge thank you to the many parents from the club who worked extremely hard on the day to organise parking, sell cakes and teas and provide the essential refereeing. Those working in refreshments experienced particularly high demand during the day, with lots of hot drinks being sold along with 500 sausages, 500 burgers and 150 bacon rolls being consumed!

The tournament is a massive fundraiser for the football club and the event would not have been so successful and enjoyable without the generous provision of the facilities at Somerhill and the extensive support and sponsorship of local businesses for which the club is extremely grateful.

The quality of football was extremely high – Pembury were successful with the Under 11s winning their age group with a 2-0 win over Tonbridge Juniors and the Under 12s making the final of their age group only to narrowly miss out to in a 2-0 defeat to Tonbridge Angels.

The Under 11s were again successful at the Paddock Wood Tournament with a 2-0 win in the final against Tunbridge Wells Forresters – a second PAYFC team also reached the semi-final of the 'plate' competition. In addition, the Under 11s never let a goal in over both tournaments and a total of 12 matches!



CHANGES BEHIND THE SCENES

On 11 June the football club held their AGM in The Pavilion. There were a few changes announced, and after 10 years as Chairman, David Gow stepped down to be replaced by Colin Forward. Jane Angell-Payne and Steve Dunkerley also stepped down after many years as treasurer and vice chairman. All were presented with gifts as a token of appreciation from all within the football club – a tireless amount of work goes on behind the scenes and the three have contributed a huge amount of time and effort over the years to push the club forward to where we are now. David Gow has taken position of Vice Chairman and we welcome Andrew Perritt as the new Club Treasurer.

TRAINING 5s, 6s AND 7s

This season we welcome Simon and Garry who will be taking over as Head Coaches for the Under 7s and 6s – and both will be completing their Football Association Certificates before the end of the year. We are also looking for new players for the Under 5s, 6s and 7s. Training for the 6s and 7s is now at 9.30am on Saturdays at the Recreation Ground, and the Under 5s will be at 10.30am, also on Saturdays, so we hope the earlier times will attract new players to the club. Training starts from 29 August. Please contact Matt Foley on 823819 or matt.foley@hotmail.co.uk if you are interested in joining the club.

Matt Foley, PAYFC Club Secretary



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PEMBURY PEOPLE

Introducing . . . HUFFY WILSON – In Their Own Words

THE PICNIC on The Green this year saw a welcome contribution from a young band called Huffy Wilson. Many people have mentioned to me the impact they made to a considerable audience. As we have two of the key members of the band living in Pembury, and I hope that the rest of the band will forgive me for focusing on them, I have chosen HW as my feature for this PVN edition. Both Dan Edser, lead and rhythm guitar, and Joe Meiners, bass and rhythm guitar, are well known to most of us in the village. Having played in more than a few bands myself over the years, I am always keen to support any local musical talent in our area. Huffy Wilson, as a result of their gig on the green, have created a considerable amount of interest and I believe it might be of use for you, our readers, to offer some background on the band.

Huffy Wilson is a four piece rock/punk band established at The School of Rock that is run by acclaimed musician Dan Clews. They have been writing their own material and rehearsing for their debut album which will be recorded in October 2009. They currently have their debut demo single out on general release which can be obtained by contacting their website www.huffywilson.co.uk. Tracks include, “Can You Do Me A Favour”, “Blow My Brains Out”, “Electrolight”, and “The Man In His Golden Waistcoat”, all original songs written by the band.

Huffy Wilson began via a music course at the school of Sevenoaks Preparatory, where some young kids discovered that they had enough musical talent to form a band. Along with Dan and Joe we have Max Meikle on drums and Louis Nevison on lead vocals. The name Huffy Wilson came from an incredibly farfetched story. The band members were playing basketball outside the school, when Joe got the ball in the hoop from many metres out, claiming he knew the ball and net ‘belonged together’. Louis found this rather amusing and noticed the ball’s brand was ‘Wilson’ and the net’s brand ‘Huffy Sports’. He exclaimed ‘Yes, and the two lived happily ever after and had a child named HUFFY WILSON!’

Beginning with their own compositions, they soon added some covers to try and gain

publicity. These included Highway to Hell, AC/DC; I Believe in a thing called Love, The Darkness; By The Way, Red Hot Chilli Peppers, and Smells Like Teen Spirit by Nirvana.

Dan’s story begins – “At Pembury Primary School I had lessons with a teacher called Mr Paul Malsom, who taught me the basics. (I am now taking music at Mascalls as part of my options.) I really enjoy playing with Huffy Wilson as all of us get on so well, and our music is great as we contribute to all of our songs that we write and play. I would like to think that Huffy Wilson



continued on page 9



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PEMBURY PEOPLE continued

would do quite well in the music industry as I believe we have the look and we certainly have the sound. I would very much like to carry on with Huffy Wilson as every time we play a gig, we get a whole stage, each time better than before, and all of us are always improving.”

Joe is the bassist of Huffy Wilson. Although originally wanting to be on electric guitar, he soon realised that he would be better suited to playing bass. Joe first started playing guitar whilst in his fifth year at Pembury Primary School and, although not very dedicated at the time, it became a serious hobby in his life shortly after leaving and studying music at Mascalls.

With heavy Ska (a blend of Jamaican music with jazz, rock or blues) influences, his playing style tries to bring melody through to the song and not just persisting with rhythm. Joe adds, “Huffy Wilson was an ideal opportunity for me to put my music skills into practice. Having been together for a year, Huffy Wilson has started to form a fan-base and have performed a number of live gigs in the area – kick-starting the musical dream.”

Dan concludes, “We all enjoyed playing at the Picnic on the Green, and would like to thank Pembury Parish Council for the opportunity to perform in front of our home crowd. It was fun signing the CDs we sold after the gig, and hope our fans enjoyed the gig and our CD.”

Paul Barrington-King

A TIME TO DANCE

LOGO TO
COME

AMBERSIDE DANCE Studio’s bi-annual show took place on 27 June: a hot show on a very hot day. From tiny pre-schoolers to dancing parents, they twirled, tapped and acted on the stage at the Royal Victoria Hall, Southborough. This year was a mega show, with over 100 youngsters and for the first time a group of adults taking part, and included drama and singing classes as well as the ballet, modern, tap and jazz dancing classes, all in highly imaginative settings and wonderful costumes. The theme on this occasion was time itself, whether it was a time of year, a time of day, a time to do something, musical timing, a scene or music from a past decade (such as the 1960s), or an event.

Families of those taking part watched the show in the afternoon and evening performances, and were given a rare treat, being at one time charmed by the tiniest participants as elves and fairies, sent into a dream world in ballet classes, dancing to the beat in Jai Ho and Too Darn Hot (very appropriate given the weather on the day), and amused in the drama scenes like Vermin. There were elegant scenes from both modern and traditional ballet, and two of the senior students, Suzanne Cobourne and Lucy Hall, choreographed and danced their own piece, “Be Someone”. Then at the end of the show we were all treated to the pièce de resistance: a pro toe-tapping tap dance from the adult group, wearing “L” plates, before the joyous finale with the whole company.

The show was a huge undertaking, and praise must go to the Principal, Victoria Mustill-King, who sat up making costumes until 2am in addition to organising the show and taking rehearsals. Thanks go to all of the tutors, choreographers, supporting helpers, chaperones, those who made and supplied costumes, and the sound and lighting technicians. And a particularly big “thank you and well done” to all of the dancers, singers and actors who took part. In a letter to pupils and parents, Victoria said “I am very proud of you all. It was wonderful to see such confidence and enthusiasm”.

