

# 100th Board Member

We're delighted to welcome Terri Rickards to the EMB Board of Directors. Terri was officially appointed at the Annual General Meeting held in January, where she was joined by re-elected board members Jade Riches and Sally Houghton.

Terri is the 100th board member to be appointed since the EMB was formed in 1994. It is particularly fitting as Terri's Nan – Nora Minns – was one of the founding directors of the EMB, having been part of the group which campaigned for the estate to be regenerated. which led into the formation of the resident led Estate Management Board. As reported last year, Nora sadly passed away having lived on Pembroke Street for most of her adult life.

## National Trust Daytrips

Are you interested in visiting one of the many National Trust properties in Devon and Cornwall? As Spring is finally here, we're looking into arranging some subsidised trips to Antony House, Buckland Abbey and Cotehele.

Typical entrance fees are around £17 per person, but thanks to funding from National Lottery Awards for All, we're able to offer free entry to the properties which means we only need to charge towards the cost of transport. If you're interested in registering for more information, please contact the estate office using the details below.



@PembrokeEMB



Monday - Friday  
8am-4pm



607277



office@pembrokestreet.co.uk



Pembroke

estate management board ltd

March 2025

## Spring Newsletter

### Estate Refurbishment Update

The long-awaited estate refurbishment is making progress. In recent weeks, you may have noticed contractors walking around the estate as they prepare to tender for the contract.

#### What's Next?

The contract is expected to be awarded in late May.

Work will begin on-site once all preliminary preparations are complete.

We will arrange resident meetings so you can ask the contractor any questions about the process.

A comments box will be available in the office for any concerns or questions you'd like to raise with the contractor or PCH. Enclosed with this newsletter is a form which you can use to submit any questions.

#### Minimising Disruption

We understand that refurbishment work will bring some noise and disruption. To support residents, the EMB will be looking to provide access to the community rooms while the work is going on. Here you can:

- ✓ Enjoy a hot drink
- ✓ Watch TV
- ✓ Use Wi-Fi
- ✓ Find a quiet space to relax

We believe good communication with the contractor is key to making this process as smooth as possible. The EMB will aim to work with PCH and the contractor to try to make sure the work is completed with minimal disruption.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please get in touch using the contact details on the back page.



# Dog Fouling on the Estate

With the increase in the number of dogs on the estate, dog fouling reports have risen significantly. Several of the communal grass areas are affected and there have even been incidents in stairwells. It is unfair to expect PEMB staff to be repeatedly asked to clean it up.

Not picking up after your dog is a criminal offence, carrying a maximum fine of £1,000. It is also anti-social and a serious health hazard. While most dog owners act responsibly, a small minority are failing to clean up after their pets. We're also aware that it isn't just pet owners on the estate, as many visitors like to walk the dog around the estate.

## How Can We Tackle This Issue?

**Responsible Dog Ownership:** Always carry a dog poo bag when taking your pet for a walk. Keeping your dog on a lead helps ensure you are aware when they foul.

**Community Action:** If you witness someone failing to pick up after their dog and feel safe doing so, politely remind them. Otherwise, you can report incidents quickly and easily via Plymouth City Council: <https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/dog-fouling>.

**Encouraging Enforcement:** The more reports received, the more likely the Council will commit to patrolling the area. If you know the offender's details, you can include them in your report, but be prepared to give a statement if the Council takes legal action.

## What the EMB is Doing

- Continuing to report incidents and encouraging residents to do the same.
- Considering temporary mobile cameras in problem areas.
- Increasing signage to remind residents of their responsibilities.

If you have any suggestions on how we can further address this issue, please get in touch.

By working together, we can make a real difference in keeping our estate clean and safe for everyone.

# Keeping Stairwells Clear

As many residents know, the EMB is responsible for ensuring that fire safety regulations are followed in the communal stairwells. This is mainly achieved by keeping stairwells clear of any items that could block a safe exit in the event of a fire. It is especially important to remove any flammable objects, as they pose an additional risk.

We carry this out in the following way:

**Weekly Inspections:** EMB staff clean the stairwells each week and log any items left outside front doors or in lobby areas.

**Reminders & Notices:** Depending on the item and its location, we will: Issue a general reminder note or make a phone call or attach a removal notice for items left on the ground floor.

