

PEMBURY

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VILLAGE NEWS

Summer 2020

Issue 182



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FREE

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PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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

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Email: deputy@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to the Summer edition of Pembury Village News – in the Spring issue I was hoping for some sunny Spring weather, but had no idea of how the circumstances would be so different! Thankfully we've had lovely weather during lockdown, although I appreciate that is little comfort for those who are shielding or don't have a garden or outside space to enjoy the sun. Hopefully as lockdown is being slowly released, and shielders now being allowed out, you are getting to feel the sun on your face again.

The Coronavirus has hit us hard as a nation, and much like other serious and terminal illnesses, will have affected everyone in our village in one way or another. I am so impressed with the way the village community has come together to support those needing help, and need to pay particular thanks to Jennifer and the team at the Baptist Church Food Hub for supplying food parcels and topping up meter keys, and to Sue Nuttall and all those at Pembury Volunteers who have been shopping, collecting prescriptions and phoning people for chats so they don't feel isolated.

We've all seen the fabulously decorated stones around the village, so a big thank you to everyone that has taken part and cheered up so many as they walk around the village and woods – makes each walk an adventure trying to discover new stones! And not forgetting the rainbows and teddies in the windows, and the numbers so children can play house bingo on their walks, the crocheted rainbow giving thanks by the Camden, and all of the little things you have done to

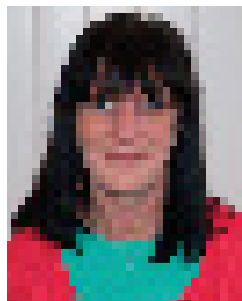
cheer the village up! I apologise for anyone / anything I've forgotten to mention....

Obviously the Local Plan timeline for building within the Borough will have been delayed – originally the pre-submission Local Plan Consultation was due to happen in August / September this year, but after receiving such a huge volume of responses, and having to divert resources to deal with the Coronavirus, I imagine the timelines will be revised. When we get notification from TWBC we will let you know on our website. We are still going ahead with our Neighbourhood Development Plan, thank you to everyone who has volunteered to share their experience and knowledge.

Sadly, we have had to cancel the Picnic on the Green, which is a real shame as we had such great plans for this year! At the moment we are planning for the fireworks to go ahead, dependant on the current Government distancing advice at the time...

Hoping you are all staying safe and sane in these strange times.

Kind regards
Katy Brooks



COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Any news items/articles/photographs for possible inclusion in the next issue of this magazine must be forwarded by x to the Parish Office, Lower Green Recreation Ground, Lower Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4DZ;
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PEMBURY SAYS THANK YOU!

So I had a crazy idea and reached out on 'Pembury Matters' Facebook page on 18th April to 'Decorate the Village for the NHS & Key Workers' – those who were interested and willing setup a new Facebook page to chat and discuss. We had 42 people from the village who joined, and we decided on knitting or crocheting hearts or poppies. There were mixed abilities among us. I for one had never crocheted and decided to teach myself, others were very experienced, and some decided to get the needles and wool out that hadn't been used for a long time. The next decision was what to do?

Through this COVID pandemic, on behalf of Pembury village we wanted to celebrate all the NHS and KeyWorkers and say a massive THANK YOU to them all. But also, we wanted to bring the community together and be occupied. We obviously could not be together but we could be part of a virtual group to make a difference, to put a smile on people's faces who saw our creation, and for those that could get those needles out to spend some time sitting indoors whilst we were in lock down. The rainbow was being universally used and is now iconic in representing our frontline care staff; it also allowed us to not be specific on materials – we were in a period of time when we couldn't go to shops to buy wool, wood or paint, so we need a project where we could use what we had – the rainbow was perfect!

I would say that by the end of April, we had done enough knitting and crocheting to create that rainbow and so began putting it all together. Obviously, it all had to be a one-person job, as we could not do it together or pop round to help someone else. We broke into little groups, we scavenged around for the woodwork for the Clouds and Thank You signs. Some of us cut the wood, then passed it safely to someone to prime and paint, and then to someone else to paint the

colours and letterwork. By the time all this had happened the rainbow of hearts and poppies were all being sewn on to the sheet, ready for that frame to be made.

The Camden Arms pub very kindly allowed us to use their wall as we wanted it in line with how the village is decorated for Remembrance in November. That wall is central - everyone can see our message either within the village or from people driving through to go to work at the Hospital.

We had some amazing support from a lot of people in the village, those that knitted, those that crocheted, those that cut wood then painted, those that planned the design, made the frame and finally to attach it to the wall. And the photo speaks for itself – whilst we were putting it up on Saturday 23rd May, we had some lovely comments from cars driving past and people walking – at this stage I had headaches working it out and my thumbs had not recovered from being pin cushions but one passing person came up to us and said "thank you for saying thank you!" – and that made it all worthwhile!

Thank you to all NHS staff and frontline Key Workers for everything you have done to keep us fed, watered and safe in Pembury Village!

by Jeni Beviere





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VE DAY

VE Day stands for Victory in Europe Day which took place on Tuesday, May 8, 1945. VE Day was the day on which allied forces announced the surrender of Germany in Europe. It marked the end of Adolf Hitler's war and sparked celebrations around the world. The day before at 2:41pm on May 7, 1945, Germany had surrendered.

Pembury residents did their best to recognise and celebrate the 75th anniversary of VE Day, despite the social distancing restrictions in place. The sun shone down on front gardens awash with bunting, flags and banners, people set up picnic tables and toasted with their neighbours across gardens. In West Way, 1940's music rang out and residents jived in the streets. Here are just a few pics taken on 8th May of Pembury village celebrations.





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PEMBURY PATIENTS PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

There could not be a more appropriate time to praise the services of our own GP practice here in Pembury. All medical services have been under extreme pressure in the last few months no more so than our own practice. So, thank you to all the staff at Waterfield House for all you have done to keep the residents of Pembury well, not only in recent months but throughout the year.

The PPG at Waterfield House was set up to support the surgery, to be the voice of the patients and work in partnership with the surgery team to ensure the surgery is as good as it can be.

The PPG meets four times a year including an Annual General Meeting (AGM) to discuss health related issues in the area and receive updates on the services that the surgery are offering. Waterfield House surgery is working in partnership with other surgeries in Tunbridge Wells and have formed a Primary Care Network (PCN). As part of the PCN the surgery can offer

more extensive services to patients, including, for example, extended hours. The PCN can also employ additional staff to work across all surgeries within the network. We currently have a social prescriber and clinical pharmacists working in our PCN with patients having access where appropriate. These additional roles will increase as further funding becomes available.

