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## PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 81 / Spring 1995



PARISH  
ANNUAL  
MEETING  
29 MARCH

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# Viewpoint

A community is what its residents make it. Whether it is an inner city estate, a leafy suburb, or a scattered hamlet, it is the part played by the people who live there – their involvement, their neighbourliness, their pride (or lack of it) in their environment – that determines whether it is a good place to live.

Pembury has a lot going for it, despite having to struggle to maintain its village ambience. But has it got any community spirit? There is a disturbing amount of violence and vandalism among a small minority of youths, a subject aired in an article by Cllr Hugh Boorman in this issue. Pembury is not unique in having a rowdy element, but surely as a caring community we should be able to sort out this problem. More parental responsibility, more places for youngsters to meet and things for them to do within the village, they're part of the answer.

Taking a pride in the appearance of our village isn't something we should just delegate to the parish council. As Cllr Kit Kelly urges in Councillors Comment, everyone should try to brighten up their gardens, especially if we are to take part in the South East in Bloom Competition. Even for those who work all day in London, putting up a hanging basket or filling a few tubs with flowers doesn't take too much effort and could make all the difference to the street scene.

Of course there are any number of people who make an invaluable contribution to the life of the community – most of them

unsung heroes and heroines, like some of those who have featured in our 'Profile' series. Others have been fortunate enough to receive public recognition, like Rex Turner who was awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours for his 30 years of fund raising work for Pembury Hospital's League of Friends.

But there's still a need for more good neighbours. Pembury Library, for instance, is crying out for volunteers to help in their Housebound Service, taking books to elderly folk who are too infirm to get to the library themselves. If you can spare some time for this, please get in touch with the librarian Jean Rejali on 822278.

On a personal note, I have always felt that editing the Pembury Village News, as I have for the past seven years, was my contribution to the community. The aim of Pembury Village News has been to reflect not only what the parish council is doing for the village, but also the activities and achievements of local people, all presented in a readable and newsy format. However, times change and the parish council's new editorial committee – Henry Plant, Betty Roberts, Kit Kelly and Gillian Matthews – will now be taking over the editor's chair. So if you have any written contributions or comments to make in the future, they are the people to contact.

Editor

## PEMBURY VILLAGE NEWS

EDITOR  
Elizabeth Repath

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. Typeset and printed by Optima Printing Ltd, East Peckham.



A copy of the Rixon Indenture dated 1590, presented to Pembury Library by the Pembury Society, was unveiled by Cllr. Derek Hawes Richards, chairman of KCC Arts, Libraries and Sports Committee (centre). Also in the picture are (left) Ian Robinson, Group Manager for Tunbridge Wells Libraries, and Ron Abbott, chairman of Pembury Society. Modern wording of the Elizabethan document, which concerns land in the village, is displayed below.

## KENT COLLEGE PRODUCTIONS

Kent College, Pembury, has been granted a special licence from Fay Weldon to present her dramatisation of the classic novel "Jane Eyre" by Charlotte Bronte. The school will be the first company to stage the play since its inaugural production in the West End. With a cast of over 60 and specially designed sets and costumes, this is the most exciting and challenging play that Kent College has staged.

There are five evening performances from Tuesday, 21 March to Saturday 25 March, and a special matinee performance on Thursday, 23 March. Ticket prices are: Front Stalls: £4 adults, £2.50 children. Tiered seating: £6 adults, £3.50 children. Matinee performance: £2.50 for all seats. For group bookings of 15 or more tickets, there will be a 10 per cent reduction. To apply for tickets, please telephone Sue Rattray on 822006.

## A Pembury Pageant

To mark the 125th Anniversary of the British Red Cross, girls from Kent College will enact, as part of the celebrations for Red Cross Week, a sequence of episodes from the history of the village. The pupils at the school are busily researching local history, each year group concentrating on a particular period. Based on their discoveries, they will improvise dramatic sketches to be performed on the back of a lorry on the village green in manner reminiscent of a mediaeval morality play.

The story of Anne West, whose ghost is said to frequent the graveyard of the Old Church, and the tale of Margery Polley, whose death as a witch is commemorated by a water trough on the green, will be among scenes to be dramatised at 2.30pm on Saturday 6 May. There will be no charge but a collection will be taken on behalf of the Red Cross.

## SCHOOL HEAD SETTLES IN

Pembury School's new head teacher, Robert Edom, found the warm welcome and the friendliness of the staff a great help in his first term at the school.

"Pembury School has a high reputation and a very committed staff," he says. "I'm a traditionalist, so shall certainly see that annual events such as the maypole dancing and the nativity play are carried on and the high standard of music maintained."

He has, however, already brought in one significant change by introducing a weekly assembly of the whole school, including the infants. He thinks it is important that all pupils should feel part of the school community.

Another aim he hopes to bring about in the not too distant future is replacing the Horsa huts by a permanent brick building. The huts were put up as temporary accommodation some 50 years ago and Kent County Council are currently undertaking a feasibility study into their removal and replacement.

