

PEMBURY

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VILLAGE NEWS

Autumn 2023

Issue 195

Save the Dates



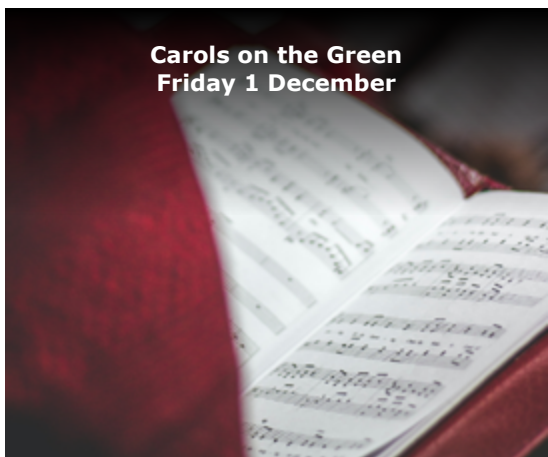
Litter pick
Saturday 30 September



Fireworks
Friday 3 November



Remembrance Sunday
Sunday 12 November



Carols on the Green
Friday 1 December

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PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

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Pembury Village News is published four times a year by the Parish Council, but the views expressed in the magazine do not necessarily represent official council opinion or policy.

Please note: the Editorial team's decision is final on whether or not to publish any item submitted. They reserve the right to edit (that is to cut, précis, alter, correct grammar and spelling) any item published. We will only put an article in if space allows.

The Editor and Publisher, Pembury Parish Council, are not responsible for any opinions or comments made by contributors or advertisers in the Pembury Village News.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to the September edition of Pembury Village News. I hope that those of you who braved the windy weather enjoyed Pembury in the Park. It was not as big as we had hoped (due to the gusty weather, some stall holders were not able to display their wares outside and we only had a limited amount of space inside the Pavilion), but I hope you all had a lovely afternoon, and a taste of how we want to make this a bigger and more inclusive annual village event. We had a great array of stalls from many local businesses and it was lovely to see how busy they all were, especially the Prosecco stand and beer tent – yes, they will definitely be on the essential list for next year! Hopefully we will also be able to have the Pizza and Ice Cream Vans!

We have four more events before Christmas (which will be here before you know it..!) - first there's the Annual Litter Pick, then Fireworks in the Recreation Ground, then the Remembrance Day Service at the War Memorial, and finally the Carols on the Green and the turning on of the tree lights – all the dates are shown on the cover and on a "Save the

Date' page – be sure to write them on your digital or paper calendar or note under magnet on the fridge – whatever works for you!



It is with great sadness that I tell you of the resignation of Patrick Gillian from the Parish Council. To say he has been an absolute legend would be a massive understatement. He is compassionate, caring, thoughtful, strong-minded and always made you consider a point of view that may not have occurred to you. I have (on many occasions) said to Council colleagues from around the Borough that every council needs a Patrick - to keep them in check, to make them consider from all angles, and most of all to make compassionate decisions. Patrick, you will leave a void, but you can still MC at all Parish events, so long as you dress up!!

Kind regards, Katy

P.S. If you watch The Chase, I'll be on there sometime in the Autumn, Series 16...



The Pembury Neighbourhood Plan has successfully passed its Examination and will now proceed to a local referendum on:

Thursday 14 September 2023

This is a fantastic achievement by all those who have volunteered their time to work on the Neighbourhood Plan and to those residents who have taken the time to input into the process.

Paper copies of the plan can be viewed around the village. For location details and online copies of the plan, please check our website:

www.pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk/neighbourhood-plan/



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This is not an obituary....It is however, the length of time I spent on Pembury Parish Council. Gordon Brown, I believe had just taken up residence in 10 Downing Street, Girls Allowed were heading up the charts and you could buy half a dozen bananas for just over a quid. I had for a brief time joined the Parish Council in the mid-nineties. We met in the old village hall and Sarah Clarke was Chair, but I struggled to understand anything that was going on and promptly legged it!!

I returned in 2008, and this time stayed a little longer. Fifteen years! It doesn't seem possible, but why did I bother becoming a Parish Councillor? Well, I wanted to give something back to the community and after a chat with a previous long-term member of the Council, David Coleman I signed up.



I was born and raised in Glasgow and at that time it was a very grey place, everything covered in a layer of soot from coal fires and very different to the now, cosmopolitan, vibrant and still one of the friendliest cities in the world. Thankfully my family live on the outskirts of the city and I get to see them and my adorable grandson Mateo.

When I first came to Kent in the early eighties after graduating from Bible college (yes, I said Bible college!) I worked with my then fiancé at a Christian conference centre in Sevenoaks. I had never seen such beautiful countryside. I felt I had walked into a landscape by Constable with its rolling hills and a myriad of trees, both of which define the weald of Kent, the Garden of England. I fell in love and Kent was going to be my home. That sense of belonging has never left me, and Pembury was the place I would eventually call home. I believe firmly if you love where you live, then give back to keep it that way.

Anyone who decides to join the Parish Council needs only three things - a big heart, a listening ear and a willingness to connect with people in the village. Everything I did on the Parish Council was a consequence of being led by my heart. A heart to protect our environment, an ear to hear people's concerns and pass them on and a willingness to raise my head above the parapet and not being frightened of being shot! You don't need a degree or titles to join the Parish Council.

I left school at fifteen with no qualifications, although years later studied theology which wasn't much use as a Parish Councillor! When I retired from the Parish Council a few weeks ago, I felt I had chopped my arm off. The Parish Council was more than just committee meetings - it was a family of sorts, comradeship, friends and colleagues. Of course, like any other organisation there is tension, more than once I was called into the clerk's office for a ticking off. I often made headlines not just as



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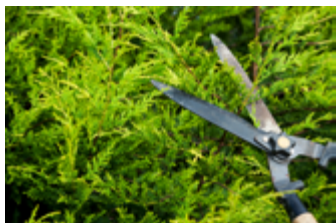
a Parish Councillor but as Dame Trott in the Pembury panto but more importantly for my campaigning for inclusivity and fighting homophobia wherever I found it.