Last October we held our first open meeting outside the AGM and it focused on a day in the life of a GP. This event was well attended and opened our eyes to the amount of work a GP is expected to do in their long working days. Our AGM, due to be held in May, was to follow up with this theme and the PCN social prescriber was to attend to discuss their role. This will now take place in September so please look out for the date and time of this event.

If anyone would like additional information about the PPG then please contact the chair Trudy Donachie at waterfieldhouse.ppg@gmail.com.

PARISH COUNCIL DURING LOCKDOWN

When lockdown started on 23 March, the Clerk's office in the Recreation Ground, shut its doors and the Clerk and Deputy began working from home. Normal duties, apart from face to face meetings with visitors and site visits, have carried on as usual. Daily phone calls to catch up with the Groundsmen and each other to discuss any work matters have taken place with lots of emails and photos being sent each day. The Groundsmen quickly worked out a way in which to continue with their heavy summer workload whilst adhering to social distancing rules. Probably not always easy but they've coped well. They offered their time to help with deliveries from Downingbury Farm Shop to the elderly and vulnerable in the village and this has been much appreciated. Grass cutting on the Village Green, the Recreation Ground, Woodside Playing Field, the allotment site and other areas through the village has been kept up and the Burial Ground has been kept neat and tidy. They have been the

eyes and ears of the village and reported any issues to the Clerks.

Virtual Parish Council and Committee meetings have continued throughout with agendas and minutes published on the website. This has proved relatively straightforward with a few teething problems to start with, but everyone has adapted well to this new way of working.

During this time, the Parish Council has had to take the decision to cancel the Picnic on the Green – the first time in its history and whilst the Pride in Pembury Horticultural Competition is still going ahead, the Winners' Tea may not. Winners will be recognised and a way to do this, still needs to be worked out. We will await Government guidance on other events – such as Remembrance Day and the Fireworks and will keep you posted.

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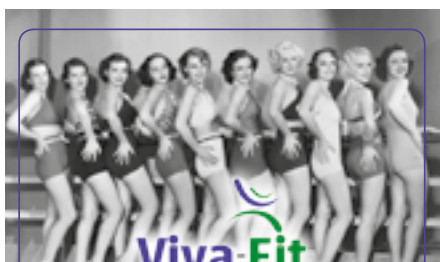
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Scams Awareness Fortnight 2020 takes place over two weeks, from the 15-28 June.

Unfortunately, people need to be more aware of scams than ever this year as many new scams have emerged because of the coronavirus outbreak. Scams to look out for include:

- advertising face masks or medical equipment at high prices
- emails or texts pretending to be from the government
- emails offering life insurance against coronavirus
- people knocking at your door and asking for money for charity

If you receive emails or texts about coronavirus from someone you don't know, or from an unusual email address or mobile number, don't click on any links or buy anything. Never give money or personal details to someone you don't know or trust - for example someone who knocks on the door and offers to help.

Get in touch with us if you would like more information about spotting a scam, or what to do if you think you've been scammed.

Reporting a scam

You might be able to stop others from being scammed if you report a scam. You should report the scam to more than one organisation - report it to:

- the Citizens Advice consumer helpline – 0808 223 1133
- the police – contact them immediately by calling 101 if the scammer is in your area or if you've transferred money to the scammer in the last 24 hours
- Action Fraud – online at <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/reporting-fraud-and-cyber-crime> or by calling 0300 123 2040
- HMRC phishing team – contact them by email on phishing@hmrc.gov.uk if you've received a suspicious email, text message or phone call from HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC)
- Royal Mail – contact them by email on scam@mail@royalmail.com or call 0800 011 3466 if you've been scammed by post

Give as much information as you can - for example, dates, names and email addresses.

If you've been threatened with violence, report it to the police on 101.

See our Facebook and Twitter pages for the latest scams affecting the local area.

For more information or help about scams, fraud and consumer matters, please contact Paddock Wood Community Advice Centre at 64 Commercial Road, Paddock Wood, TN12 6DP

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BROWNIES ON THE MOVE ONLINE

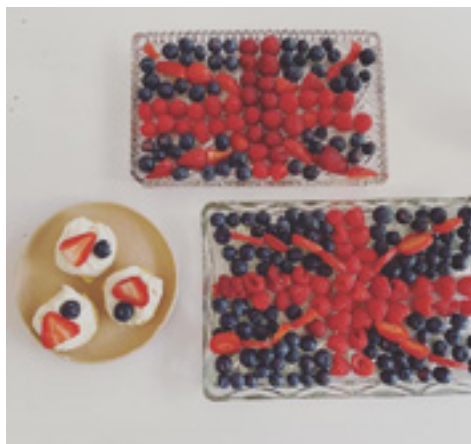
When lock down was announced I knew that our Brownies would no longer be able to meet on Wednesday evenings and I couldn't see how we could continue to offer the girls some form of 'normal' in their lives. How wrong I was!

Girlguiding quickly gave us guidelines of how to keep the girl safe online, and we held our first 'Virtually Brownies' on 1st April. Quite a good date I thought. We've had 8 online meetings to date, and I have to admit they have been very funny, if not completely smooth.

Brown Owls' picture froze, while she was pixelated and cut into three – the Brownies thought this was hilarious. And don't get me started on virtual backgrounds. Brown Owl can get them, just, while the Brownies have dancing chicken nuggets behind them. It must be an age thing!

The Brownies have been working hard and earned lots of Interest Badges, ranging from Aviation to Performing, Languages to Inventing. I've been sent so many pictures of amazing cakes for the Baking badge, that I'm sad we are not at meetings to actually taste them.

We have taken part in several challenges, including a VE Day picnic. This involved making



an invitation for their family, making bunting and decorating cakes.

We have made zip lines for toys, created obstacle courses in the garden, had rafts in paddling pools and created personal flags.

So, although we can't meet in person, the Brownies are still having fun and working hard.

Moirá Allan

1st Pembury Brownies

pemburybrownies@hotmail.co.uk



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PEMBURY SUPPORT

Pembury pulls together to support its residents

If one good thing has come out of all of this, it is the growing sense of community, and we've seen that in spades here in Pembury. Individual residents, neighbours, community groups and our three churches are all pulling together to offer vital support to help those in need.



Sue Nuttall has been instrumental in generating and motivating an army of volunteers using Facebook. Many volunteers printed off leaflets offering support and posted in their local neighbourhood. As a result, Pembury residents have been supporting each other - helping elderly and vulnerable neighbours with food shopping, collecting prescriptions, trimming back rapidly growing spring gardens, posting letters and simply staying in touch to try to combat the effects of loneliness and isolation.

