

# Pembridge Parish News

June/ July '15

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

## Pembridge Flower Festival... to be continued



Here are a few photos from our beautiful Flower and Music Festival, with further articles and photos to follow in the next edition!

## Pembridge Good Neighbour Scheme

On the 1st June the Pembridge Good Neighbour Scheme will have been in operation for four years. This year we have already given more than 90 hours of volunteer time. We have an enthusiastic volunteer force who are willing to undertake requests such as shopping, dog walking, fetching prescriptions, practical tasks at home eg. changing lights bulbs or regularly calling in for a chat. The volunteers are all local people who are prepared to give up their time to help people in the Parish of Pembridge.

Our most successful venture has been the monthly Coffee Morning, this is held on the third Saturday of the month in the Village Hall between 10.30am – 12.00. All are welcome, and if you have difficulty getting to the Hall please give us a ring and we will come and collect you.

If you or you know of anyone who would benefit from the Scheme please do not hesitate to contact us on **07779 122499**

Pat Stokes

## Pembridge WI

In April our trip to Manchester by train was a great success; the weather was wonderful and we visited the Lowry museum as well as having a good lunch – Arriva Trains came up trumps. On another sunny day we enjoyed walking along the River Teme at Ludlow followed by lunch in the Castle Tea Room. The Reading Group met and we also went 10 pin bowling. This was as well as our normal monthly meeting.

At our May meeting we all enjoyed a fish and chip supper (delivered to us from the Red Lion) as well as hearing about the history of The Leominster Morris Men.

In June Karen Van Hoffe will be telling us about her knitted jewellery and on June 17th we will be going by coach to Trentham Gardens

In July Lis Dodds-Sandi will be telling us about life in Zimbabwe.

We welcome visitors to all of our meetings (£3 entry including tea and cake) and even better if they become members – we are a friendly group of ladies who enjoy being sociable.

We meet in Pembridge Parish Hall on the second Wednesday of the month at 7pm.

Contact Marguerite Fothergill (01544 388279) or Tricia Lloyd (01885 488319)

## Pembridge Show

This is the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the show. We hope that everyone will enjoy it this year, the ground layout will be slightly different allowing people to see more that is happening around them. We have Merrion Owens with his Quack Pack to entertain you and music to listen to.

As well as the usual childrens attractions, this year we have “The Pink Elephant Mini Big Top”. There will be workshops running all day making clowns and pirates hats and hobby horses. There are circus skills workshop and slapstick clowns workshops for children and adults.

There is a friendly dog show, all are welcome. We would love to see some of lovely dogs that live in the village enter some of the classes. (schedules available from myself and Mrs J Price, Ilandilo House, tel. 388311). We would be very pleased to have some new entries in the horticulture, handicrafts, cookery, flower arranging and childrens classes

There are lots more to see and do, come along and enjoy your village show.

As usual, we need help with the show helping setting up and taking down. On the day help selling raffle tickets and serving on the produce stall (both sitting down jobs) We would also be grateful for donations of bottles / produce for the stalls. If you are entering cakes and produce and have any spare practice ones they would be gratefully received.

If you have donations please ring me and I will arrange to collect them.

Thank You,

Julie (01544 388 414)

# Aerobatics Bird

This evening Dog and I walked along a footpath just outside the village and were suddenly surrounded by a mixed flock of Swallows and House Martins swooping along the edge of a field, under Ash and Oak boughs hanging shadowed over almost silage-ready grass. I wondered about the incredible journeys these birds, and their cousins the Swifts, had made from Africa against all odds, to join us for the summer to raise their families.

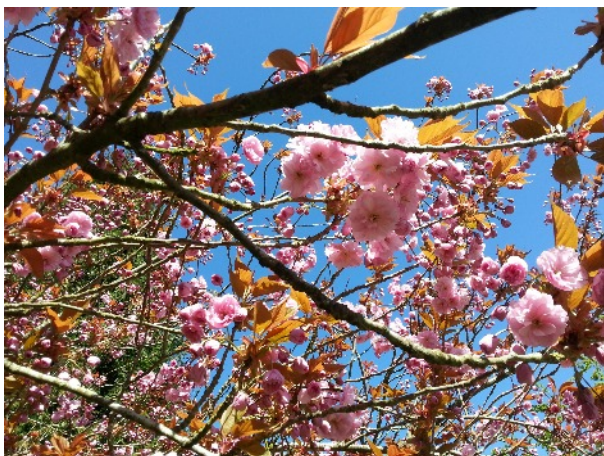
The Sand Martins were the first of these aerial masters to arrive in the village. Dog and I seemed to catch the arrival of the first bird one dawn late in March whilst walking in the Long Meadow. As we watched this bird, a small group of 5 other birds flew in over our heads. We walked on along the banks of the Arrow and, by the time we had walked to the end of the meadow and back again, a flock of thirty plus birds were re-acquainting themselves with the meadow, river and sandy banks. Since then they have established two colonies and have started to rear their young. Let's hope they do not get drowned out by flooding as happened last year.

