

## KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

say the Festival was a resounding success despite, and not because of them. It gave great pleasure to a large number of people and boosted the Church Restoration Fund considerably.

Once again, thanks and congratulations to all involved.

Paula McCULLY

FROM Church Path Cottage,

Dear News and Views,

May we say through your columns how much we enjoyed the Kenn Flower Festival. Far from inconveniencing us the whole weekend was pure pleasure. It was marvellous the way everyone co-operated and the feeling of village unity was overwhelming.

So much hard work was invested in this event by many people it is almost invidious to name names. However both Cheryl and Sheila must be thanked as the driving forces behind this occasion - many many thanks.

As far as we are concerned we hope this will become an annual event. Our kitchen and garden will always be open for such a positive and uniting village affair.

Yours

Robin & Marianna MACKAY

### SUCCESSFUL RIDER

Louise EDWARDS of The Paddocks, Duck Lane has qualified for the regional finals at The Horse of the Year Show at Wembley Arena on 12th October.

John STAPLES

### OASIS BLOCKS

Cheryl has block oasis for sale at 60p per block. Tel 876850

### CHURCH QUESTIONNAIRE

This is an attempt to summarize the replies to the questionnaires previously circulated to Electoral Role members and others who requested them. These replies have been collected over the last four months.

It was very encouraging to read that most people liked at least some aspects of current church life in Kenn with special emphasis being given to the friendly informality that they find here. There was also an evident strong desire to keep St. John's as our centre for worship and as a central focus for the village. A willingness was shown to put extra effort in to that end.

A few replies stressed the necessity of achieving a realistic level of giving from all church members and the suggestion of re-introducing a special gift day when the vicar would be in church to receive financial donations was made. The various other suggestions for increasing church income will be considered carefully although some (such as more fund raising events) may have to wait until fund raising for the roof restoration has been completed. The comments regarding economies in basic housekeeping costs have been noted and wherever possible will be acted upon. If anyone is still awaiting information on the envelope scheme and/or covenanting would they please speak to one of the churchwardens about it.

Response to the question of making small internal alterations to the church, such as re-arranging the seating at the back, was generally in favour. Four people registered their total opposition to this idea, but fifteen were strongly in favour. Several requests to increase the use of the church for small meetings and group

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October issue of Kenn News and Views discussing the pros and cons of the various approaches.

We would be extremely happy to hear from any villager on this subject.

Sheila NAISH/Richard GAUNT

### ON THE BUSES

I recently took a rare trip to Bristol to visit a lady in the Eye Hospital. As my driving skills are definitely not up to Bristol standard, I decided to go by bus. I walked to the top of Kenn Street and boarded a Badgerline bus. When I asked the driver how much for a return ticket to the bus station, I was amazed to be told it was only £2-20p, how reasonable.

I had a very enjoyable journey through Yatton, Claverham, Backwell and Flax Bourton and noticed properties on the way that I never knew existed. There were few people on board and I recommend it to anyone wanting to visit Bristol. Let's hope the bus company gets enough support to keep it going. Remember - you don't have to find a space or pay to park your car.

Ray NAISH

### NAISH'S NEWS

Congratulations to Mrs Edith TRIPP of Kenn Pier who is one of our most senior residents, on becoming a great-great-grandmother. Are there any other great-great grandparents in Kenn? If so we would like to hear from them.

### ON THE MEND

It is good to see Graham MENEAR out and about again after having hospital treatment.

### SLIDE SHOW

A repeat showing of the slides taken in and around Kenn by Christopher DENMEAD with commentary by Ray NAISH

will take place in the Church on 29th September at 7-30pm. Admission £1. Proceeds to the Church Roof Fund.

Everyone welcome.

RVN

### MILDRED MINNIE HAZELL

Miss Mildred Minnie HAZELL passed away recently in South Africa - where she had lived for many years - at the age of 93.

Born at Manor Farm, one of eight children of George and Agnes HAZELL, she lived there until the age of 17 before taking a job at Cadbury's in Birmingham.

After working there for many years she moved to South Africa.

Miss HAZELL was always interested in what happened around Kenn and came back many times for holidays.

Our sympathy is extended to her brother Roland and her many nieces and nephews who still live in this area.

