

Leen Times

It's been frosty (Minus 9 one night) for a few days; a scud of snow, a few windy days earlier and that seems to be about it for the winter. All around us the signs tell of spring: the pairs of Mallard, partridge and Raven. The Rooks are scrapping and building in their noisy roosts. Hares loping after each other round the fields. Green shoots everywhere and the first frog spawn (Feb11th)

On the farm the cattle are happily content with all of us rushing round caring for their every need. The first Hereford calf of the year arrived last week with no problems. The team are spending quite a bit of time getting the fences, gates, roads and water troughs all ready for the rush to get out to grass again. Muck is spread, ploughing done. We just wait for the ground to warm a little more before seeds go in.

I have a moan! I will give 4 reasons why, but just one this time:- Its about walking dogs. Farms are not parks and although most people respect that, some don't! Please don't let your dog roam free when you are walking. They frighten the stock, particularly at lambing time and with cattle, potentially creating a danger for their owner or others.

Wildlife news: 3 dead Barn owls on the side of the road. An Egyptian Goose (an African!) reported from a Pembridge farm. Just 40 Peewits seen this year in the Milton Cross area. First Long tailed Tits nest reported Feb22nd

Fishing Group: I have had quite a lot of interest in this. Come to a meeting on the Village Green. Sat April 12th 2.00pm
Events: **Dawn Chorus** 4.30 am Sat. April 26th Sit and listen, see the milking, a good walk then farmhouse breakfast £8 (surplus to conservation charity) Please Book: email me or ring 388 305

Rogation Sunday Walk: This year in conjunction with ARC/ Addington

(This is a farming charity) Meet at the Leen after church Sun April 27th

Bring a picnic.

Tony Norman : tony@leenfarmorganics.co.uk

Tony

It won't be long before we see more of these young Herefords about



Articles & Stories Wanted !

Do you have a story about Pembridge life ? Maybe you have worked on the land or had an interesting experience in business or socially. Perhaps you have some photographs or old cuttings about the village. If you have please get in touch with me on: 01544 388497 or email: glynwhiting@tiscali.co.uk

CURRENT LIST OF PARISH COUNCILLORS:

NAME TELEPHONE

Cllr. Garfield Evans CHAIRMAN	01544 388638
Cllr. Kenneth Myers VICE CHAIRMAN	01544 388767
Cllr. David Owens	01544 388422
Cllr. Alan Stokes	01544 387924
Cllr. Mrs. Julie Mifflin	01544 388414
Cllr. Brian Morgan	N/A
Cllr. Phillip Thomas	01544 388457
Cllr. John Purslow	01544 388060
Cllr. Mrs. Suzanne Smith	01544 388085
Cllr. Mrs. Patricia Lloyd	01544 340340
Cllr. Kevin Duggan	01544 388833
Cllr. Robert Pierce	01544 388682
Cllr. Roger Phillips Ward Councillor	01544 340269

Pembridge Surgery Hours

DOCTORS/NURSES SURGERIES AS FOLLOWS:

Monday:..... 9.00 – 12.00 –NURSE
(& DOCTOR USUALLY)
2.30pm – 5.00pm-DOCTOR

Tuesday: 9.00 –11.30-DOCTOR

Wednesday:..... 9.00 – 11.30-DOCTOR&NURSE
2.30pm - 4.30pm-NURSE

Thursday:.....2.30pm – 5.00pm-DOCTOR

Friday:.....9.00am – 11.30-DOCTOR

DOORS OPEN FOR COLLECTION & ORDERING OF PRESCRIPTIONS:-

Monday: 9am-1pm & 2.15pm-6.00

Tuesday: 9am-1pm

Wednesday: 9am-1pm & 2.15pm-4.45pm

Thursday: 2.15pm-5.30 pm

Friday: 9am-1pm

EMERGENCY DOCTOR

(Between 8am and 6pm)

Mon to Fri - a doctor will be available at Kington Surgery on 01544 230302.

EMERGENCY DOCTOR

(Out of Hours)

Mon to Fri and Week Ends

Between 6pm and 8am call PRIMECARE on 0845 600 8182

Nurse Advice

(Out of Hours)

For Health information and Nurse advice.

Call NHS direct on 0845 46 47

Editor : Glyn Whiting tel: 01544 388497 email : glynwhiting@tiscali.co.uk Publication deadline : April. 15th 2008
www.pembridge.org.uk www.pembridgeamenitytrust.co.uk www.pembridgechurch.org.uk

NB : the views expressed by contributors are those of the authors and not those of the editor. View expressed in editorials are not necessarily those of the Parish



Pembridge Parish News

A Parish Council information service for the people of Pembridge

March - April 2008



Editorial

Having enjoyed the wonderful sunsets of Spain I am looking forward to getting back to Pembridge. I saw the first swallow today but I feel I have an unfair advantage ! With the days drawing out it's great to be looking forward to Spring. If you feel left behind by the computer generation you can catch up with the new Community Access Point. Check it out below. Also Tony will be starting his walks again and the information is on the back page. I'm a bit out of touch this month as I've been away but promise to be more on the ball in the next issue. Meanwhile the sun is burning off the mist over the mountains and a flock of sheep, all with bells on, have just gone past. Now where's that corkscrew.....



