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VILLAGE NEWS

Summer 2024

Issue 198

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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.

NATURE NOTES

Well finally some sort of spring-like weather has arrived. Even if the rain seems to be continuing for ever. It's an interesting point to note that if you walk on many of the paths in any of the local woodland, especially where there is some sort of slope you can see the tree roots preventing a lot of erosion by holding the soil/mud in place. This is actually quite a vital benefit of woodland, and negative erosive effects can be seen on a large scale in Africa and America where woodland or forest has been cleared.



The spring bird visitors have been turning up in encouraging numbers in Snipe and Bassett Wood and Stonecourt Old Orchard. I'm pleased to see increased numbers of Blackcaps and Whitethroats – varieties of migrant warbler, with slightly rarer Garden and Wood Warbler making a much appreciated appearance. It's quite incredible to see the continued rewilding of much of the area and how quickly it can transform back to how nature intended. All local birds are clearly busy nesting at the moment, please take care whilst out if you do come across a nest.



There is also more deer activity around many of the footpaths. One of the advantages of the heavy mud everywhere is that it shows the cloven hoof prints of the local Roe Deer up very well, and there clearly is a lot of activity, mostly nocturnal but I have spied a couple of hinds peering at me through the trees in the last couple of weeks.

The wet spring has slowed down the butterfly hatches with only the odd peacock, holly blue, red admiral and brimstone noted so far.

This brings me on to Big Green Week, which takes place nationally 8th – 16th June. We have managed to secure a speaker on Climate change from Sussex University who we hope will be speaking at the Recreation Ground Pavilion – further details to follow. Hopefully I will be able to conduct a guided bird and wildlife tour through local woods, together with a staff member from the High Weald Trust during that week. Again, further details to follow, although by the time you read this full information will be on the Parish Council website and social media. The main feature is for individuals to try and do something themselves to help towards increasing habitat and improving biodiversity through their own actions. Please let us know what you do.

Jon Webster

CHAIR'S REPORT

Welcome to the Summer edition of Pembury Village News. I hope you are all enjoying the wonderful Spring flowers and have had an opportunity to walk on some of our fabulous footpaths and admire the bluebells.

We have two events coming up – the next Litter Pick on the 15th of June from 10.30am, and Pembury in the Park on the 6th July from 3pm -7pm. We are hoping that the wind stays away this year, and that it will be better than ever! We look forward to seeing you there, we will have a Parish Council marquee if you want to come and ask us any questions – or sign up to be a Parish Councillor! It is an amazingly rewarding role, and not as dull as you might think! We welcome applications from everyone, as the best Parish Council is a diverse one with

lots of opinions to consider....

Although we are heading into longer days with more sunlight (hopefully!) and more Vitamin D which can only be a good thing, remember if you are feeling low and alone there are phone lines and online support if you need it. Samaritans are available 24 hours a day on 116 123, or for children and young people the website koothplc.com is a valuable tool.

I hope you all have a wonderful and sunny Summer, and to see lots of you at Pembury in the Park!

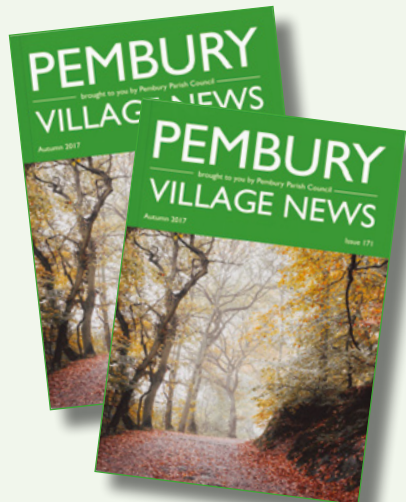
Kind regards
Katy



COPY DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

Deadline for the winter issue is 1 August 2024. Please send anything in by this date to pvn@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

