

# PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 103  
Autumn 2000



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*Cover photograph by courtesy of David Sellman*

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Gill Matthews, Henry Plant and Betty Roberts

## PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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## NEWS

**Y**ES, THE HALL is finished and extremely impressive it is, too! Many villagers took the opportunity on Saturday 26th August to wander through the new hall and absorb the fresh and light atmosphere of the building. The first 'users' went in on 1st September – the Pembury Evening WI monthly meeting.

We have published two photos here, but you can see several more on the News website (paper copies to go to the Library in the next week or so).

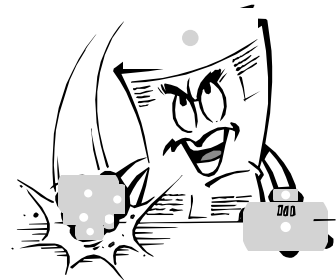
The official opening will be held on Friday 29th September when the Chairman of the Kent British Legion will perform the official ceremony.



### **COPY FOR NEXT ISSUE**

*Any news items or articles for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded to the Editor before **1st November 2000.***

*If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it in on disk. If you do not have a disk, we can supply you with one.*



## VILLAGE HALL PROJECT 1999-2000



*June 2000*  
Parish Clerk  
Barbara Russell  
assessing  
progress.



*July 2000*  
Nearly there!

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## OUT OF THE MOUTHS . . .

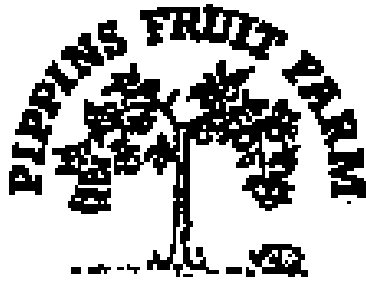
WHEN CLLR. SARAH CLARKE, the Chairman of Pembury Parish Council, presented Pembury 2000 mugs to the children at Pembury School, she asked them in return to each make a Millennium wish. The response was overwhelming and unfortunately we won't be able to publish all of them at once. However, we'll try and pick out a few typical ones here, put some more on the Pembury Village News web site ([www.pembury.org.uk](http://www.pembury.org.uk)) and also include some in the Millennium Book.

A huge number of children of all ages wanted world peace and no more fighting. The environment and caring for others cropped up again and again as did the question of having a lot of money! Others wanted to walk on the moon, travel in space and also go back in time. Interestingly, both boys and girls wanted a baby brother or sister and both disliked litter. Friends were very important as were family.

- ... that we should have Christmas every month (Lucy 8<sup>1/2</sup>)
- ... for everyone that I meet would be nice and friendly and everyone was happy how they are (Jessica 9)
- ... that I was a football star for Man U and win the world cup (Luke 8)
- ... that people would not drop rubbish (Katy 8<sup>3/4</sup>)
- ... to stop pollution (Ross 8)
- ... for people to be good not to be greedy and have peace (Jack 8)
- ... all the children would have a toy each (Mark, RMG)
- ... for Daddy to get lots of books to make him happy (Daniel, RMG)
- ... that everybody would have enough food (Rebecca, RMG)
- ... that trains would stop crashing (Catherine 5)
- ... that I could draw better (Sasha 4)
- ... that my mummy would have a baby (Adam 5)
- ... that everyone had somewhere to live (Jessica 5)
- ... that I pass my exams and get the job I want (John)
- ... that no one is homeless and everyone is healthy (Sarah)
- ... that Father Christmas will give me a Hot Rocker remote control and that my friends will stay friends forever (Kenrick)
- ... that I will become a scientist (William)
- ... that I was a pop star, had a stretch limo and was famous (Ryan 7)

- ... that I could live in a mansion and do everything I wanted (Sam 7)
- ... that there could be more good poems (Tamara 7)
- ... that I could be taller (Michael 7)
- ... that I could go with my family to the moon (Christopher)
- ... that I had flowers in my bedroom every day (Rose)
- ... that my mummy would never die (Hayley)
- ... that I could be a reindeer and lift Santa's sleigh into the night sky (Rachel 3RW)
- ... that I could go back hundreds of years ago and see what cavemen were like (Joanna 3RW)
- ... that I could help raise money for the poor (Jamie 3RW)
- ... I had a pet to love and care for (Rachel 1NM)
- ... I had a talking Christmas tree (Bradley 1NM)
- ... that I could have ice cream all the time (Ryan 1NM)
- ... that I had lots of dogs, I would rescue ones that were lost (Georgia 1NM)
- ... for a bright and fresh world with no litter on the ground or even cans (Anon 3SH)
- ... for people to share things and be kind (Danny 3SH)
- ... for everyone to have a happy life at all times and think about Jesus (Jacqueline 3SH)
- ... that the snow would fall every Christmas (Hannah 3SH)
- ... for a Mercedes Benz (Simon 3SH)
- ... to be a mountaineer (Charlie 3SH)
- ... for all people in the world to be healthy, have a home to go to and food, drink and proper clothes (Jessica 6VR)
- ... that all schools should be turned into playgrounds (Lenny 6VR)
- ... keep the world in the best condition by stopping vandalising (David 6VR)
- ... that the world will be at peace with no fighting, no racism and no unkindness (Toni 6VR)
- ... that Britain was better at sport and England win a match in cricket (Liam 6LB)
- ... that everyone had enough good and clean water (Mark 6LB)
- ... that very poor countries have their debts forgotten (Michael 6LB)
- ... that me and my family could live in peace and harmony and we could win the lottery and go to a beautiful place (Emelye 6LB)

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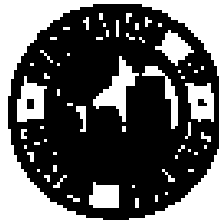
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# ALAN CLARKE

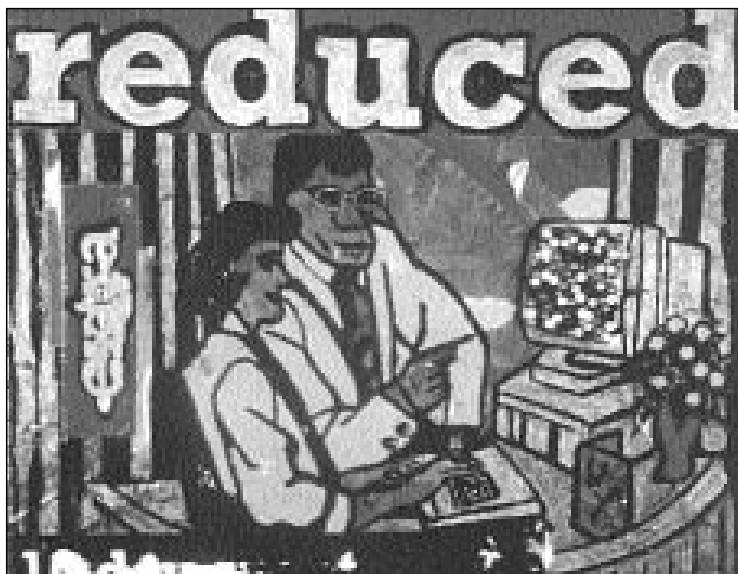
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## IT'S ALL TOO BEAUTIFUL . . .

*A Pembury artist in a major London exhibition*

**W**HAT WOULD you say your definition of beautiful is? Is it something pleasing to the eye, that is stunning to look at, or is beauty something that you just can't define. This question is put to the test in a current exhibition at the Oxo Tower Wharf on London's South Bank in an international art exhibition entitled 'Beautiful' which sees young local artist from Pembury, Lee Campbell, display alongside internationally recognised artists and also fresh talent. The show includes Mark Wallinger (Turner Prize nominee 1995), Chris Ofili (Turner Prize Winner 1998) and Tomoko Takahashi whose work, consisting of displaying recycled materials and rubbish, has been nominated for this year's prestigious Turner Prize award at the Tate Modern gallery.



Other artists include Daniel Coombs, Chantel Joffe, James Aldridge and young fashion designer Tristran Webber.

Lee Campbell, 22, graduated this June with an honours degree in Painting from Winchester School of Art. He completed A Level Art and French at Mascalls School, Paddock Wood in 1996 before receiving his Foundation diploma from Kent Institute of Art and Design at Maidstone in 1997.

