PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

ISSUE 168 Winter 2016

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PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

C/O Parish Council Office, Lower Green Recreation Ground, Lower Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4DZ.

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CHAIR'S REPORT

A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

I personally know our village as being a really caring, encompassing community, but as we near the festive season in particular, I am aware that not everyone has a fulfilled family life or support at this emotive time of the year, and it can be a really lonely time for some people. I am aware that all our churches try and reach out to everyone, but if you know someone who is possibly lonely but very independent - give them a thought and perhaps pop a Christmas card through their door – it might be their only one for this special time.

We have changes to the Parish Council next year with the retirement of our Parish Clerk, the much loved Barbara Russell. Her retirement is at the end of March, when Barbara will have served 27 years of service to the Council and the village. I know you will all be appreciative of all her work throughout this time. Barbara's last public event will be the Parish Council's AGM in March at the Village Hall, so please come along for your farewells. I know you will join me in thanking her for all her hard work for the Parish, but also for the special things she does to help us all when we are in need. I am sure when March is over, she will embrace her new journey in life and wonder how she ever had time to go to work!! It's an exciting time for her and her family and make no mistake she will be missed as a loyal colleague (and as I found out the hard way) you only get one life - so enjoy every minute of any new adventures.

We are in the process of advertising for a new Clerk as of now, with the expertise needed for the role but rest assured we will do our upmost to maintain the service you expect from us at all times.

The Pride in Pembury Tea was a really lovely afternoon meeting people who really do care about this village and of being proud of where they live. The competition is growing in size so how about we make it the best ever next year – please!

Going back to my earlier thoughts on lonely people and our community, I have to say a big thank you to the Monday morning Coffee shop at the Pavilion, Tuesday's Village Market in the Village Hall and St. Peters' coffee morning on a Wednesday; these all offer chances to meet people, have a tea or coffee and conversation, and realise you are not alone – give it a go please.

Sincere Regards,

June

Just to let everyone know – the retiring collection at the Pembury Parish Council Firework Event raised a whopping £2109.39! Thanks to all who supported the evening.

COPY DEADLINE 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, Lower Green Recreation Ground, Lower Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4DZ

1st February 2017

Please send your article and photos in by email to deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

ALI BABA AND THE FORTY THIEVES - PEMBURY PLAYERS' PANTOMIME

Yes, that pantomime time of year has come round again, and with a change from some earlier announcements Pembury Players will be putting on David Swan's 'Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves'. This is a traditional story from a script provided by NODA Pantomimes, Peterborough, PE2 7UH. It has all the usual panto characters of Dame, Villain, Principal Boy & Girl and a Comic Duo. There will be a very talented live band to accompany the songs and plenty of scope for audience participation!

Characters include: Ali Baba, the impoverished hero, and as his name implies a poor barber from Baghdad, to be played by Patrick Gillan. Rhum Baba, his policeman son and Principal Boy, will be played by Karen Moss. The Villain is Ali Baba's brother Kasim Baba, a greedy and ruthless merchant, to be played by Chris Tampsett. Andrew Hawker makes a welcome return to the stage as the Dame in the character of Fatima Kebab, owner of the rundown and disaster-plagued Sunset Café. The complete cast of 13 principals also features Bubble and Squeak [two of the thieves and Kasim's incompetent henchmen], Vanilla and Delight [two past-their-sell-by-date belly dancers], and a Camel.

So come along to Pembury Village Hall and enjoy this traditionally written pantomime story where various upsets and tribulations are worked through before a happy ending is reached – of course! Tickets priced at £7.00 for adults and £4.00 for children will be on sale from December at Pembury Pharmacy and



also at the door. Performances are on Thursday 5th and Friday 6th January at 7.30pm, and on Saturday 7th January at 2.30pm & 7.30pm. There will be a licensed bar as usual. Book early to ensure you get a seat for the performance of your choice!

For your diary – Pembury Players' play next spring, and playing from 18th-20th May 2017, will be 'Shock' - a taut thriller by well-known stage and TV author Brian Clemens, to be directed by the society's chairman Derek Hollweg. More information in the next issue of Pembury Village News.

DADDY LONG LEGS

What comes to mind when you think of daddylong-legs? For me it's those annoving spindly legged things that irritatingly fly around my room in the late summer evenings. Those are actually a type of crane fly.

Sometimes cellar spiders, being equally spindly legged, are referred to as daddy-long-legs, but for the most part daddy-long-legs are crane flies.

Crane flies are usually brown, black, or grey and sometimes have coloured markings. They have fragile slender bodies with elongated wings, and long thin legs that are shed very easily; anyone who's had to pick them up can attest to that!

Adults have a lifespan of 10 to 15 days and spend their time mating and laying their eggs in grass.

If you've been bothered by these insects when they're attracted to the lights in your home, you may have wondered what the point of them is.



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From what I've read, the answer is in the soil! The crane fly larvae are cylindrical grey grubs known as leather jackets. They live underground and feed on plant stems and roots - not very good for your lawn, but the larvae process organic material and increase microbial activity, so they can be important for the soil ecosystem.

In addition to that, Crane flies, in both adult and larvae form, are also food for many animals including birds.



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PEMBURY PEOPLE - JOHN WOODEN

My article this issue profiles someone who has lived all his life in Pembury - John Wooden.

John was born in August 1939, just before the outbreak of war, in the last house on the left in Henwood Mount. He doesn't remember much about the early part of the war but he does remember two flying bombs landing in Pembury - one in Woodside Recreation Ground and one near the old cemetery.

When John was just four his mum was given the opportunity to be evacuated. She readily accepted as she was afraid for her three young children. They all went off to Falmouth but his mum couldn't settle. She was very homesick for her family and friends so they came back to Pembury six months later.

At the time there was an Italian prisoner of war camp where the Weald of Kent School in Tonbridge is now and the men were sent out to do farm work in Pembury. John and his older cousins used to play in the fields and he remembers them being given whistles made from straw by the prisoners of war.



John was just five when he started school. His first

classroom was at the Baptist Church. It wasn't until he was seven that he moved to Pembury Old School. Around this time John remembers the circus coming to Pembury. It was located in a field where Henwoods Crescent is now and caused much delight. The fair also came to the village and was set up in the cricket ground in Chalket Lane.

At the age of thirteen John moved to Paddock Wood School in Old Kent Road. Before he caught the coach at Bo Peep, he did a paper round along Romford Road right down to the Wish (as it is known locally). After school he was a delivery boy for Tapp's grocery store at the top of Canterbury Road. John had a 'Granville' bike and his furthest delivery was to Swan Farm on the way to Lamberhurst.