Formetera, February 08

Everything you've wanted to know about computers, cameras and more....

Pembridge Community Access Point (CAP) is based in classroom 4 at the primary school. Run by volunteers, the CAP is currently open once a week (Thursday evenings, 6-9pm) and offers public access to computers, broadband internet access, digital cameras and knowledgeable volunteers to answer any questions, which you may have. Whether you have a computer at home or have never turned one on before, the CAP is there for you.

In 2008, there will be dedicated sessions for beginners, silver surfers (the over 60s) and digital photography enthusiasts led by a qualified and experienced tutor – all kicking off with sessions for beginners. Posters will go up in the local shops once details have been confirmed. Anyone interested in such sessions should contact Henry.

There will also be film nights once more at the village hall thanks to the CAP volunteers. The first one is planned for early May and details will follow nearer the time.

If you would like to know more about the community access point, please come along to a session, ring Henry (chair) on 388002 or send an email (henry.pembridge@yahoo.co.uk). Please note, car parking for the school is available in the playground, accessed from Bearwood Lane. Classroom 4 is also fully accessible to the disabled.

Village Green Project

The development of the North East corner of the village green has commenced with the production of a draft report by local environmental expert Dan Wenczek of Bearwood Associates Ltd.

Since the announcement of the project, which is under the auspices of the Parish Council, Doreen Furber, Geoff Lynn and Adrian Lomax have joined the Village Green Group to bring it up to full complement and a grant has been obtained from the Kingspan Community Trust to finance the work.

Before the Group can put forward any ideas of a concrete (not literally) nature to the Parish Council and parishioners for their views further inspections of the area need to be carried out in May and July to confirm what plant species exist in that area.

In addition, if any parishioners are aware of legal constraints or have other concerns that could affect how the conservation plan is formulated then please contact Cllr Bob Pierce or myself.

Ken Myers



Winter sunset at Tibhall, Jan 08

Sunday 30th March Get Fitter with Litter !

A communal litter collecting is being arranged for
March 30th at 11.00am outside the New Inn

All implements and safety gear will be provided
It's only for an hour or so and is designed to get the village looking it's best for Spring.

Please come along and help if you can.
Make it a social event with a drink afterwards.

Parish Council Report

Parish Freighter Service for 2008 – Rubbish Removal

Three Saturday dates have been arranged for the Freighter and small box van to be present at the Parish Hall during 2008. Any unwanted white goods or items of furniture can be collected, as well as general household rubbish (no hazardous materials please) :-

Saturday 26th April between 11am and 1pm

Saturday 9th August between 11am and 1pm

Saturday 8th November between 8am and 10 am

Tree Management by the riverside on the Village Green

The Environment Agency's Flood Risk Management Team has recently undertaken a tree coppicing programme on the village green. This has been long overdue and we are most grateful to the team for carrying out this work for the parish.

The resultant lengths of cut cord wood are being left on the green for parishioners' benefit – on a first come first served basis. Chipped brushwood is also available there.

Motorists - Extra Care required on approaches to the School

You will notice that new School signs have been positioned in Bearwood Lane, together with a 30mph road painted roundel, and the Parish Council would like to remind all motorists to take particular care in the vicinity of the school and to keep speed down to avoid any accidents.

Children's Playground

Regrettably there has again been some vandalism occurring there.

The next Parish Council Meeting

Will be held on Wednesday 19th March 2008 at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall.

THE PARISH ANNUAL OPEN MEETING WILL BE HELD ON WED. 7th MAY 2008 AT 7.30 pm IN THE PARISH HALL. All welcome.

Please address any inquiries to the Clerk:

Mrs. Heather Harding, 153 Bargates, Leominster. HR6 8QT Tel: 01568 612143

E-Mail: harding153@hotmail.com

As there were no firm candidates to take over the post of Clerk, I have decided to stay in post, and I look forward to continuing to serve the parish.

W.I. News

March 12th : Mrs Lesley Hunt will talk on " Old and New Titley Junction"

March 26th : Marches Group Spring Meeting at Kingswood village hall Talk on " Penguins" by Dr Anne Caunt.

April 6th : Mrs Eileen Dilley will talk on " Social Afternoon Tea".

An outing to Coughton Court near Droitwich is arranged for **Wednesday 18th June**, leaving Pembrige at 9.30 a.m and returning about 5.30 p.m. Cost £22 per person. Non- members are invited to join members for this outing and should

contact **Ruth Barker (TEL: 388708) ASAP.**

Meetings are held in Pembrige Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. Visitors are welcome and you can contact the Secretary,

Dianne Davis (01544 388399) for further details.



The latest contribution from the Kingspan Insulation Community Trust is helping to keep children using the play area at Shobdon safe. £650 was donated by the Trust to provide a self closing gate for the play area.

