

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

JANUARY 1992 ISSUE 42



## EDITORS.

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# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Happy New Year to all our readers. Keep the contributions coming in 1992 for a bigger and better News and Views.

Thanks to everyone who sent Christmas cards to the magazine staff in appreciation of our efforts. Thanks also to Mrs Ruth DYER who presented Sheila, Kate, Margaret and Richard with gifts on behalf of you all. This presentation took place at the senior citizens afternoon tea party and for which we are all most grateful. It's nice to know our efforts are so appreciated. Thank you all.

Kate and Sheila.

## TYPIST'S NOTE

I had my present - a lovely bottle of wine - presented separately as, unlike the editors, I don't qualify as a senior citizen. Thank you very much.

## DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE

\*\*\*\*\* JANUARY 20th \*\*\*\*\*

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 4th - Gina STOWELL
- 14th - Rebecca BRAIN
- 17th - Clare DYER (2)
- 24th - Richard GAUNT.

## NAISH'S NOTES

### FANCY DRESS PARTY

The Kenn Christmas Fancy Dress Party held in the Village Hall on Saturday 7th December was just what was needed to start everyone off in the Christmas spirit. Many angels, Father Christmas's, Xmas parcels and panto characters were amongst the guests to arrive. The music was supplied by John HAZELL and the bar by Mr and Mrs SUMMERILL. Donations and a raffle for charity totalled £280-50p and out of this money a new Trivial Pursuit game was purchased for Barrow Hospital and a donation to the Kenn Christmas lights was given. The balance is in our charity fund-raising account until a good cause comes to light.

## XMAS LIGHTS

The Christmas tree and fairy lights on our green are a very welcoming sight. I for one find myself smiling with pleasure every time I drive past - just what we needed.

## NO SMACKING WEEK

I am reminded (or should I say informed?) by Daniel QUINN that the first week of January is National No-Smacking Week. Cheryl and myself have informed our youngsters that it does not apply in our houses; of course good behaviour at all times would mean that there would never be a need for a no-smacking week.

## PATIENT PATIENTS

Several of our villagers have been ill over the Christmas period with a dreadful bug, some missing Christmas altogether. I hope they are better now and have a good time celebrating the New Year instead.

It is lovely that Mr Mark AYRES and Mr Frank FLOWER were home for Christmas. Mr Wally MOORE was unable to come home but had a wonderful time in hospital.

## REMINDER

Please don't forget to come to the informal get together to discuss the formation of a local history group. The meeting is to take place at the Granary, Duck Lane on Thursday 16th January at 7-30pm. This is a change from the originally published date so please alter your diary.

## LITTLE ED'S LITTLE PEN

I am now the proud owner of a pen with 'Little Ed' inscribed upon it which was a gift from Big Ed, a hint perhaps that my scrawl will now become neater (Typist note: having been spared Sheila's writing until now I certainly hope so - it's worse than mine!) and she will have an easier task reading it. Anyway I am now flashing my pen about everywhere hoping to be "discovered".

Many thanks for the cards and letters received at Christmas from both of us, it is so nice to know you enjoy the magazine.

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## TAIL PIECE

As this year closes and a new one starts may we say thank you to Barbara (up at the shop) for collecting odd bits and bobs and reminding us of things we should know and had maybe forgotten! We are very lucky to have our shop, I don't know where I'd be without it, always a happy greeting (even if she should have been shut 10 minutes ago!) and always very helpful. Long may it continue to stay open.

Here's to 1992 may it be happy, healthy and prosperous.

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

All the fund-raising was over and at long last Kenn was to have its Christmas tree. Sam DYER with technical assistance from Duncan MACKAY (he chose it) bought the tree, around 20 feet high, from Fountain Forestry and aided by Richard DYER and a JCB planted the tree on the village green. The wind howled all that night and it was something of a relief to find the tree still standing when morning broke.