John's uncle had a smallholding where the allotments are now. John and his cousin Colin used to help out with the chickens and pigs. People used to save their veg peelings and other scraps which were boiled up and fed to the pigs. Tuesday was market day in Tonbridge and John skipped school many times to go with his uncle.

Pembury was very different then and John remembers several large houses being demolished to make room for new houses in the Ridgeway, Highfield Close and Woodhill Park. Another addition to the village came in the form of a nightclub and swimming pool at Woodsgate Corner.

After leaving school there was plenty of entertainment for John and his friends as most villages around the area held dances in their village halls on Saturday nights. There were no cars then so it was bus there, walk back.

John started working for W E Playfoot Builders when he was fifteen as an apprentice painter and decorator. He stayed there until he was called up for National Service. He was one of the last boys to go and served with the Buffs in Germany and Kenya. On his discharge John went back to his old job where he continued working until choosing to go self-employed as a painter/decorator in 1978.

John and his wife Bev met on a blind date organised by his childhood friend, Dick Kirkham. They have

PEMBURY PEOPLE - JOHN WOODEN Cont...

one daughter Maxine and three grandchildren – Bryan 21, Megan 18 and Dylan 14.

Bev is the daughter of a former prison officer and as a child she moved several times and went to many schools. By the time she married, Bev had lived in eight houses as far afield as Derbyshire, Manchester, Wandsworth and Rochester. Perhaps that is why she has lived in the same house for 40 years! Bev's father was born in a small village in the Welsh valleys. He came to Kent to join the R.A.F. as a Spitfire pilot.



John's family were all Pembury people. His grandfather

and two of his uncles had a bakery in the High Street. They survived the war but his grandfather and one of his uncles died within days of each other in the flu epidemic that killed many thousands.

Many of the families, and their descendents who John grew up with, still live in Pembury including his brother, several cousins and of course John and Bev's daughter Maxine and their family. To date five generations have attended Pembury School and hopefully John and Bev's great great nephew will be the sixth if he gets a place next September.

Over the years John and Bev have won a few prizes in the Parish Council's 'Pembury in Bloom' competition for Best Front Garden. John has worked in many of the houses in and around Pembury including mine! John has always lived in the village and he doesn't have to wait long at the bus stop before someone stops to give him a lift!

Richard Snow



Messy Church involves the whole family in a free themed event with craft, activities, a short talk and a two course lunch. The next Messy Church is Messy Christmas and takes place on Saturday 10th December at Pembury Baptist Church between 11am and 1pm. Bookings are being taken now through 01892 825590 or office@pemburybaptistchurch.org or just contact us for more information. If you can't make the Christmas event, put the 2017 Messy Church in your diary and join us for a huge amount of fun and food! The first half of 2017 dates are 28th January, 11th March, 22nd April and 8th July.

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2nd PEMBURY RAINBOWS



I think if you were to ask the girls in Pembury Rainbows if they were enjoying their journey into Guiding, the answer would be a very definite "Yes!"

Our numbers have increased, along with levels of enthusiasm and commitment. If anyone was to suggest that girls aged between 5 and 7 were not up for being challenged, then they would be slightly misguided. In this Autumn Term, 2nd Pembury Rainbows have completed their Butterfly and Animal Rescue Challenge Badges, come face-to-face with a Pipistrelle Bat (courtesy of the Kent Bat Group), had encounters with Hedgehogs, shared a very small space with 8 injured foxes - and this is no easy feat, considering the very distinct odour that accompanies a fox, bounced on trampolines as if their very lives depended on it, experienced their first camp fire, raised funds to sponsor three puppies on their 2 year training to become Guide Dogs for the Blind - activities completed to raise money included completing a tailor made triathlon, as well as a dog pampering session. And we haven't even reached the end of 2016.

Lined up for the Spring Term is a visit from Kent Fire Brigade, a chance to express their creativity at 'Heavenly Glaze' for a Mad Hatter's Tea Party, as well as unleashing their inner monkey in a wall climbing session.

The girls have embraced a chance to work as a team as well as develop their independence. They continue to amaze me with their abilities and energy levels. And because they are such a fantastic unit, they make me strive to be the best Rainbow Leader I can be.

When people pout and say miserably, "tomorrow is Monday, the weekend is over", well I smile because it means Rainbows..... Fun Day Monday.

Amanda Baker/Toto - 2nd Pembury Rainbows

If you have a daughter who would like to join one of our units, meeting Monday and Thursday, please enrol her on https://www.girlguiding.org.uk



Amanda Baker, 2nd Pembury Rainbows 07812562814

AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR CRICKET CLUB!



It was a busy summer up at the Chalket Lane Cricket Ground.

The 1st XI had some highs and lows in their league campaign eventually finishing sixth, and the 2nd XI were very unfortunate on missing out on promotion on the last day of the season when well set for victory, before the heavens opened!

The Sunday XI enjoyed themselves as always, but the unluckiest bunch were the midweek T20 side who lost 4 of their 6 league matches to the weather!

Congratulations to Cricketer of the Year – Charlie Johns, Young Player of the Year – Jake Stairmand, 2nd XI Player of the Year – Ian Scott, Performance of the Year – Suleman Sarfraz and Sunday Player of the Year – Harrison Coe.

The highlight of the season was undoubtedly the u-11s side, losing just one of their league matches all season, showing much promise for the years ahead.

Planning for 2017 has already begun in various forms. We ran a competition to give the u-11 and u-13 sides new modern identities, and from next season the u-11s will be known as the "Pembury Steelers" and the u-13s the "Pembury Blue Caps!" winners of both competitions earnt themselves a brand new cricket bat!

Our Summer Family Fun Day and Junior Awards afternoon was a great success, with various games and activities, before all junior players received a certificate and medal for their tireless efforts during the summer. Additionally three individual awards were presented – Team Player – Thomas Peckham, Batsman – Eddie Johns and Bowler – Joshua Eaton.

We are hugely focused on our coaching offering at the club, and have several ECB qualified coaches, plus additional resource provided by Invicta Cricket Coaching. Our winter coaching will reconvene indoors at Tonbridge School in January.

Embracing the village community is an essential ingredient to a successful club, and we are indebted to the many local residents and businesses that continue to support us; this not only helps maintain the high standards at the club both on and off the field, but enables us to plan for the seasons ahead.

This certainly gives us the opportunity to have ambitious plans for new outdoor nets, and the introduction of an artificial pitch to the square.

We are always keen to welcome new players of all ages and abilities (junior and senior) most particularly to our newly launched u-13 league



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AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR CRICKET CLUB! - Cont...



side, as well as social members to come along and enjoy the comfort of our facilities and further develop the atmosphere in the club.

