



PEMBURY

your village newsletter

december 1978 issue no.

18

One of the most important meetings in the village took place in October in the main hall of our school. Around 250 people came to hear progress reports on our two by passes including the Deputy Mayor of the Borough of Tunbridge Wells, Councillor Blakway. The meeting was called by the Parish council in conjunction with the 2000 Committee and the By pass Campaign Committee and it was standing room only.

Parishioners heard that the B2015 By pass should be started in 1981 and comment largely centred on the way the County Council proposed to "cross" Church Road. Numerous alternatives to the proposed closing of the lower end of this road were voiced and these suggestions have now been passed on by the Parish Council.

Our MP gave a brief account of his efforts in Parliament - reported elsewhere in this newsletter - to pin the Minister of Transport down to a starting date for the A21 By pass. This is now 1984. He closed with a strong appeal to the village to keep up their pressure on the Minister to maintain his promise.

contents

Editorial	2	Parliament	11/14
Trees	3	Parish Boundaries	15
Parish Council News	4	Self Help Scheme	16
Bus Service	5	British Legion	20/21
Village Organizations	9/10	Village Diary	23

published by Pembury Parish Council

VIEWPOINT

where do we go from here?

It may come as something of a surprise to you that the Newsletter is now starting its fifth year of publication.

The previous Parish Council took a very far sighted decision to produce a Newsletter to try to bring together all the hundreds of new families that had moved in into the village over the past 10 years. Communication was felt to be a basic need and a single information sheet was distributed twice a year. This became two sheets and then eventually the folded and stapled letter that you know today.

From comments made to Parish Councillors it is clearly much appreciated and has contributed in its small way to the improvement in community feeling. The Parish Council's liaison Committee is now considering whether the newsletter should be changed and if so in what way.

Should it be a different shape, perhaps more like a small newspaper? Should it carry more advertising, and if so should it go outside for advertisers? Is delivery satisfactory, if not, why not?

The Liaison Committee would like to hear your views and suggestions on how the newsletter could be improved.

Please write or ring the Clerk to the Council at 16, The Coppice (Tel. 5459)

EDITOR :

D. Hawes Richards
54 Hastings Road. (2779)

editorial secretary :

Mrs. M. Board
30 Henwoods Cres. (3169)

Clerk to the Council

H.S.J. Plant
16 The Coppice (3459)

The tree of life

The title of this article on trees is not so strange as it might at first seem. They provide life to us - yes Homo sapiens, receive life-giving oxygen from trees and it is a by-product of an enormous energy chain that is going on all around us every day and we provide them with a raw material - Carbon Dioxide.

The green chlorophyll in the leaves absorbs the carbon dioxide with minerals drawn from the tree's roots, produces Carbo-Hydrates and Oxygen by Photo-synthesis with the sunlight. Symbiosis or total interdependence describes how we depend on trees and them on us, but the harmony has gradually been destroyed and it started in the Wealden area of Kent when the first large fleets of Wooden Ships were built in the 15th and 16th centuries. Since that time various man made disasters have befallen trees and some natural ones too - like the most recent - Dutch Elm disease. The Clay Vales used to be saturated with Oak Forests but farming has tended to remove them one by one. The Elm has virtually gone, many other once indigenous varieties have disappeared, but we constantly ignore the need to replace and conserve what we have got.

Trees also provide real beauty and homes for all kinds of animals, birds and insects as well as other plants.

Pembury is lucky in having some very fine trees but they are old and the younger ones are often removed due to development of land. "So plant more trees" and make them deciduous. Not all evergreen or conifers. The new developments in particular need more trees to furnish them with beautiful displays during the summer months.

The cost is not great but the effect can be enormous. In my next article I will describe suitable types of plants and their cost.

A.J. Stuart-Robson
TREE CONSERVATION OFFICER

PEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL



parish council news * * * * *

PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND THE POWERS OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

An earlier edition of the News letter referred in passing to the Powers of your Parish Council in regard to Planning Applications for alterations to property within the Village. During this year the Parish Council has been discussing with the Borough Council the possibility of it becoming involved more directly in the decisions on individual applications.

The legal position at the moment is quite clear. The Borough Council are the elected body with the power to decide applications for Planning Permission. Your Parish Council is sent copies of each planning application when it is received at the Dower House but its only function is to comment on the application and send these observations to the Borough Council.

