

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS



ISSUE 124

WINTER 2005

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Please note: The Editor’s decision is final on whether or not to publish any item submitted. The Editor reserves the right to edit (that is to cut, précis, alter, correct grammar and spelling) any item published.

PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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MEET YOUR NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR – MIKE TOMPSETT

JANET AND I moved to Pembury as newlyweds in 1972. Our three daughters were born in Pembury Hospital and attended the Primary School before moving on to secondary education, one at Hillview and two at Mascalls. We now have a lovely two and a half year old granddaughter called Fleur who keeps us greatly amused.

After a lifetime in General Insurance I retired with the Millennium and for a couple of years split my time between working as a delivery driver and on a small dairy farm. I will never understand how it is that a bottle of water can cost more than a pint of milk.

I left school with a fairly basic education but in 2002 achieved a life long ambition when I enrolled as a full time student at the University of Kent at Canterbury, reading history. Wherever possible I chose modern history because I was around for a lot of it! Working with students on a daily basis was great, although not exactly what I had expected, since although we had a lot of laughs, everyone worked very hard. This summer I graduated with a good degree and am now “taking a year out to go travelling”, which in my case means Scunthorpe, Bury, Darlington and all the other Football League Grounds I have missed as a long time Palace supporter.

Whilst not without its problems, Pembury is a very good place to live and one where you can experience the full beauty of the seasons. Pembury has been very good to me, and my family, and I hope that via the Parish Council I can start to put something back. To that end I intend to meet and listen to as many Parishioners as possible.



CAROL SINGING AT CHRISTMAS

MEMBERS FROM all churches will be joining together to sing carols on Wednesday 21 December at 8pm. Everyone is most welcome to join in.

Please contact any of the churches for location and more information (contact details on page 39).



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
1 February 2006.*

If you use a computer to type your article, it would be extremely helpful if you could send it (and photos) in by e-mail to pvn@pembury.org





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COMPAID TRUST – PRESS RELEASE

DISABLED ADULTS in the community have heard the heart-breaking news that unless help can be found they may no longer have access to vital services provided by well-known local charity, COMPAID Trust.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust has said that it will not be able to accommodate COMPAID on the Pembury Hospital site when the development of the new hospital begins next year. The charity has been operating from premises provided by the hospital authorities for the past 18 years.

COMPAID's Chief Executive, Betty Howell, was informed of the Hospital Trust's decision on 19 August. Mrs Howell, speaking on behalf of the charity's Trustees, staff and clients, said: *"We are devastated by this news because on 14 April a senior representative of the Hospital Trust wrote to me about COMPAID's future during and after the development of the hospital site. The letter stated that (quote) ' . . . the Trust has made a commitment to ensure the availability of a suitable area on site for COMPAID Trust.' "*

Mrs Howell continued: *"To coincide with our 20th anniversary in 2006 we had been planning to launch a capital appeal with the aim of acquiring our own premises on the Pembury site, but this change of heart by the Hospital Trust places us at a considerable disadvantage in terms of time and finance. Whilst we continue to work with representatives of the Hospital Trust to resolve this problem, the delay since 14 April has lost the charity considerable opportunities to organise the raising of funds and there is a strong likelihood that without outside help we will have to close."*

"COMPAID has been helping people for nearly 20 years, offering computer aid to speech impaired and disabled adults and also providing vital special needs transport to the local community. On average we assist 475 people a week, now we need help to find suitable premises locally to ensure this valuable service continues. Time is short and our clients need to know their future is safe."

Update – 20 October 2005

Chief Executive, Betty Howell, puts the situation thus: *"COMPAID has now been served with formal notice to quit its home for the past 18 years. We have established that none of the money originally set aside by the Maidstone & Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust to help COMPAID Trust during the redevelopment is available to us when we move off-site."*

Betty Howell continues *"We have been actively searching for a new home for the charity, and I am very grateful for all the suggestions that people have put forward. There is a possibility that COMPAID may be able to acquire some land in the Pembury area, however the time needed for the planning process and the fact that as a charity we do not have money for renting or buying means that our future, and the prospects of the 475 disabled elderly and vulnerable people a week who rely on COMPAID, are in jeopardy. To be frank, COMPAID needs someone to step forward with either a big cheque or connections to people or a business that can make the difference for our clients and us."*

COMPAID Trust helps disabled adults communicate using computers for therapy, educational and recreational purposes. In addition, COMPAID Transport operates a fleet of eight special-needs adapted minibuses providing accessible transport for elderly, disabled and vulnerable people living in West Kent.

If you can help COMPAID Trust please contact Betty Howell on 824060 or email compaidtrust@btinternet.com

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M.O.T. TESTS

LIAM GALLAGHER COMES TO PEMBURY!

DESPITE SHARING the same name with the hell-raising front man of Oasis, the similarities end there for Pembury's new parish priest, Fr Liam Gallagher.

Fr Liam, 34, joined the parish of St Justus and St Anselm in early September, his first post as a fully-fledged parish priest. Speaking to the Kent and Sussex Courier at his home in Alliance Way, Paddock Wood on Tuesday, he said: *"I've just had my first weekend here and am very pleased with how everything went. People have been extremely welcoming and happy."*



He added: *"One of the special things about priests is that though we may be of different characters, we all share the common goal of bringing the love and happiness of God to people. An important approach to Mass is to give it a sense of celebration, talk to people, make them feel they belong and the Lord welcomes them all."*

Fr Liam's induction service took place in Paddock Wood on 8 October when he was formally presented with the keys of the parish. The coming few weeks and months will provide plenty of opportunities for him to learn how the parish operates. He hopes to build links with the younger members of the parish through groups and activities and to see how they can contribute to parish life.

His elevation to parish priest just six years after his ordination marks an impressive rise through the Catholic Church's ranks. Fr Liam grew up in Strood, the youngest of eight children, six of which were elder brothers, in a close-knit Catholic family. He trained at St John's seminary in Guilford before joining St Augustine's Catholic Church in Tunbridge Wells for five years until last year and spent just under a year as an assistant priest at the parish of St Francis in Maidstone.

"I was surprised because it's quite young to become a parish priest but vacancies arise and need to be filled. I certainly feel the experience I've had in Tunbridge Wells and Maidstone and the people I've worked with have prepared me well for the role," he said. *"Pembury's village community also has a great sense of togetherness. I want to make sure people in Paddock Wood and Pembury feel very much one parish,"* he concluded.

BABY, IT'S COLD OUTSIDE!

ARE YOU OVER 60 and trying to keep warm? A Winter Fuel Payment is an annual payment to help people aged 60 and over with their winter heating bills.

If you are aged 60-79 and you are entitled to receive a Winter Fuel Payment, you will get either £100 or £200, depending on your circumstances. If you are aged 80 or over and you are entitled to a Winter Fuel Payment, you will get an extra £50 or £100, depending on your circumstances. So, if you are aged 80 or over, you could get up to £300.

The Winter Fuel Payment Helpline is on 08459 15 15 15 (0845 601 5613 for textphone users). Lines are open from 8.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday.

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‘BREWING, BALLET AND BEDPANS’ – ELIZABETH COXON-TAYLOR

ONE DAY about five or six months ago, Elizabeth Coxon-Taylor came into Pembury Library, a place she often visits, and presented me with her book *Brewing, Ballet and Bedpans*. It was a beautifully produced book of her memoirs. I asked her if she would like to come to the library and talk about the book and why she wrote it. Elizabeth agreed and on 2 November Pembury Library played host to 45 people who were enthralled to listen to her varied and interesting life.

Elizabeth is so well known and liked in the village it was the most ideal opportunity for other members of the local community and her friends to find out about her early life and exploits. She has worked constantly for others and the proceeds of her book go to Kosmo, a charity which helps orphaned children in Russia.



