

KENN NEWS & VIEWS.

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1989

KENN
NEWS
And
VIEWS
Editors

KATE DENMEAD
& SHEILA NAISH

your own
magazine

TYPED BY JO COOPER
PRINTED BY MARGARET
STOWELL

TITLE BY KELLY BURSTOW

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Later in this issue there is a full report of the Coffee Morning held on 13th June in aid of Kenn News and Views, but we would both like to say first, a very big thankyou to all who came and to those who helped on the day. Above all it was encouraging to know that so many support and enjoy the magazine. Let's have more articles and snippets - however small - to fill these pages. SN & KD

DEADLINE FOR AUGUST ISSUE 20th JULY

P.S. Please refer to previous pleas for keeping deadlines. It makes Kate's job much easier (and Jo's too).

BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthdays to the following:

- 11th - Mrs. V. Cox - 80
Mrs. Gladys Griffin
Miss Griffey
- 23rd - Mr. Wally Moore - 88
- 24th - Mr. Roger Stowell
Mr. Brian Waters
- 25th - Mrs. Sue Pugh
- 28th - Mrs. Juliet Stowell - 50

NAISH'S NOTES

CONGRATULATIONS to Caroline Davis on winning a Bronze Medal at Gymnastics and also to sister Laura who gained a 6th place and a certificate. Well done girls.

FAREWELL to College for Claire Stowell, Emma Fenwick and Louise Pugh who leave this month. We wish them luck with their job-hunting and keep our fingers crossed for good exam results.

WELCOME to Stephen and Heather Brain and family who are at last resident at "The Limes". It has been nice to welcome Heather at the village events and look forward to meeting the rest of the family in due course.

WELCOME also to Steve and Sue Edwards and family who after much hard work have now moved into Pear Tree House, Duck Lane.

WILDLIFE REPORT - Mr. John Stowell has spotted an otter in Kenn.

ELIZABETH DARK is in hospital again at the time of writing. We wish her well again soon. She has already been in hospital in London and has not long been home.

MR. JIM MIDDLETON is in Ham Green Hospital and we hope that he too soon feels better. Mrs. Barbara Middleton is still running the shop with a big smile and a warm welcome even though she has been under a deal of stress. We are all grateful to her and count ourselves very lucky to have her in our shop.

BROWNIE JUMBLE SALE - Rowena Ayres held a Jumble Sale in Kenn Village Hall on 17th June and raised over £70 for funds to take the Brownies to the Zoo.

DIARY DATES

Sunday, 23rd July - Car treasure hunt - from Mr. and Mrs. Gaunt's. So far I'm told entries are few so please contact Jenny Pascoe or Marianna Mackay for information and entry forms. If you cannot attend the Treasure Hunt don't forget the Barbecue afterwards. ALL WELCOME. If I can enter (don't follow me, I'll be last) you all can. A fun day for all - come on - get yourselves booked in early. I just hope there is a booby prize for the most times round the block! In aid of Bristol Royal Infirmary Intensive Therapy Unit funds.

3rd August - Garden Party at Walnut Tree Farm, home of Mrs. Tricia Harrison. Cream Teas. Bring the children, your friends, everyone. In aid of magazine funds.

8th July - Barbecue for Clevedon Gun Club. Mrs. Summerell extends an invitation to all villagers to join the fun. Some of the proceeds will very kindly be donated to ITU funds. See you there.

1st WARNING! GET IN TRAINING

The Kenn Fun Run will be held on Sunday, 3rd September, at 3.00 p.m. sharp from Jenny Pascoe's. As in other years there will be two routes. Route 1 - approximately 3 miles round the block, up Kenn Street, past Drum and Monkey (no entry), past Jet Garage, down Davis Lane, round Kenn Pier, along the Moor Road and back up Kenn Street. This is for the very fit, very able and for those who just have to 'keep up with the boys'.