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



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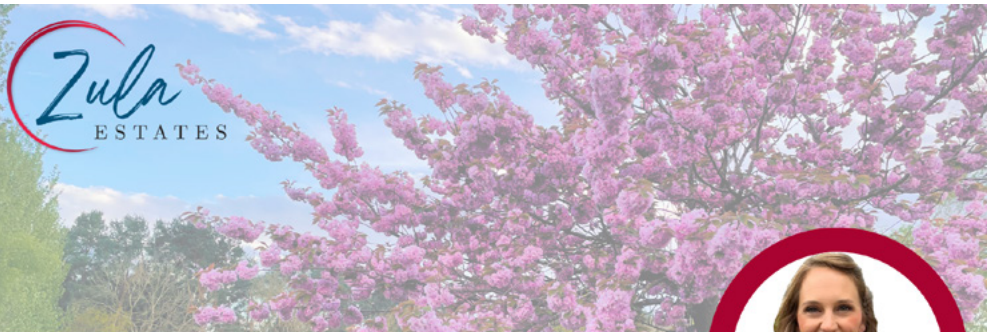


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LITTER PICK

We had our first Litter Pick of the year on the 23rd of March, and were very lucky to not only have a great turn out, but dry if not blustery weather! We met at the Village Green at 10.30 to pick up rubbish bags, litter pickers and hi-vis vests kindly supplied by We Waste. Then, thanks to an organised man with a clipboard (or Jon as we call him...) volunteers were despatched to all 4 corners of the village.

The amount of litter collected was sadly, but not surprisingly astonishing. As you can see from the picture we managed to collect a Tesco trolley, a garden bucket, and about 40 bags of rubbish. After returning with their collections, the volunteers were treated to a fabulous burger, fruit and refreshments by the Rapid Relief Team.

We are very grateful to all the volunteers who litter picked, and who themselves were also thanked by members of

the public that saw them doing it – so hopefully more volunteers next time....

The next two litter picks are both at 10.30 and on Saturday 15th June to coincide with Big Green week running from 8th – 16th June, and Saturday 28th September. We have requested more hi-vis vests, and children's litter pickers as there seemed a need.... We aim to also have collection points at the Baptist Church and Tesco, so those that volunteer to do the bottom end of the village and down by the Hospital area don't have to come all the way to the green to collect! These will also be drop off points for rubbish, but the burgers and refreshments will still be on the green.....

A huge thank you to We Waste for supplying all the equipment and more importantly taking the rubbish away, and to the Rapid Relief Team for their fantastic catering.





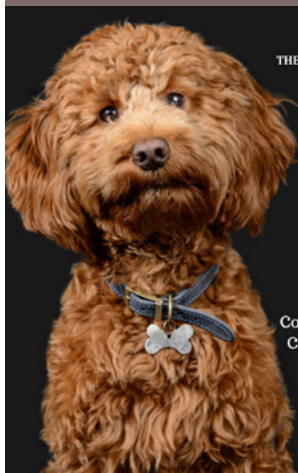
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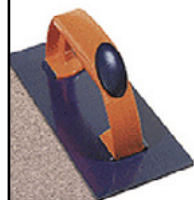


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GUIDES, BROWNIES AND RAINBOWS

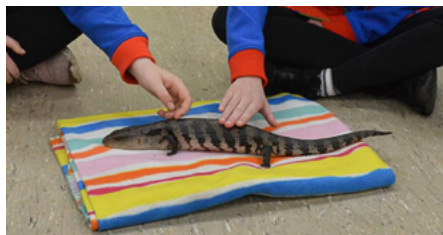
It's been a busy few months since Christmas, and as the better weather approaches all sections are planning to get outside as much as possible. We are lucky to have access to the woods and the recreation ground.

The Rainbows have been busy this term celebrating World Book Day and Mothering Sunday. They also had an amazing Easter celebration – decorating eggs and an egg hunt went down very well.



Both Brownie units went away to a local(ish) property at Swanley, owned by four Kent Guiding counties. They were lucky with the weather, allowing them to explore the outside area and take advantage of the obstacle course and zip-line. Monday Brownies had an amazing visit from Kent Air Ambulance, with an emergency response vehicle. The Brownies asked lots of questions and were able to try out some of the equipment. Wednesday Brownies celebrated Chinese New Year and made some impressive dragon sculptures. They also tried new foods from around the world, where our World Centres are based – Mexico, India, Switzerland, Africa and the UK.

The Guides joined Monday Brownies at their weekend away and celebrated Thinking Day. They had a visit from 'Amazing Animal World' where they encountered snakes, toads and chinchillas. They have had some lovely evenings involving food, and they have also looked at how we communicate. 'Errr, erm and ya' know' were banned!



Our Ranger unit may still be small, but they are very welcoming. They are currently looking at wellbeing and self-care and are planning some adventures for after the exam season. They have spaces for any girls aged 14 – 18 who may want to join them.