If you are interested in joining us, or are keen to find out further information, please don't hesitate to call Richard Dawes (07827 909489) or Andy Weaver (07714 693997) e-mail the club at PemburyCC@gmail. com or look us up at http://pembury.play-cricket.com. We will be delighted to hear from you.

Additionally, we would love to forge further links with local businesses to help us to continue to evolve, details of the various sponsorship packages we offer can be found via our website.



Richard Dawes (Club Captain – Pembury Cricket Club) https://twitter.com/PemburyCC

https://www.facebook.com/PemburyCricketClub

WAR MEMORIAL

I'm sure most of you will have noticed that the Parish Council has had the area around the War Memorial improved and enhanced; the War Memorial itself has been cleaned and paving laid around it. A full writeup and pictures will be in the March PVN.

PBC NEW YEAR BALL - SATURDAY 14TH JANUARY 2017

Pembury Baptist Church is holding a New Year Ball on Saturday 14th January at Pembury Village Hall from 7.30pm. There will be live music, food and much much more. Please ask your friends and relatives, put the date in your diary and contact Jennifer on 01892 825590 or email jennifer@pemburybaptistchurch.org for more information about tickets, prices and content.



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PEMBURY CUBS



On the 8th September, Cubs from both Pembury packs set off for a 3-day camp at Broadstone Warren to celebrate the Cubs 100th birthday. The first evening saw the two packs getting to know each other and playing games outside in the pitch black, everyone's favourite was the bell game. Bed followed and then up in the morning for a fun day of challenges. We had to really challenge ourselves on the leap of faith which was climbing a high pole and jumping off to catch a bar. This was the most popular event of the weekend together with the pot-holing, which involved the Cubs crawling through lots of underground channels. The grass sledging was the adult's favourite and some of those videos will never be shared! Sadly, the rain came in the afternoon which put paid to the campfire. Instead we played lots of games inside and decorated some cups to celebrate our weekend. Thankfully the sun came out again on Sunday morning, so we had a camp fire breakfast and a big sing song around the campfire. Everyone learnt a new song and dance moves! Then as some of the adults cleared up we went on a hike to the woods in the forest. Sadly, the parents then arrived to take us home. It was a truly great weekend which everyone loved - especially the leaders! So much fun and so many well-behaved boys, testing all their fears. We loved it!

Max Middleton, George Jeal, Ollie Middleton, Owen Arnold, Oliver Cox, Stanley Groves, Thomas Edwards, James Gibbs. Pembury Cubs, written as part of the communicator badge.



TUESDAY CLUB OUTING TO PEVENSEY



Tuesday Club enjoyed an amazing meal at The Moorings in Pevensey then a rest on the beach. The Club like to do three outings each year. Their usual haunt is Pembury Baptist Church where they have a home-cooked 2 course meal for £5 each Tuesday (apart from school holidays). They get an appetite from doing keep fit, painting, craft, quizzes or games before lunch. The Club is open to anyone and all are welcome to come and try. Tea and coffee is served from 10am.

The club is mostly run by volunteers and they are looking for some extra help in the kitchen on a rota basis; a washer-upper 1 - 2pm or kitchen assistant or chef 10am - 1:30pm. If you would be interested in helping out, even occasionally, please speak to Helen on a Tuesday at the Club or by phone 01892 825590.



PIPPINS FARM APPLE DAY: 16TH OCTOBER 2016



The week running up to Apple Day was dry but the Sunday forecast was ominous and showed heavy showers all day. Luckily fortune was on our side as the rain cleared an hour before the first visitors at 11a.m. Apple pressing then commenced and soon containers were being filled with the free litre which comes with the entry ticket. A bit later the new red fleshed apples called 'Tickled Pink' were pressed and caused a sensation with their bright red juice which was also delicious to taste.

Outside the children were now heavily into the Apple Games with

Bagatelle, Bobbing and the Big Minion proving very popular. Throwing apples at targets is a once a year novelty and a good way of using the smaller reject fruit.

Inside the Old Barn, the Noakes family and their helpers were busy selling the fruits of their labours – cakes, buns, jams and scones of all shapes and sizes. This year everyone's digestion was assisted by the Pembury U3A Ukelele band – seemingly a great new village institution.

The Hog Roast sold out quickly and was complemented by a giant Apple Crumble.

Apple Art from the Pembury Guides and Brownies was again displayed and had been made entirely from fruits and foliage. Orchard tours proved popular, with fruit still to be seen on the trees due to the late harvest. There was also a signposted walk through the farm to see the new specialist cider orchard with its first big crop ripe for picking. Pembury Cider Club will be converting this to good use over the winter.



Total numbers were estimated at over 750 adults and children with a record total of over £4400 raised for Hospice in the Weald.

Thanks go to all those who came and the helpers who made the day such a success.

David & Veronica Knight and family

I volunteered at Apple Day again this year and had a lovely time watching over the apple games, the key is definitely to throw gently underarm on the throwing games!

There were a few new things this year; including a great new game, and yummy apple crumble and custard! The pulled pork baps were delicious as usual too.

Big thanks to David Knight for hosting the event. The weather was rather changeable but there was a steady flow of visitors, so hopefully lots of money was raised for Hospice in the Weald.

Sarah Pomfrett



Brownies - Apple Art 2016 - On Sunday 16th October, 24 Brownies and Guides had great fun creating pictures at Pippins Farm. It was part of the Hospice in the Weald event, and each year the girls have great fun. They used apples, pears, quince and crab apples to create their pictures, which were very colourful. Hopefully visitors on the Sunday enjoyed looking at the pictures.

Moira Allan, 1st Pembury Brownies



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WHY & HOW TO DISINFECT BIRD FEEDERS

Feeding the birds is easy and very rewarding, but are you disinfecting your feeders?

Bird feeders bring food, many different species of bird and possibly other animals like rats, to the same spots in your garden. Fungus and bacteria can accumulate and spread among your bird population but with a little bit of regular cleaning you can help prevent this from happening.

Keep feeding your feathered friends but please make sure to clean all your feeders, bird baths and regular perching spots regularly. Prevention is much better than seeing diseased or dead birds and it doesn't take long to do (unless you have loads of feeders!).

How to clean your feeders:

- 1. Aim to clean your feeders every week or two and use a veterinary disinfectant.
- 2. Clean the bird feeders outside, wearing gloves, and use equipment used only for this purpose.
- 3. Clear out old food
- 4. Wash in hot soapy water
- 5. Rinse thoroughly
- 6. Spray with veterinary disinfectant (Ark-klens or Tamodine-E)
- 7. Air dry completely
- 8. Refill with fresh food
- 9. Wash your hands

PEMBURY'S VILLAGE MARKET

Your local market is here for you every Tuesday from 9am til 11.30am. There is still time to visit us for that last minute unique gift or Christmas card you still need to send. If you can't bear

the crowds we offer a quiet and friendly place to shop with delicious homemade cakes. Thank you for your support and we all wish you a very merry Christmas.