Route 2 - for all, yes, ALL. You can jog, run, walk, crawl, hop or even go 3-legged, any age. Up Kenn Street to end of road, back down the Street, down Duck Lane and back up Kenn Street to Jenny's. Sponsor forms will be available from next month - drum up support now. Bring your families, friends; dress up if you like; anything for fun. This event will be followed by a BBQ and refreshments at Carpenters Farm. We will organise a sporting event later on for those that can still walk. Last year's rounders was a success - any ideas? All proceeds to ITU funds. You have been warned - let's have a bigger than ever turn-out.

THE CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION:

If this magazine was a tabloid newspaper, the headline could have been "WELL KNOWN LADY (?) EDITOR ASSAULTS FARM STOCKMAN IN LOCAL POST OFFICE". Following a suggestive remark about the lady's ample proportions (let's me out! - SN) by a local young, free and single (his words) stockman, the said lady floored him with a single right hook to his arm, which sent him sprawling across the floor, landing up in a pile of ladies tights. Not hurt but with a bruised ego!

THE CASE FOR THE DEFENCE

Not as bruised as mine - Big Ed.

TIMOTHY DENMEAD has been nursing a broken finger but we hear he is now on the mend.

Note: He was not a victim of his mother's aforementioned and alleged violent tendencies, he knows better than to insult her - he fell whilst not looking where he was going. KD

JUSTIN NAIISH has had a nasty bout of asthma brought on by hay fever and is now better. Both boys were off school but recovered very quickly on the morning of the Coffee Morning at Mrs. Denmead's. They did a splendid job as doormen but when the event finished the pale faces returned and they remembered they were 'ill'. Many thanks boys for your help.

TAXI SERVICE - For a reliable taxi service ring Brunel Taxis on Clevedon 871366 and ask for Linda or Justin.

ST. MARY'S RESTORATION FUND

A Garden Party is to be held on Wednesday, 23rd August, at Stonehouse Farm, home of Mrs. Jean Naish. There will be many stalls - the time will be announced later. SN

We have received the following tributes to Mr. Arthur Gillard

We are sorry to report the passing of Mr. Arthur Gillard, father of Mrs. Margaret Stowell. Mr. Gillard was a regular supporter of events in the Village Hall. To Mrs. Gillard and all his family we send our sincere sympathy. R.M.Dyer

Arthur Gillard passed suddenly but peacefully away at his home in Clevedon on 13th June aged 80 years. He was never happier than to be here in Kenn with his daughter and grandchildren. He enjoyed the Senior Citizens' Christmas Party and many other Kenn functions. I was privileged to have known him for 25 years and I know many of you knew him longer. We would all like to send our sympathy to his wife Ivy, daughter Margaret, sons John and Richard and their families. Julie Stowell

All who knew him and his family were saddened to hear of the sudden death of Mr. Arthur Gillard - better known in Kenn as Margaret Stowell's father. Mr. Gillard was always interested in Kenn village activities and attended social events here regularly. I am sure all who knew him and all his relatives, would wish to join with me in extending our sympathy to them. Ray Naish

BON VOYAGE Rachel Moss who lives with her family in Kenn Street and is a student at Reading University, has gone to America for a four month working holiday. Best wishes to her and let's hope she has a jolly good time. Ray Naish

MRS. WINNIE GRIGG, long time resident of 'Chapel Cottage', Kenn Street, has had the back wall of her cottage rebuilt. This work was undertaken by Gwen, her eldest daughter, with her husband and family. Grace, her second daughter, came all the way down from Hull to redecorate the room. Ron, her eldest son, comes down to see her every day. Eddie, her other son, comes whenever he can. What a wonderful family she is blessed with, but then she has been a wonderful mother. Ray Naish

ROBERT NAVARRA of Clevedon recently passed away. Bob, as he was generally known, was born in Iran. Later, when he was a young man in the early 1930's, he moved to 'Somerset Cottage', Duck Lane, with his parents and two brothers, Derek and Guy. His father had just retired from his work with the Foreign Office.