On Thursday night John HAZELL arrived and despite the old adage not to play with electricity in the rain wired up the lights and with the rain pootling down then climbed up the ladder to place them tastefully on the tree. I understand that bets had been taken on the lights fusing the whole village but again the tree's luck held and all the lights worked first time with no problems. The tree even withstood your typist's weight up the ladder, well done Sam.

On Friday the weather relented and on a crisp evening Avril Gaunt switched the lights on and led with assembled villagers in a hearty rendition of several well known carols accompanied by Rebecca BRAIN on the flute. Afterwards refreshments of mince pies, mulled wine, coffee and squash for the children were served by Mrs DYER.

Proceeds of the collection and donations for the mince pies went to the Children's Society.

It is intended to plant a suitable tree on

the green in the near future which will be lit every Christmas; meanwhile in 1991 we have all had the pleasure of our own Christmas tree on the village green.

Many thanks to Richard and Avril GAUNT for the use of their electricity and turning the lights on and off.

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEMONSTRATION

On 27th November many members of Kenn W.I. and their friends, were in the Village Hall to see the Christmas Flower demonstration which is an annual event. It was Shelagh STEPHENS first attempt at demonstrating and she was very nervous, but gained in confidence as the evening went on. In spite of having the 'quakes' Mrs STEPHENS produced some beautiful arrangements, using a wide variety of materials from dried flowers to fresh white roses and red carnations. A very romantic and lovely arrangement was of beech leaves and other similar-toned materials and white roses, displayed in a hugh basket. There were lovely novelty ideas especially for Christmas, and a lantern, made from a washing-up liquid bottle was much admired, and now we're all trying to remember how it was made!

Most of these arrangements, plus a large amount of holly and the flowers that were not used in the demonstration were then raffled. Coffee and home-made biscuits were served, and there were many things on the trade stall suitable for Christmas presents.

All together it was a very good evening and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. There can't be many evenings like that to be had for £1 per head! Why don't YOU make the effort to come next year.

## KENN W.I.

Mrs DYER presided at her first meeting as President of Kenn Women's Institute for the coming year. Duties and jobs were allotted to members to help make the meetings run smoothly. The Christmas post box was available for members to exchange seasonal greetings. Those availing themselves of the opportunity made a

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contribution to Associated Countrywomen of the World.

The Macmillan Nurses were chosen as the charity for 1992. Group meetings will be held at Congresbury and Nailsea.

Always a popular visitor Mr EVERITT spoke on colour in winter gardens and illustrated his talk with slides of the varieties of foliage and stems which will bring beauty in the winter. He was thanked by Mrs MANN.

The competition was for a picture of a flower. The winner was Mrs CRAWLEY, gold, Mrs BUBB, silver and Mrs MANN, green.

The evening ended with mince pies and best wishes to everyone for a happy Christmas.

### SNIPPETS

#### CELEBRATIONS

Our flag was flown on December 10th to celebrate the 21st birthday of Louise PUGH and again on Christmas Day to celebrate the birth of our Lord.

#### MRS YEATES

Mrs YEATES a resident of Kenn for many years passed away at Gorselands Nursing Home on November 28th, and was cremated on December 4th. Our flag was flown at half mast on both days.

#### PROPERTIES FOR SALE

In common with many parts of the country we have at least four properties for sale in Kenn - Elmbank, Tudgarth, Westonwood and Yew Tree Cottage.

#### KENN VILLAGE HALL

The final total raised at the Wine and Cheese Party amounted to £308.

#### ACCIDENT

Robert STAPLES was involved in an accident with a car falling to stop at the junction of Manmoor Lane. We are all pleased that Robert was not hurt.

#### THOUGHTS ON KENN LIFE

As we look forward to 1992 with hope and at the same time trepidation it is wise to reflect upon our good fortune to

be able to live in Kenn.

Each month without fail Kenn News and Views arrives thanks to the ceaseless efforts of our editors, Kate and Shella who collect the copy, to Richard GAUNT who does the typing and to Margaret who prints our magazine as well as delivering many copies. At the same time we have enjoyed the artistry of Christopher DENMEAD, Leon and Justin NAISH, Alexander GAUNT and Kate DENMEAD.