Pembury Baptist Church is just one of the organisations offering a range of essential services, including a Community Larder (supported by all three churches), emergency funding for some bills, as well as being the Pembury Contact Hub for TWBC COVID team.

Sally Richards and Tracy Gregory are two volunteers who look after the Community Larder, collecting food and donations from generous businesses and residents and distributing vital food parcels to people in most need. "We are healthy, we have time, we want

to help wherever we can - our community is important to us," they said.

"Many people are being supported by friends, family and neighbours within the community, and it's great that everyone's coming together. But we've found that some individuals who are less able and live alone, and those with mental health problems or addictions, are the ones who need our help the most. We are receiving referrals from TCHG, TWBC, the NHS Mental Health and Early Help teams as well as self-referrals and worried neighbours".

"Some people do not reach out for help, such as people with mental health issues, so we need to go to them rather than waiting for them to come to us. We have been delivering 'knock and drop' food parcels to the parts of Pembury where many of our most vulnerable residents live such as Sunhill Court, a supported housing scheme, to ensure no one goes without. At the moment we're coping with incoming requests. But if lockdown restrictions get tighter or if volunteers became ill it may become more challenging to offer all the support required."

If you or someone you know requires assistance contact the Pembury Hub via the Baptist Church on 01892 825590 jennifer@pemburybaptistchurch.org.





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NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Neighbourhood Planning is a tool that gives local people a real say in the way their community is planned and developed. Introduced as part of the Localism Act in 2012, Neighbourhood Plans are documents that set out planning policies at a more local level than those contained in the Borough's Local Plan.

Many communities have now written Neighbourhood Plans and have found them useful, for instance in: protecting local character and heritage assets; safeguarding valued green spaces and wildlife corridors; addressing issues of traffic congestion by maximising walking and cycling opportunities; planning for new and improved community facilities and creating opportunities for employment locally. They also present an opportunity to consider housing need in the parish and whether this is being adequately addressed in terms of quantity, type and affordability.

The process to develop the Plan will involve the whole community, who will need to consider what Pembury might be like over the next 15 to 20 years. Once written, the Plan will be independently examined and a local referendum will take place. If successful, the Pembury Neighbourhood Plan will ultimately form part of the suite of planning documents held by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council. When a planning application comes in, the Neighbourhood Plan will carry equal weight to the Tunbridge Wells Local Plan and will be used to determine planning decisions.

In these "lockdown" conditions it has been difficult to make too much progress, but nonetheless things have been happening.

The Council has set up a Working Party consisting of 5 councillors, of which I have been appointed the Chairman. I am pleased to say that we have a band of about 30 volunteers now and the Council has also appointed Alison Eardley as our Planning Consultant and Jim Boot as our Community Planner.

Alison has commenced work on some of the background information, as it is a good opportunity to do that while her other planning commitments are lighter at the moment. Currently, she is assembling a draft Neighbourhood Area profile, which will be shared with the group in due course, and which will set out, amongst other things, historic data about the village and the growth in housing and population over the last few years and the current housing stock.

The next step is to assemble a Steering Group to lead the project and then to explore the individual topic themes for our volunteers to start working on.

Recently, we have contacted each of our volunteers and invited them to take part in an initial Virtual Workshop that we are hosting to set out what the project entails and brainstorm some of the key challenges and opportunities facing Pembury over the next decade. We hope that this will inspire them and others to take part in the project.

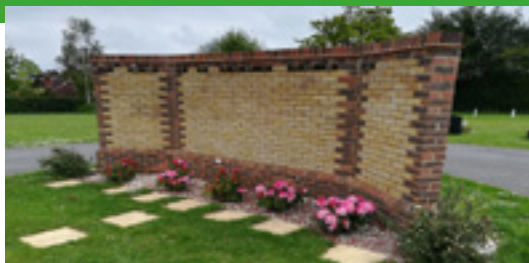
Our consultants will host the workshop online, using Zoom and before this we are asking each volunteer to take part in a skills audit, so that we can assess skills that will be helpful for the preparation of the Plan.

Cllr. Nigel Stratton

MEMORIAL WALL

Several memorial plaques have already been purchased and have been affixed to the Memorial Wall in Pembury Burial Ground behind St. Peter's Upper Church.

If you are interested in placing a plaque here, please contact the Parish Office on 01892 823193 or email the Deputy Clerk deputy@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk





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COMMUNITY GRANTS

PRIDE IN PEMBURY HORTICULTURAL COMPETITION

After discussion, we have decided to run the annual Pride in Pembury Competition. So many villagers have been working in their gardens and many are looking fabulous. We are all out walking more than ever so if, on your daily walk, you come across a front garden or a hanging basket/container worthy of a nomination for the Pride in Pembury Competition, please email the Editor at deputy@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk or send in the entry form on the next page. A decision will be taken later in the year about the Winners' Tea which has proved very successful for many years but if we can't lay on the Tea, Winners will certainly be acknowledged and featured in the next edition of the Pembury Village News.

Ed

PRIDE IN PEMBURY 2020

ANNUAL HORTICULTURAL COMPETITION

Three categories:

Best allotment / Best hanging basket/container /
Best front garden

Send in the form below to the Parish Office, Lower Green Recreation Ground,
Lower Green Road, Pembury, TN2 4DZ / deputy@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Entry category (please tick)

Best front garden ☐

Best allotment ☐

Best hanging basket/container ☐

You can nominate anyone - even yourself!

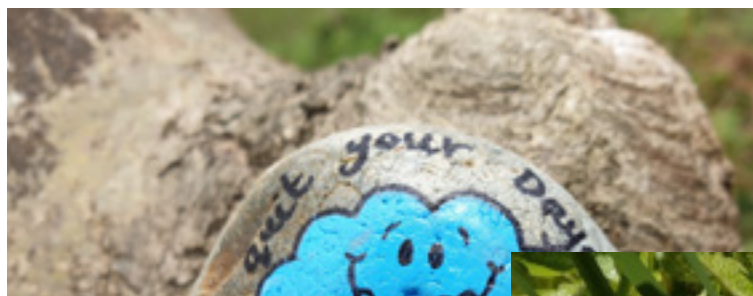
Name of person nominating entry (if different)

Address of entrant

Closing date for entries is 7 August 2020

The small print: the competition is not open to Parish Councillors or Parish Council employees or their close families. Garden entries must be within the boundaries of the Civil Parish. Judges will not be permitted to discuss entries. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into. The names of the winners will be published in the Pembury Village News and the winner of each category must be willing to participate in a publicity photo. Entry to the competition is deemed acceptance of these rules.