The three brothers owned two M.G. sports cars and these were the first ever seen in Kenn. This was at a time when there were only two other cars in the village and about the same number of telephones. Just before the last war Bob joined the R.A.F. and saw service in many parts of the world during that time. On his return to civilian life he married and went to live in Clevedon where he lived for the rest of his life. Ray Naish

The appeal against Woodspring District Council's refusal to grant planning permission for five houses has failed. This was for land near the village hall belonging to the executors of the estate of the late Mrs. G. M. Naish. Their refusal was in spite of the full support of Kenn Parish Council. Some of the reasons given were:- 'It is considered that the area is outside the village fence.' As most people know it is in the centre of the village. Another reason given was that 'the hawthorn hedge on the roadside would be lost', in spite of an undertaking to replace it with a footpath for pedestrians. RVN

Personal Opinion It is true to say that as far as Building Regulations and Town and Country Planning are concerned, I am not at fault with the criteria laid down for and against the granting of permission. What I do understand is that it is an awful shame, circumstances notwithstanding, when a man who has spent all his life in a village and who has given so much to that place both physically and spiritually, cannot be allowed permission to use his land as he wishes within reason. With something as important as planning, etc., we should hope that the same rules and guidelines apply to us all, but I'm sure many people agree that in this case the results are most unfortunate. I am told, not surprisingly, that Mr. Naish and his sisters are very disappointed, but I hope the situation will be resolved in the fullness of time. KD

CANCER RESEARCH COLLECTION

Well done Kenn! A grand total of £80.35 was collected from Kenn in June, the best ever. A special thankyou to the collectors, Mrs. Irene Russell, Mrs. Joan Stevens and Mrs. Sylvia Staples. Also I am looking for an extra volunteer to collect from Kenn Moor Road next year. Thankyou everyone. Heather Jenkins

FROM THE POND

As I reported last month, the 'taddies' were growing apace. Some were little frogs and hopping in and out of the water - lovely. Then I was asked if the little ones from St. Brandon's could pay another visit. I was delighted by this and when the morning came bright and sunny I was even more delighted as frog-watching in the rain would not be much fun for small children. Little did I know that tragedy was about to strike!

Once more the children were divided up into three groups in order to get a better look at 'the boys'. The first group arrived and we walked down the garden chatting (of course). As we walked across the grass a head popped up and quickly down again and I said that was the biggest frog I had seen so far. At this point I will say in my defence that I did not have my specs on at the time! We all settled round the pond and suddenly the head appeared again quickly followed by the rest of the creature, not a frog but a snake! It slipped quickly away under the plants and presumably under the fence and away. I was shattered but the children were delighted, it was interesting really as none of the children appeared to be upset at the sight of a snake, in fact the other groups were disappointed that I could not produce it for them to see.

After this first sighting every time we went into the garden Cedric appeared from the bottom of the pond, took a look at us, decided we were harmless, went down again and came up 'chomping' his jaws then slithered away, always in the same direction.

This went on for several days until, sadly, there appeared to be no 'taddies' left. Then he left us, hopefully for good.

We saw no sign of life for several days after this but then one day last week I was weeding in the flower border near the pond when I felt something cool in my glove. I thought it was a stone or piece of earth so took off my glove to shake it out when out hopped a little frog! Then last night the friend who so kindly gave me the newts brought me in some snails and gave me ideas for snake-proofing in future and whilst putting the snails in the water two little frogs took a flying leap from under some plants and landed in the water - so we hope all is not lost.

I shall certainly hope to try again if kind friends will bear with me. In the meantime the birds enjoy having a bath there and the other day we had a damselfly - only one, it's true, but we hope more will follow.

I must also add that when I asked what would prey upon a snake, I was told a heron, so if anyone has a spare heron.... Iris Goldsworthy

To our beloved editors S. and K. I realise that this is rather long so if you wish to wield the editorial scissors please feel free. I.G.

