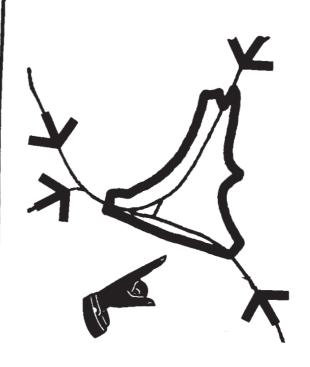
Your VILLAGE newsletter MARCH 1986 NO.



PEMBURY UP FOR GRABS? NO, SAYS THE PARISH COUNCIL see inside

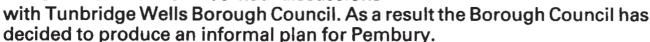
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AFTER THE BY-PASSES

After the construction of Pembury's two bypasses certain pockets of land will be left which could attract, and almost certainly have attracted, the attention of prospective developers.

To be able to withstand the threat to a further wave of development – following on that of the sixties and early seventies which radically altered the character of the village – the Parish Council has had discussions





Planning procedures are a source of confusion to the layman. There is a Tunbridge Wells Town Map dating from 1972; the Kent Structure Plan of 1974; the K.C.C. Kent Countryside Local Plan of 1983 published in 1984. None of these lays down any hard and fast guidelines for Pembury. There are, in addition, various government circulars concerning the Green Belt and the control of development.

From the strict interpretation of these sometimes conflicting doctrines, the Pembury preservationist can draw material either for euphoria or despair.

So the Parish Council has decided to submit to the Borough's planning department its own ideas as to where the development boundaries for the village should be drawn.

These ideas are incorporated in the plan reproduced on pages 12 and 13. Broadly speaking, the limit of the Green Belt – which according to planning policy should be inviolable except for necessary agricultural or recreational development, has been drawn tightly against the existing built-up area of Pembury. This includes the area of the Woodside allotments and adjacent land, often perceived as a juicy plum by developers and the subject of a comprehensive 'No' at an appeal heard in 1974.

This is the line which the Parish Council has submitted to the Borough's planners for incorporation in the Plan for Pembury. It is perhaps naive to imagine that the line will be accepted without question, but it is, in the Parish Council's view the only way in which Pembury can be prevented from becoming some kind of overspill for Tunbridge Wells, especially since the village will, with the construction of the M25 and its two by-passes, become a 70 m.p.h. focus for much of the South-East.

ON THE MAT

A new pastime has become established in Pembury – Short Mat Bowling.

In our last issue we published an appeal by Parish Clerk Henry Plant asking anyone interested to attend an inaugural meeting of a short mat bowling club in the Village Hall on January 7th. There was a gratifying response from more than 30 people, who saw a demonstration of this comparatively new indoor game, staged by the manufacturers of the mats which form an integral part of the sport.

As a result, another meeting was held on January 17th to discuss the question of financing a short mat bowling club. At this meeting some £350 was raised after those attending had been told that something like £400 was needed to buy one mat measuring 45 feet by six feet.

This led to a decision to purchase the club's first mat which was delivered a week later. Moves are already afoot to raise money to buy a second mat, thus enabling eight or twelve people to play at one time.

The Village Hall has been booked on a weekly basis for club meetings, where possible on Friday nights from 7 to 10 p.m. and on either Wednesday or Thursdays where this is not possible because of previous bookings.

The club's annual subscription has been fixed at £5 with a 50p fee for each club night. For those not already involved, it should be emphasised that ladies form a good proportion of the membership because short mat bowling is essentially a family game open to people of almost any age. It is aimed to continue meetings until the end of May and to re-open in September. The chairman of Pembury Short Bowling Club is Mr. Ken Hardcastle and the secretary Mr. Henry Plant.

A TRADITION WORTH KEEPING

For several years past boys and girls from Pembury Primary School have given a display of Maypole and country dancing on the Village Green on the Saturday nearest to May Day.

