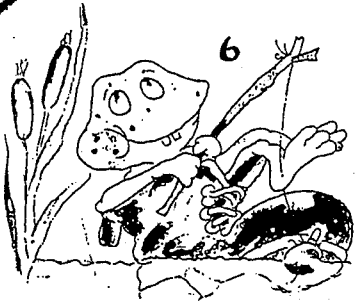
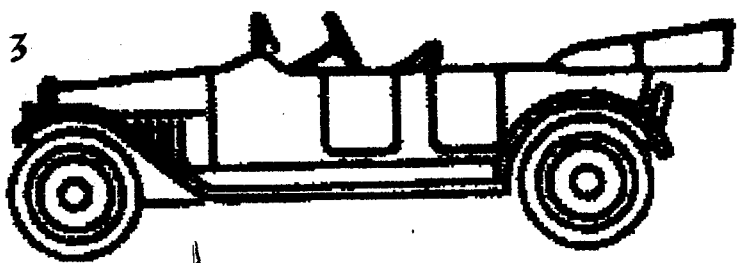
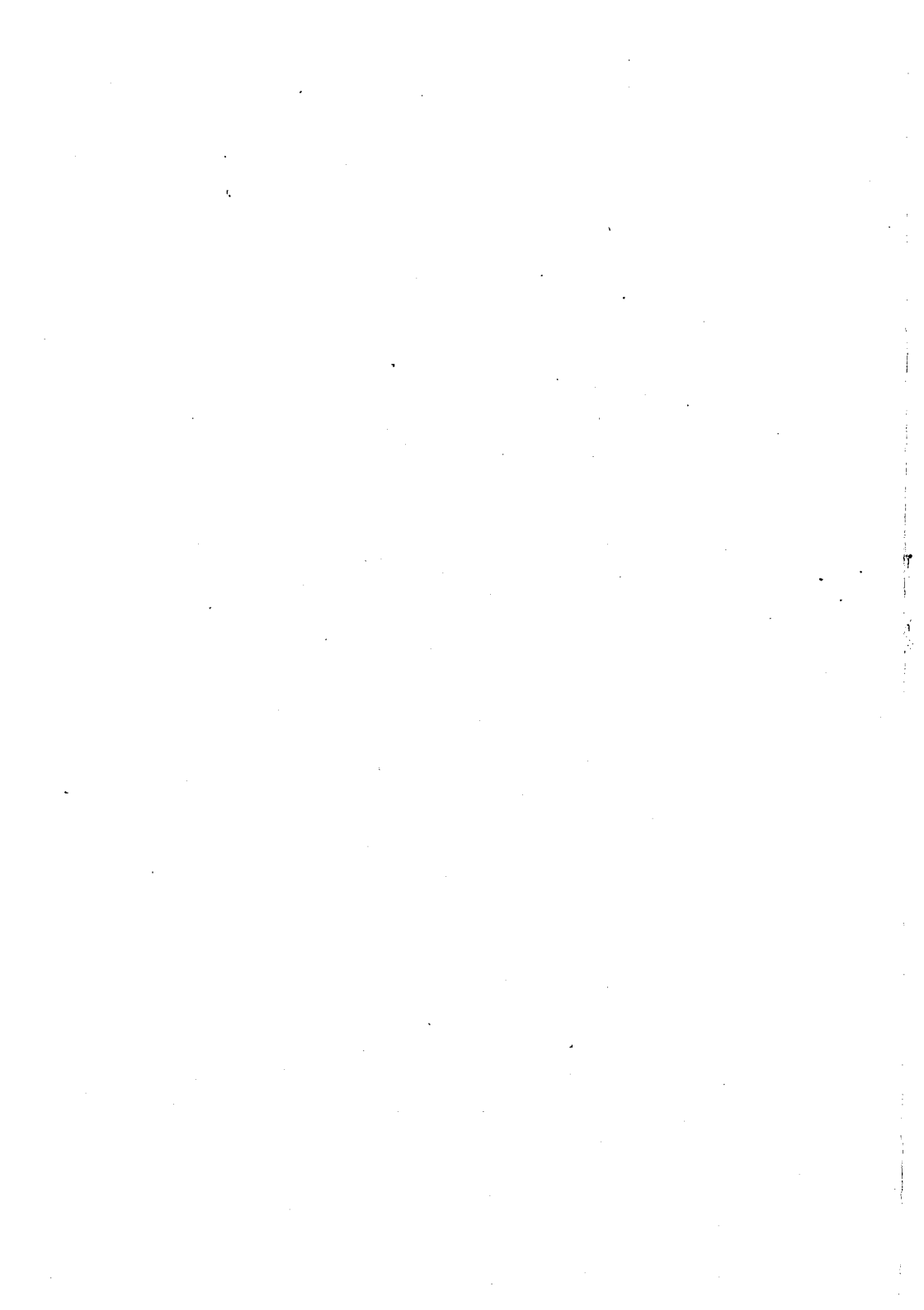


KENN NEWS AND VIEWS



EDITORS

SHEILA NAISH 0934 838357
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KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE TYPIST!