The Swallows were the next species to arrived. On the 5<sup>th</sup> April a cock Swallow sang from the weather vane opposite my bedroom window. Loud and insistent he woke us. Two days later two pairs were swooping in and around the garden and buildings behind the cottage and now seem to be settled into two distinct territories. Two weeks later the House Martins appeared and their companionable chirruping emphasised the lovely sunny, floral spring we had this year. We have also found several colonies of these Martins in small woods around the village and it is a relief to see they are not dependent on buildings as nesting sites.

The last of these aerialists to arrive were the Swifts. We saw our first one on Beltane, swooping us into May Day, and heralding the change from spring to summer. Within days parties of Swifts were screaming through the village in the evening. Now they seem a little more settled and are no doubt incubating eggs.

The dates of these birds' arrival seems to vary year on year. Presumably food supply in both Africa and over Europe, drought, floods, and extreme weather events all have some effect on their journeys. Most of these factors can quite clearly be attributed in some sense to climate change and no doubt it is climate change prompting so much of the human migration out of Africa. This latter migration we find more problematic though both birds and humans take such huge risks as necessary for their survival.

*Ambrose P. Hogweed*



# Pembridge School

Calling all past pupils who have attended Pembridge School- next year is the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Pembridge School and to celebrate this and as part of our ongoing fundraising the PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association) are putting together a Recipe Book which will go on sale later in the year. We are looking for contributions from present pupils, parents and staff and the wider community. You may have a family favourite, a tea-time treat or a fabulous jam recipe. Perhaps you could let me know your connection with the school or when you attended! Please email them to [sarah@theleen.co.uk](mailto:sarah@theleen.co.uk) or drop them off at Pembridge School.

We are holding our annual Summer Fayre on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June at 3.30pm at School following our Sports Day. Please do join us for games, skittles, bottle stall, raffle, BBQ and so much more! If the day is a washout, it will be postponed to the following Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June at 3.30pm. Please come and support our 'Outstanding' School.

*Sarah Norman*

## YOUR HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCILLOR'S UPDATE

Dear Residents

Thank you to all those of you who supported my re-election as your County Councillor. It is a great pleasure to represent Pembridge and the neighbouring parishes and I will continue to look after you and our County and Community interests. Apart from two verbal abuses, one dog bite and two curious hens people were friendly and I had many useful conversations. As to be expected road traffic, conditions of highways, housing for local people, broadband and concern of the continued pressures on the council budgets were the chief local concerns.

My immediate concern is around getting some repairs and resurfacing on our highways and kerbing. Sadly the Government did not grant any of its recent allocation of highway challenge funding to Herefordshire and I am writing to our MPs about that. Bill Wiggin visited Pembridge for the Flower Festival and to meet the Pride in Pembridge Group and I took the opportunity to show him some of poor state of the surfaces.

In the meantime members of the public can report problems to <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/roads-maintenance/how-do-i-report-a-problem>

I continue to get the traffic coming though the village monitored on a daily basis via a grey box on the west end of the village. This records speed but importantly also the types and sizes of vehicles and gives us a complete picture of traffic history for our village.

Working with the Parish Council I have contacted the Quarries above Kington and they are instructing their sub contractors to observe a 20 mph speed limit through the village. This is a voluntary arrangement but their Hauliers they spoke with were very supportive of this.

The Transport Team at the Quarry are also visiting Schools in the area at the moment to try to promote Young Cyclist Awareness around HGV's.

As the local Councillor I managed to get the monitoring of air quality in the village recorded until 2010. As Pembridge was significantly below breaching the Government target monitoring of 40ug/m3 monitoring this ceased due to budget cuts but is still held on record. As you can see from the figures below there was a steady increase in pollution and I intend to get periodic checks in the future. The site was on a house façade on the A44 and measured the air pollutant NO2 (nitrogen dioxide, primary a vehicle emission).

- 2000, 15.3 ug/m3
- 2001, 16.6 ug/m3
- 2002, 18.5 ug/m3
- 2003, 19.1 ug/m3
- 2004, 20.9 ug/m3
- 2005, 19.8 ug/m3
- 2006, 24.8 ug/m3
- 2007, 25.2 ug/m3
- 2008, 20.6 ug/m3
- 2009, 18.6 ug/m3
- 2010, 22.4 ug/m3

As ever if I can be of any help please do not hesitate to contact me. Find enclosed a list of key contacts

If you are considering Planning Applications.  
If you want to report Planning Enforcement.  
Reporting Fly tipping.  
Problem with collection on Waste Contract.

