KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

Harvest Festivals, or moved, as shown below, to create a small (approximately 10 ft square) meeting space at the rear of the church. Although this would be suitable for small services or coffee on Sundays, Sheila and I wonder if it is large enough for the Sunday Club or capable of being kept warm enough.

Other options such as using the village hall for these meetings have problems of distance, and would not be suitable for the after service coffee.

The Vicar, Church Wardens (Ray NAISH and Renee BELL or John GRIFFIN - the assistant warden), Wendy PAPASOLOMONTOS or Avril GAUNT are willing to talk to any villager who is concerned about these changes. In addition Kenn News and Views would be happy to receive any letters on this subject, which will be printed unaltered as is our policy.

So there is plenty of time for you to comment, plenty of willingness to listen to your comments and, Sheila and I thought, a greater recognition from those present that keeping us informed is important.

In conclusion, you have an opportunity to comment on these proposals, please take it and let's stop all these rumours.

Sheila NAISH/Richard GAUNT

TEA AND CHAT

The October Tea and Chat with the Vicar is to be held on October 7th at Jean NAISH's from 2-30 to 4pm.

All are welcome.

KENN YOUTH CLUB

The Youth Club will start again on the Sunday 26th September. All children of secondary school age are welcome. The Youth Club will be held from 7 to 9pm every Sunday and offers a wide range of activities including skittles, unihoc and table tennis. The cost is 75p per child per evening.

A rota for adults to supervise the evenings has been circulated by Wendy PAPASOLOMONTOS. If you would like to volunteer to be added to this rota contact Wendy (877923).

THANK YOU

AVON COTTAGE, DUCK LANE:

Robin and Jill TAYLOR would like to thank everyone for helping to make Sally and Robert's wedding day so special. To all the ladies who arranged the flowers in the church, Jo STAPLES for the beautiful headdress, bouquets and button-holes; Mr GULVIN for playing the organ; Roger and Margaret STOWELL for the use of their Rolls Royce and then the Bentley to take them to the airport on Sunday and to Quinton for being an excellent chauffeur, to Marianna and Robin for the loan of their garden; to Ken and Babs and staff at the Drum and Monkey for providing liquid refreshment (much needed - see Robin's letter); and last but not least to all the friends and neighbours for all good wishes and photographs at the church. Thanks again everyone.

Robin & Jill TAYLOR

KENN HISTORY GROUP

THe next meeting of Kenn History Group will be on Friday 1st October, 7-30pm at The Granary. The subject will be Kenn School. Anyone is welcome to attend.

24 HOURS IN THE LIFE OF THE BRIDE'S FATHER

Friday 3rd September - 13.00 hours. 24 hours to go and things are going well; old cars and rubbish cleared from the drive at home, the setting up the tables in the village hall to do. After liquid refreshment at the Drum and Monkey, met the caterers, JIN HEE LEE. Tables started to

contact us so that we could borrow your negatives and compile an album for Sally and Rob. Maybe Jill and I can hold a photo evening when we can invite you along and choose photographs.

Many thanks to the unknown people who tried to arrange a photographer while I was "having kittens" in church.

Robin TAYLOR

TRAVELLERS' SITES

Following the concerted efforts of the village against a permanent travellers' site in Kenn, you may be interested in the following report from Avon's Landmark publication.

"Avon's Chair Counc. Terry Walker cut the first sod at the former Winterbourne Resettlement Centre site, on Wed. 9th June, and work officially began on the first permanent Travellers' site to be acquired and developed by Avon County Council.

The C.C. Planning, Highways/Transport Comm: approved proposals for the 17-pitch site at Winterbourne in Jan. 93 after widespread consultation. Grant approval from D of E for just over £600,000 (not a typing error) was given in April, work should be completed by Nov. 93.

Each pitch, which will be fenced, will have its own amenity block comprising a day-room, bathroom and toilet. Hardstandings will be provided for caravans and parking on each pitch and a new road will give access. A warden site office with an attached community room is also being constructed. The charge for these facilities will be £27-50p per week, per pitch.

Avon C.C. is currently under a direction from the D of E to provide accomodation for 80 caravans in the County, for Travellers "residing in or resorting to" the County.

The C.C. carried out an extensive exercise looking at potential sites in Avon. The search is still going on. The Winterbourne site will be the first permanent site to be constructed."

My reading is that each caravan pitch has its own dayroom, bath and toilet plus the use - entirely to themselves - of a Community Room on site. What price Kenn's struggles for a new Village Hall.

Jean INGS

TYPIST'S THOUGHT

Although I believe that Avon should provide facilities for travellers in accordance with the law, the scale of these leaves me gobsmacked. The best commercial caravan site in the country has hedged pitches but no day room or individual bathroom and toilet. For these primitive facilites I, as a keen caravanner, am expected to pay around £120 a week. Perhaps we should become travellers for our holidays?

