

LEEN TIMES

Spring has been late. The frogs spawned late, the Swallows arrived late, Bluebells are late and our Spring flush of grass is late. Fortunately we had enough silage to see us through (just!) and now we have so much grass that we are busy shutting up fields ready for the next crop (of silage). The cows are milking well and the milk price is not too bad, so, no complaints, at the moment! The farm is a hive of activity, with all the cattle going out into fields that must have all those gates, fences, water troughs etc all in order for the summer. We have cleared up the debris from the hedge laying and completed the planting of several thousand new hedgerow trees and shrubs. The sheds have all been cleaned out so the muck can be composted down in a huge pile of hundreds of tons ready to put on vegetable crops or the grassland.

The Village Green has been fascinating to watch with some of the nesting boxes being occupied, the new trees coming into leaf, the flowers (Snowdrops, Violets, Primroses, wild Daffodils, Fritillaries, Cowslips and many, many more). The river has been alive and our various refuges occupied, but I have yet to see the bat box used. The Otter is still leaving his 'Spraint' regularly and the other day, walking across from the Car Park I spied a Red Kite planing round overhead. Wild life news: Couple of reports of Barn Owls- I had hoped there might be more. Quite a lot of butterflies seen in the early sunshine, probably coming out from winter quarters. White Egret and a Hobby reported. Has anyone else noticed a shortage of Toad spawn? The frogs seem to be hatching off well with black masses of tadpoles.

Events: **Sunday 2nd May** - a pond-dipping morning -11am for young and old, on the **village green**, identifying bugs from the river, fishing lessons and tasting trout cooked over a fire lit by flint stone (£5 including light refreshments)

Sunday 9th May Rogation Sunday walk- after Shobdon service, strong boots and sandwiches .

Tony Norman: tony@leenfarmorganics.co.uk

Tony

Pembridge Surgery Opening hours

Monday:	8.45am to 1.00pm	2.15pm to 6.00pm
Tuesday	8.45am to 1.00pm	closed afternoons
Wednesday	closed all day	
Thursday	8.45am to 1.00pm	2.15pm to 6.00pm
Friday	8.45am to 1.00pm	closed afternoons

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

NEW STREET LIGHTING FOR THE VILLAGE

The new lighting scheme is progressing well and should be completed very soon. Any feedback from residents would be welcome. Please contact the clerk on the number below.

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.

ALLOTMENTS

The Parish Council is seeking suitable land to lease for provision of allotments.

NEXT PARISH MEETING DATES

Wednesday 5th MAY

ANNUAL PARISH OPEN MEETING

7.30 pm Parish Hall

Parishioners are invited to come along and ask any questions on relevant parish matters.

Wednesday 19th May

PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

Election of Officers

7.30 pm 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

YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Garfield Evans

CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Kenneth Myers

VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr. David Owens

Cllr. Alan Stokes

Cllr. Mrs. Julie Mifflin

Cllr. Phillip Thomas

Cllr. John Purslow

Cllr. Mrs. Suzanne Smith

Cllr. Mrs. Patricia Lloyd

Cllr. Kevin Duggan

Cllr. Robert Pierce

Cllr. Philip Rogers

Cllr. Roger Phillips

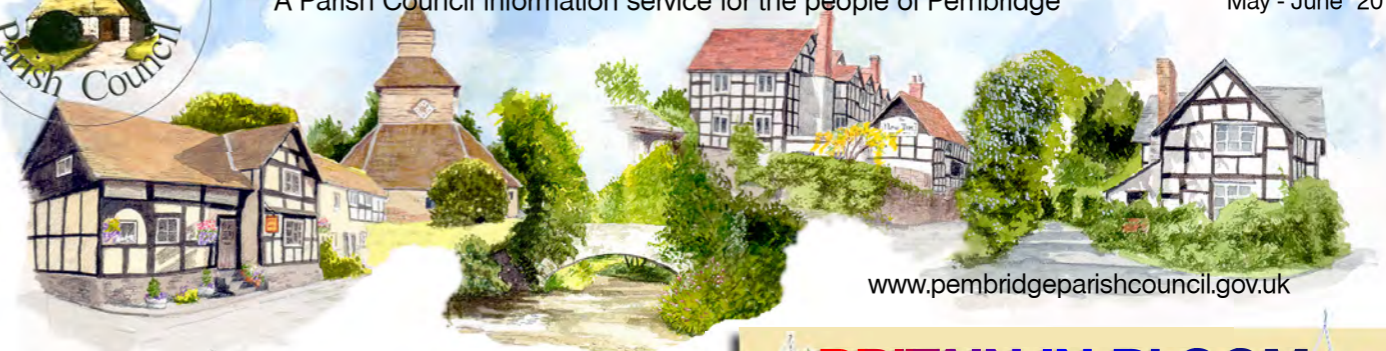
WARD COUNCILLOR



Pembridge Parish News

A Parish Council information service for the people of Pembridge

May - June 2010



www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

EDITORIAL

Well, the cuckoo is here and the swallows are in the sky. It must be Spring ! Even the weather has been on its best behaviour with plenty of dry sunny days.