I have worked on the Parish Council with the most amazing people. I can't name them all but I must mention June Crowhurst who more than once offered me tea and sympathy in her back garden when I had, for whatever reason, got myself in yet another pickle. I leave the Parish Council in safe hands - our office team Helen and Yvette are simply marvellous, and our Chair Katy Brooks is a competent and intelligent leader. What next? I will devote myself to my art as I still have a few masterpieces to get on canvas and of course to my church - Pembury Baptist.

I must sign off by saying a super big thank you to my partner Matthew for all the practical help he has given the Parish Council over the years and for his forbearance in helping me download all the committee papers, fix my computer problems and listening to my rants about potholes, bad parking, refuse collection etc.

It's been my pleasure!
Thankyou Parish

Patrick x



Whose responsibility is it to cut back overgrown hedges?

If a hedge is growing out of a resident/landowner's boundary, it is their responsibility to cut it. If a hedge or grass verge is growing on 'common ground' it's Kent County Council's responsibility. To report overgrown pavements/verges on common ground report it via the KCC online form or phone them on 03000 418181.

There are exceptions to this rule but [Over the garden hedge - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk) gives further advice on this.



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BLEND YOUTH CLUB

Blend is our free drop-in café for Years 7 – 10 at Pembury Baptist Church in its own dedicated space, led by the Youth and Children's worker, Nichola How and her team of excellent volunteers – all DBS checked and first aid trained.

We have loads of activities for young people including Xbox, pool table, air hockey, table tennis and basketball, as well as a selection of board games. Blend also has a small tuck shop (pocket money needed) with sweets, milkshakes and chocolates. If that wasn't enough, we have homemade cakes and toast - all for free!

We run throughout the term time 4-6pm on Fridays in a relaxed environment where young people can turn up at anytime before 6pm and leave whenever they need to. It is a great space for them to meet up with friends. If you want to know more you can follow us on Instagram 'PBCyouthandchildrens' where you can see updates about Blend and the other groups we run.



KINGDOM CAFÉ

Kingdom Café is held every Thursday and Friday between 10am and 4.30pm at Pembury Baptist Church, Romford Road. We currently have an average of 100 people coming through the doors each week all enjoying home-made cakes, crumpets, toasted sandwiches and soup. There is no obligation to pay for anything, but if you do want to make a contribution it is given 100% to a local charity or cause. I am pleased to say that Kingdom Café was able to raise £8,673.44 for various local charities in 2022 which equates to a monthly

average of £722.79. We are very excited about a new kitchen refurbishment which is planned to start in September so Kingdom Café will be closed during the works but we hope to have a grand re-opening in October. Please follow Pembury Baptist Church on Facebook to see any updates.



Tracy Gregory, Hospitality Deacon

FRUIT TREE AVENUE

We are delighted to have received grant funding from Awards for All for our project to commemorate the King's Coronation with a fruit tree avenue and improvements to our wildflower meadow in Lower Green Recreation Ground. Work will start on the project in the autumn. We would also like to thank David Knight of Pippins Farm for being so generous with his time, sharing his wealth of experience with us on this project.





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THE LATE MARGARET BAITUP

For those of a certain generation and with long links to, and memories of Pembury village in a different era, my mother's name might perhaps be familiar. She passed away recently but, although brought up in Ashford and retired for some 25 years in East Grinstead, much of her life centred around Pembury.

Mum arrived in about 1959 to work as a young staff nurse at Pembury Hospital and lived in digs in the village with another young nurse almost opposite the Free Church. After refusing a ride into the village on the motorbike of the son of the former head porter at the hospital, she did eventually say yes to him and married Tony Baitup in 1960. He was to work as an assistant anaesthetist in the operating theatres for another 19 years or so before leaving the hospital to work for Seeboard on the nearby industrial estate.

Mum became a ward sister on Amelia Scott Ward, (the old male surgical ward I believe) and remained there until the late 1980s before seeing out her nursing days at the old Kent and Sussex Hospital. She retired in 1992.

I don't know exactly when my parents moved into the new Beagles Wood Road housing estate but it must have been in the mid-sixties. Another ward sister at the hospital, Katie Thorpe, also moved into Beagles Wood Road. Indeed quite a few of our neighbours worked at the hospital over the years. It was a big employer locally. I don't know how many of the families that my sisters and I grew up with in the 1970s and 1980s still have connections with Pembury but I do recall some names - the Dallimores, the Hicks, the Upstones, the Cross family, the Beards, the Dales, the Farleys and the Bardens to mention just a few.



Mum loved her job and nursed many local people on Amelia Scott Ward. She was of the generation of ward sisters that included not only Sister Thorpe but also Haynes, Bromley Sutcliffe, Walters, Chang and Nursing Officer Jempson.

Mum had a long and happy retirement in East Grinstead where she worked as a volunteer and fundraiser for the Macular Society.

Kevin Baitup





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TRADING STANDARDS PRESENTATION

On 4 July 2023 my colleague, Neil Butcher from KCC Trading Standards kindly agreed to come along to the Pembury U3A monthly meeting to give a presentation on scams, doorstep crime, cold callers, romance scams, emails to name just a few.

Scammers are criminals who trick millions of people into parting with billions of pounds every year. These criminals are devious and will try to scam individuals into handing over money or personal details, like their bank account details. They may even claim to be someone official like a Police Officer or Trading Standards Officer.

Doorstep criminals who are also known as rogue traders or cowboy builders cold call on unsuspecting households offering convincing deals to try to get you to agree to having work carried out. Neil explained that if you accept work from a doorstep criminal you will pay much more than you intended for very poor, unnecessary and sometimes dangerous work. Doorstep criminals rarely provide paperwork so they can't be traced once they've left your home. Names, addresses and business details are often false and telephone numbers don't get answered. They have no interest in doing work properly, their only concern is

getting the cash and disappearing before Trading Standards or the police can catch up with them.

Neil provided advice on what residents can do to try to prevent criminals from scamming you, for example:

- never agree for work on your house or garden by someone who knocks at your door uninvited;
- never give money to or sign any forms for people who turn up on your doorstep;
- never open the door to strangers or allow uninvited callers into your home;
- never let somebody take you to the bank to get money for them.