Reading through previous News and Views one realises the enormous efforts made in Kenn to raise money for many deserving charities; but at the same time not forgetting those Kenn folk who are not well and need our help are regularly visited by neighbours with lunches and much appreciated offers of help or visits to the doctor or dentist or just a chat.

Celebrations - we remember with pleasure the day July 23rd 1991 when Wally MOORE celebrated his 90th birthday at a surprise party in the village hall - a photo of Wally taken at his party now hangs in the hall.

In Kenn we have a number of very active octogenarians, one who sells Christmas cards and gives the profits to charity - this year £145 goes to the Children's Society; others actively cultivate their gardens which help the village to gain marks in the Best Kept Village competition.

We think of those who help with the Church be it cleaning, arranging flowers or helping with the Sunday Club; those who clean and support our Village Hall for the use of Kenn folk, those who remember to fly our flag when the occasion demands; we remember how blessed we are to have Kenn Village Stores where one is always greeted with a smile.

Quizzes in the Hall have been House Full - the Fun Run a day to remember when the game of rounders has been a highlight, now we have a football team par excellence!!

In the passing of Miss GRIFFEY and Mrs YEATES we have lost two strong characters.

In the autumn Kenn folk were most

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concerned about the possibility of two travellers sites being located in the village - a meeting where standing room only was the order informed representatives of the County in no uncertain way both sites were unsuitable. A final decision is still awaited.

Now we look across to Europe where if we believe in the Brussels bureaucrats all is perfection - we must be on our guard that they do not take us over lock, stock and barrel.

Now as we enter 1992 we will continue to count our blessings and try to do even better in the coming year, God willing.

### <subhead>CRIB SERVICE

One of the highlights for many Kennites is the annual Crib Service with a Nativity Play performed by the children of the Sunday Club. This traditional event in the calendar took place on Christmas Eve and was conducted for the first time by the Revd. John CRUSE.

On the day the church was full with friends, parents and grandparents awaiting the play with a mixture of excitement and pride for their children mixed with a little frisson of fear that theirs would be the one to change history. Well on the day Gabriel told Mary the good news and Joseph took the injunction not to know Mary as seriously as usual as they went on their long journey to Bethlehem and the momentous events. All went well and the play was enjoyed by everyone. The children were given a round of applause for the performance.

Thanks are due to all who helped, especially Wendy PAPASOLOMONTOS, Julia BUSH, Jenny PASCOE, Mary HOLMES and Avril GAUNT. <subhead>LETTER

Many thanks to everyone in the village and around who supported the Children's Society by purchasing Christmas cards and other items from me through Webb Ivory. The result was a profit of £145 - 20p which was handed over to Mrs Mary WILLIAMS, the Society's representative for Kenn.

Glady's DENMEAD,  
Conifers, Duck Lane.

### SENIOR CITIZENS TEA PARTY

This most enjoyable occasion took place on the afternoon of Wednesday 4th December in Kenn Village Hall.

Some 70 guests from Kenn and close by were invited by the social committee to gather at 3pm for Afternoon Tea. Many of the ladies and gentlemen chatted to friends they seldom see.

The hostesses, ladies of the committee, greeted everyone with a warming glass of sherry before serving the tea of sandwiches, cakes and savouries all donated and produced by village ladies.

After tea a slide show was given and narrated by Mr Ray NAISH, telling of the hidden and interesting parts of old Kenn. The pictures were taken by 16 year old Christopher DENMEAD who thoroughly enjoyed the exercise in the company of Ray and learned much in the process. It is hoped to extend this library of pictures in the New Year and maybe even produce an album with text for the village archives.

Following the show a free raffle was held with many lucky winners taking home seasonally appropriate gifts. The Rev. John CRUSE called the numbers.

The committee members then sang a chorus of We Wish You a Merry Christmas before presenting each guest with a gift of chocolate.