No chance of that! Big and little Eds.

FROM THE POTTING SHED

Dear Kate, I don't know how you feel about this weather, the gardens are definitely not feeling their best. If it only rained at night and the sun shone all day, things would be much happier.

The time to start taking cuttings is galloping closer but I want to put it off a little if possible as everything is so distressed and I feel that the juices need to be flowing when I start nipping things off.

Dead-heading needs doing, heatwave or no heatwave, but at the moment the ground is so hard I can't even get the weeds out. We must of course keep on with feeding tomatoes etc. and I am using all the water possible from the kitchen on the garden - providing there are no detergents present. Soap is safe, of course, and will help with the greenfly problem.

Keep your cool - yours Uncle Freddie

From H.Q.

Dear Uncle Freddie, Phew! That's the only printable word I can use to describe how I feel about the weather. Don't tell anyone though because those of us who don't like the heat are branded as boring. Over the last three weeks I have decided I am an 'autumn' person, or even a 'spring' person but definitely not a 'summer' person. I only said to someone the other day that my dear departed Daddy has a lot to answer for in dragging me down here from the freezing north 27 years ago. Until yesterday (26th June) it was only a matter of time before I packed my bags and headed for Cape Wrath, which is always the coldest place on the weather chart in the newspapers!

Now that we have at last had some rain I look forward to the plants picking up and thriving. They never are as lush as after a shower of rain are they? My houseplants were indeed at their best after a week on the draining board. My particular success at the moment is a Maidenhair Fern. I remember my grandmother had a beautiful specimen which must have been two feet across and 18" high. I have tried and failed in the past but am trying again and all is well after three months. The crucial time - if it lives that long - will be when we relight the central heating - watch this space. Yours, Kate

From H.O. II

Dear Uncle Freddie, Little Ed here - we have planted our sunflower seeds for the competition and as yet, no sign of anything! My children are disappointed. I'm disappointed and my pots all in a row are embarrassing. Anything I can do to tempt them up? I was hoping they'd be at least 2 feet high by now. SN

SNIPPETS

Our flag flew on Saturday, 17th June, to celebrate Her Majesty our Queen's official birthday, and also on 11th June to celebrate the Ruby Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Fowler. Congratulations.

Brian Stowell was a lucky prizewinner in the Gloucestershire Cricket Competition. His winning ticket was bought at Kenn Stores.

Thankyou to Mrs. Burstow who planted the flower pots on the village green.

Many congratulations to Quinton Stowell who has gained a First Class Honours Degree in Mechanical Engineering at Southampton University.

Robert Willcox made an excellent job of cutting the Village Hall hedge - thank you Robert. Mr. Dyer has painted the bus shelter - thank you.

We are sorry to hear Mr. Middleton is in hospital and wish him a speedy recovery.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Mrs. Ings delivered papers and rules for the Post Competition to every house in Kenn where there are children. Some seventeen posters were received and judged by Mrs. Greta Lewis, one of our District Councillors, who awarded the following prizes:

Class 1 age 4 years - 7 years
1st Anna Edwards
2nd Richard Jaehme
3rd Antonis Papasolomontos

Class 2 age over 7 years to 11 years
1st Debbie Gill
2nd Clare Edwards
3rd Justin Naish

Class 3 age over 11 to 16 years
1st Lorraine Staples.

Their prizes are donated by Kenn Parish Council. Other entries received sweets and are: Tim Taylor, Anna Gill, George Dark, Sarah Dark, Louise Edwards, Elizabeth Dark, Alexis Papasolomontos, Leon Naish and Duncan Mackay.

