

## LEEN TIMES

On the farm we have finally calved down the last few stragglers in the dairy herd. The cows are all milking really well, despite running out of grass and having to go onto silage early. Of course it has rained now and we have grass everywhere. Hopefully that will enable us to turn out really early next year.

The rain has also brought the river up, producing the annual sight of the Trout and Salmon running the weirs, made much easier by all the new fish passes that have been put in over the dry weather.

This year we have had such a bountiful wild harvest, especially mushrooms- There is an unwritten rule in the country that provided you have permission to be on the land, these are free for picking. They have been the biggest 'crop' I have seen for years. First we picked every one and gave lots away (handfuls, hatfuls, bagfuls and bucketfuls) then we start to get choosy and ask friends to help pick them. Finally we have become relaxed about them and think nothing of passing them by. Just a tip: (having seen so many different people pick mushrooms) take a sharp knife and always trim the stalks- this keeps the soil out and enables the mushroom to be rejected if it has 'grubs'. Always clear the mushroom of any debris or soil and handle very gently. It almost goes without saying that you must be completely confident that you know what a 'field mushroom' is!

I have had no Barn Owls reported but I did see one near Milton Cross the other evening.

The autumn fruits and seed are fast dwindling. Now is the time to disinfect the bird feeders and begin to feed the birds, but not too much until the hard weather comes or we move into the 'thin' times after the New Year.

I have a large wood to plant up this winter with native trees, I could do with any of those seedling Oaks, Holly, Hazel, etc. that you find in the garden at this time of year.

Finally, spare a thought for the Hedgehog- leave the pile of rubbish in the corner of the garden.

**Sloe Gin Competition Sunday December 4th  
New Inn 8.00pm**

Tony Norman  
tony@leenfarmorganics.co.uk



IT WENT OFF WITH A BANG.....

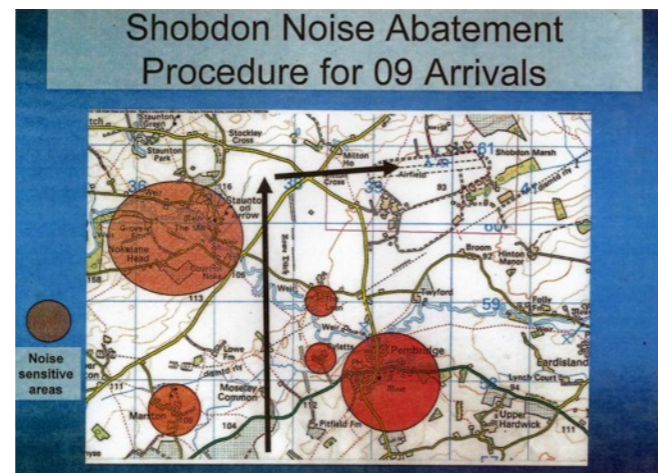
..... the bonfire was brilliant, the fireworks were fantastic and there were plenty of people. It was an extremely well organised and very professionally run event.

High commendations to Cliff and his team. Pembridge should be proud.

*Sally & Richard Armitage*

Missing from the garden prize winners last edition was 3<sup>rd</sup> prize Rose Cottage, Market Square.

## Shobdon Airfield Noise Abatement



There are clear areas over Pembridge Village and the surrounding area which are subject to noise restriction from aircraft and helicopters flying in and out of Shobdon airfield. Hereford Flying Club is aware that these areas are being violated from time to time by pilots flying over them.

Shobdon management team is anxious to reduce the nuisance and is asking for reports of any such flights to be reported to them. All such reports will be logged and followed up. It would be helpful to state the date, time and direction of flight, and to distinguish between a light aircraft and a helicopter. Reports should be made by telephone 01568 708369, letter to Shobdon Airfield, Shobdon, Leominster HR6 9NR, or by accessing the club's web site at [www.herefordaeroclub.com/visiting\\_pilot\\_information/noiseabatement](http://www.herefordaeroclub.com/visiting_pilot_information/noiseabatement). Please refer to map above.

Cllr Philip Rogers

### YOUR PARISH COUNCILLORS

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A Parish Council information service for the people of Pembridge

December - January 2011/12



## EDITORIAL

Nostalgia is acquired with age. As I get older I find my capacity for it increases. Yesterday I walked past the house where my father worked as the gardener when I was 7. Looking at it now it's almost unrecognisable. The grounds have been sold off for housing, the huge greenhouses full of exotic flowers have gone, as have the chickens whose eggs I would collect, the maze of box hedges that I would lose myself in. The orchard where my father gave me wheelbarrow rides has become Morrisons.

Of course, things always move on and it would be foolish to pretend that there haven't been vast improvements in areas of our lives.

But when I visualise my parent's home in the 1960s, and compare it with our home today, I can't help but think, do we really need all this 'stuff'? With the time we spend on Facebook, Twitter, Email etc. it's a wonder we've got any time left in the day.