Kathy Wallwork

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PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

THE MAIN aim of the Pembury School Association (PSA) is to raise funds for the school, to purchase or donate towards equipment that cannot be funded from the school's main budget. Over the years, the PSA has made significant contributions to the school, ranging from climbing bars in the school hall, outdoor play equipment and lunch trolleys, to a £15,000 payment towards the school's new ICT suite. This year in particular, we have bought new dining tables for the school, replaced the chairs in the ICT suite and contributed towards a mosaic that Year 6 have created as their legacy to the school. We have had a great fundraising year over the past 12 months from September 2008. A variety of events were organised, for the children, for adults and for families.

The children love a good party and we held two children's discos during the year. Both of them were very well attended, far too many sweets and fizzy drinks were consumed and everyone is looking forward to the next one in October. There was also a Fashion Show, where the children had the opportunity to dress up in the latest fashions and 'strut their stuff' on the catwalk!



For the adults, we had a Quiz Night and an Auction of Promises. The quiz was won by a team of teachers – a good reflection of the quality of our teaching staff at the school! Despite being held during such a turbulent economic climate, the auction raised a great deal of money and there was particularly frenzied bidding over the visit to Big Ben which was kindly arranged by Greg Clark.

The Christmas Fair is always a big attraction on the village calendar and last year's was as popular as ever, raising nearly £3,000 for the school. Later in the year we had a family Ice Skating day: a synthetic rink was set up in the school hall, refreshments were served and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable (if a little wobbly) day.

In May, we held a Recycling Month. On each Friday throughout the month, we collected different items that could raise funds for the school through recycling: mobile phones, ink cartridges, jewellery and textiles. We also collected board games, as the school's 'wet weather' supply of games was in need of replenishment. The highlight of the recycling month was a Scarecrow competition. Each class designed and built their own scarecrow, made entirely from recycled materials. The finished scarecrows were fantastic and highly imaginative; you may have seen the photographs in *The Courier*.

Just in time for the end of term, our very own book entitled "We Are Writers" has been published. The PSA gathered together a poem from every child in the school to create this book, which is a vibrant snapshot of Pembury School in summer 2009.

The highlight of our fundraising year was the Summer Fair, held on 4 July. The weather was glorious, we had an unprecedented turnout, and raised in excess of £6,000 on the day. This, added to all of the other events over the past 12 months, brings the amount raised this year to just over £14,000.

Thank you to everybody who has helped and supported us throughout the year.

Frances Armstrong

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SNIPPETS

RECYCLING IN PEMBURY

Pembury took one step further into the recycling age. Thanks to the tireless efforts of TW Councillor Paul Barrington-King, we now have a plastic and tin recycling collection scheme in the village. Well done, Paul! If you haven't got your fabulous new green plastic container, please contact Client Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Town Hall, Civic Way, Royal Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1RS. Or you can telephone them on 554205.

PARENT OF A TEENAGER?

Any bored 11–16 year olds can find an outlet for fun at The Mix youth group on Tuesday evenings from 7pm–9pm. Run as a partnership between KCC, PPC and Pembury Baptist Church, The Mix is making use of the youth hut at PBC, the Pavilion and Pembury Rec for games and football. Using all the latest technology, they are able to do interactive games and still enjoy a quiet (or noisy) game of pool, competitive or relaxed game of table tennis or cards. In August they went on a day adventure to Carrot Wood, to enjoy sessions of abseiling and climbing. If you would like to join in or know someone who might, call Helen (Community Projects Worker) on 825590 for more information.

IT'S A KNOCKOUT

This year's 'It's a Knockout' competition will take place on Saturday 26 September in Lower Green Recreation Ground at 1pm. Each team of six youths, from organisations around the village, will compete for the Denise Barnes Cup. There are still some spaces available, but don't leave it to the last minute to apply! To take part, or for more information, please contact Kevin Edser on 823643 or email kedser@hotmail.com.

A VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER

As part of Hope in Pembury, there is an opportunity for individuals and families to enjoy an evening out together in the village with friends and neighbours at a harvest supper. There will be a cold supper and desserts, and refreshments provided. Bring your own beer or wine. The popular Nick Beak and his Circus Takeaway, a master of magic, juggling and circus tricks, will entertain the children, and adults can look forward to enjoying music by a group of local folk singers. Tickets priced £3.50 per adult, and £1 for children under 14 (under 2 years, free entry) can be purchased from the Chemist or the Post Office. Please phone 824327 with any queries.

COFFEE STOP

There will be a coffee shop on Thursday mornings (10am–12noon) in the "hallway" of St. Peter's Upper Church commencing 3 September. "Coffee Stop" will be open to all each Thursday from September to December 2009, re-opening in the spring of 2010. Do please come along for a coffee/tea, cakes or just a chat. For further details ring Lynda Newman on 823773.

NEW VILLAGE ORGANISATION

Interested in wildlife and conservation? Then we've created just the group for you! The new Pembury Eco Group is a village society to celebrate the natural world and learn more about the countryside that surrounds us. This autumn/winter we'll be organising a series of talks from leading ecologists in the South East (and, hopefully, from further afield) plus arranging walks and field trips to put us all more in touch with our local wildlife. If you're interested in joining the group, contact Rick & Masha Bayles on rick@bayles.demon.co.uk, Parish Councillor Sally Osborn or write to any of us c/o your PVN.

APPLE DAY

On Saturday 17 October, Pippins Farm is participating in Apple Day celebrations. There will be apple pressing and tasting of traditional and modern varieties. The event is free, but contributions to the Hospice in the Weald will be gratefully received. For further information, contact David Knight on 824544.

PEPENBURY

There will be a West Kent Charity Quiz on Saturday 14 November at the Village Hall from 7pm in support of Pepenbury. The cost is £10 per person for a team of 8. This will include food, and there will be alcohol to purchase. For an entry form, please contact Maggie Jenkins on 822168. From 21 November, Pepenbury will be selling Christmas Trees and Wreaths from their Farm Shop.

FIREWORKS

This year's firework display, organised by Pembury Parish Council, will be in Lower Green Recreation Ground on Friday 6 November at 7pm. Please remember to bring a torch for your own safety and ensure that all children are accompanied by a responsible adult. The show is free, but donations will be accepted for local charities.

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KENT COLLEGE

THE SPRING and Summer terms at Kent College have been packed full of activities and events. In March and April the girls were thrilled to have mosaic artist Oliver Budd visit the school and work with them to create mosaic art work to hang at the swimming pool. The decorative pieces were finished and hung in May and a celebratory drinks reception was held for all pupils involved, Parents' Associations and Mr Budd.

The girls have visited an array of countries over the past term, these include the Language trip to Tenerife, a Geography and Outdoor education trip to the stunning Ardèche, where girls were involved in abseiling, caving, kayaking and camping. In April the bi-annual ski trip took place and our new Year 7s enjoyed a sunny day visiting Boulogne. Two sixth formers enjoyed a trip of a lifetime after visiting the Ascension Islands as part of their Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award where they helped with conservation work.



In Sport, Kent College hosted its first British Secondary Floor and Vault Gymnastics Competition; the KC Gymnastic Squad did very well and came away with 9 medals in total. And in swimming, the Freestyle and Medley Relay teams became Kent Champions. Our netball teams have performed to their highest, winning local league cups and plate competitions.

Kent College was very proud to welcome many friends and new faces to the Judi Dench Theatre in March for the outstanding theatre production of Romeo and Juliet and in June for the

Operetta Pirates of Penzance. In the Arts, GCSE and A level students proudly exhibited a stunning collection of their exam and course work and Julia Chan became the third student in three years to win a National BA Crest Award in textiles technology.

Girls have continued to raise vast amounts for various charities through activities such as abseiling, sponsored silences and dog walking. In addition they have donated money to charities such as Shelterbox, the Normandy Veterans and Help the Heroes.

In August, 98.8% of the girls achieved A-C grades at A Level with over 25% achieving straight As. Headmistress Sally-Anne Huang commented that "this is a day for celebration. These are excellent results and we are proud of all the girls".