Twsocial.co.uk

Tunbridge Wells Social website has been created by the Borough Council to establish an online sense of community across the borough and to help combat the social isolation and loneliness we can all feel sometimes. The site is divided into three main sections: Entertainment; Wellbeing and Connecting You.

Entertainment:

- Trinity Theatre with life drawing classes, coronavirus time capsule and Trinity Encore Choir online
- Around the Globe has podcast and website suggestions from TWBC staff
- Amelia Activities has podcasts from the Museum curator about the history of Tunbridge Wells
- Corona Connects weekly challenge with a selection of different challenges for the family to have fun together
- Fun and Games has a TW quiz and an online escape game and information about the Arts Awards
- Local and Live / The Forum has live streamed concerts and recordings of bands at The Forum
- Storytelling has various choices of passages to listen to, put together by Age UK Tunbridge Wells
- Theatre and Spoken Word has messages and thoughts from famous locals
- A Sonnet a day, all read by Sir Patrick Stewart
- TWTalking is an interactive weekly podcast airing light hearted views about what's going on locally

Wellbeing:

- Eating Well has a selection of tips and recipes to ensure healthy eating
- Family Wellbeing and Mindfulness has a selection of resources to help you practice mindfulness in everyday life
- Parenting Support with weekly self-care tips, a new mums workout and ideas for adventures at home
- Wheel of Wellbeing give 6 practical ways to look after your wellbeing
- Mental Health Awareness Week may have now passed, but this section has useful support contacts and ideas to help improve mental health
- Workout has helpful exercise tips and tricks for people of all ages
- Audio Trails and Walking has some walking trails around Tunbridge Wells for you to discover

Connecting You:

- Love Where We Live Awards 2020 tell you how to nominate for the community awards that celebrate the people who make the Borough a great place to live and work
- VE Day has the Queens message, King George's VE Day speech from 8th May 1945, and various other tributes and pictures
- Wiesbaden tells you about life in our twin town in Germany
- Get Social gives you ideas to keep your spirits up
- Get Crafty gives you craft ideas

TW SOCIAL (continued)

- Get Campaigning tells you which local campaigns need your support
- Get on gives you ideas and websites to help improve your skills
- Get Support and Advice has a number of videos from two therapists helping couples cope with lockdown, as well as other support available



The graphic features a vibrant background with flowing waves in shades of red, orange, yellow, and purple. At the top center is the 'tw social' logo in white, with the tagline 'We're in this together' below it. Below the logo, several digital devices are displayed: a laptop showing a grid of video thumbnails, a tablet showing a 'TW TALKING' podcast interface, and a smartphone showing a 'TW TALKING' podcast interface. The bottom section has a pink background with three bullet points in white text. The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council logo is on the right. At the bottom, the website URL 'www.twsocial.co.uk' is displayed in white, with the tagline 'ENTERTAINMENT WELLBEING Connecting You' below it. Silhouettes of buildings are visible at the very bottom.

tw social
We're in this together

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WILDFIRE

A lot of us have been at home and in our local area a lot more than usual recently, and perhaps have had more free time - time to notice nature and the wildlife around us more than ever.

I hope the appreciation for nature that has formed over recent weeks remains after this strange time has passed.

Personally I have been engaged by nature for a long time, but I have been a little more so recently - inspired by those finding new appreciation for it - and it has been a great distraction.

For a while now I've been making my garden better for wildlife, and just in the last few weeks I've been enjoying the birds feeding, the tadpoles developing in my pond, slow worms mating in the compost, and hedgehogs snuffling about at night. I feel very lucky to them all on my doorstep.

It's not hard to invite the wildlife in, so if you find yourself inspired, here are a few things you can do.

It was hedgehog awareness week at the beginning of May, so they've been on my mind. Hedgehogs are in trouble, so if you can, please make 13cm square holes at the bottom of fences (they need to forage over an area bigger than you might think and we've fragmented their habitat) and grow a variety of native plants. This will help hedgehogs find enough food (beetles, caterpillars, worms, slugs) each night. There's more on this at hedgehogstreet.org

Try to keep nets off the ground, cover drains and have ramps/slopes out of ponds, please check before you strim, and watch out for hogs when you let your dogs out at night - a lot of injuries hedgehogs suffer can be avoided.

Birds will also benefit from lots of native plants to bring in caterpillars, and you can also help by leaving any hedge or tree cutting until autumn, so their nests aren't disturbed.

Ponds with shallow sloping sides are great additions to the garden, but if that's not possible



small container ponds with ramps can work, or pop bird baths (plant pot saucers, old trays..) around your garden, keep them topped up, and put some at ground level, so all your wildlife can get a drink especially when it's hot. For ponds - if you worry about mosquitoes - the wildlife will eat them, but also mosquito dunks are safe.

Be messy! Wilder areas, log piles, brush piles, long grass, leaf piles, compost heaps etc., all create great habitat for a range of critters such as beetles, frogs, hedgehogs and more.

Avoid pesticides. This is a big one! Our insect populations are crashing and we need them - they pollinate our food and are vital for the ecosystem: they feed our hedgehogs, birds, slow worms and many many other creatures, and perform other important roles like breaking down dead material and recycling nutrients.

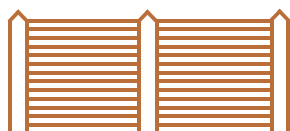
There are lots of resources online to guide you if you want to 'wild up' your garden.

Froglife.org have information on helping our native amphibians and reptiles

Plantlife.org.uk have information on wild flowers
RSPB.org.uk have a range of projects you can do for all garden wildlife

WildlifeTrusts.org have similar
BritishHedgehogs.org.uk The British Hedgehog Preservation Society has tips for hedgehogs

Happy wild gardening!
Sarah Pomfrett



Steffan Keily

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CORNFORD LANE



1½ miles long and dating back to medieval times, Cornford Lane leads down from Pembury High Street and through the High Weald Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty before climbing uphill past one of the oldest farmhouses in the area to meet Halls Hole Road.

The route follows the natural line where sandstone meets clay, and was a main route into Tunbridge Wells before it was stopped up by act of parliament in the eighteenth century. The reason? The newer Pembury Road had become a toll road from Woodgate and travellers were using Cornford Lane to avoid paying their dues!

Largely a single-track lane until 50 years ago, its character began to change markedly with the construction of the Pembury bypass in 1988 when the newly built bridge and wider north section replaced the steep sided cutting through which it had previously descended. From here however, particularly to the south of the lane, the adjoining land is largely unchanged with Early Modern landscape for the first half, and Medieval field boundaries and Ancient Semi Natural Woodland beyond.