Lee was asked to join 'Beautiful' after an ex-Winchester student, Danny Rolph, noticed that Lee's work had a similar energy and vitality to that of his ex-Royal College friend Chris Ofili and many of the 'Beautiful' artists.

"To display with some of the greatest contemporary artists whom I've admired for several years was an absolute buzz," says Lee. "The London art scene has never been so vibrant and trendy" Lee explains, "and to be the only student in the show was quite bewildering yet amazing".

Lee's piece in 'Beautiful' is entitled 'Reduced' and is a prime example of his truly original style. Lee's work consists of 'paintings' made out of the sticky dots you find on office year planners. The piece shows two people in suits looking excitedly at a computer screen where the display is made up of mapping pins, with the word "Reduced" hanging above them in neon writing. "The piece is humorous but very sarcastic at the same time," Lee says. "You are just not quite sure what these 'reduced' office workers are looking at and that is what I think is beautiful about the piece. My inspiration comes from living in suburban Tunbridge Wells and watching the many commuters on the trains. But my main source comes from working at the Co-op Concepts store on the North Farm industrial estate for five years as a Customer Service assistant. I thank Adam Medhurst and all his staff, particularly Janet, Jo, Daniel, Carol and Cheryl, for their support."

'Beautiful' finished on 17th July. Lee is hoping to complete an MA at the Royal College of Art next year and would be grateful for any form of sponsorship from local companies, businesses or whoever. To find out more details about Lee's work contact him on 824268 or at his home address: 6 Batchelors, Pembury.



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## PEMBURY ON THE INTERNET [www.pembury.org.uk](http://www.pembury.org.uk)

**P**EMBURY VILLAGE NEWS has new (and exclusive) email and web site addresses! Much simpler to remember, the web pages are at [www.pembury.org.uk](http://www.pembury.org.uk) and emails can be sent to [pvn@pembury.org.uk](mailto:pvn@pembury.org.uk)

Fame at last! In Alan Biggins' book 'Villages in Kent' – available at WH Smith – Pembury was mentioned as a pioneer in that it was one of the few villages in Kent that had a dedicated website.

We've had the usual variety of contacts over the past few months including one from Adrian Stuart-Robinson; both he and his wife Jane were Pembury Parish Councillors. Adrian, who had spotted himself in the photograph in the Winter 1999 edition, was the Chairman of Highways and Vice-Chair of Planning Committees and Jane founded the Pembury Players. They would like to be remembered to all their friends and thank those who have kept in touch.

Eileen Childs (née Budd), now living in Australia, sparked off the memories of a 1934 Pembury School classmate now in Crowborough, Eric Rapley. He asked us to forward a letter to Mrs Childs on his behalf. One slight problem – she had not sent us her address, just the town and state. However, we are not easily defeated! Readers may remember Bruce Bennedick whose ancestors had connections with Pembury and who wrote an article for a previous edition of the News. We emailed him and he tracked Mrs Childs down. Mrs Childs would be delighted to correspond with any of her former classmates (*Please contact the Editor for details*).

### **Golden Web Award**

Pembury Village News web site has recently been awarded a Golden Web Award by the International Association of Webmasters and Designers for the web design and content that has "achieved levels of excellence deserving of recognition".

### **Kent & East Sussex Villages Webring**

We have now set up a Webring for villages in Kent and East Sussex. It's in its very early stages at present, but it's hoped that this will grow in the coming months. The webring will help people discover sites in the areas around Pembury.

A further 400 people have visited the web site: half of whom come from Britain and nearly a half from the USA. Others include Australia, New Zealand, Germany, Italy and Greece, these later ones being new countries for the site.

Recent additions to the website include new pictures of the village hall and a section on the whole project. Other useful information about the Parish Council, businesses, clubs, organisations, church times, etc. are all there. If you wish to link your organisation, club or group to the website, please do not hesitate to contact me to set it up. Links to other nearby villages has also been set up. With the advent of the new site address, improved navigation links have been added to nearly all pages; this should help users find their way around the site. Also new to the site is a guestbook, where people can leave their comments and how they discovered the site; this has proved quite popular in the short time it's been on line.

**Steve Morton**



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for further information.**

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## NEW 'ALL-AGE' SERVICES AT ST PETER'S

A NEW MONTHLY 'All-Age' Worship service is being introduced at the Upper Church of St Peter from September. The service will be held at 9.45am one Sunday each month and will be attended by the Junior Church children and their families. The first of these services is on 10th September and it will replace the Sunday School classes and the Parish Eucharist on that day.

The 'All-Age' Worship will be less formal than our usual Sunday service and we hope that people of all ages will take part as well as attend. These services will also be of shorter length than our usual 9.45, and the words and music used and teaching given is intended to appeal to those who may be new to church attendance, or unsure about fuller commitment, as well as to the regulars at St Peters.

A team of church leaders is organising the services and they hope to include drama, mime, different forms of music and visual aids, as well as more familiar hymns and prayers.

All are very welcome to come to these All-Age Services, which will be at 9.45am on:

September 10th

October 8th (Harvest Thanksgiving)

November 5th

December 10th

On these Sundays (as on every Sunday) Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8am.

**Rev. Stephen Sealy**



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## TESCO IN PEMBURY

TESCO'S NEW STORE in Pembury will open at 8.00am on Monday 30th October.

The Store Manager is Michael Starr and there is a 14-strong management team, including Customer Service Manager Jo Bailey, who is keen to become part of the community and support local good causes.

The store opening will include other activities and on Saturday 4th November a Tesco hot air balloon will visit the store.

There are still vacancies for a variety of positions at the store and anybody interested should contact the Tesco Recruitment Centre, Century Place, Lamberts Road, Tunbridge Wells, on the North Farm Industrial Estate. Tel: 01892 541295.



*A glimpse inside – the shelves, fridges, etc. will be fitted over the next few weeks.*

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## A NEWCOMER SPEAKS

*Nigel Reddick was rash enough to make an enquiry about something connected with the News and got roped in to write an article! Here are his thoughts . . .*

I have a suspicion that the first time I saw Pembury was when sitting in a traffic queue on the old A21 heading from my home town Dartford, on the way to Hastings. Little did I know that some 15 years later I'd be living here.

My wife Julie has lived in Tonbridge most of her life, and I've lived in the Tunbridge Wells area since 1990, apart from a two year return spell to Dartford. We were initially attracted to Pembury because of the close proximity to our jobs in Tunbridge Wells, and the rural feel it still retains. But, with an eye to the future, it also has that sufficient 'core' of shops and services to enable you to live in the village without having to travel. So we moved to Pembury in August 1998. And what do we think of it so far?

There are some beautiful walks around the village, with some lovely contrasting terrain. Walking through the orchards near to us you get a wonderful impression of wide horizons, and the adjacent wooded valleys are a real treat. The local park is great, with plenty of wide open spaces for games and a good selection of equipment for younger children.

On the whole the natives have been friendly. We are very fortunate to have next door neighbours that are real diamonds. They were either born and bred in Pembury or have lived here most of their lives and they have been very welcoming and friendly. There is the usual irritation of thoughtless kids around the village but I feel that this is a national problem, or am I turning into a certain Mr Meldrew . . .

Village shops and pubs are very friendly,

particularly so the Chemist; they provide an intimate service you just don't get in a town. We held our wedding reception at the Black Horse last year and the catering was superb. At the moment we don't use local establishments enough (even the pubs!); we leave home at 0745 to go to work and return at 1830. On weekends we are decorating or gardening! However, we are expecting our first child in January and I think this will give us the opportunity to experience the 'social fabric' of the village to a much greater extent.

You won't be surprised to hear that we have found Public Transport a big disappointment. Peak hour services are slow because of traffic on the Pembury Road (I wonder how many heads are nodding in empathy). It takes me 50 minutes to get to the Pantiles by bus, as opposed to 20 minutes by car. Off-peak bus services have a tendency not to turn up at all . . . When will politicians learn that public transport needs to be subsidised to get people out of their cars?

I recently attended the Pembury Gardeners' Summer show and was made most welcome. I was most impressed by the high quality of the exhibits and the friendly and informal atmosphere encourages me to think about entering at shows to come because I know they won't laugh too loudly!

I've been impressed by the number of village events there are; crucial if we want our village to keep a separate identity as something other than a satellite of Tunbridge Wells.