RVN

### KENN VILLAGE HALL

The Jumble Sale on August 4th made a profit of £140. the committee thanks all who helped, a special thank you to the Youth Club for their help. The Hall at the moment is in need of several repairs, including painting and the running expenses increase every year, so please use your hall for events to enable the committee to have an income to cover the upkeep of the hall.

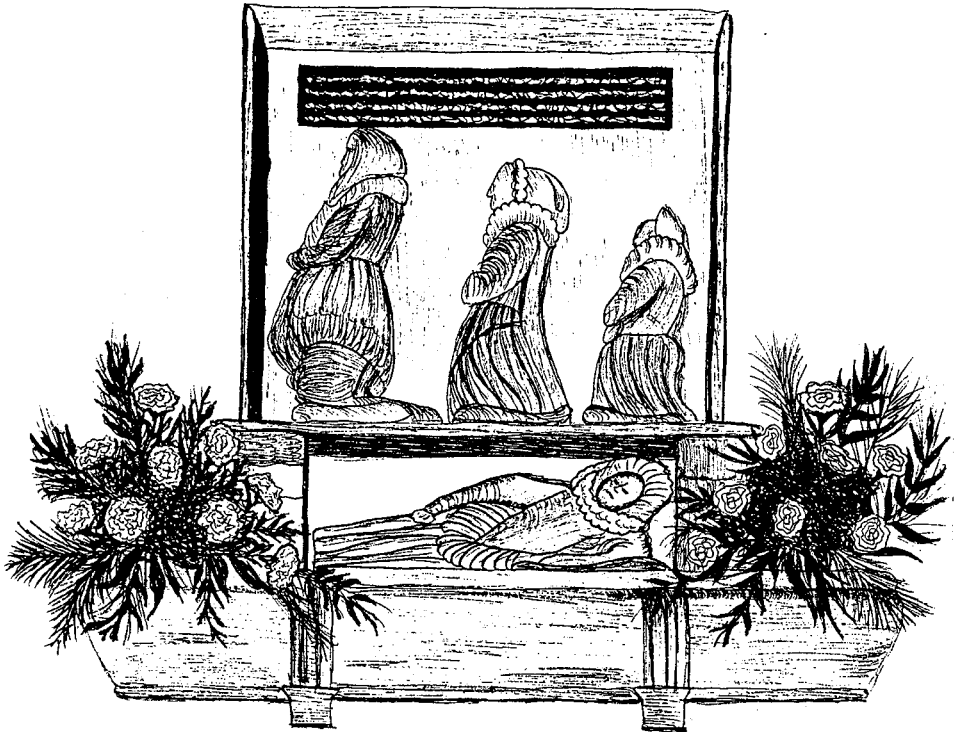
### COMING NEXT MONTH

News of a Land's End to John O'Groats drive in aid of the Restoration Fund. Sponsorship forms will be on the streets soon. Meanwhile - does anyone have a



# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

SEPTEMBER 1993 ISSUE 62



WITH APOLOGIES TO THE CREATOR OF THE BEAUTIFUL FLORAL DISPLAY. K.D.

## EDITORS

**SHEILA NAISH    0934 838357**

**KATE DENMEAD    879747**

Printer: Margaret Stowell

Typist: Richard Gaunt

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

I am very sad and sorry to report that there has not been one entry into the competition for a new magazine cover. This means three things:

1. You will probably not be inspired or uplifted by October's front page
2. As the prize would have been donated by the editors, we shall instead treat ourselves to something scrumptious, and
3. You will be troubled with no further competitions in this publication.

Kate and Sheila

## BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd - Rene RUSSELL
- 5th - Jill PIKE
- 7th - Mr HOLTHAM
- 8th - Mr and Mrs Donald and Hilda STAPLES
- 10th - Howard WATKINS
- 18th - Jean FENWICK
- 19th - Justine FLOWER
- 19th - Barbara (Drum and Monkey)
- 20th - Jessica QUINN
- 26th - Joanna STAPLES
- 28th - Heather JENKINS.

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 7th - Joan and Mike STEVENS (25 years)
- 24th - Iris and Dennis GOLDSWORTHY
- 27th - Yvonne and Mark AYRES.