This year the display will be held on Saturday, May 3rd, starting at 10.20 a.m.

The school's headmaster, Mr. Richard Nisbet says the school is proud to play a part in the continuation of what has by now become a traditional form of entertainment for the community. However, once or twice in recent years attendances have suffered through poor weather. If young children are willing to brave what can be the biting winds of May, it is up to Pembury people to support them, even if it means bringing flasks of coffee along as well. It should be stressed that no charge is made for the performances; the school puts on the show for the love of it.

Upwards of 50 children, mostly from the third and fourth years at school, take part. Country dancing forms part of the curriculum, but there is also an out-of-school-time dance club, members of which put on the Maypole dancing. In addition, the school orchestra provides some of the music.

One of the highlights of each May Day display is the crowning of the May Queen, a pupil who is chosen by the votes of her schoolfellows.

WATCH YOUR FOOTPATHS

On the Diary page of the Newsletter, Pembury Footpath Walkers' fixture for May 2nd is entered as either an all-day walk or one of the usual half-day walks. The reason for this is that it is at present undecided which of the two shall be arranged. At the Walkers' annual general meeting in November it was decided to ask members' views on whether to have an all-day walk round Bewl Bridge Reservoir, with perhaps a boat trip included, or to walk part of the Wealden Way from Tonbridge to East Peckham.

The Walkers are also interested in the effect on local footpaths of work on our two by-passes. Undertakings have been given that existing footpaths will be kept open while work is in progress, although in at least one instance the present footpath will be carried over the A21 by-pass on a footbridge. The Walkers' committee is anxious to hear from anyone who encounters obstructions to footpaths as a result of construction work. The Parish Council should also be informed.

SCOUT B GUIDE HEADQUARTERS FUND

The total raised by the organisers of the fund to provide a new Scout and Guide headquarters in Pembury stood, when this was written early in February, at around £17,000.

The chairman of the building fund committee, Mr. Tony Berry, said an architect was completing plans for submission to Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. Before a formal planning application is made, however, the plans will be discussed with the various Scout and Guide units in the village to see if they have any suggestions or alterations to make. It is also hoped to discuss the project in detail with the Parish Council.

Following these discussions, Mr. Berry said he hoped the formal application would be made early in March.

The committee is aiming at a building incorporating two halls, each 35 feet by 25 feet, with committee rooms, a kitchen, toilets and storage space.

Mr. Berry atressed that he hoped the building fund would be close to the figure of £20,000 by April 1st. Helping to boost the total, the committee has organised a Valentine Dance on February 14th and a 50/50 Auction in the Catholic Hall on March 15th.

The biggest annual sum raised for the project is the Village Fete, organised by a separate committee working in collaboration with the building fund committee. This year the Fete will be held on July 5th at the Recreation Ground in Lower Green Road.

It will begin, as usual, with a parade from the Village Green, led by the Crowborough Marching Band, and will include model steam train rides, a fun castle, pony rides and numerous stalls and sideshows. Any local organisations wishing to take part are asked to contact the fete secretary, Mrs. Janet Greenwood on Pembury 4472.

PEMBURY WOODSIDE YOUTH CLUB



Last October the club's first leader, Malcolm Brown, left to move up north. About the same time his assistant, Denis Manning, resigned. Both men had seen the club through the difficult days when the clubhouse was still being built and I would like to thank them for their work during a testing time for leaders and members alike.

John Whybrow has been appointed the new club leader with Valerie Griffiths as assistant leader.

The senior club continues to meet on Mondays and Wednesdays from 7.30 to 10 p.m. On club nights we have table tennis, snooker and darts, with hair-dressing and make-up classes for the girls. There is also a canteen which we hope to expand into a coffee bar when funds allow. We also hope to be able to open on Tuesdays once we get the necessary equipment.