This type of gross extravagance is perhaps one, of many, of the reasons why Avon C.C. is so unpopular and deserves to be abolished.

WALLACE WAKEFIELD MOORE

The village's oldest resident - Wally - died peacefully but suddenly, sitting in his favourite armchair, just as he said he wanted to. His many friends and neighbours were very sad to lose him but there was a sense of rejoicing that he had been able to live in his beloved tiny cottage right to the end. What a remarkable man he was. He retained his wonderful memory and faculties although 92 years of age. Wally tried hard not to worry anyone and did his own cleaning, cooking and laundry until the last.

Wally came to Kenn to learn farming when he was 16 years old. He went to work for farmer Edwin BAKER at Clevedon Farm. He often told me how nervous he was when he arrived at Clevedon station and asked a porter where he could

aged 17 of what was then called consumption. She had known a great sadness in her life. Her only daughter, who was deaf and dumb, died at an early age. Esme was the granddaughter of that great character who lived in Kenn years ago called Charlie HIPPESLEY. He, at one time, was the landlord of the Rose and Crown, as the Kenn pub was then. Those of us who remember her extend our sympathy to her husband Cecil and her son.

THANKS

Many thanks to all my kind friends who organised the wonderful day for me on Harvest Festival Sunday. It was a complete surprise when at the morning Family Service the vicar asked the congretation to sit down. Straight away a table appeared in the Chancel and on it was placed a marvellous cake. It was then I realised what was happening. Glasses of wine and slices of cake were passed around the congretation. The shock of it all made me speechless. The Revd. John CRUSE then said some kind words about me having been in the choir for 60 years.

At the evening service the Revd. John RUFFLE spoke kindly of my time in the choir and then the Bishop of Taunton presented me with a signed certificate (Reproduced on the next page) and a medal from the Royal School of Church Music, together with a beautiful painting of Kenn Church and a card of congratulations from my friends in the Parish of Yatton Moor.

Harvest Festival Sunday has always been a special day for me. I was baptized on that Sunday, 19th September 1926. I think I have missed only one Harvest Festival in Kenn Church in my life; that was about 15 years ago when I was in hospital.

When I joined the choir in 1933 it consisted of four girls, seven boys and six men. The girls were Lucy BAKER, Emily COX, Joyce MOORES and Stella WILLIAMS and the boys were William BESSANT, Leslie WATTS, Reginald COX, Kevin HOLLYMAN, Herbert TUCKER and myself. The men were Frank FLOWER, Tom BAKER, Jack BAKER, George MOORES, Victor NAISH and Alfred HOLLYMAN. The following spring - 1934 - Ralph BYE moved to Kenn and he joined the choir.

As far as I know, all the girls are still alive although four of the boys have passed away, these being Leslie WATTS, Reginald COX, Kevin HOLLYMAN and Herbert TUCKER. Of the men, only one, Frank FLOWER, is still around and he lives in Yatton.

I have seen a long list of vicars come and go in my time. The vicar who baptized me was the Revd. HUGHES. I was the first child he had baptized in Kenn. When I joined the choir, the vicar in office was the Revd. William Henry Durrant THATCHER followed by Arthur HOGSON, Wilfred PROBERT, Basil Jomini LANGHAM; George SANGER-DAVIES took charge unofficially for 12 months followed by Francis Gordon TAMBLING, Edwin HURST, Trevor WRIGHT, Frank STEVENS, Neil MACGREGOR, Richard ACKWORTH, Gordon POLLOCK, John RUFFLE and John CRUSE.

When I joined the organist and choirmaster was Albert BROOKS, followed by Bronwen TAMBLING, Percy JONES, Florence NAISH, Natalie GRIFFEY and now Mary HOLMES.