Elizabeth Coxon talking to some of her fans

I am not going to tell you about the contents of the book because you should read it yourselves. There are 10 copies available for loan in Kent Libraries and is easily available if you go into Pembury Library. But if you would like to own a copy Pembury Library do have some copies available for you to purchase – £15 for the paperback and £25 for the hardback.

It's a fascinating read and would make an ideal Christmas present. Please contact Pembury Library on 822278 or come in and see us.

Veronica Dorset

Community Librarian, Tunbridge Wells Library

THOSE OTHER PEMBURYS . . .

- . . . Pembury Yachting Services based at East Sheen, transporting and chartering yachts
- . . . Pembury Cycles, three shops around the Bristol area
- . . . The Pembury Hotel, Seven Sisters Road, North London
- . . . Pembury House Nursery in Haringey, London, ‘an Early Excellence Centre’
- . . . Pembury Guest House, St Barnabas, Gloucestershire

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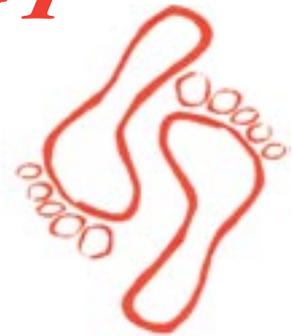
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WALK FOR CANCER RESEARCH

ON 9 OCTOBER over 130 Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers gathered at Haysden Country Park. People out for a quiet Sunday afternoon stroll, or to walk the dog, were wondering what was happening.



In March 2004 Guiding in Pembury and Tunbridge Wells raised over £3,000 for the Hospice in the Weald, and after losing two popular Guiders to Cancer in the space

of 18 months we decided to raise money for Cancer Research with a sponsored walk and fun afternoon. We walked from Haysden to Tonbridge Castle, and if we had been sponsored for talking as well as walking I'm sure we would have trebled the amount raised!

When we reached Tonbridge Castle we played some games in the sunshine, before eating our picnic tea on the grass. The old walls of the Castle then had a bit of a shock as, in true Guiding spirit, we had a Camp Fire. It wasn't dark and there was no fire, but that didn't stop us singing.

We all went away tired and happy, hoping that a day enjoyed by us would raise a large amount for Cancer Research. We will let you know how much was raised when we have the figure. Thank you to everyone who walked or was sponsored.

Moira Allan, District Commissioner

LEND A HELPING HAND?

Your opportunity to volunteer

The Mix, Little Rascals and The Day Centre are three services organised by Pembury Baptist Church as part of their Pembury Community Action scheme.



The Mix, a youth group for 11 to 19 year olds meeting on Tuesdays, is looking for male and female volunteers to support the youth workers. No experience is necessary and youth work training and first level qualification is offered at no cost. An excellent first step into youth work!

Little Rascals (hmm!) have lively, but fun sessions for the tinies on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. They need some general help with serving drinks, chatting to parents/carers and clearing up.

The Day Centre is a friendly meeting place for the over 60s and runs every Monday (Tuesday as of January 2006) during term time. Tea, coffee, crafts and lunch are included and transport can be arranged to get there. Volunteers needed are kitchen assistants, people to come and chat, and car drivers.

If you would like to find out more or chat about any of these volunteering opportunities or about coming along to any of the groups, do contact **Jemma Alexander** on 825590 or email jemma.alexander@pemburybaptistchurch.org

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- Could you turn up at 8 am on Village Fete day and muck in getting it ready?
- Could you help somebody to get their problem sorted out?
- Could you enjoy the buzz of a successful job done?
- Could you get immense satisfaction from knowing you have served the community, the place where you live?
- Do you want to be involved on the inside track of what goes on locally?

Look no further – the opportunity is there for you!

There are a limited number of Parish Councillor vacancies and we need people to fill them.

You need to:

- Be an elector;
- Have resided in the Parish of Pembury or within 3 miles of it for 12 months before the date on which he/she is nominated;
- Or occupied, as owner or tenant, any land or premises therein;

- Or had his/her principal or only place of work there;
- Be over 21;
- Be a British subject or citizen of the Irish Republic;
- Be of good character;
- Be able to attend regular monthly meetings of the full Council plus take part in working groups, usually monthly or quarterly.

You will need to sign up to the Local Government Code of Conduct - available from the Parish Clerk.

Interested? – Contact the Pembury Parish Clerk, Barbara Russell, on 823193 between 10am and 12 noon Monday to Friday for an application form and full information pack. You can also contact the office at any time by email on pemburypc@hotmail.com or write c/o 6 The Grove, Pembury TN2 4BU.

Formal notice of a vacancy was posted on village notice boards on Thursday 8 December 2005.

Closing date will be 30 December 2005 at 12 noon and interviews or a poll will be held shortly after that date.

SOME VITAL STATISTICS ABOUT PEMBURY

Total Population 6,005 – Males 2,919 (49%) – Females 3,086 (51%).

Aged 0 to 15 years 1,211 (20.2%), 16 to 74 years 4,326 (72%) and 75+ years 468 (7.8%).

And what do we all do?

Total in employment 67.1%, Total employees 56%, Part-time employees 14.3%, Full-time Employees 41.7%, Self-Employed 11.1%, Full-time Student 2.6%, Unemployed 1.6%

Total Economically Inactive 28.8%, Retired 14.0%, Student 3.0%, Looking after home/family 6.8%, Permanently sick/disabled 3.1%, Other 1.8% (Source: ONS 2001 Census)



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PASTOR APPOINTED TO PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

A PACKED CHURCH on 13 November 2005 welcomed the Rev Wayne Alexander as the new pastor of Pembury Baptist Church. Wayne has served as associate pastor at Pembury Baptist Church, which has 200 regular worshippers, since October 2002 and following Pastor David Graham's departure in August 2004, he took up many of David's duties. His personal gifting and his readiness to relate to people of all ages have been greatly appreciated.



The search for a senior pastor to replace David Graham included consideration of Wayne for that role. A church members' meeting in September voted in favour of offering Wayne the position and he began his new duties in early November. He and his wife Jemma now live in the Manse in Lower Green Road.

Wayne said: *"It is a tremendous privilege to lead such a fantastic community as the one at Pembury Baptist Church, in such a great village as Pembury. Over the last three years I have made great friends around the area, and it is exciting to be a part of life here. It is a busy job but one that is incredibly fulfilling and I believe there are exciting days ahead."*

The Rev Norman Tharby, the Baptist regional minister, led the service and the Rev Derek Hills, senior minister at Tonbridge Baptist Church, gave the address.

The event attracted a huge community turnout including representatives from other churches in the area, Pembury Parish Council, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, Kent County Councillor Kevin Lynes and Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark.

Chairman of Pembury Parish Council, David Coleman, said: *"It was a wonderful event, it is great to have Wayne and Jemma in Pembury working with the local community."*

The Alexanders have become well known in the village and are making a valuable contribution to the community as well as to the Church. We wish them well now they have begun a new phase in their life and work in Pembury.

LIFE'S A STAGE . . .

PEMBURY PLAYERS, your enthusiastic and fast-growing amateur dramatic group, would like to notify you of forthcoming events, which should ensure plenty of bonhomie and laughter . . . as long as you, our dear audience, deign to participate!

Our annual pantomime will be performed in all its glory on 11-14 January 2006. Penned by one of our own, *I'm Cinderella,*

get me out of here! is nothing like the dreadful reality show of similar title(?!), but a traditional family spectacular, stuffed full of corny jokes, terrible singing (sorry, that's just me!) . . . and loads of sweets for the kids! Tickets will be available at various outlets in the village – put the dates in your diaries and look out for the posters!