So we are very pleased with our choice of moving to Pembury and look forward to becoming a little bit more part of it. At the end of the day you only get out of something what you put into it.

**Nigel Reddick**

---

## SNIPPETS . . .

Can you help? John Pembrey emailed us asking about possible ancestors from the early 19th century who may have originated from here. Some of his ancestors spelled the surname 'Pembury' in the 1881 census. He wondered if any records were kept in Pembury relating to that period, especially the names of any soldiers who enlisted for the Napoleonic Wars.

---

By a strange coincidence his wife is descended from the Corke family who lived in Hever last century, but related by marriage to the Moon family of Pembury.

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**Millennium Photo Project** – Photos of Millennium events are starting to drift in. When

you send yours in (to the Clerk's office at 6 The Grove), please note on a piece of paper your name, address, telephone number, what the photo is about, who the people are in it, when you took it and any other relevant details. If you have any questions, give Alison Morton (824938) or Paul Barrington-King (825144) a call.

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### **Pembury 2000 Mugs**

Mugs will be on sale at village events throughout the rest of the year. Otherwise, you can obtain them price £2.75 each from the Parish Clerk at 6 The Grove, Pembury between 9am and 1pm. Please give a quick telephone call beforehand if possible (823193), so that your mugs can be ready for you.

## PEMBURY MILLENNIUM COMMITTEE

THE MILLENNIUM Committee have continue to meet on a regular basis. The group was formed in order to co-ordinate the many and diverse events planned and then organised for the village by clubs, societies, churches and others. So far this has served to avoid many clashes occurring and all seems set fair for the remainder of this Year 2000.

However, the Committee have themselves been closely associated with the Bygone Pembury Exhibition, hosted by the Pembury Library, the Arts and Crafts Exhibition at the school and the Pembury.People 2000 bound book project.

The Bygone Pembury event was particularly successful, thanks largely to Jean Rejali and her team and Mary Standen who provided. much of the material on display and who was present to describe the details of photographs and documents of

past life in our village.

Regarding the Pembury People 2000 project, if you want your family or household to have a page in the book then you have to take action now. A number of people took advantage of the opportunity to complete their pages at the Village Fayre but time is now running out and if you do want to be included you should telephone the following Committee Members right away:

Simon Galway 822866  
Betty Roberts 824914  
Derek Johnson 823150  
Richard Parsons 823193

*Flora Hopkins and Nick Bennett of Pembury Road contributing to the Millennium Book at the Fayre in July*



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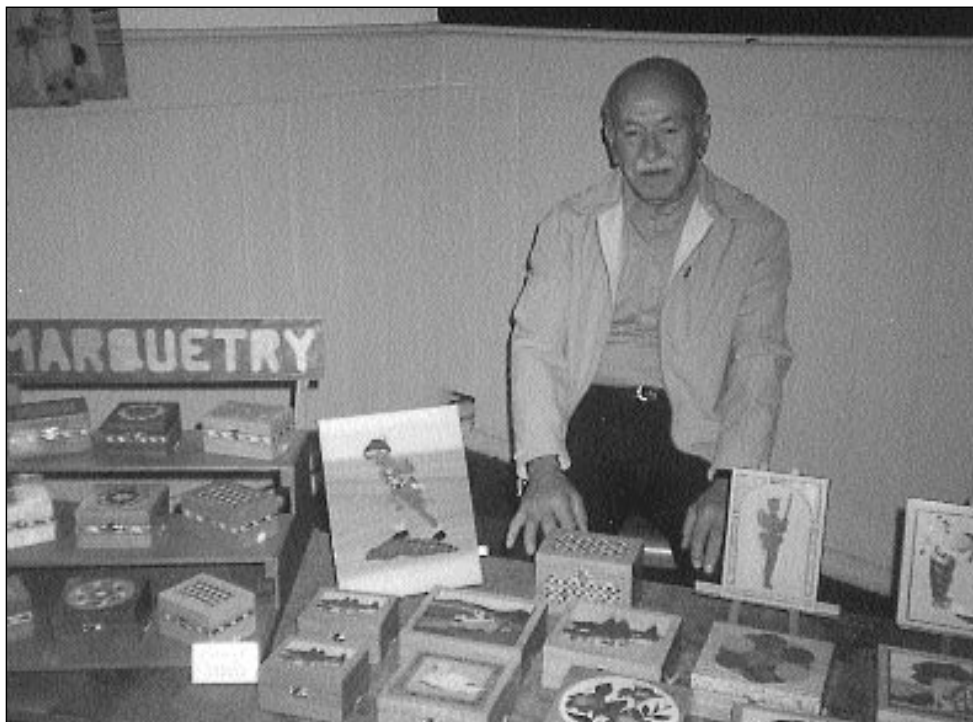
## ARTS & CRAFTS IN PEMBURY

**N**OBODY LIKES to make an exhibition of themselves but more than 20 villagers of all ages happily displayed items they had made when we held an Art and Craft Exhibition in Pembury School in July. Marquetry, ceramics, painting, embroidery, quilting, silk painting, dough craft, three dimensional art, silverware, corn plaiting and wood working: what a variety of talents we have in the village.

We would have liked to see more people looking at the exhibits but it was our first show. Hopefully the next one will be better supported.

“Thank you” to all who were involved with the exhibition and to Pembury School for allowing us to use the hall to stage it.

**Millennium  
Committee**



*Geoff Street  
of Highfield Close*

---

## PEMBURY BROWNIES

**I**T WAS NOT until I started to write this that I realised how busy the Brownies had been since Christmas. I cannot tell you everything we have done but I will try to tell you some of it.

In the spring the Brownies held a Bring and Buy Sale to raise money for the Blue Peter Appeal for Special Care Baby equipment and the Brownies raised over £160. More locally, the Brownies helped raise money for the Hospice in the Weald. The first event was a Pancake Obstacle Race, in which the Brownies had to first cook their pancake and then take it round the obstacle course in a frying pan. Any pancakes which survived the course could be eaten at the end – not many made it! We also had a sausage sizzle and between the two events we raised nearly £100.

At Easter the Brownies had their Pack Holiday, when four Guiders, two Young Leaders and 20 Brownies went away for five days. We went to Paxwood House near Dartford and we had a great time. The weather forecast was not promising but we were very lucky and managed all our activities as planned.

Nearly 2000 Rainbows, Brownies and Guides from Kent met on 24th June at Boughton Monchelsea for a Campfire to celebrate the Millennium – and we were there. On 1st July 1,544 Brownies from Kent went to Legoland to celebrate the Millennium – we were there too.

Among all the outings and fundraisings the Brownies also did some work. They gained their Agility, Craft and World Culture Badges and there were also some Hostess and House Orderly badges gained as well. We celebrated Burns Night, St Patrick's Day, St David's Day and St George's Day as part of our recognition of the United Kingdom in the Year 2000.

As you can see, we have been very busy but, above all, we have had lots of fun.

**Moira Allan**

---

## HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

**B**Y THE TIME this edition of Village News is published Christmas will be on the horizon again. There will be a Christmas craft market at the Hospice on Monday 6th November from 11am to 4pm, so make a note of the date now and do your shopping both locally and in good time. Don't forget that a wide range of Christmas cards and gifts will also be available in the reception area every day and profits go to Hospice in the Weald. Shopping there can be combined with a cup of tea or coffee – and a mince pie, too in the weeks running up to 25th December! There will again be a Tree of Light at the Hospice entrance and the Dedication Service, open to everyone in the community, will take place around the tree on Thursday 6th December at 6.30pm.

The Hospice publishes a newsletter three times a year; copies are available in the Pembury doctors' and dentists' surgeries, the Library and the Hospice Shop. But if anyone would like to be on the mailing list to receive copies direct, contact Richard Snow at the Hospice (tel. 820500).

Pembury Link Group sent out invitations in May to a garden party and tea at the Spa Hotel in Tunbridge Wells on 2nd July. Despite the fact that the first rain for about three weeks started to fall at the very moment the first guests arrived, the afternoon was very successful. Fortunately, the tea accompanied by live music and a brilliant table magician had been arranged indoors and by the time that was over the weather had improved. Thanks to some very generous sponsorship which covered more than half the cost of the event, a profit in excess of £3000 was made. The top raffle prize, a sightseeing flight for three people from Headcorn Airport, went to a Tunbridge Wells resident but Pembury was represented when a ticket bought by Councillor Ballantine came out in the draw for the other prizes.

