

LEEN TIMES

The calves are coming thick and fast at the moment with up to 15 being born every day. That's a lot of extra milk going into the milk tank every week but also a lot of extra work for the staff with more calves to feed, more new cows to milk and more grazing to find for them all. For the first time in my (hum!)60 years we now have to buy milk for the house (this is because our herd has TB and we must drink pasteurised milk). Thankfully Shobdon Stores sell Organic milk, but I find it costs a bit more than we sell it for!

The combines and balers are busy round the parish with quite a reasonable looking harvest coming off. Our own harvest of various vegetables continues week by week with the problems of slugs, caterpillars and weeds being massively increased by the wet July weather. We can deal with them all in an organic system but it just gives the team more hassle and inevitably results in more losses. Other signs of the end of summer manifest themselves by local Whinberries appearing, Blackberry & Apple crumble, Runner beans with every meal and in the chutney, mushrooms and of course, Plums, my favourite fruit. We had a go with a Moth Trap the other night. We soon came to realise just how much does go on at night with a mass of midges, beetles, mayflies, caddis flies and others as well as the moths we were trying to look at. We finished up with over 40 different moth species- quite an experience. We did catch a Hawk Moth in amongst it- strangely enough someone had brought me a Hawk caterpillar, a big beast (as big as a little finger with two huge false eyes) only the day before. We are fortunate to be paid an environmental grant each year by DEFRA. Part of the deal is that we show people what we do. So, if you belong to a club/school/group/society I would be delighted to talk to your secretary to arrange for your group to have look round (I get paid for that as well!!!).

Tomy

AN EVENING OF ENTERTAINMENT provided by

Three local adventurers

Bruce Gardener sailing to antarctica
Kinsey Hern playing cricket on Mt Everest
Ollie Whittal running the marathon des Sables

at
Upper Whettons, Broxwood
(by kind permission of Mr & Mrs R. Gwilliam)

on
Monday 7th September 2009

at 7.30 pm

Tickets to include supper £10.00
Proceeds to Help the Heroes, Pembridge Church
and Lords Taverners

Tickets from R. Gwilliam at McCartneys LLP,
54 High St. Kington HR5 3BJ or Tel: 01544 230316

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

INTRODUCTION OF A PARISH LENGTHSMAN

A Parish Lengthsman has now been employed, who is Mr. Richard Mills; and together with his staff they have undertaken their first task in tidying up Bridge Street and surrounding areas, and this has already made a tremendous improvement.

If you are aware of anything in the parish that you feel needs to be attended to by the Lengthsman please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk, and the Parish Council will consider these suggestions.

PARISH BUDGET/PRECEPT SETTING FROM APRIL 2010 TO MARCH 2011

This autumn the Parish Council will be setting its budget/precept requirement for the year ahead as usual. The Parish Council wishes to extend the opportunity to residents to put forward any suggestions for improvement within the parish which will need financial consideration, and these should be directed to the Clerk by the end of October this year.

INTRODUCTION OF ONE SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE FOR VILLAGE

One Speed Indicator Device will be situated at the western end of the village in the near future, and it is hoped that a marked reduction in the speed with which vehicles approach from that direction will be noted.

PARISH MAGAZINE ADVERTISERS

The annual renewal of fees is due shortly for the year ahead and the Clerk will contact all advertisers soon. If any advertiser wishes to amend their advertisements for the year ahead, or withdraw their advertisements, would you please advise the Clerk before the end of September.

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Wednesday 16th September then Wednesday 21st October 2009 at 7.30pm

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

PEMBRIDGE SURGERY: NEW SURGERY TIMES:

DOCTORS/NURSES SURGERIES AS FOLLOWS:
Monday:..... 9.00 – 12.00 –NURSE
(& DOCTOR USUALLY)
3.00pm – 5.00pm-DOCTOR

Tuesday: 9.00 –12.00 -DOCTOR

Wednesday:..... 9.00 – 12.00 -NURSE
2.00pm - 4.30pm-NURSE

Thursday:.....3.00pm – 5.00pm-DOCTOR

Friday:.....9.00am – 12.00 -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-5.45 pm

Friday: 9am-1pm



Pembridge Parish News

A Parish Council information service for the people of Pembridge

Sept - Oct 2009



www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

EDITORIAL

BONFIRE NIGHT !!



Well, I don't know about you but I'm just about ready to storm the met office and gut them all with a rusty coat hanger. Barbeque summer indeed. Ten days in late June does not make a summer in my book.

Anyway, moving on, the show has once again enjoyed one of the few fine days in July and was a success on both a financial and social front. The good weather brought out the crowds and all the classes were well supported. I understand The Wye Valley Axmen were a great success. Shame I missed it as I love a good heavy metal band. Well done to all who put in the hard work.

As you can see we are now heading towards the autumn and the bonfire night plans are well underway. This was a great success last year so make sure you get along and support it this year. More thanks to you hard working people behind the event.

While it's been a bit of a disappointing summer we have had an abundance of wild flowers along the lanes, lots of swallows and the buddleias have been awash with a wide variety of butterflies. I've even had a bat take up residence inside the sun umbrella ! Just goes to show how often it's been up !