Rachel Bennett, Secretary

LOCAL FAMILY COMPLETE 40 MILE SPONSORED BIKE RIDE!

PROBABLY NOT the most auspicious of headlines, but for the Fleming family, it was momentous!

The bike ride was organised by the Pembury Athletic Youth Football Club and took place on Saturday 10 September. Brave volunteers met at Dover Eastern Docks at 6.30am. The cars and vans loaded with bikes distributed their cargo and waited for the 8.15am ferry to Calais. In total 109 bikes went over the Channel to take part.

We mounted our bikes, and started our first leg of the journey (and probably the scariest) as we wove in and out of lorries and cars making our way onto the ferry. Aaargh! I spied a ramp at about a 40 degree incline and thought my legs would never make it, but with 108 other people willing you on, there's no way you're not going to make it. Anyway . . . the thought of a yummy cooked breakfast onboard the ferry would dispel any uneasiness!

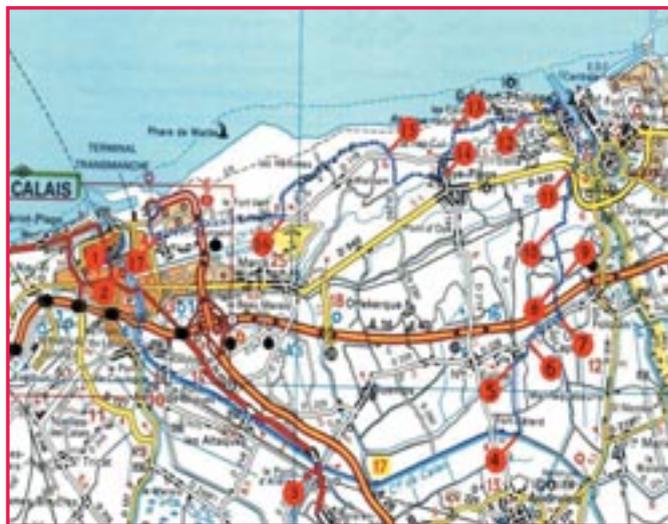
The ferry ride out was as smooth as a mill pond, we were the first ones on the ferry and the last ones off – luckily, not so many low-loaders and juggernauts to deal with in France!

We collected at the starting point in Calais, followed the lead van to a canal tow path and set off in earnest. The weather was certainly on our side – beautiful sunshine, about 22°C and very pretty scenery. We set off with maps and were assured that there would be a refreshment stop nine miles into our journey.

The camaraderie was excellent – this wasn't a race, why had I been so worried? Everyone was in the same boat, most people had hardly trained – probably 50% hadn't sat on a bike for several years! We were all just there to have a fun family day out and raise as much as we could through sponsorship.

True to their word, the refreshment van, with pasting table festooned with delicious

choccies and ice cold water was up ahead, even bananas and apples for the healthier appetites. The fear of not wanting to get back on the bike if we stopped was beginning to subside. This really wasn't too bad – if my children could do it – then so could I . . . !



Lunch was the next incentive and apparently we'd be two-thirds of the way through by the time we had lunch on the beach. I was picturing a hamper with champagne and suddenly I was peddling a little bit faster . . .

What a welcome sight that beach was – sore posteriors were becoming a much talked about subject and a well needed rest was in order. The ladies who provided lunch excelled themselves, everything from rolls to fruit and a welcome cup of tea or coffee. They worked really hard and it was much appreciated.

Yet again back onto the saddles, by now covered in industrial sponge tied on with masking tape. There's another thing I found out – how amazingly resourceful my husband is. Unbeknown to me he'd packed these essentials just to entice me back in the saddle after lunch!

The last leg was through yet more beautiful countryside. The children had moved well on ahead and the incentive this time was a quick drink in a pub before boarding the ferry home. The ferry home was a quiet affair; no-one was rushing for duty frees, just a very welcome comfy seat and chance to get your breath back.

The day was a huge success, no less so because of all the hard work that went on behind the scenes. It is well worth taking part in this bi-annual event. You'll be impressed with yourselves and your whole family. It's a great day out and a jolly good cause. Let's hope we're well on the way to building the new pavilion in the Rec.

Hip, hip, hooray to the organisers and a great big thank you from us all.

Victoria Fleming

Pembury Athletic Football Club would like to thank everyone who helped to make this day so successful; in particular Davis of Sevenoaks for the loan of their vehicles; Mark Dove of B&Q for the signposts; Tesco (Pembury) for help with the catering; Sonia Harris and Mandy Williamson for providing lunch to the starving masses; and most importantly to the 108 other brave Pemburians who got their bikes out of their sheds.

At the time of going to press, this event had raised £4,000 (with more to come) towards the Recreation Ground's new pavilion. Thank you!

Charlie Hambleton

For more information on the bike ride to be held in 2007 contact: Charlie Hambleton on 8242022 or Donald Allen on 822373.

ADOPT A PIPE – HOW TO BECOME PART OF PEMBURY'S RECORDED HISTORY

THE BUILDING of a church in Pembury began 900 years ago. It started soon after 1100 AD and makes Pembury Parish Church of St. Peter, "the Old Church", the oldest building in Pembury by far.

Music has always played an important part in the affairs of the church but it was not until the year 1877 that a permanent pipe organ was installed. It was bought from a well-known London firm of organ builders, Hill & Son, for the princely sum of £130 and brought up to date with an electric blower in the 1950s.

Inevitably, time has taken its toll and the church now faces a bill of nearly £15,000 for the organ's restoration.

You can help and at the same time have your name and/or the names of your family or friends entered in a register of people who have adopted one or more of the restored organ pipes of which there are over 450 of various sizes. The organ pipes can be adopted for between £1 and £25 each. The register will be kept permanently among other church records. You will also receive a certificate acknowledging your donation.

For further information please call either Alan Johnson on 823100 or Nick Sturcke on 823377.





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1st PEMBURY SCOUT GROUP NEWS

BEFORE SUMMER the Scout leaders announced that they were retiring, so the hunt was on for replacements, to avoid closing the Troop. We are happy to report that new leaders did come forward and the Troop escaped closure, but it also means that we may be able to reopen previously closed sections – further news in future editions.



At the Group social in July, the retiring leaders Chris McAuley, John Cackett & Martyn Boiling were presented with Glass Tankards and gifts from the group in appreciation of past services. The Cub leaders were also presented with vouchers.

Over the next few years, Scouting will be full of celebrations; starting with Beavers in 2006 which will be 20 years old and Cubs 90 years old. But in 2007, Scouting will be 100 and there will be events both national to local; more details will be published nearer the time.

Pembury Penn Halloween Camp

The leaders arrived at Broadstone Warren Log Cabin followed by the cubs on Friday. After the normal formalities and unpacking, it was out for a night walk followed by hot chocolate and cake before bed. After what seemed like ages all went quiet. ‘Wakey, wakey’ seemed to come too early for some of them. After breakfast and packed lunch made, it was off to the Bluebell Railway for a special day out. We had a ride on the steam train before stopping for a picnic lunch in the glorious hot and sunny weather.

After lunch, back on to the train before stopping and looking in the engine shed, just time to visit the shop to buy a souvenir. Back to camp for some free time – to perfect football skills. Cubs went for a short walk in their Halloween outfits, arrived back to find the Log Cabin had been decorated for Halloween. After a good meal and tidy up, it was time for wash and bed and lights out.

Sunday morning soon came around. After breakfast cubs sorted their kit out, then it was off to the low ropes. Just time for a quick break, then it was rifle shooting. Then to the tuck shop to stock up on sweets and possibly buy a souvenir of camp. Back to the log cabin for a late lunch, just time to pack up and clear up then into uniform for Grand Howl. Parents arrived, souvenirs given out to each person, and then it was time to go home.

