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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Thanks again to the co-operation of our contributors, another magazine hits the streets against all the odds. Little Ed is buried in her lambing sheds, Big Ed is buried in her books and our lady printer Margaret has one foot on the plane to Mexico - AND it's half-term. But our regulars come up trumps. Now we'd like some more 'irregulars' to write with their points of view, reports, recipes, puzzles, gardening tips, in fact anything at all. After 18 issues you now all know the format and most of you tell us how much the magazine is enjoyed, so put pen to paper please. Kate & Sheila.

DEADLINE FOR APRIL ISSUE - 15th MARCH

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Belated birthday wishes - Tim Taylor 1st February

March birthdays Leon Naish 5th (9)
Lee Staples 17th

Quinton Stowell 18th

Happy anniversary Mr. & Mrs. Sam Dyer 31st March

NAISH'S NOTES

The storms that lashed the country fortunately did no harm to the villagers but were very frightening. I cannot remember such winds but when they had calmed down I was saddened to see so many of our trees blown over like skittles. True, some were old and rotten but some just could not withstand such force. Not only have we lost such beautiful trees – such a lovely sight whatever the season – but the wildlife that lives on, in or around them will take a long time to adjust and it will alter the look and feel of places. Orchards in particular will not be missed until the trees are removed and there is such a lot of empty space; no blossom or fruit to come – very sad.

I have been asked whether Uncle Freddie lives near Uncle Dennis (who's he?). If it was meant to be Dennis Goldsworthy then no, he does not live near him. Is he married to Aunty and have they just got married being as her name has only just been mentioned? Yes, he is married to Aunty, but no, they have not recently married. Is Uncle Freddie me? No, I'm afraid not - dirty fingers I possess but not green ones! Unfortunately Uncle Freddie wishes to stay a mystery so we must all respect that and leave him to his potting shed with Little Weed and Bill and Ben - ask yourselves, is that a clue?

Our printer Margaret and husband Roger are off to Mexico and various places finishing up in Acapulco. Margaret will let us know if in fact the Mexicans do dance on their hats. We wish them a happy holiday and a safe journey.

Dennis and Iris Goldsworthy have discovered a frog in their pond. We hope the snake does not return and terrorise the pond this year so perhaps they'll be more successful.

Thanks for the good wishes when my Mum was so poorly. She is now very much better thank goodness but gave me a nasty scare. I shall appreciate her far more now - a lesson learnt!

Doesn't it cheer a person up to see all the lovely daffodils out? My primroses and violets are out too - is Spring really here?

Well done to Robin and Gill Taylor and the Blue Flame public house for organising a charity Disco Dance at the Scotch Horn Centre, Nailsea, which raised over £1,000 for the Children's Ward at Weston General Hospital. Robin worked very hard and the evening was a total success.

Big Ed has started her Open University Course and is now extremely busy (not to mention baffled! KD). Our not-so-Dallas-style meetings are now relegated to garbled messages on answering machines and an exchange of envelopes as she flits through Kenn. (Very spy-like; Russians look out!) Consequently with Kate's time limited - she does all the donkey work, I only hold the carrot and wave the stick - we would appreciate all magazine material in by the deadline. Kate would also appreciate telephone calls in the afternoon or evening rather than the morning when she is desperately trying to fathom out her course work.

The Village Party was attended by approximately 90 people, 50 of whom were children. We have never had such a large turnout for the fancy dress and this made the judging difficult. One class had 26 entries! Well done to all the children, the costumes were excellent and all got a prize for entering. So many children turned up that the evening was given over to them and games were organised by the menfolk. Many thanks to the ladies for the splendid supper and to Margaret and Roger for their most welcome hot punch. A very successful evening. There follows the results of the fancy dress competition:

Class 4 years & under

1st Phillipa Jenkins (Chinese Girl)

2nd Thomas Bye (Scotsman)
3rd Elizabeth Dyer (Noddy)

Class 10 years & under

1st Matthew Gaunt (Pirate)
2nd Alex Gaunt (Crow)

2nd Alex Gaunt (Crow)
3rd Charlotte George (Fairy Liquid)
Angel Middleton (Kitten)

Class Over 11 years

1st Carl Menear & Jason Briggs (Damage Incorporated

2nd Heather Brain (Fairy Godmother)
3rd Duncan Mackay (Crow)
Rebecca Brain (Snowman)

DIARY DATES

3rd March - Tarts & Tramps Disco, KVH, 8-11.45 pm Tickets £2.50

7th March - Jumble Sale, KVH at 2 pm in aid of Multiple Sclerosis.

Admission 10p. All jumble can be taken to the Hall
on Tuesday night or Wednesday morning, or to Jean Fenwick
or will be collected if required by Jean. Tel:875073

31st March - Quiz night, KVH. Details further on.

SN

INVITATION

Please come to a Coffee Morning at Kenn Court on Wednesday, 21st March at 10.30 am in aid of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. Bring and Buy - Raffle - All welcome.