This whole matter is quite understandably a very confusing one for the layman to understand and the purpose of this article is to explain as simply as possible to readers the situation as it exists and what the Parish Council have been trying to do about it.

The Parish Council have become increasingly concerned at some of the decisions being given by the Borough Council on Planning Applications which in some cases are completely contrary to the Parish's recommendations.

A series of meetings has therefore been held with officials and councillors at the Dower House and this ended with a meeting with the full Borough Council Planning Committee and representatives of the Parish Council.

Three requests were made at this meeting:

1. That the Chairman of the Parish Council or his appointed Deputy be allowed to attend Borough Council Planning Committee Meetings and speak on Planning Applications in Pembury, therefore ensuring that the Parish Council's views are properly conveyed.
2. That all applications for residential planning approval larger than say two or three houses at any one time, are refused by the Borough Council on the basis that the Village has already had quite enough new development for the time being. (This request reflects the wishes of the Village set down in the Study 'Pembury 2000')

3. That a Local Plan be prepared as quickly as possible by the Borough Council Planning Officer to give legal force to the recommendations of 'Pembury 2000'.

All three requests were rejected by the Borough Council Planning Committee and received no support from the Member of the Borough Council who represents Pembury on the Planning Committee.

After this meeting, however, the Pembury Borough Councillor has subsequently agreed to put the recommendations of the Parish Council on Planning Applications to the Borough Council Planning Committee.

Your Parish Council is therefore in a very difficult and largely impossible position. On the one hand it is not allowed any real power in deciding applications but nevertheless it is the elected Local Authority for the Village and one to whom Parishioners should quite correctly look for guidance, direction and advise on matters of Planning.

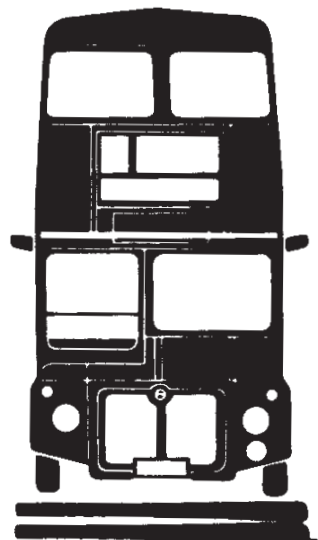
All that can be said in summary is that if you feel aggrieved on a Planning Application then please involve your Parish Council and if it is possible for them to give you any help then they most certainly will.

CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR HOLIDAY SERVICES 1978/79

The Maidstone and District Motor Services Ltd. have informed the Parish Council Clerk of their Christmas and New Year Holiday Services for 1978/79.

These are as follows:

23rd December 1978	—	Normal Saturday service
24th December 1978	—	Normal Sunday service
25th and 26th December 1978	—	No service
27th December 1978	—	Sunday service
28th December 1978	—	Normal Thursday service
29th December 1978	—	Normal Friday service
30th December 1978	—	Normal Saturday service
31st December 1978	—	Normal Sunday service
1st January 1979	—	Sunday service
2nd January 1979	—	normal Tuesday service



D. D. & D. W. BETTS
V G the Convenient Store

VG
Foodmarket

132 Henwood Green Road
Pembury Tel. 2721

Derek & Daphne Betts

FLORISTS
& GREENGROCERS

Interflora

124/ 126 Henwood Green Road
Pembury Tel. 2721
(Ring Day or Night)

PEMBURY CATERING SERVICE

*For
all Occasions*

Pembury 2185

MRS S. L. HATHWAY

AMBERSIDE SCHOOL OF DANCING

Limbering and Tap Dancing
for Adults Tuesday morning
(creche for toddlers)
and Thursday Evenings