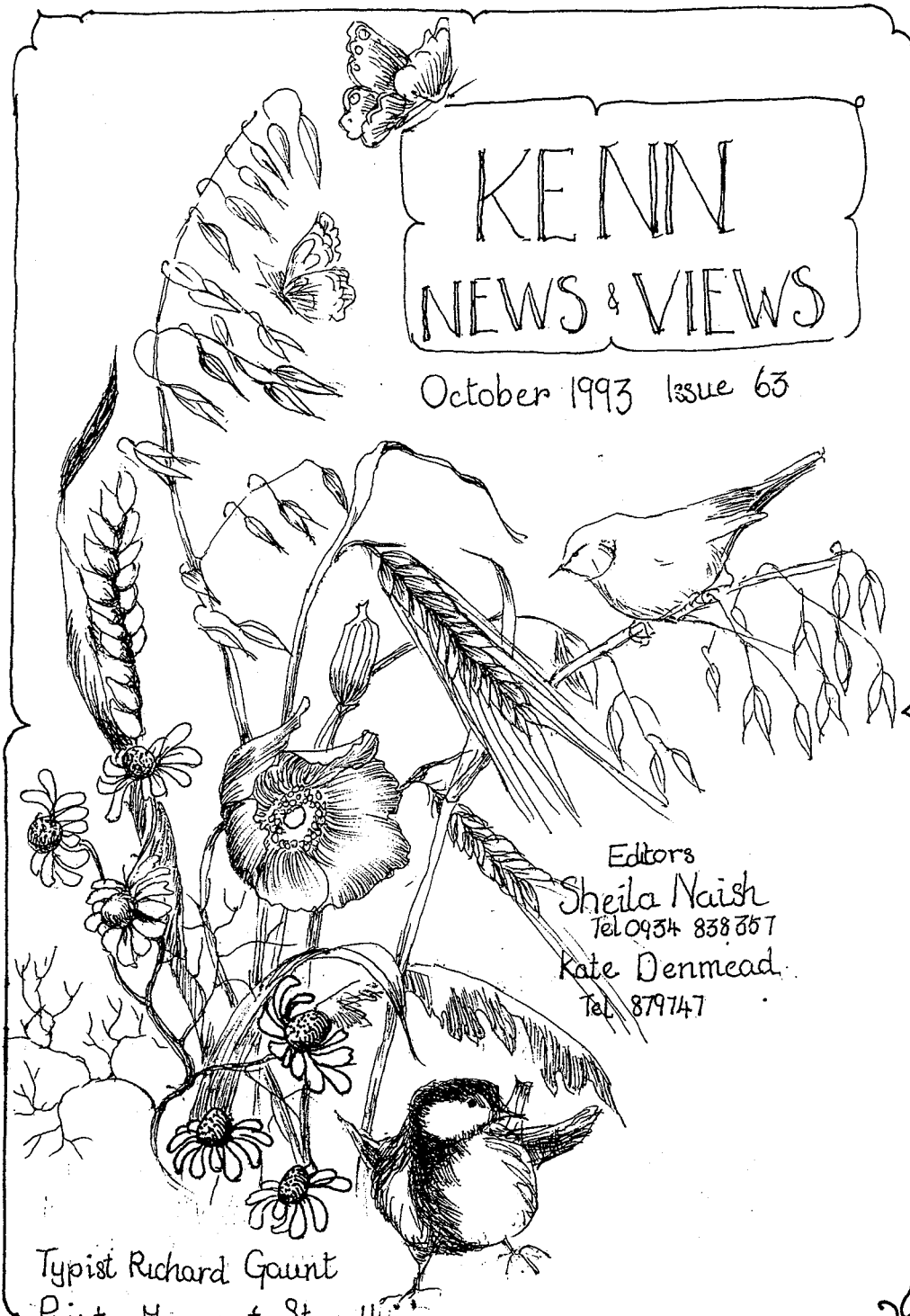
In my long time in the choir I have seen at least 150 members come and go. My oldest colleague is John GRIFFIN who has been a member for over 40 years.

I have greatly enjoyed my years as choir member and consider myself extremely lucky to have been able to live in one village all my life and not had to move around with my job as so many people have today. I haven't broken any records yet; on a gravestone in the churchyard it states that John JAMES was a chorister for 70 years.

Ray NAISH

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

October 1993 Issue 63



Editors
Sheila Naish
Tel 0934 838357
Kate Denmead
Tel 879747

Typist Richard Gaunt
Printer Margaret Stowell

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

The letters and articles in your News and Views each month are collected, written neatly for the typist to copy, typed and then printed. We have tried to maintain a policy of printing articles unaltered so that everyone's opinions and views are aired. They may not always be to everyone's liking, but then we all have different views on things. We DO NOT AND WILL NOT decide that because an article may be controversial we will not include it. If you agree or disagree with anything in an issue, you are quite welcome - indeed encouraged - to reply the following month.

Sheila and Kate

DEADLINE FOR NOVEMBER

******20th OCTOBER******

BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd - Gill TAYLOR
- 4th - Roland HAZELL
- 6th - Daniel QUINN
- 10th - Cheryl QUINN
- 10th - Alison FENWICK
- 25th - Melanie FARLEY (nee STEVENS)
- 26th - Justin NAISH

AND: KENN NEWS AND VIEWS is now 5 years old.

ANNIVERSARIES

- 12th - David and Sue PUGH

NAISH'S NOTES

Many thanks to everyone who donated goods for our stall at Kenn Valley Social Club Open Day. We raised £83-92 for the Church Restoration Fund.

Bon voyage and Good luck to Emma FENWICK and friend who are off to Thailand and Hong Kong for a year.