Reputable builders, roofers and gardeners do not cold call. If you need a trades person, Neil reminded residents to always get three quotes and never pay up front and don't pay by cash. He provided some useful leaflets for residents to take away with them.

The feedback at the end of the presentation was very positive, residents found the presentation materials extremely interesting and said it has made them think more what to look out for and what to do if put in a similar situation.

Please contact Sophie, our Community Warden if you have any concerns, questions or would like further information.

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THE OUT AND ABOUT CLUB

The 'Out and About' Club is organised and supported by St. Peter's Church and is a non-profit-making initiative. The club has been organising outings for villagers for the past 14 years and is primarily for those who do not get 'out and about' as much as they would like for all sorts of reasons. There is no membership fee and any member of the community able to navigate the steps into the coach, is welcome to sign up for details and book a place on any of the five outings a year that are organised. In the event of any trip being oversubscribed, priority is given to those who may have no other means to get out – i.e. they have some difficulty walking, or have no transport of their own, or have other needs. Therefore, places are given to those in the greatest need of this service, rather than the order in which the bookings are received.

We do our best to accommodate those with mobility or other difficulties who need a seat towards the front of the coach, and also to ensure that anyone travelling with us has a buddy for company.

If you would like to receive details of these outings together with booking forms please contact Sue Giles on 823318.

Trips this year included a horse-drawn trip on the Kennet and Avon canal, a visit



to Chichester and Littlehampton and we look forward to Christmas lunch at the Hydro Hotel in Eastbourne.

The first trip of the year to Ramsgate and Broadstairs was very successful. First stopping at Ramsgate harbour and, for some, a lunch at Europe's largest Wetherspoons, formerly the Royal Victoria Pavilion - almost on the beach and then on to Broadstairs with its wonderful beaches for an afternoon in the sun. Members enjoyed listening to some 60s music on the bandstand, whilst others explored the shops and cafés along the seafront. A great day out enjoyed by almost 50 residents of Pembury.

Pauline Hawker





Kent Community Warden Service Review Public Consultation

Have your say!

We are proposing to make savings by redesigning the Kent Community Warden Service. Find out more and tell us how this could affect you.

Consultation open from 12 July to 3 October 2023.

kent.gov.uk/communitywardenreview



The financial challenges KCC face, mean we are having to consider savings across a whole range of services.

Our wardens work with communities and partners in lots of different ways - from supporting scam victims, helping communities affected by flooding, reducing social isolation and loneliness and helping residents to navigate care and support services.

To make savings we are proposing to:

- Redesign the service, ensuring there is a core Community Warden presence across the county, with teams covering two districts.
- Retain the remit and community-based way the service currently works but cover fewer communities.
- Use data and information to identify where to place wardens for most impact.

Visit **kent.gov.uk/communitywardenreview** and have your say by 3 October 2023.

For queries or to request hard copies of the consultation material, please email **CommunityWardenReview@kent.gov.uk** or phone **03000 422688**. For any alternative formats, email **alternativeformats@kent.gov.uk** or call **03000 421553** (text relay service number **18001 03000 421553**). These numbers go to answering machines, which are monitored during office hours.





Litter pick
Saturday 30
September



Fireworks
Friday 3
November



Remembrance
Sunday
12 November



Carols on the
Green
Friday 1 December

PEMBURY IN THE PARK

The winds may have been blowing fiercely, but that did not deter Pembury from coming together and celebrating in full swing at “Pembury in the Park” on Saturday 15 July. A very big thank you to all the stall holders and villagers who joined us to make the day a success!

Despite the challenging weather conditions, local bands ‘Funk Sensation’ and ‘Move Over Dali’ took to the stage and had the audience dancing and tapping their feet in their camping chairs.

The communal spirit was bolstered by the presence of a lively bar, serving up cask ales and lagers, plus we had a touch of class with the addition of a prosecco bar which unsurprisingly, went down very well!

“Pembury in the Park” shone a spotlight on the village’s talented crafters and artisans. The vibrant market stalls, most of which had to be moved inside the pavilion to escape the gusts, displayed an assortment of handmade crafts, artwork, and unique pieces.

The success of this year’s “Pembury in the Park” is a testament to the unyielding



spirit of Pembury and the power of coming together as a community. The event not only provided an afternoon of fun and entertainment but also reinforced the bonds that make this village a truly special place to call home.

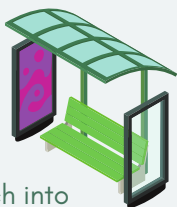
Here’s to the spirit of Pembury, to its unwavering resilience and to the anticipation of an even bigger “Pembury in the Park” next year!

Do you have any ideas on how to make Pembury in the Park even better next year? The Events Working Group would love to hear from you astra.birch@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Astra Birch

Photo supplied by David Sellman





Research into
adding seating
to bus shelters



Floral Displays

Agreed the Parish
Council's views on 32
planning applications

Resident survey and
environmental review of
Lower Green Cemetery

A SELECTION OF WHAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS BEEN DOING...



Obtained grant
funding for War
Memorial
cleaning



Pembury in the Park

Refurbished the
tennis court surface



...since the last PVN was published



Community Bunting to
celebrate the King's
Coronation

Represented the Parish
Council on Village Hall,
Pavilion & Almshouse
Committees

Submitted the final
accounts for external
audit for 2022/23



New Christmas light
display contract



Work on future
community
litter pick



Highways
Improvement
Plan



New
defibrillator
cabinet

U3A HOLIDAY TO NORTHERN SPAIN

On a dull, wet and cold Wednesday morning in May, when most people were tucked up in bed, thirty-four members of Pembury u3a set off for what turned out to be a truly memorable holiday to Northern Spain. Yes at 4.30 am (!)... we left Pembury to travel to Plymouth for a lunch time sailing to Santander. We had a smooth crossing and arrived in Santander, the following day, to brilliant sunshine and heavy showers.