Ballet Modern and Tap
Dancing for Boys and Girls

Margaret King
Tel. Pembury 2574

For all aspects of Estate Agency
consult your Local Agent

PRALL, CHAMPION & PRALL

Chartered Surveyors & Estate Agents

8a High Street, Pembury

Tel: 2310 & 2705

also at

161 High Street, Tonbridge Tel: 352533

and

93 Commercial Road, Paddock Wood

Tel: 3388

E.G.GREEN & SON

Accident Repairs

**Panel Beating and Welding
Engineers**

**2 Petersfield Road,
Pembury**

Tel: 2992

**Do you need a Secretary
for one or two hours a week?**

Why not contact —

**CARRIAGE RETURN
Mobile Secretarial Assistance**

**Telephone:
Pembury 3376**

W.F.FOORD

**Carpet Planner, Fitter
and Supplies**

**Carpets Waterbased Stain
Proofed and Cleaned**

**3 Henwoods Crescent
Tel: Pembury 2611**

John Goulder

**The Photographer for all
occasions**

*17 Vale Road,
Tunbridge Wells*

**17 Vale Road
Tunbridge Wells
T/W 39287 and Pembury 3187**

VILLAGE ORGANIZATIONS

PEMBURY LAWN TENNIS CLUB —
Mrs. Jean Prosser — 13 Ridgeway —
2682

PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB —
R.H. Fry — 101, Ridgeway

PEMBURY FOOTBALL CLUB —
Mrs. M.I. Coppard — 25 Sandhurst
Avenue — 2648

PEMBURY JUNIOR FOOTBALL
CLUB — J. Goulder — 17 Maidstone Rd
— 3187

KING WILLIAM FOOTBALL CLUB—
J. Goulder — 17 Maidstone Rd — 3187

PEMBURY LADIES NETBALL —
Mrs. M. Walker — 65 Belfield Road —
3439

PEMBURY CRICKET CLUB —
Mr. Chandler — 149 Sherwood Road,
Tunbridge Wells — T.W. 33886

PEMBURY TABLE TENNIS CLUB —
H.S.J. Plant — 16 The Coppice — 3459

PEMBURY BADMINTON CLUB —
Mrs. Michie, Bracken, Mascalls Park,
Paddock Wood — 2787

CONSERVATIVE PARTY —
Miss R.J. Knapp — 38 Heskett Park —
3106

LABOUR PARTY — S. Fowler —
71A St. Johns Rd. T. Wells — 20250

LIBERAL PARTY — A.B. Ballantine
— 6 Maidstone Road — 2156

PEMBURY SCOUTS — R.J. Kidd —
38 Woodhill Park — 3828

PEMBURY CUBS — Mr. B.J. Lawrence
21 Canterbury Road — 2956

BROWNIE GUIDER — Mrs. Millinger
— 9 Petersfield — 2830 and
Mrs. J. Sands — 2 Middlefield — 3738

GIRL COVENANTORS — Mrs. Davies
— 9 The Coppice — 2026

BOY COVENANTORS — K. Chapman
— 40 Ridgeway — 3443

WIVES FELLOWSHIP — M. Williams
— 56 Romford Road — 2503

PEMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE —
Afternoon — Mrs. Salter —
28 Greenleas — 2502

PEMBURY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE —
Evening — Mrs. D. Cramp —
39 Woodhill Park — 2481

PEMBURY COUNCIL HOUSE
TENANTS ASSOC. — Mr. J. Goodsell
— 63 Belfield Road

PEMBURY FETE COMMITTEE —
R. & D. Trinder — The Forstal — 3095

PEMBURY DARBY & JOAN CLUB
— J.H. Johnson — 25 Heskett Park —
2108

PEMBURY HORTICULTURAL SOC.
— Mr. M. Mephram — 16 The Paddock
— 2703

PEMBURY MUSIC GROUP —
Mrs. D. Whitehead — The Forresters —
2058

PEMBURY BRITISH LEGION —
J. Young — 13 Bulls Place

W.R.V.S. — Mrs. Rutland — Redfern,
Lower Green Road — 2140

W.R.V.S. — Mrs. K.E. Jury —
3 Canterbury Road — 2678

PEMBURY SOCIETY — R. Saunders
— Mays Farm House, Romford Road
— 3254

PARENT TEACHERS ASSOC. —
Mrs. F. Cordell — 6 Woodhill Park —
3156

VILLAGE ORGANISATIONS (continued)

ST PETER'S WOMEN'S FELLOW-
SHIP — Mrs. D. Tooke, 10 Hekett Pk.
— 2900

PEMBURY YOUTH CLUB —
Mrs. B. Brunsdon, Decoy Pond House,
Pembury Walks, Pembury Road,
Tonbridge — Pembury 2413

PEMBURY OLDE TYME DANCE
CLUB — L.T. Chaplin, 11 Chieveley
Drive, Tunbridge Wells — 30866

CATHOLIC CHURCH —
Father Hartley, 7 Lower Green Road,
Pembury.

