

Pembridge Parish News



www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

February - March 2017

LOWE FARM COMES UP ROSES

Lowe Farm is over 600 years old and has been in the Williams family since 1939. Clive and son Stuart are arable farmers and in Clive's words 'run a B&B for neighbours' sheep and cattle to overwinter'. Juliet has run a very successful B&B since 1998 and she just keeps winning awards!

The most recent is the Visit England Rose Award 2016 - only awarded to businesses that 'go the extra mile' in order to provide excellent customer service. This obviously includes things like top-quality hair-dryers, coffee fresh from the bean, yogurts, fruit juices and allergy-free foods from a display fridge, redecorating rooms each year plus continually improving the facilities by upgrading the TVs - for example. All this counts, but the judges thought that being friendly hosts was a large factor too.



Over 23,000 businesses participate in the Visit England scheme but only 100 Rose Awards are given out each year. Once businesses have joined the scheme an inspector may stay overnight or call at any time of the year then enjoy breakfast before revealing his/her credentials as an Hotel Inspector. After that there is a full tour. The inspector at Lowe

Farm was particularly impressed with the information supplied to each guest room concerning recent and planned improvements. Juliet is constantly seeking new ways to improve her visitors' stay. She now has a selection of local cheeses and wine available should guests prefer a lighter supper. The inspector concluded that 'the guest experience was enhanced with the local products within the business'.

Juliet's eco credentials (she has an award for this too) are equally impressive. She grows vegetables and has a flock of hens that come from a local egg producer after they have finished their commercial career. (One greeted me at the door). She uses Edward Bulmer organic paint throughout, the comprehensive insulation is from Kingspan, and she uses eco-friendly products such as Ecover extensively. She creates her own cleaning spray using a teaspoon of soda crystals dissolved in warm water, two drops of eco detergent and two drops of lavender oil. This cleans glassware, kitchens and bathrooms. The detergents used in her washing/dish-washing machines can be reduced by the addition of ½ tsp soda crystals. This makes linen much easier to iron.

She is grateful to Business Link, relatives and teachers who have given her such an extensive skill set: she can cook, sew, garden, decorate and has office and banking experience. She is also a farmer's daughter and wife. It was not surprising, that when Professor Shinji Aoki from Tokyo University came to stay in the year 2000 as part of a project to research farmhouse rural accommodation, he selected Juliet from over 200 other farm stays to come to Japan. She was invited to do a ninety minute power-point presentation to delegates in five cities in Japan. She started and finished in Tokyo - the final lecture to an audience of 800 government officials. She learnt a few words of Japanese:

arigatou = thank you; onegai = please; hi = yes and moshi-moshi = on the telephone.

The Japanese connection continues to this day and groups frequently come to learn from her example. Recently a group came to have a 'Christmas Experience'. Juliet took them to cut a Christmas tree, decorate it, do table setting, learn to cook Christmas dinner with all the trimmings and enjoy eating it.

The effect on the local economy is startling. Juliet has been told that, through her many guests buying gifts, fuel, eating in local restaurants, tea rooms and pubs, she brings approximately £100,000 into Herefordshire. Quite an achievement – even if she didn't at first know where Japan was!

www.lowe-farm.co.uk

www.eatsleepliveherefordshire.co.uk

Diary

8 Feb- WI - Craft Afternoon

*Wed, 2pm Village Hall**

11 Feb - Hardy Plant Society -

Sat, Pembridge Village Hall, 2 pm £3

18 Feb- PGNS Coffee Morning - All welcome

Sat, 10.30 – 12.00 Village Hall

4 March - Annual Quiz Evening £5 pp inc light supper

*7.30 pm Pembridge Village Hall **

8 March- WI – Colourful hanging baskets and borders

*Wed, 7pm Pembridge Village Hall **

11 March - Hardy Plant Society -

Sat, Glasbury Village Hall 2pm £3

18 March - PGNS Coffee Morning - All Welcome

Sat, 10.30 – 12.00 Village Hall

18 March - Film Evening, Moorcourt Church

*Sat, 6.30 £6 inc wine and nibbles **

* See *The Arrowvale Messenger* for details

Royal British Legion Roundup.