All had a great time and the boys were very well behaved indeed.

HOSPICE CHRISTMAS FAYRE BLOCKS VILLAGE!

HOSPICE IN THE Weald held their most successful annual Christmas Fayre on 7 November and blocked up the roads in Pembury! Apparently local radio had a road announcement for anyone going through Pembury to avoid the area as the roads were chock-a-block with people trying to get to Hospice in the Weald’s annual Christmas Fayre.

Hospice had many new stalls this year plus the introduction of a Food & Wine Hall and raised over £9,000 on the day! Fiona Parry, Event Organiser at the Hospice said, *“We are extremely pleased with the turn out of people to our hospice. It’s a good opportunity for people to see around the hospice, buy some Christmas presents, have lunch, chat with friends and enjoy the day. There were a phenomenal amount of people here and we are thrilled with the amount of money raised. Many thanks to everyone who supported us.”*

YOUR COUNCIL REPORTS . . .

PEMBURY PARISH Council deals with a myriad of activities in the village and I have highlighted some of the current community issues below. Hopefully, this is informative and we would welcome your comments on these as your views are of vital importance to us.

Speedwatch – Speeding traffic is a major concern of residents. The parish signed up some time ago to the Kent ‘Speedwatch’ scheme, which equips communities to get out on the street to monitor and warn speeding motorists (and even report persistent offenders) using a mobile ‘speed flasher’. After some countywide discussion about identifying the right equipment, the scheme will now be going live and David Hanes has kindly agreed to be our Pembury co-ordinator. Volunteers are needed and if you are interested please contact the Parish Office (details on page 38).

Christmas lights – We all agree the annual Pembury display seriously needs improving. Unfortunately, not only the aging lights but also our perennial mindless vandalism means we cannot even have a parish Christmas tree this year, the last few having been trashed, stolen or both. Therefore, the Parish Council is researching ways to have a really decent show in 2006, possibly by using street lighting mounted displays. This Christmas should hopefully be the last when everyone wonders why other villages have such better shows!

Pembury Village Fireworks – But, on the other hand, it is those other villages that look admiringly at our now traditional Pembury Fireworks! This year’s fantastic show brought in an even bigger crowd and thanks to all who organised it, particularly Barbara Russell and Alison Morton. Next year’s display is already being planned (and it will be even better by having hot food and hopefully hot drinks as well on sale).

Recreation Ground – The Parish Council is now working on the plans to refurbish this vital village amenity starting next year. This

will be in annual phases with our first priority on two areas, the children’s playground and a facility for older youngsters. More details will appear on this in due course so that we can obtain your views.

Replacement Pavilion – As reported previously, the Parish Council and PAYFC (the junior football club) have done a lot of work in getting planning approvals and working up a scheme for a substantial replacement building. Unfortunately, having received prices it is doubtful the very comprehensive building proposed is now affordable and we are exploring a more modest, affordable, scheme option. This will still provide a first class replacement and one that could be expanded in the future. Whatever happens, we have resolved that work on a replacement must start on the ground next year.

Allotments – Work on a new maintenance programme has highlighted the number of allotments currently vacant. If you fancy some recreational digging and growing your own vegetables contact the Clerk’s office (details on page 38) and take up an allotment.

Planning – As a statutory consultee we try to respond to the planning applications received with an understanding of all parties’ views as well the requirements of Local Plan policies. If you have comments on any application do write and let the Parish Council know as quickly as possible – you may have information we need to know.

Parking and traffic – There are many parking and traffic issues worrying residents particularly in the Hasting Road/High Street and Lower Green Road areas. These have been forcibly drawn to the attention of KCC Highways and responses and action are awaited.

Bo Peep sign – The new sign to replace the one lost to the weather some time ago is being finalised in partnership with the Pembury Society and will be installed shortly.

David Coleman

CSV/BBC MAKING A DIFFERENCE DAY

29 OCTOBER 2005 BUILDING A SENSORY GARDEN AT PEPENBURY

PEPENBURY WAS this year's Kent charity chosen by Community Service Volunteers, and the BBC, in conjunction with Barclays Bank, for their 'Making a Difference Day' on 29 October 2005. The project involves building a sensory garden to benefit local people and other charities. Our aim on the day was to raise the profile of the project, and of Pepenbury itself.

The day went very well indeed with a lot of publicity from BBC and visits from Greg Clark (who also spoke at our AGM on the same day), Cllr Ron Weeden and Derek Tullett, National Chairman of CSV Make a Difference Day. All were very impressed, Mr Tullett in particular. Compaidd Trust provided computing 'fun and games'; and the wide range of Pepenbury's own strong craft activities, the



Training for Work project and our new IT Suite, which will be the base for giving formal training to people with learning disabilities in the area in practical IT skills, also impressed the visitors.



Staff, residents and regular volunteers at Pepenbury had already carried out the majority of the 'hard work', and it was the 'finishing touches' that needed completion, for example, making wind chimes, arranging plant displays and finishing off tactile and other sensory elements, including setting up

a water feature designed and made by some of our residents.

The garden is being developed in partnership with Seven Springs Cheshire Home, and KAB (The Kent Association for the Blind) were also represented on the day. Our idea is that the sensory garden has as wide an appeal as possible to people in the area.

Overall the CSV/BBC's Making A Difference Day at Pepenbury was an exciting, varied, and productive day, thoroughly enjoyed by everybody who participated.

If you would like to find out more, or better still, to take part in any of our activities please contact me by telephone, e-mail or post.

Roy Brazier

Business Manager. Tel: 7222168.
E-mail: roybrazier@epenbury.info



Cllr. Ron Weeden, Mrs Weeden and Roy Brazier, Pepenbury Business Manager.



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Independent Schools Inspectorate Report, 2004

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PLASTIC FANTASTIC!

GREAT NEWS! Plastic recycling is now possible for Pembury residents. Sadly, it's not provided by the Borough Council, but for a small charge, £3 for a binful, you can get all that waste plastic sent off to become something useful rather than increase the landfill sites. You also get a much emptier (ordinary rubbish) green bin . . .

Impact Recycling of Medway (01634 710707) now has a number of customers in Pembury; they provide a standard or large bin, free of charge, and will empty it whenever it is full. You can share a bin with a neighbour which makes collection only £1.50 per binful.

Not everybody will want to take up this scheme – people have differing priorities and may not want to house another bin but the option is there for people who do.

Some sobering facts . . .

- We produce and use 20 times more plastic today than we did 50 years ago!
- In the UK, a total of approximately 4.7 million tonnes of plastic products were used in various economic sectors in 2001.
- Plastics consumption is growing about 4% every year in Western Europe.
- At 35% of UK plastics consumption, packaging represents the largest single sector of plastics use in the UK.
- Every year, an estimated 17½ billion plastic bags are given away by supermarkets. This is equivalent to over 290 bags for every person in the UK.

Source: <http://www.wasteonline.org.uk>

Why bother recycling?

A report on the production of carrier bags made from recycled rather than virgin

polythene concluded that the use of recycled plastic resulted in the following environmental benefits:

- reduction of energy consumption by two-thirds
- production of only a third of the sulphur dioxide and half of the nitrous oxide
- reduction of water usage by nearly 90%
- reduction of carbon dioxide generation by two-and-a-half times



A different study concluded that 1.8 tonnes of oil are saved for every tonne of recycled polythene produced.

Is it just plastic bottles?

Not at all! Impact is able to process fast food boxes, meat trays, bags, egg cartons, yoghurt pots, vending cups, and a range of other polystyrene products, polyethylene and polypropylene goods, such as bottles, crates, sheets, caps, pipes and fibres.