PEMBURY FREE CHURCH —
Rev. Johnson, 58 Lower Green Road

ST. PETERS CHURCH —
Rev. C. Hodgson, The Vicarage,
4 Hastings Road — 2204

FRIENDS OF PEMBURY PARISH
CHURCH — Treasurer: Mr. D.J. Ould,
42 Lower Green Road, Telephone 2616

PEMBURY FRIENDS OF SEVEN
SPRINGS — J.S. Debonnaire,
51 Church Road — 2909

BADMINTON CLUB —
Mrs. Michie, Bracken, Mascalls Park,
Paddock Wood — 2787

PEMBURY COMMUNITY CENTRE
ASSOC. — Mrs. S. Clark,
51 Heskett Park, Pembury

NATIONAL LIFEBOAT ASSOC. —
Sqdn. Ldr. F.L. Marshall, Rose Cott.
130 Henwood Green Road — 2657

ROYAL OBSERVER CORPS. —
T.J. Verrall, 265 Upper Grosvenor
Road — Tunbridge Wells 37268

KENTISH VALE ROUND TABLE —
C. Hughes, The Roundels, Mile Oak,
Paddock Wood — 2948

PEMBURY LADIES SOCIAL GROUP —
Mrs. M. Langridge, 88 Culverden
Down, Tunbridge Wells. Telephone
Tunbridge Wells 28674

DO YOU WORRY ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE VILLAGE?

If you are concerned about the future shape of our community and the facilities which it is going to have available for everyone's enjoyment then the Pembury 2000 Action Committee would be very pleased to hear from you.

This Committee was set up by the Parish Council to follow up the 14 recommendations within the Village Study "Pembury 2000" and it is now looking for three Parishioners to complete its numbers.

This is very much a working Committee composed of Parish Councillors and non-elected Parishioners all of whom have a particular interest in one or another of the recommendations. If you would like to contribute to the work of the Committee please contact the Chairman on Pembury 2779.

PEMBURY

in



Parliament

In the early hours of the morning of 12 July our by-pass to the A21 formed the subject of a special debate in the House of Commons. Our Member of Parliament, Mr Patrick Mayhew, rose at 1.26 am to put to the Minister the continuing delay with the completion of the by-pass and the waste of money with the re-investigation of different ways of by-passing the village.

The debate resulted from a meeting between our M.P. and our Parish Council and By-pass Campaign Committee. The particular form it took meant that the Minister was compelled to give a full reply and as specific an undertaking as he possibly could. Mr Mayhew went through the history of the scheme and this does not need re-stating now.

With the benefit of the information supplied to him by the By-pass Campaign Committee, the Parish Council and the Pembury 2000 Action Committee he pressed the Minister very hard to say why the A21 by-pass was not the **right road in the right place to the right standards and at the right time.** "The **right time**: try telling Pembury that this is not the right time and one risks getting a declaration of UD! with all the traffic halted at the frontiers. Pembury has had more than enough of the dangers to life and limb presented by the traffic passing through its centre. It was the right time 44 years ago and it has not stopped being the right time ever since.

It is against this background and these principles that the current procedures of the Department of Transport regarding the Pembury by-pass fail to be judged. The Department is solemnly insisting on going through the same preliminary report procedure that would be appropriate if the Minister were suddenly to wake up one morning and say "Let us build a spaghetti junction over Canterbury Cathedral".

Who is the Department asking to prepare that report, with all its investigation of alternative layouts, estimates and technical reports, deposit periods, exhibition periods and assessment reports? None other than the Kent County Council. As a result the Minister is not scheduled - I have the schedule here - to adopt the preferred line until a period beginning on 14 May and ending on 6 August, 1979

Why does not the Minister come to Pembury, or to Tunbridge Wells hold a public meeting, say that he wants to avoid unnecessary waste of time, explain that the Southern route seems to him to be the only possible one, but that he will listen to other views then and there and invite any objectors to come and visit him in London

Two steps are now urgently needed, first the Minister should, perhaps after a meeting of the type that I have suggested, adopt the southern route as the preferred route, relying upon what everybody in the district has known for donkeys years. Secondly, the Minister should not muck about; he should say that this one mile construction should be of dual carriageway standard."