The views across the valley to the ridge of High Woods Lane and beyond are exceptional (although in some places the large fields are not typical of the High Weald landscape) and it is hard to believe that the centre of Tunbridge Wells is just 2 miles away.

This lane, valued for Landscape and Visual Amenity, Nature Conservation, History and Archaeology, and Recreation and Amenity, ranks

third out of 167 local lanes in the TWBC 'Rural Lanes Supplementary Planning Guidance'.

The lane's hedges, themselves several hundred years old and bordering a considerable proportion of the lane, have been classified some years ago by KCC as Species Rich Intact. They contribute to the rich biodiversity in which 62 bird species, 18 mammal species, 25 tree and shrub species and 114 plant species were recorded by a local ecologist.

The struggle against continual verge damage from passing vehicles has regrettably taken its toll and the introduction of the invasive Winter Heliotrope in soil imported for verge repairs has contributed to the loss of some flowers, however this spring has seen an encouraging recovery of plant life – as well as a chaos of birdsong - following the reduction of cars through the 'Lockdown' period. It has been heartening too, during this difficult time, to see the huge numbers of walkers, runners and riders who have started to re-use this route. Cornford Lane has once more become a link which makes possible fantastic linear and circular journeys between Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Dunorlan Park, the High Weald Walk, Sherwood and Hawkenbury, and even via Blackhurst Lane to the cycle track to Tonbridge.

If you haven't walked or ridden in Cornford Lane for many years, seize the opportunity to do so now before the traffic returns – we are indeed fortunate to have something so beautiful so close!

by Howard Mackenzie

1ST PEMBURY SCOUT GROUP

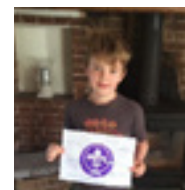
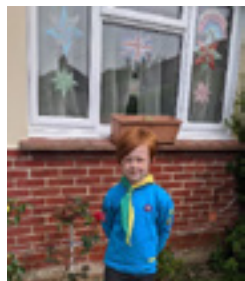
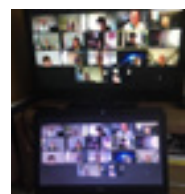
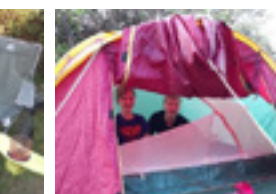
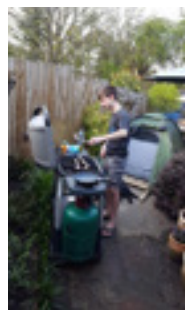
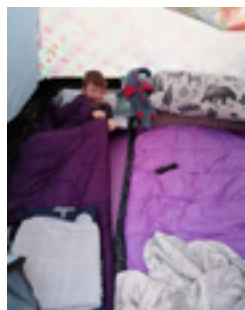
Despite the current health crisis preventing us from meeting face-to-face, Scouting continues in Pembury!!

All our sections, from our youngest Beavers to our oldest Explorers, have been participating in video-conference meetings online, enjoying activities such as scavenger hunts, quizzes and games. Many have been completing tasks to achieve various badges, with help from parents. The District has also been busy setting our young people some challenges, such as 'Hike to the Moon' and 'International challenge' and marking special events, such as St George's Day and VE Day.

During April, many of our young people took part in a 'camp at home' challenge and were part of a camp out when over 95,000 young people from 68 countries camped out overnight on 30th April – a world record!

As Bear Grylls (Chief Scout) has noted, scouting is about kindness and never giving up; two qualities that our young people are certainly demonstrating in these strange times. We look forward to being able to resume normal activities, but until then, Scouting will continue!

The images show our young people engaged in their various 'lockdown' Scouting activities.



MARY FENWICK 22.12.1925 – 09.05.2020

We were very sad to say goodbye to our old friend and neighbour Mary Fenwick this week. Mary sadly passed away on 9th May 2020 at the age of 94. She lived in Gimble Way in Pembury for over 50 years with her beloved husband Nick (AKA Sid) and was dearly loved by her friends in the village. Mary was originally a Yorkshire lass and despite her many years down south, she never lost her Yorkshire accent, her sharp wit and could recall numerous stories from her experiences as a young teenager during the war. Mary won a maths scholarship as a girl and even in her 90's was absolutely as bright as a button and nothing got past her! Mary loved to keep up to date with the gossip of the village and was a passionate gardener with a keen knowledge of birds and wildlife. Although she had no children of her own, Mary loved to talk to the children in the neighbourhood who will remember her with great affection. Mary was a very special lady and she will always have a special place in the hearts of Gimble Way residents past and present, who will never forget her.

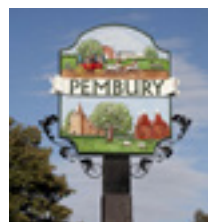


THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

During this period of lockdown we have had to postpone our April meeting, but we continue to plan for our next meeting, which we hope will be on October 21st. The Society's committee have in the meantime been following the various planning issues that are relevant to Pembury, and have written again on the Planning Portal concerning the long outstanding Tesco's site planning application for a car dealership by Hendy.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 21st October 2020, 7.45pm at St Peters Upper Church, at which Mr Stephen Baughen, the Chief Planning Officer for Tunbridge Wells Borough Council is our key speaker, when he will be updating us on the Local Plan, and its implications for Pembury. Come with your questions, as we shall no doubt have an interesting Q & A session after his illustrated talk.

Do take a look at our website, which has a lots of interesting information concerning the Local Plan www.pembury.org/ society. Do take a look at the Local Plan sites, and infrastructure ideas there.



In the meantime, to all members, friends and families, take care, and enjoy the benefits of more walking around the village, seeing things that have usually passed you by, and realising Pembury is such a nice village to be living in. The big question for the future is what will the "New Normal" be, as far as our community and environment is concerned, in the context of the national and international issues?

David Hanes
Chairman

COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP

We hope you have kept safe and well during this difficult period. I can assure you, that we have missed seeing you all!

Since lockdown some of our volunteers have been able to offer their services to other voluntary roles in the village- helping with shopping, delivering etc.

We had funds which we had intended to donate this year, and thought that now would be a good time to donate, as money was needed for vital services.

The Kent Air Ambulance launched an appeal. Their running costs have increased due to the need for full infection prevention controls for crew and patients. In addition, they need aircraft specialist equipment and protective gear. We hope you will be pleased to know that we were able to donate £300 towards this appeal, which they were delighted to receive.

We have also been able to donate some funds to the community gardening team to pay for plants at the chemist corner. This involved planting three containers and two baskets to brighten up the centre of the village. Plants as you know have been difficult to obtain, and we hope you will enjoy the flowers as they develop over the summer months.