So what happens to the recycled plastic?

There is a wide range of products made from recycled plastic including polyethylene bin liners and carrier bags; PVC sewer pipes, flooring and window frames; building insulation board; video and compact disc cassette cases; fencing and garden furniture; water butts, garden sheds and composters; seed trays; anoraks and fleeces; fibre filling for sleeping bags and duvets; and a variety of office accessories (see www.recycledproducts.org.uk).

Quite a lot there!

As it's entirely voluntary, it will be interesting to see how many people in Pembury get involved in the Impact scheme. We'll try and report back next quarter.

Happy recycling!

PEMBURY SOCIETY

THE ANNUAL General Meeting on 20 October was well attended and the audience listened in fascination to speaker Denzil Edwards' account of his Peruvian adventures.

Denzil, with fellow Pemburian Rose Mitson, had undertaken a fundraising trek there in October 2004 in aid of the British Heart Foundation. The trek followed the Inca Trail that runs from Cusco to the ancient Inca city of Machu Picchu. The terrain was rugged and the altitude varied – sometimes precipitously – between 2500 and 4200 metres. The whole group experienced mild symptoms of altitude sickness at first, but quickly acclimatised.

Following the talk, the number of questions raised clearly demonstrated the enthusiasm and interest engendered in the audience. Roll on the Spring Meeting!



Speaker Denzil Edwards with Derek Johnson, Hon. President of the Pembury Society

PEMBURY JUDO

GOOD EXERCISE – Good Fun – Olympic Sport – Respect – Discipline – Friendship – Self-Defence – Badge Scheme – Grading System. These are all aspects of JUDO.

Some of the Pembury Judo Club members competed in a local competition we recently held at Beechwood School Tunbridge Wells and achieved some good results:

- Rory Barrington-King (gold);
- Courtney Hayward (silver);
- Danielle Hayward (silver);
- Ben Dunkerley (bronze);
- Joseph Dunkerley (bronze);
- Courtney Hayward was exceptional achieving Silver after only two terms of Judo.

The Kent County Grading was also held recently at Lordswood Leisure Centre in Chatham where Simon King achieved his Dan Grade (black belt) and Rory Barrington-King achieved 8th mon (orange belt with two stripes)/

The Pembury Judo Club runs from the Scout and Guide Hall on Thursday evenings term time only with British Judo Association Qualified Coach, Steve Law (2nd Dan Black Belt).

For more information please call Steve on 01732 507725 or 07957 101532



Some of the junior class at Pembury Scout and Guide Hall (aged 8 to 14)

THE ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS & PEMBURY BRANCH OF THE BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION

*“When you go home, tell them of us and say:
For your tomorrow we gave our today.”*
The Kohima Epitaph

Familiar words, strange sounding name?

The Kohima Memorial, maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, remembers the Allied dead who repulsed the Japanese 15th Army, a force of 100,000 men, who had invaded India in March 1944 in Operation U-Go. Kohima, the capital of Nagaland, was vital to control the area and in fierce fighting the Japanese finally withdrew from the area in June of that year. This is the background of what follows.



Mr Ronald Whitlock, the last Branch Hon Secretary of the Burma Star Association in Pembury, was prompted by the interest shown in the Laying-up of the Standard in the Upper Church of St Peter on 4 September to write a short account of the Association and of the Branch.

In 1951 the Burma Star Association was founded with two main objects. First, to continue the comradeship formed by men and women entitled to wear the Burma Star or the Burma clasp on the Pacific Star by virtue of their operational service in Burma between 11 December 1941 and 2 September 1945, and for certain specified service in China, Malaya and Sumatra and secondly, to establish a charity for needy members and their dependents.

The Association is organised into provincial areas to which local branches are affiliated. In June 1990 the Royal Tunbridge Wells and Pembury Branch was formed, some members having transferred from the then Maidstone Branch. The Branch membership area is mainly the Tunbridge Wells and Tonbridge urban and rural localities but some members, who wish to keep in touch with comrades with whom they served, live as far afield as Cambridgeshire, Dorset, London and Surrey.

Members have attended commemoration parades and services at Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, The Cenotaph, St Paul's, other places in the Home Counties and the Remembrance Sunday services at Pembury and Tunbridge Wells.

The limits of space permit my mentioning the services of only five Pembury members. Arthur Latter (died October 1994) served with the 4th Battalion Queen's Own Royal West Kent Regiment at the siege of Kohima in April 1944 when the battalion, under 500 strong but the principal fighting unit of the garrison, held the town for two weeks against continual attacks by a Japanese Division (at least 12,000 strong over the period).

Peter Down (died January 1999) served in the destroyer HMS Redoubt that patrolled the Bay of Bengal and supported the landings of troops on the Burmese coast. Peter was the first Hon. Treasurer of the Branch.

William Brown (died October 2001) was with the 2nd Battalion East Lancashire Regiment

continued on page 27

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BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION *continued*

which for a time in 1944 was detached from the 14th Army to support the combined American and Chinese armies commanded by the American Lieut. General Joseph Stilwell, who was known as 'Vinegar Joe'. William was the first Hon. Secretary of the Branch. He was also the Standard Bearer from the beginning of the Branch until just before his death.

Alfred Pimblett (died April 2002) served in 5 Commando and was at the ten-day battle of Kangaw in January 1945. He was awarded the Military Medal for brave conduct. Alfred was the first Chairman of the Branch.

Peggy Harris, who was living with her parents in Burma, was evacuated to India in 1942. She joined the Burma Military Nursing Service and returned to Burma to nurse sick and wounded soldiers.

The remembrance of the sacrifice of all those who died or whose lives were shattered is expressed by the words of the Kohima Epitaph at the head of this article.

Finally, I sincerely thank all who have supported the Branch over the past fifteen years.

Ronald Whitlock

SNIPPETS

Parish Council events

I know it's early, but you might like to make an advance note of some events being planned by the Parish Council for 2006:

Annual Parish Meeting

Monday 20 March 2006

Musical Picnic on the Green

Saturday 10 June 2006

Pembury Village Fete

Saturday 8 July 2006

Pembury Village Fireworks

Friday 3 November 2006 (provisional)

Pepenbury

We will be opening our second charity shop around the first week in December. It will be on our site at Peppenbury and will sell second-hand stuff of good quality plus our own pottery and woodwork, plants etc.

We now have a regular stall at the Pantiles indoor market on a Tuesday – so visits from local people would be appreciated.

New Year's Day Walk – 1 January 2006

This year's walk will leave from Stonecourt Lane at 10am. This gentle, peaceful walk roughly the same route as before, is the ideal way to start the new year whether or not you celebrated the night before. It goes through the bird sanctuary

where no dogs are allowed so two-legged walkers only, please. We aim to get back to the starting point by 1pm at the latest and our aim is usually spot-on! We walk for pleasure and go in all but the most adverse weather conditions. Do come if you can. – **Brian Toseland**

Kew Gardens Speaker to talk to Pembury Gardeners

Pembury Gardeners' have been able to secure Dr Peter Brandham, former head of the Cytogenetics Section of the Jodrell Laboratory of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew as their speaker on 9 March at the Catholic Hall (7.45 for 8pm). An experienced photographer and very popular lecturer, he gives an average of 150 talks a year. His subject for Pembury, *Arctic and Alpine* looks at the landscapes and plants of some of the tougher parts of the world; mountains, lakes glaciers, icebergs, geysers and boiling mud, featuring the European Alps and Iceland. Illustrated with photos from his extensive collection. There is a small charge of £1; more details from 824877.

Community Larder

The churches in Pembury are planning a Community Larder to offer support and love for

continued on page 28

SNIPPETS *continued*

village residents who need it. Details will be available soon, but if you wish to know more, now, please call Jemma Alexander on 825590.