All in all it has been an extensive and busy, yet highly rewarding, spring and summer term, with many achievements and records broken. Staff and students now look forward to a relaxing and reflective summer break.

Emma Chandler

SWEET PEAS BEATEN BY HOT SPRING

ALTHOUGH THE village gardeners' Summer Show was limited by the strangely hot weather last spring, everyone enjoyed it and the cookery went ahead unhindered! The cakes and plants for sale raised a healthy profit and, of course, the raffle always sells well.

It was the Sweet Peas which really took the brunt of the spring heat and there were no Roses on display at all. Hopefully the lack of entries was a blip caused by Nature and the clash of conflicting events on that busy Saturday back in early July. So, looking forward to Saturday 12 September when the Gardeners' Society will be hosting the Autumn Show!

For the junior cookery section (7 to 11 years), children can make five chocolate cornflake crisps and/or they can enter a class to make a miniature scarecrow, less than 30cm tall (under 7 or 7-11 years). For the main classes, there are many categories, but the most ambitious is probably Mississippi Mud Pie.



The floral exhibits focus on Chrysanthemums and Dahlias but there are many more. Then there's all the veg, including the heaviest onion and the longest runner bean. Will last year's records be beaten? The floral art has several classes including an all green arrangement and for complete novices (someone who has never won anything in floral art), an arrangement for a new baby.

To enter any of the classes costs nothing if you are a child, 10p if you are a member, otherwise 15p per entry. Contact John Gorringe c/o 53 Church Road by 8pm on Wednesday 9 September if you want to show off your skills!

Gardeners' Society

HOW WILL YOU CHANGE THE WORLD?

IN 2010, the Guide movement will be celebrating its centenary. Leading up to this event all the Units in Girlguiding have been challenged to complete a project to change the world. There were 19 projects suggested, all working with leading charities, and the aim is to raise awareness of world issues, raise funds for specific projects or take the direct approach and do something. The Girlguiding units in Pembury have taken up this challenge in their own chosen way.

The Trefoil Guild which is for members of the organisation who have spent many years working with the youth and have their own activities as well, decided to work with the Woodland Trust. We helped to collect used Christmas cards and sent them for special recycling, 7000 in all from the churches in Pembury. We gave our own Christmas collection to our project and have worked with the village in a project to plant box bushes at the burial ground at Pembury Old Church.

The Parish Council and members of the churches are making this area a haven for wildlife and several conservation projects are being undertaken under the keen eye of Hugh Boorman. With permission from the Church Authorities and the Parish Council this resulted in the planting of three box bushes by the Trefoil Guild in the grounds to encourage insects and certain birds.

Janet Ditchett



BROWNIES

ON 13 JUNE, 3rd Pembury Brownies held a Jumbly Craft Sale in aid of Hospice in the Weald. We had a brainstorming session of how we could raise lots of money for the charity, and then spent weeks at Brownies preparing craft materials, cooking snacks to sell, and making posters and leaflets to promote the event.

In the morning, the Brownies arrived early at St. Anselm's Church to set up the stalls. A sign was carefully made and tacked to the outside fence, and the Brownies put prices on the items for sale, and waited eagerly for their first customers. Steadily, people began to arrive and soon the hall was buzzing with villagers who had seen our posters, and supportive parents.

The morning was a great success, and we raised a fantastic £120 for Hospice in the Weald. A huge thank you to all who displayed our promotional posters and to everyone who came to see us on the day. Well done, Brownies!

Jo Plane, "Barney", 3rd Pembury Brownies



RNLI – PEMBURY BRANCH

PEMBURY BRANCH RNLI is currently in its fifth decade of activity. From humble beginnings, the Branch has now flourished to become one of the main fundraising organisations in the Village.

Their nine-strong Committee of dedicated volunteers is assisted by many other local residents, who are willing to 'pitch in' to help at special events such as the regular May and Autumn Fayres and supermarket collections. The Fayres are often supported by a Mayoral presence and always include entertainment for children.

In recent years, supporters have been invited to visit Lifeboat stations to witness training exercises. Their Honorary Chairman, Peter Chartres, is active in giving talks to schools in the West Kent area, particularly emphasising to children the importance of beach safety.

Many people do not realise that the Lifeboat Service receives no UK Government grant, but relies entirely upon voluntary donations, local fundraising efforts and legacies to keep its financing on an even keel.

Another initiative is the Pembury Branch RNLI 100 Venture. For the equivalent of £1 per month a maximum of 100 members enjoy the chance to win a top prize of £100 every six months (along with eight other smaller prizes). Half of all monies collected goes in prize money; the remainder to the RNLI. A few remaining 'shares' are currently available, for those who wish to snap them up!

Further details of Branch activities may be obtained from the Branch Chairman, Peter Chartres (Tel. 823759).

Peter Chartres



RNLI Pembury Branch supporters on a recent visit to Newhaven Lifeboat Station



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USE IT OR LOSE IT

JONI MITCHELL'S most famous song, 'Big Yellow Taxi', has a chorus that runs "Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got 'til it's gone". In these difficult economic times they're good words to remember.

I moved to Pembury nearly two years ago. I remember, at the time, being struck by what a thriving business community we seemed to have in our village; but it looks a different story these days. In the last few months we've seen Threshers Wine Store on the High Street close down and Speights, the Butcher's on Henwood Green Road, also shut up shop. How is our village community threatened by closures like this and what steps are our local businesses taking to battle the economic downturn?

The reality of shop closures is that they have a hidden impact on village life as we know it. Yes, we can still get our various supplies without any real problems – but village shops and other local businesses are as much about community as they are about commerce. Businesses like these are at the heart of the community. Places where people go, not just to buy something, but to connect with each other and to spend time talking, in a way that you don't get in larger towns and cities. You can always buy your supplies from a supermarket but will you get the same personal service and knowledge of your likes and dislikes that you would get in a village shop?

I talked to James Cunningham, landlord at The Camden Arms, about how the current economic downturn has affected his business. He believes that it's important for any business to be active in the community, so that there's a two way relationship between the business and its customers, and the Camden Arms supports a number of organisations in the village. His view is that, in the current economic climate, companies need to diversify and find different ways to add value to their business. The Camden has done well in this respect, developing their hotel and restaurant business alongside their village pub. Because of this diversification they've been able to absorb some of the rising costs of their business without passing them directly on to the customers.

In fact, all the pubs we have in the village show signs of this diversification, offering food, live music, screened sports, etc. so that our village still boasts four public houses at a time when pubs around the country are closing at the alarming rate of 50 a week!

At the bottom end of the village we have one obvious business vying for our attention. Downingbury Farm is a very active local business, with its "Pick Your Own" soft fruits and the Farm Shop, which offers a very real alternative to supermarket shopping. Despite the fact that prices are not as competitive as those at the supermarkets and the range of foods available not as extensive, the farm shop clearly appears to be thriving. I asked owner Peter Jarvis why he thought his business was doing so well in the downturn.

He puts Downingbury's success down to a number of factors. Their ability to expand the farm shop, back in 2006, and carry a wider range of goods had a big effect on business. Diversity has also played its part – while villagers may see it as a useful place to buy some of their food, there's no doubt that it's the "pick your own" business that brings customers in from the wider area and the recent addition of a marquee selling coffee and snacks has also attracted visitors.

But the growing interest in ethically sourced foods and awareness of the impact of food miles has also had an influence. Even exotic foodstuffs such as Olives and Olive Oil are sourced from a local importer/distributor – but, wherever possible, foods sold in the shop are sourced from the immediate area, meaning they're fresher and have travelled far fewer miles to be available to customers. Equally important is the fact that a local farm shop like this keeps business and money circulating within the local and regional community.

