

Pamber Heath Village News

An occasional newsletter written by Raymond West

July, 2011

Farewell Veteran Residents

Recently, we have bid farewell to three veteran villagers, who had lived in Burney Bit for a considerable number of years between them, two well before the time that electricity arrived in Pamber Heath in the late 1940s.

Jack Stroud

Jack had lived in the village since around 1922 when, as a boy, he moved to Burney Bit with his family. Except for a short while living in Basingstoke after his marriage in 1949 to Barbara, he had been living in Pamber Heath ever since. Jack was a painter and decorator most of his life except in the final years before retirement when he was the caretaker at the Holmwood Health Centre in Tadley.

Age has caught up with him and now he is enjoying being looked after in a residential care home but I am sure he remembers his time in Burney Bit fondly. Jack has one daughter and three sons.



Jack Stroud

Betty Jones

Betty moved to Burney Bit around 1969, following the death of her husband and was probably one of the first tenants to move into one of the new homes built as part of the Burney Bit extension in 1969. She worked as an occupational therapist at the old Park Prewett Mental Hospital for many years.

She has also moved into a care home and says that she loves it there. Betty has three daughters.

Pearl Chapman

Pearl Chapman (formerly Monger) had lived in Burney Bit for a very long time. Her mother also lived in Burney Bit in the early 1900s.

She married Cyril Chapman and had two children. Pearl had an excellent memory as she could name almost everyone on old school photographs I showed her.

Pearl is now in a care home and will be long remembered for her kind and friendly nature. Here is a wedding day photo of Cyril and Pearl in 1942.



Fete is a washout but funds raised

The summer fete held at Pamber Heath Memorial Hall on Saturday the 16th of July was at the mercy of the weather but, despite the poor attendance, the funds raised for hall funds amounted to £470.

The arts and craft competition was well supported, the 'Build a Robot' competition for the under 13s proving a great success. Dennis and Mikki, the magical entertainers, were popular as was the Tadley Concert Brass. This was the first year that the event was scheduled earlier in the year, due to there being no produce show because of the closure of the Pamber Heath Gardening Club.

Flag pole for Pamber Heath Memorial Hall

At the June meeting of the Pamber Parish Council, it was agreed to purchase a flag pole for erection at the Pamber Heath Memorial Hall. The cost was said to be £205 and the pole would be purchased from the Hampshire Flag Company. The cost of the flags would be additional. No mention was made of an expected installation date and I have not noticed the new pole on passing by the hall recently.

Pamber Heath History book

The Pamber Heath History book is still selling even after nearly 10 years since first publication in October, 2001! The book had several reprints and well over 1100 copies have been sold to date.