Who to contact about what?

The Pembury Contact List enclosed with this edition of Pembury Village News has been produced specifically for Pembury residents so that should anyone have any problems or concerns the relevant phone numbers are available quickly, without searching through the phone book. This has been produced after consultation with Kent Police, the Pembury Community Partnership, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council and High Weald Housing: High Weald Housing kindly funded the printing costs.

We hope this list will provide a useful resource for Pembury villagers.

Pembury Village Fireworks

Another great success this year! Over 2,000 people stood and 'Oooh'-ed and 'Aaah'-ed at the spectacular show brought to them by Fawkes Fireworks on Friday 4 November. Coopers provided a great range of light sticks, stars, headbands and bracelets which added to the fun.

The fireworks night has become one of the key village events and raises a significant amount of money for the Parish Council's charities – St John's Ambulance, Compaidd and Headway. This year, over £1,590 was contributed by voluntary contributions from spectators. Thank you!

Thank You 'Awards for All' from the National Lottery

The Scouts and Guides have renamed their Headquarters building the WOODHILL GUIDE AND SCOUT CENTRE. We are working hard to upgrade the building to be used as a pack holiday centre. Unfortunately the perimeter fencing has been breached in several places by vandals. We are trying to make the building secure so need to completely replace the fencing at a cost of £1,500. We have just been awarded a lottery grant which will go some way to replacing the fence but we still have quite a way to go. Any contribution would be welcome. Thank you National Lottery.

Get allotmented!

Grow your own fresh veg on a Pembury allotment and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow growers. The allotment year runs from 1 April to 31 March; the rent is £16 a year for a full plot, £8 for half plot. Applicants are usually met on site and shown what plots are available. Tenants are expected to keep their plots in a weed-free condition and keep the pathways around their plot mown and accessible. No bonfires are allowed. For further information and application, please contact the Parish Clerk on 823193 Monday to Friday 10am to 12noon, email pemburypc@pembury.org or write in to the Parish Office at 6 The Grove, Pembury TN2 4BU.

Abusive Vehicles (or is it just their drivers?)

Vehicles parked on the pavement seems to be a growing problem in the village. Older people, especially those getting about in their buggies, and mothers with pushchairs often find it impossible to get through and are forced to step off the pavement out into the road to get past the vehicle. They then face the dangers of moving vehicles whose drivers are not expecting to meet vulnerable pedestrians; the potential for serious accidents is obvious.

The abusive vehicle owners may think they are doing themselves and fellow motorists a service by trying to park their vehicle off the road, but their thoughtlessness or even selfishness is directly endangering others. However, parking properly on the road (as long as there are no restrictions) not only allows free passage to pedestrians (as it should!), but also may oblige speeding motorists to slow down in order to get past the parked vehicle.

Of course, there is also the fact that parking on the pavement is a traffic offence, so the abusive vehicles may find themselves decorated with a Penalty Charge Notice which will mean a hefty fine.

Your editor adds:

That other 'pavement pest', the older teenager/adult cycle rider, is out and about in Pembury. I was almost mown down last week by one of these miserable egotists on a mountain bike. Surely by the age of 30-odd, they are old enough to ride on the road?

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PEMBURY IN THE PAST

MIRACLE MAN – David Kemp

I would suspect that most of our parishioners have never met or perhaps heard of David Kemp.

David has lived in the village all of his life and when I was a youngster he was one of our local football heroes, playing alongside his father, Bert, and brother, Raymond.

He was also one of the best cricketers ever produced in Pembury, in latter years taking up umpiring and different official positions in the club. To my knowledge, he still holds the record at Mascalls School for the '100 yards' at 10.8 seconds.

But now read extracts from newspaper reports in 1944 when David came so close to dying and his survival is even more remarkable when you think how basic medical treatment must have been.

“Described by doctors and nurses as ‘the wonder-boy of Pembury’, six-year-old David John Kemp makes his way about the Amelia Scott Ward at the Kent County Hospital, Pembury and his cheery voice and high spirits are a tonic to the other patients. It was five weeks ago that he was knocked down by an Army lorry and sustained multiple injuries which made the doctors despair of his life.



They were unaware of what tough stuff David was made.

His case sheet reads like a medical dictionary: The injuries included: compound fracture of the skull; broken jawbone; broken left arm and fracture of the elbow; fractured left leg and crushed foot; and injuries to the spleen, necessitating its complete removal.

David is the son of Cpl and Mrs S A J Kemp



of 4 Glenstede Villa, Lower Green, Pembury. Cpl Kemp who before the War was a male nurse at Pembury Hospital, is in the Royal Army Medical Corps, at present serving in Italy.

The accident occurred when David, returning with two friends from Tunbridge Wells alighted from the bus at Chapel Corner, Lower Green, when crossing the road was hit by an Army lorry. An American ambulance, manned by girls was passing at the time and with commendable promptitude conveyed David to hospital and he was receiving attention within minutes of the accident.

He was unconscious for two days. Doctors feared for his life, but an exceptionally strong constitution and an indomitable will to live pulled him through.

Happily he knows little of the ordeal through which he went and his only worry is to be rid of his remaining plaster and return home to play with his younger brother Ray.”

(Kent and Sussex Courier)

Other newspapers – nationals like the *Evening News* and the *Daily Mirror* – also carried reports emphasising the apparent hopelessness at first of David's injuries and of his courage in pulling through.

Glad you are still with us, David, and many thanks for your contribution over the years to the village.

Hugh Boorman

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FULL RANGE OF SIZES AVAILABLE.

IT'S THE FRESHNESS THAT MAKES THE DIFFERENCE!

LITTLE HAWKWELL FARM

MAIDSTONE ROAD

PEMBURY

(top of Colts Hill)

Telephone: 01892 824184

JAN'S GARDEN VIEWS

AFTER A GLORIOUS autumn of warm sunny weather, WINTER is upon us once more and with it some respite from our gardening. However, it is the perfect time to plan ahead for next spring and summer, choosing seeds and plants from gardening catalogues during the long winter evenings. There are also many compensations for our least favourite season. With Christmas on the horizon to provide much activity, there are lots of goodies to anticipate, such as wonderful fruit puddings, chutneys, roasted chestnuts, wines from Kentish vineyards and an abundance of fresh winter vegetables.

As winter progresses, severe frosts are likely to occur and we should take preventative measures to mulch or cover up plants that are vulnerable. Tender varieties such as pelargoniums and half-hardy fuchsias should by now be lifted and in a frost-free place. Spray them with water occasionally to prevent them from drying out. Fleece or bubble-wrap is ideal to protect your tender plants in very cold spells.

Leaf-mould is invaluable for mulching many moisture loving plants, (and provides nutrients) particularly ones for acid soil and the range of primulas. It is very easy to make your own by collecting leaves of oak and beech – preferably. Put them in a large plastic bag pierced with holes from a garden fork. Keep them moist and occasionally shake and turn them. In a few months they will decay down to a condition resembling peat.

Roses that are bare-rooted can be planted now and through the winter in suitable weather conditions. There are so many to choose from, but many modern ones are disease resistant and some are thornless. They need a sunny position and light moist soil; however, they also seem to benefit from clay soil.



Don't forget our feathered friends this winter. When natural food becomes scarce, they rely on supplies put out for them. They are creatures of habit and will return to your bird table once they learn there is food there. All sorts of kitchen scraps make a welcome meal but always moisten very dry bread. Feeders of seeds and nuts help to supply their needs, and shallow containers of water for drinking and bathing. They are also fun to watch from a distance. During snowfalls remove any snow from bird tables and feeders so they are able to eat and drink without difficulty.