Mr Edom confesses that his main difficulty during these early months has been remembering all the children's names. Pembury School, with over 400 pupils, is twice the size of Stocks Green School, Hildenborough, where he was previously head teacher from 1986. However, the problem may soon be solved as he plans to teach more classes regularly, which will make it easier to fit names to faces.

Robert Edom, who is 48, has worked in Kent as a teacher for the last 22 years and says he still gets a tremendous buzz out of



teaching. His wife is also a teacher and he has two teenage daughters, one at Maidstone College of Art and the other doing GCSE at Mascalls.

★ ★ ★

## Hockey Club may close

Pembury Hockey Club has only managed to play one game this season and is in danger of closing down unless more players can come forward.

Anyone interested in joining the club should contact John Hawker on 824327.

## Councillors Comment

The ghosts of a hundred years or more look over my shoulder as I write; perforce I must choose my words carefully! Daily practicalities are dealt with elsewhere, so to address wider issues.

What sort of community do we live in? What do we want/need? Are we prepared to contribute something, in whatever form? Do we notice what is happening around us? Is it true that an architect observed, "Gardens? By the time they've come back from London they don't want to garden."

Many merely sleep here, lacking the time or inclination to join in village affairs. Sadly lacking is the realisation that it is both fun and rewarding – if occasionally exasperating and exhausting – to join in. Plant a hanging basket; brighten up your garden; become a councillor (no vegetable jokes, please). Teleworking? More time in and for Pembury. That's you, not some abstract. Agenda 21 is on the way (what's that? Watch this space . . .) Do you use local facilities? Do you recycle?

Pembury will be what you, individually and collectively, choose to make it. Good luck and remember the Parish Council is here to help! Looking forward to hearing from more of you around and about . . .

**Kit Kelly**

## GILL'S GARDEN

Over the coming weeks I will be seeking support from traders and residents of Pembury for the village to enter the South East in Bloom competition. We have received support from Nottcutts and hope other undertakings in the village will be forthcoming.

The Parish Council, with support from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, are going to plant bulbs, bedding plants and shrubs in various parts of the village. The competition also includes commercial premises and residents' front gardens and we are hoping village organisations will also participate.

Nottcutts Garden Centre have offered to demonstrate how to make a hanging basket, as well as general advice on planting.

Villages throughout South East England will be entering the competition and, apart from the possibility of winning, it will give us the opportunity of brightening up our village.

**Gill Matthews**

# Police Update In Pembury

## Misbehaving Youths

Since the last publication a number of local youths have experienced the "hotel facilities" at Tunbridge Wells Police Station for offences of burglary (including the YMCA), theft and damage. One or two were also found in possession of drug paraphernalia. Most were under 17 years of age which resulted in parents being required to attend the station as well.

Perhaps it is worth advising parents that in many circumstances we do have the power to search homes and we will exercise that power whenever necessary. If you wish to avoid this there are three very simple rules: Know where your children are. Know who they are with. Know what they are doing.

The occasional check on what they tell you or a walk or drive through the village will tell you if they are being honest or not.

★ ★ ★

## Property Marking

Every year the police recover a small fortune in stolen property which is not returned to its rightful owner because it cannot be identified. Property marking works – it assists in the return of stolen property, it makes it difficult for a thief to

dispose of, it deters theft in the first place. So how does it work?

The recognised method is to use your postcode which identifies your town and street. To 'fine tune' it simply add your house number or the first two letters of your house name to the end; e.g. you live at 7 High Street, Any Town – postcode AN12 2ZQ – you put AN122ZQ7 on your property. If it's Cross Roads Cottage, High Street, Any Town – postcode AN12 5ZA – add CR to the end. Simple, but a police recognised method throughout the U.K., and it works, for all property that comes into police possession is checked for postcodes.

Property marking kits can be purchased cheaply through most home security outlets or ring your local Crime Prevention Officer, PC Mick Toy, on 502153 for advice on stockists.

Engrave or etch hard surfaces with a visible mark or use an 'ultraviolet' pen if etching would devalue the item. Don't forget to renew ultraviolet marks every now and then as they can fade and to change all your marks if you move house. Even china and glass can be marked! Help us to help you not the thief – often we have to give them back property if we cannot prove it is stolen.

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## **VANDALISM – WHO PAYS?**

You do, of course, the poor, innocent parishioner. The last four years have seen a dramatic increase in the frequency and value of the property that has been vandalised by this mindless gang of youths that creep about our streets at night.

Let me briefly remind you of the parish and parishioners' property that has suffered: frequent damage to play equipment and setting alight of safety surfaces, damage to bowling green, hockey pavilion, church and 'Rec' gates, parish notice boards, all bus shelters, Woodside and YMCA pavilions, cricket club property, parishioners' cars, gates, fences, walls, trees and so on. Plus the intimidating behaviour of the youths when they are together in a pack.