Congratulations on becoming grandparents to Jo and Colin COOPER and Liz and Mike BELL.

Mike BELL has recently returned from Uganda with the Venture Scouts. Liz BELL is off to Tristan da Cuhna where she will be carrying out eye examinations. Both have promised to update us on these ventures.

APPEAL. Liz BELL will be happy to collect any old glasses you may have. These are recycled for Vision Aid Overseas.

Thank you to everyone who supported this year's Fun Run - a report of which from the typist is later in this issue.

Sheila NAISH

SNIPPETS

On September 2nd we lost our oldest resident and great character when Wally MOORE passed away at his home at the age of 92 years. Despite advice he received to go into a home we was determined to stay in his own home until the end. He was indeed very blessed with all the endless help and support he received from his family, friends and neighbours and the care of Clevedon Cottage Hospital from time to time.

He joined the army and served with the King's Troop; he was very proud and - as he said - honoured to be invited to raise our flag when Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother celebrated her 90th birthday.

Kenn celebrated Wally's birthday with a party in our village hall and a photograph of the occasion hangs in the hall.

The esteem in which Wally was held was most apparent on September 8th when our church was full to overflowing at his funeral.

To his family, Clifford, Ronald, Frances and Mildred and their families we extend our sincere sympathy. Our flag was flown at half mast.

coffee and manned the stall. Also to Christopher who wrote out all the orders.

Gladys DENMEAD.

ST JOHN'S

The grass in our churchyard has again been kept in immaculate condition this year. Mysteriously, the machine never seems to use petrol or oil or need a service. For all this we are very much indebted to the WOODS family.

60 YEARS AS CHORISTER

Ray NAISH joined St. John's choir at the tender age of 7 and has rarely missed a choral service in all those years. His recall for hymns, hymn tunes and their numbers in Ancient and Modern is quite remarkable and he is always willing to try something new when occasion demands.

Without his guidance and devotion over many years Kenn Church would probably now be lacking a choir.

In order to celebrate Ray's Diamond Jubilee, we chose Harvest Festival, one of his favourite occasions in the church year. After the Family Service in the morning and with many of his own family present, there was a party with cake and liquid refreshments for the toast.

After Evensong Richard LEWIS, Bishop of Taunton, presented Ray with a long service medal and certificate from the Royal School of Church Music and a framed painting of St. John's; the gifts of his many friends in Yatton Moor.

Renee BELL

RESTORATION FUND

Land's End to John O'Groats.

Friday 22nd October to Friday 29th October Kate DENMEAD and a friend plan to drive from Clevedon to Clevedon via Land's End and John O'Groats.

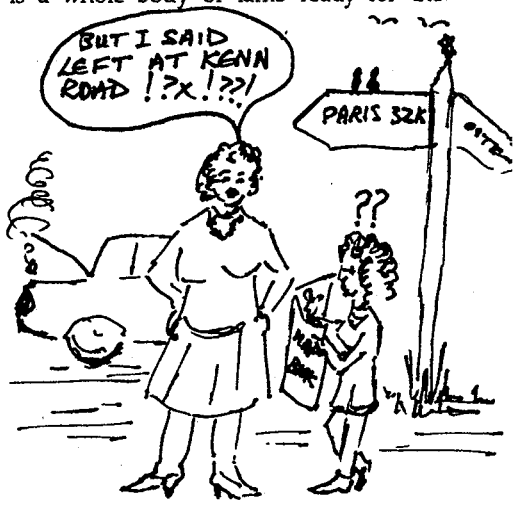
Look out for notices showing the various ways in which you can help to turn this enterprise into a money-spinning event for Kenn village church restoration fund.

Many of you will probably already have seen the sponsor form in the shop relating to the above event.

On Friday 22nd October myself and a friend from Clevedon depart Kenn Church for Land's End. From Saturday 23rd we shall be heading north, probably (hopefully!) arriving in John O'Groats sometime on Monday. Then of course we come back - sorry you don't get rid of me that easily!

The intention is to raise lots of money for the church restoration fund; and this is where you come in. Think how £50 would help towards the Christmas shopping. All you have to do is guess how many miles I will have completed by journey's end. An independent witness will note the reading on the milometer on departure and return. The winner will be the one closest to the nearest tenth of a mile.

Secondly, for your double chance to win, your name will be entered into a draw for one of many attractive prizes. One of these is a whole body of lamb ready for the



in great style. Reading the minutes of meetings over the years it is interesting to see that although names change (and prices) nothing else does, life in the Institute goes on with the same enthusiasm for matters local and national and forms a fixed point in a world that sometimes seems to have gone mad.

We are always pleased to see visitors who may like to come along to the monthly meetings to see whether the W.I. is for them and whether they would like to join.

