

Pembridge Parish News

www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

December 2017 - January 2018

It All Started with Knitting.

Yasmin Strube is from Hertfordshire. She grew up appreciating the scenery but not the drone of the M11 or the noise from Stansted Airport. People made things in the 70s – macrame things to hang spider plants in, lampshades, shell coffee tables; you could go to evening classes to learn how to upholster old furniture or how to re-do a broken cane chair. Sewing and knitting were respected hobbies. Yasmin did all of these and a lot of knitting.



She went to Cambridgeshire College of Arts & Technology and obtained her City and Guilds in General Catering which taught her front of house, accommodation and cheffing skills. Her first job was at The Red Lion Hotel in Whittlesford (near Duxford) and she became the Head Chef working the dreaded 7-2 and 6-12 shift. She did this for ten years.

Then it was time for an adventure and she took her catering skills abroad. She worked on a Super Yacht in the South of France for a summer season, cooking for the rich and famous - including people like James Hunt (Formula 1) and George Harrison (of the Beatles). She also cooked for the American editor of Vogue in Chelsea for a winter and fed people like Elizabeth Taylor and Ted Heath. Another summer season saw her in Corfu cooking in a villa where one of the guests was Esther Rantzen.

On a trip home she visited the local market and was smitten with the beautiful colours of the spools of Shetland wool on sale. She bought a knitting machine, invested in £100 of wool and taught herself how to use it. Soon she was able to make several jumpers a day using her own designs – fairisle or animals.

Working for an agency, she got employment as a private cook in British country houses during the week-ends. She made her jumpers during the week. If the country house owners had children/grandchildren she would arrive with a bag full of the appropriate-sized jumpers and leave with it empty. A small business was being created.

However, life was to change dramatically when her mother moved to New Radnor. Yasmin fell in love with the peace and quiet (no M11) and the lovely countryside – and the house prices! Wandering through Kington she enquired of an Estate Agent if there was anything interesting for sale. The Old Chapel in Pembridge had just come on the market. It had been used as a rug-making workshop and the floor was covered with Copydex and dust, but she saw the potential and Pembridge reminded her of

some of the villages in Hertfordshire and Essex but much more affordable. The chapel had some facilities - a tap and a sink and there was basic live-in accommodation. She moved in, bringing three knitting machines with her.

The rug maker had displayed his rugs there previously and also had had some work from a local potter, an artist and a jewellery-maker on show. She kept them on. Gradually other local artists called in and asked if she could display their work too. Many artists had moved into the area due to the inspiration of the countryside and the gentler way of life (the Brotherhood of Ruralists being one group) and soon she abandoned the knitting and concentrated on art and craft instead. She now stocks garden sculptures and furniture, ceramics, jewellery, glass, bronze, textiles, woodturning, carving, contemporary furniture and a large range of wearables mostly in wool. The old chapel was transformed into a treasure-trove of the best of British-made arts & crafts.

This it remains today and people visit from all over the country. She has even had visitors from Australia and the USA and some people book their holidays in the area simply to visit the gallery. The stock is constantly changing and she holds regular seasonal exhibitions. With Christmas coming it is certainly worth popping in. You will be sure of a warm welcome.

www.oldchapelgallery.co.uk

(twitter – @chapelgallery or Facebook – Old Chapel Gallery)



The recent coffee morning held in the gallery raised £300 for Macmillan Cancer Support.

Herefordshire Council car parks in Hereford city centre, including the Old Market and on-street pay & display, will be free for shoppers after 4 pm for late night Christmas shopping on Wednesday 22 and 29 November and 6, 13 and 20 December.

Diary

8 Dec - Christmas Tree Light-up + Father Christmas

Fri 6.15 Market Hall (See back page)

13 Dec - WI – Christmas Party *

Wed, 2 pm Village Hall

16 Dec - PGNS Coffee Morning - All welcome

Sat, 10.30 – 12.00 Village Hall

16 Dec - The Village Quire - a concert * £10 Inc Mulled wine and a mince pie. *Sat, 7.30 pm St Mary's Church*

10 Jan - WI - Lunch*

Wed, The Olde Steppes

20 Jan - PGNS Coffee Morning - All Welcome

Sat, 10.30 – 12.00 Village Hall

* See *The Arrowvale Messenger* for details

WI - Meets every month on the 2nd Wednesday.