I will be travelling with the swallows again this year to Spain so will be preparing the Christmas edition from a distance. Fingers crossed for the technology. So, the cricket's over , the football's underway and I'm drawing the curtains ever earlier. I don't know about you but I've got a feeling September might be fantastic. But then again, I thought that about July..... Whatever the weather, enjoy what remains of the summer and make sure to get along on November 5th, it will be a great night as always.

Glyn



This fine hare was foraging outside our kitchen window

On the Millennium Meadow

Gates open at 6.00pm

Lighting of the bonfire 7pm

Full range of great fireworks!!
Competition for the 'best guy'
bar licence applied for

Watch for posters around the village
nearer the time with full details.
Any help will be gratefully recieved

contact Nicky or Cliff on 01544 388007

PEMBRIDGE SHOW

The show was a great success again this year helped by a fine dry day. Plenty to see and do, a full programme of trotting races and the Wye Valley Axemen attracted a large crowd.

This year we gave free admission to children which attracted more people through the gate. It was nice to see new exhibitors entering in the horticultural marquee this year and most sections exceeded last years entries. I hope this support continues in future years.

Local cup winners included Jill Williams, Mrs B. Petrie, Mrs P Teale, Robert & Jonty Goodey, Mrs S Horton and Mrs S. O'Hare. But the winner of six of the cups went to Mrs N.M. Thomas of Bredenbury.

The show committee would like to thank Mr. and Mrs K. Johnson for allowing us to hold our show in the long meadow again and all helpers, exhibitor, judges and members of the public who attended the show and made it such a great success. See you all again next year !!

Joyce Price Hort. Sec./ Treasurer

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www.pembridgeamenitytrust.co.uk www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.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 Council

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLORS REPORT

Wheely Bins. The Council's new waste collection contract begins this November. The weekly black bag collection will continue but all recycled items will go into a green wheely bin supplied by the Council and emptied every fortnight. The wheely bins will take glass bottles and jars, cans, paper and light card and a variety of plastics. There are many houses or individuals which will not be able to cope with the wheely bins so letters will be going out in September to those premises. At the same time all the other houses will be told about the bins they will be receiving. The total number homes included in these mail shots will be 80,794. Around 3000 have asked for smaller bins.

Bowel Cancer Screening. A new bowel cancer screening programme for Herefordshire will start in September. This follows a successful trial conducted in Gloucestershire. The NHS Bowel Cancer Screening Programme offers screening every 2 years to all men and women aged 60 to 69. People over 70 can request a screening kit by calling a free phone helpline when the programme reaches their area. The number will receive wide publicity on programme start up in Herefordshire. The aim will be to screen all of the eligible population over the first 2 years and then repeat the exercise. The precise number to be screened is very difficult to estimate as take up of the offer has been variable across the country.

Council Support For Local Businesses. The Council is helping local firms. Average time for payment of invoices is 17 days, down from 30. This summer 25 businesses attended an initial seminar fronted jointly by the Council, Chamber of Commerce and Business Link. It aimed to help businesses understand the tendering processes for local government (including NHS) contracts. Encouraging local companies to bid, not only for Herefordshire contracts, but for others beyond the County boundary is what it was about. The exercise will be repeated. You can register your interest with a call to Lyndsay McCron on 01432 383633.

Roger Phillips 01432260046/01544340269
rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

Herefordshire Council 01432260000

Knitting and Crochet Workshops in Weobley

The summer (such as it was) is over! I am now turning my thoughts to indoor hobbies and the knitting and crochet workshops. **If you are interested in coming to these, held on the first Tuesday in the month, please give me a ring.** Tea/coffee and biscuits provided! £2 per session and please bring your slippers. Everyone who wishes to learn something about knitting or crochet is welcome.

Kate Best - 01544 318513



Having some of the most beautiful and fertile countryside in the UK is something that shouldn't be taken for granted, and hopefully by now, you will have had a chance to take a stroll around the newly transformed Pembridge Village Green Conservation Area and have noticed the variety of plants, trees and animals that make it so protected. The Kingspan Insulation Community Trust was delighted to have been able to help facilitate the creation of such a great project, which not only encourages biodiversity but has also seen the local community working together. Looking after the environment in which we all live and work is extremely important and Kingspan Insulation has been busy examining ways that it can contribute to supporting the natural environment in the area. Back in 2006 they commissioned a report from local Kington-based experts, Border Ecology, on the biodiversity of the Pembridge site. Far from being as barren as some might think, the results showed that it was actually a thriving habitat for a large number of species of plants, birds and bats, and Border Ecology was able to make a number of recommendations to continue to help this grow.

The first phase of the plan was put into action last summer in a joint venture with local schools when children from Lady Hawkins' School, Wigmore High School and Shobdon & Kingsland Primary Schools visited the Pembridge site and created bee shelters, planted wildflowers, climbers and shrubs, and put up boxes to provide new homes for birds, bats and insects, learning in the process about the variety of creatures and plants that inhabit the natural environment.