Tips:

- Work cleaning feeders, baths and perches into your routine, or set reminders
- Move the feeders around occasionally to reduce build up of droppings and disease in one area•
- Monitor how much food is being taken. Reduce the amount if it takes days to go
- Feeders, tables or trays are easier to clean than the ground
- Food should not be on the ground overnight
- Don't allow droppings and mouldy food to accumulate
- In the summer, food can go off quicker. In the winter soggy and mouldy food should be watched out for
- Have several feeding sites in your garden so all the birds aren't in one place

If you see sick or deceased wildlife you can report it at www.gardenwildlifehealth.org and if you see diseased birds in your garden, stop feeding them for at least a week.

Disinfectants are available from Vetark, the RSPB, and other wildlife product suppliers. It's better value if you buy concentrated ones and they last a long time.

> Happy bird watching! Sarah Pomfrett

PRIDE IN PEMBURY - Celebration of Pembury's Gardeners Winners' Tea and Prize Giving



'Bloomin' marvellous' is the phrase that instantly springs to mind when writing about 'Pride in Pembury' this year. The winners succeeded in treating other residents and visitors alike to a riot of colour and fragrance, beautifully planted and nurtured into stunning creative gardens and wonderful displays. Thank you to all of Pembury's green-fingered gardeners whether you were nominated, one of the winners or not, it was a pleasure to walk around the village this summer.

Nominations were submitted by the public for each of the six categories. Judges had the enviable task of visiting each one of the gardens, displays and allotments, but the unenviable task of having to pick out a winner. The winners were invited to join Parish Councillors for a prize giving with afternoon tea at the Pembury Pavilion as a show of appreciation for their creative genius and efforts to make Pembury look so wonderful this year.

Large Front Garden:

Winner – Mr & Mrs Partridge Runner-up – Mrs Beeney Highly Commended – Mr & Mrs Pelling

Small Front Garden

Winner – Mr & Mrs Cole Runner Up – Mr & Mrs Tanner Highly Commended – Mr & Mrs Russell

Containers/Hanging Baskets

Winner – Mr & Mrs Chartres Runner Up – Melanie Hambleton Highly Commended - Mrs Goodchild

Large Commercial Premises Winner - The Camden Arms

Small Commercial Premises Winner – Downingbury Farm Shop Runner Up – Chinese & Thai Takeaway, Mr & Mrs Mai **Best Allotment** Winner –Mike Hocking Runner Up – Mrs Leigh

Other awards were also presented to:

'Make You Smile' Award presented to Dana Summarsell

'Pride in Pembury'

Certificates presented to Pembury Pharmacy, Burtons Solicitors and Ocean Fish & Chips

Special thanks for the 'Margaret Polley' container to Rosemary Hanes

Special thanks to Ryan Lewis and Darrell Barmby -Parish Council Groundsmen

Cllr Mre L Mills



PEMBURY GARDENERS' AUTUMN SHOW

The Pembury Gardeners' Society held its Autumn Show at the Village Hall on Saturday 10th September. We received more entries than expected considering the weather in the last few weeks before the show and the quality was high in both the flowers and the vegetable sections. We were let down again by the junior section with no entries so if anyone has ideas on this, I would be glad to have them.

The prizes were presented by our Borough Councillor David Reilly to the following entrants:

Vegetables

H Bishop Award for most points in classes 2 to 23 - Brian Fryer

Floral Art

Kathleen Mepham Award for most points in classes 27 to 30 - Mrs A Purton Certificate for Best Exhibit in classes 27 to 30 - Mrs A Purton

Chrysanthemums

John Baggeson Award to the winner of Class 32 - Doug Drury Bernard Reeves Award for most points in Classes 33 to 41 - Doug Drury NCS Silver Medal for Best in Show Classes 32 to 41 - Doug Drury NCS Bronze Medal for 2nd Best in show in Classes 32 to 41 - Reg Bloe

Dahlias

Geoff Baxter Award to winner of Class 44 - Derek Parks Society Award for most points in Classes 45 to 59 - Derek Parks NDS Silver Medal for Best in Show in Classes 44 to 59 - Arthur Dashwood NDS Bronze Award for 2nd Best in Show in Classes 44 to 59 Arthur Dashwood

Other Flowers

Kent Federation Certificate for most points in Classes 62 to 73 - Brian Fryer

Cookery Society Award for most points in Classes 84 to 90 - Mrs H Wood

Handicraft

Geoffery Theobald Award for most points in Classes 97 to 100 - Mrs B Wooden

Banksain Medal

For exhibitor gaining most prize money over 3 shows - Derek Parks Dr D Waterfield Award for most points over 3 shows - Brian Fryer Dr D Waterfield Certificate for runner up over 3 shows - Derek Parks

The next Show will be on Saturday 25th March 2017. Schedules will be available from December. The Society would like to thank all helpers and exhibitors for their support with the shows during 2016 and look forward to seeing you at next year's shows.

After nearly 50 years being involved in setting up and running flower shows I have decided to retire from show work, I was trained under the old Royal Tunbridge Wells Horticultural Society which ran 2 day shows in the Assembly Hall. The shows attracted exhibitors from all parts of the UK, and I met many very good exhibitors.

I took over Pembury when the late John Gorringe died. I wish the Society luck.

John Wood

Show secretary





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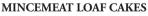


BEEF AND GUINNESS STEW

3lb Braising Steak2tbsp. Seasoned Flour4tbsp Vegetable Oil2 Medium Onions2 tbsp Freshly Chopped Parsley

4 Medium Carrots (cut into chunks) 8 fl.oz Guinness 300ml (1½ pints hot beef stock) 700g/1½lbs baby potatoes

- 1. Toss the beef in the seasoned flour, heat the oil in a large pan then add the beef and cook until brown
- 2. Remove the meat and place in a large casserole dish
- 3. Add the onions and carrots to the pan and cook for 10 minutes, add the Guinness and stir in the hot stock and potatoes, bring to the boil
- 4. Add the contents of the pan to the casserole dish and cook 2-21/2 hours
- 5. Stir in the parsley just before serving



Oven 160°, fan Gas 3

150g Soft Margarine 150g Soft Light Brown Sugar 2 Large Eggs 225g Mincemeat 225g S R Flour 75g Sultanas 75g Currants 50g Sliced Almonds (for top of cake)

- 1. Measure all the ingredients into a bowl and beat until blended
- 2. Turn into two ½lb greased and lined loaf tins and scatter the almonds on top
- 3. Bake for about 1¼ hours until golden brown and firm to the touch
- 4. Allow to cool for a few minutes then turn out into a wire rack to cool completely.