The play area at Shobdon is used by parents and toddlers as well as pupils from the nearby primary school and with its location on the main road the threat of cars is always on the minds of parents.

The entrance to the play area was so close to the main road that there wasn't space to manoeuvre prams into and out of the original gate without getting either parent or children perilously close to the traffic. A new layout for the entrance to the play area and a new safer gate was just the tonic that was required.

Ann Kent-Phillips clerk to the Parish council said "It is a fantastic thing what the Trust is doing and the residents of Shobdon are extremely grateful for all the assistance they have had.

The old gate at the play area had been vandalised and would no longer close, but thanks to funding from the Trust we have been able to purchase a metal self closing gate to keep our children safe."

The Kingspan Insulation Community Trust was set up in order to benefit the residents of the three Parishes of Shobdon, Pembrige and Kingsland. Funding can be given for projects that meet one of the Trust's four objectives which cover conservation, encouraging biodiversity, health and fitness of young people and road safety.

John Garbutt, chairman of the Trust said; "This is one of many projects the Trust has been able to provide funding for in Shobdon and we are delighted to see how many residents are benefitting from these worthwhile causes."

A fund of £25,000 is made available twice a year.

The deadline for the next round of grants, for which applications are invited is March 31st, 2008.

The application form is available from the Trust website www.KingspanInsulationCommunityTrust.org.

Information about the Trust and how to meet the criteria are also available on the website.

This view of The Old Post Office is from 1966. I believe it was run by two sisters. Again, do you have any more information ?



Herefordshire Councillor's report

Schools

Given the anxiety caused by the draft proposals last month I thought it proper to outline some of the background.

The funding that our schools receive via the Dedicated Schools Grant is determined by Central Government, based on pupil numbers. The review of schools was imposed on all local authorities by Government to address surplus places with the "carrot and stick" being future capital funding. It is probably worth pointing out that Herefordshire is the third lowest funded education service – we received £3,687 per pupil in the 2008/9 settlement.

If Herefordshire was funded at the average unitary council level, we would receive an extra £329 per pupil, worth £7.5million p.a. (based on 22,836 pupils).

I thought it worth giving you this background as it might help to explain the initial draft proposals. The mistake the council made was to allow the Directorate of Children's services to issue the draft proposals without political support and the backup of secure information to justify them. When Councillors discovered the poor evidence they were withdrawn .

At the Full Council meeting on Friday 8th February the proposals were formally rejected and an undertaking that no high schools or six forms would disappear or be merged within the lifetime of the current administration till 2011. In the case of primary schools only the existing small school policy remains which states that schools with below 46 pupils must start to work with the LEA, partners and the community to look for creative and local solutions in order for them to be safeguarded.

Pembrige School which receives high praise from Inspectors has 99 pupils is due to start a major refurbishing programme this term which will improve the facilities still further. Our local High School Lady Hawkins was inspected just before Christmas and was identified as a good school with a well performing six form. The numbers at the school are due to rise including the six form.

The upset that this has caused to our schools and communities is something I bitterly regret and will ensure that lessons have been learnt. This month I will be part of a delegation to see the schools Minister Jim Knight to make the case for our schools and rural provision.

Speeding though the Village

I am working with the Parish and County Councils to identify sites and equipment to install to warn motorist about speeding though the village. Speed Activated signs seem more appropriate than Speed Indicator Devices and I shall be reporting to the next Parish Council meeting. Meantime new Schools signs and red tarmac in Bearwood road are also being installed.

Roger Phillips

01544340269/01432260046

rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

This is the new logo for the Parish Council Do you like it ?



Emerys Vaughan 1966



Another archive picture from the Sunday Times 1966 What do you know about the old cobbler ?

Knitting & Crochet Workshops

The next Workshop will be on Tuesday 4th March from 10.00am – 12.00. Advice will be on hand to help with difficulties in reading patterns, joining in colours, knitting fair-isle – whatever you need. Coffee and biscuits and a chance to meet for a chat are an added extra! The cost is £2 for the session. **Please ring** me if you would like to come along so that I have an idea of numbers.

The Group has decided they would like to knit a jumper each to send for children in a Kenyan orphanage. The pattern is quite straightforward – a T shape – and can be knitted in fun stripes or just plain DK. If anyone would like a copy of the pattern and join us in sending a jumper, I would be happy to supply the pattern.

Also, if anyone has any spare DK wool (pure wool, mixture or cotton) we would be grateful for anything you have.

Kate Best 01544 318513



Weobley Theatre Goers

The next production the Theatre Group is going to see is the musical **'Fiddler on the Roof'** in Malvern. This is on **Wednesday 19th March**, leaving Bell Square, at 12.30 pm

I have also reserved seats for **'Single Spies'** by Alan Bennett starring Nigel Havers for Wednesday 16th April leaving Weobley at 12.30pm. This play opened to ecstatic reviews at the National Theatre in 1988 and went on to become a huge West End hit, sparkling with the author's trademark wit and intelligence.

Please book for this by 15th March – tickets £25 including the coach.