All borders should be tidied up before the cold weather makes it impossible. Compost all plant debris; if left it provides ideal shelter for slugs and snails to over-winter. Keep a check on dahlia tubers and gladioli corms for rot. Sweet pea seeds can be sown now under glass for early summer flowers next year. Soak the seeds the night before to soften.

Finally, finish winter pruning and use to continue the compost heap.

Have a wonderful Christmas!
Happy Gardening!

Jan Davies

CRIME IN PEMBURY

HERE WE ARE again, Christmas already, and I wish I was the bearer of glad news, but I'm not. The recorded crime figures for July, August and September have risen to 59 from 57 for the previous quarter. Not much you might think, only two more. That is two too many.

Criminal damage has increased the most: 14 to 19, approx 36%, most of which occurs at night and is just mindless damage committed to a variety of people's property. I have no doubt that the real figure is considerably higher but unfortunately people are still not contacting the police when the offence is committed and obtaining incident numbers. The figures produced here are compiled from reported crimes that have been given a number and are our only means of obtaining such information.

I don't care how many times you contact me but the first call must be to the police. In the instance that your call is met with obstructiveness or a negative response, I also need to know about that.

Recently there has been certain serious damage to parish and borough property,

mainly the walls by the school at the entrance to the Lower Green burial ground and the retaining wall at the entrance to Bulls Place. The damage to these walls now poses a threat to pedestrians and especially children and I trust that you share my contempt for the trash who carried out the offence.

I sometimes think how nice it would be if we were to follow the old biblical statement: "An eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth" but I think that by the time we had finished, their unsuspecting parents would have nowhere to live and nothing to drive about in.

Please help the police and the Parish Council in catching those responsible for the crime in our village and even whisper in the ear of our Community Warden – Tom Younger. Tel: 07813 694138.

Don't forget the poor, the lonely and the homeless this Christmas. Dig deep in that pocket and give, and try to picture reversing the roles of those you are giving to, and then when you have given, get the feel-good factor.

Happy Christmas to you all.

Hugh Boorman

MONTH	Assault	Burglary Dwelling	Burglary Other	Criminal Damage	Fraud and Deception	Theft from Motor Vehicle	Theft of Motor Vehicle	Vehicle Interference	Theft Offences	TOTAL
July 2005	3	1		6	2	3	2		4	21
August 2005	2	1	2	5		1	2		1	14
September 2005	4	1	2	8	3	1	1	1	3	24
TOTAL	9	3	4	19	5	5	5	1	8	59
ROAD										
A21B	1					1	1			3
Beagles Wood Road				1						1
Bellfield Road		1		1						2
Castle Hill						1				1
Church Road				1						1
Elmhurst Avenue				1						1
Hastings Road			1	2	1	1			1	6
Henwood Green Road	1			4		1	1			7
Hérons Way		1								1
High Street	3		1	3	4				4	15
Kings Toll Road						1				1
Lower Green Road	1			4				1	1	7
Maidstone Road	1		1	1						3
Old Church Road							1			1
Romford Road		1	1				1			3
The Grove	2			1						3
Tonbridge Road							1		2	3
TOTAL	9	3	4	19	5	5	5	1	8	59

FOR YOUR DIARY

Village Coffee Morning – Village Hall Tuesdays 9.30am – 12 noon, full market last Tuesday of the month same times.

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

Community Warden Surgeries – fortnightly – 1pm Camden Court –
Contact 07813 694138

January

- 1 New Year's Footpath Walk - Stonecourt Lane - 10am to approx 1pm
(Sorry, no dogs). Details tel. 822051
- 4 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Doing It Ourselves' – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 5 Pembury Afternoon WI – Village Hall – 2pm. Details from 822267
- 6 Pembury Evening WI: 'Kent Scandals' – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 7 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at Bo-peep Corner – 2.15pm
- 9 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 12-14 Pembury Players Pantomime: 'I'm Cinderella, get me out of here!' – Village Hall – 8pm
- 12 Micro-Sports Toddlers Club starts – Village Hall – From 10am. Details from 01689 818252
- 28 Pembury Athletic Football Club: Disco – Village Hall – 8pm. Tickets £5.
Contact Charlie Hambleton tel: 824022

February

- 2 Pembury Afternoon WI – Village Hall – 2pm. Details from 822267
- 3 Pembury Evening WI: 'Memories of a Garden Boy' – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 4 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at top of Stonecourt Lane – 2.15pm
- 4 WI Jumble Sale plus Cake Stall – Village Hall – 2pm
- 6 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall – 8pm
- 8 St Peter's Mothers' Union: 'Poverty to Pulpit' Joy Gregory – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 11 Pembury Sequence Dance Club dance – Village Hall – 7.30pm
- 23 Pembury Gardeners' Society: AGM – Village Hall – 7.45 for 8pm

March

- 2 Pembury Afternoon WI – Village Hall – 2pm. Details from 822267
- 3 Pembury Evening WI: 'Dashing Away With A Smoothing Iron' – Village Hall – 7.45pm
- 4 Pembury Footpath Walkers – Meet at Camden Arms Bus Stop – 2.15pm
- 6 Parish Council Meeting – Village Hall, meeting room – 8pm
- 8 St Peter's Mothers' Union: AGM and Bring & Buy – Upper Church Meeting Room – 8pm
- 9 Pembury Gardeners' Society: Talk 'Artic and Alpine' by Dr. Peter Brandham – Catholic Hall – 7.45 for 8pm. See 'Snippet's on page 27 for more information.
- 20 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Village Hall – 8pm

CHURCH SERVICES OVER THE CHRISTMAS PERIOD

ST PETER'S

18 December	6.30 pm	Parish Carol Service – Upper Church
21 December	2.30 pm	Pepenbury Carol Service – Upper Church
24 December	4 pm	Crib Service – Upper Church
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass – Upper Church
25 December	8 am	Holy Communion – Upper Church
	10.00 am	Christmas Celebration with Holy Communion – Upper Church
	10.00 am	Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) – Old Church
28 December	6.30 pm	Carol Service – Old Church
1 January	3.00 pm	Parish Eucharist – Upper Church
29 January	3.00 pm	Christingle Services for Candlemas – Upper Church

ST ANSELM'S PEMBURY AND ST JUSTUS PADDOCK WOOD

24 December	7.30 pm	Carols (St Anselm)
	8 pm	Vigil Mass of Christmas (St Anselm)
	11.30 pm	Carols (St Justus)
	12.00 am	Midnight Mass (St Justus)
25 December	9.00 am	Holy Mass (St Justus)
	10.30 am	Holy Mass (St Anselm)



PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

18 December	10.00 am	Worship Service and Communion
	6.30 pm	Carols by Candlelight
24 December	11.30 pm	Meditation and Communion
25 December	10 am	Christmas Day Worship Service
1 January	10 am	Service for all ages

CAROL SINGING

Members from all churches will be joining together to sing carols on Wednesday 21 December at 8pm. Everyone is most welcome to join in. Please contact any of the churches for more information (contact details on page 39).

GETTING TO GRIPS WITH ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

AS YOUR COUNTY Councillor, I have been worked hard alongside Cllr Paul Barrington-King, the Parish Council and Pembury Baptist Church. The Baptist Church have created an excellent and well-used replacement youth club after the YMCA pulled out of the village; the Borough and County Councils jointly ran "School's Out 4 Summer", a programme of supervised youth activities to stave off the boredom of long summer holidays. I have fought hard to ensure that Pembury has its own KCC Community Warden. The Parish Council dismantled the vandalised skateboard ramp and I have paid from my KCC allocation for brighter street lighting at the Woodhill Park entrance to the recreation ground; both have helped stop the congregation of bored youths which led to so much vehicle vandalism and late-night disturbance for local householders.