Your branch of the RBL organised the usual Remembrance Sunday parade from the War Memorial to the Church. This year several children from the village joined the march together with other members of the public - some of whom wore their father's or their grandfather's medals.

Each year we plan one big outing together as well as usual events like the Raffle (this was enjoyably supported in December by members and friends in the village raising £762) and we plan some other fund raising events too.

This year we are going to The National Arboretum on Tuesday 16th May. The Arboretum is a wonderful place and well worth visiting.

As with the Bletchley trip we will probably have a few seats over in the coach and non members of the branch are welcome to join us. Ticket prices to be announced.

Graham Hudson 07770 635897

Public Access Defibrillator (PAD) available in Pembridge.

An automated external defibrillator (AED) is available for use in a suspected heart attack. It is located in a box on the outside of the **Red Lion**. The ambulance service is aware of its location. All the equipment can easily be carried to the patient and comprehensive instructions are given as the device is switched on, allowing an untrained person to safely use it. In a side pocket of the bag is a pack containing a CPR barrier mask, disposable gloves etc.

Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) is the leading cause of premature death in this country but with immediate treatment, lives can be saved. Seconds count, particularly as it is unlikely that an ambulance will arrive in time to save the victim. Patient survival levels drop by 7 – 10% for every minute that defibrillation is delayed. SCA occurs because the electrical rhythm that controls the heart is replaced by a chaotic disorganised electrical rhythm called ventricular fibrillation (VF). An AED provides a high energy electric shock to restore the heart's normal rhythm. The machine guides the operator through the process by verbal instructions and visual prompts. A shock will not be given unless the machine detects an abnormal rhythm.

However, while an AED can correct the VF, the patient's life is maintained until then by cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR). Good quality CPR is difficult to maintain but the PAD will give clear instructions and will tell you to "push harder" and a metronome beat will lead the first-aider to the correct rhythm.

Any victim who is unresponsive and not breathing normally is potentially in cardiac arrest. Immediate symptoms may mimic an epileptic seizure as blood flow to the brain is reduced to nearly zero. If you suspect that someone has had a heart attack call 999 or 112, send someone for the defibrillator and commence CPR. All the staff at The Red Lion have received AED training and two members of staff have had first-aid training. Useful web-sites below:

www.sja.org.uk/ja/first-aid-advice/first-aid-techniques/using-a-defrillator-aed.aspx (Useful video)

<https://life-saver.org.uk> www.zollaed.co.uk <http://www.resus.org.uk>

An exercise class to help those recovering from a heart attack is available at Halo Leisure Centre, Coningsby Road, Leominster HR6 8LL from 10.45-11.45 am. £3 per session with free tea, coffee and sandwiches and a £1 annual membership. The sessions are often followed by useful talks. Tel: Ralph 01544 340090

Get Fit in the Great Outdoors

Energising mix of circuits and jogging - all ages and abilities (including with baby buggies).

Millennium Meadow HR6 9HB Wednesdays 10 - 11 am for 12 weeks starting 18th January.

£3 per session. Call 01432 38232 to book or just turn up.



Pembridge Parish Council

Highways

In 2006 I had installed the grey monitoring boxes which record every day the number, type and speed of traffic through our local main villages. Every year I report the October figures to my Parish councils in full and summarise the number and type of vehicles in my updates. Each year I place the type of vehicles into motorcycles, cars and cars and trailers in one category and as a percentage of the overall traffic - HGVs, small trucks, large vans, tractors and buses in the larger section.

The figures are a seven day average and I have included last year and 2006 for comparison and the growth levels. Lyonshall saw a large increase in overall traffic with Pembridge and Lyonshall seeing increases in larger vehicles which reflects in part an increase in Quarry traffic. I believe these figures in future will be very useful to evidence capital investment in the villages.