While I love my gadgets as much as anyone I think we spend more time thinking about 'stuff' than we do about anything else. Christmas is looming and 'stuff' will be high on the agenda.

I'd like to think a bit less frantic searching for 'stuff' and a bit more real time for people would do us all good.

Have a wonderful Christmas.

Now I wonder if Santa's got my Ipad.....



"No!", Dela Glyn

## BONFIRE NIGHT

November 5<sup>th</sup> brought our now, annual bonfire and fireworks night. We were very lucky, after a wet Friday Saturday was fine with a lovely moonlight evening. There was a marvelous attendance with as many adults as children. There was a beautiful display of fireworks and a brilliant bonfire. Hot Dogs and Burgers were popular (sorry we ran out of ketchup, I'll get more next year). There was a bar which had mulled wine and a large marquee to stand in. Many thanks to all that helped, Henmans for the marquee, Townsend for catering equipment, LWC for a generous donation, the Red Lion and everyone else who helped.

Thank You,

The millennium meadow bonfire committee.



## PEMBRIDGE GOOD NEIGHBOURS SCHEME

### COFFEE MORNING

**SATURDAY 21 JANUARY 2012**

**10.30 AM - 12.30PM**

**AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

Free Tea, Coffee & Cakes - All welcome - If needed transport will be provided. Please call 388769 - Looking forward to seeing you there!



## Christmas Trees

The trees will be put up Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> November and finished during the week following. The lights will be officially turned on on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Market Square at 6pm. Every is welcome, there will be free mince pies, coffee and tea. Christmas stalls will be under the market hall.

Pembridge school children will be carol singing. Father Christmas will be visiting with presents for the children at a charge of one pound and fifty pence.

Jane and Rose from the New Inn will have mulled wine and hot dogs will be on sale. There will be a raffle with all proceeds going towards the cost of the trees and lights.

The parish council kindly donate money for 30 Christmas trees but as we have 45 plus trees I need to raise extra, this is why on the night there are buckets for donations and a raffle. Jane and Rose and the New Inn continue to support this evening every year, many thanks

Julie Mifflin

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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

### Marches Redundant Building Grants Programme

We have received a £1.5 million grant from the Governments Growth Fund to support small businesses and start-ups in Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford to bring unused buildings back into productive economic use.

The scheme will provide up to £50,000 to small businesses to transform redundant buildings with the aim to create over 300 direct jobs. This is similar to the previous successful scheme we used to run.

### Budget Savings

Following the Cut in Government grants we have made over £10 million of savings in 2011/12 in the 145 million council budget we now need to prepare for a further £7 million reductions in 2012/13. The aim is to identify the savings in the way we deliver the services rather than the services themselves.

During the last year we have minimised the reductions in services. In our parishes the mobile library service has been stopped, some changes to bus services and tourist information centres have been outsourced.

At a recent meeting I attended which looked at all locally owned public property it was pleasing to note that Hereford & Worcester Fire Authority will be keeping open all our local fire stations including Kington, Eardisley, Kingsland and Leintwardine. The Police consider there may be some savings to join up their station in Kington with the fire service. On the Health front the new Surgery in Kington is being build and plans are also afoot for a similar build at Leintwardine.

### Public Health Annual Report

The annual report has been published giving information on the health and wellbeing of the local population.

Not surprisingly the levels of cancer and heart disease are the biggest problems in our County. Herefordshire experiences significantly lower mortality rates from cancer at 150 per 100,000 than West Midlands 175 per 100,000 and 172 per 100,000 in England. The opening of the new centre in Hereford will now mean that local people can get treatment locally rather than travel to Cheltenham.

Heart mortality rates have fallen by almost 50% since 1996 but that is less than regional and national figures. High levels of cholesterol, obesity and hypertension are three main risk factors. NHS health checks programme invites all people between 40 -74 to be regularly checked over. Another concern for us is the falls particularly in older people. In 2010/11 there were 760 fall related admissions of older people to the Hospital in the county with 200 hip fractures. The cost on the local NHS is put at £2.48 million plus social care costs. The County is developing a prevention strategy which encourages greater awareness and activity.

The number of people killed or seriously injured on our roads has fallen with 61 being the recorded figure for 2010. The disproportionately high level of young people 16 to 25 is a major concern and 18% of the figures are motorcyclists.

The full report can be found at [www.herefordshire.nhs.uk/156.aspx](http://www.herefordshire.nhs.uk/156.aspx)

*Roger*

## PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

### IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO PARISH CENTRE RESIDENTS

Could everyone please check their garden frontages and make a point of clearing away any excess plant/hedge growth that is infringing on the pavements, or overhanging, because complaints have been received about problems for pedestrians passing freely by some properties without having to step into the road to get by. Thank you.

### QUEENS DIAMOND JUBILEE PARISH CELEBRATION NEXT JUNE

It is hoped to arrange some event, and more will be mentioned in the next edition of the magazine. The Parish Council cannot do everything, so the success of any event will rely on the help of residents. Please be prepared to come along to a meeting to help get something good off the ground.