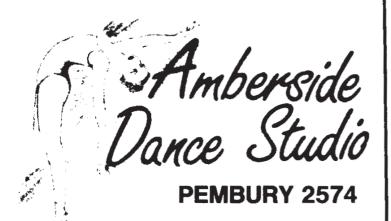
The senior youth club is now affiliated to the Tonbridge and Malling Association of Youth Clubs (thanks to Pauline Hawker) which means we can join in a whole range of activities, including the use of the Angel Centre in Tonbridge. We are forming a senior five-a-side football team for boys and girls and hope to get sponsorship from a Tunbridge Wells firm.

Our first complete year's accounts do not make very good reading, but we have managed to break even and repay £400 off our loans. Fund-raising is difficult. We still need a few more committee members to help with this. If you have some spare time to assist in this way, please let me know. I am sure you will find it very worthwhile.

On March 29th club members John Bland and Darryl McPhie are doing a sponsored run from Hastings to Pembury in aid of club funds. They should arrive in the village at about 1 p.m. If you would like a sponsor's form, please give me a ring on Pembury 2865.

Most importantly we are very pleased to welcome new members – aged between 14 and 21. Why not come along and find out more about us?

I cannot end without a word of thanks to Pembury Cricket Club. In January they held a jumble sale, for which they collected more material than they could possibly sell. Instead of asking a dealer to come along and pay them a few pounds to take away the surplus, they passed it all on to the Youth Club for its own jumble sale held on March 1st.



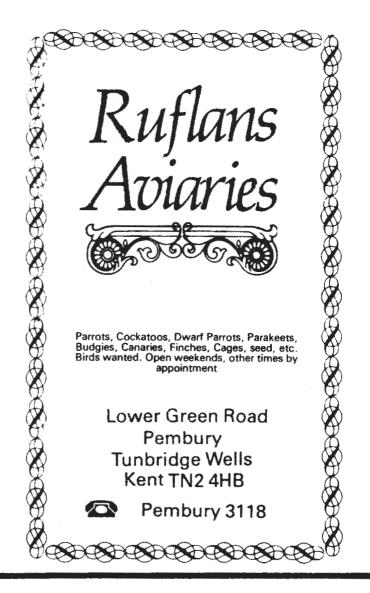
Margaret King, Associate Member of the Imperial Society of Teachers of Dancing for Ballet, Modern Theatre and Tap.

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YOUR CLERK REPORTS.....

Following my report in the December issue of the Newsletter, I am very pleased to let you know that, following exceptional support, a new sports club – the Pembury Short Mat Bowling Club – has been formed in the village. You'll find more details of this successful venture elsewhere in this issue.

The Annual Parish Meeting of Pembury Parish Council takes place on Wednesday, March 12th in the Village Hall at the usual time of 8 p.m. It promises to be a very informative evening as, following the formal part of the business to be transacted, the agenda will also include items relating to traffic problems which will arise during the construction of the by-passes and up-to-the-minute information about the subject of a possible gipsy site in Pembury.

As usual in this issue I set out below a copy of the financial statement I shall make in respect of parish finances for the year ended 21st March 1985. It will read as follows:

"It is my duty to submit the following particulars in respect of the parish finances for the year ended 31st March 1985. For this period, precepts amounting to £48,928 were demanded from the Rating Authority by your Parish Council. Receipts from burials, interest on capital and miscellaneous income amounted to £13,435.98, together with loan monies of £11,500. This combined with the sum of £11,330.62 brought forward from the previous financial year totalled £85,194.60.

Expenditure for the same year amounted to £62,586.72, which left a surplus of £22,607.88 carried forward to the commencement of the current year (1985/86) as a credit on the Burial Board account of £431.91; on the Public Lighting account of £2,369.30 and on the General account of £9,806.67 and in the Loan account of £10,000.