(This cake freezes well)

POPPY APPEAL

The Parish Council this year has been involved in the organisation of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal in Pembury and is very grateful to all the volunteers who gave up their time to help in anyway. A lot of people collected outside Tesco for the two weeks prior to Remembrance Sunday, some people were involved in the distribution of poppies to all the collection points throughout the village and others were more involved in the administration side.

Arrangements are different now as nationally supermarkets have voluntarily taken on the counting and banking processes which has helped enormously as concern had been expressed about safety of volunteers due to increased volumes of cash collected and health risks because of the weights involved.

A total figure for Pembury should be received by Christmas and I hope to publish this in the March Pembury Village News.

If you would like to help in 2017, please contact me at the Parish Office on 01892 823193 or deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes. gov.uk. We can never have too many volunteers.



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THE PEMBURY SOCIETY



The Pembury Society held its Autumn Meeting (including the AGM) on Wednesday 19th October, when our speaker was Glenn Douglas, CEO of the Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust that includes our hospital at Pembury, who gave some very interesting statistics and ongoing thoughts on our local Hospital, as well as answering a number of questions afterwards.

The Committee was re-elected with Helen Castle and Tony Nichols joining for the first time. Kathryn Franklin gave a report of recent planning applications that were being monitored as significant concerns for the village.

'Historic Pembury' notelets are now on sale at the Village Newsagent and the Post Office. Two sets of six Pembury notelets with pictures of Pembury past, selling at £3.50 a pack. Each notelet has the line "A little note from Pembury" under the picture. The notelets have been produced by local Paddock Wood charity



Compaid and are being sold in aid of the Pembury Society. One picture is reproduced below.

Our next meeting is on 26th April 2017, when our speaker is George Pargetter, who is the Senior Project Manager working on the Tonbridge to Kippings Cross A21 dualling on behalf of Balfour Beatty. This should be very interesting and timely as it will be in its later stages of completion.

> David Hanes Chairman

FACTS ABOUT MAIDSTONE AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS HOSPITAL AS PRESENTED TO THE PEMBURY SOCIETY MEETING ON 19 OCTOBER 2016

Projected A&E attendances at both hospitals 2016/17 = 142,348

Tunbridge Wells Hospital has 400-500 more adult A&E admissions (average 1600) a month compared with Maidstone.

Tunbridge Wells Hospital have opened a new dedicated children's emergency department (last year 14% of all the people seen in A&E were under the age of 16)

BIRTHS - Tunbridge Wells Hospital had around 5,100 hospital deliveries last year. There has been a steady increase in the number of women choosing to give birth in the community. Both hospitals are one of the few NHS providers nationally to offer women the widest possible range of birth choices, which bodes well for the future.

PATIENT-LED ASSESSMENTS - results for Tunbridge Wells Hospital, with national average in brackets):

CLEANLINESS- 99.80% (98.06%) FOOD – 94.11% (88.24%) PRIVACY, DIGNITY and WELLBEING – 90.30% (84.16%) CONDITION, APPEARANCE AND MAINTENANCE- 96.51% (93.37%) DEMENTIA FRIENDLINESS – 88.63% (75.28%) DISABILITY FRIENDLINESS – 89.51% (78.84%)



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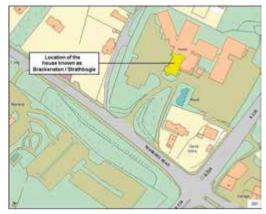
> Enquiries to: Mrs. Nicolette Collins MA Oxon, PGCE

Tel: 01892 822093 / 07826 523251 nicolette5@hotmail.co.uk

THE HISTORY OF BRACKENSTON IN PEMBURY

Brackenston (where the Mercure Hotel now stands) was a grand two storey mansion of 17 rooms located on large landscaped grounds at 8 Tonbridge Road. Designed by the London architects C.E. Mallows and Grocock, it was constructed in 1905 by Tunbridge Wells contractors Strange and Sons Ltd.

It was set back off the road. There was also a Lodge beside the drive, occupied by the estates gardener and a stable block providing accommodation for the horses and carriage, and later the motor car. The coachman/chauffeur and groom lived there. The 1911 census shows the Lodge with 4 rooms occupied by Samuel Standen, age 82 widowed, as estates gardener. Also listed is Ann Harris, a 31 year old housekeeper. The old Lodge and stable block still exist today.



The first occupants were the family of Rev. Rennell Francis Wynn Molesworth (1827-1906) who died at the house on January 6th 1906. His wife also died there in the same year. By 1911 only his 43 year old spinster daughter, Bertha was living there with three servants. She was still there in 1913 but had moved to Langton Green by 1916.

The home then became the family residence of Joseph Gurney Fowler who occupied the house from 1915-19. He was a senior partner in the firm of Price, Waterhouse and Co, Chartered Accountants. He was treasurer of the Royal Horticultural Society and Chairman of its Orchid Committee, and possessed one of the most notable orchid collections in the country. At the time of Joseph's death he was acting for the Government to determine the amount of compensation due to the railway companies under state control.

Hugh Edwin Hamilton Gordon (1847-1921) was a wealthy and prominent figure from Australia, where he lived in a house called Strathbogie. He moved to England sometime before his marriage in 1905. After living in Pembury Road, Tunbridge Wells the family moved into Brackenston in 1919 and renamed it Strathbogie. Hugh died in 1921 and his widow continued living at Strathbogie until at least 1922, before moving to London and remarrying.

James Henry Newcomb and his family lived at Strathbogie from about 1925-34, and they were followed by Major Henry Norcott Winter and his wife who were there from about 1936-8.

Sometime after 1938 the name changed to The Dower House and during WW2 it was used by the military.

From 1954-58 the Dower House and its Lodge were occupied by Irene Edith Bird, a widow who died there in 1958, when it was called St. Edith's. A 1960 Directory listed her son J.W. Bird as living at St. Edith's, 6 Tonbridge Road.

A 1982 Directory listed the Kent Association for the Disabled at 8 Tonbridge Road and also a R. Brown at the same address. The duration over which they occupied the building has yet to be established.

A map of 1985 shows the home with the caption "The Dower House (T.A. Centre)" referring to the Territorial Centre and no doubt the caption relates to its use during WW2.