This year a suitable display board has been erected in the Village Hall foyer by Mr. John Ings and all the posters are displayed there. During the time prior to the judging of the village, some people worked very hard with their gardens, cutting the Hall hedge, painting the bus shelter, planting the pots on the green and going 'wombling' for rubbish thrown out of cars and lorries to litter our village. It is a thankless job we know - Mrs. Davis was seen collecting rubbish on the motorway bridge; Mrs. Naish in the church path; Mrs. Pearce around Unique Farm; Mrs. Stowell in Davis Lane; Mrs. Lamb and Mrs. Dyer on the Village Green and layby. Mrs. Summerell has a lovely display of flowers at the local and Mrs. Middleton has hanging baskets at the Post Office. If we don't win this year we must try even harder next year. RMD

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

Voting for a Member for the European Parliament took place on 15th June at the Village Hall, when the turnout was reported to be over 50%. Mrs. Margaret Daly was returned to represent Somerset and West Dorset with 106,716 votes. RMD

Note: Does this mean we are back in Somerset? KD

TEA PARTIES FOR LOCAL HANDICAPPED AND BLIND

On June 12th a party of local handicapped people was entertained to tea at Kenn Court and on June 19th a party of blind people. My grateful thanks to Mrs. Pearce, Mrs. Whitehead, Mrs. Lamb and Miss Baker who helped on both occasions. RMD

N.S.P.C.C.

The N.S.P.C.C. would like to thank the Farm Women's Club for the very generous sum of £92, which was recently raised at a Coffee/Bring and Buy and Lunch held at the home of Mrs. Ruth Dyer of Kenn Court. Angela Bullock

My Cottage

Ivy growing up the walls
Roses round the door,
Honeysuckle by the windowpane
We couldn't wish for more!

A beehive in the garden,
Herbs and fruit as well -
We mustn't forget the flowers -
The work of many hours.

My cottage in the country -
Lying on its own;
My cottage in the country -
My really special home!

Rebecca Brain

"Have you noticed that The Limes looks as if some new people have moved in?"

"Which house is that?"

"The one just outside the village, along Kenn Moor Road. You know, the one opposite Moorside Farm."

"Oh, yes. They moved in quite recently. I've met them. They seem quite nice. They actually bought the place last year when it was up for sale, but had problems selling their other house."

"Have they moved far then?"

"They lived at Portishead for a number of years and have come here from there."

"Have they got any children?"

"Yes. They've got three girls. The oldest is 11, one is 10 and the other is 7."

"Well that should help even out the number of boys and girls in the village. What are the names of them all? I'll look out for them."

"Yes, do that. They are all looking forward to getting to know people here and getting involved in local events. Mark you, with three children and the house and garden to look after, they have their hands full! The parents are Stephen and Heather Brain and the children are Rebecca (the oldest), Joanna and Naomi. Oh, I've forgotten the two pet rabbits and the gerbil. I believe they also brought some frogs with them." S. Brain

W.I. SKITTLES

Apologies for being a little bit late with the results of our W.I. skittling ladies who were beaten by a team from Clutton W.I. This means we are out of the competition for this year - but each year we have gone one step higher up in the competition, so we will keep going and who knows which year we will achieve our ambition! Thankyou all for your support and for making our matches enjoyable. Rachel Pearce

DAVID PEARCE

Joanne, John, Susan, David and myself would like to thank you all for your many kindnesses, letters, cards, flowers and donations received in our recent sad loss of David. We are overwhelmed at the result of donations for the Radiotherapy Centre, BRI, which are in excess of £1,000. We know this is going to be a very worthy cause and that others will be able to benefit from whatever they decide to put it towards. We are very fortunate in living in a community where such understanding, help and feeling are shown to each other in times of need. It was a great tribute to David and the family to see the flag flying at half mast. Again, our appreciation and heartfelt thanks. Rachel Pearce

KENN PASTORAL CARE

I have been asked to act as Pastoral Care Member for Kenn. If you know of anyone who is ill/lonely/has a special birthday or anniversary and would like a visit, please let me know on Clevedon 872948. Grace Griffin

NEWS & VIEWS COFFEE MORNING, 13th JUNE 1989

Around 30 people gathered at 'Conifers', Duck Lane, for a very pleasant and successful coffee morning in aid of Kenn News and Views. Mrs. Gladys Denmead had kindly opened up her home for friends and neighbours to enjoy coffee, a chat, a bargain and for many a raffle prize. A very well stocked Bring and Buy stall was run by Mrs. Yvonne Ayres and Mrs. Mary Lamb and did a brisk trade; many thanks to them both and to all who brought and bought.