We aim to apply this policy consistently. While we understand it can be frustrating to have to store pushchairs in the outside storage shed or carry them upstairs, it wouldn't be practical or safe to allow multiple bikes and pushchairs to be left in stairwells.

Please Avoid Leaving Rubbish Outside Your Door

🚫 **Trip Hazard:** Bags left in the hallway can block exits in an emergency.

🚫 **Hygiene Issues:** Rubbish bags smell, can leak, and leave stains on the floor. Please don't leave bags outside your door, even for a short while.

Thank you for helping to keep the estate safe and clean for everyone.

# Wednesday Wellbeing Group

The Wellbeing Group were pleased to receive a £500 donation from Cllr Freeman and Cllr Stevens to support their weekly activities.

The group meets every Wednesday from 1pm to 3pm, offering a variety of activities, including:

🧶 Crafting

🎲 Bingo

🚌 Day trips

If you'd like to find out more, feel free to drop by during a session or contact the Pembroke Street office. New members are always welcome!



# Pembroke Community Rooms

Over the past few months, a variety of activities have been running from the Community Rooms, offering support, fitness, and fun for all ages.

## Ongoing Support

💡 Citizens Advice Bureau (CAB) – Drop-in sessions take place on the first Tuesday of each month, from 10am to 1pm.

☎️ Need help outside these times? The EMB can make direct referrals to CAB—just get in touch.

## Current Activities

🧘 Chair Yoga – Relax and unwind with gentle movement.

🎲 Board Games – Fun for all ages

Wellbeing Group - Social time, crafts and bingo

## Activities for Young People:

Over 11s – Mondays, 5pm to 6:30pm (thanks to Youth Investment Fund support).

Over 5s – Tuesdays, 5:10pm to 7pm.

🥕 Easter 'Fit & Fed' Programme – Thanks to Plymouth City Council funding, we're offering daytime holiday activities over the Easter holidays. Contact the Pembroke Street office for details!

## Coming Soon

We're exploring new sessions to help residents build confidence online, including:

- 💠 Avoiding scams & staying safe online
- 💠 Navigating key websites (e.g. Universal Credit, Plymouth Community Homes, Plymouth City Council)

If you have ideas for other activities, let us know—we'd love to hear your suggestions!

# Spring Planting Event

We're excited to announce our annual Spring Planting session next month at the Community Rooms which is due to take place on:

**Thursday 8th May from 1pm - 3pm**


## What's it all about?

To celebrate the start of Spring, the EMB will host a drop-in event where residents can create a small tub of flowers—perfect for a windowsill or garden hanging display. This year, we've chosen the 8th May as it's the official date of the 80th anniversary of VE day and we're planning some additional activities to mark the date.

## Why get involved?

- Adds a beautiful splash of colour around the estate.
- Contributes to our entry in the South West in Bloom campaign.
- Encourages community pride and care—local school children will also be taking part.

 EMB staff will be planting new Spring bedding plants around the estate at the same time, helping to brighten up shared spaces.

 17 Everyone is welcome! No need to book—just drop in and join us for some planting fun!

We look forward to seeing you there!  



## Office Closure for Easter

The estate office will be closed on Good Friday (18th April 2025) and Easter Monday (21st April 2025).

If you have any repairs requests or any other issues to report, please get in touch beforehand. Otherwise you can continue to leave voicemail or email messages and we'll pick them up on our return. We hope you enjoy the bank holidays.



# Upcoming Activities

Here are some upcoming activities you can take part in over the coming weeks.

## Chair Yoga

Free Taster sessions  
For Beginners

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> March  
& 3<sup>rd</sup> April  
10.30 till 11.30am

At Pembroke Community Rooms,  
102 Pembroke Street, PL1 4JT  
All welcome.

Call 607277 or email [office@pembrokestreet.co.uk](mailto:office@pembrokestreet.co.uk) to book

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## Fancy a challenge? Games, Cuppa & a Chat

Every Monday  
1 till 3pm

Pembroke Community Rooms  
102 Pembroke St

And best of all, it's **Free!**

**All welcome**

For more details  
Pop into the office  
Or ring 01752 607277

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