

## LEEN TIMES

Having just got back from the National Hedge Laying Championships in the Golden Valley I am so pleased that we have so many hedges laid around the farm. It is definitely not a dying art and it serves to renew the hedges, create wonderful wildlife refuges, shelter for animals and a means of keeping them where they should be. The different styles have been developed over the years for different areas of the country and I still think our Welsh Border style is way the best. On the farm the autumn jobs have been finished in wonderful weather. Vegetables have been harvested, new crops drilled and cattle getting ready to settle into their winter routine. Cows still go out to graze by day but lie warm and dry in their beds at night. We continue to test all the cattle for TB every couple of months and thankfully finding the problem slowly diminishing—we shall see.

It is interesting to see just how much wildlife a single field can support when it has been ploughed and drilled. First about 30 Rooks and about as many Herring Gulls take advantage of the opportunities presented by the freshly turned soil. Then the drilling is done and from nowhere arrives a flock of Wood Pigeons with some Stock Doves in attendance, a few Pheasants and a pair of Partridge peck around the margins. A few days and then, evenly spaced at about 50 yard intervals, Buzzards appear (53 at one count!!) they are worming and quite comical to watch as they stand stock still for several minutes before striding several yards to catch some insect or worm. The Buzzards still had the Gulls in amongst them, their ranks now swelled by Black-backed Gulls. These were now joined by a flock of over 100 Lapwings, separated but still clearly feeding. Further across the field a small tight group of busy black birds-Starlings were clearly enjoying something. Amazingly 2 pairs of Skylarks dropped in as well. Don't miss the Sloe Gin competition:

Sunday Dec 13<sup>th</sup> 8.00 pm at The New Inn !!  
[tony@leenfarmorganics.co.uk](mailto:tony@leenfarmorganics.co.uk)

PS I was asked to write this series, several years ago, about life and work on the farm, the wildlife I see and general observations of happenings around the countryside. I have tried to do just that, over the years and through several different editorships. Amazingly not one has chosen to alter a single word I have written and I am constantly surprised by the good comments I get locally and from further away. I apologise for any offence I have caused but I am afraid it will not deter me from writing about the things that cause problems. PPS I gave the wrong advice about dogs on leads and I certainly apologise for that. **WHEN WALKING WITH YOUR DOG IN SHEEP KEEP DOGS ON LEADS**  
**WHEN WALKING WITH YOUR DOG IN CATTLE KEEP THE DOGS OFF THE LEAD.**

Tony

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

### Parish Lengthsman

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.

### New Village Street Lighting

The new street lighting is now planned a little later than previously thought and should be implemented early in the New Year.

### Parish Freighter

The next date for the refuse freighter to be at the Parish Hall Car Park is Saturday 28th November between 8 and 10 am.

New Recycling Project comes into effect from 2nd November.

### Pembridge Parish Council wishes all residents a Peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

Next Parish Council Meetings - 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall - All welcome

Wednesday 18th November 2009

Wednesday 16th December 2009

Clerk: Mrs. Heather Harding Tel: 01568 612143 01568 612143

153 Bargates, Leominster. HR6 8QT

E Mail [harding153@hotmail.com](mailto:harding153@hotmail.com)

## W.I. NEWS

I don't seem to have received any W.I. News this issue. If I've missed it somehow then I apologise. Otherwise, please copy me any information by December 15th for the next issue.

### 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

November/December 2009



**Merry Christmas & Happy New Year !!**

## EDITORIAL

It always strikes me as strange to be writing this in shorts and t-shirt with Christmas on the horizon. But I'll put up with it!

Now, a word about hedge cutting. Particularly hedge cutting and power poles. In my long off days of youth, hedges were cut by a bunch of hardy souls with bill hooks and scythes. Took a long time so, like everything else, mechanical trimmers took over and it is far quicker and more economical. However, the problem seems to arise when a power pole is reached. Due to fear of damaging the pole the operator gives the power pole a wide berth. Quite right. But now we have a small area of hedge which, left to its own devices, will turn into a tree. Then, during the winter gales, these trees can cause damage to the wires bringing disruption and power cuts. The more observant of you will have noticed dozens of such trees around the lanes and they seem to breed each year.

So a call to all you hard working farmers. Please make this the year you check your hedgerows for the dreaded 'polebush' and with a wave of your trusty chainsaw we will all sleep in our beds safe in the knowledge that, if there is a power cut it won't be your 'polebush' that caused it.

