



Winter 2013

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Pamber Parish Council

Parish Council Website www.pamber-pc.gov.uk

Chairman's Report—Cllr. Chris Goss

We have enjoyed a beautiful summer, a mellow autumn (if you forget St Jude's storm) and now it is time to face the winter. The onset of cold weather keeps many of our older residents confined to their homes, often for long periods. If you have an elderly or infirm neighbour please make sure that they are looked after, particularly if we have a spell of snow or ice.

Our plans to commemorate the First World War and D Day next year are progressing but we would welcome any of your ideas. We intend to centre the commemorations around an event in Pamber Park with a permanent reminder in the form of poppies being sown but other venues can be used to stage different functions. Please give this some thought and contact our Clerk or myself if you want to discuss any ideas. Don't forget we are also looking for any memorabilia from the periods particularly, but not exclusively, if it relates to anybody living in the Parish at the time.

Our new website is up and running at last. Do visit it and let us have your comments. Is there anything you would like to see on it?

Parish Website—Cllr. Judith Tyson

After some teething problems our new website is now up & running. The site provides dates, agendas & minutes of parish council meetings, together with useful local information eg. village halls, churches & amenities. Please let us know (clerk@pamber-pc.gov.uk) if there is anything you would like included on the site. In particular if you have a news item or are running an event which would interest other parishioners .

Keeping your home warm...

The Parish Council has been offered the use of a thermal imaging camera. This is really is very useful for people to be able to check that their walls are well insulated and to look for other signs of where heat is escaping. The camera will be operated by parish councillors. If you would like to have your home 'thermally imaged' please contact the Clerk and we will arrange for the camera to be brought to your property.

A340 Crossing Points – Cllr. Philip Kingston

In response to a request by several parishioners, the Parish Council asked the County Council to consider the provision of additional crossing points along the A340 between the Queens College Arms and the Fighting Cocks Close in Tadley. The proposals by the County have been discussed at length and, subject to a final safety audit following last minute consultations to confirm the go-ahead, should be put in place in the near future. The new crossing points provide some protection to cross the A340 adjacent to the bus stops as well as reinforcing the effect of the no-overtaking stretch of this busy road. The County Council will also progress the replacement of the 50 mph signs with 40mph to make the speed limit the same from the Queens College Arms to the Tadley 30mph.

Pamber Parish Council wishes to thank County Councillor Keith Chapman for being instrumental in bringing this very important project to fruition.

For Mature Drivers— Frank Mitchell, Councillor South Ward.

Residents may be interested in a scheme currently being run by Hampshire County Council which assesses the competence of those of us who are past the first flush of youth.

The scheme is aimed at the over sixty drivers to enable them to have an independent assessment of their ability, offer advice on improving and to impart a feeling of competence and confidence.

Basically, a skilled driving instructor accompanies you in your own vehicle for about an hour and a half driving during which he offers advice and makes useful observations on your driving performance. You are picked up at your own home at a mutually agreed time and return after the assessment. This is not a test and there is no pass or fail and there is no pressure to perform above normal.

There is a fee of £30, which is obviously well subsidised by the county.

I recently completed the course and can honestly claim it was very helpful without being overbearing. It is perhaps a little stressful initially but the assessor quickly puts you at ease and you benefit from highly skilled professional advice. I would recommend it strongly to those of us who have been driving for many years and may well have developed the odd bad habit!

Contact the Road Safety Team on (01962) 846100 for more information.

World War 1 and D-Day Commemorations—Cllr. Mary Hale.

The Parish Council is planning to hold an event this summer to commemorate the **100th Anniversary of the Outbreak of World War 1** and also the **70th Anniversary of D-Day**.

A date has not yet been finalised (most likely during June or July) but we wish to give parishioners plenty of notice of this forthcoming event.

Pamber Park will again be the venue with a live band and games for all ages from both eras. **We are inviting everyone to bring along their own picnic with a “war time” theme.** Expect to see plenty of Spam! – or maybe beetroot sandwiches! Don't forget cheese, butter and eggs were rationed, an orange or a banana was a real treat, and chocolate was virtually unobtainable!

A prize will be awarded to the family with the most authentic picnic basket.

We are hoping to exhibit **photographs of both eras and war time memorabilia.** Anyone who would like to exhibit, please ensure that each individual item is securely labelled.

There will also be the, now traditional, **lighting of the beacon.**

As an additional event, we would like to hold a **Film Screening evening/weekend** showing favourite films from the 1940s & '50s. This would probably be held in Pamber Heath Memorial Hall. To this end we are inviting parishioners to register their interest before we commit expenditure to the hiring of films. Please indicate your support for either of the proposed events, your offer of memorabilia exhibits, and your suggestions for suitable films via the **Online Contact Form** on the **Pamber Parish Council website** www.pamber-pc.gov.uk

We should not let these anniversaries pass without recognising the sacrifices made by so many in order that we can now enjoy our freedom. The Parish Council looks forward to welcoming you and your family to both of these events.

Pamber Park Allotments.—Cllr. Trevor Young

The season started poorly due to buckets of rain and a noticeable absence of the sun. All around all the plant life had taken a lazy start with regards to growing, and everyone was a bit down hearted. Then suddenly the season began to improve and we had near perfect growing conditions at last. The grass and weeds grew rapidly, as well as eventually the vegetables! All around there were a lot of happy allotment holders, who found this a great change from the normal muddy quagmire.

By the end of the season I had a great crop of potatoes that will last me into next year, and there should even be enough left over that will be suitable for my next season's seed potatoes. I also had a great crop of beetroots, carrots and courgettes this season, unfortunately the courgettes were growing so fast I ended up with a few marrow-sized ones, but they still tasted great!

In the summer a couple of Pamber Parish Councillors came to judge the allotments for our shield competition, and voted Brian Stephens this season's shield winner, well done Brian!

At this time all our allotments have tenants and, for the first time for a while, we now have a couple of people on our waiting list. The committee would like to thank our members who helped clear away plenty of brush, maintained the track, and supplied food to fuel the allotment workers.

Fingers crossed for next season, in the hope it will at least be as good as this one.