Contact Marguerite Fothergill 01544 388279
margueritefothergill@gmail.com

Pembridge Village Hall Bookings

Please contact Sheena Palmer 01544 388952 for any enquiries

Christmas Events at The New Inn

Sun Dec 3rd – Sloe Gin Competition 7.30 pm

Mon Dec 4th – British Legion Christmas Draw 7.30 pm

Sun Dec 10th – Film Night: *Sunshine in Leith* 7.30 pm

Small charge

Sun Dec 17th – Artisan String Quartet – Haydn and Beethoven

2.30 – 5 pm £10

Sun Dec 17th – Christmas Quiz 8 pm (money raised to go to PiPs)

Wed Dec 20th – Christmas Draw 9 pm

Thurs Dec 21st - Carols in the bar with James Duffield and his friends (Ukulele) 7.30 pm

Sat Dec 23rd – Radnor and West Meet 10.30 am

Tues Dec 26th – Morris Dancing and Mummers Play 12 pm

Brilliant Biodiversity - Kingspan Report

Over the past few Sundays, the nation has been holding its collective breath in wonder as Blue Planet II revealed the breadth of life under our seas. Of course, this diversity isn't just restricted to our oceans. Our own county of Herefordshire is home to all kinds of plant and animal life, and it is important we do our part to keep it that way.

To encourage young people to get involved in this vital work, and following on from the success of last year, Kingspan recently invited local school children to a biodiversity day at our site in Pembridge. The



interactive day opened with a look at just what biodiversity is – covering everything from fish to grasses. The pupils then got stuck in replenishing the bug hotel and making 'seed bombs' to encourage wildflower growth around the bumble bee bank.

In the afternoon, the children scavenged twigs, straw and grass cuttings to make hedgehog houses – with a prize given for the homeliest creation. As a final treat, the groups then made bird 'fat balls' to put in their own gardens. The combination of meal worms, lard, seeds and peanuts is perfect fuel for birds but encouraged plenty of 'ewws' and 'ahhs' from the youngsters!

Kingspan has also just received our biennial Biodiversity Report with new recommendations for our site. We'll keep you up-to-date next year as, with the help of the local children, we put these suggestions into practice.



Alan Stokes

Three male members of PiPs had the honour of helping to carry Alan's coffin into a packed St Mary's Church on the occasion of his funeral on November 14th.

Alan Stokes was a gentle, thoughtful man who generously gave his time to the community as a councillor, volunteer driver for Community Wheels and as Chairman of PiPs – the group he inspired to take on projects around the village to make it a more attractive place to live and visit. As his illness took hold he was unable to help with the more physical tasks but he would make many phone calls on our behalf. He organised the necessary bookings for our recent race night and, despite being too ill to come, he still sponsored a race and persuaded all his family to buy horses.

He chaired our monthly meetings with a mocking informality which belied his efficiency; he would always stop to chat when out in his car and often got the top score on bowling evenings. Always humorous, sometimes gently teasing and with a range of accents in his repertoire to make everyone smile. We will all miss him terribly.

Pembridge Parish Council

From your local County Councillor Roger Phillips

Hereford City Roads

Travelling into and through the city has been more challenging than usual in recent weeks and Welsh Water's continued work on supplying future water supplies to the city will affect our side of the city for some months.

However there is positive news with the City link road between Edgar street and Aylestone Hill being opened in December. The cry has gone up for many decades that Hereford needs a bypass and that is what is being planned. This month sees the start of a six week public consultation on route options to the west of the city with the preferred route identified in April next year.

Last month the south/west section of the bypass, from the A49 to A465 compulsory orders and side orders were agreed with a start date for road building of late 2018. The council has bid for £95 million to the Homes and Community infrastructure fund for the Hereford City western by pass.

Winter preparations are in hand with the council's 15 gritters to grit on the agreed main routes, four snow blowers, 6,500 tonnes of salt and a 24 hour surveillance team. Please report any problems on highways or footpaths using the links below or phone 01432261800.

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes

myaccount.herefordshire.gov.uk/report-a-pothole

www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prov-problem if you wish to make a claim as a result of damage to your vehicle please use www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/206/highway_claims

Waste and recycling in Herefordshire www.herefordshire.gov.uk/directory/13/household_recycling_centres

Our local Household Recycling Centres in Leominster and Kington are very successful. Leominster is open from Monday to Sunday 8.00am to 6.00pm and has up to 500 vehicles per day, with 6,400 tonnes of household waste deposited, 76% of that recycled and the remainder now sent to our joint Herefordshire and Worcestershire energy plant at Hartlebury with the contents of our black bins, where it is incinerated to create power.

Kington opens Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8.00am to 6.00pm and has up to 200 vehicles per day with 1,250 tonnes deposited, of which 77% is recycled and the rest sent to Hartlebury. Further information, including important site rules are available on the councils website:

Our green bin contents are sent to a special plant just outside Worcester where it is sorted, packaged and recycled

Parish Council News December 2017 /January 2018

In Memory of Councillor Alan Stokes It is with much sadness we recently heard of Alan Stokes death. Alan was a very active member of the Parish Council who contributed to many activities. Alan worked hard with the Pride in Pembridge group and was also instrumental in the development of the conservation area along the riverside. A conscientious councillor who always looked to help parishioners however he could. Alan will be much missed in the community and the Parish Council is indebted to his service. Our thoughts are with Pat and their loving family.