**STOP PRESS** – one more event for those interested to note in their diaries. A designer fashion sale will take place at 6.30pm on Thursday 2nd November, at the Hospice.



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## PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS STRIDE OUT

A BIG 'Thank You' to the 30 trusting souls who turned up to be led through the unknown territory of the Three Churches Walk on 1 May. April had faithfully provided showers, some of them heavy, especially in the final week, and we expected to be trudging through mud come May Day. Luckily, the going turned out to be good but boggy and slippery in places and not at all difficult and we covered nine miles in four and a half hours – a leisurely walk at about two miles an hour including stops. The bluebells in the woods were in full bloom and a splendid sight; the wild garlic was just starting to flower; the trees had recently come into leaf – all shades of green; and we walked through head-high rape. The visits to Capel and Tudely churches were interesting but we did not attempt to go into Pembury Old Church as we assumed the new hassocks would already be there awaiting the first public showing at the imminent Service of Dedication. The weather was kind, the views magnificent and (I think) everyone had a good day although there might have been some stiff muscles the next morning!

The Mystery Trail Competition was launched and a lot of interest shown on its first day at the village fayre. It was well supported and the entry forms were in great demand. It was open to everyone and was designed to appeal to all ages. You could walk it at your own pace, choose your own time (and weather) and try it as often as you like before

6 September – the closing date by which answer papers were to be delivered to the box in the library.

The New Year Walk 2001 will be on New Year's Day, starting at 10am from Stone Court Lane bus terminus. We will be going through the bird sanctuary from which dogs are prohibited, so sorry, no dogs on this walk. Look out for it nearer the time on the 'For Your Diary' page where you can also find details of the Footpath Walkers' monthly walks. All are welcome – do come.

**Brian Toseland**



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## PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB'S AGM

**T**HE THIRD annual general meeting of Pembury Bridge Club took place on Tuesday 20th June 2000.

It was reported that they had enjoyed another (4th) successful year, both financially and in providing good friendly competitive duplicate bridge.

The Tuesday evening meetings at the village school had averaged 16 tables (64 people) and the Thursday afternoon meetings at the Catholic Church nine tables (36 people). It has been decided that the Tuesday evening meetings will be held in the new village hall as from 4th September 2000.

The meeting was told that the club had also organised weekends of bridge at Eastbourne and that a week's holiday with bridge in Majorca was

planned for next February. The pairs competition was won by Donald Allan and Geoff Plummer and the individual competition was won by Geoff Plummer.

Officers appointed for the coming year were: Chairman – G. Plummer, Treasurer – Mrs J. Field, Secretary – Mrs E Butler. Committee: Mrs H. Swinden, Mrs P. Smith, Mrs E. Fox, Mrs M. Pierce, P. Pike and P. Codd. Bob Greatrex retired from the committee because of personal commitments and he was thanked for the work he has done for the club.

After the meeting a session of duplicate bridge was held and two pairs achieved very high scores; Mrs V. Fuller and Mrs J. Ponting scored 72.35% and Mrs S. Tester and G. Frost scored 71.40%.

**Geoff Plummer**

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## CHRISTINA LUNDBERG

**C**HRISTINA LUNDBERG retired this summer after devoting 30 years of her teaching life to the children of Pembury.

She began her work at Pembury School as Head of Infants when Ivor Benyan was Headmaster. She was quickly promoted to Deputy Head and worked with both Richard Nesbit and Bob Edom. She became Acting Headteacher in 1998 and was then appointed to Headteacher in 1999, her last year before retirement.

Christina's contributions to Pembury School are far too numerous to mention but I am sure that everyone will remember the wonderful plays she produced which have delighted audiences over many years.

The children certainly enjoyed them and I know that they are spoken about with great affection. Christina introduced and organised the mathematics scheme throughout school and has written articles in educational papers on this subject. She delighted in working with statistics and analysing them and will be remembered by her colleagues for her organisational skills and attention to detail.

In her time as Headteacher, Christina was able to fulfil a dream to improve the school grounds for the children. There is now an Early Years Play Area and two new gardens by the Horsa huts.

Christina loved teaching and I am sure she will miss the children. There was a special moment when a photograph was taken of Christina with children whose parents she had also taught. There were quite a few!

Christina left Pembury School with many gifts and good wishes from old colleagues, present staff, Governors, parents and of course the children.

I am sure that everyone in Pembury village will join with them in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

**Linda Turner**



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## PEMBURY FIESTA 2000

**A**FTER A WET start the sun finally came out and the day went very well. The release of the balloons took place about 20 minutes late but was a spectacular sight when it happened. The school field location looked very colourful with lots of balloons and bunting to brighten up the day. It was lovely to see so many people from the school and village enjoying themselves at various stalls. The BBQ and refreshments tents were well attended and the new children's refreshment area was a tremendous success. The Face Painting was moved into one of the classrooms due to the wet start, but they were kept very busy all afternoon.

There were plenty of entries for the Carnival Hat Competition, so well done to all those children who took part. Punch and Judy were

there to entertain the children and the Sackville School Steel Band were adding to the carnival atmosphere with their music. All in all it was an afternoon of music and fun for everyone.

Our thanks go to all those people who helped us to make the day successful. We would especially like to thank all those who helped by contributing to the stalls or helping run a stall; placing and advertisement in the programme; or sponsoring a stall. Every little bit helps.

The total amount raised after expenses was £3,313.34. This will go towards equipment needed by the school. Once again, "Thank you" to everyone involved.

**Helen Hendley**  
PSA Secretary



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## PEMBURY PAGEANT 2000

A BEAUTIFUL sunny June day was the background to the Pembury Pageant played out by various groups on the Village Green. The theme was the celebration of Christianity in Pembury over many hundreds of years as well as looking forward to the future. A group of monks, representing the Bayham Abbey and who were believed to have conducted worship in at Pembury Old Church in medieval times, linked the various 'playlets'.

Kent College began with the martyrdom of Margery Polley, often fighting against the modern scourge of noisy traffic! Pembury Free Church gave a lively slanging match of 'Good News'/'Bad News', brilliantly delivered with verve and panache. Hospice in the Weald described how their project had

developed and at last come to fruition and the Catholic Church gave us the story of St. Anselm, their namesake. Pembury School pupils speculated on how the second coming would be – aliens, perhaps? St Peter's juniors set the Christian story in a very modern context (complete with mobile 'phone!) and finished with a very well-executed rap version. Hymns, prayers and a blessing concluded the afternoon.



*Kent College re-enacting the martyrdom of Margery Polley*

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## PEMBURY HOSPITAL FETE

THE PEMBURY HOSPITAL FETE once again proved a financial success as £15,000 was raised for this year's project to provide specialised equipment for the new Dermatology Outpatients department.

The weather was certainly not in our favour this year but that did not stop the hardy faithful turning up to support the event – it is estimated that attendance was about 40% down on the previous year.

Paul Moriarty, 'George' from 'Eastenders' and soon to be 'Baron Hardup' in 'Cinderella' at the Tunbridge Wells pantomime, opened the event and supported the cause all afternoon. The League of Friends is therefore well on its way to its target figure of £21,000 towards this very worthwhile venture.

**Ken Marsh**

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## PEMBURY VILLAGE FAYRE 2000

**WE FELT THAT** this year's Fayre went off with a tremendous bang . . . what did you think? The Organising Committee is already thinking about how we can ensure that next year hits an even higher target.

We were extremely pleased with the financial result of about £4,000 raised which will be jointly shared with Pembury Athletic (Youth) FC and the Scouts, Cubs and Guides organisations of the Village.

At this point we would like to thank all those willing helpers from all of the organisations that put in an enormous amount of work in the run up to and on the day of the Fayre. It is clear that without this level of support the Fayre could not be as successful as it is.

If we look at the day itself we felt that the idea of making it an all day event was the right decision, with the evening Fireworks display, kindly sponsored by the Parish Council, providing a Grand Finale that brought about a real village community feel to the event, a rough estimate was that there were over 2000 people in the park for the evening, can you remember seeing so many people gathered there before?