The Minister, Mr John Horam, who at present is the Under Secretary of State for Transport, rose at 1.38 am to answer Mr Mayhew. It is pleasant to be able to report that he gave a very full reply. Unfortunately the very fullness prevents the whole of it being reported in our Newsletter but the following are extracts and the full report is available from the Editor for anybody interested (Hansard, House of Commons official report, volume 953 No. 152 for Wednesday 12 July 1978. Price 40p "No-one disputes that Pembury needs a by-pass In addition, as the Honourable and learned gentleman pointed out, there is not one problem at Pembury, but two. The second arises from the B2015, therefore Pembury does not need one but two by-passes, the second being the responsibility of the Kent County Council.

He (Mr Mayhew) has put down Questions and written me numerous letters as have many of his constituents. I am thinking particularly of the Pembury 2000 Action Committee, which is very active. We have also had a petition from parishoners of Pembury”.

The Minister then went on to set out the programme from July 1977 - 1985 which has already been fully reported in previous issues of the Newsletter. He continued by saying that the 8 year time table instead of the normal 10 indicated the importance and priority he attached to completing the Pembury by-pass and he answered Mr Mayhew’s particular question about duplication of work and consequent waste of money.

The Minister insisted that there was no duplication add that the work already done by the Kent County Council was of a very preliminary nature. They were now carrying on with that work in their capacity as agents for his Department. However, Mr Horam was not able to give any denial that the Department were not investigating a northern route for the by-pass.

The Minister continued “Let me give the Honourable and Learned Member a commitment. I understand the frustration when so many people want this by-pass. If we find - we can ascertain this shortly now because of the work done between the middle of last year and now - that the northern route is not an alternative at all, we can short-circuit the procedure of public consultation. I am anxious to do so. I have said many times that I see no point in an elaborate public consultation procedures when only one effective route is possible.

Nevertheless, under the procedures laid down by the Honourable and Learned Members own party in 1973 we have to have some public consultation of the most skeletal kind. I will ask my officials to publish the fact that they have come to this conclusion and invite anyone to comment on it but conduct no further investigations.

That could save about six months and we should then probably be talking about doing that in the early part of next year. By the end of 1979 we should have it fairly well programmed. It will then take about eighteen months to two years to work it up in a detail design stage with all the engineering consequences. The enquiry should take place in 1982 with a start in 1983 and finish in 1985. That is rather tight, with little room for slippage, but that is the sort of time we could finish in.

It would not have been done any faster by the County Council. I understand from a publication by the Pembury 2000 Action Committee that the Council said that it would come after the Bluebell Hill by-pass in Rochester was completed, which under Kent's current transportation programme will be finished in 1981/82. The means that even if the Council went ahead as planned - and I doubt whether they would be able to achieve that they could not start by 1983. With the funds available, I think we should be able to start this sooner than Kent could have done it had it remained a County Council responsibility. At the end of the day the people of Pembury will be getting their by-pass sooner than the average time and sooner than if Kent had remained in charge, simply because the Council would have lacked the financial resources."

PEMBURY BOWLS CLUB

Are interested in new members joining us for the 1978 season. Bowlers welcome, both ladies and men. We will also welcome beginners. If you want to learn to play bowls come and join us, starting end of April, Club Nights **Monday, 6.30**. Ring Pembury 4206 or Mrs L. Fry, 101 Ridgeway. AGM — Wednesday 14th February, 1979 — 7.30 pm Village Hall.

VANDALISM



The Parish Council estimate of £500 a year lost to vandals has had to be altered. New doors to the Recreation Ground Pavilion have been damaged within days of being fitted — did you see those responsible for this senseless damage?

It is to be presumed that the answer to this question in most cases would be 'Yes', but this general question has a very important reason lying behind it at the current time.

A National Review of Local Parish Boundaries is now under way and a duty has been laid by Parliament on the District Councils throughout the Country (in our case the Tunbridge Wells Borough Council) to examine the existing Parishes and to suggest any alterations to particular properties or land within them. The Tunbridge Wells Borough Council also has to consider the setting up of new Parishes but clearly this does not apply in the case of Pembury.

