

KENN

NEWS

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VIEWS

**ISSUE
NUMBER**

23

AUGUST

1990

TYPING

To Cooper

PRINTER

Margaret
Stowell

EDITORS

Kate Denmead
834894

Sheila Naish
838357

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS WELCOME



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Bill Giles, Michael Fish, Ian McGaskill, Bernard Davey and John Kettleby: None of these chaps seems able to tell us when we can expect rain. However, we can exclusively reveal in this publication that the weather will break on 17th August and that the heatwave will return immediately after the Bank Holiday. Have you guessed yet? It is between these two dates that your illustrious editors take their annual holidays - one to the Mediterranean shores of Menorca (alas not with the 18 - 30 club) and the other to her homeland - Yorkshire. Now, while relative peace may reign in their absence, the deadline for September issue also coincides; so we are asking you to help us even more than before. Little Ed will actually be back on 24th August but given that she will be up to her eyes in washing, ironing and applying After Sun lotion, she won't want to be chasing magazine contributions. Here is the plea: PLEASE DELIVER TO SHEILA'S OR THE SHOP, ALL YOUR MATERIAL. WE MUST HAVE EVERYTHING IN BY MONDAY MORNING - 27th - PROMPT.

ABSOLUTE DEADLINE FOR SEPT. ISSUE: 27th AUGUST! a.m. KD & SN 838357

P.S. As of 31st July Kate's address changes to 65 Hazell Close, Clevedon. Telephone number to follow.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Third time lucky we hope for Thomas Bye, whose birthday was on 21st June, not 31st as printed last month. Sorry Thomas - hope you had a lovely day. (We won't ask who invented the 31st June.)

Belated Wedding Anniversary wishes to new villagers Ken and Sharon Dyer of Elm Bank - they celebrated on 30th July and again on 31st July for Sharon's birthday.

Finally, Granny Griffin tells us her 88th birthday was 15th July, not the 11th.

August Birthdays

4th Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother - don't forget to put your flags out for this wonderful occasion.
 6th Steve Bye
 7th Lorraine Staples
 Ray Naish
 10th Stephen Brain
 15th Jean Naish
 24th Sam Staples (sorry about last year Sam!)
 25th Stella Naish

Wedding Anniversaries

10th Kate and Royer Denmead - 11 years
 29th Hartley and Jane Staples

NAISH'S NOTES

Welcome to Ken and Sharon Dyer who have moved into Elm Bank.

Congratulations to Michael and Millie Stowell on their wedding day - July 28th.

We wish Mr. John Stowell a speedy recovery after his operation.

Mr. Tom Baker has been in hospital, returned home and then had to go back into hospital following a fall - we wish him well.

Mr. Richard Whitehead is also in hospital at the time of writing and we hope he soon feels better.

WELL DONE to Christopher Denmead who successfully completed a week's work experience at Yeo Moor Junior School learning to cook. The cook-in-charge said that Christopher had been a quick learner, had been a pleasure to have in her kitchen and that she would miss him. Julian Wilcox also completed an enjoyable week at Stowell's Concrete, getting the feel of how an office in a busy company works. It is encouraging that these busy people take the time to co-operate with the local school.

CONGRATULATIONS to Sally Taylor who has passed her Diploma in Art at Weston-super-Mare Technical College and is to go on to study Art and Textile Design at Berkeley College near Slough.

KENN VALLEY SOCIAL CLUB (formerly Cam Gears Club) is available for booking any function you may need, e.g. discos, quiz nights, 21st parties, children's parties, skittles matches, football, rounders, absolutely anything. Chris and Derek will be happy to discuss anything with you, just call in. Kenn villagers have been invited to just pop in and look around at any time - they will be pleased to see you.

CALLANETICS. We have the opportunity to start a Callanetics class in Kenn. This would probably be on a Tuesday from 6 - 7 p.m. It would, of course, be subject to sufficient numbers and would be starting in September. If you are interested please let me know. All friends welcome.

If you would prefer an afternoon from 2 - 3 p.m. please let me know - it's up to us.
Sheila 838357.

Note: Readers may like to note that the latest 'mag meet' took place on Monday, 23rd July, and that whilst Big Ed glanced at the contributions, Little Ed was wasting no time at all. She took advantage of the few moments available to practise her callanetics. All I can say is that it's a good job she was wearing culottes and if laughter is good for the face muscles she can come again! K.D.