Apart from the marvellous opportunities for all sorts of activities from gliding to patchwork, the W.I. offers that most precious of things, friendship.

FUN RUN 1993

This year's Fun Run in aid of St. Luke's Children's Hospice in Albania took place on the 5th September. As always seems to be the case the weather was kind - warm and sunny - which matched the mood of all who attended. As with all these village events, a great deal of work by very many people is required to make a success on the day and I'd like to thank all those who helped; Sheila and Miles NAISH, Simon and Jenny PASCOE, Avril GAUNT, Wendy PAPASOLOMONTOS, Marianna MACKAY, Roger WILCOX, Diana COLMAN, Sarah CLARKE, Roger JENKINS Jean NAISH and Robin TAYLOR for the fiendish race around the poles that produced such fun as we fell about helpless. To all those I've forgotten it's my age and poor memory, not lack of thanks for your efforts.

The adults 3 mile race for the Stowell Trophy was won by Kim HAZELDENE in 17m 33s, with Anthony CHAPPELL second and Jeremy OSBOURNE third. The first three were only seperated by 3 seconds. Well done. The under 16 race for the South West Tyres Trophy was won by Tom Hughes (aged 13) in 19m 50s - well done. The full results are given at the end of this article.

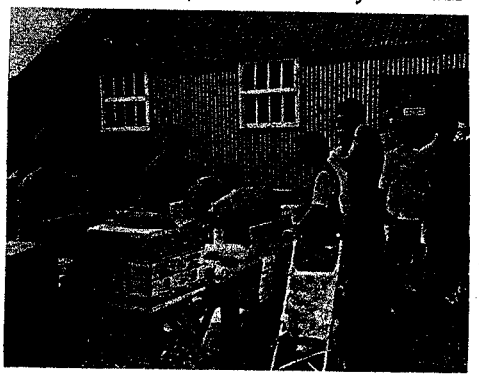
The jog up and down the village for the athletically challenged produced, as usual, some determined youthful runners and some determined strollers in the sunshine. The race was won by Ben HAZELDENE with Mark PASCOE a very close second.

The bale loading competition produced some grim determination to do well under some good-humoured bantering. At the end Roger STOWELL won the male section, Sarah CLARK (with a little bit of spousely assistance) the female and Duncan MACKAY the under 17. Well done to all concerned.

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

3 MILE RESULTS

1. Kim HAZLEDENE 17m33s; 2. Anthony CHAPPELL 17m34s; 3. Jeremy OSBOURNE 17m36s; 4. Mark PERRY 17m53s; 5. Mike JAMES 17m55s; 6. Mike GRAY 17m 57s; 7. Tom HUGHES 19m50s(Junior); 8. John HUGHES 19m57s; 9. Vincent STOWELL 20m15s; 10. Alex HUGHES 20m54s; 11. Stephen BULLOCK 20m59s; 12. Stuart LANSDOWNE 21m18s; 13. Chris NEIL 21m26s; 14. John HAYNES 21m35s; 15. Jeff NAISH 21m40s; 16. Tim TAYLOR 21m48s; 17. Robert BULLOCK 22m15s; 18. Jane BROOMFIELD 22.42; 19. Brian BARKER 32m12s; 20. Thomas McCALLION 23m21s; 21. Graham BARKER 24m12s; 22 (joint) Duncan MACKAY and Tassos PAPASOLOMONTOS 24m19s; 24 Charlotte GEORGE 24m50s; 25. Alex GAUNT 24m51s; 26 John GEORGE 24m59s; 27 Roger JENKINS 25m18s; 28 Matthew GAUNT 26m04s; 29 Quinton STOWELL 26m05s; 30 (joint) Claire KIRKMAN and Lee KNOTT 26m59s; 32 Simon BRADSHAW 29m36s; 33 James PITCHELL 29m37s; 34 Alex NANCHOLAS 29m38s; 35 Simon NANCHOLAS 29m39s; 36 Leon NAISH 30m00s; 37 Andrew JEFFERIES 31m42s; 38 Barbara DIXON 32m19s; 39 Ian PASCOE 32m33s; 40 Diane FORD 34m16s; 41 Andrew JENKINS 36m33s; 42 Irene SIMPSON 39m13s; 43 (joint) Glyn LEE and Terry MANVILLE 43m35s; 45 (joint) Brian TYRELL and Michael SUMMERTON 43m57s 47 (joint) Hartley STAPLES and Heather JENKINS 48m05s.



Finally, can all runners pay their sponsorship monies to Simon PASCOE by the end of October so we can send the cheque to Albania.