Phase 2 of the plan was to deal with a variety of trees on Kingspan's manufacturing site and with the large trees and heavy work required it was clearly not going to be a suitable job for the school children - so the professionals were brought in. Not all wildlife is comfortable close to the ground and that is why a number of bat and bird boxes were installed in some of the high trees and an old Cypress tree has been made more secure by cabling which should help prolong its life. Alder trees have been planted upwind of an avenue of existing Cypress trees to act as a windbreak and approximately 25 trees including Ash, Willow and Oak have also been planted offering further habitats for wildlife.

Kingspan Insulation is committed to developing the biodiversity of its manufacturing site and action like this will be ongoing.

RESPONSE TO LEEN TIMES ARTICLE

Dear Sir,

"As a responsible resident of Pembridge I read, with indignation, Tony Norman's comments about dog walkers in the last edition of Pembridge Parish News.

I love walking in this beautiful countryside on public footpaths and bridle ways with my dog. I clean up after him, worm him regularly, keep him on the lead when near any animals, and under close control when off it, and I avoid fields with livestock in them.

I have had to cope with stiles that are impossible for a big dog to negotiate, thus barring my way, overgrown footpaths that cannot be found/used, electric fences across footpaths, unpleasant farmers, and being attacked by a cow when walking up a public lane - I was not in a field. The cow butted me to the ground into a hedge and trampled me causing me to be genuinely in fear of my life. The injuries I sustained took many, many months to heal. No-one ever apologised to me or even enquired after my health. Nonetheless, I respect the farmers' property and was offended to read the comments which I, and I know others, feel came over in a most unfortunate way. However, I should like to thank those farmers who have been welcoming and accommodating; their friendly and generous attitude is very much appreciated".

Thank you

Yours sincerely

Margaret Lillyman

Sir,

Tony Norman's strictures on dog walkers in your last issue deserve some response, I feel, lest we are all tarred with the same brush. I do not doubt that there are irresponsible dog owners. I do doubt, however, that they are the sort of owners who take their dogs for purposed exercise on a daily basis, and whose dogs have been regularly wormed, exactly, I am informed, as dogs on accredited farms have to be. I am also advised that bug induced abortion in cattle is a very, very rare occurrence and that if and when it does unfortunately happen the infection can just as easily have come from one of the farm's own dogs or from a fox. With regard to 'upsetting sheep and cattle' I would make two points. As the nearest park (Kington) is 5 miles away I have no choice but to take my dog through fields with sheep in. In such a case it is on a lead and the sheep show no sign of being upset. **I was upset**, when, on bidding a local farmer a polite good morning, I was told that it had been just that until I crossed his land with a dog! His day had been spoilt! I pointed out that I was on a public footpath and my dog was on a lead. To no avail. I was not welcome - full stop! I will not take a dog into a field of cattle. Each year several people are killed or injured by cattle when walking dogs on public footpaths, but when the cattle are gone then I regard the public footpath as exactly that. The irony is that in the heart of the country there are so few places where one can exercise a dog and not just trail it round on a lead like some urban pooch. We are not all blessed with large tracts of land of our own where a dog can have a good run. How pleasant it is to go to Kington park or Went's meadow in Presteigne and be met with smiling faces and cheerful greetings, (the usual case in Pembridge too, of course). But starting a dog walk with a car journey seems wrong somehow. All of which makes one appreciate so much the tolerance and welcoming attitude of many farmers and landowners who understand our problems, just as we do theirs.

yours, Raymond Warner



NEW STREET LIGHTING FOR THE VILLAGE

Following a public consultation, the Parish Council has selected one of the two lamps that have been trialled for several weeks and it is the one shown in the accompanying picture. It is a modern style lamp with a black pole, which Herefordshire Council's Lighting Consultant and Conservation Officer consider will blend in well in the village main thoroughfare, with its many black and white buildings.

A plan of the actual positions of the new lampposts will be placed on the noticeboard on the side of The Red Lion public house within the next few weeks. The implementation of the street lighting replacement scheme will be undertaken over the next 2-3 months. There will be some road disruption during the installation work, but this is necessary for the safety of the contractors.

LOCAL BLACKSMITH CONTRIBUTES TO FIRE VICTIMS IN AUSTRALIA



North Herefordshire blacksmith Bromley O'Hare has just finished work on his "Gum Tree leaves and nuts" which are being sent to the Tree Project to commemorate those who lost their lives and homes in the fires in Australia.

The project, organised by the Australian Blacksmiths Association (Victoria) Inc. is worldwide and asks blacksmiths to produce stainless steel or copper leaves and nuts of the Gum Tree. These will be fixed by ABA (Vic) blacksmiths to forged trunk and branches to serve as a memorial and a symbol of re-generation following the recent fires. The tree will be installed in a public place in one of the affected townships. Working in his smithy in Pembridge, Bromley said "We cannot comprehend what these people have been through in those fires and this is a way of remembering those lost and providing a lasting memorial for the future".

Bromley has been working in stainless steel for many years and has won numerous awards as well as featuring on the TV program Grand Designs producing a stainless steel door knocker. His delicate forging, especially of flowers and natural forms belies the weight and strength of the materials in which he works.