You will, I am sure, be happy to know that drinks and cakes you purchased before lockdown have made it possible to make the donations.

Our volunteers are looking forward to welcoming you back to the Pavilion, when it is safe to do so. In the meantime we want you to know we are thinking of you.

Best wishes from all the volunteers at the Pembury Community Coffee Shop. Keep safe and well.

Christine Snow 01892-825428

PEMBURY HISTORY WEB SITE

The Covid-19 lockdown has created a lot of spare time and quite a lot of interest in the Pembury History web site. People are investigating what went on in the village in bygone years and how many generations of their ancestors lived here. The website is not a linear storyline of events but a fragmented array of snippets of historic information, most supplied from local residents and those further afield with Pembury connections. There are hundreds of photos, maps and stories of bygone Pembury in easy to digest, bite size pieces at www.pembury.org/history Visitors to the web site are invited to make contributions to this open ended community project.

Tony Nicholls

RAINBOWS/BROWNIES

It's been an unusual few months for all of us – changes in routine, restrictions to freedom of movement and a ban on any social gatherings amongst other things. As Unit Leaders, we put so much time and energy into providing fun and new learning at our meetings, and suddenly we were faced with the challenge of maintaining the girls' enthusiasm and achievements in Guiding without actually meeting up with the girls.

Having spoken to Unit Leaders in the Village, all girls have stepped up to the challenge of remote Guiding – from Zoom meetings to skills builders, as well as taking full advantage of the interest badges available for them to complete from home.

In my Rainbow Unit, the girls have completed Agility, Helper, Construction and Nature badges, as well as their Family Tree, Healthy Mind and Recycling badges.

In Brownies I have seen fantastic evidence of the completion of Collecting, Baking, Languages and Painting badges, as well as Local History, Grow Your Own, Mindfulness and Jobs badges.



We have been able to adapt some Unit Meeting Activities so that the girls can continue working towards their theme awards – for Rainbows we were able to say 'A BIG THANK YOU' by creating wonderful, bright posters for the NHS, whilst in Brownies, we adapted 'POSITIVE PEBBLES',

Pembury Brownies & Rainbows



to add to the ever growing Rocks of Hope in the Village. The Brownies also wrote beautiful poems about Spring, while the Rainbows painted brightly coloured Spring images, and these I distributed to Cornford House, Sunhill Court and Hazeldene – the feedback from the residents has been so lovely.

Other challenges Rainbows have risen to include 'BUG HUNT', 'KILL THE GERMS' and 'TREE-MENDOUS SENSES', while Brownies have taken on 'PLANETARY PUZZLES', 'CLOWNING AROUND' as well as learning the BSL alphabet, recording themselves signing their names to one another as well as other messages for deciphering. We may well not be able to meet face-to-face, but girls in Guiding continue to shine and prove what resilient and innovative human beings they are, and I am so proud to be part of that.

We have 2 Rainbow Units in the Village: 1st Pembury who meet on Thursdays and 2nd Pembury who meet on Mondays. We also have 2 Brownie Units: 1st Pembury who meet on Wednesdays, and 2nd Pembury who meet on Mondays. 1st Pembury Guides meet on Tuesdays.

If you would like your daughter to be involved in Guiding, please register your interest on the following link:

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/information-for-parents/register-your-daughter/>

Toto/Amanda Baker

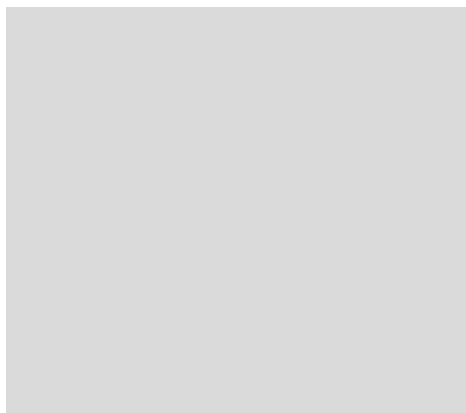
ONLINE CULTURE & TOURS

Galleries and museums all over the world may be closed at the moment, but many of them have come up with ways to share their collections online, to allow browsers to virtually explore their galleries as if they were there in the flesh, meaning internet users can see collections that would otherwise require a plane ride to visit!

A good place to start is Google Arts and Culture, (artsandculture.google.com) which has partnered with 2,000 global art institutions to open their virtual doors to the public. They also have over 100,000 artworks in High Definition and over 10,000 famous sites in street view. From here you can visit Musee d'Orsay, MoMA in New York, Tate Britain, Rijksmuseum, The National Gallery and many many more. Although several museums do not yet offer a virtual tour, they provide the next best thing through high resolution images of their most exemplary artwork.

You could try the video walk-through of the galleries in Saint Petersburg's State Hermitage Museum on YouTube which is a five hour long cinematic journey encompassing 588 works of art, or the National Gallery of Art in Washington DC which boasts a virtual tour focused on Vermeer and Dutch genre painters. The Getty museum in LA allow you to explore their vast collection by theme, and the "heavy hitters" of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, MoMA, The Frick Collection and The Guggenheim Museum all have good virtual access.

Closer to home, The National Gallery takes in 300 Renaissance masterpieces, The British Museum allows visitors to browse exhibits by century, continent and theme, The V&A has current exhibitions including explorations of styles in the 18th Century British Court and traditional Indian textiles, whilst The British Library is to make some of its "more hidden treasures" available to view online. Alternatively, BBC iPlayer has a series of "Museums in Quarantine" with 4 to choose from, and "Culture in Quarantine" featuring Film and Live Theatre recordings.



If you want to be more technical, you could invest in a virtual reality headset and immerse yourself in some amazing armchair tours. The EverestVR tour is an hour-long recreation of the climb up the world's highest peak, the panoramic views from Google's Eiffel Tower tour are fabulous, but even better is YouVisit.com's virtual trip to Machu Pichu which has a voice-over guide that includes information on the site's architecture and history. Meanwhile there is a whole series of virtual tours for armchair travellers, the SamsungVR.com tour of the old city of Jerusalem takes you from the Western Wall and the Dome of Rock to the summit of the Mount of Olives. The Vatican offers a digital tour that puts some of Rome's most spectacular architecture and historic monuments within the reach of those stuck at home. Back home, Stonehenge, Edinburgh Castle and Chatsworth House are among the historical sites offering virtual tours, and some London attractions are allowing online visitors into spaces that are normally closed to the public. No. 10 Downing Street has an online experience that grants the public access to areas that are normally only open to the Prime Minister's inner circle, and on 360.VisitLondon.com there are 360degree views of landmarks including Tower Bridge, Kings Cross Station and the Royal Albert Hall.