Are we going to carry on accepting this totally anti-social behaviour from this small minority? Because if we are, we will soon accept rape and mugging as part of everyday life.

In 1995 let us all work together, with increased Neighbourhood Watch and closer cooperation with our special constables and a demand for a stronger police presence in the village.

Unfortunately, whilst we focus our attention on this unruly bunch, it is very tempting to use more expressive language, we forget the vast majority of good honest youngsters in the parish who, even with nothing to do in the evenings, do not walk around the village causing wanton damage. The YMCA try very hard to provide some facility, but do we need more and perhaps something different? Letters and ideas please.

Do not be afraid to identify to the police any of the perpetrators of these crimes, because that what vandalism is – a crime. It is also my firm belief that the parents of these youths should be made aware and be made to pay for the damage caused by their children.

Let's turn the tide this year and show them we have got the courage to drive them out and that the people of Pembury are no longer a soft touch.

**Hugh Boorman**

★ ★ ★

## **MARATHON MAN**

Councillor Hugh Boorman has entered the London marathon which will take place on 2 April. He is running to raise money for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

He says he is looking forward to the challenge the marathon will present and his training regime consists of four nights in the gym and two nights running around the village, which he has been doing for the last two months.

He is seeking sponsors and sponsor forms will be available from local pubs, clubs and organisations or contact him on 823068.

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## EASTER SERVICES AT ST PETER'S

### HOLY WEEK

Sunday 9 April	at 9.45am	Revd. Christopher Channer
Palm Sunday		School Chaplain
Monday	8.00pm	Address and Compline - The Vicar
Tuesday	8.00pm	Faure Requiem - The Paddock Wood Choral Society
Wednesday	8.00pm	Address and Compline - The Vicar
Maundy Thursday	8.00pm	Eucharist and Foot Washing
Good Friday	9.45am	Liturgy
	11.30am	Liturgy (Old Church)
	2.00-3.00pm	The Last Hour
Holy Saturday	8.00pm	New Fire - Renewal of Baptismal Vows

### EASTER DAY

Sunday 16 April	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.45am	The PARISH EUCHARIST - The Vicar
	11.30am	Holy Communion (Old Church)
	6.30pm	Evening Service

*All the events listed above take place in the UPPER CHURCH in Hastings Road unless stated otherwise.*



The first tenants of the new houses at Brickfields and Penn's Yard have now moved in. Both developments by the High Weald Housing Association, in partnership with Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, provide excellent family accommodation for people on the HWA housing waiting list, the homeless or tenants requiring rehousing. The 21 new homes in Brickfields consist of 13 two bedroom and eight three bedroom houses (some of them pictured above), while in Penn's Yard, off the High Street, there are 13 terraced or semi-detached three bedroom houses. Penn's Yard also includes a children's play area and the mature trees have been retained.

## Looking back

Since the Village Exhibition in October 1994 it has been nice to receive so many favourable comments regarding the event. It seems that the village really did enjoy coming to see what organisations were in existence and the activities they could offer.

Among the exhibitors present were St Anselms Catholic Church, the Old Church of St Peter and the Upper Church of St Peter. Rev Bill Eason was in a fine mood and kept a watchful eye over the incoming visitors from his vantage point by the fire exit and the opposition which had set up nearby. Rev Jim Brasier had to make sure there were no defectors!

In reality, there is a strong bond between the two churches with six monthly joint services to worship the Saints held

alternately in each church. When the Scouts held their annual Carol Service at St Anselms Rev Eason was assisted by Rev Brasier who gave the sermon. It is very reassuring to know that the community is working towards uniting rather than dividing.

The Friends of the Old Church were present to raise the profile of their fundraising activities in an effort to raise enough money to carry out the much needed repairs to this beautiful and historic building. The retention of such an important part of Pembury's heritage is essential and should be supported by all in the village and surrounding areas.

Thank you once again to the exhibitors and visitors for making the exhibition such a wonderful and memorable occasion.

**Paul Russell**



*The winning Pembury FC team: (Back row, l to r) S. Waterman, D. Abbott, B. Turner, P. Lanigan, A. Whitacker, D. Waterman, T. Burgess. (Front row, l to r) R. Rickman, M. Files, I. Presnell, G. Knight, K. Waterman.*

## PEMBURY FC – CHAMPIONS!

After achieving runners up position in the Tonbridge Premier League for the previous three seasons, it seemed like a case of 'always the bridesmaid, never the bride' for Pembury Football Club.

However, in a close run finish to the season the team, managed by Mike Waterman and Brian Knight, succeeded in winning the Premier League trophy for the first time since 1972.

Football in Pembury is currently in a very strong position, with teams in the premier and first divisions of the Tonbridge League, and second and sixth divisions of the West Kent League.

Pembury Junior Football Club is also thriving, with boys from under nine to under 16 representing the village of Pembury, as well as being taught new skills and learning the enjoyment of team games.