We had a positive response to our plea for new volunteers for our Rainbow group – thank you to the people who have offered their help. Girlguiding has many roles available to anyone who is interested in helping. Please register your interest online at

<https://www.girlguiding.org.uk/get-involved/become-a-volunteer/>

Moira Allan
Pembury District Commissioner

SCOUTING

This year the weather was kind to us and we were able to join hundreds of other Scouting young People and adult volunteers across the Tunbridge Wells District to celebrate St George's Day at our District campsite at Adamswell near Langton. Transport was provided by the Spa Valley Steam Railway and loads of fun was had by all on activities ranging from archery to zorbing! We renewed our Scouting Promise together, which is an important event in our Scouting calendar, recognised by our founder Baden Powell. Thanks as always to our volunteer leaders for giving up so much of their time to provide Scouting in Pembury – 'Alf' Alfieri (Group Scout Leader).

Beavers section

The Beavers celebrated Chinese New Year & pancake day, then learned about the solar system with some star gazing to complete our Space Badge. It turns out that Tim Peake is not only an astronaut but also our Scouting ambassador too! The Kent owl academy came to visit with 5 species of owls, we learned some amazing facts and watched them fly over our heads! To earn the Health & Fitness Badge, we learned how to keep our bodies healthy. The Kent Police came by to show us their vehicles and the equipment they use and explained what the police do to keep us safe. We finished the term with a sleepover, had a campfire and sing song, fish & chip supper and an Easter egg hunt in the morning.



Cubs section

The Cubs also enjoyed a visit from the Kent Police, had fun with an Easter egg hunt, celebrated Chinese New Year, made pancakes using tin cans and tealights and learned about different forms of communication whilst completing the Communicator Badge. We also presented one of our Cubs with his Chief Scout Silver Award, a great achievement! We are looking forward to spending more time outdoors in the months ahead and at our Cub camp in June.

SCOUTING

Scouts section

The Scouts covered quite a range of activities this term, with climbing, abseiling and bouldering at Lower Grange Farm, making (very edible) scones and butter, cooking bacon and heating water over open fires to make sandwiches and hot chocolate and spending two weeks making excellent and amusing stop motion movies with Lego figures and plasticine. We rounded the term off with a visit to the Tunbridge Wells Royals Indoor Bowls club, where some patient members taught us the skilful art of bowling a larger ball as close as possible to a smaller ball (there may have been more to it than that), which was great fun and much harder than it looks.



Explorers section

A local Paramedic visited to teach our youngsters basic first aid. We took part in the village litter pick, helped a fantastic charity at the Military Road Run collect donations of over £200 for Combat stress and cooked some pancakes al fresco!



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BAPTIST CHURCH

The members of Pembury Baptist Church have been growing in their concern about the well-being of the natural world and have made some steps to become more environmentally friendly. So far we've done things like getting our Messy Church children to build bug hotels, and installing bird boxes, bike racks and water butts on site! We also make more effort with our recycling now, taking all used soft plastics up to Tesco, for example. All this and more means we are on our way to achieving an 'Eco Church' Silver Award.

We're a busy church open every day for many community activities in addition to our Sunday services – meaning a big utilities bill. We now use 100% verified renewable electricity and in March 2024 were able to install solar panels on the church office and hall. This will not only cut costs but also reduce our carbon footprint significantly.

For us, this is all part of our belief that caring for the planet is essentially about loving our neighbour – not just those in our local area but across the whole

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Pastor Dan Foster





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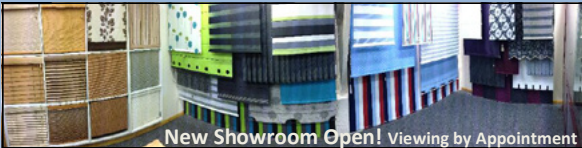
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TWITTEN SIGNS

Why put up these signs?

Partly because of its evolution as the coming together of five former hamlets the village of Pembury is particularly well provided with twittens, cut-throughs and foot-paths (in other parts of England referred to 'ginnels' or 'snickets'). We have a total of 26, all shown on the Pembury village map available for £2 from the parish offices.

But not everyone in the village is fully aware of them or know where they lead to. Any measures which enable people to leave the car keys at home and walk from one part of the village to another is good for the environment and good for their health, and that is the purpose of the signage.

We hope people will enjoy discovering them and making use of them.