Moving along to Christmas, I'm really pleased that Julie is again organising the trees in the village. I'm sure you all agree that it makes such a cheerful, seasonal display. A big thank you to all who have one in front of their house. Please support it if you can.

Now I'm not going to make any smart remarks about sun screen or cork screws ( oh dear ), but will just wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and healthy New year. I hope Santa brings you everything you wish for, but he may be a bit pushed for space this year as he's got to get my Aston Martin Vantage in his sack !!

Glyn

## CHRISTMAS TREES

Once again it is time to start planning the christmas trees in the village. We hope to put up the trees on Sunday 29th November and get all the lights finished before Friday December 4th. The lights will be turned on at 6pm Friday Dec 4th in the market hall. Father Christmas will be making an early visit. There will be stalls, a raffle for a Christmas cake, free coffee, tea, mince pies and sausage rolls. Mulled wine and hot dogs will be available from Jane and Rose at the New Inn. The Pembridge carol singers will very kindly join us to make this a festive occasion. Please come along and enjoy yourselves. If anyone doesn't want a tree this year please let me know otherwise we will carry on as usual. Julie Mifflin tel 388414

Just a reminder in the depths of winter  
What a glorious county we live in



Editor : Glyn Whiting tel: 01544 388497 email : [glynwhiting@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:glynwhiting@tiscali.co.uk) Publication deadline : December 15th 2009

[www.pembridgeamenitytrust.co.uk](http://www.pembridgeamenitytrust.co.uk) [www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk) [www.pembridgechurch.org.uk](http://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

### Village Traffic

The County Council and Parish Council installed a Speed Indication Device (SID) for a month in West Street and the speeds are being reported to the Parish Council. From the 28th August to 28th September some 31,329 vehicles travelled eastward into the village. Drivers driving within the limit totalled 15,562, the number of vehicles travelling above 30 mph speed limit was 15,769. Those travelling between 30 to 40 mph was 13,679; travelling 40 to 50 mph was 1,916 and 173 vehicles travelling in excess of 50 mph.

The highest recorded day was Saturday 12th September which was the date of Kington Show and saw 1,162 vehicles coming into Pembridge from Kington.

When compared to the records over the last three years they show a decline in the number of vehicles travelling through the village. From April 2006 to June 2009 the number of vehicles recorded going through Pembridge in both directions was 2,903 of which 17% were HGV or long vehicles. The figures for the neighbouring villages are Shobdon 4,330 per day with 19% HGVs, Eardisley 4,097 with 20% HGVs and Lyonshall 2,190 and 17% HGVs.

There is a clear indication that the number of Lorries travelling through Pembridge is less than a few years ago which can be put partly down to economic downturn.

Working with the Parish Council we will involve the Police in taking a more pro active position on village speeding and the SID will return within three months.

### New Bin Collection

This starts in November and hopefully with or without a wheelie bin you will have been informed of the new arrangements. If you have any problems please contact 01432260051.

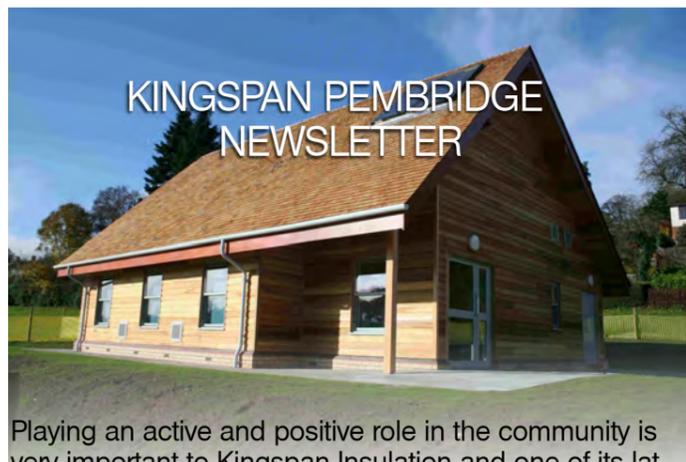
Roger

01544340269/01432260046

## KEEPING SAFE OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON

While most of us see Christmas as a time of good will, the more unscrupulous among us find it a lucrative time for burglaries and scams. Please make sure you take extra care when going out, lock up effectively and keep doors and windows locked even when at home.

Be cautious of door sales and, if in doubt, say no. Keep an eye out for neighbours, especially if they are elderly or incapacitated.



Playing an active and positive role in the community is very important to Kingspan Insulation and one of its latest projects has been its role as a major sponsor in the building of the new award winning "Eco-classroom" at Lady Hawkins' school.

