# Pembridge Parish News

www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk April - May 2018


## SPRING CHICKENS

I thought fertilised eggs had to be kept warm from the point of lay to be viable – WRONG. I also thought that hatchlings were predominantly female or at the very least a 50:50 ratio – also wrong. Iain Turner kindly corrected me on these points on a recent visit to see his rare and pure bred poultry.

He keeps Wheaten Marans, Cuckoo Marans, Copper Black Marans, Splash Marans, Cream Legbars, Silver-laced Wyandottes and Norfolk Greys (probably his rarest breed).

A few hens of each breed are kept in chicken houses with outdoor pens and fencing adorned by scented roses. A same-breed pedigree cockerel haughtily accompanies them as they graze. The eggs are collected and can stand at a cool temperature for ten days. This allows them to be posted to buyers packed in sturdy polystyrene to prevent wide fluctuations in temperature and also breakages. Those eggs destined for hatching can be placed in an incubator to start the gestation process of 21 days. Once at 37.8ºC the temperature must be maintained or the developing chick will die .The day before they are due to hatch they are moved to a hatcher which has more room for the newborns to spend the first day adjusting. At this point they do not need any food or water. They are then transferred to freshly lined boxes with a heat pad, water and chick crumbs. The chicks need close watching. Sticky bottom (technical term) can be a problem. At 4 -5 weeks they go out into chicken houses. The houses can be towed to fresh areas of grass at regular intervals. They are dosed against Coccidiosis but are not inoculated against other diseases as this is thought to inhibit natural immunity. Red Mite can be a problem in the summer months but good hygiene and husbandry are usually sufficient.



Cream Legbar Chick



Silver -Laced Wyandottes

As to sexing .... This is relatively easy with the Cream Legbar chicks but trickier for other breeds.. Sometimes you just have to wait, usually about 5 weeks until the male characteristics become apparent. The ratio of male to female chicks can be quite random and has been known to be as high as 80:20 which is not good as cockerels are sold in limited quantities.

Several breeds have been tried and rejected. Some are inclined to feather peck, others do not lay enough eggs and Leghorns are too wild with a tendency to fly up trees. The advantage of pure bred chickens over commercial hybrids is that, although they don't lay the number of eggs per year they last a lot longer and Iain has several customers with birds that are laying a reasonable number of eggs aged 5 & 6 years old. There is a Cream Legbar in the breeding flock that was born with bent feet and could not be sold but, as she was very pretty and had no trouble getting about, she stayed, and is still laying aged 6. I think he is quite fond of her.

If you wish to learn more about the various breeds of chickens and their eggs and care then have a look at www.pembridgepoultry.co.uk

## St Michael's Hospice *Wheelie Big Cycle*

For a number of years, St Michael's Hospice have held a charity cycle ride to raise much needed funding and this year we have been asked if Pembridge can be included as a stop on one of the cycle routes. Neighbouring villages have been lucky enough to participate in previous years and all have found it to be both rewarding and enjoyable. In Pembridge, we hope to make it a community led event, with as many people as possible participating to support the cyclists. This may be by volunteering as marshals, by running the food and drinks station, or simply by giving encouragement to the riders as they pass by.

The ride will take place on the morning of Sunday 15 July, with the 43 mile route will bringing the cyclists up Bridge Street into East Street. They will then left turn into the village car park and head for the Millennium Meadow where they will be able to have a drink and a snack.

We urge everyone to think about how they can contribute to making the event a success and something that we can all be proud of. If you would like to be a marshal for the event, please contact the parish clerk as soon as possible (contact details elsewhere in the magazine). We will be providing more details of what to expect and how you can help in the next issue.

# Diary

## APRIL

**11th** -WI – More Pilates *
*Wed, 7 pm Village Hall*
**21st** – PGNS Coffee Morning – All Welcome
*Sat, 10.30 – 12 Village Hall*
**29th** – Film Night – 7 pm at New Inn
*Booking – Richard Goddard 01544 387571*

## MAY

**9th** - WI – Discussions and Fish & Chips *
*Wed, 7 pm Village Hall*
**12** th - Table Top Sale *
*10.30 – 1.30 pm Village Hall*
**19th** – PGNS Coffee Morning – All Welcome
*Sat, 10.30 – 12 Village Hall*

* See The Arrowvale Messenger for details



You are invited to

# Pembridge

## Annual Parish Meeting

In Pembridge Parish Hall

## On 2nd May 2018, 7.00pm

Everyone Welcome

Refreshments available

Presentation from the Parish Council Chairman and Ward Councillor Phillips, plus presentations from other village organisations, including PiPs, The Good Neighbour Scheme and the Parish Hall.