On Saturday 7th September, Paul Mason will lead a one-hour walk around the twittens for anyone in the village who'd like to get to know them better. Assemble at 10am by the pedestrian crossing at the beginning of the footpath leading to Belfield Road (no. 13 on the Pembury village map).



We like to say a big thank you to Hugh and his group of fabulous volunteers who work very hard around the village to keep the twittens and pathways clear.

They are one of the (many) unsung heroes of our village.

If there is an area in the village you would like them to visit, please email office@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Thank you!



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PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

Open Day

About 40 visitors braved the cold weather to have a go at bowls, mostly first-timers, on our Open Day in April. A warm welcome was assured with plenty of home made cakes and hot drinks. It was heartwarming to see several families with very keen youngsters, and we hope that they will join in the Saturday morning coaching sessions organised.



You may have noticed our new club shirts, royal blue and gold, replacing the plain white shirts previously worn for many years. The club is modernising!

Our club members are busy with internal competitions throughout the summer, and some are playing in the Tunbridge Wells Mixed and Ladies' Leagues. Weekends are taken up with Friendly matches against other local villages. Monday nights have become a popular fixture with several teams playing against each other, followed by a "50 Up" draw and often a glass or two of wine!

We are looking forward to another successful year for our club!

Wendy Bidder
Hon Secretary, Ladies Captain
Pembury Bowls Club

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The Royal Naval Association has over 250 branches throughout the UK and abroad with over 11,000 members, and are there to offer welfare support and guidance in times of need for current and former Royal Navy personnel.

They work closely with partner charities such as The Royal Navy & Royal Marines Charity, Age UK and The Samaritans to support all members of the community. Membership is free, and our local branch meet at the Masonic Hall in Paddock Wood, usually the second Monday of the month at 20.00.

For more details contact Martyn on 07580 941858.



**ROYAL NAVAL
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Written by H.E. Hubler

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A Call to Action: Art in times of Climate Crisis

Following the success of previous years, Tunbridge Wells Friends of the Earth are excited to announce their next art exhibition this Autumn. Coming to Trinity Theatre Tunbridge Wells from 16th-30th September, we are now accepting submissions on the theme 'A Call to Action: Art in times of Climate Crisis'.

We encourage submissions from individuals across the community of all ages, experiences, and backgrounds - in any medium of your choice. Previously we've had poetry, photographs, paintings, sculptures, tiled works, collage - however you express your creativity, we would love to hear from you. Submissions are open until the end of August.



For the exhibition, we'd like to share how you respond to the Climate Emergency in an artistic way; how art can help us to think and reflect on our lives, their impact, and the effects of society as a whole. We're inviting you to respond freely through your inner creativity and connect with how the world is today and maybe in the future.



If you feel inspired to create new work or have got work that already fits within the theme, please do submit your creations to us via email. We hope that you can reflect on the environmental impact we are having on the planet, and what within the environment inspires you to act - focusing on this in anything you create.

Further to this, everyone is warmly invited to join us between 16th and 30th September at Trinity Theatre to view the exhibition, which will be free to attend. We will also shortly be announcing a series of workshops to run in line with the exhibition, where you can get creative to produce your own works of art.

To submit your work or find out more please visit our website www.tunwellsfoe.co.uk or email us: tunwellsfoe@gmail.com.



CRICKET UNDERWAY!

The season has just got underway as I type as we look forward to another cricketing summer at Pembury CC.



Once again we have two senior sides entered into the Kent County Village League, and have a full fixture list of friendlies on a Sunday and a calendar of social events. We are always looking for new players and members of all ages and abilities, if you are interested then please get in touch.

We continue to have a thriving junior section with regular coaching and hardball teams at u11, u13 & u15 levels.

2024 also sees the return of the ECB Initiative "All Stars" to 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. If you are interested, then please visit our website for further details.



We are certainly very humbled with the level of sponsorships that we have received historically from local businesses and supporters, and we are of course very keen to forge further links to help us continue to evolve and indeed fulfil our ambitious plans for the Cricket Club, please don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to get involved.



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

 @PemburyCricketClub

 @pemburycc

 @pemburycricketclub

AA MILITARY ROAD RUN -2024

A good crowd turned out to watch this year's Run from Sevenoaks to Hastings. 71 privately owned historic military vehicles and veteran, vintage and classic cars entered the event. 67 took to the road from Sevenoaks (one on tow from the AA, who managed to get him back on the road in Hastings). They were very impressed by their reception in Pembury.

