

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

events have continued apace and large sums of money have been raised for many charities including: CLIC, NSPCC, MS and the Resuscitation unit for the Clevedon Surgery.

We remember the lovely day when we celebrated the Ruby Jubilee of Her Majesty our Queen. In September large crowds visited Kenn to see wonderful flower arrangements in our church and at other venues - the profit being shared by our Church and the Macmillan Nurses.

Throughout the year we have tried to be good neighbours. We thank those who provide hot lunches every day for some elderly folk; those who clean the Church and arrange flowers, mow the churchyard, tend the Garden of Remembrance and mow the village green; organise our Christmas tree and raise the flag when appropriate; our ever smiling post-mistress; those who help with the Youth Club and Women's Institute and organise and support events arranged in the village; those who visit older residents and help when needed; and those who work so hard to keep our village clean and tidy.

It is refreshing and good that our Editors have permitted us to have our little grumbles, voice our opinions and put forward suggestions.

To those who do not support our Church and Hall but expect them to be ready at all times for their use - think about it and resolve in 1993 to come along and join in the fun.

Happy New Year to one and all.

RMD

THANK YOU

On behalf of Sheila and myself can I say thank you to everyone for the lovely gifts we received at the Senior Citizens Tea

Party. They were much appreciated and make all our efforts - and sometimes head-scratching - worthwhile.

Kate

Thank you to all the Readers of the magazine for the magnificent gift of a bottle of wine for my three-fingered efforts. In case Sheila is angry (crawler!) I wish to point out it was Australian not French. It was much appreciated in the drinking.

Richard

FUNDRAISING

Many thanks to everyone in the village who bought Christmas cards and gifts from the Webb Ivory catalogue, also to friends in Clevedon and around as well as all those W.I. members who supported me. Although many items carried but 10% discount, I am able to pass on over £151-40p to the Institute Committee for our W.I. Ruby Jubilee fund, which we shall be celebrating in 1993. Thank you all again.

THANKS

Thank you to Roger WILCOX for his special duties over Christmas.

Heather JENKINS

WELCOME

Welcome to Georgina HATCH and friend Nickey who have moved into the Kenn Court Cottage this year. In addition to the welcome multitudinous apologies for the delay in welcoming you to our village - despite it all we're really quite friendly.

ST JOHN'S ALTAR GUILD

JANUARY 1992 - Miss L BAKER and Mrs M WILLCOX

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BIRDS ON KENN MOORS

WHAT A DIFFERENCE COLD WEATHER MAKES

KENN MOOR - LATE DECEMBER 1992

The birdlife on Kenn Moor has been relatively quiet during the latter part of 1992, but the heavy rain followed by anti-cyclonic conditions moved birds south and made the residents more conspicuous.

A **SNIBE** was crouched in a wet field, and at least five **STONECHATS** were present - a record count for me. Black-ditch **Rhyne** produced a lovely and obliging **KINGFISHER** whilst a **KESTREL** sat at the top of a willow looking for prey.

But it was the plantation that held most birds, a splendid mixed flock of **BLUE TITS**, **GREAT TITS**, **LONG TAILED TITS**, **CHAFFINCHES**, lots of **GOLDFINCHES**, a couple of **SISKINS** and a **TREECREEPER**. Their frenzied feeding was suddenly cut



short by the arrival overhead of a female **SPARROWHAWK**.

A flock of 50 **REDWINGS** had probably

been pushed south by the weather conditions. A **HERON** stood motionless by a small **rhyne**, and distantly a **COMORANT** headed for a perch on an electricity pylon, a remarkable adaptation for a marine, fish-eating species!