We stayed in a lovely hotel in Suances which is a small town 40 minutes south-west of Santander. There were beautiful beaches, a small fishing harbour and cafés, shops and bars. Our first day took us to the Parque de la Naturaleza. A spectacular wildlife park set in what had been a former open pit iron mine. We had a fantastic day being driven around the park through narrow gorges and unusual scenery. We had the most brilliant guide who joined us on the coach for a 3-hour tour of the park, stopping off at each of the animal's area to explain how they make life as natural as possible for them. Later we went on two cable car trips across the whole park giving us an aerial view of the animals and the vast park which is 1900 acres. The park has two main purposes, the conservation of endangered species and environmental education.

The next day we went into Santander. This was not an organised trip so people were free to do what they wanted. Some took an open top bus trip; others visited the Cathedral or the Maritime Museum and others simply drank coffee or wine and ate tapas!

Sunday saw us visit the Picos Mountains, driving through stunning countryside. On arrival we took a cable car to the top of the mountain where we had breathtaking



views, snow, fabulous wildflowers and mountain sheep and to put the icing on the cake bright sunshine! In the afternoon we visited the picturesque village of Potes.

Bilbao and a visit to Guggenheim Museum beckoned – this was a truly amazing building filled with modern art and sculpture. We had a guided tour of the old town when the history and architecture of the city was explained.

At the blink of an eye, it was our last day and so after a leisurely breakfast we went to one of Spain's prettiest villages, Santillana del Mar for a couple of hours and then on to the world-renowned Altamira Stone Age Caves, with cave paintings dating back to between 15,000 to 6,000BC. An exact replica has been built for people to visit so that they can preserve the original caves from our environment.

Now it was time to pack for our homeward journey, thankfully, the Bay of Biscay was being extremely kind and was like a millpond. We arrived home the following day tired but having had a wonderful holiday.

Angela Cartwright

DAVINA MCCALL URGES LOCALS TO SUPPORT TOWN'S HOSPICE RUN

TV presenter and local resident Davina McCall is encouraging people of all ages to sign up for the iconic Hospice Run in Tunbridge Wells on Sunday 17th September. This year's Run for Hospice in the Weald promises to have something for everyone, with a new half marathon and Hospice Heroes themed Family Fun Run, along with the classic 5km and 10km routes.

Davina donned a Hospice in the Weald t-shirt to share this message to her followers on Instagram: "I want to talk to you about Hospice in the Weald, it's the most amazing charity, near where I live. When my sister died, she died at home but afterwards, when I kind of broke down, they really helped me out. They are fantastic! If you love running, this is a fantastic closed-road route. It's so beautiful and scenic. September is such a nice time of year to do it. You taking part would mean the world to this charity so sign up and take a look at what they do."

Paralympian Will Bayley is also lending his support and will be cheering on runners as they set off from Lower Common Cricket Ground. The 5k and 10k courses take runners past Spa Valley Railway Line and High Rocks, while the half-marathon follows an undulating route through Groombridge and Eridge. Younger supporters are invited to dress as their favourite hero for the new Family Fun Run which will wind through the Common and Wellington Rocks.

Relationship Fundraising Manager for Hospice in the Weald, Jesse Ansbro-Brett, said: "All funds support Hospice in the Weald, which provides free hospice care for children and their parents to adults and their families. Your valued support



means we can give more families time together when it matters most. With your help we are aiming to raise over £60,000 this year."

If running isn't for you, could you be a volunteer route guide on the day? Volunteers are a vital part of the event and will be fully briefed and teamed up with a route guide buddy.

For more details and to book your place/volunteer, please visit the Events section at hospiceintheweald.org.uk or call the friendly Fundraising Team on 01892 820533.

PEMBURY EVENING WI

It has been a while since I wrote an article for the PVN so here is an update about us. Pembury Evening WI has been going nearly 60 years now and we meet on the first Friday of the month in the Village Hall at 7.45pm. This year we have had, among others, Mary Smith telling us about 'A Schoolgirls War', Helen Kendall-Tobias giving us hints about 'packing for holiday' and Manic Ceramix got us painting tiles, bowls and plates, so all very varied. In preparation for Christmas, we are having a 'gift wrapping demonstration' in November. If you are interested in coming along, or want more information, please get in touch with me.

I also wanted to say a massive thank you to everyone who attended our Cake Sale in July. We were staggered when we found we had raised over £400. Our



next event is our Christmas Craft Fair on Saturday 2nd December in the Village Hall between 2 - 5pm. We are currently in the process of arranging the stallholders but hope to have a variety of crafts, including Christmas Crafts, Candles, Jewellery, Biscuits, Resin products, Honey, Paintings and more. Look out for announcements on our Facebook page.

Gillian Williamson, Secretary

PEMBURY U3A NEWS

Interest group leaders met for the annual group leaders' lunch on July 20th. Local caterers provided a lovely buffet, and it was a great opportunity for Interest Group leaders to get together and chat about what is happening in their groups.

Pembury u3a has a reputation for being very friendly – that was certainly my experience when I joined three and a half years ago. We have a membership of over three hundred and have around seventy widely varied interest groups. As well as groups, members can enjoy theatre outings, holidays and days or evenings out with fellow members. Our monthly meeting in the Village Hall provides a range of interesting speakers.

We are now looking forward to our next Sign-up Day on the 5th September.

If you would like to know more about what we do, you will be very welcome there, or you can email me: groups@pemburyu3a.org, or Annie Partridge: membership@pemburyu3a.org.

The u3a motto is Learn, Laugh, Live. That is certainly true of our u3a in Pembury.

Tricia Dyson, Groups coordinator.



RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL AND VISIT FROM GREG CLARK, MP

We are delighted to announce that Pembury School has recently been awarded the Silver Rights Respecting School award.

This means that we are 'rights aware'. In a virtual assessment visit, we proved that there was teaching and learning about rights (in assemblies, lessons, displays), through rights (modelling rights respecting language and attitude and involving children in decision making) and for the rights of others (campaigning and allowing children to develop as rights respecting citizens).

You can find out more about what it means to be a Silver Rights Respecting School here and more about Children's Rights at Pembury on the school website. Some highlights from the UNICEF assessor's report include:

"Children are knowledgeable and articulate about their rights and the rights of others."



"Pupils understand that... when they are older and become duty bearers they will already know the rights and can encourage others to respect them."