The 2015 traffic levels over a one month period was

Pembridge	2,699 vehicles per day with 24% (658) being larger vehicles.
Eardisley	4,494 vehicles per day with 24% (1081)
Shobdon	3,658 vehicles per day with 27% (985)
Lyonshall	2,393 vehicles per day with 20%. (458)

The 2014 traffic levels over a one month period was

Pembridge	2,587 vehicles per day with 23% (588) being larger vehicles
Shobdon	4,027 vehicles per day with 19% (756)
Lyonshall	1,995 vehicles per day with 19%. (362)

The 2006 traffic levels taken on average over four months

Pembridge	2,332 vehicles per day with 19% (443) being larger vehicles
Shobdon	4,425 vehicles per day with 19% (841)
Eardisley	4,271 vehicles per day with 19% (811)
Lyonshall	2,056 vehicles per day with 17% (350)

Please report any problems on highways or footpaths using the links below

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes>

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prov-problem>

2017/18 Herefordshire Council Budget

This is the time of the year when the council sets the budget and agrees the council tax for the next financial year. The emerging proposals indicates in line with the Council's three year financial plan and the indication of Government grants an increase of 1.9% in council tax plus 2% social care making 3.9% . Parish Council. Police and Fire precepts will also be added to the final Council Tax bill. For 2017/18 a balanced budget of approx. £145 million has been identified. This will be funded by:

Council tax	£93 million	£89m in 2016/17
Business rates	£32.5 million	£30m in 16/17
Government grants	£19 million	£27m in 16/17

The growth of social care budgets and the reduction in Government grants causes the degree of savings and cut backs in services. In setting this budget some £6.8 million pounds worth of savings has been identified for this next financial year. Expenditure includes adult social care budget at £51 million and the Children's non school budget will be £21 million (both after income fees). From 2010/11 to 2016/17 the Council has made £70 million savings and needs to identify another £17.5 million between 2017/18 to 2019/20.

Roger Phillips

rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

Parish Clerk's Report

Parish Mowing Contract Renewal

It is now for the Parish Council time to renew the annual contract for mowing of grass throughout the village, including the millennium meadow and the village green. If you are interested in tendering for the work you must have public liability insurance for £5M and the necessary equipment to provide a regular mowing and strimming service. Please contact the Parish Clerk for further information. All tenders to be received before end February. Email rebeccabissell.pempc@gmail.com

Parish request for Precept

At the December finance meeting, Parish Council agreed it would be sensible to raise the precept as it is expecting to further absorb more services as Herefordshire Council reduces its budgets and support. There will also be several unknown expenses throughout the year including completion of the NDP, legal fees, development of the playground and a reduction in grant funding for the lengthsman scheme by 66%.

A request for £24000 has been submitted to Herefordshire Council for the Parish requirements for 2017-18.

Village Christmas lights

Another Christmas passes by and Pembridge is once again the talk of the County for its super lights display. This only happens because of hard work, good organisation and financial support from the Parish Council for all to enjoy. Thanks to that band of hard workers.

It is lovely to receive these comments through the Parish Council website:

"Dear sirs, my wife and I have recently moved to Kington and regularly travel through Pembridge on our way home from work in Gloucestershire. We wanted to say what a delight the Christmas lights were over the past few weeks. It seemed that the whole village had participated and it lifted our spirits on cold evenings and

it was a great feeling to know we were nearly home. Please say thank you to the residents and/or the organisers on our behalf. We look forward to this year's show!

Congratulations on the sense of community displayed through your Christmas trees in the village. I have been watching the numbers grow for a number of years now and its very heart-warming as you drive through. Terrific..."

Lengthsman work

During the winter months, the lengthsman will work to maintain ditches and drainage issues throughout the parish, he will also be repairing and clearing pathways across the parish. If you find any areas where work is required, please contact either lengthsman co-ordinator Alan Stokes 01544 388769 or the Clerk Rebecca Bissell 01544 340747 or email: rebeccabissell.pempc@gmail.com.

Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Pembridge Neighbourhood Development Plan (PNDP) steering group have been making good progress with the draft plan of objectives and policies and are hoping to complete the final version over the next few months in preparation for further parish consultation. Any questions or comments please contact the clerk on rebeccabissell.pempc@gmail.com for more details of the next meeting.

Don't forget to report any highway or footpath issues straight onto the Herefordshire Council interactive map! If you find a pothole or footpath problem anywhere in Herefordshire you can report it on Herefordshire Council website at the links in Roger Phillips report above.