Trevor **RIDDLE**

CHRISTMAS IN KENN IN THE EARLY 1930s

The Christmas celebrations in Kenn generally started with a concert by Kenn

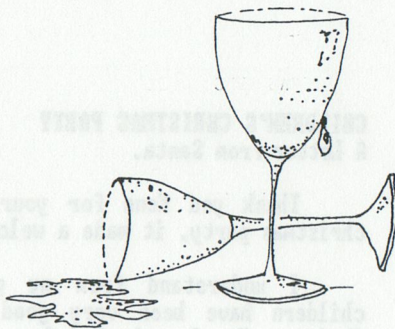
children. This was held in the school a few days before the children broke up for the holiday, and was followed by a Christmas tea and prize giving, a great treat for many of the children most of whom came from poor families. The average wage for a working man in those days was about thirty four shillings per week, about one pound fifty four pence in today's money. As many of the families consisted of six or seven children there was little money available for the parents to spend on such luxuries as Christmas presents.

The Reverend William **THATCHER** who was the Vicar at that time used to take the senior members of the choir to Wickendon's restaurant in Clevedon and treat them to an evening Christmas dinner in appreciation of their work for the Church during the year.

Any entertainment in those days had to be made by the people themselves. This was 20 years before the first television sets arrived and only two to three households owned a wireless, as they were called then.

After Christmas a social evening was held in the Village Hall with local people doing the entertaining. There were lots of people who could do a turn. The late Mrs Hilda **BYE** of Kenn Pier Farm was great at reciting poems she had learnt at Kenn School when a child. She could reel off two or three very long poems without notes, one I remember was entitled "The Deacon's Potatoes" another was "The Inventor's Wife" about a lady whose husband, named **Bijel**, was able to invent things but never anything that brought in any cash.

Mrs **BYE**'s brother, George **STAPLES**, was an excellent singer of old-fashioned songs such as "The Village Pump" and another one about an unfortunate chap who had two noses; one of the lines went



KENN XMAS PUNCH QUIZ

LIST OF INGREDIENTS:

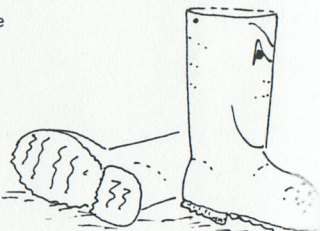
- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. DAN BIT ME LABRADOR | Barbara Middleton |
| 2. ESCAPE JONNY | Jenny Pascoe |
| 3. HURRY TED | Ruth Dyer |
| 4. NEW JACKNIFE | Jean Fenwick |
| 5. RELIENT ELP | Peter Neill |
| 6. ANY HAIRS | Ray Naish |
| 7. FAGS IN ME FRIJ | James Griffin |
| 8. BOWELL STRAIN | Brian Stowell |
| 9. MR RIBNOSE | Ben Morris |
| 10. LUCKY BEAR | Lucy Baker |
| 11. SLAPS MATES | Sam Staples |
| 12. A.K.A. DEMENTED | Kate Denmead |
| 13. RIPE AND RASH | Sarah Pinder |
| 14. MOLLY O'WARE | Wally Moore |
| 15. BONDSOWE | Ben Woods |
| 16. AH TIS KENN HEJER | Heather Jenkins |
| 17. JUST OL' WELLIE | Julie Stowell |
| 18. HI SELINA HAS | Sheila Naish |
| 19. DRAUGHT IN CAR | Richard Gaunt |
| 20. DRY CIDER AHR | Richard Dyer |
| 21. TRAWLER T SOME GAL | Margaret Stowell |

HOPE THIS WAS ENJOYED BY ALL WHO PARTOOK OF THE BREW!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR,

ELBERT ORB

Rob Treble



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JANUARY 1993 ISSUE 54



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Of days when Britain a coal industry had,

Before we got that Major lad.

10. Coronation Street

11. Norway

12. Mexico

13. Mongolia

14. Dog

15. Animal Farm

16. Boxing Day

17. Silent Night (although not many people know the original words discovered by the GAUNT's)

Silent night, Holy night,

That damn mouse cut the light.

We lost our sound and heat from the fire,
Unaccompanied sang the choir.

Jerry the mouse was here

Jerry the mouse was here.