Richard GAUNT

CHURCH INTERIOR

There have been a number of rumours flying around Kenn about the proposals to alter the inside of St. John's - including a truly fanciful one about all the pews being removed and replaced with yellow plastic seats. These rumours have caused great concern amongst some villagers. As Sheila and I believe the only way to scotch rumours is to provide accurate information, we met with John CRUSE, Renee BELL, Avril GAUNT, John GRIFFIN and Wendy PAPASOLOMONTOS to discuss the plans for the church interior. The neeting was extremely friendly and I would like to start by thanking them for attending. This article summarises our discussions.

Unlike many churches, St. John's has little free space to hold meetings such as the small weekday morning services, Sunday Club or to meet for coffee after Sunday services. This space is seen as a need and to be important for the development of the church in Kenn. Consequently, options to provide it are being discussed. Any changes are not imminent and are unlikely before the successful completion of the roof repairs. As these changes will require permission and this will involve consultation with villagers, there is plenty of time for comment.

At present favoured option is to lift the three or four rearmost pews on the entrance door side of the church and remove the pegs which fix them to wooden runners in the floor. This would enable the pews to be either positioned as now for well attended services such as

freezer. Many of the prizes will be collected on route so who knows what you might win? Of course none of this is possible without sufficient sponsors. Indeed without sufficient sponsorship it cannot happen at all.

So please support this venture and add your name to a sponsorship form near you.

Thanks in anticipation.

Kate DENMEAD.

COFFEE MORNING

A Coffee Morning will be held on Tuesday October 12th, 10-30am to 12 noon at Jean NAISH'S, Stonehouse Farm to raise money for St. John's Altar flowers. Everyone is welcome.

WOODSPRING LOCAL PLAN

The Woodspring Local Plan Consultation Draft 1993 has just been published in two weighty tomes, one of 316 pages and the other of 51 maps. Comments are due by 31st December 1993.

The matters specifically related to Kenn are the village fence, the proposed new village hall and the employment site near Portbury Farm - the mixture as before!

The Plan will be on the Agenda at the next Parish Council meeting on Monday October 4th and a copy will be available for consultation. If you want to come along please do. Woodspring are holding a Public Meeting to discuss the plan at the village hall in Yatton on October 15th at 7-30pm.

W.I. CELEBRATIONS

October is a very special month for Kenn W.I. as this is the month when members celebrate its 40th birthday. As the song says "We've been together now for forty years...!"

Four of the original members still attend meetings. They are Mrs DYER (who was the original President and fittingly is President again this year), Mrs DENMEAD, Mrs HOLTHAM and Mrs NAISH.

The first meeting was held on October 14th 1953 and 34 members were present. The evening was devoted to the business of electing a committee and President and arranging a programme fro the first year. The first Committee members were Mrs DYER, Mrs BYE, Miss DYER, Mrs GRIFFIN, Mrs GRIFFITHS, Mrs K. HARRIS, Mrs HATHAWAY, Mrs R. HAZELL, Mrs HILLIER and Mrs NAISH.

Originally it had been intended that only Kenn residents should be eligible for membership but by 1957 the Institute was pleased to welcome members from Kingston Seymour and later some Clevedon ladies joined. They have added enormously to the success of the Institute in Kenn.

From the minutes I see that apart from Mrs DYER, Presidents have included Mrs K HARRIS, Mrs BUBB, Mrs W HAZELL, Mrs HARRISON and Mrs HARRIS. In the early days it would appear that having babies was a very popular pastime as hardly a month goes by without one member or another being given a matinee jacket for her new baby. The first outing organised by the W.I. was to Windsor and cost 14/- (70p!) The second birthday party was held on October 31st 1956 and cost 2/6 (13p) - my, how things change.

The Institute has always been at the forefront of campaigns to better the lot of country people everywhere. Topics taken have ranged from the bus service to cervical smears, from loos at the North Somerset Show to EEC rules on slaughterhouses. Current campaigns include support for sub post-offices and care for carers.

This anniversary is indeed a milestone in the life of the W.I. in Kenn and it is hoped that the next decade will be as successful so that the half century can be celebrated

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Michael, Millie, Jack and Kayleigh who have come to live at Portbury House. We hope John and Irene will enjoy living at Fairways.

CELEBRATIONS

- 4th September - Sally TAYLOR of Duck Lane married Robert WHITE. We wish them a long and happy life together.
- 19th September - Justine FLOWER of White House Farm celebrated her 21st birthday.

Our flag was flown to celebrate these happy occasions.

APPLE DAY

Saturday 16th October 10-30am to 4-30pm. Admission free, Kenn Village Hall.

Come and celebrate the wealth of apples grown in Britain. Sample some of them. Have your apples identified. There will be stalls, games, competitions and refreshments.

DIARY NOTES

- 13th October - Kenn WI - Speaker on the work of C.L.I.C.
- 16th October - Apple Day.
- 9th November - Coffee Morning for Kenn News and Views.
- 19th November - Event in aid of lifeboats.
- 24th - Christmas Flower Arrangements.