Your Parish Council have suggested, when they were consulted by the Borough in the Summer, that consideration could be given to alterations in the area of Amhurst Bank, Colts Hill, Dundale, and the Cornford Close Cornford Lane, Tonbridge Road area.

The overriding concern of the Parish Council in this matter is to only suggest alterations when these would bring improvements and would also recognise the fact that an individual householder usually feels part of one community or another.

A good case in point is the area of Cornford Close and Cornford Lane and the southern side of Tonbridge Road up to the Fairthorne Garage.

The Boundary between us and Tunbridge Wells is at the moment most strangely drawn. It excludes houses and house owners who it would be thought would quite clearly consider themselves part of our community and the Parish Council has therefore suggested that the Boundaries could perhaps be re-drawn in this area.

This would have the effect of including Cornford Close and part of Cornford Lane and the properties such as Colebrooke within the Parish.

If you feel strongly about this suggestion or live in one of the other areas referred to above then the Clerk to the Parish Council would be very pleased to hear from you (16 The Coppice, Pembury 3459)

OFFICE HOURS

The Office of the Parish Council is now open from 9.00 am to 1.00 pm Monday to Friday and evenings.

The telephone number is Pembury 3459 and if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the Clerk's Office during the above periods.

PROPOSED COMMUNITY HELP SCHEME IN PEMBURY

It is unfortunately necessary to record that the offers received by Mr Betts in response to the special appeal for community help set out in the last Newsletter, could be counted on the fingers of one hand.

It is realised that not everyone may not have seen a copy of Newsletter No. 17 and therefore if you are a person reading about this proposal for the first time it is probably worth repeating.

The Pembury 2000 Action Committee would like to hear from anyone who could spare an hour or two a week in providing the needy and the handycapped with such services as gardening, decorating, shopping, friendly visiting, etc. The person to contact is Mr P.W. Betts at 132 Henwood Green Road, Pembury. Telephone 2721. Surely in a community of well over 6000 residents it must be possible to start such a community help scheme.

"Anyone for table-tennis?"

The Club, which meets every Thursday in the School Hall, Lower Green Road, from 7.00 pm - 10.00 pm are now members of the Tunbridge Wells Table Tennis League and have already started on this seasons fixtures. There are still a few vacancies for new members - **ESPECIALLY JUNIORS** - so why not contact our new Secretary -

Mike Nash on Pembury 3225 now

Yearly subscriptions are still only £1.50 for Junior Members (under 16) and £3.00 for Senior Members.

YOGA FOR LADIES

It is hoped that Daytime Classes can be held in Pembury for ladies wishing to do Yoga, with a creche for children.

Contact Linda Hull on Tunbridge Wells 37382 for further details



Pembury's youngsters have enthusiastically welcomed the new Play Equipment in the Recreation Ground. As soon as all the items have been installed to the Parish Council's satisfaction, the areas around the new equipment will be cleaned up and the Kindergarten area fenced off.

Further new items of equipment are to be installed as part of the Parish Council's intention to improve the Recreation Ground so that all Parishioners can enjoy this valuable amenity.

PEMBURY CAR SALES LTD.

for Personal Attention

NEW CARS

we are your agents for

JAGUAR — FORD — DAIMLER

most other makes obtainable

USED CARS

Always a large selection of guaranteed used cars

SERVICE AND REPAIRS

Any make serviced or repaired by our factory trained mechanics. Electronic tuning — wheel balancing — major overhauls and repairs carried out.

34/36 HASTINGS ROAD, PEMBURY. TEL: 2294/5

Open every day 8 am-6 pm. Except Sunday.

J. H. WILKINSON M.P.S. CHEMIST

Medicines
Baby Products
Kodak Films
Developing & Printing

Cosmetics
Fancy Goods
Gift Sets
Toiletries

**5 HIGH STREET
PEMBURY**

KING'S

(Prop. A. C. & V. M. King)