18. 1970 (although 1981 also accepted as correct)

19. HOGMANY (Quiz master's decision is final!)

20. Ethiopia.

CHRISTMAS DISCO

Once again the Christmas Disco was a roaring success! The fancy dress outfits seem to get better every year. The funds raised will be donated to the Neurology Department at the Bristol Children's Hospital via Mrs Joan STUCKEY who is trying to raise £800 for a roving camera for the department. Many thanks for all the raffle prizes donated, to John HAZELL for an excellent disco, to Ken and Barbara for hosting the bar and

lastly to all who attended for making it such a happy night.

SAD NOTE

Kenn Valley Social Club has a lovely tree and lights at the far end of the village. Sadly some soul decided to steal the lights before Christmas!! Makes you wonder doesn't it!

DIARY DATE

Especially for Dr BULLOCK and all the other fit folks who like to train for it!!

FUN RUN Sunday Sept. 5th

KENN CHURCH

I thought the flowers that decorated the Church looked absolutely beautiful over the Christmas period. Well done to everyone who helped.

AND FINALLY

A happy, healthy and prosperous New Year to all our readers.

Sheila

SNIPPETS

APPRECIATION AND THANKS

The Senior Citizens Party provided an opportunity to thank our two editors, our typist, our printer and the illustrator for their untiring efforts to produce Kern News and Views each month. Kate and Sheila, our two indefatigable Editors were presented with poinsettia plants, Richard GAUNT a bottle of his favourite wine and Christopher DENMEAD, who draws so many properties in Kenn to be used as covers for the magazine and notelets, received a monetary gift. Margaret STOWELL who not only prints but delivers so many copies received a Christmas table arrangement. To all those who help with the delivery of the magazine, your help is greatly appreciated.

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the summit as Christmas Fairy). Finally thank you to all those villagers who turned out for a good sing and to start Christmas in the right spirit.

KENN CRIB SERVICE

The arrival of December brings fear and trepidation to some of us as we begin the preparations for the annual Crib Service.

The parts were cast, the scripts printed and off the children were sent to practise.

As always, the dress rehearsal was enough to reduce us to tears. Mary's costume was still being washed so she went to Bethlehem in sweat shirt and trousers. Then one of the shepherds, having forgotten his lamb improvised with a kneeler with an England football scarf for a lead - this took him rather a long time to arrange and he was very late arriving at the stable.

Yet as always the children turned up trumps on the day.

The play started with 'God' and 'Gabriel' reminding us of why Jesus came to earth. They both then underwent a quick change to become shepherds (quite a come down) as we were a bit short.

Mary and Joseph eventually found a stable for the night and the choir and Sunday Club sang the baby Jesus a

lullaby. This unfortunately flustered the Kenns as, to quote one of them,

"You've sent him to sleep and he hasn't seen us yet!"

However eventually they were able to present their gifts and Mary asked all the children present in the congregation to join the tableau at the front and sing. It made a wonderful end to the play to see all the children singing 'Away in a Manger' accompanied so well by Peter and Alex (Joseph and God/No 3 shepherd!) on guitars.

So as the costumes are packed away for another year and the directors heave a sigh of relief we say thank you to the children for the excellent job they did of reminding us of the reason for Christmas, the Nativity story and God's gift to us at this time of year.

Thank you also to John CRUSE who drew all the children's efforts together to form the Crib Service and to all the mums who got the children to rehearsals, taught them their parts and helped out at rehearsals.

Jenny PASCOE

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Dr GAUNT attended the last Parish Council meeting and gave members some idea of the conditions in Albania at the present time. Albania is badly in need of equipment and expertise to help her realise her potential. After discussion it was decided that Kenn would try to befriend a village similar to ours and explore the possibility of sponsoring young people from there at Cannington or somewhere like it and offer hospitality while they were in this country.