SNIPPETS

On Wednesday, 14th February, our flag flew to celebrate the eightieth birthday of Mrs. Gladys Denmead, a founder member of Kenn Women's Institute.

<u>Storm</u> - A severe storm hit Kenn and the surrounding district on 25th January. Many trees were blown down, roofs and buildings damaged and electricity and telephone services, which we all take for granted, were out of service for a time. Fortunately no one was injured and no animals killed or injured. As is usual in Kenn, good neighbours were much in evidence.

WITH THANKS

Conifers, Duck Lane, Kenn

I would like to thank everyone who so kindly sent me cards on my special birthday, so very much appreciated. Many thanks also to friends of St. John's Church and a great thankyou to all members of the W.I. for their gifts including from my Secret Friend, and especially for the beautifully embroidered birthday card made by Mrs. Eleanor Aldrick and signed by members, which I shall treasure forever. I spent a most lovely day thanks to all my dear friends in Kenn and to Roger, Kate and boys. Thank you all.

Gladys Denmead.

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Three new members, Mrs. Blake, Mrs. Dobbs and Mrs. Summerell, were welcomed to the February meeting of Kenn Women's Institute. Mrs. Dyer also welcomed Mrs. MacDougall from the County Federation who came to explain the intricacies of the proposed new constitution. Members signed abirthday card for founder member Mrs. Denmead who is celebrating a very special birthday.

The trip to Amsterdam is going ahead. There are a few places still available, contact Mrs. Dyer if interested. The skittles team were victorious in their game against Midsomer Norton. It is hoped to field a team at a Quiz in March.

Replies have been received from M.P.s and the M.E.P. to our letter about the proposed E.E.C. regulations on farm fresh turkeys. The letters appear to support our view, so it is hoped that the E.E.C. will not prevail.

Members were transported back to childhood with a delightful and amusing demonstration of Punch and Judy by Mrs. Glover who also outlined the history of Punch and Judy and her involvement with it. The competition for an example of members' craftwork was won by Mrs. Aldrick and Mrs. Harrison, gold; Mrs. Surridge, silver, and Mrs. Naish, green.

At the March meeting Mrs. Pat Davies will give a talk on Greece and the competition will be for a scenic photograph. A second competition for the forthcoming Group Meeting will be for an amusing holiday snap.

THE STORM

Never in living memory has this area taken such a battering as in the recent storm. One good thing about it is that no one received any injuries in this village, but sadly some of our schoolchildren lost friends at school.

After having had a good look round the village perhaps it is not unreasonable to reckon that we have lost approaching 100 trees. In the Russ Lane area a tremendous amount of damage was done to the very tall poplar trees. One very big tree came down across the lane near Russ pond blocking the lane for several days. The root lifted out is about 12 feet high.

The apple orchards in some places were almost flattened. The three orchards between Stonehouse Farm and the Village Hall area lost about 60 trees. It is sad that some of the old fashioned varieties will be lost forever. The Red Tom Putt tree that always provides the red apples for the Harvest Festival decorations at the Church is down. This tree is in Coxhay Orchard and it is not a big one so we hope to be able to lift it and rest it on a forked prop, hoping it will still live. Much damage was done to roofs of houses and farm buildings as well as garden fencing. It will take many months to get everything tidied up again.

Ray Naish.

ITU FUNDS PRESENTATION

You will recall that in the January issue the final total of £2830 was announced and that a presentation evening would be forthcoming. Jenny Pascoe now tells me that this is to be held on March 14th at the Drum and Monkey. Further details from Jenny on Clevedon 878451.

QUIZ NIGHT II

Saturday, 31st March, should see Kenn Village Hall alive and buzzing with outpourings of useless information. Yes, it's Quiz Night II - The sequel, or should we say The Rematch. At the time of writing there are still plenty of places available having so far ccllected 15 of the possible 25 teams. Apologies to those who fell for Richard Gaunt's deliberate mistake last month in printing an incorrect telephone number. The poor lady at the other end of that number must be tearing her hair out! MEN - I ask you!!! Anyway, my real number is 834894 so ring now to book. There follows a copy of the rules with a slight change so please take note even if you entered before:

- Commencing at 7.45 pm each team will have a table with a supply of paper, a pencil and a Joker. Your team name <u>must</u> be placed at the top of each sheet - use one sheet per category with the subject title also marked.
- Questions will be in subject categories and will have 3 questions per category.
- 3. The questions for the 1st category will be asked and you will have two minutes per category to write down your answers.
- 4. When you have 3 answers or time is up, your paper will be collected and we will go on to category 2, and so on.
- After every 3 categories the answers to those nine questions will be given.
- Go.

 Jokers: When the category title is announced you will have the option of playing your Joker. This means that you will double your score for correct answers. The Joker can only be played once and must be surrendered with your answer sheet for that category.
- After ten categories we will break for supper, sale of raffle tickets and a half-time score.
- 8. After the end of part two we will draw the winning raffle tickets and finally announce the winning teams and scores.
- 9. There will be prizes for the highest and second highest scoring teams and a booby prize for the lowest.
- Finally, the questionmaster's decision is final.