LOWER GREEN POST OFFICE

STORES

High Class Grocers and
Provisions Merchants

Full Free Off-Licence

Wines, Spirits & Beers

Telephone: Pembury 2637

PAULINE & PETER MILLS

Ladies & Children's Fashions

Wool

Toys & Fancy Goods

Shoe Repairs

Dry Cleaning

★

2 High Street, Pembury

Telephone: Pembury 2921

Your Local Mace Grocer

WISEWAYS

81 Henwood Green Road

Pembury 2009

Fresh Meat Department

☆

Fresh Cut Provisions

Home Oven-Baked Bread & Pastries

☆

Trolley Shopping

Half-days Wednesdays & Saturdays

Home Improvements – Extensions – Free Estimates

ALAN CLARKE

Builder

18 Greenleas Pembury Tunbridge Wells Tel. 3932

**ring
pembury
3459**

**this
space
for
sale**

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION – Pembury Branch

Formed about 1929, operating now with about 50 members, the Executive Committee of the Branch meets each month at the home of the Chairman, Mr John Young of 13 Bulls Place. Mr Young is also the Branch Standard Bearer and Membership Secretary, and for several years he was the County Bearer. His wife, Mrs Irene Young, is the Womens Section County Bearer.

Legion Membership is basically for people who have served in His or Her Majesties Forces, or in the Merchantile Marine who have served afloat during hostilities, and members of the Red Cross Organisations who have served with the forces of the Crown. There is Associate Membership for adults who have not served, but who support the aims and objects of the 'Legion'.

The aims are to promote the welfare by charitable means, of the Ex-service people, their widows and dependants.

The Annual Poppy Appeal is the means of raising most of the money needed for this, some three million pounds or so.

In Pembury the Branch run the appeal with Mr Alan Mitchell of Beckwith, Langton Green, as the actual organiser. He is also the Branch Secretary.

The village collection for the year ending 31.5.78 was £422.16 an increase of £82 on the year before. There are some 21 House to House collectors, and more could usefully be absorbed to share the load. Shops, Offices, Schools and the Hospital also have collecting boxes and poppies.

Consideration is now being given to starting a Branch of the Women's Section of the 'Legion' within Pembury. The aims and objects are similar, but the members need not be Ex-service themselves, but they have to be within a maximum of grand-daughter relationship to an Ex-service person. The national organisation of the Women's Section is quite separate, but the work is complimentary and the twin Branches work together in many ways.

The annual Remembrance Parade and Service is held at the Upper Church of St. Peter, by kind invitation of the Vicar with a 10.45 am assembly each year on Remembrance Sunday which always follows the Poppy Appeal period. Ex-service people would be most welcome to join the Parade and Services and also the Branch. The Branch Subscription is under £1 per year both for Ordinary and Associate members.

The Branch Service Committee is responsible for administering any "Service" or Benevolent work needed in the village, with help as necessary from the "Legion" organisation nationally.

YOUR LETTERS

It is wonderful to think that the "Church in the Woods" is to be saved - thanks to the efforts of the caring villagers, but how sad it is to see that some youngsters, not many of them, are ready to destroy our heritage through sheer boredom, by cutting down trees that take years to grow in the woods of Romford. There is an avenue, planted as a wind break, of small beeches, and I was horrified when walking through these lovely woods to see that a tree had been deliberately felled at the height of about three feet, leaving an ugly stump. Further on other pine trees had been cut blocking the path.

Luckily for Pembury we have only a few such VANDALS and they will be surely caught, because the watchful eyes of caring villagers will track them down sooner or later.

Why are these lads not doing a useful job during their school holidays of helping the infirm and aged, instead of causing trouble and destruction? I appeal to the parents to influence their sons to turn their destructive energies into productivity, so that we can be proud of our village and the people who make up the village of Pembury.

M.C.M. Boysen (Mrs)

the PEMBURY PARISH CHURCH repair appeal

DENNIS OULD writes :

Since my progress report in June, donations to the Appeal have continued to flow in, and the total to hand or firmly promised once the work commences, now exceeds £11,500. The Friends are determined to achieve the £12,000 target by the end of the year and there is every hope that by the beginning of 1979 the work on the repairs will be under way.

Social events to benefit the Appeal held during the summer were all successful and well attended and the Friends are encouraged in their belief that the efforts to raise have also engendered a new 'togetherness' in the village - a development they welcome and hope will be fostered more and more.

Two attractive dishes have been specially commissioned to coincide with the Appeal and are worthy reminders of the place the Parish Council holds in the affections of the people of Pembury, as well as visitors to the village.