One new business in Pembury is a very positive response to the economic downturn. "Vintage Kids" was set up by two enterprising mothers in the village, Julie Phillipson and Mary-Jane Underhay. They buy good quality, second-hand children's clothing, most of it from well-known high street and designer labels, and re-sell it under their Vintage Kids brand.

They have a stall at the Village Market, in the village hall, on the first Tuesday of each month as well as running a small stall at Pembury Baptist Church to coincide with the Little Rascals playgroup and the Health Visitor's Clinic.

continued on page 20

USE IT OR LOSE IT – continued

Their business is very much based within the community and can be seen as a response to challenging times, with disposable income often limited and good quality children's clothing frequently expensive for the amount of wear it provides before the child outgrows it. By effectively re-cycling children's clothing in this way, they're building a business while providing a valuable service.

They're also pro-active in their use of the outlets the village can offer. In addition to regularly using the Village Market and Baptist Church, they recently organised their own vintage fair at the Pavilion on the Recreation Ground; teaming up with other local businesses to offer a fun day for families as well as giving them, and others, a sales outlet for their goods. This creative thinking and use of village facilities underlines the value of our village community to all our local businesses.

When I started researching this article I thought I was going to encounter a fair bit of doom and gloom – but that hasn't really been the case. It seems our local businesses are able to adapt and continue to thrive in the village as long as we continue to support them and exercise our opportunities to buy locally, as well as from the wider area. Speights has, in fact, moved into Tunbridge Wells, so they're really not that far away although clearly it's not as good as having them here in the village. If we don't want our other businesses to move out we need to make full use of them. That way, they'll still be here in the good times as well as the bad.

Rick Bayles

MY PLOT

THE WEIRD Spring weather may have interfered with the Gardeners' Society's Sweet Peas but everything else thrived in the wet, warm summer; but there was also a lot of wind and it played havoc with my runner beans. They seemed to hate being whipped about and although I would have thought they'd be desperate to cling on to their support, the stupid things just would not twist up their poles!

A new success was loganberries. I've had the plant for years and maybe it has just reached a good age, or perhaps it was the weather – but I had pots and pots of fruit for the first time. Loganberries have the flavour of raspberries but are solid through the centre like a blackberry. Mine go much darker than this picture when they are properly ripe. If you were to eat one looking like this, your cheeks would implode!



I grew a lovely potato called Latte which was a perfect salad potato, rather like Pink Fir Apple, but ready weeks earlier. They came out of the ground so clean that they didn't even need washing. I'd be interested to hear from some more people, but I know I wasn't alone in my potatoes refusing to flower! I usually take flowering as a sign that the potatoes are ready to lift, but I waited – and waited – and waited. Eventually I dug some up anyway and the potatoes were there, exactly as they should be, just without the 'shop open' sign. I thought I was being clever and I planted my different varieties in the order that they should be ready. Needless to say it didn't work . . . The first earlies (Estima) failed altogether and the second earlies (Vanessa) were ready first; followed by Latte; and brought up at the end by the main crop (Cara).

This is a picture of my Sweet Corn and you can see that half the block (right hand side) is much bigger, greener and healthier than the other half (left hand side). I think this is because last year the better side had beans growing on it and they fertilised the ground. It's a very clear demonstration of why farmers use crop rotation.

Caroline Mazzezy

“EXTRAVAGANZA” AT ST. PETER’S UPPER CHURCH

ON 30 MAY, an American returned to Pembury after some 14 years. This was the world-famous organist Carlo Curley, known amongst some of the ‘aficionados’ as “The Pavarotti of the Organ”. It was 14 years ago that he came to play the then newly commissioned electric organ at St. Peter’s Upper Church for its inaugural concert. On that occasion the organ’s installers were able to place it in a temporary position in the Sanctuary before it was permanently installed, but this time we had to change round all the pew chairs to face the organ at the rear of the church.

This time Carlo once again entertained a virtually packed St. Peter’s with a very varied programme, together with instructive explanations and anecdotes about the works he performed in his best extravaganza style. These included classical pieces by composers such as Bach and Handel, but also the Welsh melody “All through the Night” and the Irish tune, commonly known as “Danny Boy”. What was truly remarkable, however, was the way he made the St. Peter’s relatively small organ sound almost like the magnificent cathedral and concert organs that he is more accustomed to playing. The sound he produced was indeed magnificent – whether loud or soft.



Altogether the evening was much enjoyed by some 150 villagers, who took the opportunity of the interval to have a drink from the bar, get Carlo to sign their programme, or purchase one of the many CDs and DVDs he had brought for sale. Thank you, Carlo, for coming to Pembury, and for performing your masterly “Organ Extravaganza” here.

Derek Hollweg

GUILDING CHIMES

RAINBOWS, BROWNIES and Guides all have lots of fun led by Guiders but on Sundays 12 July and 19 July, the Guiders of Pembury were also having fun. “Guiding Chimes” are a group who have been practising hand bell ringing for just about one year now and had the opportunity to ring in St. Paul’s Church, Rusthall. They had a lovely time and the two teams of bells sounded so much more melodious in the Church than practices in a borrowed kitchen/dining room. We were visited by many people on those two days who were interested in the bells and some even had a go at ringing. Thank you to the Church for letting us ring our bells there and to Daphne Pilcher, not only for providing the bells, but for being a patient tutor.



Wendy Plane

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DR. JUSTINE O'NEILL

Dr. Justine O'Neill joined Waterfield House Surgery on 1 July and has written the piece below as a way of introducing her to the village and people of Pembury.

HAVING SPENT the past 14 years in London, my husband and I decided it would be nice to move further afield and we were both very pleased to secure jobs in Tunbridge Wells. We were previously living in North London and are completely new to Kent but have so far found the people and area both welcoming and hospitable and feel very privileged to have ended up in such a lovely part of the world.

I grew up in Norfolk before moving to London to complete my medical degree at the Royal Free Hospital in Hampstead. Having completed my training and House Officer year, I then spent six months living and working in Australia doing A&E. On my return I then spent several years doing my anaesthetic training before deciding that actually General Practice was the career for me.

I completed my General Practice training in the hospitals of Hertfordshire and North London before moving on to a practice in St Albans to finish my final year of registrar training.

At the moment, outside work I spend the majority of my time looking after our two young boys and house hunting. However, if I ever manage to reclaim some free time I am a keen piano and cello player and also enjoy choral singing.

Dr. Justine O'Neill

WHAT DOES CHRISTMAS MEAN TO YOU?

'NOT CHRISTMAS already! It gets earlier and earlier!' is probably your response to this headline but that is exactly the type of answer we want to hear from you. What does Christmas mean to you? Is it 'Ding Dong Merrily on High' or 'Bah Humbug'? Does it mean something important to you, or is it simply a public holiday?

We hope the week leading up to Christmas will be a celebration of local art and local people and will help raise money for local charities. Pembury Baptist Church is inviting everyone, adult or child, to express their feelings and memories about Christmas through art, writing or submitting comments to a web blog. These can be expressed through any art medium, for example, painting, photography, collage, poetry, needlework or sculpture.

Submitted work will be shown at an Art Exhibition being held in Pembury Baptist Church during the week of 14 December with prizes for the best in each category being awarded during the Carols by Candlelight services at 5pm and 7pm on 20 December. Art entries should be submitted by 1 December 2009.

From 1 September, please go to www.whatdoeschristmasmeantoyou.com to join the conversation, express your views or get an application form and more information on the categories and how to submit your work to the Arts Exhibition. We look forward to hearing from you!

Rev. Wayne Alexander





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WILDLIFE IN PEMBURY OF OLD

Part Two

This article was received in response to an article on butterflies, and continues from the first part which was printed in the Summer 2009 issue of the Pembury Village News.