This eco-classroom, which recently won the Local Authority Building Control (LABC) South West Awards in the best Sustainable Project category, has also been put forward for the National LABC Awards and has become a practical tool in educating students about the importance of looking after the environment, whilst showing them ways in which simple everyday actions can have an impact on it and what can be done to reduce this.

As well as being an example of an environmentally sustainable building in the community, it is of course used for a variety of different lessons such as Geography, History and English within Lady Hawkins, and has become the base for groups in the wider community – since its initial opening in December 2008, pupils from other local schools have been visiting the classroom to learn about the environment and how the building works.

Kingspan Insulation generously contributed towards the building materials for the construction of the classroom which has a wide range of environmentally-friendly features and is already proving a great success.

The two key technologies are high performing levels of insulation from the Kingspan products in the building envelope and the heat recovery ventilation system, which captures the heat, generated by the children whilst they are in the room, and uses it to pre-heat incoming ventilation air.

Nic Dinsdale, director of Humanities at Lady Hawkins' indicated that as a school with specialist status, Lady Hawkins' aim to play a lead role in education throughout the community, and teaching children about treating the planet with respect is a big part of that. The new Eco-classroom is a very important step, and Kingspan's help had been a big boost to the project.

The challenge of moving towards environmental, economic and societal sustainability is an issue that we all have responsibility for, and the success of this project is a great example of how public organisations such as schools can work together with businesses to make a real difference.

It is not just these large projects that help in reducing the impact of everyday life on the environment. All it takes to make a difference is for a single person to stop and think about how they do things and make a simple change, so why not support Lady Hawkins' and see what small steps you can take.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

This is addressed to all those retired who might wish to engage with other like minded persons in the pursuit of educational and social activity This is to bring to your attention the Leominster & District U3A. (See web site [www.u3a.sites.org/Leominster](http://www.u3a.sites.org/Leominster).)

All U3A's are members of the Third Age Trust, a registered charity which is the national support and advisory body. The local U3A is an autonomous body run by the voluntary efforts of its members to encourage older people no longer in full time employment to continue lifelong learning. Members are urged to help each other share knowledge, skills, interests and experience by forming Interest Groups in accordance with the wishes of the membership.

Currently we have 25 Interest Groups which cover mental, physical, and social activities viz. Art, Bridge for beginners, Bridge, Creative Writing, Current affairs, Family History, French, Gardening, German for beginners, German, History, Latin for beginners, Latin, Mah Jong, Music Appreciation, Poetry Appreciation, Reading, Relaxation Therapy, Singing for Pleasure, Spanish, Walking, Cycling, Pub lunches, and outings.

A general meeting is held each month attended by between 80-100 members and where a Speaker gives an illustrated talk on a particular subject. It is also an opportunity to enjoy a cuppa and to socialise. We are a friendly group and should it be of interest to you then come to a monthly meeting as a visitor. For further details either visit the web site and/or make contact with the Membership Secretary **Patsy Condy at 01568 611 872**

## REMINDER TO DOG OWNERS

The Council would like to remind dog owners that when on council owned land dogs must be kept on a lead. Also, please make sure you clean up any fouling with a scoop and plastic bag.

### Editors Note;

*It is always a bit of a juggling act putting this magazine together and I don't make it easy for either myself or all you contributors by spending so much time out of the country. It makes getting in late information more difficult and sometimes information missing out because I've received it well in advance and left it behind. I always try to keep on top of it but please accept my apologies if I have missed you out. All contributions are valued and I try to get them all in, Glyn Whiting (editor)*

## ROCK ON THE PLOCK

On Saturday, 5th September 2009, Pembridge was treated to a live music extravaganza in the form of Rock on the Plock, in a field at Pitfield Farm.

The weather was fine, there were stalls serving food, a beer tent, marquees for DJ's, an open mic session, as well as bands from Kington and beyond playing foot stomping, hip wiggling, jumping up and down sort of music.

The event was organised to raise money for continuing work at Pembridge Primary School as well as providing an event for the village and the wider community Those that were there had a great time but there were just too few...

Energy, time and enthusiasm as well as the generous donations of equipment was provided by local people and businesses. Thank you on behalf of those who had a fantastic time and please can it happen again (and we promise to bring all our friends next year!!!)

Please reapply for the licence now so that we know it can go ahead next year!

Ruth Davies  
Yasmin Strube

## VILLAGE BLACKSMITH

This jovial looking chap is David Barrar, who was a blacksmith in the village in the mid 1960's. Anyone with more information please get in touch.