It is interesting to see that there are currently 20 players playing for Pembury senior sides who graduated through Pembury Junior Football Club.

With new changing facilities at Woodside Recreation Ground nearing the end of their development stages, we are all looking forward to further successes in 1995.

**Robin Turner**  
Chairman, Pembury FC

### New Parish Guide

As parishioners are aware, the Parish Council have just published their 'Parish Guide of Pembury' to celebrate their one hundred years of service to the community and have distributed a free copy to every household in the village.

It is hoped the booklet will be well received and that its objective of being informative and interesting will be achieved.

If anyone would like further copies of the Guide, these may be obtained from the Clerk, Mrs Barbara Russell of 6 The Grove, Pembury, at a price of £1 each.

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT FOR 1994/1995

Every year, the Chairman of the Parish Council reports to The Annual Parish meeting on progress in the previous year. This year's meeting is on the 29th March.

Unfortunately, not many people attend the Annual Meeting. Therefore this year, in order to ensure that all parishioners receive the Annual Report, it is being published in advance in the Newsletter.

The Parish Council delivers a surprisingly wide range of services to villagers and influences other organisations in the best interests of Pembury. Because the Parish Council has few staff, individual Councillors have to undertake much of the workload, and to do this most efficiently are organised into a number of Committees. These have been particularly active during the last year.

**AMENITIES** - (Chairman Derek Goodwin) There has been a much needed extension to the recreation ground car park, further safety surfacing in the children's play areas and a continuing upgrading of facilities. As part of this, joint arrangements are being processed with the Association Pembury Football Clubs for the improvement of facilities at the Woodside Playing Fields.

**Burials and Allotments** - (Chairman Betty Roberts) There has been a programme of improvements within the Parish's three burial grounds. Many residents are unaware that the Parish is a Burial Authority and 16 funerals took place during the last year. Unfortunately, the allotments have become an increasing headache over the last year due to a substantial decline in "budding horticulturists"!

**Environmental** - (Chairman Bob Wilkes - also Parish Tree Warden) The environment of the Parish has been enhanced with a continuing rolling programme of tree plantings taking place. There is now an acknowledgement across Kent that Pembury is a trend setter in Parish tree planting initiatives. The continued monitoring of the local environment and urging the authorities to take action (particularly trying to get the Borough Council to enhance the standards of cleansing within the village) has taken up much time. This includes establishing a Parish Verge Warden (Kit Kelly) to keep a watch on this important aspect of the rural scene.

**Highways** - (Chairman Jim Wiltshire) This was a very busy year for highways issues including continuing lobbying to improve the Woodgate Corner junction and other problem areas within the village. Action was also required to stop Church Road being re-opened for motor



cars and to ensure that new developments in Pembury had street names that reflected the local history. Bus shelters continued to be misused, culminating in a decision to replace those at the Royal Oak and Amberleaze Drive with more open, vandal resistant, designs. Pembury was also very successful in lobbying for the remaining section of the A21 dualling (Pembury to Tonbridge) and persuading the Secretary of State to agree to the Parish's recommendation.

**Planning** - (Chairman Hugh Boorman) The Planning Committee meets every Monday and makes recommendations on all planning applications relating to Pembury. Unfortunately, not all are accepted by Tunbridge Wells Borough Council which is the local Planning Authority. The Public Inquiry into the Borough Council's Local Plan presented a heavy workload earlier in 1994 with the Parish Clerk, Barbara Russell, and myself spending quite a lot of time arguing against the Park and Ride proposals for Woodsgate Corner.

**Public Relations** - (Chairman Henry Plant) There is much valuable work done in producing the quarterly Village Newsletter and generating a feeling of "local community". A lot of effort was also expended in celebrating the Centenary of the Parish Council, with a very successful exhibition encompassing 27 local organisations being held at

Pembury School in October and a commemorative Parish Guide being published and circulated to every household in the Village (with further copies available for £1). The popular Parish Quiz was held in October resulting in £300 being donated to Compaids and the Friends of Pembury Parish Church.

**Finance** - (Chairman Philip Horn) Because it is important for the Parish Council to be prudent and careful with your money, a group of Councillors with expertise in the field have recently been formed into a Finance Committee to carefully monitor and control the Council's budgets. The scale of these are shown below in the tables setting out the Parish Council's expenditure for 1993/1994 and the first nine months of 1994/1995.

**Parish Council Policy** - The Parish has been very keen to encourage working with others. For example, this year saw the final two part donation through the Vision '91 project which contributed to the re-ordering of the Upper Church of St. Peter. Since then the Parish has made good use of the new meeting room within the Church.