Outstanding loans on 31st March 1985, due to the Bank of England, totalled £44,168.63. These comprised £1,632.64 for burial grounds; £228.89 for allotment land; £8,385.14 for Woodside Playing Fields; £15,073.71 for Lower Green Road Recreation Ground improvements; £8,848.25 for the Village Hall; £2,000 for the Scouts and Guides headquarters site and £8,000 for the conversion of parish lighting.

Major items of expenditure during 1984/85 were wages, graduated pensions, public lighting, new machinery, repairs and renewals to machinery and parish property, improvements to the access way to the burial ground and Woodside Playing Fields and the renewal of part of the water supply at the allotment gardens.

The accounts of Pembury Parish Council were audited and approved by the District Auditor on 11th July 1985.

The Parish Rate for 1986/87 is anticipated to be 8.7p in the £, which, based on the penny rate product of £5,640, will produce the sum of £49,068. This reflects a reduction of .4p on last year's parish rate.

I would, with respect, request that the Chairman of your Council submits this financial report for the year ended 31st March 1985 for adoption."

The Pembury Orchestra is putting on a concert in the Village Hall on Friday, March 21st at 8 p.m. in aid of the Friends of Pembury Hospital. A spokesman for the orchestra says the programme will appeal to all tastes, covering the musical spectrum from Schubert to Rodgers and Hammerstein. Tickets will be on sale at the door.



On the following day, March 22nd, Pembury Conservatives are holding their Spring Market in the Village Hall, opening at 10.30 a.m.



News from the Horticultural Society. The Summer Flower and Produce Show will be staged at the Village Hall on Saturday, July 12th and the Autumn Show on Saturday, September 13th. Many classes are open to non-members, particulars of which can be obtained from the Society's Hon. Secretary, Mr. Maurice Mepham on Pembury 2703.

The Society's annual outing to a place of gardening interest will this year be a coach trip to the National Rose Society's Rose 86 Festival at the Society's headquarters at St. Alban's. The coach will leave the Camden car park at 8.30 a.m. on Saturday, July 5th.



Incidentally, the Horticultural Society derives a useful annual income from the sale of waste paper. This is a useful outlet for your old newspapers, which are stored in the Society's shed on the Woodside Road allotments. The shed is open every Sunday morning between 10 a.m. and noon.

Two days after the annual parish meeting, Pembury Cricket Club is holding its annual general meeting in the cricket pavilion at 7.45 p.m. And eight days later, on Saturday, March 22nd the Club's annual dinner takes place at Pembury Primary School.

The Club started internal refurbishing of the pavilion in February and in March and April work is taking place on outside painting and the installation of a new hot water system. Anyone able to help in the March/April project is asked to contact Dick Crouch on Pembury 3164.

The Parish Council was told on January 13th that Kent County Council had accepted that there was a need for a footpath on the north-east side of Romford Road, forming a continuation of the existing footpath to a point opposite Heskett Park. The north-east side is on the left as you go down the hill. No date was given for the start of this work.



Pembury Library has asked us to draw readers' attention to the existence in the library of a village events diary. This is provided so that organisations can enter forthcoming events. Consultation of the diary will enable unfortunate clashes of dates to be eliminated. The library also wants to make known the fact that the staff of the county library service are willing to give talks, free of charge, to local organisations who may be looking for a guest speaker.



Weights Circus has applied to the Parish Council for permission to stage performances on the Recreation Ground early in April. After hearing that the circus numbered an elephant, three lions and other animals among its stock, the Council decided to refuse permission for so early a date on the grounds that the field would be soft in April and would probably suffer irreparable damage from so many heavy animals. At its meeting on February 3rd the Council agreed to write to Weights Circus offering a date in August when it was hoped the ground would be firmer.



Kent College is considering constructing an all-weather sports pitch and has invited the Parish Council to preliminary discussions about how such a pitch could be made available to village organisations. The Parish Council has agreed to take part in these discussions. At present the scheme is in its early stages and no formal planning application has been made.