Finally from Naish's Notes - if anyone has anything of interest, news or fundraising events, that they wish to include in MOOR NEWS, the Vicar would be pleased to use it. Kenn News seems to get smaller in each issue. S.N.

SNIPPETS

Celebrations:

June 23rd - Christine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Glasson of Riverside, Kenn Pier, married Dean Hussey of Clevedon. We wish them a long and happy life together.

June 1st - Andrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pike of The Fieldings, Kenn, was christened.

Our flag was flown on both occasions.

Welcome:

A warm welcome to Mr. and Mrs. Dyer who have moved into Elm Bank. Also to Mr. and Mrs. Parish and Sarah who have moved into One Elm. We hear Sarah has been nominated for one of the John James awards. Well done Sarah. We hope both families will enjoy living in Kenn. The number of properties for sale in Kenn is steadily declining.

Patients in Hospital

At the time of writing these notes, three Kenn residents, Mr. Whitehead, Mr. John Stowell and Mr. Tom Baker are in hospital - we all send them our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Our Lovely Gardens

Walking down Duck Lane recently I enjoyed seeing Kenn gardens, some of which were very lovely and giving much pleasure to their owners - what about a competition for the most attractive Kenn garden in 1991? The pots on the village green are also a blaze of colour. We have enjoyed hours and hours of lovely sunshine in July.

Party for the Blind

Sixteen blind people from Clevedon were entertained to tea at Kenn Court on 16th July. My grateful thanks to Mrs. Whitehead and Mrs. Lamb, also Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Garmston, members of Kenn W.I., who helped with our visitors.

August 4th 1990, Our Queen Mother's 90th Birthday

It is very rare to be able to celebrate a Queen Mother's birthday when she reaches the grand age of 90. As August 4th falls on a Saturday, it is suggested Kenn residents gather on the green at 10.30 a.m, when our flag will be raised. We hope to serve coffee but if anyone wishes for something stronger please bring your own.

Finally - The story of four people named Everybody, Somebody, Nobody and Anybody.

When there was an important job to be done, Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it but Nobody did it. When Nobody did it Everybody got angry because it was Somebody's job. Everybody thought Somebody would do it, but Nobody realised that Nobody would do it. So it ended up with Everybody blaming Somebody, when Nobody did what Anybody could have done in the first place.

KENN VILLAGE HALL

The Kenn Village Hall Committee is most grateful to the 'unofficial committee' for their most generous gift of £500. Part of the money has been used to pay £290 for the plumbing necessary for the installation of a handbasin in the gentlemen's cloakroom and work in the ladies' cloakroom. The remainder will be used to help pay for the new floorcovering in the kitchen, ladies' cloakroom and toilet. This money was raised at various events organised by the 'unofficial committee' throughout the year. We wish them well in their efforts in the future and thank them most warmly.

Summer cleaning - The hall was thoroughly cleaned, floor polished and curtains laundered by a willing band of helpers on June 14th and 15th. Thankyou to everyone who helped.

Fire Extinguisher - To comply with regulations it has been necessary to purchase a new fire extinguisher for the kitchen - ccst £164, plus service charge for other fire extinguishers of £51.

Jumble Sale - Wednesday, 8th August, 7 p.m. Come along and bring your friends to a Jumble Sale in aid of hall funds at Kenn Village Hall. Offers of help and goods for sale will be gratefully accepted, e.g. flowers, vegetables, food, books, toys, white elephant, furniture, clothes, in fact anything saleable. See you there! R.M.D.

Now then, get ready, get fit, it's that time of year -

THE KENN FUN RUN IS ON SUNDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER 1990.

Be there! Everyone is welcome! We want mums, dads, kids, grannies, grandads, friends and Uncle Tom Cobleigh and all.

There will be two courses again - the jaunt down Kenn Street, Duck Lane and back, and the three mile course for the fitter, faster fun-runners. The three mile course will leave at 2.55 p.m. and the rest of us at 3 p.m. This will be followed by a barbecue at the Village Hall and when we've all recovered, a grand rounders match, men v women, boys v girls; in which of course we women will once more triumph! (Mr. Gaunt pick your best!) We want to make this year's event even bigger and better so get your sponsors organised now. Sponsorship forms from Kenn Stores, Simon Pascoe (878451) or Sheila Naish (838357) or just pay on the day. Fancy dress is encouraged.