Mrs. Ruth Dyer kindly donated the milk, but myself being a black coffee drinker and unused to making the 'milky kind' we had to send out the cavalry, Mrs. Libby Wilcox, who raided her own fridge and cycled back down the street lopsidedly! Sheila did what she does best(!) and executed the selling of raffle tickets. Very few escape her persuasive techniques as she even carries an I.O.U. book. There were over a dozen lovely prizes to be won - mostly donated and gratefully received.

Justin Naish was suffering a bout of hay fever and so missed school, but along with Timothy Denmead (who two hours later was found to have a broken finger), they made able and willing doormen, collecting the coffee money. Justin has obviously inherited his mother's winning smile as you cannot get past either at these events without parting with money!

Two ladies who always seem to do the washing up on these occasions, offered to do so again and their offer was appreciated. But they were politely informed that they were guests and were subsequently banned from washing up duties.

Weatherwise it was a gorgeous morning and some people were able to sit out in the garden. Let's hope it is as nice in August when Mrs. Tricia Harrison is our hostess. Many thanks again to everyone who came - it was encouraging to see so many people with a concern to keep Kenn News & Views alive. The sum of £54.40 was raised towards future costs, competition prizes etc. Finally, we must thank Gladys Denmead again for giving us a venue and donating the tea, coffee and sugar. Kate Denmead

TO TWINKLETOES AND ALL HER PREDECESSORS

"I own a cat", some people say; I think it's quite the other way.
And as you sit and gaze at me, I wonder just how far you see
Into my mind and secret thoughts.
But I can never read your mind, unless it's something you want to tell.

Some people hate the cat's clear stare. Perhaps they feel their soul's stripped bare.
Thinking you were the witch's spies, afraid of the knowledge behind those eyes,
they sealed the fates of those poor cats; they thought the cats knew far too much.

You've murdered birds and tortured mice, these things about you just aren't nice.
I'll forgive the wallpaper torn to shreds, and the flattened plants in their
ruined beds.

When you run and play and climb up trees, you seem more like a fairy cat.
And as you sit and gaze at me, and I chop the liver for your tea,
I know that in your small black heart, you know, that really, you own me.

(Copyright) Shirley Livesey

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On a perfect June evening members of Kenn Women's Institute and villagers enjoyed a vigorous and enthusiastic display of dancing by the Chalice Morris Men from Brent Knoll. Mr. Cross outlined the history and traditions of Morris dancing. The competition for a kerchief was won by Mrs. Holtham, gold; Mrs. Aldrich, silver; Mrs. Ings, green.

A card was signed for Mrs. Fowler to mark her Ruby Wedding and Mrs. Turner was congratulated on her special birthday.

Mrs. Glass came from Clevedon to report on her day at the Annual General Meeting in London. The resolutions dealing with the disposal of toxic waste, DNA genetic testing, osteoporosis and deforestation were all carried. Concern is still being expressed about a previous resolution from an earlier A.G.M. dealing with the irradiation of food. It was agreed to write to our M.P. and M.E.P. asking that food should not be irradiated until there are reliable tests of its safety and long-term effects, particularly as there have been nasty outbreaks of food poisoning lately.

At the July meeting it is hoped that Ms. Rodrigo will be able to come and talk about a new scheme for screening 50 - 64 year olds for breast cancer. The meeting which will start at 7.00 p.m. is open to everyone in the village and will be followed by a microwave demonstration.