In an article by Jane Bateson in the Village News (Spring 2015), she recounts her recollections of Pembury



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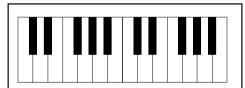
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Little Rascals is holding its next

Mum2muM

second-hand children's clothing and equipment sale on 18 - 19th January 2017 Wednesday evening 7 - 8:30pm Thursday 10 – 12am



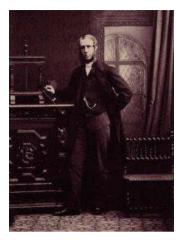
At Pembury Baptist Church Hall If you would like to have a stall please contact Helen on 825590.

THE HISTORY OF BRACKENSTON IN PEMBURY Cont...

in the 1960's and states that the Dower House was unoccupied and "falling into disrepair", but evidence of its grander days such as a pond and flower gardens and a track for a miniature railway, could still be seen.

During the sixties the Dower House became the offices for Tonbridge Rural District Council, in which Pembury was then located. From the 1970's through to the late nineties it became the offices for Tunbridge Wells Planning Department until it was sold.

The Ramada Jarvis Hotel was built on the site of the former Dower House in 1991. How much of the original building remains is not certain but part of its facade and interior still exists. They enlarged it and otherwise altered it and turned it into an 84 bedroom hotel. The restaurant and other parts of the hotel were created out of the historic Dower House and much of the original architectural features have been retained. It was subsequently taken over by the Mercure Hotel, now part of the Jupiter Hotels Group.



This article originated from Edward Gilbert of Thunder Bay, Canada from his website: www. allabouttunbridgewells.com, which he changes every 1st of the month with articles of local interest. This piece has been shortened for Village News Publication by Richard Snow. The original full article is available on the Pembury History website- www.pembury.org/history

CITIZENS ADVICE FOR ALL?

Citizens Advice is founded on the principle that it offers free advice to anyone who needs it. However, despite our best efforts, we don't reach everyone who could benefit from our help. One part of the community we are working hard to reach is those who are housebound, who suffer from limited mobility, or who find it difficult to travel. To meet the needs of such individuals, Citizens Advice Tunbridge Wells and District offers home visits. This service focuses particularly on supporting applications for Attendance Allowance and other benefits, but we can provide advice at home on any topic if travelling to one of our advice centres or outreach locations isn't possible.

Do you know someone who would benefit from a home visit by one of our trained advisers? As well as advice on benefits, they can help with money worries, housing issues, reducing household energy bills and consumer problems. To arrange a home visit, please contact us on 01892 516335 or email astarke@twcab. org.uk. Visits are undertaken by trained volunteers backed up by the expertise of the national Citizens Advice organisation.

Despite efforts to promote our home visiting service – for example through this article – we know that many of the people who need us most continue to be unaware that we could help them, or, for a variety of reasons, are a bit reluctant to seek help. To address these challenges, we are keen to build up contacts with other individuals and organisations who have contact with this target group through their work or their voluntary and community activities. Such individuals and organisations might include GPs, community nurses, churches, day centres, social groups and clubs and other local charities who visit people in their own homes. If you know any person or organisation who fits this description, and who might be open to a collaboration, we would like to hear from them.

OPEN GARDENS 2017



It's always a proud moment when your garden comes into full bloom and you can stand back and enjoy the results of your creativity and hard work. And there's a special reward in being able to share your achievements with admiring visitors.

Hospice in the Weald is inviting you to open your gates for a day to gardening enthusiasts and share the delights of your garden and raise money for a great cause at the same time.

The Hospice's Open Gardens

brochure each year features a varied and enticing choice of gardens which this year brought in £25,000 for the charity. But the organisers would love to expand the range even further in 2017.

"It's always exciting to see new gardens which the owners might never have considered putting on show," said Pam Coleman, who runs the hospice's Open Gardens scheme. "We'd love to be able to offer an even greater choice."



There's no limit to the style of garden that visitors might enjoy

- small ones to inspire creativity, larger areas to explore, gardens for wildlife enthusiasts and interesting ideas for fruit and vegetable plots.

Pam says: "Gardens can be small, big or quirky as long as they are interesting and reflect the owners' passion for gardening. We would like to invite gardeners to contact us by January 2017 ready for the next brochure. Owners need not be nervous about taking part - many who have done so often tell us how much pleasure they get from the comments and interest of enthusiastic visitors.

And there's the reward of knowing they are helping the Hospice's drive to raise £7million a year to keep our vital services free for the patients who need them."

For more details, call Pam Coleman on 01892 820502 or email pam.coleman@hospiceintheweald.org.uk

CHRISTMAS MISCHIEF

Having written the crime figures I suppose I should feel guilty about confessing to one of our annual crimes in our early teens at Christmas Time. In those days, all the fir plantations around the village used to be maintained in a superb condition and used to contain a selection of different trees, some ideal for indoors at Christmas. Before Christmas my good friend Michael Waterman and I used to prowl around the plantations, as we know other village people used to do, to select the family tree for Christmas.

We would then return one evening, after dark to remove the chosen tree and get it home. This was the hardest bit because on nine out of ten occasions we had to get back up Roley Hill. Now remember, this was before the bypass cut the Hill in half and it was a place where there was nowhere to hide. There were very few cars about in those days and it was very unlikely that once we had started to go up the Hill we would see the lights of an approaching car. If we did we had a decision to make, either to keep walking and leave the trees laying at the side of the road, or run back down the hill and throw yourself in the big ditch which used to be on the left hand side at the bottom of the Hill. The last person we wanted to meet at that time of night was PC Harry Edmondson, the village Constable. It was virtually impossible to hear his Velocette

CHRISTMAS MISCHIEF Cont...

motorbike and so you had to gamble as to whether the approaching lights were friend or foe. There were several times we ended up in the ditch!

One year, we had picked out two beautiful trees just inside the gate which used to be right opposite the Water Works and had planned to remove them one Sunday evening. We crept down the hill under cover of darkness and as we approached the gate we could hear someone digging just by the gate. We crept forward only to see this male figure removing one of the trees we had marked as ours. This chap stopped every now and then to make sure he was undetected and carried on digging. We



virtually got to within touching distance when we made him aware we were there and he virtually froze on the spot. We asked what he thought he was doing pinching a Christmas tree that did not belong to him and he beat a hurried retreat up Pembury Walks. We then proceeded to finish removing the trees to take them home. Fancy pinching our trees!!

Hugh Boorman

THE PAVILION COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP HAS HAD A GREAT YEAR!

On 26th September we raised £261 for the Macmillan Cancer Charity. Our thanks go to all our customers for their donations and also to Howard from Barnes Kingsnorth for covering our rent that day and to Tesco for donating several raffle prizes, all in aid of a very worthy cause.

On 1st October we were pleased to help the Parish Council with the Pride in Pembury Winners' Tea Party that took place at the Pavilion.