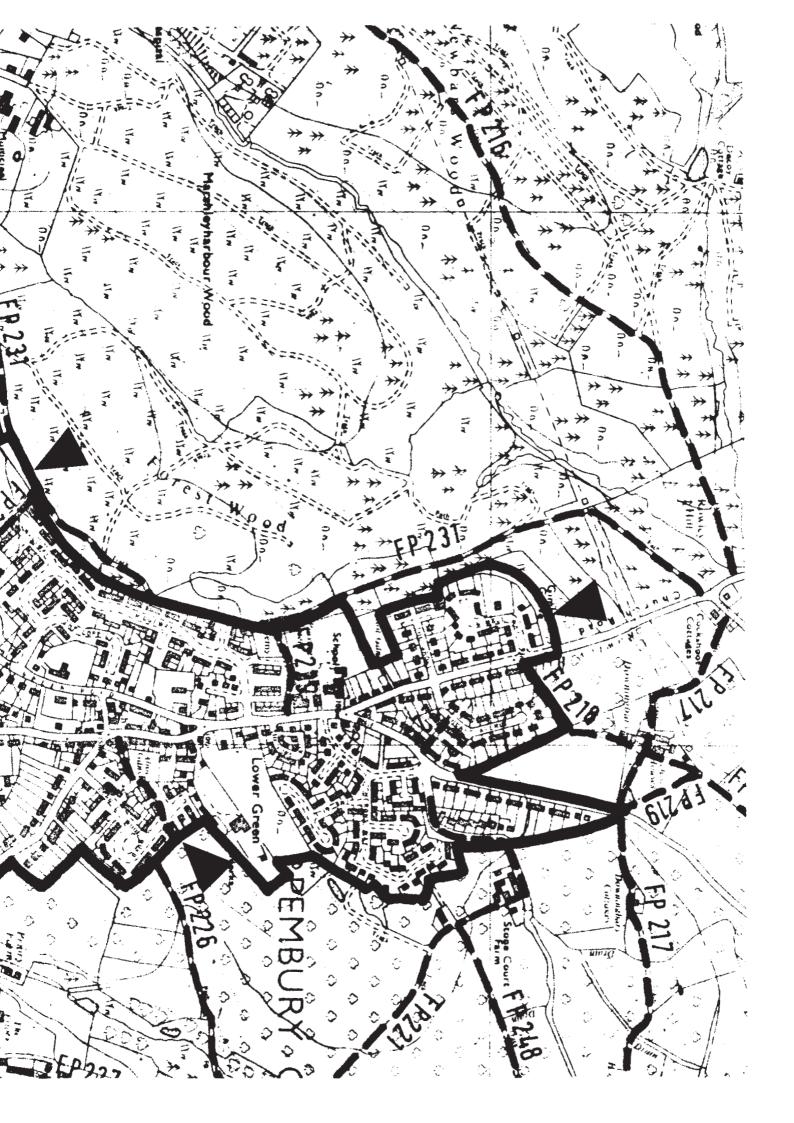


Following repeated damage to the glass back of the Camden bus shelter the Parish Council has decided to replace the glass with metal sheeting.



Vandals have been at work on two of the four parish notice boards. Five holes have been drilled in the glass doors of the board in Lower Green Road opposite the primary school – presumably by an air rifle. And the board at Bo-Peep has had its back ripped off. A few years ago the Parish Council spent a considerable sum of money on the four boards, even going to the extra expense of installing armoured glass. Thoughtless action by a loutish few can spoil a useful amenity for the bulk of residents.





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by-passes. As we go to press the exact starting dates of both projects are not precisely fixed. Mr. Arthur Hill, Kent County Council's design engineer for both projects, said in January that it was hoped a start would be made on the B2015 by-pass towards the end of February, although a contract for the road had not at that time been agreed. The A21 by-pass is under the aegis of the Department of Transport, which is issuing separate invitations for tenders, and it is understood that the awarding of the contract for that project will take two or three months longer.