And how can we consider next year's Fayre without the Dog Show? This proved a great success, no-one could have imagined that so many dogs would want to bring their owners out in such numbers, one class had 21 entries and gave the guest judges a real headache in making the awards!

By now some of the lucky Balloon Ride winners may have been up, up and away already and I am sure that their stories would be welcome in the next issue of the News. It was such a shame that the balloon couldn't lift off from the Fayre on the day . . . but that's the great British weather for you !

As always the arena events went well and provided the various organisations with the opportunity to show what activities are on offer to the youth of the village. Remember these are our children and they form the next generation of village life.



Looking to next year's Fayre we are already asking 'How do we beat 2000?' We will shortly be circulating letters to the various sports and social group in the village in an effort to introduce new people with new ideas on to the Organising Committee.

If you feel that you could offer a shot of enthusiasm or even just a 'good idea' please get in touch with us.

See you in the park next year.

**Ian White**

*The Guides giving it their best!*



*Running away with enthusiasm!*



*Left to right: Vice-Chairman, Pembury Parish Council, Cllr. David Coleman, Cllr. Rosemary Latter, 'Webmaster' Steve Morton and Parish Clerk Barbara Russell*



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# SPORT IN THE VILLAGE

## **PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB**

Welcome to Season 2000/01. Firstly, welcome back to our old players and secondly, a very warm welcome to the children joining the Under 7 (Year 2) group as well as others joining the club in the older groups.

We believe that the club is going from strength to strength with many age groups having waiting lists of players wishing to join. During the summer break last year's Under 10s won a tournament at Crowborough with the Under 9s runners up at Langton Green. Added to that, the Under 8s won the Sportsmanship Award for their year group from the Crowborough League. Well done to all involved and let us hope we can build on those successes.

The Club has some significant changes to the Management Committee for this season:

David Gow, whilst still maintaining his role as Chief Coach, takes over from Laurie Frowde as Chairman. Laurie has accepted the role of Honorary President. Arthur Fleming takes on the role of Secretary from Ben Coombes. Many thanks to those going and good luck to those arriving in their new roles.

### **Mini -Soccer Section**

We must remember that the ethos of Small-Sided soccer is to give all children, irrespective of ability, the chance to play soccer in a friendly, non-competitive environment. There will be plenty of opportunity for competitive soccer in later years.

Who's Who in Small-Sided Soccer

Under 11: Ian White 824301 and Colin Forward 825436

Under 10: Rob Biddlecombe 823050 and Andy Rice-Tucker 822483

Under 9: Alex Rumph 823648 and Barry Kemp

Under 8: David Williamson 822080

Under 7 (Year 2): Donald Allan 822373

### **11-a-Side League Football**

Who's Who

Under 12: Peter Salvidge 825186

Under 13: Temporary Manager

Under 14: Arthur Fleming 824684

Under 15: Steve Cox 822956

Under 16: Martin Coendoz 825185

Under 18: James Young 823667.

A big THANK YOU to all parents who gave assistance to the Village Fayre. Over £4000 was raised at the Fayre of which half will come to the Football Club.

### **Boot Exchange**

Don't forget the boot exchange in the pavilion. Bring along a pair of boots that don't fit and exchange them for another pair. The more boots we get the better this will operate.

And finally . . . all Managers and Club Officers wish you a successful sporting year.

**Ian White**

## **PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB**

Having penned the notes for the summer issue what seemed only days, and not weeks, ago the season is now rapidly approaching its conclusion with both club elevens to the fore in their respective leagues. In Division 1 the 1st XI are, at the time of writing, in second place although Plaxtol have a commanding lead and are still favourites for the title. Still, with 3 games to go anything can happen and by the time this is read our title chance will have been determined. In Division 2 the 2nd XI are currently leading the table; however, with games in hand both Eynsford & Hadlow could well overtake us. A terrific performance last Saturday enabled the 2nd XI to beat hitherto unbeaten leaders, Eynsford, by seven wickets, restricting the opposition to just 75 all out aided by an athletic fielding display.

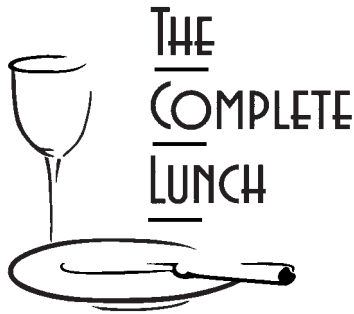
Whilst the success of the Saturday IXs is the key playing issue, the Sunday team has performed well this year with key contributions from a number of the younger players. A special thank you is in order to Bob Eaton, Richard Dawes and Paul Kelly who have encouraged an enthusiastic pool of junior players at Saturday morning coaching sessions. A high degree of talent has been in evidence and this bodes well for the future.

No evening league results to report this year as that event has been temporarily abandoned. However, we are hopeful of a new evening competition for 2001, more about which will be reported in a future issue along with the full details of the 2000 league season.

**Andy Weaver**

WEDDINGS PARTIES DANCES DISCOS BIRTHDAYS

CONFERENCES ANNIVERSARIES



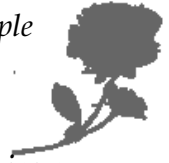
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## COLIN BARDEN

**P**EMBURY CRICKET CLUB are saddened by the sudden loss of Colin Barden, one of our Vice-Presidents, who collapsed and died at the age of 61 whilst batting for Linden Park on Saturday 5th August 2000. Colin played his first game for the village in May 1973. Prior to then he had been playing for Tunbridge Wells YMCA and had been a considerable thorn in our side when the two Clubs met. It was therefore a pleasure to welcome him to Pembury when the YMCA ground at Langton was sold. He captained the Club between 1978-1981. He was a prolific batsman who scored 108 centuries throughout his long career. As an opener he usually faced the best bowlers and his ability to consistently make high scores was a remarkable achievement which will probably never be repeated at this or any other village Club. The current players would all agree that he was one of the best players the Club has seen, an automatic choice in any selection of Pembury's Top XI of all time. It was a privilege to have played in the same team. Colin in full flow on a summer's afternoon was a sight to behold. He had the ability to score his runs all round the wicket not by brute force but by near perfect co-ordination of hand and eye, the envy of us lesser players. He played his last game for the village on 31st July 2000 turning out against Linden Park in their Cricket Week.

Those of us who had known him over the

years have all appreciated that he was a 'one off'. A dedicated sportsman whether it was football, table tennis, fishing, cricket, training and racing greyhounds or



following the horses. A true gentleman, with never a harsh word about anybody either on or off the field of play, he was always considerate and prepared to help anyone. He was modest in victory and generous in defeat as any bowler who beat him with a good ball will testify. He was particularly good with the youngsters, offering both advice and encouragement, not only to try to improve their technique and thereby their enjoyment, but also to introduce them to the spirit and history of whatever sport he was involved with at the time. Without the passion of people such as Colin amateur sport would not have survived at local levels. He will be sorely missed by the Club, not only in a sporting context but also socially. He was, after all, part of the Club for 30 years.

The Cricket Club offers sincere condolences to his wife Sylvia, children Greg and Helena, grand-daughter Rhianna and the other members of the family.

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## DATABOX 2000

**T**HE MILLENNIUM archive of Kent villages that I wrote about in the Spring 2000 edition of the News is now complete. Over 150 communities from across Kent took part and provided a fascinating and detailed account of what life was like in April 2000 in Kentish villages. David Earlam, who co-ordinated the whole project from Canterbury, told me that the box contents were of a particularly high standard and should prove to be a valuable resource for future historians and researchers of Kent life.

As well as a copy of the Spring News we included 36 photographs of Pembury, notes about facilities in Pembury, employment, leaflets from the churches, doctor's practices, etc. Although we received only a few personal accounts from Pembury residents to include in the box, they were of excellent quality, well written and accompanied by good, clear photographs. Many thanks indeed to those who contributed.

**Alison Morton**, Editor

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## PEMBURY IN THE PAST

### PEMBURY BOARD SCHOOL

**I**N THE last issue I mentioned the subject of class sizes in 1882 – here are the Headmaster's views, which he noted on the following dates:

#### **June 9th 1882**

“On going round the classes on Thursday morning, I found Sophy Parkes, Pupil Teacher, had 71 children present. As she had not at any time during the past week had less than 60, I put Elizabeth Bennett (Senior Monitor) to assist her, promising her a shilling per week subject to the approval of the Board.