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MINI QUIZ – All the answers are places in Kent

1. Fruity house entrance
2. Weighty means of crossing
3. Fits on top of a jar
4. Arrival of birds
5. Fasten down
6. 9.50am or pm
7. Business transaction
8. To admit male sheep
9. Wide steps
10. Cold meat
11. A snack
12. Hardly a forest

MY PLOT

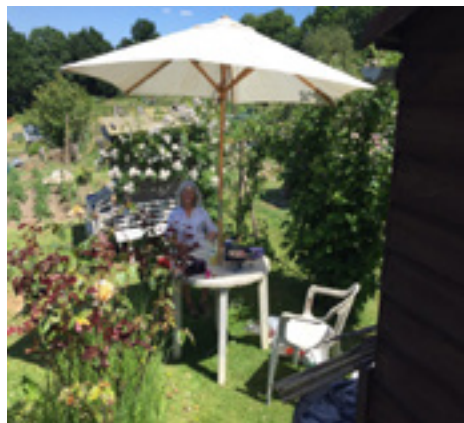
At risk of sounding glib, it has been the most amazing Spring ever, for having an allotment and gardening generally! Weeks of enforced localness and the most gorgeous weather on record. It's not surprising really that several plots have been taken on and rescued from a derelict state. This is fantastic to see and everyone with a plot already, sincerely hopes that all the newbies enjoy it and stay with us for many years.

I would like to pass on a few words of wisdom, from my own point of view at least. I am assuming that Covid-19 aside, most people do not have a limitless amount of time to devote to their plots? So, my most important hint of all time, is to keep your soil covered up whenever you aren't ready to plant something. This is a bit of mine which I'm leaving alone for a year because it didn't do very well last season.

My second big suggestion is that you leave an area to relax in – as you can see.

In terms of a low-maintenance first crop, I'd usually suggest potatoes, but it's too late this year to plant them, so maybe buy some young cabbage plants or similar. They soon become big plants and shade over that open soil – beating the weeds - again!

The other thing that some people do is to grow a green manure crop; something like Phacelia would come quickly now. So as you can dig a bit of your new plot over, scatter Phacelia seed which grows very pretty mauve flowers, attracts pollinating insects and covers over the soil (again!) Then dig it in when you're ready to plant something more edible.



I am sure that you have all been shocked, upset and many of you placed in a position of turmoil, with jobs at stake, family welfare and the control of children who would normally be at school and missing out on their education.

However, it has shown that there are large numbers of people among us who shone out of the darkness and displayed incredible acts of kindness, understanding and a Christian sense of responsibility. We have never experienced a situation like this before and it would be great if, when all this is over, the same attitudes could continue.

I have immense sympathy for the people who are worried about their jobs and for those who have already lost their jobs. Parents with school aged children must be worried about the effect this has had on the lost education over the past few weeks.

But there are things which have made me smile. I am fortunate that I have been able to get out for my daily walks around the village and I have never seen so many happy groups of mums and dads out with their children - on their bikes or

learning to ride their bikes or just out for a walk; thankfully the weather has been great.

I don't know how many of you have Parish Footpath maps, but these show that there are miles and miles of public footpaths around the village. Ordinarily you can purchase a village map from the Clerk's office which unfortunately is closed at the moment, as the Clerks continue to work from home, but please contact me, 823068 if you want one. They are great value at £1.00. It has been an incredibly beautiful spring this year and for those of you who are unaware of these paths, please see some pictures from the blue bell woods in Pembury showing wild garlic, cherry and apple blossom and the odd wild orchid. The bluebells and orchids have now disappeared, but the pictures were taken in the Kent College woods and the Wilson Estate and we now have the cherries and apples developing in the orchards.

Please keep to the footpaths and enjoy what is around us.

Hugh Boorman



Apple-dore, 2 Tonbridge, 3 Lydd, 4 Swanscombe, 5 Seal, 6 Tenterden, 7 Deal, 8 Ramsgate, 9 Broadstairs, 10 Chilham, 11 Sandwich, 12 Sevenoaks.

RECIPES

Easy Shortbread

INGREDIENTS

125g butter.
55g castor sugar.
180g plain flour.



1. Preheat oven to 190C/170Fan/Gas Mark 5.
2. Beat the butter and sugar together until smooth.
3. Stir in the flour using a wooden spoon at first and then use hands until you get a smooth paste.
4. Turn on to a work surface and gently roll or press with your hands until the paste is 1cm thick.
5. Cut into rounds or fingers, place on a baking tray, prick with a fork and sprinkle with castor sugar.
6. Chill in the fridge for 20 minutes.
7. Bake in the oven for 15-20 minutes or until golden brown.
8. Cool on a wire rack.

Blueberry Pancakes

INGREDIENTS

Makes 6 pancakes - 2 portions
75g wholemeal self-raising flour.
15g porridge oats.
1 large egg.

100ml milk.
125g blueberries.
2 tsp oil.



1. Place the flour, oats, egg and half the milk in a bowl and whisk to form a thick batter.
2. Add the remaining milk and beat.
3. Crush the blueberries lightly with a fork and add to the batter.
4. Brush a large non stick frying pan with the oil and place over a medium heat.
5. Add a large spoonful of batter to the pan and let it form into a circle, then add two more spoonfuls in the same way.
6. Cook for 2 minutes until bubbles appear on the surface.
7. Flip the pancakes and cook for a further two minutes.
8. Serve with Greek yoghurt, maple syrup, extra fruit or just on their own.

SUMMER DRINKS AND FRUIT WORDSEARCH

P	A	S	T	G	A	E	T	D	E	C	I
I	G	J	T	R	W	S	E	L	R	T	A
N	H	J	I	R	A	H	I	O	D	L	P
A	F	C	L	I	A	T	K	C	O	C	R
C	D	T	R	T	S	W	S	F	H	E	I
O	W	N	D	T	P	N	B	M	I	L	C
L	E	M	O	N	A	D	E	E	H	G	O
A	Q	A	D	E	S	T	S	L	R	S	T
D	W	N	E	U	S	P	D	O	P	R	S
A	A	G	W	Y	I	T	E	N	T	E	Y
K	F	O	S	F	O	P	K	A	M	Q	F
C	C	O	C	O	N	U	T	X	C	X	V
I	C	O	S	A	F	Z	S	H	F	H	J
E	Y	P	Y	R	R	E	B	P	S	A	R
U	T	E	E	M	U	M	O	D	E	P	H
C	E	R	Z	Z	I	F	S	K	C	U	B
F	D	F	W	N	T	K	I	W	I	G	F

Here's what you need to find:

Pina Colada; Iced Tea; Lemonade; Mango; Melon;
 Passionfruit; Raspberry; Strawberry; Cocktail;
 Coconut; Peach; Apricot; Bucks Fizz; Kiwi; Fig.