### POLICE SURGERIES IN PEMBRIDGE

A police surgery will be held in the Market Hall on the following dates:

**Thursday 8 December between 11am and 12am**

**Thursday 5 January between 11am and 12am**

**Thursday 2 February between 11am and 12am**

If there is any relevant matter that you would like to discuss with PC Joanne Ellis or Community Support Officer Richard Alford, please do come along to the Market Hall.

### NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December (Finance Meeting to draft Precept) at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall

**Wednesday 14. December at 7.30 pm in the Parish Hall Everyone Welcome.**

Please address any inquiries to the Clerk:

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

## PEMBRIDGE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

'We are having a few problems with dog fouling on the school playing field. We respectfully ask that the 'No Dogs' signs are adhered to by all members of the public. If your pet should inadvertently foul the school field please ensure that this is cleared up.

## W.I. NEWS

Our November meeting saw a new committee voted on who will be busy planning an exciting programme of talks and events for 2012. Our final meeting for this year will be on Wednesday 14th December and it will feature a demonstration of how to make a seasonal table decoration. For more information please contact Catherine Fothergill 01544 388 360.

## KINGSPAN PEMBRIDGE NEWSLETTER

### TRUST EXPANDING TO HELP NEIGHBOURING COMMUNITIES

This year is a special anniversary for Kingspan Insulation, marking 25 years since we made the airfield between Shobdon and Pembrige our home. Since then, Kingspan has played an active role in supporting local community projects, and five years ago that support was formalised with the creation of the Kingspan Insulation Community Trust.

The Trust has given thousands of pounds to help organisations within the Parishes of Shobdon, Pembrige, Kingsland and Sherburn-in-Elmet (N Yorks). This money has helped to promote the Trust's four main aims: physical recreation for young people; ecology; bio-diversity and road safety.

The funds have been used for everything from supporting the Arrowvale Environment Group, purchasing equipment for youth sport, to the creation of wildlife areas.

Given the current economic downturn, the need for support for this type and range of projects has never been greater. The Trustees have therefore been carefully considering ways of expanding the Trust so that it is able to provide funding to projects, both within the current Parishes and in neighbouring communities.

As a result, from 2012, projects within the catchment areas of Wigmore High School, Lady Hawkins' School, Earl Mortimer College and Tenbury High School can apply for funding from the Trust, along with projects in the Parish of Sherburn-in-Elmet. Over the coming months, two new Trustees will be sought to represent the new areas and help decide which projects to support.

The changes will mean that the Trust remains a strong supporter of, and contributor towards, local projects, and the Trustees are looking forward to seeing a whole range of fresh and exciting applications for funding in 2012.

If you know of any projects which could do with funding and meet one of the four aims, as mentioned above, don't hesitate to get in touch!

[www.KingspanInsulationCommunityTrust.org](http://www.KingspanInsulationCommunityTrust.org)



### Revised Parish Plan

Earlier this year a small group of Parish Councillors completed a very time consuming review of the 2002 Parish Plan. Both the original and the revised document can be viewed on the Parish Council website - [www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk).

## Local history group?

Would you like to find out more about the wonderful village of Pembrige?

As I'm sure you are aware, plans are being created to bring the church up to modern standards and, when completed, will include facilities for a Heritage Centre. This is not going to happen overnight but we can start working on the content right now. There is a vast amount of information in the church archives, on the internet and in peoples memories and homes which we would like to document. It seems very likely that funding grants could be available to carry out this work and, to this end we would like to form a local history group to apply for a grant and work on the development of the content. I will be in church from

**10.30am – 12.00noon  
on  
Saturday 10th December**

to meet anyone who is interested and give you more information. If you would like to be involved in this exciting opportunity please come along or email me your interest at [ra@ra-ms.co.uk](mailto:ra@ra-ms.co.uk).

*Bob Anderson*

## PRIDE IN PEMBRIDGE

An inaugural meeting was held when a constitution was adopted and a committee was elected. We have been planting bulbs and wallflowers round the village and generally tidying up. Later in the year the plan is to replace the bulbs with geraniums and other suitable colourful plants with a view to entering the 'In Bloom' competition again.

Litter picking days are also being arranged, the first being December 11th meeting under the Market Hall at 10.30 with coffee afterwards

Parishioners who would be willing to help keep the Parish looking good would be most welcome.

Contact Alan Stokes 01544 388769 or  
Catherine Fothergill 01544 388279



## The Big Tree Plant

Pembrige has been the beneficiary of a gift of apple trees from Pommunity Herefordiensis which is funded by The Big Tree Plant, a major initiative to support tree planting in rural areas. Herefordshire Year in the Orchard have been principal supporters and the planting was carried out by Tony Norman and local volunteers on 27th November, which coincided with the start of National Tree Week. Planting of varieties which included Downton Pippin, Stoke Edith Pippin and Herefordshire Russet was done at the village hall, the village green and at Millenium Meadow.

Long may we all continue to enjoy these welcome additions to public places.