The afternoon drew to a close at 5pm and the guests left after a very happy time. Transport for many guests was provided by Mr Peter TRIPP to whom the committee is most grateful.

Thanks are due to everyone who assisted both before, during and after the occasion.

KD

### MATCH REPORT

The inter-village football match between Kenn and Kingston Seymour took place on Sunday 1st December at Kenn Valley Social Club.

Firstly I have to say that although I was appointed 'reporter' for the day, what I

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know about football you could write on the bottom of a boot stud! Nevermind, here goes.

A crowd of around 40 supporters gathered to watch this local derby on a dry but rather chilly Sunday lunch-time. I was positioned just behind the Kenn bench where Little Ed had set herself up as team doctor equipped with a large sponge ready to rub down any player who needed it - or who SHE thought needed or deserved her attention. Thankfully for the players injuries were minimal although Julian WILCOX found he had one knee STARCHED in the absence in the Kenn doc's cupboard of the tin of Ralgex!

Kick-off was at 1pm and after a spirited opening Kenn's first goal came after 8 minutes courtesy of Julian OSBOURNE. The second came after 11 minutes (Julian WILCOX) but was unfortunately given off-side after Kingston players shouted at the ref. A Kingston player should have received a red card after 12 minutes for foul language (it really shocked Little Ed) but unfortunately we didn't have any cards. Their first goal came after 15 minutes and was allowed even though it went straight through the hole in the net! Their next effort brought a brilliant save by Tom CLARKE against the odds of a good party the night before. Kenn now had to strive to crack the defence and did so in the 21st minute with a brilliant goal from Elliott KIDNER. Within moments Mike GRAY would have scored but his shot was blocked by a Kingston player. Julian WILCOX produced an excellent shot after 26 minutes before James GRIFFIN gained just reward for his hard work and scored goal number 3 - only to have it disallowed for handball (No hand of God from the vicar). So at the end of the first half the score was Kenn 2 Kingston 1.

New players were brought on for the second half - Mark PUGH, Robert BES-

SANT, Dave GRAY and Roger WILCOX with Richard GAUNT taking over in goal. Kingston scored their equalising goal in the 1st minute - this was originally caught by our goalie but he then got his foot trapped in the net and was powerless! He recovered however to execute a stunning save in the 5th minute. Play was held up briefly on several occasions when the ball went off the pitch and into the brambles. It befell the MEN of the Kenn team to brave the undergrowth!

Kingston took the lead in the 11th minute courtesy of an own goal by Kenn

Kenn fought back in a spirited fashion and equalised within 2 minutes with a well taken Danny BEDFORD goal before taking

the lead through two players not identified to me. Another save by Richard and two excellent efforts from David GRAY and Danny BEDFORD followed before the game was made safe when a Robert BESSANT shot produced the fifth and final goal with five minutes to go.

The final score was Kenn 5 - Kingston Seymour 3. At the end we realised that they had played with 13 men throughout the second half - so justice was seen to be done.

It was a disheartened team doc who wasn't allowed into the communal shower but at least she got a muddy knee print on her sponge.

We're not really sure what James GRIFFIN was doing in the ditch before the kick-off, but no-one else saw the sheep he claimed was there!!

All in all it was a friendly match, well supported and enjoyed by everyone there. We look forward to the re-match in the New Year.

Many thanks to John Cruse for refereeing in a most professional, and easy going, manner.

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Final note:- One lady supporter more used to rugby was heard cheering Clifton, Clifton, Clifton. The poor dear was obviously disorientated but the excellent standard of play was clearly enough for her to forget where she was; and even which game she was watching.

KD

### FREDERICK WITHEY

Fred WITHEY has passed away aged 93, long term residents of Kenn will remember him and his wife and daughter Peggy living in a redundant railway carriage in Russ Lane for many years.