All proceeds from the fun run will be donated to the Avon branch of A.R.M.S. which is our local Nailsea Hyperbaric Unit for Multiple Sclerosis Sufferers. This year's event has been very kindly sponsored by South West Tyres, Clevedon, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Auty who live in Kenn. Thanks a million to them. Please come and support us, you don't have to run! Walk or crawl or be pushed; just be there!!

Oh yes, I will be there with my raffle tickets as usual! But I would be grateful for any offers of raffle prizes - thanks. Sheila Naish.

PS- RH - Has the vintage machine been brought down from the attic yet? S.N.

NEW COMERS

Elm Bank, Kenn Road, Kenn

We would just like to thank everyone for the kindness shown to us and the warm welcome we have received following our move into the village. It really is very much appreciated.

As an aside we can confirm that a certain farmer's wife is now fully recovered from her 'sticky situation' and her legs are looking good! Sharon & Ken Dyer.

A GARDEN PARTY is to be held in aid of St. Mary's Restoration Fund, Yatton, on Wednesday, 29th August, from 3 p.m. at Stonehouse Farm, Kenn - courtesy of Mrs. Jean Naish. Bring and Buy, Cake and Book Stalls, Draw. If wet in house. Everyone welcome.

We would be grateful for any help - please contact Jean Naish or Iris Goldsworthy.

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Four new members were welcomed to the July meeting of Kenn Women's Institute by the President, Mrs. Dyer. Mrs. Aldrich was thanked for the flower arrangement on the President's table. Members signed a birthday card for the Queen Mother which had been embroidered by Mrs. Harrison.

Mrs. Pearce was thanked for her hospitality at the charity evening. £132 was raised for Clevedon Care. Plans were laid for the 75th anniversary party on 11th September, which will be held at Kenn Court. Members were asked to bring a photograph of themselves when young. The birthday party this year will be held on 24th October. The Autumn Council Meeting will be in Weston-super-Mare on September 26th.

Inspector McIver of the dog handling section of Avon and Somerset Police came at very short notice and gave an excellent talk on the training and work of police dogs. His dog Smoky was introduced to members. He was warmly thanked by Mrs. Kingcott.

The competition for the sweetest smelling flower was won by Mrs. Dyer, gold; Mrs. J. Jeffery, silver; and Mrs. Aldrich, green.

The September meeting will be a musical evening and the competition will be for cakes for an anniversary party.

RNLI IN KENN

Two important dates for your diary. First, Saturday, 18th August, Mrs. Lou Summcrell is kindly allowing the RNLI the run of the Drum and Monkey for a barbecue in the evening. This is the second barbecue she has sponsored for the RNLI. Last year the net profit for the lifeboats was over £160, so come to the Drum for your supper on 18th August and help the RNLI as well.

Second, the following Saturday afternoon, 25th August, there will be the RNLI Garden Party at the home of Peter and Kate Neill, The Cottage, Duck Lane, starting at 2.30 p.m. Scrummy cream teas will be available. Entertainment will be provided by Clevedon Youth Band and there will be games, competitions and stalls as well as model steam locomotive. Last year's party made £315 for the lifeboats. Please come and enjoy yourselves. Tickets 50p, children free, either at the gate or from the Garage.

Lots of car parking kindly supplied by Mr. Toby Gale in the field next to The Cottage.

CANCELLATION

The charity fundraising disco due to be held on 15th September at the Village Hall has been cancelled. Woodspring District Council - Environmental Health Department - has had a complaint about the noise from the discos, has investigated and found that there is a noise nuisance to the nearby residents. We feel that the Village Hall Committee has found a satisfactory agreement with nearby residents as to what can and cannot be accepted. We do not wish to be responsible for the placement of a noise abatement order on our hall. This would not only stop the discos but private parties and everything else that includes amplified music.

We have relocated the event to Kingston Seymour Village Hall for Saturday, 6th October. More details later.
Kenn Charity Fundraising Committee.

DONATION

We have handed over £500 to the Village Hall Committee last month, this being the proceeds from the last disco and quiz night. This, along with the profit from the Hallowe'en disco brings us to a total of approximately £830 donated for the upkeep of the hall in the last six months and which will have helped to pay for the new wash handbasins and plumbing and the new vinyl flooring in the kitchen and cloakroom areas.

So thankyou and well done to everyone who comes to these functions and supports us.
Kenn Charity Fundraising Committee

LETTERS

Mink Hollow, Duck Lane, Kenn

Dear Little Ed,

I hear on the grapevine that we are about to lose access to the Village Hall.

