

# Pembridge Parish News



[www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk)

A Parish Council information service for the people of Pembridge

February - March 2012

## Non-editorial

Unfortunately our editor, Glyn Whiting, flew off to the warmth of the New Zealand summer without the computer on which he had planned to compose this issue of the newsletter. I have done my best to assemble something in his absence but will resist the temptation to emulate his editorial contributions!

*Bob Pierce*

## Queen's Diamond Jubilee

The Diamond Jubilee celebrations will centre around an extended weekend of 2<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June. The Parish Council have agreed a contribution of £1,000 towards the costs. There are just four months to plan our own events - which probably won't include a Royal flotilla on the Arrow - so we need to start as soon as possible.

There is an open meeting in the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 8 February to discuss arrangements and ideas. Everyone welcome, particularly with ideas!



Assuming everything went according to plan, the shop should be open for business once again by the time you read this. Gary and Mark have put in a lot of hard work to prepare the premises and had to put down their paint brushes for this shot, which only goes some way to excuse their lack of sartorial elegance.

## Christmas Trees



Bob Anderson

A big thank you to everyone who had a Christmas tree, also to everyone else who joined in with trees and lights. Following the death of Mervyn earlier this year we were short of a helper until Brin Bowen kindly joined the team.

The Christmas lights began with 49 trees being chosen for each individual house

depending on space and height available. On the Saturday morning they are all labelled and delivered, they are secured before the lights are put on. This takes until Sunday teatime. Thank you to those who gave the team a drink as they worked.

The lights were switched on at 6pm on the Friday, there was carol singing, coffee and mince pies, stalls and Father Christmas. Mrs Roma Lee, who, for the second

year made a beautifully decorated Christmas cake for the raffle. The raffle is important as is the donation bucket as it is our only source of funding. The Parish Council pay for 30 trees, the rest and the replacement lights have to find funds elsewhere.

Last year we received generous donations from the carol singers, Pembridge Show and not forgetting our great supporters Jane, Rosie and the New Inn.

Father Christmas always enjoys his visit to Pembridge and there are always comments on how good the children are, unfortunately for those of you in the queue he tends to chat to the children for a long time. Never mind he only visits once a year.

Next Christmas would it be possible for anyone who has a tree or would like one, to let me have their phone number or email address earlier in the year so that it will be easier to let them know when it is happening.

Tel: 388 414 email: [juliemiff@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:juliemiff@hotmail.co.uk)

Thank you

*Julie and The Christmas Tree Team*

## Herefordshire Council Report

Thankfully the weather continues to be mild compared to last year but I will remind you if you see and need to report a pothole please either ring 01432 261800 or email [streets@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:streets@herefordshire.gov.uk). Should the winter weather close the schools the council has launched a new automatic system that alerts parents to closures or disruptions. Schools can put information directly on the website and control the message they wish particularly if it affects certain groups or part of the school. [www.herefordshire.gov.uk/school\\_closures](http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/school_closures).

### Road Safety in the Ward

Over the last ten years several severe accident blackspots on the main roads in my parishes have received attention. Sometimes this involves new road surfacing or markings, bollards or marker posts. Three of the most severe have seen significant reductions; A44 bends at Cotmore which saw 9 serious accidents in 5 years prior to works reduced to 3. A44 Moseley Corner had 10 and since the improvements no serious accidents and Monie Corner also on A44 outside Pembridge no accidents where there were previously 9.

Speeding still is major concern and as you will recall from the October Update the Police have prioritised Shobdon, Pembridge and Lyonshall for speed enforcement.

### Turbine Movements

Residents living alongside the A44 in Pembridge will know from the leaflet I delivered that a proposal was being put forward to transport wind farm turbines though the village and the A44 in my ward to New Radnor. There are 24 movements in all involving vehicles up to 42m long and the heaviest component weighing 125 tonnes. Following a meeting with the consultants I am pleased to tell you they have now dismissed the Pembridge route in favour of going through Eardisley!

Although I very pleased that they have dismissed the idea of going through Pembridge I am supporting my neighbouring councillor in opposing their use of Herefordshire road network. We understand that a strategic plan is being concluded between the Welsh Assembly and contractors on the movement of all wind farm traffic for development areas in Wales and we need to understand the implications for Herefordshire.