## NAISH'S NOTES

Congratulations are in order to some of our young folk:

to Denise STEVENS and James MACKAY for successfully passing their A levels;

to Amy BEDFORD and Phillip WOODS for successfully passing their GCSEs; and to Gary LEE has passed the entrance exam for the RAF and is waiting to find when he signs up.

**WELL DONE** to them all. I can remember (Yes alright it was a long time ago) how hard the studying is and how stressful. These youngsters must be glad that these exams are behind them now.

More congratulations to Sally TAYLOR of Duck Lane, Kenn who marries Robert WHITE at 1pm on Saturday 4th September at St John's, Kenn. We wish them a long and happy life together.

## BREAK INS

The Jet garage was broken into again last month and a brief case was taken from the back seat of a car parked outside a house in Kenn during the lunch hour. The contents of the case were only of use to the owner.

Please be vigilant and observant. Keep your eyes open and report anything suspicious.

## FLOWER FESTIVAL

I have 2 tableclothes and some cake containers left over and also some buckets. If they belong to you let me know.

## KINGSTON SEYMOUR VILLAGE MARKET

Held every first Saturday in the month from 10am to midday at their village hall. Lots of stalls. Please pop in.

Sheila NAISH

## KENN NOTES

On August 4th our flag was flown to celebrate the ninety third birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

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awarded a Mary Mortimer certificate given to villages with a population under 800. Other villages awarded this certificate are Hinton St. George, Pathfinder Village and Plympton St. Maurice.

In their comments the judges said "Kenn has the makings of becoming a well-known and well-decorated village. Some consideration should be given to providing a small flowerbed near Kenn Village sign on the green and hopefully, in time occasional tubs in strategic locations in the village. A good first effort."

Now that we know what is expected of us it will be easier to lay a plan of campaign for 1994. Sadly we do not appear to have done so well in the Best Kept Village Competition, but then we can't expect to win them all.

### NSPCC CLEVEDON BRANCH

The recent garden party held at Latcham House, Kenn raised £210 in spite of the weather. Many thanks to all those who helped the committee, especially Miss L. BAKER, Mrs P. HARRISON and Mrs Joan BERENGER. It was good to see so many people from Clevedon as well as our local supporters. Once again many thanks.

Angela BULLOCK

### FLOWER FESTIVAL

The Flower Festival started on the Wednesday for Sheila and myself. We started collecting all the foliage, we begged, we pruned and we removed all that was needed and then on Thursday it was off to the flower market for the flowers - which was most enjoyable if not a shock to the system at 5-30am!

My thanks to everyone who helped and gave scores for the cream teas and thanks to the sponsors of many of the arrangements.

There were several people from outside the village who helped with the cream teas and also gave up their time to help me with the flowers. So special thanks to those people for giving their time to our village.

Thanks also to the ladies who helped arrange the flowers; I can say we all enjoyed ourselves. Of these ladies, only one was a professional, the rest arrange flowers just as a hobby and for enjoyment.

The final amount raised was £1318-48p. Thank you to everybody who supported this event and made it a success. Thank you to Marianna and Robin for the use of their garden and of course to my right hand women Sheila and Paula for all the running around and support. Finally, thank you for the letters of thanks that I have received from several of you.

Thank you to you all.

Cheryl QUINN

### LETTERS

We have received the following letters about the flower festival.

FROM Mead Cottage, Duck Lane,

Dear Sheila,

I have today received my fourth and fifth congrats. messages to relay to Cheryl and you, this time from London!

After seeing your efforts on Friday night my Nailsea friends rounded up their relations and guests and brought them over the weekend. They thought the church "really lovely. What a gem." and the floral displays "marvellous". They

## FUN RUN

SUNDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER

## KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

enjoyed their cream teas in a "friendly atmosphere" and want to come again.

My own relatives brought friends from Gloucestershire and they too were full of praise for an enjoyable afternoon with beautiful floral displays.

Wear your haloes with pride - it might make up for your aching backs!

Yours,

Jean INGS

PS One gentleman said "What a lot of hard work."

FROM 32 Derham Park, Yatton

Dear Sheila,

I'm sure there will be something about the Festival in September's "News and Views", but I would be grateful if this could be included.