OTHER GOOD places for butterflies were between the brick pits and where the Hospice is now, or you could go through the footpath parallel to Romford Road, to eventually come out on the road to the Wish; or carry on in the other direction to Hawkwell Farm. The area between Chalkit Lane, Little Bayhall and the Coach Road was partly allotments, but mainly bramble, pink wild roses, and Birch with areas of rabbit cropped grass buzzing with insects and bird song. Another good site was the field half way up Sweeps Hill, there were also lizards there.

Fletchers Farm, Pastheap, and Little Hawkwell all had hops and a full compliment of bright yellow hop dogs with a pink tail and the 'Loopers'. I never did identify the moths that parented these caterpillars. Pastheap also had blackcurrants and the very pretty magpie current moths were disturbed as you picked.

We did not go 'lighting' or 'sugaring', so I was not so familiar with the moths out of the garden, besides I was too young to go out wandering at night and then I started work. Both dad and I worked in London. There were 'Ys', the orange and yellow underwings, these seemed to over winter in the shed roof. Poplar Hawks and Privet Hawks, Old Lady and Puss moths and both Tiger moths, Oak Egger and Spring Usher come to mind as well. But I only had Edward Newman's book of engravings, making identification difficult.

There are two other gardens that need a mention, Knights Ridge Col. Bishop, it was kept insect friendly by his gardener. The other is Highfield Garden (now bungalows). This property was occupied by Mr. Atkins. He specialised in butterfly collection and breeding. There was a room on the ground floor full of drawers of butterflies. The rule was to release more than you kept. He particularly liked to show off the variants but his delight was the Swallow Tail. He had proved Darwin's theory of evolution and had bred a black one! A dear old man, a retired Sea Captain, he had travelled the world and I inherited from him a pair of cases, each must have been a yard square. One was a display of moths and butterflies from around the world; the other was a complete nest of eggs of near enough every British Bird. They must have been collected in the late 1890's when this sort of thing was acceptable. Eventually they were donated to St. George's School.



There were two or three Gardens with ponds in the Canterbury/Stanham Road area and frogs, toads and newts bred in them. May Bugs were also common.

I hope this is of interest to you.


Robin Kenworthy

This is a delightful trip down memory lane, and Robin's enthusiasm for butterflies and moths is undeniable. I thought it would be helpful to clarify a couple of points. Hop Dogs are Pale Tussock moth caterpillars, which have tufts of hair along their back. You can see where the Ys are on the Orange Underwing, Archiearis parthenias: the markings on the underwings look like Ys when the insect is at rest, and the wings are semi-folded. See <http://ukmoths.org.uk/>


For those who do not know, the Wish is the part of Romford Road that goes down into the dip near where it turns into Bramble Reed Lane, and Foxhole Lane turns off. – Kathy Wallwork

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YOUR MOVE

DIEPPE TO MARSEILLE – AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY

YOU MAY have read the article, in a previous edition of the PVN, in which we introduced the concept of a cycle ride from Dieppe to Marseilles. This adventure was fuelled over a couple of pints with my good chum Mike James who also resides, with his family, in the village. Mike gamely offered to bear the brunt of organising the logistics for a seven-stage route through France, and what would subsequently turn out to be a fantastic exploit.

The day finally arrived in July when a team of eight riders and a two-member support team began the adventure. Pembury was well represented with Trevor Crysell joining us as a rider and Graham Fuller volunteering to be part of the indispensable support team. After catching the morning ferry at Newhaven, we were soon speeding inland through the beautiful Normandy countryside towards our hotel in Menesqueville, just outside of Rouen, for the evening.

The morning presented an 80-mile stage passing over the River Seine. The speed averaged around 18-20mph in damp conditions and yours truly had a fine old time yo-yoing on and off the back of the group. I had trained to complete the ride at 15mph and it came as a bit of a shock to find that the rest of the group, in the main a good deal younger, were race fit. We regrouped shortly before Chartres and I wearily decamped at the hotel for the evening wondering what I had let myself in for.

One stage was a 100-mile section to Le Puy-en-Velay (twinned with Tonbridge). The profile of this route was truly frightening with endless climbing over some of the toughest roads in France. I agreed with the rest of the group that this was one of the most gruelling days I had ever spent en vélo. Hours of sheer purgatory saw me reach the hotel very tired and happy that I had not thrown in the towel.

On the penultimate stage to Caromb in Provence the radio reports were announcing a canicule (heat wave). We finally ended 75 mountainous miles at Vallon Pont d'Arc in the Ardèche Gorge. The temperature was now 42 degrees but the remainder of the group bravely headed east to ride another 40 miles to the hotel in Caromb at the base of the fearsome Giant of Provence, le Mont Ventoux. This is a fearsome, extinct volcano that rises from sea level to 6,000 feet and witnessed the death of Tom Simpson, the English cycling star, during the Tour de France of 1967. Included in this year's Tour, it strikes fear into the heart of any rider with the last kilometres of the climb offering no shelter from the sun amidst the white volcanic scree. (For those readers of a superstitious bent it is interesting that Simpson died on 13 July, on the thirteenth stage and wearing the number 49 with the two numbers adding up to 13).

On the final morning, whilst some of us rode off towards the Med for the last 75 miles, four of the group incredibly also completed the ride north to conquer the Ventoux. Mike zoomed up this climb in a super time before the cohort regrouped to complete the final mileage and join us at Carry-le-Rouet on the glorious blue Med. Each member of the group was welcomed with the chequered flag as they crossed the finish line and a quick splash in the sea symbolically sealed the end of the ride.



Following a hearty celebration, the next day saw the majority of the group depart for the airport whilst my reward [sic] was to drive the transit van the 850 miles back to Pembury. A fantastic achievement for all involved and one to bore the grandchildren with in future years. Due credit should be accorded to the Pembury Team with Mike James who put together an incredible adventure, Graham Fuller who, along with Steve, offered the finest altruistic support anyone could wish for and finally Trevor Crysell who just got stronger every day and was an example to us all. The team also raised several thousand pounds for charity.

Now, where can we cycle next . . . ?

Paul Barrington-King

PEPENBURY EVENTS



THE FOLLOWING is a report from Chris Gearing, who is a resident at Pepenbury, and who suffers from Aspergers Syndrome and has been diagnosed with Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder. Chris took part in the London to Paris Cycle ride in July to raise money to support people with Autism and challenging behaviour providing new facilities for Pepenbury. He has raised over £5000 towards his target of £6000 in sponsorship so far and everyone is enormously impressed with him. The words below are his own.

At the beginning it was very nerve racking. We started at Blackheath. Cycling through London was hard, then after London, we went through Maidstone hills. At this point I needed encouragement. Then we got on the ferry, which was about an hour's journey.

We then cycled to our hotel in Calais in France. The food was excellent, and the hotel accommodation was really nice. The drivers were different in France, and were generally more respectful. They beep horns gently once or twice just to let you know they are there. I found the lorries on the roads quite daunting. I was able to stop at cafés and pubs on the way, and stopped at some lovely picturesque cottages, and met some lovely people, and made some new friends. I would love to do it again, and want to plan next year's soon. It was a shame that Adam could not be with us, and at first it didn't feel right (Editor: Adam is another team member who was unable to take part due to an injury). The ride was not as difficult as I thought it would be. I came off my bike once, and was in the bushes, when a First Aid person saw me and looked at me and my leg, which was a bit of a mess because the chain on the bike had rubbed into it hard. He cleaned me up, and bandaged me up and sent me on my way again! Paris was the best thing, and it was a lovely feeling at the finish, "I have made it", it was a very emotional time. I just wanted to lie down and die! My muscles hurt. "There are a few slight undulations today", was what we heard in the daily plan. It was important not to look at the very steep undulation facing you, but at the road. It was important to take care cycling down the steep hills, as the roads were narrow, and it was bad enough with two cars. At Blackheath, the group was big, and then people separated in their own groups. I was able to stop off and look at places. We now call Guy, Lance as he is like a bullet in speed! I also cycled with others in their groups. In the mornings, we went over our daily route, and water stops, and we carried maps with us. I met my mum briefly in Paris also.