During his working life Fred had been a lorry driver with R.C. Counsell of Yatton and was well known around this district. A very kind man he always helped other people when he could, he often picked up people around Kenn and took them to Clevedon for shopping etc. He was still driving his car until a few years ago.

Fred and his wife had been living at Yatton for several years. He had been in poor health and had had to live with terrible disabilities for many years.

Ray NAISH

### WALLY MOORE

Wally MOORE has spent Christmas in Clevedon Hospital. He told me it was the first Christmas that he had spent outside Kenn since he left the army in 1926. We look forward to seeing him home again when he is in better health.

### FARMING

What wonderful weather we have had over the Christmas holiday, I don't remember when the land has been so nice and dry at this time of the year.

Personally I have had the easiest Christmas on the farm ever, all the cattle here at Stonchouse Farm are still in the fields. I purposely saved three fields of grass and let the cattle into them a few days before Christmas and I haven't had to carry any hay to them. They are still living on the grass just like summer time. Another advantage with keeping them out is that there is no manure to be

carted out of the sheds. Whatever happens from now on the winter won't be as long.

RVN

### WINTER KENN VISITORS

The third week of December saw a big freeze up with record low temperatures (for December) being measured in Bristol. Very cold weather is generally rewarding for the birdwatcher as birds are usually more active and therefore visible and birds are driven south from more inhospitable climes in northern Britain and Scandinavia.

A pair of STONECHATS were the first true winter birds recorded - they are insectivores and I wonder if they have survived the cold snap. There have been good numbers of FIELDFARES and a few REDWINGS on the Moor but not in the numbers reported from Hilsa in last month's magazine. Star bird so far is a SHORT EARED OWL watched at dusk near Lilypool Drive. It was being mobbed by the resident CARRION CROWS. Apparently Lemmings were in plague numbers in arctic Scandinavia this summer and consequently OWLS enjoyed a very fruitful breeding season. Now that food supplies are diminished in their summer territory there has been a marked influx into Britain, some apparently joining a ship in the North Sea and taking a ride to the River Humber!

A small party of five WIGEON were present near Moor Street Bow but Ray NAISH tells me that before the Moor was drained hundreds were shot annually by wildfowlers.

The TREE SPARROW may not sound too exotic a bird but the two I watched during the worst of the cold spell were my first for the area. TREE SPARROWS are seed eaters and generally distributed to the (drier) east of us.

SNIFE are always present but are more readily seen when the ground is frozen

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but a WOODCOCK (a species truly indicative of cold weather) was a wee surprise.

A flock of 32 GOLDEN PLOVERS flew over on the 15th and a charm of 19 GOLDFINCHES was feeding on thistles. This latter species has been adversely affected by modern farming practices and it is good to see that the RSPB, having concentrated on rare and endangered species in the past, is now looking at ways of reversing the fall in the population of farmland birds.

Finally it is of course impossible to find and see all of the species present on the Moor and the writer is always most interested to hear of unusual sightings.

Trevor RIDDLE,

4 Ashleigh Rd, Yatton. Tel: 835208

### SPOTTER SPOTTED 1

I often see Trevor on the Moors studying the wildlife, he and his wife Jill are regular attenders at evensong at church here in Kenn. I asked him if he would write some notes for News and Views on what he had seen and he agreed readily.

Many thanks Trevor.

Ray NAISH.

Thanks.

I would like to say a very big thank you to all who must have worked very hard indeed to put on such a wonderful Christmas tea set: also I hope every one will please accept my sincere thanks for the birthday wishes also for the gift they so kindly gave me, I wish every one a very happy new year 1992 & Gods blessing with good health love to you all  
Sally Whitehead



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### **KENN IN 1965.**

Mrs Gladys DENMEAD has recently been looking through some old papers and found the following 3 pieces she wrote in 1965, and which I persuaded her to allow us to publish in Kenn News and Views.

Although only 26 years ago it is interesting to see what was happening in the village at that time.

### **KENN IN 1965**

Our village in nineteen sixty five,  
Is very, very much alive,  
New houses built, ideally placed  
Its populations been increased.