The Flower Festival at St. John's Church on 7 & 8 August was a huge success. This was in no small way due to the marvellous efforts of so many people over the weekend. From setting up the displays on the Thursday until taking them down on Monday, Cheryl and her team worked tirelessly to make and keep the displays looking their best; the "waitresses", tea-makers and washers-up who made endless cream teas (Avril Gaunt was helping with the Communion on Sunday morning, & I thought it best to remind her not to ask people if they wanted sugar as she gave them the wine!); those who manned the cake, produce and book stalls; the stewards in the church; and a very thorough team of raffle ticket sellers who ensured that no-one left the church or garden with a penny left! A special word of thanks is due to Robin and Marianna for letting us invade their house & garden for two whole days. The figure we raised can be found elsewhere in the magazine, but I can say that it was a

great success, and send my thanks to all concerned.

Thanks.

Best Wishes,

John CRUSE.

FROM Yew Tree Cottage, Kern

Just had to write to say a big thank-you to all concerned for such a wonderful Flower Festival and all it entailed. The individuals involved are too numerous to mention, but special thanks to Cheryl without whose vision, time, organisation and supervision, not to mention skilled arrangements, the whole event would not have been possible: to Sheila for being such a tireless and inventive "gopher"; and to Marianna and family for allowing their home and garden to be totally overrun.

Unfortunately there are others who need to be mentioned. I don't need to name them, they will no doubt identify themselves - to those who from the inception, said "it couldn't be done without professional help - it was; to the ones who were convinced it wouldn't make a worthwhile profit - it did; to those who withdrew their labours for petty or spiteful reasons of their own - it went very well without you; to the lady who said of one of the most elaborate creations "that'll fall down, you mark my words" - it didn't; to those unskilled but unfailingly willing workers who were, like myself, subjected to criticism, condescension and bad manners may I offer my sympathy but point out that such behavior was exhibited by only a small number; to the person who, when speaking of one of the hardest workers said "Get her out of my sight and sit her in a corner with a couple of valium" well my opinion of her doesn't need to be put into print; finally, to all those who hampered, nit-picked, who moaned or who merely doubted, may I

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## VILLAGE GREEN and CHURCHYARD

Our flagpole has been repaired and painted by Mr Sam DYER and Duncan MACKAY.

We appreciate the hard work of Duncan MACKAY and friends who have kept the green and churchyard well mown during the summer and to everyone who helped to win a certificate for Kenn at our first attempt in the Britain in Bloom Competition.

## PRIZEWINNER

Congratulations to Mr John WITHERS owner of the renowned WITHERSLEIGH herd of shorthorn cattle. At the Mid Somerset Show at Shepton Mallet his cattle won prizes in several classes: First for cow in milk; 3rd prize for female judged on milk and butterfat yield; 2nd prize for cow in calf; and third prize for Heiffer in calf.

## A LEVELS and GCSEs

Now that all our young people have had their results, we hope that they have all achieved the grades required to go on into their chosen careers and we would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the best for the future.

## KENN, NAILSEA and YATTON MOORS

Our local moors were drained by the excavating of the New Cut River, commonly known as the New Blind Yeo, which was opened by Sir Thomas DUGDALE on May 11th 1953.

In the days of widespread winter flooding many locals took part in duck shooting expeditions. One night in 1933 two well-known characters rowed from Manor Farm to Tickenham Church. All went well until their return journey when the boat struck an underwater obstacle and its occupants, plus their guns and three ducks they had shot, were thrown overboard. After righting their boat and

recovering their guns and two of the ducks they continued on their way - a somewhat bedraggled pair!! When the water receded in Spring they discovered the cause of their upset was an old abandoned horse rake!

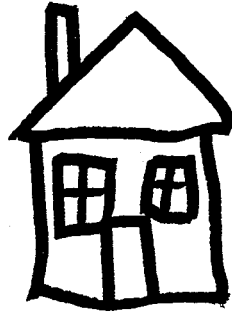
## VILLAGE HALL

Very many thanks to the eight ladies who gave the hall a summer clean. Their help was much appreciated.