Chris Gearing

If you would like to find out more about Pepenbury charity or helping people with learning disabilities please contact Nigel Hill on 822168 or visit their website, www.pepenbury.info.

PEMBURY U3A



IN THE short time since Pembury U3A began in January 2007, we have now attracted almost 180 members. We have a monthly meeting on the second Monday afternoon of each month at 2.30pm in the Catholic Hall, to which visitors are invited. We try to engage a variety of different speakers.

Outings organised for everyone in the Pembury U3A have included a Lecture Lunch with a lively talk on raising the Mary Rose, trips to London theatres, the Royal Academy, a Burns Night supper, study days, and much more.

Members can also gather in smaller groups to enjoy learning new skills and interests. Groups meet generally in member's homes and cover a variety of interests such as cake decorating, beadwork, book circle, crochet, pottery, French conversation, scrabble, Folk singing, ten pin bowling, art, wine appreciation, digital cameras, poetry, play reading, and table tennis. Our Rambling group enjoys easy rambles and pub lunches and our Historic Houses and Gardens group visits lesser known houses and gardens, often with a private tour. We are planning a U3A holiday next year and a rambling break. We recently won an award from 'Awards For All' and were able to purchase five laptops to run computer courses, and a digital projector for film nights, etc.

Whether you enjoy large group events or prefer smaller intimate groups, there is something for everyone and many new friendships have been formed since we began. There has been a lot of laughter and fun, and members are constantly learning new skills.

Our U3A year begins in September and our September monthly meeting on Monday 14 September at 2.30pm will see all of our Interest Group Leaders persuading members to join up.

If you are interested in finding out more, please ring our Membership Secretary, Andrew Richardson on 824012 who will be pleased to let you have any information you need.

Pauline Hawker (Chairman)

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD



THE HOSPICE in the Weald has a few upcoming events. For more information on any of them, please phone Ruth on 820508.

Tunbridge Wells 10K and 1K Fun Run – Sunday 20 September

Runs start and end at Lower Cricket Ground, Tunbridge Wells. They start at 10am. The 10K run is a challenging course while the 1K Fun Run is open to everyone and is a lot less exhausting!

The Rhythm of Life – Saturday 10 October

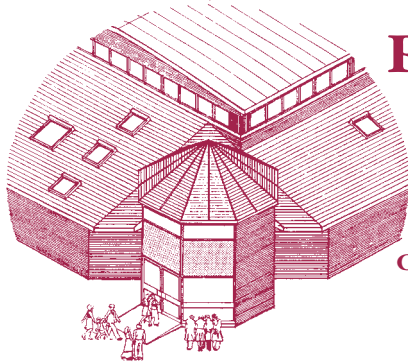
This World Music Evening will take place at the Jubilee Theatre, Holmewood House School in Langton Green at 7.30pm. Local bands will feature playing Samba, Zydeco, Latin American and Irish Music. All the proceeds will go to the Hospice. Please phone Ruth for tickets.

Christmas Market – Monday 2 November

This very popular event will return between 11am and 4pm at the Hospice in the Weald, Maidstone Road, Pembury. It is an ideal opportunity to find that present for the person who has everything! There will be lots of lovely stalls for all your Christmas shopping, a food hall, and refreshments. Admission is free.

Light Up A Life Service – Thursday 3 December

This will take place at 6.30pm, at the Hospice in the Weald. Please phone Ruth for more information.



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GREEN GARDENING – TREES ARE OUR CONCERN

I HAVE A T-SHIRT that reads ‘Trees are our concern’. We are losing our green heritage at an alarming rate. Trees are long living creatures and may even last for a thousand years, but they don’t live forever. Have you noticed how old the native trees are in our Parish? On average, over a centenary. Now how many young trees under 4 feet high have you seen recently? Maybe one, or more likely none. That is our trouble – we are not allowing the natural cycle to continue. Tree Preservation Orders (TPOs) can help, but do not resolve long term issues. We need more young trees! We run the risk of losing our gorgeous giants in the next 50 years with nothing to replace them. Picture our countryside without magnificent oaks and beeches and elms – scary thought, eh?

So what do we do? Two things – care for aging trees and plant new ones. Kent County Council offers a free tree scheme – up to 25 native trees per person. All applications have to reach them by 30 October. Planting whips (young 2–3 year saplings) is easy and cheap even if you have to pay for them; about £1 a tree. Although it might take them longer to take, they’ll grow into healthier plants than potted taller trees. What’s even better; keep an eye out for unwanted saplings in your friends’ and neighbours’ gardens. It is a pity that a lot of people would rather uproot and dump a tree than let it grow. You can always move it a bit if it is in an awkward spot. Self seeding trees have the most natural and beautiful shape.

When choosing the new trees for your garden, consider their full grown size. Species with high conservation value for the medium to small gardens are Field Maple, Birch, Hazel, Hawthorn, Spindle tree, Buckthorn, Wild Pear, Whitebeam, Rowan, Wayfaring tree and Guelder Rose. Avoid planting Blackthorn in your garden as it sends out multiple suckers. For larger gardens choose Oak, Hornbeam, Beech, Ash, Juniper, Holly, Privet, Crab Apple, Bird Cherry, Wild Service Tree/Chequer Tree, small-leaved Lime and Elm.



As for care, less is more. Trees mainly suffer from stress that causes their untimely demise. Remove about a foot of grass from all around the trunk. Grass has chemicals in its roots that hold back the development of anything else in the vicinity and are actually toxic to tree roots. Make sure that there is a substantial layer of humus over the roots; leaving leaf mould where it falls is best for tree nourishment. Ensure the roots are not exposed. Bark is of paramount importance to trees and should never be damaged. It is a tree’s protective layer without which it is extremely vulnerable to disease. Protect the young trees’ bark from rabbits and deer. There is too much controversy about the use of paint on wounds, so I won’t advise it. Deadwood is not a problem to trees. It is of great value to wildlife and is hard to come by. When you do see a dead tree, it is usually heavily populated by green woodpeckers, owls, bats and all sorts of bugs. Ivy is not a threat to trees unless it has developed a heavy canopy of its own and destabilises the trunk. Ivy’s roots are not powerful enough to penetrate the bark. So no, ivy is not parasitic and you can leave it where it is.

Now pruning – an awfully painful subject. The main problem arises from wrong trees chosen for the available space and purpose. So they become ‘overgrown’ and need trimming to cut down on shade, free passages, etc. You do not need to chop off the entire branch to lighten up the shady area. Just thin out smaller associate branches to let the light through. Any other reasons are purely man-made and in most cases unnecessary. So why not let the tree just be as it is? It is at its most beautiful in its natural form. You can’t pollard old trees. They do not have the same regenerative resources as young trees to pull through and re-grow. The stumps look so ugly, why do it? There is yet

continued on page 33



BODY CONTROL PILATES

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LIBRARY OPENING TIMES

Pembury Library, The Hop House, Henwood Green Road, Pembury TN2 4HS

Tel: 822278. Email: pemburylibrary@kent.gov.uk

Monday:

Closed

Tuesday:

9 am to 6 pm

Wednesday:

9 am to 6 pm

Thursday:

9 am to 6 pm

Friday:

9 am to 6 pm

Saturday:

10 am to 2 pm

Sunday:

Closed



GREEN GARDENING – TREES – continued

another issue to consider. When you remove the top of the trunk and main branches, the tree loses its ability to disperse and withstand wind. The thicker parts start to oscillate, weakening the root system. So please, think twice about pruning your trees.