By pure chance we moved to a village which had more life than we ever imagined. A lively W.I. and Church committee, youth movements and skittles, discos and parties, all of which centre around the Village Hall. We enjoy all these events and appreciate the effort which goes into the organisation, especially the charity events which have raised so much over the last year or more for deserving causes (BRI Intensive Therapy Unit, Action Research for Multiple Sclerosis, Village Hall funds, et al.)

We are 'newcomers' and don't have the right of 'locals' to over-ride the interest of Kenn, but we do have the interest to express the rights of a new local.

Surely no one wants to develop a new Mecca Centre in Kenn, but with the imminent demise of our charity discos we lose one of the main focal points of the village, both from the point of popular fundraising and the introduction of new people to village life.

Where are all the future young village supporters to come from if all they can do is leave home whilst their new replacements are left out in the cold?

If Kenn needs killing off as a community, then carry on, restrict the use, but what will the village be like in twenty years time?

P.S. In view of Kate's comments please disregard the comment regarding skittles. We were not available on the day, but the efforts are always appreciated even if the thanks are not loud enough.

P.P.S. In view of the note in Moor News, "The Editor is beginning to wonder whether anything ever happens in Kenn these days", we appear to be putting one more nail in the coffin of Kenn as a village in the true sense. I hope this is only the start of a lively debate regarding something which a lot of people feel is important.

Andy and Mandy Boyle

Kenn Pier Farm, Kenn

Dear Editors,

The news that some of Kenn's best liked fundraising events are in jeopardy of never happening again comes as a great sadness to all the Bye family. We have thoroughly enjoyed all parties and discos held in Kenn Village Hall in past years, and we hope that our children Amy and Tom would be able to enjoy such functions in their coming lifetime.

This news must come as a very sad blow to all the people who have given so much of their time to raise money for people not so fortunate as us. Also for the hall funds. Please let's not kick those people in the teeth, let's keep Kenn village as an enjoyable community and have parties, discos and dances so the village can be kept as a family unit.

Lynne and Steve Bye.

Mrs. Gladys Griffin - who always signs herself 'Granny', has sent us the following piece which she received from her family in New York. Thank you Granny, we think it's delightful.

MISTAKES

The following series of advertisements reportedly appeared in a daily newspaper:

- Monday "The Rev. A.J.Jones has one colour TV set for sale. Telephone 626-1313 after 7 pm and ask for Mrs. Donnelley who lives with him, cheap."
- Tuesday "We regret any embarrassment caused to Rev. Jones by a typographical error in yesterday's paper. The ad. should have read "The Rev. A.J. Jones has one colour TV set for sale, cheap. Telephone 626-1313 and ask for Mrs. Donnelley, who lives with him after 7 pm." "
- Wednesday "The Rev. A.J.Jones informs us that he has received several annoying telephone calls because of an incorrect ad. in yesterday's paper. It should have read: "The Rev. A.J.Jones has one colour TV set for sale, cheap. Telephone 626 - 1313 after 7 pm and ask for Mrs. Donnelley who loves with him." "
- Thursday "Please take notice that I, the Rev. A. J. Jones have no colour TV set for sale; I have smashed it. Don't call 626 -1313 any more. I have not been carrying on with Mrs. Donnelley. She was, until yesterday, my housekeeper."
- Friday "Wanted: a housekeeper. Usual housekeeping duties. Good pay. Love in, Rev. A.J.Jones. Telephone 626 -1313."

"Mistakes are inevitable in the publishing business. First United Methodist Church, Headville, P.A."

THREE BAGS FULL

I'm feeling hot, worn out and virtuous. I did mean to start early, before it got so hot, but I'm addicted to Radio Bristol's word game and hang about waiting for that, so it was after ten before I emerged, in a suitable outfit that included wellies, a blue sun hat and an old pair of bright pink rubber gloves. Well, it is Best Kept Village time again, and David Grey, on a similar mission yesterday, told me that the judges were around so off I went with a big paper sack to pick up litter. In the circumstances I went further afield than usual and that's how I ended up with three bags full.

To make the job less disgusting it helps to wonder about the people who leave these offerings. The soft drinks cartons and fish and chip papers are run-of-the-mill these days, but what about the plastic bag stuffed with dusters. Did some housewife, having finished her spring-cleaning, whisper to her husband, "Next time you're down a country lane, dear, stuff this lot in the hedge"? And the top half of a crimplene dress. Was she overcome in the heatwave? And where's the rest of the dress?