The Pembury Branch of the YMCA, which undertakes youth work in the village, is encouraged by the Parish Council by means of an annual grant and the provision of facilities at Woodside at

a peppercorn lease. Discussions have continued throughout the year with the Police, youth workers, Borough Councillors and the YMCA representatives, in order to try to solve the problems of unsocial behaviour which is proving to be very upsetting and costly to parishioners. Whilst the encouragement of measures to assist youngsters has a priority, the Parish Council has also had to take active measures to protect Parish assets from the small minority who have caused several thousand pounds worth of vandalism damage over the past few years. One of the measures has been to introduce security guards into Council property on an experimental basis in a similar manner to that already employed successfully by Pembury School.

There has been a continuous demand for improved indoor recreational facilities in Pembury for many years. Recently the Parish Council has taken the first positive steps to find a site and design a suitable building which will cater for the considerable range of needs such a facility will be required to provide. A small working group of Parish Councillors has been formed which will work with local architects and engineers, and start discussions with likely users of the building later this year. This will be followed by formal consultation with ALL Pembury Residents.

During 1994, a major job for the Parish

Council was making a full contribution to the debate on the future of Local Government in Kent. The Parish Council's favoured option reflected that of the overwhelming majority of local residents in wishing to retain the existing two-tier local government structure (County Council and Borough Council). The Local Government Commission has accepted this view, but the Secretary of State for the Environment's final decision is still awaited. While this has proved to be a very unsettling and time consuming debate, it has given rise to much closer working with the Borough and County Councils, and a Parish Charter will shortly be adopted which will formalise the improved working relationships between the borough and Parish Councils. Pembury has enjoyed close liaison with the County and Borough Councils because of the local involvement of County Councillor Derek Hawes-Richards and Borough Councillors Sylvia Abbott, Hildy Swinden and Terry Cload (who is also a Parish Councillor). It has also been very helpful to have Ron Abbott, who is Chairman of the Pembury Society, as a Parish Councillor. This has continued the close relationships which have existed for many years.

Earlier in the year, John Hawker, a stalwart member for many years, resigned from the Parish Council following a career change. Mrs Gill Matthews was co-opted to Council as his replacement.



Lastly, I must pay particular tribute to my predecessor as Parish Council Chairman, Dick Miles. At the beginning of last year Dick stood down after seven years of valuable service as Chairman. Dick remains a Parish Councillor and we are grateful for his continuing contribution (and very good memory!).

**The future** - In the coming year the Parish Council will be continuing the celebrations of its Centenary Year with various souvenirs and displays - and in particular the Reverend Jim Brasier will be conducting a special service of Celebration and Thanksgiving in Pembury Old Church on 30th April, to which all parishioners are warmly invited.

**DAVID COLEMAN**  
CHAIRMAN

#### MAIN ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE 1993/1994

WAGES	£30,000.00
TAX/NHI	£10,000.00
LOAN REPAYMENT	£11,000.00
CEMETERY WALL	£ 8,500.00
DEPOT ENTRANCE	£ 5,200.00
TRACTOR	£ 3,200.00
COMPUTER	£ 3,000.00
INSURANCE	£ 2,500.00
CHURCH DONATION	£ 2,500.00
NEWSLETTER	£ 2,000.00
VANDALISM	£ 2,000.00
CONSULTANT	£ 600.00
YMCA	£ 500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£81,000.00</b>

#### MAIN ITEMS OF INCOME 1993/1994

PRECEPT	£91,183.00
INTEREST	£ 4,500.00
BURIALS	£ 2,500.00
NEWSLETTER ADVERTS	£ 1,700.00
CLUB RENTS	£ 1,600.00
TENNIS TICKETS	£ 800.00
ALLOTMENTS	£ 650.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£102,933.00</b>

#### MAIN ITEMS OF EXPENDITURE 1st APRIL 1994 - 9th JANUARY 1995

WAGES	£23,000.00
TAX/NHI	£ 8,000.00
SAFETY SURFACES	£ 6,700.00
LOANS	£ 5,200.00
TRACTOR	£ 3,200.00
CAR PARK EXTENSION	£ 3,000.00
INSURANCE	£ 2,500.00
CHURCH DONATION	£ 2,500.00
NEWSLETTER	£ 2,500.00
VANDALISM	£ 1,500.00
SECURITY	£ 700.00
YMCA	£ 500.00
SLIDE GUARD RAIL	£ 400.00
BRUSHCUTTER	£ 400.00
NOTICE BOARD	£ 350.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£60,450.00</b>

#### MAIN ITEMS OF INCOME

PRECEPT	£95,212.00
INSURANCE	£ 3,600.00
BURIALS	£ 2,300.00
NEWSLETTER ADVERTS	£ 1,700.00
TENNIS TICKETS	£ 650.00
ALLOTMENTS	£ 600.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£104,062.00</b>

## COUNCIL'S AIM IS VALUE FOR MONEY

A Finance Sub Committee has recently been formed whose purpose is to:

- Oversee the receipt and the use of moneys by your Parish Council
- ensure moneys are used in the most effective manner
- ensure proper financial (audit) controls are in place
- provide information on finance matters as they affect your Parish Council.