CRIME REPORT

Unfortunately we are past the longest day of the year already and over the past few months, the main topic in everybody's lives has been the Coronavirus . We were advised earlier on by Police HQ that it was expected that there would be an increase in reported crime figures due to circumstances created by the virus but thankfully in Pembury, this has not been the case. We must not be caught off guard though.

The total figure for the final period of 2019 was 124 but right out of the blue it has come down to 96, a drop of 28 and long may this trend continue. Violent crime fell from 54 to 47 and residential burglary from 5 down to 2. Burglary from business and community from 3 down to 1 and theft of vehicle from 2 down to 0. Thefts from motor vehicles has come down from 9 to 4 and theft, excluding that from motor vehicles fell from 36 down 24, a fall of 33%. Unfortunately, the one figure that upset the trend was that of criminal damage which rose from 5 to 10. I hope

that this figure stirs up anger in everybody when they realise that anything that they own or that the Parish owns can be subject to damage at any time of choosing by these yobs. We need to do all we can to protect ourselves, our families and our property and make it hard for the lowlife in our society to commit crime.

Let us hope that we can bring the next set of figures down even further so please stay vigilant and report anything suspicious to the police. Let us not forget that we all have people around us who need our help particularly at this time, so let's continue to help and support others in the best way we can.

Be careful out there and I hope and pray that we can all come through this epidemic and hopefully create a future where the world cannot be at the mercy of something like this again.

Hugh Boorman

CRIME FIGURES

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

AGE CONCERN	Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel: 522591
AMBERSIDE DANCE STUDIO	Principal: Sadie Van Der Spuy. Tel: 07734 053509. www.360dance.co.uk
CATHOLIC CHURCH	Fr. Ed Tomlinson. Tel: 825009
CONSERVATIVE PARTY	Sue Nuttall. Tel: 01892 822776. Email: sue_nuttall@tiscali.co.uk
FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH	Chairman: Mrs S. Clarke, Little Stanton, Romford Road. Tel: 823932
GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS	Caroline Cooper. Email: pemburydistrict@btinternet.com
HOSPICE IN THE WEALD	Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500
KENT COLLEGE	Headmistress: Ms J. Lodrick. Tel: 822006
KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY	Headteacher: Mr N Pears. Tel: 820204
LIBERAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY	David Mills. Tel: 825577
LITTLE RASCALS	c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY	TW District. Tel: 0845 6037882
NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND, UK	Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586
OUT AND ABOUT CLUB	Sue Giles. Tel: 823318
PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL CLUB	Alban Poulson. Tel: 822919 / 07748680071
PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH	Church Office. Tel: 825590
PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB	Phil Griffin Tel: 823129
PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB	Geoff Plummer. Tel: 824652
PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB	Secretary/Treasurer: Andy Weaver, 51 Heskett Park Tel: 824362
PEMBURY DAY CENTRE	c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590
PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB	Saturday Secretary: Michael Brown 327480 Sunday Secretary: Phil Craxton 823928 Chairman Andrew Rice-Tucker 823195
PEMBURY GARDENERS' SOCIETY	Ann Purton. Tel: 824223
PEMBURY WALKING CLUB	Martin Bolt. Tel: 07769707061
PEMBURY PAVILION BOOKINGS	Gillian Mayrick. Tel: 824852
PEMBURY PLAYERS	Maggie Weaver, Chair of Pembury Players. Tel: 824362
PEMBURY SCHOOL	School Office. Tel: 822259
PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION	Chair: Theresa Mason. email: psa@pembury.kent.sch.uk
PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY	Teacher in charge: Rachel Teigen. Tel: 825580
PEMBURY SHORT MAT BOWLING CLUB	Arthur Storey. Tel: 822509
PEMBURY SOCIETY	Chairman: David Hanes. Tel: 823174
PEMBURY U3A	Rick Lawrence. email: membership@pemburyu3a.org
PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH	Vicar: Rev. Richard Worssam / Church Administrator – 711126
PEMBURY VILLAGE MARKET	Jean Tyler. Tel: 01732 357820/Suzanne Leviton. Tel: 07927713256
ASPENS (FORMERLY PEPENBURY)	Interim CEO is Lesley Murphy - 822168
POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT OFFICER	PCSO Nick Brown. Tel: 07772 226001 Email: nicholas.brown@kent.pnn.police.uk
ROTARY CLUB OF SOUTHBOROUGH & PEMBURY	Secretary: Nigel Stratton. Tel: 822936
ROYAL NATIONAL LIFEBOAT INSTITUTION	Peter Chartres. Tel: 823759
SCOUTS, CUBS AND BEAVERS	Richard Alfieri. Email: sturgeoncubspembury@gmail.com
ST.ANSELM'S CATHOLIC CHURCH	01892 825009
ST.ANSELM HALL ENQUIRIES	Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586.
ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION	Secretary: Tina Walters. Tel: 822545 (after 4pm)
TABLE TENNIS CLUB	John Burleton. Tel: 823250
THE ORDINARIATE OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM	Fr. Ed Tomlinson, 31 Henwoods Crescent. Tel: 825009
TOWN & COUNTRY (HIGH WEALD HOUSING)	Housing manager: Stephen Aspinall. Tel: 0845 8731 321
TREE WARDEN	Hugh Boorman. Tel: 823068
TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP	Gill Pavely. Tel: 822605
TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT SCHEME.	Tel: 513969
VILLAGE HALL	Manager (bookings): Tel: 07983 228181
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	Evening: Mrs Gillian Williamson. Tel: 01892 822 577 Email: pewisecretary@gmail.com Web: pemburyeveningwi.wordpress.com

YOUR COUNCILLORS



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Email: clerk@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

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BOROUGH COUNCIL

Cllr Paul Barrington-King, 57 Henwood Green Road, TN2 4LH Tel: 07899 731696

Cllr David Reilly, 8 Forest Way, TN2 4EP Tel: 01892 458216

Cllr David Hayward, 3 Stanam Road, TN2 4LD Tel: 01892 808000

COUNTY COUNCIL

Cllr Paul Barrington-King, 57 Henwood Green Road, TN2 4LH Tel: 07899 731696



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KENT COLLEGE

INDEPENDENT DAY AND BOARDING SCHOOL FOR GIRLS

Old Church Road, Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN2 4AX. Telephone 01892 820218