#### **June 16th 1882**

I have requested Raynes, the Caretaker, to wash out the closets once per week and to sweep them out every day.

#### **August 11th 1882**

Mr Brown, Sanitary Inspector, called to inform me that the water taken from the School Well some weeks ago has been pronounced not perfectly pure by the Analyst.

#### **November 17th 1882**

The low attendance is accounted for by the terribly wet weather. The large room has been very cold each morning. The thermometer has not once stood above 44 degrees Fahrenheit at 9 o'clock. The children cannot work properly under such conditions.

#### **December 8th 1881**

In consequence of a very heavy fall of snow yesterday and this morning, the few children who came to-day were sent back home again.

The school building was enlarged in 1884

#### **November 21st 1884**

The number of children on the books is 231, of whom 212 are present

#### **November 28th 1884**

Alfred Ratcliffe, aged 7, who was at school last week, died early on Sunday last from croup. He was a very interesting little fellow and a great favourite among the children who called him Punch on account of his small size and rotundity. During the week a second child of this family died. Unfortunately, a report was circulated that these children had died of diphtheria and, as might be anticipated, the result was a serious reduction in our average attendance.

#### **December 10th 1884**

Dr Butterfield, Medical Officer of Health, having

certified that there were several cases of diphtheria in the parish the schools were to-day, Wednesday, closed until January 5th 1885 by the Board, acting under his advice or direction.

#### **May 1st 1885**

Average attendance 228, corresponding last year 226. The number of children admitted from the Infants department to-day is 42 (boys 22 girls 20) the number on the books is 252. Last year we commenced with 246.

#### **December 9th 1885**

School closed owing to the opening of the new reservoir.

#### **January 8th 1886**

Soup dinners – These were commenced on Monday, 174 1/2 pints of soup or puddings have been served this week.

#### **January 15th 1886**

The soup dinners have been well appreciated by the parents and the children; this week 262 1/2 pints have been sold by Mr Brooks, the attendant.

#### **March 19th 1886**

Standard V is not in so satisfactory a state. The children are, as a set, the dullest I have had for years in this standard; and further the daily soup kitchen routine – serving tickets, distributing money so kindly handed to me for that purpose, attending to the amount of soup made, and various other trifling but necessary items of duty – has prevented me from giving them all the attention they ought to have had. I must endeavour to get the Board to modify the arrangements next year so as to leave me more at liberty for my legitimate work

#### **April 29th 1887**

Throughout the year until Christmas my own health was very indifferent. I suffered almost continuously from neuralgia and, at separate times, from pleurisy (twice), dysentery and biliousness. In a great degree on this account I, towards the end of January, resigned my office.

#### **June 3rd 1887**

I, to-night, take farewell of my teachers and children to enter a new sphere of labour in Bristol – Thomas Letchford.”

The new Headmaster, Henry Weaire, commenced his duties on June 3rd 1887.

#### **Henry Plant**

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## PEMBURY IN THE PAST *continued*

### THE KOP

**I**WONDER how many of the present residents of the Village are aware of the connection between the 'Kop' stand at Liverpool Football Club and Pembury?

Until fairly recently I have to confess that I had no idea why the famous stand at Anfield was called the Kop, but it stems from an infamous hill top in South Africa where many British soldiers lost their lives in an action against the Boers during the South African war 1899-1902. I became aware of the dreadful battle which occurred on Spion Kop during the recent series of programmes on television about the Boer War, the reasons for it and the aftermath.

It would seem that due to a severe underestimate of Boer weaponry and tactics men of the Lancashire Brigade fought their way on to the top of Spion Kop but were then trapped and virtually annihilated by the Boer artillery and snipers. In this action the Brigade was commanded by Major General E. R. Woodgate and he, with so many of his men, paid the final price, General Woodgate being badly wounded and dying on 23rd March 1900.

If you think his name is familiar, he was one of the Woodgate family of Pembury who gave their name to, amongst other places, Woodgate Corner which is, of course, at the crossroads of the A228 Pembury by-pass and Tonbridge Road/High Street. In years gone by the family produced many leading figures in the community including several vicars of Pembury and they are all well represented in the vaults of St Peter's Old Church.

There is a memorial plaque in the Old Church to Major General Woodgate, on the right side of the chancel, and although I had seen it many times I had not noticed the reference to Spion Kop. It was the TV programme that completed the connection.

As a tribute to the fallen in South Africa, Liverpool F.C. named one of the stands after this very brave but disastrous episode in British military history, as most of the casualties were from the Lancashire/ Liverpool area.

**Mike Pavely**

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### HELLO FROM THE OTHER SIDE OF THE WORLD

*Tony Pomfrett who grew up in Pembury emailed us the following article from New Zealand.*

**H**I TO ALL the staff at Pembury Village News. My brother Richard posts the magazine to me on a regular basis and I know that you have received responses from around the world. I certainly enjoy keeping up with the local news because Pembury is always home to me and is the only place I remember until I left home to join the Engineers during the time we all did 'National Service'.

I was actually born in Tunbridge Wells but moved early in life to what was then 14 (now two) The Grove, Lower Green, where Richard still lives with his wife, Helen, and two girls, Sarah and Linda. I went to the local school until age 14 and then left to commence an apprenticeship. I have fond memories of my teachers especially Miss White and Miss Jarvis. I started as a carpenter and joiner at G & F Penn in the High Street. Alf Dolding who I worked under I remember as an excellent tradesman. The Yard Foreman was Jack Standen who wrote and published what was, I believe, the first effort to place on record some of the history of Pembury. Jack's efforts were subsequently improved on and published as a more up-market booklet by his daughter, Mary, and on one of my visits home she gave me a copy which I still cherish.

Pembury was a great place for a boy to grow up in, with lots of open fields, especially at the end of the Grove, and of course the woods. We spent hours in the tops of trees watching the Battle of Britain, building shants, chasing spies and all sorts of other games. And of course the local orchards – now there was an opportunity to enjoy a few cherries or the odd apple or three. Although the farmers would yell and run in our general direction, looking back I don't believe they were all that concerned because, unlike today, the majority of us never did any real damage.

During my apprenticeship I studied at the Technical Institute in Tunbridge Wells under a guy I fondly remember as 'Champher'. My time in the army was with the 9 Training Regiment of the Royal Engineers at Cove near Aldershot. I was 22601535 Sapper Pomfrett. On completion of training I was sent to a Junior NCOs Cadre for even more training, eventually becoming a Corporal in charge of a Section. In the second year of my service I successfully completed an Airborne Course at Abingdon.

On completion of my army service I was 'demobbed' and immediately joined the Metropolitan Police where I served in the Croydon and Balham areas. I resigned as a Sergeant in 1963 to emigrate to New Zealand. Whilst attending the Tunbridge Wells Tech I met Pam, we got engaged just before I joined the army and married on completion of my initial Police training at Peel House. We originally set up home in Croydon where we had our three children, Cindy, Sue and Kathy.

After a number of very interesting jobs when I first came to New Zealand I spent the last twenty years at the Polytechnic here in Palmerston North, as a building tutor/liaison officer and as a special projects manager. I retired four years ago in March and Pam and I now enjoy our time together, our grandchildren, our joint and separate interests, good food, good wine.

**Tony Pomfrett**

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## MEASURING THE WEATHER

**B**OTH professionals and amateurs use a wide range of weather measuring instruments.

To have an understanding and predict its behaviour we need to know the properties of the atmosphere; for example, the temperature of the air, the air pressure, wind direction and speed and the humidity. It helps to know the visibility and also a measure of rain and snowfall. Although as an amateur I do not have the state of the art equipment, I do have all of the above instruments but in one 'bundle' in the form of an electronic recording station (of course the external sensors are separate units).

The basis of recording is, in my opinion, the barometer, which in many cases has the additional instruments incorporated in it. Fluctuation in air pressure often heralds weather changes.

The readout from the barometer can either be in the form of a dial or in the case of a barograph the readings can be traced on to a paper graph mounted on a cylinder.

Wind direction/speed is measured by a 'vane' or 'windsock'. The vane can be mounted either to give a visual indication or, as in my case, to give readout via an electronic display.

The speed is measured by an anemometer, with small cups rotating to give either digital or analogue readout of the wind speed. Wind is a very difficult property to measure as its speed is never consistent even over a very short period of time i.e. five seconds, even without

the speed variation created by such things as buildings, trees, etc.