Andrew.Stock@herefordshire.gov.uk  
Debbie.Crowley@herefordshire.gov.uk  
csandman@herefordshire.gov.uk  
kvigus@herefordshire.gov.uk

ROGER PHILLIPS



# Parish Council News

## Parish Precept for 2015-16

Notification from Herefordshire Council for the Parish requirements for 2015-16 has been received

	2015/16	2014/15
Gross (Including Grant)	£18,000	£18,000
Council Tax Support Grant	£ 1,104	£ 1,207
Net payable by Council tax payers	£ 16,896	£16,793
Equivalent no. Band D properties	£ 447.49	£439.92
Band D Council Tax	£ 37.76	£ 38.17

## Election

Parish councils are run by councillors, who volunteer their time to make their community a better place. These duties include:

- Representing the local community
- Delivering services to meet local needs
- Striving to improve the quality of life in the parish

Parish councils have a broad range of powers and duties covering planning, provision of amenities, and other local services, from community projects to traffic calming measures. A lengthsman is employed, whose duties include drain and ditch clearing, grass cutting and general local maintenance. Each parish council is different and will have different needs, which are often identified through the parish plan process. Parish councillors have an important role in working with their communities to develop a parish plan.

Pembridge Parish has 13 Parish Councillor seats and in the recent Election 12 of those seats were filled and one co-opted. At the Annual Parish Council Meeting on the 20th May Cllr Garfield Evans was elected chairman and Cllr Andrew Pace elected as vice chairman. Many

thanks go to retiring councillors Mark Ratcliffe and David Williams and a warm welcome to new councillors Michael Hancock and John Purslow (newly co-opted). The Parish Council meet every third Wednesday in the month in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm. Everyone welcome.

## Parish Council Accounts 2014-15

The accounts for 2014/15 have been scrutinised by an internal parish councillor and our official internal auditor, who is an independent local businessman in readiness for submission to the external auditor Grant Thornton in June.

## Neighbourhood Development Plan

A new round of grant funding has become available to assist in the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Parish Council, due to timescales, were unable to spend the 2014 Grant and are required to return any unused funds to Herefordshire Council.

## New Speed Indicator Devices

Pembridge and Titley Parish Councils have purchased a new speed indicator device (SID) to be shared equally to help combat of speeding in our villages.

## Retirement of church clock winder

March saw the retirement of our church clock winder Peter Klein. Peter has stepped down and has kindly trained several villagers to continue the good work. The Parish council would like pass on their sincere thanks to Peter for his dedication and hard work.

## Next Parish Council Meeting Dates:

Wednesday June 17th - Parish Hall 7.30pm

Wednesday July 15th - Parish Hall 7.30pm

No planned meeting for August.

Rebecca Bissell

# Most Improved Orchard

A small grafted orchard in Pembridge won the Most Improved Orchard category at the biennial Bulmer's Golden Apple Awards this month. Bridget Rose has been working with her team of local farmer sub contractors to increase production on her small farm. The trees were grafted from an unproductive variety, Ashton Bitter, to two new early varieties Gilly and Amanda. The grafting has been very successful and Bridget said that much credit was due to her "quick response team" she thanked David Thomas, Alex Hughes Clive Bowen, Chris Klein, Allan Richards, Mariana and Augustin Moraru and Jonathan Blackman for their dedicated support, helpful advice and for making a serious dent on the coffee and tea supplies.

Bridget Rose



# Warning to Dog Owners

It is sad to have to report that a sheep which was grazing on Shekarty was recently so badly mauled by a dog that it had to be put down. For those not familiar with local names, Shekarty is the first field on the right when leaving the village in the direction of Kington and which can be accessed through a kissing gate. The police traced the dog which has now been put down so, if you care for your pet, please make sure it's kept under control.

I must remind all who use the footpath that it is their responsibility to:-

- Keep to the footpaths (there are two);
- Keep dogs on leads when livestock are present.

I must also point out that dogs caught molesting sheep may legally be shot by the farmer. In addition, the owner is responsible for any and all costs which may ensue from sheep worrying.

What a shame that such matters have to be raised publicly in country village like Pembridge.

You are invited to  
**A Strawberry Tea**

At

The Curl, Marston

On Sunday 21st June

From 2.30pm

Proceeds to be shared between St Mary's  
Church

And the Nepal Earthquake Appeal

# THE LEEN TIMES

Spring can get a bit hectic on the farm. Trying to get everything done, between the land drying up, the soil temperature rising and everything growing; ploughing, muck spreading, planting, drilling, spraying – it's all going on. Between the bands of rain and periods of wind that ruin some of the jobs, we must carry on the regular work of milking, feeding and managing the rest of the farm. Then, just when we feel everything is done and up together, the next round of jobs start up with the silage making, weeding or just watching for problems. It never ends—but that is part of the job—most of the time we move on from jobs well done, occasionally mistakes are made, but we make plans to do it better the next time round. Our family, staff and our contractors do a fantastic job, working all hours and under difficult circumstances at times- they all respect the land, their animals and the environment that they are working in—farming isn't such a bad job!