I am also keeping a watching brief on how electricity from these Turbines links into the National Grid. The Station at Bullocks Mill is our local electricity generator and talk of underground cabling from Turbines to Bullocks Mill may not be the only alternative.

### Council Budgets

The current 2011/12 budget of £146 million is currently projected to overspend largely due to a social care overspend of £1.5 million. This is due to increase in residential and nursing care placements and an extra 19 new residential and nursing placements in Mental Health budget. Looked after children costs are running over £800k above budget. Savings are being made in other services and refinancing packages to ensure a balanced budget is achieved at the end of March.

## Parish Council Report

*A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL RESIDENTS!*

There will be a Queen's Royal Jubilee Parish Celebration in June – see the separate information in this magazine. Get all your bunting and flags out and dusted off.

We hope to have a wonderful parish day to remember; something for all ages to enjoy.

### 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.

### Next Police Surgeries in Pembridge

Thursday 2nd February, Thursday 1st March, Thursday 29th March, 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.

If you wish to report anything suspicious, in confidence to do with a person or crime, please ring anonymously to CRIMESTOPPERS : Tel: 0800 555 111

Or you can ring the non-emergency new number: 101

### Parish Council meetings, 7.30pm in the Parish Hall:

Wednesday, 15th February

Wednesday 21st March

Please address any inquiries to the Clerk:

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

Email: [mail@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:mail@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk)

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In preparation for the 2012/13 budget the Council is proposing to take the Government grant equivalent to 2.5% council tax increase to ensure that Council Tax bills are frozen for a second year. The Police and Fire authorities have been offered grants of 3% so the only increase on your Council Tax Bill this year will be that imposed by the Parish Council.

Following the £10 million reductions in 2011/12 a further £7 million will have to be found next year and this will mean more job losses in the council, increased charges and reorganisation of some services and the loss of others.

### Dates for your diary:

|                                 |                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| London Olympics                 | 27 July ~ 12 August     |
| Paralympics Games               | 29 August ~ 9 September |
| Three Choirs Festival, Hereford | 21 ~ 28 July            |

*Roger*

Tel: 01544 340269 / 01432 260046

Email: [rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk)

## Front of Houses and Hanging Baskets competition



Bob Anderson

As the village will, hopefully, be celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee I thought it might look nice if some hanging baskets and tubs were planted with flowers following that theme e.g. red, white and blue or purples and gold, or whatever you think reflects the Royal wedding. A special prize will be awarded this year for the best diamond wedding basket or container. If you just want to plant your own choice of flowers, please do so, they will be judged as usual. This early announcement is for those of you that grow your own seeds.

*Julie*

## Poppy Appeal 2011

This year we managed to raise a total of £4208.96 - a staggering increase of £450 over last year's collection. I would like to thank everyone who helped with the appeal, in whatever capacity, in these difficult economic times. Thank you all.

*Sharon O'Hare*  
Poppy Appeal Organiser



## WI

We meet on the second Wednesday every month in the village hall. February's meeting is to be a demonstration of bread making and will be at 2pm.

In March, Bob Anderson will talk to us about the history of Pembridge. This will be at 7pm.

New members are always welcome - please contact Tricia Lloyd (President) - 01544 340340 or Catherine Fothergill (Membership) - 01544 388279

## A new plan for your parish

In 2002 a Parish Plan was produced which was described as an opportunity for residents to "express their concerns about their community and their aspirations for the future". A review of the Plan has recently been completed to update facts about the community and report progress on the Action Points. Both these documents can be viewed on the Pembridge Parish Council website.

Your Parish Council now wishes to ascertain the current concerns and aspirations of the community and has set up a Parish Plan Steering Group to manage this project.

The Group has decided that the project be divided into the following categories:

- Housing/Planning
- Environment
- Leisure
- Traffic
- Business, tourism and farming
- Welfare

A group will be set up for each category to investigate any issues and submit their findings and proposals to the Parish Council.

From the outset the Steering Group wishes to involve parishioners as much as possible so anybody interested in contributing to the project should let the Steering Group know. In particular The Welfare Group has had a preliminary meeting and Pat and Alan Stokes are looking for a small number of people to join them.