As for so called hazardous trees, a lot of them are actually in perfect health and are threatening no one. Just because the tree looks old, it does not mean it is going to crash on you any time soon. Having said that, if you do have serious concerns about a tree on your property, contact one of the Parish Tree wardens before calling in the boys with chainsaws. Remember, they are after the job, so the interests of your tree are compromised. I don't want to badmouth all in the trade, but sadly there are so many who would chop the tree without a care in the world.

Look after your trees – they truly deserve it!

Masha Odintsova-Bayles

YOUR COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

AS I SIT down to write this piece, I'm still breathing small sighs of relief – the County elections are over for another four years! After what seems like months of knocking on doors and dropping leaflets, the polls are closed and I'm both pleased and privileged to have been elected as your Kent County Councillor for another term. At County Hall, there was a Cabinet reshuffle just three days later, though, thankfully, I retained my role as the Cabinet Member responsible for Regeneration and Economic Development for the County.

Locally, Pembury parents often ask me at this time of year to write letters of support and on occasion to appear with them at admission appeals when their child hasn't been offered the school of their choice. With some dismay I heard that Government were changing the rules to prevent elected local Councillors like me from appearing as an advocate for the family – after all, the bureaucracy is hard enough to navigate when you understand the rules, let alone when you don't. I'm pleased to say that by lobbying through the KCC Cabinet, we managed to persuade Secretary of State for Education Ed Balls to change the legislation so we could continue to represent worried parents at this difficult time. It's only a small change, but it will make a big difference to local parents.

I was invited in June to the 'topping out' of the new Pembury hospital building; it was fascinating to see the site from the inside, and the works are coming on well. But whilst we're fortunate to have a state-of-the-art hospital here in the village, the inconsiderate parking by contractors is still causing chaos for residents of Woodhill Park and Woodsgate Way. However, I've met onsite with Kent Highways officers and agreed a way forward, which should not only bring a parking scheme to prevent these contractor vehicles, but may in the longer term provide much-needed parking for nursing staff who might otherwise find it difficult to find a space in the hospital car parks.

Roads and pavements are a continuing issue for Pembury, and some years ago I organised a Pembury Summit at County Hall to coordinate road maintenance in and around the village over a five year period. That period is now up, and I'm organising a further meeting with highways officers to arrange the next package of works.

There's so much more I'd like to tell you, and our regular newsletters will update you throughout the coming months, but in the meantime, you can keep up to date with my activities by using my blog – www.kevinlynes.wordpress.com or you can contact me at kevin.lynes@kent.gov.uk if you have a specific issue.

Kevin Lynes



CRIME IN PEMBURY

WHERE HAS this year gone? Autumn already!

Again we have good news on the reported crime figures with numbers continuing downwards. Last quarter 43; this last quarter, April, May and June – 34.

Criminal damage again holds the top spot – 400% higher than the previous quarter – up to 12 from 3.

What is worrying is that in the last issue, I mentioned the large number of cars damaged over the weekend of 25/26 April, yet that number is not reflected in this quarter's figures (12) unless the police have given them one reference number or they were not reported at all.

Theft figures are down by 50% – 14 down to 7 but with the evenings drawing in, historically it increases. Let's halt that trend.

The most disturbing happenings, especially

in May and June, were the reckless and foolish, repeated smashing of beer bottles in the play areas of the Recreation Ground.

We are aware of one young lady having to go to hospital for stitches to her leg and the vision comes to mind of a junior footballer sliding along the ground and a slither of glass piercing an artery.

Please be aware that this behaviour is not acceptable and to those of you who are responsible, the police have been notified and action is being taken to prevent you from continuing to destroy our public areas.

Please keep reporting anything suspicious to the police and let's see if we can get that figure down to 25.

Just shows how time flies, the next issue will be at Christmas. Good luck

Hugh Boorman

MONTH	Assault	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Criminal Damage	Fraud and Forgery	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Theft Offences	Theft of Motor Vehicle	TOTAL
April 2009		1	1	6		1	2	3	14
May 2009	2			2	1		5		10
June 2009	3	1		4	2				10
TOTAL	5	2	1	12	3	1	7	3	34
ROAD									
Beagles Wood Road					1				1
Chalket Lane			1	1					2
Hastings Road	4			1			1	2	8
Henwood Green Road	1			6		1			8
High Street		1		1	1		1	1	5
Old Church Road							1		1
Pembury Road							3		3
Petersfield		1		1					2
Ridgeway				1					1
The Grove				1					1
Tonbridge Road							1		1
Woodhill Park					1				1
TOTAL	5	2	1	12	3	1	7	3	34

FOR YOUR DIARY

Village Market – Village Hall, Tuesdays 9am-11.30am.

Pembury Community Warden Surgery – Village Hall, Tuesdays 10am-11.30am.

Town & Country (High Weald Housing) – Clinic, Tuesdays 10am-11.30am.

CAB – Pembury Library, Thursdays 9.30am-11.30am.

September

- 20 Hospice in the Weald Fun Run – Lower Cricket Ground, Tunbridge Wells – 10am Ring 820508 for details
- 24 Nearly New Sale of Children's Toys and Equipment (not clothes) – Pembury School – 8pm
- 26 It's a Knockout – Lower Green Recreation Ground – 1pm

October

- 1 Pembury Afternoon WI: Anglo Saxon Village Life – Village Hall – 2pm
- 2 Pembury Evening WI: A taste of Medieval Cooking with Sue Hollings – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 2 Pembury School Quiz Night – Pembury School – 8pm
- 3 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at Stonecourt Lane Bus Stop – 2.15pm
- 5 Floral Art – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 7 St. Peter's Mothers' Union: Autumn Flower Arrangement with Mrs Lynda Newman – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 8 Pembury Book Group – Pembury Library – 11am
- 8 Pembury Gardeners' Society: Kent, the Garden of England, Brian & Jean Waterman – Catholic Hall – 7.45pm
- 10 Village Harvest Supper – Village Hall – 6.30pm
- 11 St. Peter's Harvest Festival – Usual Service Times
- 12 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 12 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 17 Apple Day Celebrations – Pippins Farm – Contact David Knight on 824544
- 22 Pembury Society AGM & Autumn Meeting – Village Hall – 7.45pm

November

- 1 All Souls Service – Uppewr Church – 3pm
- 2 Christmas Market – Hospice in the Weald – 11am-4pm
- 2 Floral Art – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 4 St. Peter's Mothers' Union: Who's who in the MU with Mrs Judy Cuthbert – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 5 Pembury Afternoon WI: Annual Meeting – Village Hall – 2pm
- 6 Pembury Village Fireworks – Lower Green Recreation Ground – 7pm
- 6 Pembury Evening WI: Annual Meeting – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 7 RNLI Autumn Fayre – Catholic Hall – 10am-12noon
- 7 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet outside Camden Arms – 2.15pm
- 9 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 9 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 12 Pembury Book Group – Pembury Library – 11am
- 14 St. Peter's Christmas Fair – Upper Church – 10am to 12noon
- 14 West Kent Charity Quiz with Pepenbury – Village Hall – 7pm
- 28 Pembury School Christmas Fair – Pembury School – 11am
- 28 St. Anselm's Christmas Bazaar – Catholic Hall – 2pm

December

- 2 St. Peter's Mothers' Union Christmas Supper. Ring Mrs Adams for details on 822769
- 3 Pembury Afternoon WI: Christmas Event – Village Hall – 2pm
- 3 Light Up A Life Service – Hospice in the Weald – 6.30pm
- 4 Pembury Evening WI: Christmas Party with American Supper – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 5 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet outside Camden Arms – 2.15pm
- 7 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 10 Pembury Book Group – Pembury Library – 11am
- 14 Pembury U3A – Catholic Hall – 2.30pm
- 14 Floral Art – Village Hall – 7.45pm

ROSIE'S RECIPES

I DO HOPE you have been trying out some of the recipes. It would be good to get some feedback or perhaps you have a favourite one to share. Please send in your comments/recipes to the PVN (address: inside front cover) and they will forward them to me. Here are some for those chilly autumn months. Hope you enjoy.