Wildlife news—A call in the evening-Otter in the river, must go and see! So we troop out, perhaps 100 yards from the farm house— quietly, Quietly!.... And there, sure enough, is a bitch Otter busily biting off the dead river grass and busily dragging it across to a mass of flood debris wrapped around a tree that had fallen into the water. She was building her nest in the middle of it and no doubt, by now, there will be young around the place and probably not so many fish in that stretch of river!

We leave some of the bird boxes with bits of cloth stuffed in the holes. That is, until the middle of April, when the migrants arrive. That way they can find a box that hasn't been occupied by one of the Tit family. It doesn't always work- we had both Great Tit and Redstart move into some. However in a couple of boxes the Pied Flycatcher builds in the distinctive strips of honeysuckle bark around the nest and the usual clutch of 8 sky blue eggs appear. This picture with just 2 eggs laid:



The House martins chatter outside our bedroom window, the Sparrows squabble for a feather for a nest in the hedge, the hard working hen Blackbird hops about proudly, with a full beak-- while the old man still chortles away at the top of the tree.

What a stunning time of year!

If anyone is interested to have a close-up look. We thought we would do a farm walk. Monday evening June 15<sup>th</sup> at 5.30 pm. Pembridge Village Green (No dogs, please) We will lead a walk round the farm to try to show some of what we do, have a look at some of the wildlife and field any questions about it all.

Tony Norman [tony@theleen.co.uk](mailto:tony@theleen.co.uk)

## An Hour of Piano Duet Music

St Mary Church, Pembridge  
Sunday June 14th, 2015, at 3pm

David Elwin and Michael Channon, piano duet

DUKAS: Fanfare ("La Peri")  
BACH: Sheep may safely Graze  
RAVEL: Mother Goose (Ma Mere L'Oye)  
MOZART: Duet-Sonata in Bb, K358

Yamaha piano

Admission by programme £5.

**Pembridge Good Neighbours**  
Call 07779 122499 9.30am - 5.00pm

### **The Steppes**

Week days: 9.00am - 5.30pm  
Saturday: 9.00am - 5.00pm  
Sunday: 9.00am - 4.00pm

### **Townsend Farm Shop & Butchery**

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat: 9.00am - 4.00pm  
Sunday: 9.00am - 12.30pm

### **Mobile Post Office**

Monday: 2.30 - 3.30pm  
Tuesday: 1.30 - 2.30pm  
Wednesday: No service  
Thursday: 4.00 - 5.00pm  
Friday: 1.30 - 3.00pm  
Saturday: 9.00 - 10.00am

## Your Parish Councillors

### **Cllr Garfield Evans - Chairman**

01544 388 638 / [garfield.evans@gmail.com](mailto:garfield.evans@gmail.com)

### **Cllr Andrew Pace - Vice Chairman**

01544 340 696 / [ajejpace@aol.com](mailto:ajejpace@aol.com)

### **Cllr Tom Bennetto**

01544 388 972 / [tomb@thexcroft.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:tomb@thexcroft.freeserve.co.uk)

### **Cllr Kevin Duggan**

01544 388 833 /

[kevin.duggan@insulation.kingspan.com](mailto:kevin.duggan@insulation.kingspan.com)

### **Cllr David Owens**

01544 388 422 / [david@luntleycourtfarm.co.uk](mailto:david@luntleycourtfarm.co.uk)

### **Cllr Ms Catherine Fothergill**

01544 388 279 / [c.fothergill@btinternet.com](mailto:c.fothergill@btinternet.com)

### **Cllr Mrs Julie Miffin**

01544 388 414 / [juliemiff@hotmail.com](mailto:juliemiff@hotmail.com)

### **Cllr Philip Rogers**

01544 387 976 / [philipjohnrogers@googlemail.com](mailto:philipjohnrogers@googlemail.com)

### **Cllr Alan Stokes**

01544 388 769 / [paturnal@ntinternet.com](mailto:paturnal@ntinternet.com)

### **Cllr Phillip Thomas**

01544 388 457 / [pjvthomas@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:pjvthomas@hotmail.co.uk)

### **Cllr Roger Phillips**

01544 340 269 / [rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk)

### **Cllr Michael Hancock**

01544 387 941 / [hyloch@gmx.net](mailto:hyloch@gmx.net)

### **Cllr John Purslow**

01544 388 060 / [johndpurslow@msn.com](mailto:johndpurslow@msn.com)

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