

Pembridge Parish News

www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk

April - May 2020

First Select Your Ram

In the autumn ewe and ram sales are held and the choice of livestock depends on the requirement. If you want fat lambs for the meat industry then a Terminal Sire (Suffolk/Texal/ Charollais cross) is the beast of choice. If you require breeding stock for the next year then a pure bred ram is required. The ewes used are pure bred.

One ram can service 50 ewes and mating can take place any time between August and November. The ram is put in a harness that marks the sheep he has serviced with a dye. The ewes have a seventeen day cycle for ovulation and mating take place over three cycles. One ram is left for one cycle and then is changed for another ram (with a different dye colour) so that you know both the sire and also which ewes are first, second or third – important to spread the lambing process out over a number of weeks, particularly if you have a large flock!

There is a five month gestation. The ewes are scanned to see if they are carrying one lamb or more. This process is fairly accurate and allows the feed to be adjusted with more food given to the ewes carrying more lambs. They are fed more cereals when there is more than one lamb as the ewe's stomach is compressed and so she cannot eat sufficient grass to maintain the pregnancy.

When the ewe is ready to give birth she tends to take herself away from the rest of the herd and try to make a nest for herself. However, most lambing takes place indoors – which is kinder on the shepherd as well as the lambs. Fresh straw is put down regularly to to maintain hygiene. Usually the labour lasts about an hour. If there are multiple lambs



or if one is in the breech position the ewe may need some assistance, but most experienced shepherds can manage this. Generally one in thirty ewes require help. If there is a major problem then a vet is summoned and a caesarean may be required. The mothers recover very quickly from this procedure.

The mother licks the sheath from the lambs (if not done quickly the lamb can suffocate). The first milk a lamb suckles from the mother is colostrum, which is very rich and laden with antibodies from the mother, who has received a 7 in 1 injection to provide immunity against pulpy kidney, black disease, tetanus, leptospirosis and enterotoxemia, to name a few. If the lamb is orphaned then there is powdered colostrum available. The lambs can be hand-fed but nowadays there is a machine into which the milk powder is added to water,

which is warmed, and a row of 'teats' are available for the lambs to suckle at. Generally if the mother has triplets then one is fed artificially.

Other foods are fodder beets (a heavy cropper) which the sheep generally eat from the field where it is grown, getting very dirty in the process. They can eat right down into the beet under the soil. They can also eat swedes. Two hundred years ago a farmer tried feeding sheep turnips on poor ground so they got added minerals and his fields got fertilised with sheep droppings. The sheep thrived and the land became more fertile. He became known as Turnip Townsend.

Sheep are hardy animals, although they are not keen on the wet (who is?). Whilst they are herd animals they are not as dim as people think and are both artful and athletic and when one gets out of a field, having spotted a better meal, others will follow!

Many thanks to Richard Gwilliam, (a retired auctioneer) who now keeps a small flock of sheep – to keep him out of mischief, as he puts it, for giving his time to tell me a little about the process of breeding sheep.

DIARY - Cancelled

There may be a Horse and Novelty Show at The Leen Farm on Sunday, May 10th £1 entry 3pm

Pembridge Village Hall Bookings

Please contact Lizzie Sharpe 01544 388488 for any enquiries

Pembridge Film Nights Will resume in September.

Covid - 19 Local Information (Correct at time of going to press.)

Pembridge Good Neighbour Scheme

As we all now know what is being asked of our communities to try and contain the virus and how important self isolating will be, please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any shopping, collection of prescriptions or anything you think we could help you with. We have volunteers within the Village willing to help.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the monthly Coffee mornings until further notice but if you just need someone to talk to please give us a ring. This is a time that communities need to come together and that no one should feel that they are on their own.

JUST GIVE US A RING ON 07779 122499

Pubs and Restaurants

The Red Lion: The Thursday night Steak and Gammon night will operate as a take-out only. Take-out lunches available Monday – Saturday 12 – 3 pm. Please telephone your order through in advance.

01544 388007 www.red-lion-pub.com

The New Inn: Closed for the foreseeable future.

The King's House Restaurant: Closed for the foreseeable future.

The Cider Barn: May be doing take-outs 01544 388161

Ye Olde Steppes Shop and Tearoom:

We are now offering a home delivery or collection service for all products sold at Ye Olde Steppes Shop: milk, bread, tins, cheeses, stamps, pies and pasties, flour, fruit and veg etc. We also have a stock of toilet rolls!

Should you know anyone who would require this service please offer them our phone number. We can deliver the order once card payment has been received or ordered goods can be collected.