Each day starts with the morning post,  
The milkman calls, one we like most,  
We also have a Post Office Store  
Quite ably run by Mrs Moore.

The morning papers arrive by midday  
Which most of us peruse without delay;  
Wonderloaf and Mothers Pride is our daily bread,  
They make calls every other day instead.

Our village hall where people meet,  
Has now installed electric heat,  
Its walls could tell many good tales  
Of Whist Drives, dances and Jumble Sales.

The small parish church is standing there,  
For all who want to meet in prayer.  
Our preacher now is the Reverend Wright,  
I'm sure we feel he's quite alright.

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## KENN VILLAGE HALL 1965

The hall is in very good condition for its age (some 40 years or more) with its wood and galvanized structure. The committee comprises of shareholders who raised money to buy the hall in 1922. Today there are about 45 of these people living but only about 12 regularly in attendance in meetings. These namely being: Mr S.G. DYER (chairman), Mr S.G. DENMEAD (sec), Mr W GRIGG, Mr RBYE, Mr R NAISH, Mr J GRIFFIN, Mr J INGS, Miss L BAKER (treasurer), Mrs R DYER, Mrs W HAZELL and Mrs G.N. NAISH.

This year of 1965 the committee met twice to discuss maintenance and other business. During the year, electric heating was installed at a cost of £150 by Mr S.G. DENMEAD - thus doing away completely with paraffin heaters.

The cost of hiring the Hall is approximately 7/- (ed note, shillings = 35p) per hour, this includes the use of everything contained within the hall and the cost of cleaning up after an event. The expenses are rates, water rate, 3rd party insurance, worker's insurance and fire insurance.

Our village in nineteen sixty five  
Saw many activities of different kinds  
First, A grand affair, a wedding reception  
Wendy Gulvin was the bride in question.

The same month the farmers gathered  
Talked of animals fur and feathered;  
A few days after a teenage party  
Arranged by Heather and Rosemary.

A session of sewing classes newly commence,  
Mrs Shearer, our tutor, has good sense,  
Through the year there were eighteen of these  
Quite pleasant evenings sure to please.

The Women's Institute meetings, eleven all told  
Brought new ideas for young and old.  
Membership was high in this year of grace,  
Sixty six is grand for this small place.

In February Mrs Morris held a Whist Drive,  
The W.I. Group Meeting was like a bee-hive.  
Another Whist Drive by one we know well,  
For charity, Mrs Irene Stowell.

On April 12th eighty old people given tea  
By the Women's Institute hospitality.  
Later this month flora art started  
A session of six for those interested.

Now into June, one sunny day  
All sorts of items were brought I'd say,  
One could see at a glance what was in store,  
A Jumble Sale - W.I. funds - more and more.

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In July on such a wet day, oh my!  
A square dance in progress, yippee ay!  
The hall was full to capacity  
Good for the cause - charity

We must not forget the Village Social Club,  
Who meet on Thursdays by paying a sub,  
Of thirty six bookings I can tell,  
Under the Chairman, Ray Chappell.

Then there were eight copper classes  
To entertain quite a few lasses.  
They hammer and fashion plates and jewels  
And sometimes enter them in shows.

Wedding reception number two in September  
Branda Russell, the bride to remember.  
September also brought the W.I. Show  
All day the ladies go to and fro.

On into October, the last Wednesday  
The hall is dressed, a special array,  
A party arranged, grand occasion,  
The Women's Institute celebration.

The Social Club held a Whist Drive for funds,  
A pleasant evening for everyone.  
Later on the same again for W.I.  
Master of ceremonies being Mr Bye.

Eight times in the year the M.U. met  
And gave a Christmas party for the younger set,  
Our church social will be memorised  
To end this year of nineteen sixty five.

EDITORS NOTE: M.U. = Mother's Union.

**A HAPPY, PEACEFUL  
AND PROSPEROUS  
NEW YEAR  
TO ALL OUR  
READERS.**