The 'thermometer' is of course used for the purpose of recording the air temperature. Most thermometers contain mercury or alcohol; these substances expand when heated and contract when cooled. Again, siting of this instrument to give accurate reading over the period of daylight is difficult, as even located on the north side of a building it can receive direct sunlight during the evening from the end of May until the end of July.

'Humidity' (the amount of moisture in the air) is most accurately measured with the Wet and Dry bulb thermometer. Humidity varies with temperature, with the resulting fact that warm air will hold considerably more water than cold air. We do not measure the absolute amount of moisture in air but the amount that air can hold at a given temperature.

Finally, the measurement of rain is carried out by a rain gauge. In my case the measurement is in 2mm increments and consists of two 2mm buckets on a pivot. When one is full via the input funnel it will tip to send a pulse to the recording station to indicate that measurement. This cycle is then repeated to give daily totals.

The accuracy of the recording like most things is produced by the quality of the equipment used.

**Mike Stanford**

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## BRITAIN IN BLOOM

**J**UDGING BY the Tidy Group for Britain took place in July and the comments we received are printed here. Some good 'in bloom' contributions were seen in the High Street, including The Black Horse public house, Pembury Chinese Cuisine and The Camden Arms. The village green is exceptionally well-kept and has good notices and plantings as has the war memorial. Vacant allotments were kept tidy by mowing. Both cemeteries were noted and also the residential gardens. The team suggested that more gardens and businesses should 'have a go' at contributing and that the school or other organisation might come up with an environmental project next year.

Judging for Nottcutts 'Pembury in Bloom' competition took place also in July, but the results have yet to be announced, so these will appear in the Winter edition of the News.

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## GILL'S GARDEN IN SUMMER

**I**T'S TIME to scarify the lawn and apply autumn fertiliser. Spike the lawn if necessary to allow rain to penetrate the grass. An ideal time to plant new lawns whether from seed or turf. Keep leaves off the lawns.

Evergreens can be planted (or transplanted if they have grown too big for their allotted places) as well as bare-rooted trees, shrubs or roses (plants not in containers). When choosing trees or shrubs take into account the ultimate size as well as its autumn colour.

October is a good month for establishing new hedges as well as planting perennials. Be sure to use well-rotted manure when planting. Plant late-flowering clematis for seasonal colour and prune rambling roses by taking out a few of the old woody stems and tying in the new growth.

Lift dahlia tubers as well as geraniums and fuchsias and overwinter in a frost-free place. Tidy up any scruffy border plants so you can appreciate late

flowering perennials; apply mulch if necessary. Cover pond with netting to collect falling leaves and empty regularly.

Plant spring bulbs in the ground or in containers and over plant with winter pansies, wallflowers, bellis, sweet william or broomrape stocks.

Plant a few extra bulbs in pots; either bring indoors or fill gaps in the borders. Seeds of hardy annuals can be grown now, sow in trays and transplant or pot up and leave in a cold greenhouse or frame. These can be planted outdoors when the worst of the weather is over so providing colour much earlier than those sown in the spring.

**Gill Matthews**



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## MY PLOT(S)

**I**HAVE NEVER let on publicly in this magazine but actually I have three allotments! Despite the rumours that there are none left because I've hogged them all there are still a few available. If you are interested in taking one (or more!) on then you should contact Barbara Russell – our Clerk to the Council. Barbara lives at 6 The Grove; tel. and fax 823193; email [Pemburypc@hotmail.com](mailto:Pemburypc@hotmail.com). You can rent a whole plot, which costs £15 a year, or half a plot for £7.50. And if you take on a redundant allotment that is all overgrown, you are compensated for your efforts by getting it rent-free in the second year. As if the pleasure weren't reward enough! At the time of writing, there are 10 out of 49 full plots that aren't cultivated and 4 out of 32 half-plots vacant.

There are various reasons for choosing your site. Near a track for delivery of manure; near the taps for ease of watering; it's already got some desirable bush or tree on it; or a shed; or two sheds . . . Our most recent one was a triple whammy. Near a tap, with a shed and the most beautiful rose bush. The one before that had a Victoria plum.

I can recommend it – spend next spring digging and next summer eating fresh fruit and vegetables.

Last winter, I mentioned some of the ingenious bird scaring techniques that allotment holders use – scarecrows, aluminium foil, singing tape etc. After saying that my intention was to collect CDs to make a flashing strawberry-protecting fence, I was given a lovely great pile. To my generous benefactor Luke, thank you.

What with one thing and another, my strawberries cropped well this year. I had enough surplus to freeze some, though not enough to make wine. To get that many spare I'm going to have to beat the slugs, and if could do that I'd be a millionaire.

Last spring, I mentioned my feeble attempts at a flowering meadow. It has now gone. I needed the space for my leeks and the wild flowers had become mostly buttercups anyway. Nevertheless, I was sorry to see it go and I carefully dug up all the poppies before 'nuking' it. Soon it will be rotovated and no doubt the leeks will grow well on the rested soil. Perhaps what I should have done was to get another allotment!

**Caroline Mazze**

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## RINGMASTER

**I**N THE Summer 2000 edition of the Village News I made mention of the West Kent Police Ringmaster system. Although the functions of the system are of course well known to Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinators and their helpers, how it actually works is perhaps not so well known by the ordinary members of the public. As already explained Neighbourhood Watch was set up to help and advise householders on crime in their area and to encourage residents to be vigilant as far as possible over their own and their neighbours' security.

Every reportable crime in the County of Kent is automatically transmitted to Kent Police H.Q. at Maidstone where details are held on a database for further action. At Maidstone the crime reports are filtered and sifted to see which incidents are applicable for Neighbourhood Watch usage. For legal reasons many reports are not suitable and therefore action is taken elsewhere.

On most days each week crime reports of incidents in West Kent are received at Tonbridge Police station where a team of volunteers prepare the messages for Neighbourhood Watch before they are programmed on to the computer system. Part of the preparation is to filter the messages again as incidents involving commercial premises, unless they are of public interest, are discarded. Any messages transmitted to Co-ordinators must not mention house names, house numbers or victims' details but what are included, if relevant, are details of possible suspects and suspicious motor vehicles with, where possible, registration details.

If a crime has been committed in an area where there is no Neighbourhood Watch

scheme no details are sent out on the Ringmaster system. However, if it is considered important enough for neighbouring areas to be alerted then a message is sent to the nearest Co-ordinator. This can happen in the case of a bogus official preying on vulnerable householders and it then is sent as a general message either to all areas in West Kent or selected areas. Once it has been decided each morning at Tonbridge which messages can be transmitted to Co-ordinators, they are typed on to the computer keyboard and then voice recorded for each area. After this they are placed in a queue on the computer and then sent automatically to each telephone number that has been pre-programmed into the computer's software.

If for any reason no reply is received from the Co-ordinator or Deputy the computer will pass on to the next area with their message and it is programmed to return to any unanswered numbers several times until, hopefully, all the day's messages have been cleared.

One of the most useful aspects of Ringmaster, as an aid to fighting crime, is that most of the messages concern crimes that have been committed by a person or persons unknown, but a witness might have seen or heard something at the time the crime was committed. This information can be very useful to the Police in their subsequent enquiries.

It is hoped in time to set up an email system but until all Co-ordinators have computers and access to the net this will not be very practicable.

**Mike Paveley**  
Pembury Area Co-ordinator



# Pembury Opticians

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## CRIME IN PEMBURY

**M**ORE good news on the crime front for the quarter April, May, June in as much that the crime figure was exactly the same as the previous quarter. The number of reported crimes was 62 although there is no figure for arson but the one worrying increase is in the number of assaults, from 3 to 11. Crimes involving property, burglary, theft from cars and of cars are high on the list; with deception, probably from the petrol stations, showing a 300% increase.

Take these major crime figures out and Pembury is still the place to be.

Remember, sadly, the darker evenings will soon be with us, so extra care and attention is the order of the day and do not forget if you report a crime get an incident number if you want to check on its progress. It would be gratifying if the next figure reported is closer to 50 than 60. Unfortunately, there has been a spate of vandalism in the village, mainly to the Woodside Football pavilion and the YMCA Club, with damage to gutters, drainpipes and timber cladding.