It was minuted that District Councillors JOPP and CUMMINGS had not attended meetings of the Parish Council lately. Disappointment was also expressed that



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they had not adequately represented Kenn's views in the matter of weight restrictions on the Yatton Road. It was noted that as Mrs Lewis is Chair of the District Council this year she could not be expected to take her usual interest.

Strong representation will be made to Mrs DALY, our Euro MP, Mr GUMMER, Mr WIGGIN and Dr FOX about the new rules for small abattoirs. Many will be forced to close causing suffering to animals forced to be transported long distances for slaughter.

KENN W.I.

At the December meeting of Kenn Women's Institute members exchanged Christmas cards and greetings via the post box. Donations were made to the Associated Country Women of the World in lieu of postage. There were carols, mince pies and sherry to complete the Christmas feeling.

Duties for the coming year were allocated and the charity for 1993 was chosen. It is to be Hearing Dogs for the Deaf. Secret friends were also chosen. Those for 1992 will be declared in January. The Yeo Valley skittles tournament begins on January 25th with a match against Walton in Gordano at Kenn Valley Social Club. As a new venture there will be a magazine swap at meetings. Those magazines not borrowed will be taken to the hospital.

At the January meeting Mrs HARRISON will demonstrate boning a chicken. The competition will be for a favourite recipe using chicken.

Mrs BELL gave an amusing and entertaining talk entitled Serendipity about her consuming passion for collecting. The competition for an unusual ornament was won by Mrs CHAMBERS, with Mrs Joyce JEFFERY getting silver and Mrs Rose JEFFERY green.

The meeting closed with the President, Mrs DYER, wishing everyone a Happy Christmas.

At the Annual Christmas Flower Arrangement evening Mrs Margaret TITMAN combined a delightful personality with exceptional skill to give those attending a memorable evening. Her demonstration was entitled 'Letters to Santa' and everyone was entertained by her wit as she fashioned some very attractive 'letters'. The results were raffled at the end. Delicious home made biscuits and coffee rounded up a memorable evening.

REFLECTIONS AND MEMORIES OF 1992

At the beginning of the year Kennites were extremely concerned that two sites for Travellers had been selected by the County Council to be situated in Kenn. Kenn residents rose as one to fight the proposal and with great determination were able to persuade the Council that both sites were completely unsuitable. Even today the problem has not been solved and the travellers continue to set up where they chose.

We were pleased to learn that Mrs Avril GAUNT had been accepted to train for the ministry; and to hear that the Church of England has voted to ordain women - an answer to so many prayers. What man on this earth has the right to deny a woman who is called by God to His ministry?

The football stadium has opened and is creating opportunities for their teams and their families and supporters to watch good football and to enjoy their facilities.

Football and skittles matches have been enjoyed at the Kenn Valley Social Club.

Social activities for all ages and charity

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VILLAGE HALL PARKING

May we suggest to all organisers of events taking place in the daytime, that cones are placed in position to avoid obstruction to lorries entering and leaving the concrete works. The cones are kept in the Hall by the cash desk.

CHEESE AND WINE PARTY

Christmas decorations arranged by Mrs Sheila NAISH, Mrs Kate EDNMEAD and Philip WOOD greeted some 70 Kennites and their friends when they arrived for the Annual Cheese and Wine Party on November 28th.

A well-laden Buffet table was organised by mesdames DENMEAD, DYER, I STOWELL, WILSON, LAMB, FENWICK and misses BAKER and HOLTHAM.

The cheeses came from Kenn Stores and the delicious apples - definitely NOT French - were grown at Charlton Orchards, Stoke St. Michael.

Lovely raffle prizes collected by Mrs Irene STOWELL were beautifully displayed by Mrs CLARKE helped by Mrs INGS.

Seasonal music was in the capable hands of Mrs Kate DENMEAD. The bar was managed by Mr and Mrs Roger STOWELL.

Naming a Christmas toy given by the MACKAYS was organised by Mrs Heather JENKINS. The name chosen by Andrew and Pippa JENKINS with Dads help was **Sidney**, and he now lives at Manor Farm.