Those of you who keep your ear to the ground will know I spent some time in a lovely Spanish hospital back in February with a heart attack. After poking about with some tubes and fitting stents I'm back better than ever !

This issue previews a great concert in the Church that is taking place in July. It promises to be of high quality and proceeds go to Pembiridge & Staunton Church. Also this month sees the start of Pembridges foray into 'Britain in Bloom'. Even if we don't progress it will have a huge benefit to the village. Think how much we enjoy the Christmas trees (another Mifflin initiative). It's also time to start thinking about the village show so again, any helpers please give Julie a ring sooner rather than later.

Finally, the art market returns on May 22nd instead of September so please make a note of that. Otherwise , lets hope the good weather continues. Anyone heard saying ' we could do with some rain' will be sent to Clun. Meanwhile, keep taking the tablets. I know I will !!

Glyn

Spring is all about new growth and new life. This delightful shot of a kitten in the Spring sunshine really encapsulates the season. Good luck little fella, the road is long.



BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Calling all villagers on the main streets

The parish council are awarding prizes to the best hanging baskets and the best front of house as seen from the pavement, this summer. This is because we are entering Pembridge in 'Britain in Bloom' . Many of you will be aware, this is contest with very high standards so if we want to put on a good show we need to start early and plan ahead. Pembridge stalwart Julie Mifflin is the driving force behind it so lets get stuck in and show that Earisland doesn't have the monopoly on participation !

For more information please give Julie a call:
Julie Mifflin 388414

PEMBRIDGE SHOW JULY 31st

This year we will be celebrating seventy years since the show began. As most of you will know the show began as part of the "dig for victory" campaign encouraging people to grow their own vegetables. This is now popular again with people starting to grow vegetables in their gardens and in the very popular allotments that are appearing around the villages and towns.

Among the attractions we are arranging displays of various vintage vehicles. We are having a "museum" of local items of interest, which the WI are kindly helping us with. This will focus mainly on the war years but anything of interest would be suitable. If any one has any thing that may be used in the Museum display would they consider loaning it for the day. Every thing will be well looked after and stewards will be there at all times. Among the things of interest are photos, newspaper cuttings, details of property sales, old grocery, butcher, coal bills etc. Old tools implements and anything else you might think is interesting.

Contact myself or a member of the WI.
Julie Mifflin tel . 388414

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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

Kington Surgery Planning Application

As many of you may know the Kington GP practice has submitted a planning application for the building of a new surgery and health centre outside Kington up the main road opposite Arrow plant.

The practice which has 8,400 registered individuals covers 600 square miles and includes 3 nursing homes, 4 residential care homes, and Kington Court. There are two other Surgeries in the practice at Pembridge and Eardisley and it is intended to continue to use both of them.

Over the last three years and longer over 17 sites have been investigated in and around the outskirts of Kington with only this site being available. The centre will have improved space and services which include a dental practice, rooms for outside consultants which will mean people not having to travel to Hereford. There will be car parking for 52 vehicles with separate staff parking.

If the new centre is not built there is concern that the existing facilities in Victoria road will fail the Quality Care Commission in January 2012. The funding is in place to build and work can begin this year.

While I have some concerns about access and road safety which need consideration I will support this application. We have an opportunity to improve local health provision for our community and given the exhaustive site search this is an opportunity we must not miss.

Together with the other local member I have called the matter to committee on 12th MAY at Brockington, Hafod Road Hereford at 10.00am.

Given the site and the road it is probable the planners will recommend refusal but I would argue with some measures in place to address the road the community need outweighs their objections.

Pembridge School Open Evening

The Pupils, Governors and Staff of Pembridge school want to invite the community to come see the facilities and work of our school at a special open evening on Wednesday 23rd June from 6 pm .

Our schools has over 100 pupils and has just finished it's latest building project. Please come and see what a 21st Century modern primary school has to offer.

Roger

Cllr Roger Phillips 01432260046/ 01544340269

Email: rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

Editors Note;

Some items are missing out because they arrive after the publication deadline. I try to stretch it when possible but remember if you are promoting something on a specific date it need to be in with time for people to plan for it !! You can never be too early !!



We all look for ways to re-use things and get the most out of everything we have, but clearly the woodpeckers in Herefordshire are thinking outside the box (well in it actually!) as they have been given insulation by Kingspan to do more than keep warm.