"There is a focus on empowering children to realise they have a voice and engage them in a wider view of the world."

One of the key campaigns that the Rights Steering Group have been involved in this year has been for universal free school meals in primary schools. In Term 3, children in Year 5 wrote to the local MP, Greg Clark, to ask him to join the campaign. Article 24 of the UNCRC outlines children's right to food and water and pupils argued that it was crucial for all pupils to work on a full stomach.

In response, Mr Clark visited the school on Friday 7th July to talk about this campaign. He was given a tour of the school by members of the Steering Group, who spoke to him about classroom charters and OPAL play. Then, he met Year 5 to explain the current approach to free school meals in primary schools. Mr Clark gave pupils lots to think about and has encouraged them to continue thinking of ways to support families who do not currently qualify for free school meals, but who are concerned about money during the 'cost of living crisis'.

RECIPES

Chinesey Chicken

I do this when I don't want to cook on a Saturday evening as it tastes like a takeaway! Serve it with either rice or noodles and, if you're feeling extravagant, some asparagus.

- 4 skinless chicken breasts
- 1 large orange
- 2 tbsps dark soy sauce



Slash the chicken portions into slices and lay them in an ovenproof dish; halve the orange and mix the juice of one half with the soy sauce and pour over; slice the other half and lay these on top of the chicken; cover and leave to marinade for as long as possible - preferably several hours; preheat the oven to 180°C (gas mark 4); turn the chicken over and bake uncovered for 20 minutes; turn the chicken over again and cook for another 15 minutes or until cooked through.

Caramelised Upside-Down Pear Pie

I'm a great believer in quickly made meals and, if you use ready-made pastry this one looks really special as though you'd spent hours preparing it!

- 5-6 ripe pears
- 6oz caster sugar
- Pack shortcrust pastry
- 4oz butter



Peel, core and quarter the pears and toss them in some of the sugar; melt the butter in a heavy ovenproof pan; add the rest of the sugar. When it changes colour remove from the heat and arrange the pear quarters in it. Put back onto the heat and carry on cooking (uncovered) for about 20 minutes or until the pears are completely caramelized; leave the fruit cooling in the pan and preheat the oven to 200°C (gas mark 6); roll out the pastry to just a little bit larger than the pan, lay it over the pears and carefully tuck in the edges; bake for 15 minutes then turn the oven down to 180°C (gas mark 4) and bake for a further 15 minutes or until the pastry is golden. Let the pie cool for a few minutes, run a knife around the edges to loosen it then, using oven gloves, put a large plate over the top and invert the two together. If any bits of fruit stick to the pan remove them with a spatula and replace them.

I like this best served warm with ice cream!!

PEMBURY TENNIS COURTS

Tennis is one of the most popular sports in the world but here in Pembury, tennis had virtually died out with just a few people using the courts occasionally.

This all changed when JS Tennis Coaching came along. With the help and financial support of Pembury Parish Council, tennis is now thriving in our village once again. More and more players are using the courts and it's now a joy to see them being used so frequently. 2023 saw the Parish Council pay for a surface refurbishment and some new posts and nets, just look at them now!

Coaching is seen at the courts virtually every day of the week with fun fitness classes called Cardio Tennis, individual lessons and group coaching too. If you are interested in taking up tennis, trying to get fit or trying to get better at this amazing game drop by and have a word.

JS Tennis Coaching have also now introduced a Mixed Doubles League, Men's Doubles Evening, Ladies Doubles Evening and a Singles Rolling League. These are open to everyone and we always say, "the more new faces down on the courts, the better".

All classes are friendly and welcoming and the people within them are the same. We all laugh and have fun whilst playing one of the best games there is.



One court is always available for public use. There is no charge and you don't need a key - just bring your own racquets and balls. Come and take a look.

Thanks to Jonny Swain for encouraging residents to once again use the tennis courts. This is what he had to say:

"The old surface was just that, old. You couldn't make out the lines very clearly, which led to very interesting calls, but the biggest difference is the surface itself. Previously there was grit and loose stones all over the top, creating a slippery surface and a dangerous one at that. Uneven bounces were common and players were more cautious as a fall on the gravel means bad injuries.

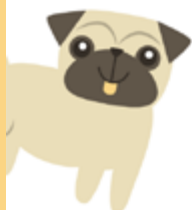
But we have all been delighted with the new surface, it's grip and cleanliness and we have to mention the superb colour, we all feel like professionals."



PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

PAWS OF PEMBURY DOG SHOW

Saturday 30th September, 2pm - 4pm
At Pembury Primary School



Show off your pups during this fun family-friendly day.
With categories including musical sits, dog the judges
would most like to take home & young handler.

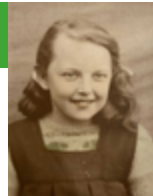
Registration opens at 2pm

£3 entry fee per class

Plus: Refreshments, Cake
Stall, Agility Course, Raffle
More!



GUIDING GOING BACK IN TIME...



I have noticed in the Pembury Village News that Guiding and Scouting play prominent roles in your features and as such I am writing to ask how many ladies in Pembury can still remember the 1st Pembury Guides between 1952 to 1955 (2nd Pembury Guides incidentally was solely girls from Kent College School).

Our Guide Captain was Miss Rose Brown, a very dedicated lady who ran the Company quite unaided for many years

I would be delighted to hear of comparisons with the present day as far as earning badges is concerned. For instance, some of the 2nd Class Badge tasks included displaying the ability to use a telephone, darn a sock, make a bed and even make a hot drink, all carried out at Miss Brown's house. Such simple things but in 1952 technology as we know it was very much in its infancy and only Miss Brown had a telephone! The highest award in Guiding was The Kings/Queens Badge and during my time as a Guide, two members of our Company gained this badge, Sylvia and Pauline (their surnames elude me I'm afraid).