Tickets for a £15 voucher for a turkey were sold by Miss Anne HOLTHAM and the winner was Mrs HOLTHAM.

Brisk business was done by Mrs Sarah CLARKE and Mrs Kate DENMEAD with the raffle tickets.

Before proceedings ended, Mr Sam DYER, Chairman of the Hall Committee, thanked those present for their support for our Hall and wished them and their families a very Happy Christmas.

The final result was £272-50p for Hall funds.

The ladies were especially pleased with the services of two "washers-up" - Mr John GRIFFIN and his brother-in-law. Their help was much appreciated.

DIARY DATES

- Wednesday 13th January - W.I. 7-30pm. All ladies welcome.
- Saturday 16th January - Village Dance. "Something for Everyone"

RMD

CAROLS ROUND THE TREE

Monday December 21st was a crisp, calm evening, perfect for carolling.

The mulled wine was brewing gently on the stove and mince pies warming in the oven and by 6-30pm a goodly number of villagers had turned out to see Babs from the Drum and Monkey switch on the now traditional Christmas lights. We sang all the old favourites round the tree which looked wonderful in the clear night air.

We collected £30 for Caring at Christmas, one of the charities looking after the homeless of Bristol over Christmas.

Very many thanks to Ken and Babs for helping to raise money, to Sam DYER and team for collecting and erecting the tree and to the men of the village green carnival club for sorting out the lights. Special thanks in this regard go to Duncan MACKAY who was deputed to risk life and limb and place the highest lights in position (although nothing would persuade anyone to be attached to

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

You will note that this month there are no Naish's Notes (They were delivered after Kate had written this, Richard). I can only presume that Little Ed has seen the error of her ways in setting **THAT** Quiz last month. Some of us have spent hours in research and in Libraries to the extent that my family nearly got spam and chips on Christmas Day. Honestly though, you must all agree that between Little Ed and Rob **TREBLE** (or Elbert **ORB** as he will now be known), we had a very interesting December mag. Anyone wishing to submit quizzes or puzzles is more than welcome, but they are advised to take out personal injury insurance first!

Kate and Sheila

DEADLINE FOR FEBRUARY ISSUE

20TH JANUARY

BIRTHDAYS

- 4th - Gina **STOWELL**
- 11th - George **NOAD** (1)
- 14th - Rebecca **BRAIN**
- 16th - Fred **FENWICK**
- 17th - Clare **DYER**
- 18th - Nick **CHEEK**
- 21st - Denbe **STEVENS** (18)
- 24th - Richard **GAUNT**

NAISH'S NOTES

Well hello all, yes I am writing my notes, take no notice of Big Ed who has been giving me no end of stick about the Christmas Quiz (quite forgetting what she puts us through at the Quiz Nights!) She's been moaning, groaning and threatening me, and when she couldn't find Seaburn in her books I was quaking in my shoes. Thank goodness for your three-fingered typist who had been there,

even given a lecture there! Saved my bacon!! Anyway she's been and taken my Quiz Book away - probably for a ritual burning - and given in her answers.

This is where I have to say well done to James and Duncan **MACKAY** and to Big Ed for being the only two to enter!! Shame on you all. Richard and Avril entered but certain of their poetic efforts were unprintable (Although as I explained in the preamble to our entry, undoubtedly correct, Richard). James and Duncan got 16 out of 20 and her highness, Big Ed, 19. Prizes are on their way to both parties!!

Here, for anyone who is interested and in Kate's case argue, are the accepted answers.

1. 4th
2. 1843
3. St Luke.
4. Christmas Carol
5. Saturnalia
6. Wren
7. Donkey
8. Kevin **KEEGAN**
9. **SWIMMING!!** Richard and Avril's entry was:

Seaburn is a town on the N.E. coast

I've been there so it's no idle boast.

Discharged coal blackens the beach

A less attractive spot is hard to reach.