Unfortunately the Council, like many individuals, allow matters to carry on as they have "always done in the past". On a personal basis; how many of us have savings in Financial Institutions earning very small amounts of interest where high interest rates are available elsewhere? The Financial Sub Committee intends to consider all aspects of the Council's finances in order to ensure that our practices and work are efficient.

It is surprising the range of tasks undertaken by your Parish Council, which require money i.e. looking after the Recreation Ground and the Woodside playing fields together with other areas/buildings owned by the Council for the benefit of the residents. It is extremely unfortunate that we have basically to waste

your money by repairing damage caused by mindless vandals.

As everyone knows, public spending is under very close scrutiny across the whole country to ensure that there is no waste, and whilst Parish Councils are not "capped" by Central Government, we deliberately decided to set a Budget for 1995/96 which was not higher than the previous year's figure plus inflation. This decision was taken to ensure that the residents of Pembury receive a similar level of service as previously with very similar costs. Altogether we expect to utilise £112,533 in 1995/96 of which only £98,230 is being raised from the chargepayers of Pembury, the remainder is from fees charged by the Parish Council.

With the continuing changes to Local Government, running a Parish Council is no longer an "easy option", but it must be considered as running a business on a professional basis.

It will take a while for all matters to be considered by the Sub Committee but it is our intention that the Parish Council will deal with its financial affairs in an appropriate manner to ensure the residents of Pembury receive value for money.

**Philip Horn**  
Chairman, Finance Sub-Committee



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## IN BRIEF

**T**HE Spring meeting of the Pembury Society will be held on Monday 1 May at 8pm in the Village Hall. Mr Roger Smith from the National Trust will speak and show slides, this being the centenary year of the founding of the Trust. Coffee and biscuits will be provided.

**P**ADDOCK Wood Swimming Club now meets three times a week at Kent College Indoor (heated) Pool, with 80 families in the Paddock Wood and Pembury area now members. Annual membership is only £5 per family, or £2.50 for those on State Benefit. This covers the cost of a regular newsletter and administration. Swimming fees are £2 for a one hour session (£1 for children, students and those on State Benefit). This is not a serious competitive club, so come and visit us. There are vacancies on Fridays 7.30 to 8.30pm and on Wednesdays 12-1pm. Enquiries to Rick Kirby, Community Education Centre, Mascalls School, telephone 834307.

**T**HE Russian Choir "Harmony", from St. Petersburg, will be visiting Pembury from 4-12 May. A comprehensive programme has now been finalised. The teenagers, aged 15-18 years, will be staying at Kent College or in local homes. A small committee has been formed to help the organiser, Mrs Elizabeth Coxon-Taylor, but funds are still needed for air fares, coach hire, accommodation, etc. Please phone Elizabeth on 822643 if you can help. The choir will be singing at the Brighton Festival, at Finchcocks, in Oxford, on BBC TV's "Blue Peter", in London and here in Pembury.

**A** COFFEE morning in aid of the Russian Choir visit will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 1 April from 10.30am to 12.30pm. A Grand Raffle is being organised and there will also be numerous stalls. The WI choir will sing during the morning and Elizabeth Coxon-Taylor will show her Russian slides. Please come along and help raise funds for this unique cause.

**A** "CONCERT for Peace" has been specially arranged for VE Day in St. Peter's Upper Church on Bank Holiday Monday, 8 May, at 7pm. The Russian "Harmony" Choir and other artists will be taking part and the three churches in the village will share in the event. Tickets will be available from various outlets in the village.

**S**TILL on a Russian theme, when Pembury borough and parish councillor Terry Cload visited Russia in October, by coincidence he attended a gala performance of "Giselle" at the Bolshoi Theatre, given for the Queen and Russian President Boris Yeltsin. The following day, again quite by chance, he was in Red Square at the same time as the Queen, who was continuing her official visit. During her walkabout she spoke to Terry and asked what he was doing there. He answered that he was just visiting for a few days, to which the Queen replied, "Just like us!"

**T**HE Horticultural Society's year commenced as usual with their Annual General Meeting on 23 February, always a good social occasion. Following the huge success of the 1994 Spring Show held to celebrate the society's golden anniversary, another Spring Show will be held this year on Saturday 8 April. Show schedules may be obtained by telephoning the secretary, Mrs Doreen Parfitt, on 822909, or the show secretary on Brenchley 722725.

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## Your Clerk Reports...

The Annual General Meeting of the Pembury Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 29 March at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. Hospice at Home will present an exhibition of their proposed development and a representative will be available to answer questions.

As usual, at the AGM I will be submitting a full financial report for the year ending 31 March 1994, but a brief summary follows:

Precept demanded from Tunbridge Wells Borough Council for 1993/1994	£91,183.00
Income from other sources	£18,728.00
Balance b/fwd 1st April 1993	£55,858.51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£165,769.51</b>
Expenditure	£99,876.70
Balances c/fwd 31st March, 1994	£65,892.81
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£165,769.51</b>
The precept for the year 1994/1995 was	£95,212.00
The precept for the year 1995/1996 will be	£98,230.00

### LOCAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The four year term of office for your 13 Pembury Parish Councillors ends on 4 May when, if more than 13 nominations are received, an election will be held.