On 31st October we celebrated our 2nd anniversary where we had some local memorabilia on display and some wonderful home-made cakes too! Our special moment was



when we presented a donation of £350 to Waterfield House Surgery. Doctor Cameron came along to accept the cheque and told everybody how wonderful our coffee shop is. He was very grateful that we had purchased a television screen which will display patient information and a children's table and chair set for the surgery waiting room.

Please come and join us every Monday from 9.30am – 12noon for a friendly chat with tea, coffee and homemade cakes. Volunteers are always needed if you would like to come along and join us.

We will be having a Christmas raffle on Monday 12th December, our last coffee shop for this year and we welcome everyone back on the 9th January next year.

We are very proud of our coffee shop and thank all our lovely customers for their continued support.

For any enquiries please telephone Chris Snow on 01892 825428

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PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Saturday 10 December

11am-1.00pm Christmas Messy Church including lunch themed fun and activities for the whole family

Sunday 18 December

10am - Morning Service 5.00pm - Carols by Candlelight Refreshments and mince pies served after the Carol service

Saturday 24 December – Christmas Eve

11.30pm - Christmas Eve Communion

Sunday 25 December – Christmas Day 10am - Christmas Morning Celebration

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

Saturday 10 December 7.30pm - Christmas Concert (Cantiaci Vocal Ensemble) Upper Church

> Sunday 11 December 6.00pm - Civic Carol Service (Upper Church)

Sunday 18 December 6.00pm - Nine Lessons and Carols (Old Church)

Saturday 24 December 4.00pm - Crib Service with Nativity (Upper Church)

> Saturday 24 December 11.30pm - Midnight Mass (Upper Church)





FOR YOUR DIARY

Village Market – Village Hall, Tuesday 9am – 11.30am

Town/Country Housing Group Clinic – last Tuesday in the month - Housing Manager Stephen Aspinall CAB – Pembury Library – alternate Tuesdays 9.30am – 11.30am

Community Coffee Shop – Pembury Pavilion, Recreation Ground – Mondays 9.30-12noon

'The Shed' Youth Café - at Pembury Baptist Church – Fridays 6 – 8pm (school yrs 7-13) term time only

Dec			
5th	Pembury Parish Council Meeting	8pm	Parish Council Office – Recreation Ground
7th	Women2Women How to do Christmas Craft	7pm – 10pm	Pembury Baptist Church – 01892 825590
Jan			
3rd	U3A	2pm	Village Hall - Guest Speaker
5th	Pembury Players' Pantomime	7.30pm	Village Hall
6th	Pembury Players' Pantomime	7.30pm	Village Hall
7th	Pembury Players' Pantomime	2pm 7.30pm	Village Hall
16th	Pembury Parish Council Meeting	8pm	Parish Council Office – Recreation Ground
Feb			
7th	U3A	2pm	Village Hall - Guest Speaker
13th	Pembury Parish Council Meeting	8pm	Parish Council Office – Recreation Ground
Mar			
7th	U3A	2pm	Village Hall - Guest Speaker
13th	Pembury Parish Council Meeting	8pm	Parish Council Office – Recreation Ground
23rd	Annual Parish Meeting	8pm	Village Hall
25th	Spring Flower Show	2pm	Village Hall

The diary serves two purposes. Firstly to enable event organisers to check the diary before arranging an event to avoid clashes. Secondly to enable everyone to know what is happening in the village. It is important that information is sent to Richard at events@pembury.org with date, times, title of event, venue and contact details.

Please note that to view the calendar you must be using a recent version of Firefox, Google Chrome or Internet Explorer (IE11 or later). Computers running Windows XP will only be able to view the calendar using Firefox or Google Chrome.

Organisations – please contact me with your dates for inclusion in the next edition of the magazine: deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

CRIME FIGURES

Recorded crime in Pembury

If a road name does not appear in the table below, it is because no crimes have been reported to Kent Police in that road during the specified period.

Crime type by reported month Jul-16	Violent Crime	Burglary Dwelling	Surglary Other	Theft From Motor Vehicle	Theft of Motor Vehicle	لللله Criminal Damage Offences	Theft Offences (exc vehicle offences)	Drug Offences	∾ Other Offences	Total recorded crime
Aug-16	7	2	1	1		5	5		2	23
Sep-16	4					1	9	1		15
July - September 2016	23	2	3	2	1	9	14	1	5	60
	Violent Crime	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Theft From Motor Vehicle	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Criminal Damage Offences	Theft Offences (exc vehicle offences)	Drug Offences	Other Offences	Total recorded crime (exc BURGLARY DWELLING & OTHER)
A21 A	1					1				2
BEAGLES WOOD ROAD	2									2
BELLFIELD ROAD	2									2
BRICKFIELDS	2									2
CORNFORD LANE	1									1
ELMHURST AVENUE	1									1
GREENLEAS	1									1
HALF MOON LANE						2				2
HASTINGS ROAD	1			1		1				3
HENWOOD GREEN ROAD						1				1
HENWOODS CRESCENT	1									1
HENWOODS MOUNT	1									1
HIGH STREET	3						9		1	13
MAIDSTONE ROAD	1						1			2
PEMBURY ROAD ROMFORD ROAD						2	1			3
	1									
SANDHURST AVENUE SNIPE CLOSE	1									1
TONBRIDGE ROAD	3			1	1	2	2		4	
WOODSIDE ROAD	3			1	1	2	2	1	4	13 2
							1	1		2
TOTAL RECORDED CRIME (EXC BURGLARY DWELLING & OTHER)	23			2	1	9	14	1	5	55

The data above was extracted from Kent Police's LIVE crime recording system GENESIS on 5th October 2016 at 12:00 hrs, and is therefore subject to change.

CRIME REPORT

Here we are again. Where has the time gone since my last report? I have now received the reported crime figures for July, August and September 2016 and it is encouraging to see the figures show a reduction of approximately 20% - down from 68 to 55 but as I have said before, this is still too high. As the average figures start to increase, we must not accept that figure as being normal.

Thankfully, this quarter has seen a decrease of violent crime, from 30 down to 23, eleven of which were related to domestic violence. I know that the Police do offer counselling assistance when required in such cases. The remaining twelve comprise of three sexual offences, one assault on Police, three Public order offences, malicious communication and four of assault. Again the number of theft offences, excluding motor vehicle offences is still much too high at fourteen and it is one of those issues which I find totally frustrating, because the person committing the offence has probably never done anything worthwhile in their life. The criminal damage figure at nine is still much too high.