RMD

KENN W.I.

Jan and Dave FULLMAN, the splendid callers at the W.I. Barn Dance, made a welcome return to recount the tale of their walk from the Solent to the Severn. It was very entertaining. Mrs FULLMAN judged the competition for an interesting map.

Mrs BUBB was thanked for the beautiful floral arrangement on the President's table. Mrs BLAKE was congratulated on her climb up Ben Nevis in aid of cystic fibrosis and Mrs HOLTHAM was also congratulated on the birth of her third great grandson. Mrs WITHERS' prize herd had won awards at the North Somerset Show.

Photographs taken at the Strawberry Tea were on display. The Tea made a profit of £78. Names were being taken for the 40th Birthday Party to be held on October 27th. The party will be free to members, and it is hoped that every member will be able to attend.

At the Home Economics Rally on 15th November there will be a competition for a Christmas card in counted cross stitch. It is hoped to hold more flower arranging classes in the Spring. A team will represent Kenn at a County Quiz and there will be a friendly skittles match at Kenn valley Social Club on 27th September. Subscriptions for 1994 will be £11.60p.

At the October meeting it is hoped that there will be a speaker from Bristol Airport, and the competition will be for an amusing birthday card.

ST JOHNS' ALTAR GUILD

October rota: Mrs K DENMEAD and Mrs H JENKINS

FROM CONIFERS, DUCK LANE

I would very much like to thank everyone who came to the Coffee Evening in September. Also to those who were unable to come but sent contributions. The coffee and stall raised £32. This sum will be added to the sale of Christmas cards and gifts. £250 worth of cards were ordered on the night and since then I have collected a further £150 worth from friends outside the village. I will continue to accept orders up to 20th November. There are still catalogues available.

Special thanks to the ladies who made the

"I'M VERY WELL, THANK YOU"

There is nothing the matter with me,
I'm as healthy as can be, I have arthritis in both my knees
And when I talk, I talk with a wheeze,
My pulse is weak, and my blood is thin
But I'm awfully well for the shape I'm in.

Arch supports I have for my feet
Or I wouldn't be able to go out in the street,
Sleep is denied me night after night
But every morning I find I'm all right.
My memory is failing, my head's in a spin
But I'm awfully well for the shape that I'm in.

The moral of this, as my tale I unfold,
Is that for you and me who are getting old,
It's better to say, 'I'm fine', with a grin
Than to let folks know the shape we are in.
How do I know that my youth is spent?
Well my, 'get up and go', has got up and went,
But I really don't mind, when I think with a grin
Of all the grand places my, 'Got up', has been.

Old age is golden, I've heard it said,
But sometimes I wonder as I get out of bed
With my ears on the table, my teeth in a cup,
My eyes in a drawer until I get up.
When sleep overtakes me, I say to myself:
"Is there anything else I could lay on the shelf?"

When I was young my slippers were red
I could kick my heels right over my head.
When I got older my slippers were blue
But I could still dance the whole night through.
Now I am old my slippers are black
I walk to the store and puff my way back.
I get up each morning and dust off my wits
And pick up the paper to read the 'Obits'.
If my name is still missing, I know I'm not dead
And so I have breakfast and go back to bed.

William LOW - published in CANDIS in December 1992

NEWS AND VIEWS

APOLOGY

Due to an oversight on the part of Big Ed this poem was omitted last month. Sorry.

REMEMBER

CHILDREN IN DISTRESS

I WILL SING WITH THE SPIRIT
AND WITH THE UNDERSTANDING ALSO

THIS IS TO RECORD

with grateful thanks that

Raymond V. Naish

has served the church of

St. John's, Kenn

from 1933 to 1993.

John L Ruffle
John Crook

Minister
Choir Director

find Clevedon Farm. He had never been in this area before and didn't know a soul. When he set off down Kenn Road, a very small lad carrying his box with all his worldly belongings, another farmer drove by in his horse and cart. He was Wallace STUCKEY from Whitehouse Farm and when he had gone a little way he stopped and waited for Wally to catch up. He asked where he was looking for and said "Jump into the cart and I will drop you off. I live at the next farm." When they arrived at Clevedon Farm he shouted to Edwin BAKER telling him that his new man had arrived, adding "I don't think he's big enough to do much work." Wally settled in well and Mrs BAKER and her two daughters were very kind to him.

In 1920 Wally joined the Army, entering the Royal Horse Artillery and did service in Ireland when there was trouble there. Back in England he had the honour of taking part in a "musical ride" with horses and gun carriages before King George V and Queen Mary, Wally being leading horseman.