## DIARY DATES

- Sept 5th Fun Run

## REMEMBER



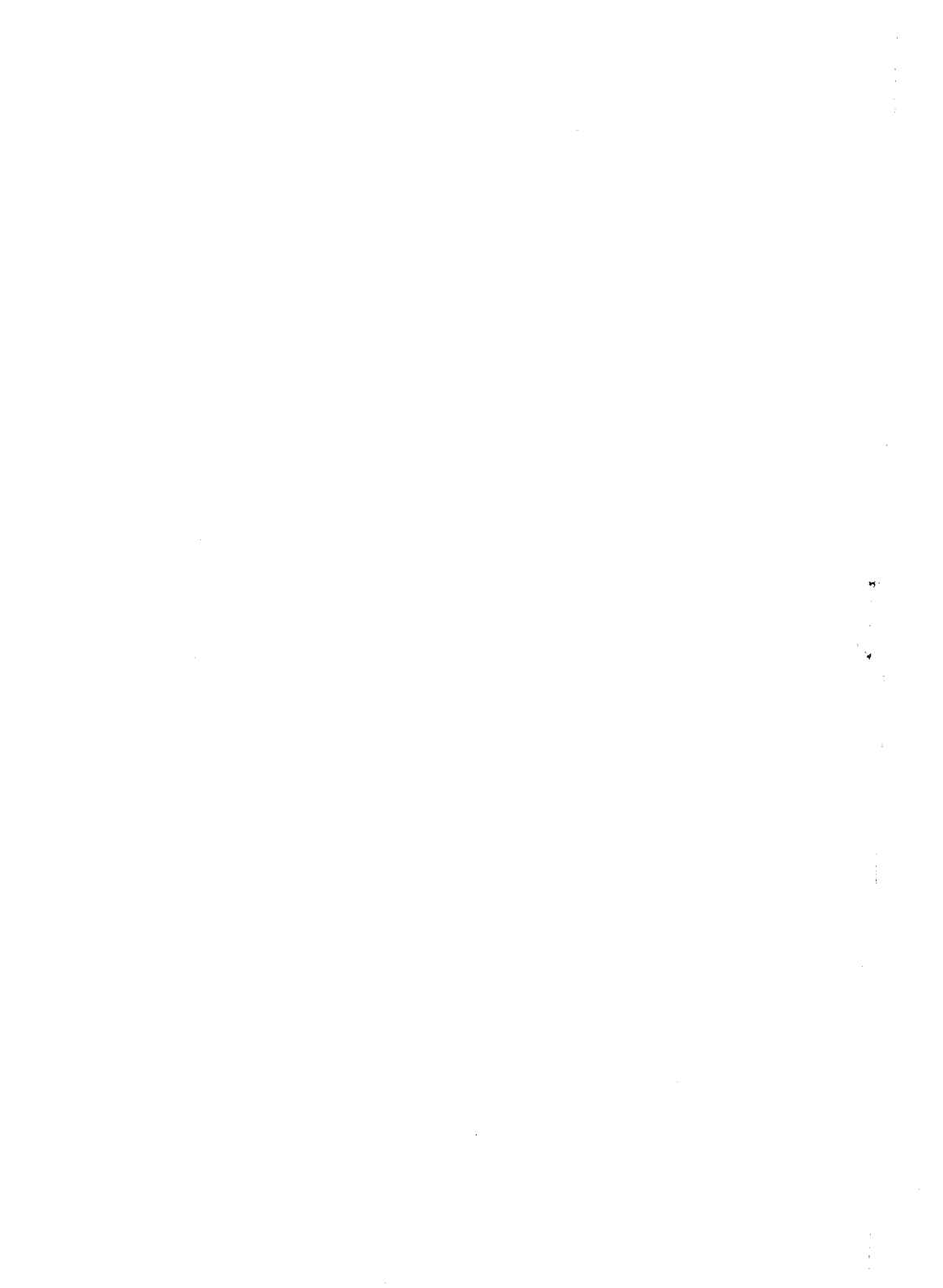
- Sept 8th Kenn WI 7-30pm. Slides "From the Solent to the Severn Estuary"
- Sept 12th Harvest Supper
- October 16th Apple Day
- November 12th Event in aid of Lifeboat Association
- November 20th Wine and Cheese Party in aid of Hall.

## RMD

## BRITAIN IN BLOOM COMPETITION

Call it beginners' luck if you like, but on Kenn's very first entry into the Britain in Bloom Competition the village has been







## KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

mobile phone they would be prepared to lend for the journey, purely for emergencies? If so please ring Kate on 879747.