This project will undoubtedly influence the parish and its way of life over the coming years so it is most important that parishioners contribute to its content. To volunteer or learn more then contact our Clerk, a parish councillor or visit the Parish Council website, details are in this magazine.

## Simon Boosey Concert

A concert in memory of Simon Boosey will be held at St Mary's Church on 17 March, the second anniversary of his death. Music by The Alburni Quartet with Marcus Farnsworth, baritone. The programme will premiere a new work by John McCabe specially commissioned in memory of Simon. Tickets are £25 from Bob Anderson at The Garth - tel: 388292. Proceeds to Pembridge Church and the Presteigne Festival

### Pembridge Surgery Hours

|            |                  |                   |
|------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Monday:    | 8.85am to 1.00pm | 2.15pm to 6.00pm  |
| Tuesday:   | 8.85am to 1.00pm | Closed afternoons |
| Wednesday: | Closed all day   |                   |
| Thursday:  | 8.85am to 1.00pm | 2.15pm to 6.00pm  |
| Friday:    | 8.85am to 1.00pm | Closed afternoons |

# Leen Times

We managed to get the cows out to grazing (during the day) in January—since we have had no sheep on the farm during the winter—it is easy to see just how much the grass has grown since October. With the system we have, we graze a different field each day (for perhaps 60 days) so even in wet weather the cows can use the miles of tracks to use a different entrance each day. This, in turn, massively reduces the labour required to bed the cows and to clear up after them. It is a time of year that the silage pits fast diminish and the grazing just helps to eke it out- but we still sometimes wonder whether we got our calculations right last year and whether we will have enough to last until the grass grows properly again.

Ringling 0800 807060 does work! Several people had seen raw sewage running into the Arrow on the Village Green. They phoned the Environment Agency emergency number and reported it and... after a lot of Yellow jackets with rods/drain cameras/tankers over several days, there has finally been a problem found. There was a brick in the system! Further discussions with Welsh Water produced a temporary solution and finally an undertaking to put Pembridge into their capital works program. So - ring 0800 807060 if you see pollution in the river.



Peewit aka Lapwing

Wildlife news: Salmon have run higher up the river than for many years. They have been seen above Kington where their offspring will have a much better chance of survival. This has been helped by all the fish passes and reduced the predation by Otters. Peewits for just a few days at Milton Cross. Just one Barn Owl. Sparrow Hawk behaving badly near the bird feeders! Many of the spring plants in action weeks before normal. However spring is just round the corner- the birds are telling me that each morning.

Dawn Chorus, walk and breakfast, this year: 4.30 am Saturday May 5th (£10 for charity) Please book

Tony Norman

tony@leenfarmorganics.co.uk



Bob Anderson

The Coffee Morning held on the 21st January in the Village Hall was a great success.

Loads of delicious cakes were donated and it was good to sit and talk to people who live in the Parish and to be able to get to know each other over a cup of coffee. Dick Allford, our local police Community Support Officer and Peter Hope, from the Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service, gave information and advice on their services while Bob and Lindsay Anderson showed a DVD on the history of the Market Square and the Village.

A new version of the Pembridge Good Neighbour Scheme leaflet is enclosed with this copy of the Pembridge Parish News. Please phone us if you need any help - the number is 07779 122499.

## Parish Council Vacancy

Following a recent resignation there is now a vacancy on the Parish Council. If you are interested, and you live or work in the Parish, contact Heather Harding, Clerk to the Council, details below.

### Your Parish Councillors

Cllr. Garfield Evans - Chairman  
Cllr. Ken Myers - Vice Chairman  
Cllr. Kevin Duggan  
Cllr. Ms. Catherine Fothergill  
Cllr. Mrs. Julie Mifflin  
Cllr. David Owens  
Cllr. Alan Stokes  
Cllr. Phillip Thomas  
Cllr. Andrew Pace  
Cllr. Bob Pierce  
Cllr. Philip Rogers  
Cllr. Roger Phillips - Ward Councillor

Clerk:

Mrs. Heather Harding  
153 Bargates, Leominster HR6 8QT  
Tel: 01568 612143  
Email: mail@pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

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www.pembridgeamenitytrust.co.uk www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk www.pembridgechurch.org.uk

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