At Quiz Night I we had a tie-break for the lowest place - such was the eagerness to come last. As before, we'll be having the popular fish and chip supper but we don't really want the surplus meals again. Therefore we would ask you to order and pay for your supper when you pay your entrance fee. Jenny Pascoe has kindly offered to collect these monies so look out for her beating a path to your door. Liquid refreshment will also be available.

So all that remains is for you to gather your team together and register your entry by ringing me on Yatton 834894. The purpose of the evening is fun and fund-raising so come and have a great evening and a good laugh. Kate Denmead.

FROM THE POTTING SHED

Dear Kate - About your roses, have you tried Sanday's or Highfield? I have dealt with both and find them very good and they both stock old roses although there doesn't seem to be a huge variety. The address for Sanday's is John Sanday (Roses) Ltd, Over Lane, Almondsbury - Tel: 0454 612195. The other is Highfield Nurseries, Whiteminster, Glos, - Tel: 0452 740266 and 741309 - both handily on the M.5.

Speaking of roses, now is the time for pruning and feeding; in fact there is so much now to do if only it stops raining, that soon there won't be enough daylight hours. Are you planning to grow roses in your containers? If so have you thought of the varieties known as Patio roses?

Azaleas and small rhododendrons are also excellent in tubs as you can be sure to give them the peaty compost they need.

I do agree with the comment made by you and Richard in last month's issue. I feel that there must be people in the village whose help and advice would be most useful. Yours, Uncle Freddie (and Aunty of course).

FROM H.Q.

Dear Uncle Freddie - Thankyou for the above addresses although my neighbour has already passed on a copy of Sanday's brochure and they only show one variety of the kind I would like. I may well put some roses in containers for the patio but soon I will be removing some old and tatty shrubs from a large border in the back garden, so I would love to fill it with some really nice roses. I'll let you know how I get on with my search. Kate.

THE POINSETTIA PROBLEM

I have been wondering whether any of the clever folk in Kenn tried to get their poinsettias into flower for a second year following the advice given. I did, even took it on holiday with me in order to continue the treatment, but sadly it didn't work. Probably it was just my kiss of death although I still have a very healthy green plant. I should love to hear if anyone had success then perhaps they could give me some tips.

Lris Gcldsworthy.

JAMES'S & ROBERT'S TRAVELS continued....

The lads arrived in Sydney, Australia, early October and as they were walking through the airport they couldn't believe their eyes when they spotted "a Kennite" - Lawrie Houston late of One Elm, Kenn Street. Talk about a small world! Lawrie was there to meet someone off an incoming flight. He gave them his address, but we are not sure if they visited the Houstons.

They needed work badly as the treasury was running rather low, but found it hard to find any employment at first. After much pavement pounding over about two weeks (they were staying in a youth hostel and were down to their last twenty pounds) Robert saw an advert by a landscape gardener. They jumped at this and spent two weeks with him doing what landscape gardeners do. They were then told there was no more work so were made redundant. The cash crisis had passed, so had time to look around again. Meanwhile were enjoying Sydney in summer, going to the beach as often as possible, sun, sand and surf; great stuff for two young men.

They eventually found work at a local 'Stowell Concrete', well really a brick works. This was excellent money but just about the roughest, toughest, dirtiest, meanest job either had ever done. Hot, heavy and backbreaking. They handled by hand about 10,000 bricks per day. The works opened early, so they were up at 4.30 am to leave by 5 am to catch the train, which was an hour's journey. No doubt they could catch up on some more sleep on the way. They stayed with the job until after Christmas and saved their money. The Manager was very good to them and invited them to spend Christmas Day with his family, a kindness which R's parents and ourselves were very grateful for, to know our sons were with a family was a confort. We did manage to contact James by phone at 4. am on Christmas Day. It was very nice to talk to him; also Robert rang his parents.

Meanwhile Vincent Stowell had arrived early December to spend a month in Australia. He managed to do a tour, look the brickworks over with a professional eye, spent time including Christmas with R & J. Vincent was most impressed with the country and says he will return again one day, but he will write you his own story, we hope!

After Vincent returned, James's girlfriend Jame arrived for a visit/holiday, so James had to leave Robert at the brickworks while he and Jame took a trip up the coast to Queensland and the Great Barrier Reef. Among the places they visited were Cairns, and Frazer and Cook Islands. Everywhere lived up to expectations, a big area, lovely scenery and long distances. Jame was booked home early February, so James returned to Sydney to find he could not get his job back at the brickworks, so has done some car washing to fill in time as it was part of the plan to move on anyway.

So, it's goodbye Sydney and hallo Melbourne, where they have found work grape-picking nearby (700 miles away) until early March when they move on to Tasmania, and here they have booked a job hop-picking. All good, interesting experiences. To be continued...

Grace and John Griffin.