### KENN HISTORY GROUP

We again took a walk with Ray NAISH as our guide to one of the interesting areas of Kenn. He took us to "Russ Lane" where we viewed Russ Pond, walked over some of the surrounding fields, under the M5 via a drainage rhyne tunnel with its maintenance pathway, out onto the Kingston side of the motorway and then drove along Russ Lane coming out at Kingston Bridge.

We learnt that "Russ Lane" which runs parallel to the old railway line, its proper title being Accomodation Lane being named that by the GWR who made it when they put in the railway about 1850 to give the farmers access to their land as it had been cut off from the Kenn/Yatton road by the railway. (Accomodation - to accomodate them in their need to get to the land.)

The ponds, there originally being two, were there to provide soil to form the railway bridge behind Kenn Estate, now filled in. GWR had a policy "If we need material to build a bridge, buy some land against the site", therefore we usually find ponds by their bridges; Lake Farm has one also.

Russ pond is a really lovely spot, rich in wildlife and stocked with fish. It is now owned by Bob GALE as part of his holding "The Orchards". Bob's parents Harry and Ethel GALE bought the property as a young married couple 60 years ago. The ponds grow a good crop of rushes, these being sold for £1 per pond and were harvested by Bill HOLLY, who cut and tied them into bundles for local farmers to use for thatching their hay and corn ricks. He was often known to be under the influence of alcohol, but was

never known to have fallen in!! Ricks were still being thatched until baling came in about 40 years ago.

We were reminded by Ray's reminiscences that it is not just houses and buildings that have a history, but also the land itself. Each field has a history of owners and the uses to which they were put, responding to the different fashion on demands. At one time grazing beef cattle, another producing hay to be exported to France to feed the horses at the time of World War I, then the hard times in the 20s and 30s when a field was sold very cheap and some on the market for years and no offers to buy them even at a few pounds per acre!! Then came World War II and a continuing demand for milk and meat (lamb and beef), until now when the dairy herds are concentrated larger units of 70-100+ cows. Back come the sheep and beef, even the horses, but not for working, now for pleasure. And tractors for the work. If fields could talk they would have a good tale to tell, many have changed hands three or four times this century; their owners have either prospered or not been so fortunate and suffered hard times having to sell up. We wonder what these fields, part of our village, will be doing in 50 to 100 years time? We hope they will keep their hedges which give them identity, personality and character, also habitats for the wildlife in this area.

The evening ended with a pleasant cup of coffee at Stonehouse Farm with Ray and Jean, when Ray was thanked again for giving us a most enjoyable evening.

We hope to start our monthly meetings in October, date to be announced later.

J and G GRIFFIN

## KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

activities were made, and these could be met by simple changes to seating arrangements.

Several people made the point that they would like the vicar's presence in the village to be more obvious (a lot of his visits go unnoticed and many think that he has not been to the village at all). In an attempt to help address this issue, regular Tea and Chat sessions are now being arranged on the first Thursday of each month so that everyone will know where to find the vicar on that day. Some of the other points raised in the section on areas in need of improvement are rather more difficult to reconcile. For instance where one person is urging more modern and lively services another is longing for a much more traditional approach. It is hoped that a mixture of old and new will provide something for everyone and that we will be tolerant enough to understand that what doesn't suit one person is enabling someone else to worship God in a way that is meaningful to them.

This summary has been compiled on the basis of the 21 questionnaires which were completed and returned. It is not intended to be a conclusion to the issues raised but a basis from which further thoughts and ideas may be generated. If anyone who has not previously done so wants to complete a questionnaire please ask for one from a churchwarden. Our church is here to enrich the lives of us all and any

ideas which enable us to go forward together will always be welcome.

Renee BELL/Wendy PAPASOLOMON-TOS

### FURTHER THOUGHTS

This was an extremely small survey with very few answers received. However, it is an extremely emotive subject which could lead to problems if not explained carefully enough for villagers to understand. We propose, therefore, to seek a meeting with the Vicar and churchwardens to explore the various possibilities (making changes to the church, building a new church meeting room or using the village hall to a greater extent).

We will write another article in the

# KENN FUN RUN

**Sunday September 5th at 3pm**

**3 mile races for children and adults  
and a jog for anyone  
BBQ afterwards**

**All money to St Luke's Hospital**

**Get sponsored and run with us!**