But young people need somewhere to meet up, and Pembury's young people asked the Parish Council last year for a 'youth shelter'. Kent Police are working with me and Pembury Parish Council over location and use. Shortly before he retired, PC Chris Goddard and I made a list of possible locations which I would like to ask local people which they would prefer – unless of course, you have any other ideas?

- Off Henwood Green Road at the side of Sturgeons – there is an area of ground at the foot of the allotments. This site has the benefit of being away

from the village centre, as well as potentially being an area for ball games. It is possible that this site might need fencing off, in which case I am happy to seek local funding or sponsorship.

- On the unused slab at the site of the old Henwood Rec Youth Hut – since being taken over by PAYFC, I understand the slab is used for parking. However, this is mainly used on Saturdays and Sundays, and both this location and the previous one have the advantage of bringing a facility back to this end of the village, where problems have certainly increased since the hut was demolished.

- The triangle under the village sign at Bo Peep Corner.

- Memorial Gardens – there are benches at this location, where many young people already congregate.

Of course erecting a 'youth hut' will not, of itself, stop anti-social behaviour in Pembury. But surely the first step is to establish a relationship between the various sectors of the community, to show our young people that they are listened to, respected and trusted?

To register your feelings on any of the above locations, or to suggest alternative locations, please email me on kevin.lynes@kent.gov.uk or write to me at the address given at the back of Pembury Village News. After all, today's young people are tomorrow's parents, residents and role models . . .

Kevin Lynes

CHURCH TIMES

ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

Upper Church

8am Holy Communion

9.45am The Parish

Eucharist

and Junior Church

10am 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 Service:

Wednesday – Mass 7pm

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

We praise God and hear

his word on Sunday at

10am. Children's and

young peoples' group

meet as well. Evening

services as advertised.

We have many activities

during the week for

mums, toddlers, young

people and senior citizens.

Ring the church office

825590 for details.

YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

COUNTY COUNCIL

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

BOROUGH COUNCIL

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

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

Tom Symondson, 50 Henwood Green Road, TN2 4LH. Tel: 07985 142965

PARISH COUNCIL



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



Cllr Steve Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938
Vice Chairman of Parish Council
Chairman of Planning & Highways Working Group



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



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



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



Cllr Leslie Gregory
47 High Street TN2 4PH
Tel: 822343
Chairman, Public Relations Working Group



Cllr Alison Morton
2 The Coppice TN2 4EY
Tel: 824938
Chairman, Pembury Village News Editorial Working Group



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



Cllr Roger Parrett
27 Canterbury Road
TN2 4JT
Tel: 825948



Cllr Norman Starkey
71 Henwood Green Road
TN2 4LW
Tel: 823227



Cllr Mike Tompsett
14 Gimble Way
TN2 4BX
Tel: 822711



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



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

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN

Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel.: 522591

ALZHEIMERS DISEASE SOCIETY

Simon Rooksby, Pineview Day Hospital
Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535, Ext 3515

BLACK & WHITE MARCHING MILITAIRE

Tel: Louise 823097

BOWLS CLUB

Len Birnie. Tel: 01892 681222

CATHOLIC CHURCH

Deacon Bill Eason. Tel: 824133

COMPAID TRUST

Computer Aid for Disabled People. Tel: 824060
Transport for Special Needs. Tel: 823488

CONSERVATIVE PARTY

Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

CRICKET CLUB

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

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL

c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH

Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton,
Romford Road. Tel: 823932

GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

Mrs M. Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road. Tel: 822373

HEADWAY

Libby Slattery. Tel: 823120

HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500

KENT COLLEGE

Headmistress: Ann Upton. Tel: 822006

KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

Headmistress: Anne Lawson. Tel: 820204

LABOUR PARTY

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

LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY

David Mills. Tel: 825577

LITTLE RASCALS (formerly 'Meet-a-Mum')

c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590

NATIONAL CHILDBIRTH TRUST

Co-ordinator: Helen Dunkerley. Tel: 822529

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK

Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Gill Paveley. Tel: 822605

PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB

David Gow. Tel: 824119

PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH

Rev. Wayne Alexander
Church Office. Tel: 825590

PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB

Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WARDEN

Tom Younger. Tel: 07813 694138

PEMBURY COMMUNITY WORKING PARTNERSHIP

Richard Parsons. Tel: 823193

PEMBURY F.C. SATURDAY

Mick Waterman, 26 The Coppice. Tel. 824137

PEMBURY F.C. SUNDAY

Phil Craxton, 34 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823928

PEMBURY FOOTPATH WALKERS

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

PEMBURY GARDENERS

Ann Purton. Tel: 824223

PEMBURY PHOENIX TWIRLERS

Dave or Chris Brett. Tel: 824233

PEMBURY PLAYERS

Chairman: John Hawker. Tel: 824327

PEMBURY PRE-SCHOOL NURSERY

Mrs C. Hughes. Tel: 668514

PEMBURY SCHOOL

Headteacher – Mrs C. Thewlis. Tel: 822259

PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Tracey Perrett. Tel: 823334

PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY

Teacher in charge: Rosemary Rich. Tel: 825580

PEMBURY SEQUENCE DANCE CLUB

Secretary: Mrs Marion Warren. Tel: 547617

PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB

Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509

PEMBURY SOCIETY

Steve Morton. Tel: 824938

PEMBURY TENNIS CLUB

Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH

Rev. Matthew Jackson Tel: 824761

PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET

Sue Boreham Tel: 824385

Eve Fiddimore Tel: 518277

PEPENBURY (formerly Larkfield)

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

ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY

Secretary: Mike Raper. Tel: 01892 520171

ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION

Peter Chartres, 54 Woodhill Park. Tel: 823759

SANDRA'S HOUSE

Pre-School Nursery, Mrs S. Toogood, Queens Folly,
64 Lower Green Road. Tel: 824252

SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS

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

SCOUT & GUIDE HQ MANAGEMENT TEAM

Mike Cartwright, 16 Cornford Park, Pembury.
Tel: 823235 and Moira Allan, 9 Henwood Green Road.
Tel 822373

ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION

Secretary: Mrs M. Adams. Tel: 822769

ST. PETER'S PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB

Events Secretary, Carol Wakeford. Tel: 822030

TABLE TENNIS CLUB.

John Burleton. Tel: 823250

TREE WARDEN.

Caroline Mazzezy Tel: 822493

TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP

Gill Paveley Tel: 822605

TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT

SCHEME. Tel: 513969

VILLAGE HALL

Manager (bookings): Rachel Windus.

Tel: 822837

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Afternoon: Mrs Edna Morris. Tel: 822267

Evening: Mrs Elizabeth Bellchamber. Tel. 824969

WRVS LUNCH CLUB

Contact: Mrs Amanda Everett. Tel: 823280

YMCA

Simon Stanley. Tel: 534444



Kent College Preparatory School, Pembury

A balanced foundation for future success

Happiness + Confidence = Success



We believe that a happy, confident child is a successful one and our girls love coming to school. High academic standards, excellent SATs results and preparation for grammar and independent senior schools are at the heart of what we do, but we never forget that there is more to childhood and learning than examinations.

If you would like to know more about our approach to developing happy, confident and successful pupils, please contact Mrs Jones on 01892 820204 or visit our website at www.kent-college.co.uk

"A happy and secure learning environment ... teaching is very good overall and often excellent enabling pupils to achieve very well ... excellent wide-ranging programme of extra-curricular activities ... very high levels of pastoral care."

Independent Schools Inspectorate Report, 2004

Kent College Preparatory School is an independent school for girls aged 3-11.
Nursery class from age 3 with flexible attendance.
Old Church Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells TN2 4AX