Come and enjoy an informative and social evening.

**WI** Meets every month on the 2nd Wednesday. Contact Marguerite Fothergill 01544 388279

## Pembridge Village Hall Bookings NEW

Please contact Lizzie Sharp 01544 388488 after 6 pm

## RBL Events

The Royal British Legion, (RBL for short )was created to help ex-servicemen and women . An aspect of this is to organise events enabling them to keep in touch with each other. Times change and membership is not confined just to ex-military people. Many members join to honour parents, grandparents and sons who have served. Increasingly people who are not formal members but "friends of the branch"come to our Pembridge events.

You see members on Remembrance Sunday when we march along the A44 to a packed church, some of you come on our annual coach trip, but only a few come to the irregular, but fascinating, talks given by the people who were there. By the time this article is in print we will have learnt about the history of the Glider Regiment stationed at Shobdon during the war and plans will be well under way for a trip to the RAF museum at Cosford on the 22nd of May. In previous years we've been to Bletchley Park and the National Arboretum.

So if you would like to join, become a "friend" or just go on my email list to have details of events and talks, let me know. We'll be delighted to hear from you. Graham Hudson hudsong@lineone.net, 07770 635897

**CONGRATULATIONS to Richard Johnson on his gold cup win at Cheltenham on March 16th riding Native River to beat the favourite Might Bite. Pembridge is very proud.**

## FACING THE PANEL News from Kingspan.

Going to your first interview is a big test for a young person. Whether it be auditioning for your college courses, or finding your first job, it is important to make the right impression. To build their skill sets, local year 10 pupils have recently been taking part in mock interviews. The annual interview days are organised with a number of local companies and colleges, including staff from Kingspan Insulation.

Each student is asked to prepare a detailed CV before attending. They are then put through an in-depth interview lasting between 10 and 15 minutes. At the end of the process, the pupils receive detailed feedback helping them to fine-tune their responses and to approach future interviews with much greater confidence.

Over the course of the event, the students also have plenty of opportunity to ask their own questions, both about CVs and interviews, and more generally about potential career paths and the skills they need to develop if they want to follow them.

This year's events at Wigmore High School and Tenbury High School were a great success with plenty of positive feedback from students and attendees alike.

Louise Murtagh, Work Related Learning Co-ordinator from Wigmore High School, talked about the school's interview day:

"We've been running Mock Interview Days for over 20 years as part of our Work Related Learning programme. The event takes place after our students have completed their work experience so they have something specific to reflect upon during the interview. They find it really useful practice for 'real' college, apprenticeship and job interviews going forward."

# Pembridge Parish Council

## From your local County Councillor Roger Phillips

**Highways**: Potholes and surface damage have been a real problem over the last couple of months on our roads. The budget for the next financial year allocate to the Balfour Beatty contract some £6.5 million of the revenue budget and £21.4 million of capital budget ( £11.6 from government grants). I have lobbied for, and was pleased to see in the 2018/19 Herefordshire Council budget, some £4.6 million allocated for resurfacing on the A44. The Council intends to submit the A44 to the Governments Highway Maintenance Challenge Fund when it is announced in summer, which if successful, will double that figure. This may mean that works may be delayed till later in the summer or early autumn to await the government decision but at least the money is ring fenced and we will see some improvement in the Parish. I continue to lobby for the Bearwood Lane from A44 to village hall, Milton to Pembridge highway, patching on the Rhyse lane and some other unclassified highways in the parish. The contract also includes two verge cuts between 1 May and end of September.

**To report a pothole please go to**: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/maintenance/potholes

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

**To report a footpath problem**: www.herefordshire.gov.uk/transport-and-highways/footpaths-byways-and-bridleways/cg-report-prow-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

**Report fly tipping**: by either calling the Contact Centre on 01432 261800 or by logging the fly tipping via the council website on the links below as your enquiry www.herefordshire.gov.uk/info/200226/report_a_problem/98/fly_tipping This will ensure that it is dealt with quickly.

**Roger Phillips**
rjphillips@herfordshire.gov.uk

## Parish Council News April/May 2018

### Pembridge Annual Parish meeting

Please come along to the Annual Parish meeting in the Parish Hall on Wednesday 2nd May, 7.00pm. Reports will be received from community groups and updates on activities from the ward and parish councillors.

### Councillor Vacancy

The Parish Council is interviewing several interested candidates over the next month and will look to co opt a new councillor in May.