One has been manufactured at the Cinque Ports Pottery in Rye and is inscribed 'Elizabeth Rowe 1607'. It includes a replica of the memorial plaque in the Church and is in three attractive colours -
Phone Barry Gothard, Pembury 2188

The other is in glass and depicts a fine view of the Church
- Phone Julian Fall, Pembury 2505

Both are economically priced at 75p each

The first Annual General Meeting of the Friends was held on 27 November and a Barn Dance will take place at Kent College on Saturday 9 December

Remember we still have £500 to raise, and if you have yet to make a contribution please do so now, then you can share the privilege of being associated with a very worthwhile project - Just phone Pembury 2616

D. Ould
The Friends of the Pembury Parish Church

- DEC.**
- 1 Even.W.I. – ‘Carols by Candlelight’ V.Hall. 7.45pm
 - 3 Pem.Soc. – Footpaths Walk – Camden Hotel 2.15pm
 - 5 Darby & Joan Club – R.C.Hall 2-5pm
 - 7 Afternoon W.I. “Snail in Norway” (Mr.&Mrs.Groves) V.Hall 2.30pm
 - 9 Friends of Pembury Parish Church – Barn Dance, Kent College
 - 9 Music Group Christmas Concert with Carols for Audience –
School Hall 7.30 pm
 - 11 Parish Council Meeting – Dower House 8 pm
 - 11 Hort.Soc. – Floral Art Group – V.Hall 8 pm
 - 12 Ladies Social Group – Christmas Auction & Raffle, The Priory 8 pm
 - 19 Darby & Joan Club Christmas Party RC Hall 2-5pm
- JAN.**
- 4 Afternoon W.I. Talk by Miss Coxen on her Nursing Experiences, V.Hall 2.30 pm
 - 5 Even.W.I. “Reading at Random” by Mrs. M. Brearley, V.Hall 7.45pm
 - 5 Darby & Joan Club – New Year Party
 - 8 Parish Council – Amenities, Planning & Finance
 - 16 Darby & Joan Club. – Illus.Talk by E.Quail RC Hall 2-5 pm
 - 22 Parish Council – Highways & Planning
 - 23 Ladies Social Group – Childrens Books by Miss Martin, The Priory 8pm
 - 25 Conservative Club – Whist Drive V. Hall 7.30 pm
 - 30 Darby & Joan Club – R.C. Hall 2-5 pm
- FEB.**
- 1 Afternoon W.I. – Mr.Prestage “Romney Marsh & Its Church V.Hall 2.30pm
 - 5 Parish Council Meeting – Dower House 8 pm
 - 13 Darby & Joan Club – RC Hall 2-5 pm
 - 13 Ladies Social Club Visit to Kent & Sussex Courier
 - 19 Parish Council – Amenities, Planning & Finance
 - 22 Hort.Soc. – A.G.M. V. Hall 8 pm
 - 27 Darby & Joan Club – R.C.Hall 2-5 pm
 - 27 Ladies Social Group “Ghosts of Drury Lane” by E.Tubb, The Priory 8pm
- MAR.**
- 1 Afternoon W.I. – Miss Carter “My Visit to South Africa” V.Hall 2.30 pm
 - 2 Even. W.I. “Rocks & Minerals” by Geoff Butler, V.Hall 7.45 pm
 - 5 Parish Council – Highways & Planning
 - 12 Hort.Soc. – Floral Art Group – V.Hall 8 pm
 - 13 Friends of Pembury Parish Church – “Holidays” by Baldwins Travel Agency
The Priory 8 pm
 - 13 Darby & Joan Club – R.C. Hall 2-5 pm
 - 14 Parish Council – Annual Meeting V.Hall 8 pm
 - 19 Parish Council Meeting – Dower House 8 pm
 - 27 Darby & Joan Club – R.C. Hall 2-5pm
 - 27 Ladies Social Group – “Oberammagau & Fairy Tale Castles” by Mrs.Horsfall
The Priory 8pm
 - 29 Hort.Soc. – Illustrated Talk by W.J.C. Murray “Birds in the Garden”. V.Hall
- Every Friday – W.I. Market – V.Hall 10.30 - 11.30 a.m. Every Monday – Pembury
Old Tyme Dance Club – RC Hall 7.45 - 10.15 pm (20p Members, 25p Non-Members)

STURGEON'S OF PEMBURY

Specialists in all types
of Road and Drive
Construction

Coal Merchants
Haulage Contractors

Henwood Green, Pembury. Tel: Pembury 2221/2/3