Now, bearing in mind that these facilities are there for people of the village to enjoy, not only now but for future

generations also, it is time there was more support in helping catch those responsible. Various names have been given to the football clubs and any person caught damaging these properties will be prosecuted. There will be a financial reward, financed by the football clubs, for information leading to a successful prosecution.

It is also amazing how inconsiderate people still are by allowing their dogs to foul on the playing areas of both playing fields and leaving the excreta for someone else to tread in. There is really no need to go across the playing areas and action may be taken against offenders.

There has also been a spate of thefts from the allotments and the uprooting of crops. Names of youngsters have been provided and, if caught, the problem will be handed over to the police and not parents.

Unfortunately, in the last few weeks gravestones in the Lower Green Burial Ground were defaced and everyone has a role to play in exposing those responsible. Sadly the police response to the Parish Clerk's Office was unhelpful to say the least. It is a sad reflection on our village that there is a minority who does not give a damn.

**Hugh Boorman**

MONTH	Assault	Burglary other type	Burglary	Damage	Deception	Drugs	Other	Theft from Motor Vehicles	Theft	Theft of Motor Vehicles	Vehicle Interference	TOTAL
<b>April</b>	4	3	1	4	3			2	3	4		<b>24</b>
<b>May</b>	5			5	2			1	5	1	1	<b>20</b>
<b>June</b>	2	4	2	1	2	1	1	2	2	1		<b>18</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>ROAD</b>												<b>1</b>
A21 B												<b>1</b>
Beagles Wood Road										1		<b>1</b>
Bellfield Road	1		1									<b>2</b>
Brickfields	1						1					<b>2</b>
Church Road			1									<b>1</b>
Greenleas				1						1		<b>2</b>
Hastings Road	1			1				1	1			<b>4</b>
Henwood Green Road	1	1							1	1		<b>4</b>
Henwoods Mount	1											<b>1</b>
Hérons Way						1						<b>1</b>
Heskett Park	1											<b>1</b>
High Street	1			1	7			1				<b>10</b>
Knights Close		1										<b>1</b>
Lower Green Road				1					2	1		<b>4</b>
Maidstone Road		1	1									<b>2</b>
Old Church Road		1							1			<b>2</b>
Redwings Lane				1								<b>1</b>
Romford Road		1						1	1			<b>3</b>
Snipe Close				1								<b>1</b>
Stanam Road								1				<b>1</b>
Stonecourt Lane										2		<b>2</b>
The Coppice	1											<b>1</b>
The Glebe								1			1	<b>2</b>
The Grove									1			<b>1</b>
Tonbridge Road	3	2		3					3			<b>11</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>62</b>



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# FOR YOUR DIARY

## OCTOBER

- 2 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8 pm
- 3 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2 pm
- 4 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Why is Christianity Unique?' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 5 Pembury Afternoon WI – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 6 Pembury Evening WI: – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 7 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
- 7 Sackville Singers concert: Finnish Children's Songs – Upper Church – 7.30pm
- 9 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 13 Barn Dance – Catholic Hall – 8pm
- 17 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 23 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 26 Pembury Society AGM – Village Hall – 7.45pm for 8pm
- 28 Pembury Gardeners' Society Barn Dance – Village Hall
- 30 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 31 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm

## NOVEMBER

- 1 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'So, who is this Jesus?' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 2 Pembury Afternoon WI: AGM – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 2 Hospice in the Weald: Designer Fashion Sale – Hospice in the Weald – 6.30pm
- 3 Pembury Evening WI: AGM – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 4 RNLI Autumn Fayre – Catholic Hall – 10am to 12noon
- 4 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
- 6 Christmas Craft Market – Hospice in the Weald – 11am-4pm
- 12 Village Remembrance Service – Upper Church – 10.50am
- 13 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 14 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 18 St Peter's Autumn Fayre – Upper Church
- 25 Autumn Bazaar - Catholic Hall – 2pm
- 28 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm

## DECEMBER

- 1 Pembury Evening WI: Uckfield Drama Group – Village Hall – 7.45 pm
- 2 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Bo Peep Corner – 2.15pm
- 4 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 6 St Peter's Mothers' Union: Christmas Meal – details to be advised
- 6 Hospice in the Weald: Tree of Light Dedication – Hospice in the Weald – 6.30pm
- 7 Pembury Afternoon WI: Christmas Party – Village Hall – 2.15pm
- 11 St Peter's Photographic Club – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 12 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm
- 26 Darby and Joan Club – Village Hall – 2pm

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## Borough Council

Mr Bruce Ballantine, 6 Maidstone Road TN2 4DD. Tel: 822156

Mr Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way TN2 4DN. Tel: 823966

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

## Parish Council

Cllr Paul Barrington-King, 22 The Coppice TN2 4EY. Tel: 825144 *Chairman – Public Relations*

Cllr Hugh Boorman, 52 Henwood Green Rd TN2 4LH. Tel: 823068 *Chairman – Amenities and Allotments*

Cllr Mrs Sarah Clarke, Little Stanton,  
Romford Road TN2 4AY. Tel: 823932

Cllr David Coleman, 22 Ridgeway TN2 4ER. Tel: 823402

Cllr Dick Crouch, 17 Highfield Close TN2 4HG. Tel: 823164

Cllr Derek Flint, 1B Beagleswood Road TN2 4HX. Tel: 824829

Cllr Mrs Janet Greenwood, 1F Beagleswood Road TN2 4HX. Tel: 824472

Cllr Brian Horgan, 4 Cornford Park TN2 4PW, Tel: 822412

Cllr Mrs Rosemary Latter, 81 Beagleswood Road  
TN2 4HZ. Tel: 822059

Cllr Mrs Gillian Matthews, 2 Gimble Way TN2 4BX. Tel: 822057

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

Cllr Mrs Alison Morton, 2 The Coppice TN2 4EY. Tel: 824938

Cllr Mrs Wendy Withycombe, 23 Westway TN2 4EX. Tel: 823034

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*Chairman – Finance*

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*Chairman – Christmas Lights/*

*Pembury in Bloom*

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## Clerk to the Pembury Parish Council

Mrs Barbara Russell, 6 The Grove, Pembury, Kent TN2 4BU. Tel: 823193.

Email: PemburyPC@hotmail.com

# CHURCH TIMES

## ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

### Upper Church

8.00am Holy Communion

9.45am The Parish Eucharist  
and Junior Church

10.00am Holy Communion  
(Wednesdays)

### Old Church

11.30am Matins (except  
first Sunday, Holy  
Communion)

Evening services as advertised  
on Church noticeboards

## CATHOLIC CHAPEL OF ST. ANSELM – PEMBURY

Sunday Mass 10.30am

Holy Days – Vigil Mass  
7.30pm

Confessions:  
Sunday 10.15am

### Weekday Services:

Monday – Communion  
Service 7.30am

Tuesday – Communion  
Service 7.30am

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Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535, Ext 3515

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Jim Smith, 18 Westway. Tel: 823714

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

## BOWLS CLUB

Secretary: Len Birnie. Tel: 681222

## BROWNIES GUIDER

Mrs J. Fichtmüller, 19 Belfield Road. Tel: 825072

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Secretary: Mr R. G. G. Whitlock, 6 The Forstal.  
Tel: 822115

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R. Holt, 50 Ridgeway. Tel: 823830

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Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.

Tel: 823235. And Jacke Fichtmüller, 19 Bellfield Road,

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Branch Leader: Mrs J. Aust. Tel: 823963

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Events Secretary, Carol Brewer. Tel: 822030

## TABLE TENNIS CLUB. John Burleton. Tel: 823250

## TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT

SCHEME. Tel: 513969

## VENTURE SCOUTS

Bernie Roberts, 13 Camden Avenue. Tel: 822932

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Tel: 822411

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Edna Morris. Tel: 822267

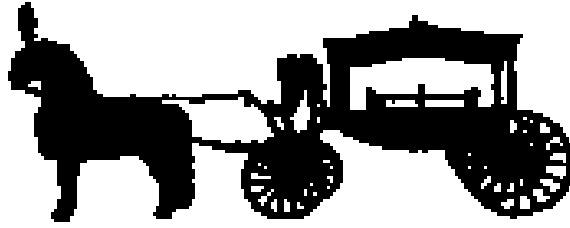
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