This time of year is normally when we see the crime figures soar although recent figures have contradicted this. Please be careful, especially when Christmas shopping. Please don't make things easy for those waiting to pounce on your handbag; especially don't leave your handbag on the shopping trolley when getting goods off the supermarket shelf. Just remember that very often your wallet is in the handbag and this will probably include any cash, your bank cards and your driving licence. Do not leave phones or wallets sticking out of your back pockets or leave Christmas shopping exposed on the seat of your car; put them in the boot. If you are going out make the house look occupied, leave a light on or the radio on.

If you live next door to someone who lives alone or disabled, pop around and see they are ok, or invite them around for a cuppa. Let us not forget those organisations such as the Salvation Army, and many more that look after the hungry and homeless, not only at Christmas, but throughout the year. Please give the Police all the support you can, and I wish you all a Happy Christmas and New Year.



Regards Hugh Boorman

Parish Council Chair	Cllr Mrs J Crowhurst	01892 824873
Clerk to the Parish Council	Mrs Barbara Russell	01892 823193
Tunbridge Wells Borough Council	info@tunbridgewells.gov.uk	01892 526121
Kent County Council	county.hall@kent.gov.uk	03000 414141
Town/Country Housing Manager	info@tchg.org.uk (Stephen Aspinall)	01892 501480
Pembury Surgery		01892 825488
NHS Medical Advice		111
Tunbridge Wells Hospital, Pembury		01892 823535
Pembury Pharmacy		01832 822896
Pembury Library	pemburylibrary@kent.gov.uk	01892 822278
Police – Emergency		999
Police – Non-Emergency		101
Childline		0800 1111
Samaritans		116 123
St. Peter's Upper Church	Rev'd Douglas Robertson	01892 824761
St. Anselms Catholic Church	Father Ed Tomlinson	01892 825009
Pembury Baptist Church	Pastor Dave Baxter	01892 825590

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS/EMAIL ADDRESSES

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PARISH COUNCIL



Cllr Mrs June Crowhurst 44 Elmhurst Avenue, TN2 4DA Tel: 824873 Chair of Parish Council



Cllr Sean Cawley c/o Henry Paul Funerals 10 High Street, TN2 4NY Tel: 825505 Chair of Environment/Environmental Issues (inc. Allotments & Burials) Working Group



Cllr Alan Gaukroger The Limes, Cornford Close, TN2 4QP Tel: 824671



Cllr Mrs Shelley Harris 29 Lower Green Road, TN2 4DZ Tel: 822544 Vice Chair of Parish Council Chair of Audit, Finance & Personnel Working Group



Cllr Mrs Louise Mills 114 Henwood Green Road, TN2 4LN Tel: 07882 655416



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



Cllr Mrs Katy Brooks 54 Hastings Road, TN2 4JP Tel: 825882







Cllr Patrick Kirby 51 Hastings Road, TN2 4JS Tel: 824431

Cllr Patrick Gillan 1 Knights Close, TN2 4EL

Tel: 825324

Cllr Mrs S Sharp 1 Sweeps Hill Close, TN2 4LT Tel: 823040





Clerk to Pembury Parish Council Barbara Russell, c/o Parish Council Offices, Lower Green Recreation Ground Lower Green Road Pembury, TN2 4DZ Tel: 823193 Email: clerk@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Paul Barrington-King, 57 Henwood Green Rd , TN2 4LH Tel: 07899 731696 Cllr David Reilly, 8 Forest Way, TN2 2EP Tel: 458216 Cllr Sue Nuttall - 6 Greenleas TN2 4NS

COUNTY COUNCIL Mr Chris Hoare KCC, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ

Deputy Clerk to Pembury Parish Council

c/o Parish Council Offices, Lower Green Recreation Ground Lower Green Road Pembury, TN2 4DZ Tel: 823193 Email: deputy@pemburypc.kentparishes.gov.uk

Tel: 07973 273244

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel: 522591 AMBERSIDE DANCE STUDIO Principal: Sadie Van Der Spuy. Tel: 07734 053509 www.360dance.co.uk CATHOLIC CHURCH Fr. Ed Tomlinson, Tel: 825009 SECRETARY OF PEMBURY CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION Sue Nuttall, Tel: 01892 822776 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: Ms J. Lodnick. Tel: 822006 KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY Headteacher: Mr O. Snowball Tel: 820204 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 Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586 OUT AND ABOUT CLUB Sue Giles. Tel: 823318 PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB Colin Forward, Tel: 825436 PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH Church Office, Tel: 825590 PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB Phil Griffin, Tel: 01892 823129 PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB Geoff Plummer, Tel: 824362 PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB Secretary/Treasurer: Mr A Weaver, 51 Heskett Park, Tel: 824362 PEMBURY DAY CENTRE c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590 PEMBURY ECO GROUP Rick and Masha Bayles. Tel: 822865 PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB Saturday Secretary: Bill Baker. Tel: 825822 Sunday Secretary: Phil Craxton. 823928 Chairman: Andy Rice-Tucker. Tel. 822483 PEMBURY GARDENERS' SOCIETY Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY PAVILION BOOKINGS Gillian Mayrick. Tel: 824852 PEMBURY PLAYERS James Whitehorn. Tel: 824854 PEMBURY SCHOOL School Office, Tel: 822259 PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION Chair: Theresa Mason. email: psa@pembury.kent.sch.uk PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY Teacher in charge: Rachel Teigen. Tel: 825580 PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509 PEMBURY SOCIETY Chairman: David Hanes. Tel: 823174 PEMBURY U3A Membership Secretary: Andrew Richardson. Tel: 824012 PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH Rev'd. Douglas Robertson. Tel: 824761 PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET Suzanne Leviton. Tel: 07927 713256 Jean Tyler. Tel: 01732 357820 PEPENBURY Principal: Sarah Stookes, 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 Michelle Usherwood, Tel: 822020 SCOUT & GUIDE HO MANAGEMENT TEAM Michelle Usherwood. Tel: 822020 ST. ANSELM HALL ENQUIRIES Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586. ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION Secretary: Tina Walters. Tel: 822545 (after 4pm) TABLE TENNIS CLUB John Burleton. Tel: 823250 THE ORDINARIATE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM Fr. Ed Tomlinson, 31 Henwoods Crescent. Tel: 825009 TOWN & COUNTRY (HIGH WEALD HOUSING) Housing manager: Stephen Aspinall. Tel: 0845 8731 321 TREE WARDEN Hugh Boorman. Tel: 823068 TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605 **TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM** SUPPORT SCHEME. Tel: 513969 VILLAGE HALL Manager (bookings): Karen Tamblyn. Tel: 07983 228181 WOMEN'S INSTITUTE Evening: Mrs Gillian Williamson. Tel: 01892 822 577 Email: pewisecretary@gmail.com



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southborough@henrypaulfunerals.co.uk www.henrypaulfunerals.co.uk