Winter Warmer Soup

Ingredients (for 4 servings)

275g (10 oz) tin pea and ham soup
300ml (1/2pt) water
200g (7oz) tin sweetcorn
50g (2oz) frozen peas
1 frankfurter, thinly sliced
50g (2oz) self-raising flour
large pinch of salt
25g (1oz) shredded suet



Preparation:

Put the tinned soup, water, sweetcorn, peas and frankfurter into a pan. Bring to the boil and simmer for 5 minutes. Put the flour, salt and suet together in a bowl; mix with a little cold water to make a pliable consistency. Divide the suet pastry into tiny balls and place on top of the soup. Cover with a lid and simmer for 15 minutes or until cooked. Serve.

Idea: You can vary the flavour of this soup by using tinned cream of chicken or cream of mushroom soup and different vegetables.

To go with the soup, here is a quick recipe for

Parsley-Garlic Rolls

Ingredients (for 8 rolls)

275g (10oz) white bread mix (from a packet)
200 ml (7floz) hand hot water

Filling

40g (1 1/2oz) butter, melted
1 garlic clove, crushed
2-3tsp dried parsley



Preparation:

Make bread mix according to instructions on

packet. Divide into 8 equal pieces. Roll each to an oblong measuring 13x7.5cm (5x3in). Mix melted butter with garlic and brush over each piece of dough. Sprinkle with dried parsley. Roll up each piece like a Swiss roll, starting from a short side each time. Place rolls, end up, in greased bun tins and press down firmly. Cover with lightly oiled polythene and leave to rise in a warm place until doubled in size (about 30-45 minutes). Heat oven to 230°C (450°F/Gas8). Uncover and cook rolls in the oven for 15-20 minutes until crisp and golden. Brush with remaining butter while hot.

Variations: instead of using parsley, try a sprinkling of poppy seeds, grated Parmesan or finely grated Cheddar. These are also very good when made with a mixture of dried herbs too.

Fast Apple Muffins

Ingredients (for 16 muffins)

175g (6oz) plain flour
100g (4oz) caster sugar
1 1/2 tsp baking powder
pinch of salt
50g (2oz) butter
1 egg
75ml (3floz) milk
1 cooking apple, peeled, cored and chopped
2 pieces stem ginger, chopped
40g (1 1/2oz) walnuts, chopped



Preparation

Heat oven to 200°C (400°F/Gas 6). Grease 15-16 deep bun tins. In a bowl, mix together flour, sugar, baking powder and salt. Rub in butter finely until mixture resembles breadcrumbs. In another bowl, beat together egg and milk. Add to dry ingredients in bowl and mix together. Stir in apple, ginger and walnuts. Spoon mixture into prepared bun tins. Cook in the oven for 15-20 minutes or until lightly golden, well risen and cooked through. Remove from tins and cool on wire racks. Serve warm or cold. Although good on their own, for a special treat, cut in half and sandwich together with butter or cream cheese. Irresistible!

Rosie Bass

PEMBURY TREES – CEDAR

THESE TWO trees are both Cedars. The Cedar of Lebanon is in Herons Way and can be seen from a long way off, although you can't reach it because it's in a private garden. The broad 'tables' of branches are very distinctive and many people will remember the huge one that used to grow in front of the old hospital and longer ago still, the grand specimen at Kent College which used to allow a glimpse into the girls' dormitories!!



Deodar at Sunhill



Cedar of Lebanon is in Herons Way

The other Cedar is a Deodar. It is outside Sunhill opposite the village hall and is obvious because it is slanted. It was blown over by the Great Storm of October 1987 but thankfully it was kept and allowed to recover. Deodars keep their conical shape but always have a floppy tip. Deodar literally translates as Tree of the Gods and they are sacred to Hindus.

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.
www.pemburychurch.net

CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF ST. ANSELM – PEMBURY

Sunday Mass 10.30am

Holy Days – Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Weekday Service:

Wednesday – Mass 7pm

www.stjustusandanselm.org.uk

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 for details.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

PARISH COUNCIL



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

Chairman of Parish Council
*Chairman, Amenities, Christmas
Lights and Pride in Pembury*



Cllr David Coleman
22 Ridgeway TN2 4ER
Tel: 823402



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 Steve Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938



Cllr Andrew Procter
82 Woodhill Park TN2 4NP
Tel: 823064
*Chairman, Audit, Finance and
Personnel Working Group*



Cllr Chris Snow
1 Cornford Park TN2 4PW
Tel: 825428



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

Vice Chairman of Parish Council
*Chairman of Planning & Highways
Working Group*



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



Cllr Duncan Hope
80 Woodhill Park TN2 4NP
Tel: 824496



Cllr Melanie Karpinski
48 Maidstone Road TN2 4DE
Tel: 824466



Cllr Sally Osborn
34 Canterbury Road
TN2 4JT. Tel: 822726
*Chairman, Environment,
Environmental Issues (incorporating
Allotments & Burials)*



Cllr Beverli Shaw
3 Knight Ridge TN2 4HP
Tel: 823268



**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

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel: 522591

BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Louise. Tel: 823097

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Hall Enquiries: Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

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Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton,

Romford Road. Tel: 823932

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KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Mrs Ann Lawson. Tel: 820204

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

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

David Mills. Tel: 825577

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c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

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Brenda Brown. Tel: 824163

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Colin Forward. Tel: 825436

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Revd. Wayne Alexander, Church Office. Tel: 825590

PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY COMMUNITY LINK GROUP FOR

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Graham Hayler. 9 The Gill. Tel: 824680

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WARDEN

Tel: 07813 694138

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Parish Office. Tel: 823193

PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB

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

Tel: 822862

PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB

Saturday Secretary: Bill Baker. Tel: 825822

Sunday Secretary: Phil Craxton. 823928

Chairman: Andy Rice-Tucker,

35 Woodhill Park. Tel: 822483

PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

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

PEMBURY GARDENERS

Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY PAVILION

BOOKINGS

Carole Edser. Tel: 823643

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TWIRLERS

Dave Brett. Tel: 824233

PEMBURY PLAYERS

James Whitehorn. Tel: 824854

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Headteacher: Mrs C. Thewlis. Tel: 822259

PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Sam Knight. Tel: 824862

PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rachel Teigen. Tel: 825580

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Secretary: Mrs Marion Warren. Tel: 547617

PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

PEMBURY SOCIETY

Chairman: Ken Watts. Tel: 822770

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PEMBURY U3A

Membership Secretary: Andrew Richardson.

Tel: 824012

PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Revd. Matthew Jackson Tel: 824761

PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Karol Young. Tel: 823413

Julie Patten. Tel: 824479

PEMBURY YOUTH THEATRE ACADEMY

Dee Barrington-King. Tel: 825144

PEMBURY

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

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER

PCSO Nick Brown. Tel: 07772 226001

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Nigel Stratton. Tel: 822936

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park. Tel: 823235

SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park. Tel: 823235 and

Moiria Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road. Tel: 822373

ST. ANSELM HALL ENQUIRIES

Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586.

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs M. Adams. Tel: 822769

TOWN & COUNTRY (HIGH WEALD HOUSING)

Sally Hunter. Tel: 501605

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

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



Kent College Preparatory school for girls aged 3-11

Old Church Road, Pembury,
Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4AX

Tel: 01892 820204 Fax: 01892 820214
prepschool@kentcollege.kent.sch.uk
www.kent-college.co.uk

Kent College is a registered charity no 307920 and is a
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