The bits of bicycle, including the pump - are these the remains of someone's night out at the pub? Did the tippy cyclist end up in the hedge, and next day wonder how and where he'd lost all the bits off his bike?

And, finally, did you know that we seem to have - well, you can't say a better class of litter lot, but perhaps a wealthier one? Dry white wine cartons, Riesling and Sauterne bottles are in this morning's haul. Perhaps, with all these rising standards we hear so much about, champagne and liqueur bottles will be with us soon!

Shirley Livesey

HAVE YOU HEARD?

Have you heard about a gentleman who lives alone in this area who was given a recipe on how to make home made bread, so he thought he would give it a try. After mixing the ingredients together very carefully, he placed it in a tin and then into the oven. The instructions he was given told him how long he should leave it before it was baked. Thinking about the old saying "A watched pot never boils" he decided to rest in his armchair while the minutes passed by, but unfortunately dropped off to sleep. When he woke up again he looked at the clock and to his horror discovered he had left his bread three times too long. Rushing over to the cooker he opened the oven and grabbed the tin, burning his hand badly as he did so. Naturally he had to drop it but unfortunately the loaf was baked so hard it dropped on his foot, breaking a toe as it did so!

After these two accidents he has decided it is safer to buy his bread from the shop.
Ray Naish

Mr. Wally Moore celebrated his 89th birthday on 23rd July and is Kenn's most senior resident. Wally is head of a large family comprising 4 children, 11 grandchildren and 20 great grandchildren.

Miss Griffey, the village's most senior lady, celebrated her birthday on 22nd July. We are pleased to hear that she is making an excellent recovery from her recent accident.

The people in Kenn wish them both all the best for the future.

Ray Naish.

Advertising Directory. The publishers state that the British and all was published free of charge for the rest of the year. The only which was distributed free to a great many homes. - reply has been received. It would appear that the Directory was a commercial undertaking to be financed mostly from advertising revenue and that most copies would be sold at £1.00. However, the publishers received a grant from a charitable trust which enabled rural areas to have free copies. No public money was spent on the publication. The publishers say that they want to considerable lengths to make the directory easy to use, but that the users will be the ultimate judges of that! It is intended to produce an updated edition in 1991 but as it is not known whether there will be further charity finance there will probably not be free copies for the rural community.

'Sleeping policeman' in kenn street The highways department of Avon County Council say that there are complex regulations controlling the installation of speed humps and they are not permitted on de-restricted roads. In general because of the cost of implementation their use is limited to residential areas where there is a serious problem of extreme through traffic and a high incidence of child pedestrian personal injury accidents. The department is unable to recommend the installation of speed humps in kenn street.

Playing field. There is no information on this matter so far.

FROM THE POTTING SHED

Dear Kate - Isn't it strange how every year, just as the garden really needs to be watered, we have to start economising. I don't know about your garden but mine is definitely getting a very tired look. The wind of a few weeks ago did damage and now the heat is finishing everything - even the drizzle didn't penetrate very far. However, let's think of next year when everything will be perfect. Now is a good time to start planning your new garden and ordering roses and bulbs. I do hope you are being successful with your cuttings. I seem to spend a lot of time removing dead flowers but it does help to make some bloom again. For now, back by harvesting - yours, Uncle Freddie

FROM H.Q.

Dear Uncle Freddie - As you will have seen at the beginning of this magazine, moving day is 31st July - a week from today as I write. I believe that quite often when moving house people leave the garden for a year to see what comes up. I don't think I could wait that long - especially with you to spur me on!

I told you last month we'd be moving our cherry tree - another problem is the Grape Ivy I have climbing up a trellis in the lounge, the trellis being fixed to the wall. One option is to change to a moss pole - the other is to leave it as a gift to the new owners. Watch this space for the decision. yours Kate

FROM THE POND

We still have some taddies which do not appear to be developing at all - strange. Happily though, we do have a number of toads and frogs of varying sizes. We don't see a lot of them but early in the morning and at dusk they sometimes show.

This week, the kind friend who originally supplied the toads brought me another creature under the mistaken impression that I would know what it was. It was the largest caterpillar I have ever seen. Unstretched it was 2½ - 3" long, stretched it was about 5" and as thick round as my finger. It had a white line each side of its body forming two diamond shapes. Within the diamonds it was a silvery plum-red and outside it was deep plum. At one end it had a large, rather fierce mask and at the other, two large prongs. Unfortunately it has now pupated so we must wait until May or June to see what happens next. I have tried hard to get it identified properly and the City Museum think it may be a Puss Moth although the colour is not right. Are there any lepidopterists in the village who can help?