The event marked the 115th Anniversary of the original "Guards Dash" to Hastings in 1909. It is organised annually by the Invicta Military Preservation Society (IMPS) and the A.A.

This year there were a couple of static military vehicles in the Camden Car Park, and some scale model radio-controlled tanks and jeeps, which many enjoyed seeing.

Thank you to the Pembury Explorer Scouts who collected £207.17 in buckets and tins for Combat Stress, the event charity. Also to Carol and Simon at the Camden for allowing the space for static vehicles and providing sandwiches, teas and coffees. Also to photographers David Sellman, Tony and Anne Nicholls for their excellent photos.

Look out for next year's event taking place on Sunday 6th April 2025.





HOSPICE IN THE WEALD

Garden delights plus music and cake at Hospice in the Weald

Enjoy beautifully landscaped gardens, live music and lots of tea and cake when Hospice in the Weald welcomes visitors as part of the Open Gardens scheme. The Hospice, in Maidstone Road, Pembury, is opening its gates on Saturday, 8th June. Colourful herbaceous borders, calming water features and sculptures offer interest and focal points. Complete with a Victorian-style greenhouse, labyrinth walk and plants to buy, there will be something for everyone. The grounds are maintained by a dedicated team of volunteers and proceeds are in aid of the Hospice. Gates open from 11.30am – 4pm. Admission: £5, refreshments and cake available. See the Hospice's Open Gardens programme in the Events section at hospiceintheweald.org.uk/events

Walking in the Moonlight - Dig out your walking boots and join hundreds of others at the Hospice's atmospheric Moonlight Walk on Saturday 15th June.



Take on the 13-mile route, try the family-friendly four-mile walk, or opt for the traditional eight-miles through beautiful Knole Park and Sevenoaks. With surprise stops to keep you refreshed and entertained, a celebration glass of bubbly awaits everyone on return to the event village. Whether you walk in memory of a loved one or fancy a walking challenge with friends to raise funds for a good cause, you are guaranteed an amazing evening.

Don't delay—please sign up today at hospiceintheweald.org.uk/events. All funds raised will help Hospice in the Weald continue to provide free care and support to adults and children facing life-limiting and life-threatening illnesses.



HARVEST SUPPER AND LINE DANCING WITH ‘PINK CADILLAC’

At

St Peter’s Church, Hastings Road, Pembury TN2 4PD

On

FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2024 AT

7.00 pm

Ploughman’s supper and dessert

Bring your own drinks



Tickets £12 adult; £5 under 12’s.

From Barnes Kingsnorth, High Street, Pembury, or 01892
824327

Proceeds to improvement of heating at St Peter’s Upper Church

MR RICHARD NISBIT

We are sad to let you know about the passing of Mr Richard Nisbet, who was Headteacher at Pembury Primary School from 1976 to 1994. He was instrumental in introducing many changes there, including the development of the library and the introduction of computers. He promoted the evolution of the National Curriculum and management standards in school, and his professional contributions were recognised with the award of an MBE in 1990.

After retiring, he enjoyed travelling to France to see dear friends, and ended up spending 3 months there every summer! He enjoyed gardening, and visiting all our local wonderful gardens including Sissinghurst and Sheffield Park. He was also an active member of the three of the U3A groups.

We send our condolences to his family and friends



Berengina Rellena (I think)!

I had this in a tapas bar in Madrid in May and it was absolutely delicious. I asked the waiter if I could have the recipe so he called the owner over. He didn't speak English and my Spanish is limited to 2 gin and tonics please, so the conversation was hilarious. In the end I decided that I knew roughly what was in it so here goes.

- Recipe Serves 4.
- 2 large aubergines.
- 1lb minced pork/beef
- 1 large onion sliced
- 2/3 ounces chopped mushrooms.
- 2 cloves garlic.
- 1 green pepper chopped.
- Tin pulped tomatoes
- Cheese

Slice the aubergines in half lengthways and make diagonal cuts along them being careful not to break the skin. Drizzle with olive oil, season with salt and black pepper and bake in a medium oven for 45 minutes to an hour or until the flesh of the aubergine is soft enough to scoop out.