The Charity Evening will take place on 19th July in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. and there will be a Bring and Buy stall, skittles, draw, competitions and refreshments.

Members were reminded that the Best Kept Village Competition is about to begin. Posters by the children will be displayed in the foyer of the Village Hall. There are now three neighbourhood watch groups in the village. It is hoped to form some more on the main road. Signs declaring the village a neighbourhood watch area can then be erected.

The competition for July will be for microwave meringues.

W.I. OUTING TO WORCESTER

On Wednesday, July 21st, at 9. o'clock, the Kenn W.I. members and friends, including two brave husbands, caught a coach in Kenn for a trip up the motorway towards Worcester.

On the way a visit was made to the Annard Woollen Mill at Church Lench, Evesham, to see the mill and demonstration of a 16-spindle ball winder and a single hard tufting gun to produce rugs and wall hangings.

The knitters in our group had a happy time buying wool and patterns. Here we had our coffee break.

We travelled across country towards Worcester, past fields of flax - very beautiful - to be used for oil, which most of us had not seen before.

We arrived in Worcester about 1 o'clock and enjoyed our lunch. Members went their different ways sight-seeing or shopping whilst the main party had a very interesting guided tour around the Worcester china factory - most enjoyable. The ovens gave out a tremendous heat. The hand-painting on china and assembling of china figures were so clever. After the tour we had the chance to buy some of the china in the factory shop. After a welcome cup of tea and a walk by the river, we made our way by coach home to Kenn, to arrive about 6.0'clock after a lovely day. Mary Lamb

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The Best Kept Village Competition is now under way. Please pick up any litter that you see as this affects the marks more than any other section of the competition. The exhibition of children's posters is in the foyer of the Village Hall.

There are now three neighbourhood watch groups - two in Kenn Street and one forming in Duck Lane. It is hoped that it may be possible to form some on the main road. Each household will be asked if they are willing to contribute a modest sum towards notices which will be posted at several points in the village declaring it a Neighbourhood Watch area.

The Parish Council has been asked about the possibility of signs asking people to drive carefully in the village. Enquiries have been made and we have been told that they will cost about £170. As the total precept for the village is £175 for a whole year it will be appreciated that we cannot afford them. However, negotiations are continuing. The signs at Kingston Seymour were a donation. Do we have any offers?

HISTORY OF THE STAPLES FAMILY

As John Griffin and Mrs. Hawes started the ball rolling, I thought I would try and write something about the history of the Staples family, going back to my great-great grandfather William Staples. He came to Kenn from Chard in the early 1800's, and farmed at Moorside Farm (now Mr. and Mrs. Withers.) He had nine children, seven survived him. Four boys went into farming locally and one son was a publican in Bristol.

William Staples attended Kenn Church and when it was restored in 1861 at the cost of £1,000 was one of the farmers who helped to haul stone to the church. He died in 1902 at the age of 92. Around 1935 five of his children's ages totalled 414 years (93, 90, 79, 77, 75 years.)

James Staples, his eldest son, married Eliza Starr, whose parents kept a grocer's shop at the corner of Horsecastle, Yatton. He was a stonemason and helped to build the railway bridge at Russ Lane, Kenn. He bought Riverside Farm (now Sam Staples) and as

in those days there were not any milk factories, started to make butter and cheese. He was one of the first stall holders in the Old Market Hall, Alexandra Road, Clevedon. His business expanded to include fruit and vegetables and when the market closed the family moved opposite, to the stall on the pavement (now Lindsay's shop). The family kept this going for four generations, the last being Hartley Staples (eldest son of Sam Staples).

James had three children, two boys and one girl. The eldest, William John, a well known wheelwright, kept Kenn Garage (Now Tripp Robins). He also had the first car in the district. In the 1918 war he was a Special Constable and when a plane came down in Nailsea Moor (quite something in those days) he stood on guard. He was given part of the propellor and carved this into wooden goblets.