Sam and Adrian
Tel . 01544 388506



Townsend Farm Shop & Butchery
Is currently CLOSED to the PUBLIC for Walk in Service

All our products are STILL available

TO ORDER PLEASE

Order online at www.thewhatmeatcompany.co.uk
(We have live chat on to help you order)

Email us at: shop@townsendfarm.co.uk

Call us at: 01544 388527

COLLECTION or DELIVERY options

Collect from Townsend Farm shop collection point on
WED, THU, FRI, SAT

Free Delivery Within Pembridge
£3 for delivery within 8 miles of Pembridge

Delivery is same or next day: WED, THU, FRI, SAT.

We will liaise with you when your order is ready

Follow us on facebook at [Townsend Farm Shop](https://www.facebook.com/TownsendFarmShop)
Thank You and Take Care Su, Geoff and All at Townsend

Kingspan Report Getting Passionate About the Planet

We've all felt the effects of the terrible weather this Spring. Sadly, experts project that these winter storms are only set to get more common in the future as our climate changes. For this reason, it is vital that we all take steps to reduce our carbon and environmental footprints. As a global manufacturer, Kingspan has an even bigger responsibility and that is why we have created Planet Passionate.

Planet Passionate is a 10-year programme aimed at addressing climate change, circularity (how products are re-used or recycled) and protecting our natural world. To do this, we have set ourselves 12 ambitious goals to be met by 2030 at the latest. These include:

- increasing on-site energy generation across our sites to cover 20% of demand;
- becoming a zero waste-to-landfill company;
- using 1 billion PET recycled water bottles in our manufacturing processes by 2025; and
- becoming a net zero carbon manufacturer.

Of course, all of these targets will only be achieved with the help of our staff across the globe. Kingspan Insulation has always taken great pride in the enthusiasm our workers here in Herefordshire show for our environmental and sustainability work. For that reason, we want to put their voice right at the centre of the changes at our Pembridge site.

We kicked this off with a bake sale and dress down day at site on 13th March, raising money for the Size of Herefordshire project and giving workers the chance to provide their ideas about how we can get more planet passionate.

There were some fantastic suggestions and we look forward to telling you all about them as they are introduced over the next decade.

Pembridge Parish Council

From your local County Councillor Roger Phillips rjphillips@herefordshire.gov.uk

Covid 19

Following on from last night I have had several indications of delivery and take away offers from our local businesses including Cider Barn, Olde Steppes and Lyonshall nursery. Please support our local business where you can.

In the meantime please be aware of scams:

Do not give your bank details to anyone claiming to be able to help you

Do not click on emails from people and organisations that you do not know

Do not sign contracts with third parties who claim they are acting on behalf of the council

If you have any concerns about a group or individual asking you for money, please call 101

Stay Safe keep well and be a NICE NOSEY NEIGHBOUR

Hanging Basket Competition

Now is the time to plant your hanging baskets and front of houses ready for the Parish council competition. The judges are booked for judging in the summer. This is something we can do while self isolating, which should help to cheer us up and make the village pretty.

Julie Mifflin

The Wild in the Curl Project

Last month over 70 people attended the Wild in the Curl meeting about the work the project has done over the last three years. The Curl rises in Lyonshall, flows through the village down to Weston, crossing the main road and flowing below Marston past the Byletts to join the Arrow at the village green. The project involves 23 farmers in the Curl brook area of 7,000 acres and aims to improve the wildlife and water quality of the brook. Two farmers spoke about their contributions including fencing off the brook from livestock, monitoring phosphate levels, measuring and sheltering manure, and planting cover crops to stabilise the soil in winter. Agriculturally it is important to prevent run off of soil into the watercourses.

Over half the landowners are in special schemes encouraging better stewardship and as a result the Curl has seen an increase in wildlife and species. The catchment has 68 species of birds found with 14 "red list" species which are rarer, including Kingfishers, Dippers and Grey Wagtails and many types of fish including Salmon, Trout and Crayfish. We were shown spy camera footage of Otters, polecats, minx, and foxes.

The project monitors the phosphate levels through the brook noting the sharp rise in deposits following high rainfall. By monitoring the outfall from the sewage works in Lyonshall, there is evidence that the collection of sludge by Welsh Water every third day may not be regular enough. I believe this project has a valuable contribution to make in our approach to limiting phosphate and protecting our water quality and local wildlife.

Church services are cancelled until further notice but the church is remaining open for private prayer. Anna, the Rector, is also available on 07777692458 or abranston2002@gmail.com if anybody wishes to contact her.

Parish Council News

Corona Virus

At this difficult time for all parishioners, community is very important. The Parish Council has written to all households asking you to register on the website to receive news updates www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk and are hoping to collate a list of local volunteers. However, we can all help each other, even if you don't know or even like your neighbours, please check in on them, young and old; be kind and stay safe and well. If you are self-isolating let people around you know so they can help. Why not order a takeaway for delivery from the many local businesses who are having to rapidly adapt to change and which we need to support.