### Neighbourhood Development Plan.

The Pembridge Neighbourhood Development Plan (PNDP) will be reviewed by the Parish Council over the next few months for regulation 15 approval. The Plan will now be forwarded to Herefordshire Council to prepare further supporting reports and maps. It wil then progress to Regulation 16 where it is reviewed by Herefordshire Council and an independent examiner. The Parish Council will then consider all modifications, make final changes and produce a final plan for all parishioners to vote on.

### Parish Mowing Contract Renewal

The Parish Council have chosen James Ross as the mowing contractor for mowing the grass throughout the village, including the millennium meadow and the village green for the 2018 contract.

### 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 Clerk Rebecca Bissell 01544 340747 or

email: rebeccabissell.pembpc@gmail.com.

### REPORT POTHOLES ONLINE

Herefordshire Council interactive map!

You can report a pothole or footpath problem anywhere in Herefordshire on the Council website. All reports are logged and updated immediately onto the council 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: - All Welcome

Wednesday April 18th - Ordinary Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm
Wednesday May 2nd – Annual Parish Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm
Wednesday May 16th - Ordinary Meeting in the Parish Hall 7.00pm.

For anyone interested in learning more about TB after the article on Mr James in the February/March newsletter, the following book is recommended: ***Catching Breath: The Making and Unmaking of Tuberculosis by Kathryn Lougheed***.

# Leen Times April/May 2018

The good news is that we passed our TB test! We have to get through another in a few weeks time for the vets to give us the 'all clear' and we can then buy and sell cattle again, like a normal farm. The bad news was that we had to dump many thousands of litres of milk down the drain during the 'Beast'. Thankfully, this was not a total waste as it was used in our Anaerobic Digester to produce heat that kept the chickens warm as well as electricity. At that time my heart goes out to all those young lambs around the parish that struggle to find shelter from the biting East wind. Although the cattle have been out grazing grass for some weeks now it is always a joy to see them outside full time in the sunshine and good weather that will come?

The Native Black Poplar (BP) is one of the rarest timber trees (not to be confused with the numerous hybrid poplars) - once common in Herefordshire. Its timber was used much as cheap 'deal' is today, although there is at least one house in the parish that has it used as the cruck beams for the construction, maybe 300 years ago. Sadly, there are now just over 200 BP's left in Herefordshire, a few of which are in Pembridge parish. So, we have been taking cuttings (large truncheons) and planting them around the farms - hopefully, to see more of them in future. Just in case we have failed to record one of them - if you know of a large poplar tree with no mistletoe on it, then please let me know (it may just be a Native BP).

Our leaflet explaining about the 'Verdun Oak' and the project to plant saplings from it in remembrance of those dreadful losses of 100 years ago has given us leads to the families of 6



of the names that are on the war memorial and elsewhere. If you know of any other contacts with these names, who would like to be involved, please let me know.

www.pembridgeparishcouncil.gov.uk/docs/notices/Remembrance2018.pdf

Wildlife news:- 21 farms in the area took part in the February 'Big Farm Bird Count' with a huge number and variety of birds being recorded. This certainly indicates the good quality of the habitat, food and shelter we have in the parish at this tough time of year. Amongst the raptors - Barn Owl, Hen Harrier and Peregrine were all recorded but plenty of unusual small birds as well - Brambling, Linnet, Red Poll and Goldcrest as well as the numerous common birds.

Tony Norman (tony@theleen..co.uk)

PEMBRIDGE good neighbour SCHEME

**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
- Do some shopping or errands
- Walk or feed your pet
- 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, except Tuesday: 9.00 am - 5.00pm

**Townsend Farm Shop & Butchery**
Mon & Tues 9.00 am - 10 am
Wed - Sat 9.00 - 4 pm Sunday: 9.00 am - 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
Appointments only on Saturday

Zumba classes are on Monday's at Pembridge Primary School, 7 - 8 pm and cost £4 a session.
zumbamaddy@gmail.com

Sat 5th - Mon 7th - May. Kington Art Society Spring Exhibition at Kingswood Village Hall 10am-4pm

**News from the Blues**: West Mercia Police have launched a series of help and advice pages in the "Contact us" section of their websites. Information on who to contact regarding neighbour disputes, noise, highways and road faults, assault, collisions, fly-tipping, dog fouling and barking, cyber bullying, burglary and parking is available and useful advice is provided.https://www.westmercia.police.uk/maketherightcall

**Your Parish Councillors and contact details**

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|---|---|
| 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 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