He married his first cousin Clare, who was Head Mistress at Kenn School for many years. They had two daughters, Dorothy and Stella who was a nurse. Lillian the daughter married Ern Avery from Kenn Pier Farm and emigrated to Canada. They had one son, Edward.

Sidney joined the Grenadier Guards and fought in the Boer War. He was in the Battle of Odlum, winning the Kendive Medal. He was invalided out of the war. He then married Maud Carey, whose father Samuel Carey at that time kept the Rose and Crown (now Drum and Monkey) at Kenn. This was in the 1890's. They lived at Cherry Tree Cottage, Moor Road, Kenn, and then moved to Riverside Farm.

Sidney Staples had six children, four being born at Cherry Tree Cottage and two at The Limes, Moor Road, Kenn. Jim, the eldest, worked at Stowells Dairy, emigrating to Canada about 1926. He kept on with his butchering and in the war was in the Mounted Police.

Aileen married Cyril Taylor (Sally Whitehead's brother) and lived at Somerset Cottage, Duck Lane, Kenn. They had four children. Chris and Robin still live in Duck Lane, Sam and Wendy in Yatton. Veronica married Sidney Cox (Sidney is no longer with us). They lived at The Limes, Moor Road, moving to Rose Cottage in Kenn, then to Moorgate, on to Clevedon Farm for thirty-four years.

Von now lives at Fairways, Kenn. Von has also lived at Cherry Tree Cottage and Riverside Farm (quite a record). They have three children, Irene who lives at Portbury House Farm, married to John Stowell; Beryl who lives in Scotland, and Heather also in Scotland. Heather was born at Moorgate.

Donald, as you have read in John Griffin's notes, lives in Duck Lane with his wife Hilda. They have two children, Christine who lives at Frome, and John who lives at Myrtle Cottage, Duck Lane. John has a son Lee who is the sixth generation of the family in Kenn, and a daughter Lorraine.

Harold (Sam) still lives at Riverside Farm. He married Irene Stephens, whose father ran a bakery in Clevedon. Sadly Irene is no longer with us. The five children all live locally, Hartley lives at Tickenham; Margaret and Phyllis at Clevedon; Kathleen at Nailsea and Robert still at Riverside Farm.

Sam has always been a market gardener and kept the shop in Alexandra Road (now Lindsays). Winifred married Thomas Cole. Sadly Tom is no longer with us. Winifred lives at Kingston Bridge and daughter Betty lives at Yatton.

I am told by my mother that the children living at Cherry Tree Cottage had to make their own pleasure. In the winter, before the moors were drained, the moor flooded to the bottom of Kenn Street. A boat was kept in the field at the bottom (no oars, only sticks) to go across to Nailsea Moor on the water. This was called punting. The elders used the boat to go duck shooting. Winter nights it was bird baiting, holding a net and a lantern on one side of the hedge and someone to beat the hedge on the other side. The birds would fly to the light. No cars. They had a horse, two or three would go for a ride at once down the muddy drove bare-back. No saddles.

To conclude, I hope at some point to get my informant to relate some more history from the past and 'do' some more members of the Staples family. I stand to be corrected if any of my notes are incorrect.

Von Cox of Fairways (my mother) and Donald Staples of Duck Lane (my uncle) are the two oldest residents living now at Kenn who were born here. Hope this has been of interest.

Irene Stowell.

Congratulations to Auntie Von from all of the family on your 30th Birthday, July 11th.

To

over Friday, 16 June

All about my father
I am going to give him
a tie it is smooth

Why I like him
he lets me help him
feed the cows and calves
and hens and horses
and he works very hard
for my education

he is fit he is
dark brown he
smokes and has very
funny feet and his legs
are hairy

he has blue eyes
and when he gets
the car in the dogs
helps him my

great great grandfather
is dead his name
was Jimmy it was
very sad because
I never met him