Meanwhile fry the onions, garlic and pepper for about 10 minutes not letting the onions brown then tip in the tomatoes reserving a quarter of the tin. Add the meat and continue until it's cooked through. Remove the aubergines from the oven and let them cool for 10/15 minutes. Scoop out the flesh and add it to the other ingredients.

Spread the remaining tomato pulp into the shells then fill them with the meat mixture. Top with cheese and place under the grill for a few minutes until the cheese has melted. If you find you have too much mixture for the aubergine put it in the freezer and have it with rice another day.

I'm sure you could add any other vegetables you like as long as they're cut small enough.

Easiest pudding EVER! One Crust Fruit Pie.

Ready made short crust pastry.



- 1-2lbs of any fruit you like stoned or peeled where necessary.
- 2 tblsp semolina
- 1 egg (separated)
- 3 plz sugar.

Roll the pastry into an uneven circle approx 10 inches across the base and paint with egg yolk. Sprinkle the semolina gently over it to stop the fruit juice making the pastry soggy. Using a rolling pin transfer the pastry to a greased baking sheet and simply pile the fruit in the middle. All you do now is turn the edges of the pastry in, is not supposed to look even, the more ragged the better.

Brush the pastry with egg white and sprinkle the sugar over the top. Cook for 35 minutes (gas mark 6, 400For 200C) and serve with ice cream.

RNLI PEMBURY BRANCH

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution this year celebrates 200 years of saving lives at sea. Formed in 1824, the Charity depends upon voluntary donations, fundraising, and gifts in wills to raise the £230mn needed each year to finance the Lifeboat service around our coasts and lifeguards on 240 of our beaches.

A total of 238 Lifeboat stations includes four on the River Thames. There are 5,600 (mainly unpaid) lifeboat crew members, of whom 12% are women.

RNLI Pembury Branch was formed back in the 1960s and is proud to have been involved in fundraising for the Charity ever since. A current Branch Committee of eight keen volunteers is ably assisted by many others around Pembury and beyond, who are happy to be called upon to assist with our regular events. "And beyond" refers also to our fundraising activities in both Tonbridge and Paddock Wood, where no similar branches exist.

Throughout its history, the RNLI's

volunteer lifeboat crews have braved all weather conditions, 24/7, to do everything in their power to save lives at sea and rescue those in distress - without fear or favour, avoiding any pre-judgment as to underlying causes. Just about anybody who visits the seaside, goes swimming, or ventures out to sea on a ferry, fishing boat, or pleasure cruise, could - sooner or later - need the help of the Lifeboat service.

RNLI Pembury Branch recognises this need and would warmly welcome new members to assist with its future local fundraising. If you feel you could help us, please contact Branch Chairman Peter Chartres (01892 823759) or Branch Secretary Paul Crook (01892 825686).

Meanwhile, I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to all Pembury residents, who have continued to support us - even through the recent very difficult 'Covid' years.

Peter Chartres



Pembury and Surrounding Villages WE NEED YOU!

Did you know that Pembury Gardeners is one of the last local villages to offer 3 shows a year and that most of the other local societies have folded for lack of new members?

Do you love your garden and want to show off your Daffodils, roses, sweet peas, dahlias and Tulips? What about your beans, brussels, and lettuce?

Do you love making Jams, Chutneys, baking scones, or cakes?

Do you like arranging flowers?

Do you have children or grandchildren who would love to take part in making miniature gardens, or vegetable monsters?

Our shows offer friendly competition for all ages and tastes.

How do I take part?

Call Annie Purton on 01892 824223 or Nicky Phipps on 07887563562

All abilities and ages are welcome.

Over the next year, we intend to offer a Garden Safari where people open their gardens - if you would like to offer to open your garden please let us know and also a social meet and greet garden party for people who love their gardens or allotment.

Come and be involved.



Help shape the Future of Pembury

Would you like to:

- Make a difference to local people?
- Give something back to your community?
- Help shape change for the benefit of your local area?



Make a change - Become a Councillor



To find out more, check out our website or contact: our Clerk, Helen on
T: 01892 823193
E: clerk@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



PEMBURY EVENING WI

We have had a busy year so far, learning how to declutter and organise our belongings, being told the fascinating story of Coco Chanel, learning about Makeup for the Mature Woman and having a go at Walking Netball. We were led by a member of Hadlow WI, Shirley Ellis who is passionate about walking netball. She placed the emphasis on fun, exercise and safety. She told us of the three main rules of walking netball: no running, no jumping and remaining a metre from our opponents. All difficult to achieve if you have played netball previously. We then formed into teams and had two short games of walking netball, modified to take account of no nets. All who took part and those who watched from the sidelines enjoyed it.