For more national and local information try these links:

NHS: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Government: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Herefordshire Council: <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Please remember our NHS and local surgeries are under huge pressure. Only use them if you have to, use email where possible and make repeat prescription requests through the online patient access, if you can.

Parish Flooding - The storms of the past few months have caused several issues throughout the parish. Sadly several properties were flooded. The river rose over the village green and brooks and drains have overflowed with the sheer volume of water and many of our roads are in a bad way. Herefordshire Council is offering a grant to those affected by flooding

<https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads/345/flooding/3> and Balfour Beatty have already started to repair local roads. If you are a landowner please take the time review and clear your ditches in the better weather. This will help should the rain return.

Parish Mowing Contract Renewal: The Parish Council have again chosen James Ross as the mowing contractor for mowing of grass throughout the village, including the millennium meadow and the village green for the 2020 contract.

REPORT POTHOLES ONLINE Herefordshire Council interactive map! You can report a pothole or footpath problem anywhere in Herefordshire on the Councils website. All reports are logged and updated immediately onto the council's database. If you would like to report a pothole log on to <https://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200196/roads>.

Next Parish Council Meeting Dates: - Parish Council Meeting are cancelled until further notice please check the website for news updates.

Pembridge Annual Parish meeting - Sadly this year the annual parish meeting is cancelled.

Leen Times

Well the floods came all over again and this time it was the highest we have ever seen. For the first time in 100 years of the family being at the farm, the water got into the farm house – not surprising, you would think, as the house is only 50 yards from the river. However, until now, it has always been just above flood level. Thankfully not too much harm done and the rest of the farm has kept going well with the cows and young cattle now out to grass and the whole place settling in to the summer routine. Some of the animals from the other end of the farm on this you-tube film 'Mammals of Mowley' <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3IF02YToW7o>

We are living in extraordinary times with Babs and I in voluntary self-isolation. We are catching up on the garden and filling in the days with long walks and doing lonely jobs for family and friends. This is unlike anything else we have faced before - nearly 20 years ago we had to isolate ourselves for a couple of months during the Foot and Mouth. At that time nobody used the footpaths for fear of bringing infection to the farm. This time we can infect each other and we must keep apart. It IS different in that we can all walk as long as we keep apart. We have many footpaths and tracks on the farm that we hope people will use to break the monotony of being isolated. The only thing that I would request is that dogs are kept on leads. We would be delighted to see anyone but don't expect us to stop and chat!

Wildlife news -wow! Spring has certainly arrived. I have never seen so many frogs spawning and with that has come a plethora of wildlife feeding on them - Herons, Buzzards, Mink, Otters and rats - all of whom have been seen or caught on camera, with piles of waste spawn and 'spraints' full of frog bones to show for it. But, literally hundreds have got away with it and spawned in the various ponds we have around the farm. Within a few days they have hatched to those black masses that are the tadpoles. '



Unfortunately no one has come forward to offer somewhere for the school to plant a few trees. However I have been offered some trees to plant and will be keeping up the search to find somewhere to plant them next season. So if you know of somewhere-Please get in touch.

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

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:10.00 am - 5.00 pm 01544 388506

The Pembridge Cafe

Mon: 9 am - 4 pm, Tues:- Closed all day
Wed - Sat: 9 am - 4 pm Sun: 10 am - 4 pm
Private meeting room available 01544 388922

Townsend Farm Shop & Butchery

Mon,& Tues 9 am - 10 am
Wed - Sat 9 am - 4 pm Sunday: 9 am - 12.30 pm

Old Chapel Gallery

Mon, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat: 10.00 am - 5.00 pm
Sunday:11.00 am - 4.00 pm 01544 388842

Mobile Post Office

Mon 14:00 – 15:00 Thursday 15:30 – 16:30
Friday 13:30 – 15:00

Tricia's Hair Salon

Tues, Wed, Fri 9.00 - 5.00 pm Thurs 9.00 - 6.00 pm
Appointments only on Saturday - 01544 388665

The Ear Lady

Mon - Fri 9.00 -5.00 Sat by appointment
Venue: Tricia's Hair Salon 01544 388665
Sarah Cain is offering private hearing assessments, private dispensing of hearing aids and ear wax removal services.

JOKE - Seen on a plumbers van.
No toilet rolls are stored overnight in this van!

FREE on-line university courses available from
www.futurelearn.com

Your Parish Councillors and contact details

CLlr Garfield Evans - Chairman:	garfield.evans@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 Steve Jones	07989 715075
CLlr David Owens	388422
CLlr Wendy Powell	340341
CLlr Philip Rogers	387976
CLlr Phillip Thomas	388457
CLlr Roger Phillips - Ward Councillor	340269
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