A resident engineer has been appointed for each road from members of the KCC staff. Mr. John Dodman will oversee the A21 by-pass work and Mr. Duncan Smith will be responsible for the B2015 road. Each will have a separate headquarters but the siting of these will rest on the decision of the contractors for the two projects.

As soon as the two contracts have been finalised the KCC has promised to issue full details to the Press and to the Parish Council, giving details of starting dates, resident engineers' offices and other information of interest.

The expected costs of the roads are £10 million for the A21 bypass and £3½ million for the B2015. The roads are expected to take two years and eighteen months to complete respectively.

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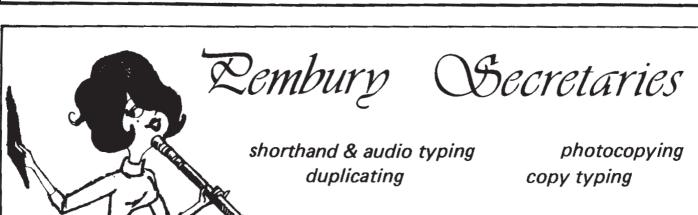
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A NEW VILLAGE CONSTABLE

Just after Christmas Pembury's new village policeman took up his post. He is 22-year-old Mark Slight, who comes to Pembury after spending the first four years of his police service in Tunbridge Wells. He succeeds P.C. Neil Sadler who left early in January on being posted to Cranbrook.



Mark Slight was born in Croydon but spent most of his boyhood in Westerham which, he says, is not unlike Pembury. Indeed until the M25 was built, by-passing it, Westerham's traffic problems were very similar to our own.

Mark slight is married. His wife, Lucy, is also from Croydon and is currently expecting their first child.

They both like living in the country and Mark, who enjoys most outdoor sports, is especially fond of walking. To keep him up to this he has an Alsatian who enjoys the exercise with her master.

His home is in one of the police houses in Amberleaze Drive. At present he is pondering whether to dig up part of his back lawn to make a vegetable garden. But taking precedence over that will be Mark Slight's determination to get to know as much about his new patch as possible.

BULKY REFUSE

On January 26th the new scheme evolved by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for the collection of bulky refuse in the village came into operation.

A refuse vehicle was stationed in Beagleswood Road, near the junction with Petersfield between 12 noon and 3 p.m. to which anyone could bring bulky items of refuse or garden rubbish. This will be repeated at fortnightly intervals for a trial period of six months. The vehicle replaces the skips which were formerly sited in Bulls Place and Elmhurst Avenue and which caused some hassle to residents when they became over-filled.

The Parish Council originally asked the Borough to send a vehicle weekly but this was said to be impossible because the other parishes in the borough are having a similar service and there are not enough vehicles to go round.

For future reference, the dates on which the refuse vehicle will be at the same site – between noon and 3 p.m. – are March 9th and 23rd; April 6th and 20th; May 4th and 18th; June 1st, 15th and 29th. These are all Sundays.

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The Editor would welcome any contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter.

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Pembury 2439



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Pembury 3459



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Parish Council Mrs. Sarah Clarke (Chairman), Little Stanton, Romford Road.

Tel: 3932 Richard Miles (Vice-Chairman, Chairman Amenities), Fletchers

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Robert Allen (Chairman Public Relations), 37 Highfield Close.

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Brian Chantler (Chairman Highways, Planning), 4 Stanam Rd. Tel: 3339

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17 Westway. Tel: 3843

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WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs. Ackhurst, 5 Middlefield. Tel: 3081 Evening: Mrs. Ballantine, 6 Maidstone Rd. Tel: 2156 W.R.V.S.

Mrs. Hildy Swinden, 6 Church Road. Tel: 3378

APRIL Darby & Joan Club - Meeting. Village Hall 2 to 4.30 p.m.

Ladies' Social Group - Talk on Gipsies by Miss Vinall. 48 Woodhill Park

Afternoon W.I. - Birthday meeting. Village Hall 2.30 p.m.