Next Parish Council Meeting Dates:

Wednesday February 8th - Ordinary Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm

Wednesday March 8th - Ordinary Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm.

Leen Times

I must first thank all those people who have sent messages of support about our animals. Sadly we have lost a further 4 cows at the last TB test. This dreadful disease is something farmers just have to learn to live with. There just seems to be no politically competent, useful or effective way of dealing with it, despite the answers being obvious to many people.

The cows are milking well and we all look forward to them going out to grass again. The milk price has finally improved so we also look forward to a better year than the last two. The winter routine goes on with feeding, bedding, cleaning and milking of the cattle. The chickens are, on the face of it, a little easier with feeding, bedding, adjusting temperature and atmosphere the most important. The Anaerobic Digester is taking many tons of waste products each day (cow slurry, chopped straw, chicken litter, apple pumice, waste whey, farmyard manure, rejected silage and some maize silage). This needs amazing attention to detail of the very complex operations and all credit to the family and staff that work it all.

We as farmers have great concern for our soil. We go to a great deal of trouble to avoid compaction, maintain organic matter and hold the nutrients in the fields by avoiding silt run-off. Last year we used a drill that planted grass seeds in the maize when it was about a foot high. This remained dormant until the maize was harvested in October - then it just seemed to explode out of the ground with the roots holding the soil and nutrients and the worms getting going underground to aerate the soil. It also gives us the benefit of good grazing before we go into the next crop.



As far as wildlife goes I can do no better than post extracts from one of my wildlife correspondents: 'I was standing by the brush pile in the conservation area, when a stoat popped up only 2-3 metres away. I watched for several minutes whilst it swivelled its head & checked the area without being aware of me. Eventually it took off at speed through the brush. My first ever close up encounter.'

'We have had another rare garden visitor this week. For the first time in years a male Lesser Spotted Woodpecker arrived outside the kitchen window & stayed a while on the nuts. Lovely colouring & a welcome guest. No Bramblings yet & only a couple of Siskins & Goldfinches. We saw a small flock of about 30 Lapwings at Golden Cross this week.'... and I have seen them down at Milton Cross too!

Diary dates: Spring Greens (Wildlife and sustainability Event) 29/30 April, Court of Noke

Tony Norman (tony@theleen.co.uk)



A helping hand is just a phone call away!

07779 122499

We are a free service supporting people in the Parish of Pembridge. If you need someone to:

- Fetch a prescription
- Walk or feed your pet
- Do some shopping
- Just call in for a chat or errands

These are just a few examples of what we could help you with. Just give us a call - we look forward to hearing from you.

The Steppes

Tue - Sat: 10.00am - 5.00pm

Bridge Street Cafe

Every day: 10.00am - 5.00pm

Townsend Farm Shop & Butchery

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

Old Chapel Gallery

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat: 10.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday: 11.00am - 4.00pm

Mobile Post Office

Monday: 2.00 - 3.00pm Tuesday: 1.30 - 2.30pm
Thursday: 3.30 - 4.30pm Friday: 1.30 - 3.00pm
Saturday: 9.00 - 10.00am (No Service on Wednesday)

POPPY APPEAL 2016

Thank you so much to everyone involved in raising a magnificent total of £3953.01 for the Poppy Appeal. Every year, I'm amazed by the generosity of our community and our contribution to the annual collection reflects the consistent support for this cause.

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way.

Sharon O'Hare

Poppy Appeal Organiser

Your Parish Councillors and contact details

ClIr Garfield Evans - Chairman garfield.evans@gmail.com
ClIr Andrew Pace - Vice Chairman 340696
ClIr Tom Bennetto 388972
ClIr Kevin Duggan 388833
ClIr Ms Catherine Fothergill 388279
ClIr Michael Hancock 387941
ClIr Mrs Julie Mifflin 388414
ClIr David Owens 388422
ClIr John Puslow 388060
ClIr Philip Rogers 387976
ClIr Alan Stokes 388769
ClIr Phillip Thomas 388457
ClIr Roger Phillips - Ward Councillor 340269

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