Iris C.

Note: Hot from the press the news that the Environment and Health Department are now interested in case the beast is of an exotic nature. It's a long wait but it will be interesting to find out more. ED.

UPDATE ON "THE TRAVELLERS" JAMES AND ROBERT

Since our last report they have really been on the move. Among their experiences, grape picking in Tasmania in great heat of 39C!! Their employer was an Italian immigrant who had just got his vineyard going and coping with the problem of intense heat, which this year had caused about one third of the grapes to melt on the vine at 50C!! A hard place to be farming. James had his 20th birthday while there and the wife baked him a birthday cake and gave him a party.

R & J had met a lad from Hereford on their travels and they now worked and travelled together. These three lived on the vineyard sleeping three in a two-man tent! James had a problem here when he undercooked some chicken on the barbecue and ended up in hospital not very well for four days with food poisoning. His employers, again with great kindness, took him into their home to recuperate. (He managed to delay his full recovery a few days as a bedroom of his own was to be preferred to sharing the tent with R & R.) They worked in the most mind- and body-sapping heat gathering the grape crop in from a large area. The fruit was then spread over racks to dry out and become sultanas.

From Tassie (which they loved) back to Sydney, then R & R took their trip up the east coast to the Great Barrier Reef (James having done this trip in January). Meanwhile J travelled up to Cairns looking for work which he could not get, but he did find Alison Fenwick in a bar and stayed with her until he met up with R & R. Robert and James took and passed a diving test here which they enjoyed although it was quite tough. By now they had met up with some girls and they all travelled out to Ayres Rock and Alice Springs. Ayres Rock was quite breath taking and really hard work to climb. James tells us twenty people have died making the climb. The Rock, while being in the centre of Australia, is so high that it is cold at the top so you need to carry warm clothes with you.

Among their hitch-hiking experiences was one on a car transporter for a distance of approximately 3,000 miles; not enough room in the cab so they were given a seat in one of the cars on the top tier of the transporter! James says from this position they watched the dawn flood the Outback ahead of them, a fantastic experience. There was a problem with the driver, who at one time got himself drunk, so R & J decided to take turns at the wheel of this huge road train. (Something else to remember for the rest of their lives.)

Their next place to visit was Darwin and from there they went down the west coast, passed the Great Western Desert and Sandy Desert, a VAST area. Through a mining town called Hedland Port where they saw trains about two miles long with six locos coupled in for the drag down to Perth. The tracks are so straight they can use these long trains. Hedland is the centre of a great mining area which includes most minerals from iron to gold; but again no work. Things are very tough in Oz just like the U.K. So on they went to the beautiful city of Perth.

From Perth to Sydney via one of the great train journeys in the world, the Indian Pacific Railway, which took three days and two nights. One stretch was 500 miles without a single bend!; imagine, a straight line the length of Britain! They stopped at Adelaide for a few hours en route.

In Sydney they hoped to meet up with Emma Fenwick and Treena Willoughby who were due in from the J.K. about the same time, but as R & J had spend a lot of time in Sydney and could not get any work they decided to leave for Fiji in the Pacific. They had hoped to have shown the girls the sights, but only missed them by twenty-four hours which was a disappointment to them.

From Fiji they moved out to a remote island off the mainland, where it was cheaper to live - no TV, no electricity, no running water only a salt water shower and only a radio telephone, from which James phoned us one day. A totally unspoilt paradise right out of an adventure story placed in the time of the great sailing ships of hundreds of years ago; palm trees, white sand beaches with clear blue seas, rollers coming in over the coral reefs. These reefs were to give them a nasty fright. Warned that surfing was for the experts only as the coral was dangerous, they nevertheless took the boards out for a run. Robert went first and was dragged over the coral which cut him about the face. End of surfing experiment. As there was no hospital to stitch him up the cut healed naturally, but he will have a scar or two to remind him for life of the event.

On 17th July they flew to Auckland, New Zealand, for a two-and-a-half week visit, then on to Honolulu and then Canada for their homeward bound flight returning to England on 31st August.

John & Grace Griffin

How exciting! Nevertheless we shall be glad to see the boys home safe and sound.

Sheila.