The Parish Council require the services of an internal auditor for 2018/19 onwards. Local parishioner, Carrie Pierce has provided internal audit services on a voluntary basis to the Parish Council for several years. She has now moved from the parish and has decided to step down from the role in March 2018. The Councillors are grateful for her time and support. The Parish Council is now looking for someone with an accounting background who could spare a few hours to support and review the Parish Council accounts twice a year. If you can help, please contact the clerk: rebeccabissell.pembpc@gmail.com

Neighbourhood Development Plan. The Pembridge Neighbourhood Development Plan (PNDP) steering group will be meeting to review all the comments received from the regulation 14 consultation. The plan will be revised where necessary and prepared for Parish Council review and regulation 15. Once approved the Steering group will look to find an independent examiner to inspect the plan and make their recommendations. Any questions please contact the clerk on rebeccabissell.pembpc@gmail.com for more details of the next meeting.

Mowing Millennium meadow and village green. The Parish Council will be looking to renew the mowing contract for the village green and millennium meadow in January. If you have appropriate machinery and insurance cover and wish to tender, please contact the clerk for details. rebeccabissell.pembpc@gmail.com.

Herefordshire Council consultations. Herefordshire Council has several consultations running and is asking residents to participate and have their say. You can find all the details on the Hereford Council website or use the link below.

Traveller sites DPD: https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200185/local_plan/149/travellers_sites_document/5

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. All reports are logged and updated immediately onto the council's database. If you would like to report a pothole log onto www.herefordshire.gov.uk and navigate through the transport and highways section. Land & Property Owners. Please remember: - It is your responsibility to ensure hedge cutting and ditch maintenance along highways and footpaths.

Next Parish Council Meeting Dates:

Wednesday December 20th - Ordinary Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm

Wednesday January 17th - Ordinary Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm.

Leen Times

The Maize silage is made and the first 'hooking' of Fodder Beet is safely in the clamp. The rest will over winter in the field. The cows and heifers have all settled into their winter regime and all the staff have their own routine of milking, feeding, bedding down and cleaning out, it just goes on - every day, including Christmas Day. But that is what we choose to do!

I have become involved in a project to try to save the Eel. This animal, once extremely common, is now severely threatened. Eels have a very long and complex life cycle. This begins as



eggs in the far-off Caribbean, they then drift in the Gulf Stream as larvae for up to 2 years until they reach our shores as 'glass eels' or Elvers (about 3 inches long). These swim up our rivers and streams to colonise the ditches, pools and ponds for up to 15 years where

they grow to around 2 feet long (known as Yellow Eels). They then undergo a physiological change and migrate back to the sea as Silver Eels and these then swim back down the Atlantic Ocean and across to the Sargasso Sea to spawn.

This is a bit technical but I will try to explain it: The IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) have numerous scientists, worldwide, who study many different species. They list many thousands of those that they are worried about on their 'Red List'. This itself is divided into categories from Least Concern (say Golden Eagle or Great Crested Newt) through Vulnerable (say Blue Whale or Snow Leopard) to Endangered (White clawed Crayfish or Freshwater Pearl Mussel) to Critically Endangered (European Eel or Black Rhino) with the final one being Extinct! (Like the Dodo).

The Eels have suffered from over-exploitation, pollution, lack of habitat and disease and we are trying to help them with all of these by stocking them into ponds on the Leen and elsewhere around the Parish. Unbelievably, the Environment Agency are still licensing them to be caught and exported!

Other wildlife news: Our winter visitors (Redwings/Fieldfares etc) have arrived in some numbers to take advantage of those fallen apples and all those berries. Few Salmon have got up to spawn in the Arrow this year due to very low water. That secretive little bird –the Water Rail, has been spotted locally.

Tony Norman tony@theleen.co.uk

Happy Christmas and have a healthy and prosperous New year.

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

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: 9.00am - 5.00pm

Watch for changes

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)

Tricia's Hair Salon

Tues, Wed, Fri 9.00 - 5.00 pm Thurs 9.00 - 6.00 pm

BONFIRE NIGHT. We had a very successful bonfire night with the most spectacular fireworks ever. We would like to thank people for their generous donations which will enable us to provide a good display next year. The committee would like to thank all our helpers, Mr Henman for the marquee and everyone for their patience with the extra cars parked for the firework display.

Christmas lights On Friday December 8th the Christmas lights will be switched on at 6.15 at the Market Hall. There will be carol singing and, along with stalls, free tea, coffee and mince pies. There will be a raffle to help pay for the trees and lights. Please come along and support the Christmas trees.

Your Parish Councillors and contact details

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

Clerk: Mrs Rebecca Bissell
Firbanks, Lyonshall, Kington HR5 3LN
rebeccabissell.pembpc@gmail.com