I remember fondly our Guide camp adventures. Travelling to "Foxlease" in the New Forest and Offham, near Lewes in Sussex in the back of a lorry perched on apple boxes! Our tents were prepared and a latrine already dug but the remainder of our equipment had to be brought rattling

alongside us in the back of the lorry. Our cooking facility was a circle of bricks around an open fire on which we placed our pans (known as Dixies I recall) which was not very productive on a wet day. There were no convenience foods back in the 1950s so most of our meals were distinctly unappetising but the hungrier we were the less fussy we became! Our bedding was just a groundsheet and a blanket folded in half and stitched up the edge. We were cold and uncomfortable but I don't recall that we minded at all, it was all very exciting and there were lots of laughs. We sang songs such as "White Coral Bells" and "The Guide Marching Song" around the campfire, although there was no musical accompaniment.

I guess there is no comparison of yesteryear with today's Guiding experience but I loved my time in the Guides and I hope our present-day Guides have as much fun as we did back in the 1950s. I have enclosed a photograph of myself at twelve when I was a proud Girl Guide.

Huge thanks to my friend Maureen Waterman who always posts me a copy of the PVN so that I can keep abreast of what's going on in Pembury. If anyone wants to get in touch, please email lindseybennetts@hotmail.com

Rosemary Foord (Nee Taverner)

Pembury Library activities:

Hi Kent Hearing Clinic every 3rd Friday of the month 10.30am – 12pm

18 Aug, 15 Sept, 20 Oct, 17 Nov, 15 Dec

Natty Knitters and chat Tuesdays 2.30-4.00pm

Term Time Only

Baby Rhyme Time Tuesdays 10.30 – 11.00am

Crafty Fun for Kids Friday 10.15 – 11.15am

We also have several monthly book clubs for which people can enquire at the library.

LOWER GREEN CEMETERY

To improve biodiversity, the Groundsmen have only cut the edges of the cemetery at Lower Green and this has gained full approval of the Sussex Lund, which is a collaboration between the High Weald AONB Partnership and Lund Trust. The management of the cemetery is a

work in progress and we acknowledge that there needs to be a balance between 'wild' and 'neat'. We hope to work more closely with the Sussex Lund in the future.

Photo supplied by David Sellman



PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

One sunny Sunday in July our Bowls Club was a hive of activity, with 16 members taking part in our 'Fantastic Fours' competition. Between matches we managed to fit in a very sociable lunch at a local pub. The winners shown below from left to right were Margaret Fagg, John Saunders and Wendy Bidder, with Malcolm Rhodes (Club Captain) presenting the cup to Tony Partridge.



As I write, the summer season is well underway, with internal competitions interspersed with Friendly matches at weekends against other local clubs, as well as Tunbridge Wells League matches. Some of the newer members are providing stiff competition, and there are bound to be new names on the Honours Board by the end of the season!

The Juniors' coaching sessions on Saturday mornings continue to be well attended, and a couple of promising 13-year olds are now playing in competitions.

On the social side we enjoyed a BBQ in August and are hosting our annual Ladies Fun Day which is very popular with local teams. It's been a busy but very enjoyable summer season!

Wendy Bidder, Hon Secretary and Ladies Captain

COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP

As Pembury village was adorned with decorations of flags, knitting and floral arrangements for the Coronation, the Community Coffee shop volunteers brought out all their festive tableware, flags and cakes to grace the pavilion for National Volunteers' day. £250 was raised during the morning for the Prince's Trust, so well done all of Pembury who supported this very worthy cause.

Summer seems to be a bit hit and miss this year but, no matter what the weather, you may be assured of a good cup of coffee, tea or drinking chocolate, a variety of cakes including gluten and dairy free and savouries as well as a friendly welcome. Dogs may bring their humans inside on wet days but must keep them at the table provided in the corridor in case they walk muddy feet everywhere but on dry and warmer days there are tables and chairs outside and always a supply of doggy treats and a fresh bowl of water.

It's not all hard work for all who help run the Community Coffee Shop and here we are in the garden of a local pub where



we gathered for a booze up, um sorry.... we gathered to discuss where the funds raised this year can best be used!

With the regular patronage of our lovely Pembury customers who have joined us on Monday mornings to enjoy the cakes and good company, we have raised a goodly sum and I shall be letting you all know which charities we shall be helping in the next Village News. Please feel free to come along to the coffee mornings and if there are any local charities that you think may benefit from an injection of a little capital, do let us know. Better still, come and join us and be a part of the fun. Baking ability is not mandatory but you will be assured of a friendly reception either side of the counter!

Meg Milne

THE PEMBURY SOCIETY

The Pembury Society welcomes members and all residents to come to the half yearly meeting at 7.45pm on Wednesday 11th October, in St Peter's Upper Church, when we hope to be having a local speaker, but yet to be confirmed, together with our AGM.

Further details will be announced, and watch our website - <https://www.pemburysociety.org> where you can find so much more about our village, its history, planning applications we have commented on, pictures, maps etc.

There are still copies of our book "Bygone Pembury" available at Barnes Kingsnorth and the Black Horse, do call in and have a look at the sample copy.

David Hanes - Chairman



Rangers
Pembury

**Girls have fun,
hangout, learn
more and give back**
for ages 14 to 18



girlguiding

Rangers is your space, where you get together with other girls, and just be you. It's regular meetings with your local group, trips at home and abroad, making a difference to the things you care about. It's the freedom to be more independent, and to do what makes you happy.



We are re-opening our Pembury Ranger unit at the start of the new school term, with plenty of spaces for new girls to join.

If you're 14-18yrs old and fancy coming along, please get in touch with Beci



Girlguiding
Pembury

**We help all girls know they
can do anything**

Volunteer with Girlguiding

It's totally flexible and there's no commitment too small. You can volunteer in a group or use your skills behind the scenes, you don't need any guiding experience and everyone is welcome!

Find out more
girlguiding.org.uk/volunteer



Girlguiding contact information:

Name: Beci Guarino

Email: guidingwithfluffy@hotmail.com



PEMBURY BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS

Beavers:

Can't believe the summer term is already over! The Beavers made the most of the dry and light evenings by taking part in activities outside. These include; nature trails, den building and making dough twists around the campfire. The Beavers also completed their cyclist badge and enjoyed a trip out to Dinogolf! We have had a fun-filled term but it wouldn't have been possible without all our fantastic leaders who give up their time to make it fun while learning skills for life. Lastly, we said goodbye to some Beavers who will be starting their journey into Cubs from September. We hope everyone had a restful summer and are ready to start a new term of Beavers in September.