We have many more varied talks in the coming months and all Visitors and prospective Members are welcome to come along and join us. We meet on the first Friday of the month at 7.45pm in the Village Hall.

Our Next Fundraising event is on Saturday 8th June, when we are holding a Cake Sale on the Village Green between 10am and Noon (or earlier if the cakes run out!) so hope to see you there.

Gillian Williamson, Secretary

REPAIR CAFE



The Tunbridge Wells Repair Café continues to go from strength to strength. If you haven't heard of it, we are a monthly volunteer led group that fixes household items for free. We mend electrical and mechanical items, computers and tablets, jewellery, clothes and miscellaneous (incl toys and ceramics). We also sharpen knives, scissors, garden tools and secateurs.

Years ago people took things to be repaired but that is often not the first choice for people these days as there is nowhere obvious to take things. The repair café movement fills that gap.

The Tunbridge Wells Repair Café is at Trinity Theatre on a Saturday monthly from 10am to 1pm and there is no charge for the service. We invite people to make donations and we run the service using these and any excess is given to a number of charities. We have so far raised over £3600 for charity.

Our future dates for 2024 are 22 June, 27 July, 28 Sep, 26 Oct and 23 Nov 2024.

In addition to fixing things, we are also keen to find new volunteers with repair skills, especially with electrical items. Two thirds of the items we see are household and garden electrical items. If you don't have repair skills you are still very welcome as we have front of house roles.

We also have a number of volunteers who wish to learn repair skills and these are our assistants who sit alongside the repairers and assist them. The aim is they expand their repair skills and perhaps in the future become a repairer themselves.

If any of the above sounds of interest then please come and visit us at Trinity Theatre. We are a friendly bunch and we all share a passion to reduce waste and do something to help the climate crisis and throw away culture.

If you are interested in finding out more please contact us via email twellsrepaircafe@gmail.com or see our website for more details www.tunbridgewellsrepaircafe.co.uk



COMMUNITY COFFEE SHOP

We reopened the doors at the coffee shop on a new year commencing January the 8th after a successful end of 2023 during which we donated to the usual annual charities and then were able to donate to local organisations with thanks for all they do in our village.

£50 went to the wonderful group who do so much to put colour into the village with their plants and flowers.

£250 went to our amazing Pembury Players who go from strength to strength (don't forget to support them at their summer production)

£400 was donated to Pembury School House, Nursery and Aspens

£250 was given to Aspens to help with their new dementia unit

£250 has gone to Hi Kent who do so much to help the deaf and hard of hearing within Kent.

Quite an achievement to be able to help so many and this is very much as a result of the generosity and continued support of so many of you in our delightful village.

We have taken the decision to nominate an annual charity in the future and with this in mind, this year's charity is the Pickering drop in centre. This is a charity that does so much to support people who have been diagnosed with or are supporting someone with cancer. On the 8th of April Polly and Carol came to receive a cheque for £1000. Polly, the founding member of the drop-in centre, gave an extremely informative talk about the works of this remarkable

charity and we are so pleased that so many people were there to join us to help give our donation which could not have been achieved without you all.

As I write this, we have had, storms, freezing cold, more storms, loads of rain and a bit of sunshine all thrown in but, despite that, the doors are open. Monday morning is coffee shop morning in the pavilion where the welcome is as warm as the coffee (tea, hot chocolate, and cold drinks also available) and the cakes and savouries are always yummy.

We look forward to seeing all our regular customers and are very grateful to Peter who frequently brings what I understand is a really tasty quiche and of course, David and Sheila's sausage rolls and cheese scones are always well received. We look forward to meeting any new customers so, do pop in on Monday between 9.30 and 12.00 at the Pavilion, say, "Hi," and keep warm as well as enjoying some splendid fare and great company.





Interested in volunteering?

We are looking for Housekeeping and Catering volunteers to come join our team.

Come and say hi at our Volunteer Recruitment Coffee & Cake Morning on Saturday 06th of July 9.30am till 12pm at Hospice In The Weald, Maidstone Road, Pembury, TN2 4TA



If you have any questions, please contact Rachel at Rachel.conelly@hospiceintheweald.org.uk

CRIME REPORT

In Pembury, Jan, Feb & March 2024.