Evening W.I. – Yesterday, Today and tomorrow, Mr. I. Beynon. Village Hall 7.45 p.m. Pembury Footpath Walkers – Walk starting from Bo-Peep 2.15 p.m.

Parish Council (Question time 8.30 p.m.) - Environmental Group. Village Hall 8 p.m.

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Horticultural Society – Floral Art Group. Village Hall 8 p.m.

Darby & Joan Club – Coffee morning and sale. Village Hall 10 a.m. – 12 noon. 15

Ladies' Social Group - Talk and demonstration, The Flower Arranger's Garden, Mrs. Bowles. 20 The Coppice 15

Pembury Society - Meeting and talk. Village Hall 8 p.m. 21

Horticultural Society - Pan Britannica Gardeners' Quiz. Village Hall 8 p.m. 24

Parish Council (Question time 8.30 p.m.) – Management Group. Village Hall 8 p.m. Ladies' Social Group – Visit to Natural Clinic at Langton 28

29

- Darby & Joan Club Meeting. Village Hall 2 to 4.30 p.m. 29 Afternoon W.I. - Resolutions meeting. Village Hall 2.30 p.m. MAY
 - Evening W.I. Resolutions meeting; talk on Well Dressing, Mrs. J. Thorpe. Village Hall 7.45 p.m.

Maypole Dancing on the Village Green 10.30 a.m.

Pembury Footpath Walkers - Either an all-day walk starting from Camden car park or a walk starting from 3 Stonecourt Lane bus stop 2.15 p.m.

Horticultural Society - Floral Art Group. Village Hall 8 p.m.

Darby & Joan Club - Half-day outing to Eastbourne

Ladies' Social Group - A Year in the life of a Disused Railway Line. Talk with slides by Mr. M. J. Mercer, 44 Herons Way

Outgrown Children's Wear - Sale 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon Village Hall

Parish Council (Question time 8.30 p.m.) - Annual Meeting. Village Hall 8 p.m. 19

22/23/24 Pembury Players - Revue. Village Hall 8 p.m.

Darby & Joan – Meeting Village Hall 2 to 4.30 p.m. Ladies' Social Group – Competition, cheese and wine party, AGM. 27 Lane's End, Lower Green Road

Horticultural Society - Talk by Miss Hannah Pullar, subject to be announced. Village Hall 8 p.m.

JUNE Afternoon W.I. - Social afternoon. Village Hall 2.30 p.m.

Evening W.I. - Hanging Baskets, talk by Audrey Ponsferd. Village Hali 7.45 p.m.

Pembury Footpath Walkers - Walk starting from Camden car park 2.15 p.m.

Horticultural Society - Floral Art Group. Village Hall 8 p.m.

10 Darby & Joan Club - All day outing to Birdworld, Farnham, and visit to Guildford Cathedral

10 Ladies' Social Group - Visit to Lamberhurst Vineyard

Parish Council (Question time 8.30 p.m.) - Management Group. Village Hall 8 p.m.

21 Primary School P.T.A. – ANNUAL FETE at the School, opening 2 p.m.

Darby & Joan Club - Meeting. Village Hall 2 to 4.30 p.m. Ladies' Social Group - Poolside Party. 6 Westway

Parish Council (Question time 8.30 p.m.) - Environmental Group. Village Hall 8 p.m.

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

Upper Church

 $8.00 \, a.m.$ Holy Communion (First, Third and Fifth Sundays)

9.45 a.m. Parish Communion

11.30 a.m. Junior Church (except fourth Sunday)

6.30 p.m. Evensong with sermon

Parish Church

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Second and Fourth Sundays)

11.15 a.m. Matins and Sermon

Every Friday - W.I. Market - V.Hall 10.15 - 11.15 a.m.

(35p)

Every Monday - Pembury Old Tyme and Modern Dance Club - R.C. Hall - 7.45-10.15 p.m.



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