On Boxing Day if I could dream

All that would stop and the beach'd been clean.

All the townfolk into the sea would walk

And stand around to laugh and talk

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY
A Letter from Santa.

Thank you Kenn for your kind invitation to the children's Christmas party, it made a welcome break from my busy schedule.

I understand from my good friend 'Uncle Brian' all the children have been very good this year, so it will be a busy Christmas Eve for the Reindeer Ho, Ho, Ho!

Well I'm sure everyone enjoyed the games and it was certainly very quite during those cartoons. I only wish I could have arrived sooner and tried my hand at plate spinning.

I think you would all like me to thank the people who organized this event, which I've had the pleasure of visiting many times before. So to all those people who donated their time and food, (wonderful spread!) many thanks and keep up the good work.

Heather would like me to let you know that the Coffee Morning which was held to raise money in aid of the Childrens Party managed a very creditable **Ninety Two Pounds!** Well done Kenn!

So it just remains for me to wish everybody a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Santa Claus

P.S We all liked the fancy dress girls, lets hope Rob still has enough copper pipe left to finish off the central heating! Ho, Ho, Ho well done girls

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like this:

"And there by his nose another nose grows side by side"

Mrs Clara MOORES who ran the Post Office often read a lengthy story about a chap who had lost his girlfriend to another fellow from the village and was very upset about it. She read the story in a Somerset dialect and one part of it went like this:

"If I can catch him he better look out cause I shall squirt the gurt pug nose on in"

Ballroom dances were always popular in Kenn Hall and were often led by Kenn's own dance band owned by Mr William John STAPLES of "The Garage, Kenn". This was called "The Sunray Orchestra", generally a three piece with William John on the drums, a Mrs Young on the piano and Mr Bill King playing his violin. The steady tempo seemed to suit the older

dancers but complaints were often heard from younger, more adventurous performers.

XMAS PUNCH ANSWERS

The answers to this fascinating quiz set by the now famous Elbert ORB are given on the next page.

WORLD SCOOP!!!

This year we have been honoured by Santa Claus who has sent a letter of thanks for being invited to the Children's Christmas Party. This exciting letter is reproduced on the back page - save it, in future years this could become a collectors item.



APPY NEW YEAR

TO ALL OUR READERS

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting of Kenn History Group will be on Monday 18th January at 7-30pm at The Granary, Duck Lane.

Interesting facts about local properties, it is hoped, will be on view. Coffee 25p.

Grace GRIFFIN

DAVIS LANE MARKET

All we seem to read is that Kenn residents are opposed to the market at the football ground. We think if Kenn residents were asked, there would be many who like and visit the market, and also many who are not worried if it is there or not. As for bringing the criminal element into the village, it is a sad fact of modern life that the criminals are here and neither market or car boot sales are going to make any difference. Also the traffic problem is no worry to the majority of Kenn residents. We like the market and if we can pick up a bargain, yes we are pleased. Also if it can help the stallholders who are trying to make a living, and who possibly would not be able to get a job otherwise, then we are all for them.

Y AYRES and K BURSTOW

CONGRATULATIONS

Stuart INGS has passed the City and Guilds of London Institute Advanced Certificate in Plumbing with 3 Distinctions and 3 Credits, to become Weston College "Plumber of the Year".

He was presented with his cup in November and can now work anywhere within the EC.

A Proud Mum.

CHILDREN IN NEED

Thank you to Mrs GOLDSWORTHY who knitted the lovely scarecrow that was recently raffled in the village. Ian and Mark PASCOE went round selling tickets and £15 was raised for Children in Need. The scarecrow was won by the JAEHME family.

LETTER

3rd December

Dear members of Kenn Charity Committee,

I heard today that you have kindly donated £100 towards the cost of new hymn books for St. John's. This is a very generous gift - and much appreciated by the clergy and members of the congregation.

With good wishes and thanks to you all.

Yours sincerely,

Renee BELL

Churchwarden.