Cubs:

This summer term the Cubs have been busy outdoors; they have enjoyed activities out on the rec including completing the athletics badge, playing rounders, making dough twists round the campfire and boating on Dunorlan Lake just to mention a few things. Our summer term finished off with joining up with the Scouts section for a summer camp at our district site at Adamswell near Langton Green. For many Cubs it was their first experience under canvas! Despite arriving in the rain on the Friday evening the weather improved over the weekend and although rather windy stayed mainly dry. On the Saturday the Cubs hiked to Groombridge where they had a picnic before catching a train on the Spa Valley Railway to High Rocks, from there they again hiked back to the campsite. On Saturday evening the Cubs and Scouts came together for a traditional campfire and sing-song. On the Sunday the Cubs enjoyed various activities such as tomahawk throwing, assault course and craft activities before packing up camp to go home. A terrific weekend was had by all!



Scouts:

The Scouts have made good use of the warm and dry weather this term, spending much of it outside. They made campfire doughnuts (super messy), played games on the rec, (some of them excellently organised by the patrol leaders), rounded off with a large water fight at the end of term. Some of the Scouts took part in a camp at Bewl, having a go at the various watersports on offer, which was fantastic. The summer camp with the Cubs was excellent fun. The Scouts are responsible for their own cooking, which is done over open fires. On one of those days, we hiked to Groombridge, took the Spa Valley steam train to Tunbridge Wells to buy ingredients for meals they had planned, got the train back and cooked it all themselves. The meals were great and everyone enjoyed their weekend.



BUSY SUMMER OF CRICKET!

At the time of writing cricket has been in full swing at Chalket Lane with busy league schedules for the 1st XI and 2nd XI, plus our Sunday Friendly XI who have enjoyed themselves as always!

The junior season has just drawn to a close and it's certainly been a busy one, but hugely successful and well done to all those involved.



Our u11s (Steelers) lost just the once, winning their league comfortably. Similarly, our u13s (Blue Caps) also lost just the one game and also won their league.



The u15s (Colts) had mixed fortunes throughout the summer but finished their league as runners up which was a decent achievement in light of the fact that in effect, they were playing up a year.

Prior to the start of the school summer holidays we had our end of season junior BBQ and awards evening. Despite one failed attempt due to the weather, we eventually got the successful event underway, and an enjoyable time was had by all.



Congratulations to all of the award winners.

In addition to the individual trophies, we were delighted to award our honorary award in memory of our dearly missed President Cliff Smith, with the 'Cliff Smith Junior Player of the Year Award'. We had a very worthy winner of this, and also for the 'Dave Kemp Trophy'.

BUSY SUMMER OF CRICKET! continued

2023 saw our sixth year of the ECB Initiative "All Stars" at PCC. All Stars provides a fantastic experience for all children aged 5-8 years old. The programme is designed to introduce children to the sport, learning fundamental movement skills, including catching, throwing and batting. We look forward to running this again in 2024.

We have very ambitious plans for the Cricket Club and are keen to forge further links with local businesses to help us continue to evolve. Details of the various sponsorship packages we offer can be found via our website.

Hopefully the weather will hold for the remainder of the season before we start it all again indoors in January.

If you are interested in joining or getting involved with PCC, then please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Richard Dawes (Club Captain – Pembury CC)
pembury.play-cricket.com



facebook.com/PemburyCricketClub



twitter.com/pemburycc



instagram.com/pemburycricketclub

MARGERY POLLEY FINAL PART OF THE STORY...

Margery would not alter from her beliefs and she was holding a protestant meeting at her house with about fifteen men and women singing the Lord is my Shepherd when the door burst open and five men burst in and, in the Queen's name arrested her and threw her into prison. In the same prison at Rochester was Christopher Waid who held the same beliefs.

In July 1555, they were both sentenced to burning at the stake, he to the stake at Dartford and she to her burning

outside the Chequers pub in Tonbridge High Street - it cost 25s 2d for both burnings. However, they won the right for everyone to worship as they wished.

The flower trough on the village green is to commemorate Margery Polley. It is kept beautifully by volunteers in the village.

Hugh Boorman

Photo supplied by David Sellman



DEFIBRILLATORS IN PEMBURY

There are six defibrillators in Pembury. If you are ever in the position of having to use one, you must dial 999 and the ambulance operator will give you the code for the specific defibrillator cabinet. You must then put in the code to open it. The machine will give clear oral instructions – all you have to do is follow them. Don't worry you CANNOT give someone a shock if that is not what is needed.

Step 1:

Turn the defibrillator on by pressing the green button and follow its instructions.

Step 2:

Peel off the sticky pads and attach them to the patient's skin, one on each side of the chest, as shown in the picture on the defibrillator.

Step 3:

Once the pads have been attached, stop CPR and don't touch the patient. The defibrillator will then analyse the patient's heart rhythm.

Step 4:

The defibrillator will assess whether a shock is needed and if so, it will tell you to press the shock button. Do not touch the patient while they are being shocked.

Step 5:

The defibrillator will tell you when the shock has been delivered and whether you need to continue CPR.

Step 6:

Continue with chest compressions and rescue breaths until the patient shows signs of life, the defibrillator tells you to stop so it can analyse the heartbeat again or professional medical help arrives.

The defibs in Pembury are located at:

1. The wall outside the chemist (public access)
2. The primary school (when open)
3. The doctors' surgery (when open)
4. Tesco (at customer services)
5. The Pavilion (Recreation Ground) (public access)
6. King William IV public house (public access)
7. Pembury Baptist Church (public access)

Make yourself familiar with these locations – none of us know when we might need one.



CRIME REPORT

I could not believe my eyes when I received the Pembury crime figures for April, May and June this year. There is normally a reduction after the winter months which were a total of 96 but they have shot up to 128. The biggest increase was that of violent crime which increased to 80 from the previous quarter which was 45 – a figure which I find alarming.

Burglary from business premises went up from 1 to 2 although burglary from residential premises went down from six to one. Theft offences, excluding vehicle offences went up from 14 to 15 and theft of a motor vehicle was one compared to none in the last quarter.