Once again, the month of January is proving to be the worst month of the year with the figure rising to 51, which is very frightening especially as we do not have a residential Police Officer bearing in mind the population of the village. I am not even sure myself what number I would ring if I needed assistance other than 999. The worrying bit is that Violence and Sexual Offences is by far the most committed of offences.

Please find enclosed the latest figures released by the Kent Police but again they are very brief:

	Violence and Sexual Offences	Public Order	Antisocial Behaviour	Shoplifting and Other Offences
Jan	36	6	5	4
Feb	13	4	3	3
March	14	3	2	2
Total	63	13	10	9

The crimes are sometimes reported in a different manner or category, and I have no doubt they are a little confusing at times. Thankfully as the lighter evenings start the crime figures fall but we must not get complacent and get a little careless. There have been reports of damage being done to people's cars at night and houses being broken into when the occupier is out. There have been reports of many attempted scams on the phone and all I can say is that you must be on your guard.

My wife and I had a knock on the door and when we went outside there was very tall man trying to sell a small box of individual items from household components none of which we needed or wanted and when we said we did not need any of them told us he had just come out of prison and needed assistance we still said no and he started to get quite nasty so just be aware.

Please keep yourself and property secure and please do not take your house security for granted, make sure your doors are secure and alarms and warning lights are working.

Sorry to be such an alarmist but we have some very awful people about although they may not be Pembury Residents.

Be Careful out there.

Hugh Boorman

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS

360 DANCE	Sadie Van Der Spuy. Tel: 07734 053509. www.360dance.co.uk
AGE UK	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
INDEPENDENTS FOR TUNBRIDGE WELLS	David Hayward. Tel: 01892 808000
KENT COLLEGE	Head: Miss K.Handford. Tel: 822006
KENT COLLEGE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY	Headteacher: Mrs S Hall. 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 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. Tel: 459894
PEMBURY WALKING GROUP	Martin Bolt. Tel: 07769707061
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)
TOWN & COUNTRY (High Weald Housing)	Tel: 0845 8731 321
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

ClIr N Statton (C)
ClIr K Brooks (VC)
ClIr P Simmons

Open Spaces Committee

ClIr C Snow (C)
ClIr M Barrett
ClIr M Weaver
ClIr P Gillan
ClIr J Webster

Planning & Highways Committee

ClIr D Reilly (C)
ClIr K Brooks (VC)
ClIr M Barrett
ClIr G Hall
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Climate & Environmental Action Working Group

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ClIr M Barrett
ClIr N Stratton
M Arnold
P Mason
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Community Events Working Group

ClIr A Birch (C)
ClIr G Hall
ClIr N Stratton
ClIr M Weaver
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Section 106 working Group

ClIr N Stratton (C)
ClIr A Birch
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PVN Advisory Group

ClIr K Brooks (C)
ClIr C Snow
ClIr M Weaver
ClIr J Webster

Neighbourhood Development Plan Working Group

ClIr N Stratton (C)
ClIr G Hall
ClIr D Reilly

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.



Be extraordinary

become a parish councillor

Ordinary people doing an amazing job!!

Would you like to:

- Make a difference to local people?
- Give something back to your community?
- Help shape change for the benefit of your local area?

Please get in touch for more details:

-  01892-823193
-  clerk@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk
-  www.pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



YOUR COUNCILLORS



Cllr Martin Barrett
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Cllr Paul Simmons
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Cllr Astra Birch
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Cllr Christine Snow
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Cllr Katy Brooks
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Cllr Nigel Stratton MBE
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Cllr Patrick Gillan
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Cllr Maggie Weaver
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Cllr Graham Hall
graham.hall@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Cllr Jon Webster
jon.webster@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk



Cllr David Reilly
david.reilly@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk

BOROUGH COUNCIL



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



Cllr Astra Birch
34 Elmhurst Avenue
Pembury,
TN2 4DA
Tel: 01892 837201



Cllr Hugh Patterson
60 Sychem Place
Five Oak Green,
TN12 6TS
Tel: 01892 837201

COUNTY COUNCIL



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

Clerk to Pembury Parish Council

Helen Munro
c/o Parish Council Offices, Lower Green Recreation
Ground Lower Green Road
Pembury, TN2 4DZ Tel: 823193
Email: clerk@pemburyparishcouncil.gov.uk




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