To be eligible for office the following criteria must be met:

- Must be over 21 years of age
- Either during the whole of the twelve months before the day on which he is

nominated as a candidate, or the day of the election, resided in the parish or community or within three miles of it or occupied as owner or tenant any land or premises therein or had his principal or only place of work there.

A person may be disqualified from being elected or being a member in six ways:

1. If he holds a paid office or other place of profit in the gift or disposal of the council or any committee or sub committee thereof or under a company controlled by the council.
2. If he is bankrupt
3. If he has made a composition or arrangement with his creditors.
4. By order of the court it holds him responsible for incurring or authorising illegal expenditure exceeding £2,000.
5. If he has within five years before the election or since his election been convicted in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man of any offence and has been sentenced to not less than three months imprisonment (whether suspended or not) without the option of a fine.
6. Under any enactment relating to corrupt or illegal practises.

Nomination forms will be available from the Clerk's Office or Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, but on completion must be returned to the Returning Officer, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council.

Voting will take place in the Old Pembury School and the Village Hall, concurrent with the election for the Tunbridge Wells Borough Councillor. Persons eligible may vote for 13 persons on the Parish forms, but may vote for less if desired. If a mistake is made, or clarification is needed, please speak to the officers present, who will, without prejudice, offer help and assistance.

**Barbara Russell**  
Clerk to the Council  
6 The Grove  
Pembury 823193



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## Burtons Pembury's Solicitors

Penn House  
13a High Street  
Pembury

**Tel Pembury 824577**

## YOUR REPRESENTATIVES

### County Council

Derek Hawkes Richards, Hop Press Oast, Mascalls Court Road, Paddock Wood.  
Tel: 834692

### Borough Council

Mrs Sylvia Abbott, 18 Lower Green Road. Tel: 824031

Mr Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

Mrs Hildy Swinden, 6 Church Road. Tel: 823378

### Parish Council

Mr Ron Abbott, 18 Lower Green Road. Tel: 824031

Mr Hugh Boorman, 52 Henwood Green Rd. Tel: 823068 *Chairman Planning Committee*

Mr Terry Cload, 56 Herons Way. Tel: 823966

Mr David Coleman, 22 Ridgeway, Tel: 823402 *Chairman of Parish Council*

Mr Derek Goodwin, 27 Greenleas. Tel: 823822 *Chairman Amenities Committee*

Mr Philip Horn, 6 Sandhurst Avenue. Tel: 824720

Mr Kit Kelly, 22 Hastings Road.

Mrs Gillian Matthews, 2 Gimble Way. Tel: 822057

Mr Dick Miles, Fletchers Farm, Hastings Road. Tel: 822378

Mr Henry Plant, 16 The Coppice. Tel: 823459 *Vice Chairman of Parish Council, Chairman Public Relations Committee*

Mrs Betty Roberts, 16 Woodhill Park, Tel: 824914 *Chairman Burial & Allotments Committee*

Mr Bob Wilkes, 6 Belfield Road. Tel: 823264 *Chairman Environmental Committee*

Mr James Wiltshire, 4 Henwood Mount. Tel: 824574 *Chairman Highways Committee*

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**ACCESS FOR THE DISABLED COMMITTEE**  
Local: Representative Mrs J. Peckham. Tel: 824132

**AGE CONCERN**  
Mrs Josephine Darville. Tel: T.W. 522591

**ALZHEIMERS DISEASE SOCIETY**  
Simon Rooksby, Pineview Day Hospital, Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535 Ext 3515

**ASSOCIATION OF PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUBS**  
J. Smith, 18 Westway. Tel: 823714

**BEAVERS, CUBS AND SCOUTS**  
Peter Brookes, 8 Concorde Close, Paddock Wood. Tel: P.W. 833662

**BOWLS CLUB**  
Secretary: S. G. Roberts, 16 Woodhill Park. Tel: 824914

**BROWNIES GUIDER**  
Mrs Jones, 14 Lower Green Road. Tel: 823747

**BURMA STAR ASSOCIATION**  
Secretary: Mr R. G. G. Whitlock, 6 The Forstal. Tel: 822115

**CAMDEN GREEN BADMINTON CLUB**  
R. Holt, 50 Ridgeway. Tel: 823830

**CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Rev. Geoffrey Pointer, The Presbytery, 11 Alliance Way, Paddock Wood. Tel: P.W. 833699