Sadly, criminal damage went up from 12 to 14 which again I find quite worrying and tells us something about the person committing these crimes. Other offences went up one, from 13 to 14. When I look at the crime figures for those of the other villages quoted, other than Sherwood and Park, they have all reduced.

Unfortunately, we will probably never see any of these offenders caught and punished but it is something we must not allow to happen. Whilst I don't like to criticise the police with the very difficult job they have to do, we do not see enough of their presence in the village and who do you contact if you need to report something. Obviously in an emergency, it's 999 but either ring 101 for non-emergencies or report it online.

I know I have said this before but somehow we must work together to get these figures down. Please, please be careful out there, take every precaution possible and make life hard for the perpetual offenders.

Hugh Boorman

Crime type by reported month (PEMBURY WARD)	Violent Crimes	Burglary-Business and Community	Residential Burglary-Home	Residential Burglary-Unconnected Build	Theft Offences (exc Vehicle Offences)	Theft of a motor vehicle	Criminal Damage	Other Offences	Total
Apr-23	20	1	0	2	4	0	4	4	35
May-23	27	0	0	0	7	1	6	4	45
Jun-23	33	1	1	0	4	0	4	5	48
Apr to Jun 2023 total	80	2	1	2	15	1	14	13	128

Total recorded crime						
	Pembury	Capel	Goudhurst and Lambhurst	Branchley and Horsmonden	Sherwood	Park
Apr-23	35	7	11	7	75	59
May-23	45	2	11	11	73	98
Jun-23	48	10	16	10	87	61
Apr to Jun 2023 total	128	19	38	28	235	218

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

360 DANCE	Sadie Van Der Spuy. Tel: 07734 053509. www.360dance.co.uk
AGE CONCERN	Mrs Sandra Springett. Tel: 522591
ASPENS (FORMERLY PEPENBURY)	CEO – Robert Shanahan. Tel: 822168
CATHOLIC CHURCH	Fr. Ed Tomlinson. Tel: 825009
CONSERVATIVE PARTY	Sue Nuttall. Tel: 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	Beci Hudson - guidingwithfluffy@hotmail.com
HOSPICE IN THE WEALD	Maidstone Road. Tel: 820500
KENT COLLEGE	Headmistress: Ms K.Handford. 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
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	Janet Ditchett. Tel: 822586
OUT AND ABOUT CLUB	Sue Giles. Tel: 823318
PEMBURY ATHLETIC (YOUTH) FOOTBALL	www.pemburyyouthfc.co.uk
PEMBURY BAPTIST CHURCH	Church Office. Tel: 825590
PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB	Secretary: Wendy Bidder Tel: 823144
PEMBURY BRIDGE CLUB	Matthew Rosenz - 07798 657233
PEMBURY CHILDMINDER'S CO-ORDINATOR	Sam Knight 07793066471 mrssam.knight@btinternet.com
PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB	Secretary/Treasurer: Andy Weaver, 51 Heskett Park Tel: 824362
PEMBURY DAY CENTRE	c/o PBC Office. Tel: 825590
PEMBURY FITNESS	www.pemburyfitness.co.uk . Tel: 07876 787869
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. Email: gillianmayrick@aol.com
PEMBURY PLAYERS	Maggie Weaver, Chair of Pembury Players. Tel: 824362
PEMBURY SCHOOL	School Office. Tel: 822259
PEMBURY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION	Chair: Caroline Hurmson. email: psa@pembury.kent.sch.uk
PEMBURY SCHOOL HOUSE NURSERY	Mrs Kelly Marsh - Manager of Pembury School House Nursery. Tel: 825580
PEMBURY SOCIETY	Chairman: David Hanes. Tel: 823174
PEMBURY U3A	Annie Partridge. Email: membership@pemburyu3a.org
PEMBURY UPPER AND OLD CHURCH	Vicar: Rev. Richard Worssam / Church Administrator – 711126
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	825009
ST. ANSELM HALL ENQUIRIES	Trudy Donachie. Tel: 07748771779. Email: trudy.donachie@sky.com
ST. PETER'S MOTHERS' UNION	Secretary: Tina Walters. Tel: 822545 (after 4pm)
THE ALLIANCE	3 Stanam Road, TN2 4LD
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TREE WARDEN	Hugh Boorman Tel: 823068 and Martin Barrett Tel: 07403119207
TUNBRIDGE WELLS ACCESS GROUP	Michael Coggles. Tel: 822705
TUNBRIDGE WELLS & DISTRICT VICTIM SUPPORT SCHEME.	Tel: 513969
VILLAGE HALL	Manager (bookings): Tel: 07983 228181
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE	Evening: Mrs Gillian Williamson. Tel: 822 577 Email: pewisecretary@gmail.com Web: pemburyeveningwi.wordpress.com

PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND MEMBERSHIPS

Finance & HR Committee

Cllr N Stratton (C)

Cllr K Brooks (VC)

Cllr S Harris

Open Spaces Committee

Cllr C Snow (VC)

Cllr M Barrett

Cllr S Harris

Cllr D Reilly

Cllr M Weaver

Cllr J Webster

Planning & Highways Committee

Cllr G Hall (C)

Cllr M Barrett

Cllr V Gautam

Cllr D Reilly

Cllr J Webster

Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group

Cllr N Stratton (C)

Cllr G Hall

Cllr D Reilly

Climate Change & Environmental Action Working Group

Cllr J Webster (C)

Cllr M Barrett

Cllr G Hall

Cllr D Reilly

Cllr N Stratton

P Mason

Community Events Working Group

Cllr A Birch (C)

Cllr S Harris

Cllr N Stratton

Cllr M Weaver

C Boffey

Pembury Village News Advisory Group

Cllr K Brooks (C)

Cllr D Reilly

Cllr C Snow

Cllr M Weaver

Cllr J Webster

Please contact Councillors on the email address shown on the next page or the office on clerk@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk or telephone 01892 823193 if you have any questions.

COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the winter issue is 1 November 2023. Please send anything in by this date to deputy@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Consideration will be given to all articles received and published if space allows.



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