On his discharge from the Army he came to work here at Stonehouse Farm and was here when I was born. One of his proud boasts was that he was the first person to hear me cry when he arrived for work at 6 in the morning. That same year he married Lillian STEVENS, a Kenn girl who had waited for him all the 6 years he had been in the army. Wally had several jobs on farms in and around Kenn before giving up farm work to take a job at Wake and Dean's furniture factory in Yatton. He had several other jobs, finishing as linesman on the railway.

Wally has only a small amount of education but was a very clever and well read person. He had educated himself by reading books and quite surprisingly, had travelled all around this country and abroad.

When Lillian was taken seriously ill 34 years ago, Wally gave up his job to stay at home and look after her and nursed her day and night for 6 months until she died. He then went back to work. He was married for 34 and widowed for 33 years.

He had lived in White Cottage, Kenn Street since the late 1920s. Years ago when he was a fit man his large garden was a showpiece filled with masses of vegetables. Several years he sowed the whole garden with onions which he sold. One year he reckoned he had grown a ton of onions.

Many people will miss going into his tiny cottage to talk to him. I myself learned many things about this district in the past. He could recall events that took place many years ago in great detail.

At his funeral, the congregation filled Kenn church to capacity, over 120 people being present to pay their respects to a great character, the like of whom we shall never see again. We sang the hymn "The old rugged cross" and it reminded us of tough old Wally.

Our sympathy is extended to his children; Clifford, Frances, Mildred and Ronald, his eleven grandchildren and twenty one great grandchildren.

Many of his near neighbours had been very kind to him and tried to help him all they could.

Ray NAISH

ESME GUEST (nee TRIP)

Esme has passed away recently in Clevedon aged 71 years. She was brought up in Kenn and went to Kenn School. When I started school in 1931 they had a job to make me go, so Esme and her friend Phyllis WATTS were sent down by the schoolmistress, Mrs BEVAN, to fetch me every day.

Esme had a brother, Horace, who died

go round in circles to arrange them in the best position for our guests. After about 30 minutes we conquered it and everything looked great. I now thought to myself "This is it, all I have to do on Saturday is jump in 'penquin suit', walk down the drive with Sally, jump in Rolls and walk down the aisle with her". Little did I know what the future held. Penquin suit delivered late Friday afternoon and was deposited on bed. At 7 o'clock that evening Jill exclaimed from the bedroom, the shirt wouldn't fit. I thought to myself "What's she doing trying my clothes on?" On investigation, the hanging wardrobe containing the suit had see-through pockets on the outside containing the shirt and cravat. Perfectionist Jill checking everything was alright had noticed size 16 collar. Taking it out of the pocket and trying it on, there was no way it was going to go round my 19" neck..... PANIC! Next step - try on the top hat ..... would you believe it it came over my eyes and ears! Things were turning for the worse. Try on the rest of the outfit. The trousers were in mourning, hanging at half mast 4" above my shoes, but thankfully the rest was perfect. Then contacted other wearers of suits:

USHER - stained cravat and top hat had big green stitching where the ribbon should have been;

GROOM - two right-handed gloves that barely covered his fingers.

Didn't sleep all night.

Saturday 4th September. 09.00 hours

Arrived at Young's the hire company, had words with manageress (unprintable). Arrived home 10-30am with everything sorted out. Relaxed again.

12-30pm. Dressed for the official photographer.

12-50pm. Left house with Sally. Only Mrs Edna CHAMBERS and Mr Gordon HARRIS present with cameras.

13-00. Arrived at church expecting the photographer to be there officiating. Only local snappers. Walking down the church path, saw the photographer's mother. Went and had words with her (unprintable) asking his whereabouts. Word must have got round as I have never been confronted by so many cameras. Were they after the bride or the penquin suit?

Rev. CRUSE rushed us into church as time was going on. His first words were about throwing confetti, not using cameras or videos in church and finally donating to the church restoration fund (which I thought was most inappropriate after the charges incurred at the local parish church).

After giving Sally away I thought "things always happen in threes. The suit wrong, no photographer, it's got to be the food to make up the third."

The service was proceeding beautifully when about three quarters of the way through, there was a camera flash, then another, followed by several more. My heart slowed to half the pace it was going - the photographer had arrived.

After the service and prior to the signing of the register he apologised and said he had been caught in the traffic jam on the M5/M4 that morning. We promptly carried on with the posing of 'photos as it should have been to the end, and then started off again at the beginning! to make up for those he'd missed. Now everything was back to normal, but still in the back of my mind was the third thing to go wrong, namely the food.

Well my fears were unfounded. Jin Hee Lee presented a wonderful spread and the rest of the day went like clockwork.

Since writing this to meet the deadline, the third thing may have gone wrong. The photographer has telephoned us to say there may be a problem with the film he used or where he had the photos printed, so all he took may be no good. May I appeal to those who took photos to