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

**CONSERVATIVE PARTY**  
Terry Cload, 56 Heron's Way. Tel: 823966

**CRICKET CLUB**  
Secretary: Richard Crouch, 17 Highfield Close, Pembury. Tel: 823164

**DARBY & JOAN CLUB**  
Mr C. J. Eason, 183 Hastings Road. Tel: 824673

**FRIENDS OF PEMBURY HOSPITAL**  
c/o Pembury Hospital. Tel: 823535

**FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH**  
Secretary: Mrs A. Toler, Pembury Hall Cottage, Old Church Road. Tel: 824071

**GUIDE GUIDERS**  
1st Pembury Company: Mrs A. Baker, 67A High St. Tel: 824441  
3rd Pembury Company: Mrs J. Lakeland, 7 Greenleas. Tel: 824916

**HOCKEY CLUB**  
James Whitehorn. Tel: 824854

**HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY**  
Mrs D. Parfitt, 51 Church Road. Tel: 822909

**JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB**  
L. Frowde, 5 Herons Way. Tel: 822826

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**KENTISH VALE LADIES' CIRCLE**  
Mrs Wendy Kingcome, 11 Fellows Way, Hildenborough. Tel: H'boro (0732) 833403

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Mr M. Lefevre, 29 Willow Cres., Five Oak Green. Tel: Paddock Wood 832165

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Kevin Barden, 24 Beagles Wood Road. Tel: 824708

**LADIES' NETBALL CLUB**  
Mrs M. Walker, 65 Belfield Road. Tel: 823439

**LARKFIELD HALL**  
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**LAWN TENNIS CLUB**  
Mrs S. Smith, 2 Ridgeway. Tel: 822405

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Mrs H. Swinden, 6 Church Road. Tel: 823378

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Mrs Durant, 39 Lower Green Road. Tel: 822196

**PEMBURY LADIES' SOCIAL GROUP**  
Mrs. C. Segens. Tel: 823846

**PEMBURY UPPER AND PARISH CHURCH**  
Rev. Jim Brasier. Tel: 824761

**PEMBURY PLAYERS**  
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Secretary: E. Fiddimore. Tel: TW 518277

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Evening: Mrs Janet Greenwood. Tel: 824472

**WRVS**  
Mrs H. Swinden, 6 Church Road. Tel: 823378

**YMCA**  
Tim Cole, Pembury YMCA. Tel: 823330

## FOR YOUR DIARY

- APR**
- 1 Pembury Footpath Walkers: walk starting from Bo-Beep Corner at 2.15pm.
  - 3 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 4 Darby and Joan Club: sequence dancing display, Village Hall 2-4.30pm.
  - 6 Afternoon WI Birthday Party, Village Hall 2.15pm.
  - 7 Evening WI: a talk on colour analysis by Mrs Sarah Grist, Village Hall 7.45pm.
  - 8 Horticultural Society Spring Show, Village Hall 2.30pm.
  - 10 Horticultural Society: Floral Art meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 18 Darby and Joan Club coffee morning, Village Hall 10am.
  - 24 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 27 Horticultural Society: illustrated talk on "Alpine Gardening" by Mr Norman Edgar, Village Hall 8pm.
- MAY**
- 2 Darby and Joan Club AGM, Village Hall 2-4.30pm.
  - 4 Afternoon WI: Resolutions meeting at Catholic Hall 2.15pm.
  - 5 Evening WI: Resolutions meeting, Village Hall 7.45pm.
  - 6 Pembury Footpath Walkers: walk starting from Stonecourt Lane at 2.15pm.
  - 8 Horticultural Society: Floral Art meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 15 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 16 Darby and Joan Club: talk by the RNLI, Village Hall 2-4.30pm.
  - 17 Darby and Joan Club outing to Newhaven, leaving Sunhill 1pm.
  - 25 Horticultural Society: illustrated talk on roses by Norman Ingate, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 30 Darby and Joan Club meeting, Village Hall 2-4.30pm.
- JUNE**
- 1 Afternoon WI: a talk entitled "A trip to remember" by Kathleen Evans, Village Hall 2.15pm.
  - 2 Evening WI: Mrs Pam Bridges of St George's will speak, Village Hall 7.45pm.
  - 3 Pembury Footpath Walkers: walk starting from the Camden car park at 2.15pm.
  - 5 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 12 Horticultural Society: Floral Art meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 13 Darby and Joan Club: talk about the Kent Air Ambulance service, Village Hall 2-4.30pm.
  - 26 Parish Council Meeting, Village Hall 8pm.
  - 27 Darby and Joan Club meeting, Village Hall 2-4.30pm.

## ST. PETER'S CHURCH SERVICES

### Upper Church

- 8.00am Holy Communion**
- 9.45am The Parish Eucharist and Junior Church**
- 10.00am Holy Communion (Wednesdays)**

### Old Church

- 11.30am Matins (except first Sunday, Holy Communion)**

**Evening services as advertised on Church noticeboards.**

Every Friday - Pembury Village Market - Village Hall 9.45-11.15am  
Every Monday - Pembury Sequence Dance Club - Catholic Hall 7.45-10.15pm