Yes that's right, Kingspan Insulation is being used in nest boxes, not only to keep them warm and dry but to replicate the consistency and texture of the wood that woodpeckers need to drum into in order to create nest holes and prepare them for the mating season.

The use of the insulation is part of a bigger scheme from Herefordshire Biodiversity Partnership to reverse the decline of Lesser spotted woodpeckers and Green woodpeckers within Herefordshire through surveying and habitat management.

The Herefordshire Biodiversity partnership has been busy building and installing nest boxes that have been placed in targeted areas such as orchard and woodland areas as well as training a number of volunteers who will record breeding woodpeckers behaviour and monitor nest activity, such as which breeds are using the nests and how many. Two of these boxes have also been installed on the Kingspan site.

The first of the three breeds being surveyed is the Lesser spotted woodpecker which is the smallest of the three and is actually barely larger than a house sparrow. Its main plumage is black and white with conspicuous barrings on the wings and back and can be located in the higher part of a tree canopy more often by the sound of its drumming rather than by sight.

The second is the Great spotted woodpecker which is a thrush sized bird with striking black and white markings with adult males having a striking red patch at the back of the head. Over the years they have adapted well to its surroundings by using garden bird feeders and are often described as an opportunistic feeder. This species is found in many different habitats such as parks, conifer plantations, a wide variety of woodlands, orchards and even on bird tables in gardens.

The Green woodpecker, which is actually pigeon sized, is the third breed being surveyed and is a chunky bird with pale grey underparts and bright green upperparts, a red crown and large bill, and is most notably recognised as the bird associated with the Woodpecker cider brand. They are often seen around anthills on grasslands where they use their extraordinary long tongues to extract ants and nest in woodlands with a preference to oak.

GET INVOLVED WITH THE WOODPECKER PROJECT

Even though many volunteers have already been recruited and trained to monitor the activity of these birds, you can still take part by reporting any sightings to :

woodpeckers@herefordshire.gov.uk

or on the Herefordshire Ornithological Club (HOC) website at

<http://www.herefordshirebirds.org/woodpeckerssurvey.html>

including details such as where they were spotted, the number spotted and how they were interacting with each other.

PEMBRIDGE W.I.

"We are coming to the end of our 90th anniversary celebration year and what an eventful year it has been! A wonderful celebration day last May, a trip to Highgrove, Denman College, outings, activities too numerous to list

This year is beginning to shape up as well with a trip to Ladies' day at Cheltenham, line dancing, a belated Christmas lunch (after Easter!) painting demonstration, walking group, reading group, music group meetings and tenpin bowling.

In early June, Tuesday 8th, we have a trip to Bourton on the Water, Stow on the Wold, Stanway House and Gardens for the inclusive price of £18.50. All members and non members are welcome. For further information contact

Pat Baugh Tel : 01544 387947.

We meet on the **2nd Wednesday** in the month at the **Village Hall at 7.00pm**. Everyone is welcome, you do not have to bake a cake, stir jam or even sing Jerusalem. Just come and join in, you'll be surprised what fun it is.

For more information contact

Tricia Lloyd Tel : 01544 340340

Aerial view of Pembridge in 1966. Not much has changed but the petrol station bottom right has closed and the houses opposite are just a distant dream, as is Sandford Plock.



PARISH COUNCIL SEEKS LAND FOR ALLOTMENTS

The Parish Council has received a request to provide allotments to local residents and is therefore seeking land for such provision.

Up to 2 acres of land is needed to lease, within two miles of Pembridge, and if anyone has such a parcel of land that they could provide for a number of years, would you please contact

Cllr. John Purslow on Tel: 01544 388060

by the end of May.

**Saturday
3rd July**

7.30pm
St Mary's
Church
Pembridge
Herefordshire

Picnics
available
on the lawn
from 6.00pm
Doors open
7.00pm
Licence
applied for

Tickets £10.00
From
R Anderson
The Garth,
Pembridge
Herefordshire
HR6 9DX
01544 388292
ra@ra-ms.co.uk

Proceeds to
Pembridge
Shobdon &
Staunton
churches

www.pembridgechurch.org.uk

*Musica
CONCERTO
d'Italia'*

Clementine Lovell



soprano

Nicolò Gabelli



tenor

accompanied by
Romina Vigne
piano

performing Italian opera duets, arias,
and Neapolitan songs

Weobley Theatre Goers

There is still a little time to reserve seats for **Stepping Out** starring Brian Capron and Anita Harris at Cheltenham on **Thursday 24 June**. Cost is £31 to include coach. We shall leave Weobley at 10.30 to allow time to relax or have some lunch before the performance at 2.00pm, returning around 7.15pm. Please pay **before 14 May**.

NB The coach is unable to stop immediately outside the theatre, so there is a walk of around 300 yards to the theatre. **Kate Best 01544 318513**