Yet again it is the month of August and the Eds have left me to write the editorial. In fact, Medium Ed said I had Blanche Carte, but don't tell Avril!

As some moan about my typing, I moan about the lack of pictures. Well I promise to do my best to spell my old favourite misspellings correctly, if someone promises me to draw some more cover pictures.

However as there are no pictures for this month's cover, I've decided to use my freedom from them ther' women to set a competition. Kenn as you know has a great tradition of raising money for good causes. On the cover I've put the Logos of some of our past charities.

If you can guess them all correctly - well done! Have a prize of quiet satisfaction.

If you can't guess them all, shame on you. I suggest you pay a penance of £5 to Simon PASCOE for the Children's Hospice on Fun Run Day.

Have a great holiday. Keep training for the Fun Run. Normal service will resume in September.

Richard

BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd - Clare & Louise EDWARDS
- 6th - Steve BYE
- 7th - Lorraine STAPLES
- 7th - Ray NAISH
- 10th - Stephen BRAIN
- 15th - Jean NAISH
- 22nd - Mark AYRES
- 22nd - Dave QUINN
- 24th - Sam STAPLES (80)
- 25th - Stella NAISH
- 26th - Peter WOODS

ANNIVERSARIES

- 29th - Jane & Hartley STAPLES
- 31st - Jill & Matthew BUTLAND

NAISH'S NOTES

May I first say a heartfelt thank you to everyone who sent good wishes, cards and flowers to me during my recent stay in hospital and afterwards. It cheered me up no end to know so many of you were thinking of me.

Thank you also to the people who gave Mum and the children lifts everywhere, they were very grateful.

An enormous thank you to the people who kept Miles and the boys fed whilst I was incapacitated too! They've never been so well looked after and cakes, pies and puddings were in plentiful supply. (Miles was moaning that he was never short of food when I was ill; what has happened now?)

I'm pleased to say that all's well now and I'm back to normal.

BBQ

Thanks to everyone who attended the BBQ and disco held at Oakland Farm on the 16th. Thanks for the raffle prizes and thanks to our chefs who kept everyone supplied with food way past midnight.

DIARY DATE

FUN RUN 4th September. Usual place - Village Hall with a 3pm kick-off. Yes it's that time again so **be there**. Bring your friends, your relatives, anyone at all for a fun afternoon.

We are hoping to have a stall or two on the day. Does anyone want to run a bring and buy or other suitable stall? Any volunteers to Sheila.

Typist's thought

As you all know "volunteer" means one thing to you and I, and something

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entirely different to Sheila. When she handed me this for typing I recognised the glint of battle. I advise you to consider what you can volunteer for now - if Sheila decides it will be worse for you.

SNIPPETS

Kenn's entry in the Britain in Bloom Competition was judged by Mr WATSON of Kingswood Parks Department on July 13th when he was shown around the village. We await his verdict. Meanwhile may we say a warm thank you to everyone who made that extra effort.

WELCOME

A warm welcome to Jacob, third son of Mr and Mrs John MEEK and a little brother for Tom and Alexander, who arrived on July 18th.

RUBY WEDDING

Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Philip WILSON on the celebration of their Ruby Wedding on July 24th.

Our Flag was flown for both these happy occasions.

KENN VILLAGE HALL

A Jumble Sale will be held in aid of hall funds on Wednesday August 3rd at 7pm.

Offers of help and goods for sale will be most appreciated, ie produce, flowers, cakes, toys, books, white elephant, clothes etc. All to the Hall please between 10 and 11am.

NEWS AND VIEWS, CHRISTMAS TREE AND LIGHTS

A Coffee Evening for Kenn people will be held at Kenn Court on Thursday August 11th from 7-9pm to raise money for the above. Bring and Buy and, weather permitting, Side Show will be arranged.

We suggest visitors bring garden chairs.

BATTLING BARB BEATS BUNGLING BULLY

We are delighted that the bravery in December of our ever smiling post mistress, Barbara MIDDLETON, is to be rewarded on August 9th when she will receive a Waley-Cohen Award at Avon and Somerset Police HQ at Portishead.

We remember the courage she displayed when confronted by a man who tried to rob her shop. How often do we pause and realise how blessed we are to have a village shop where we are always greeted with a smile. In the current issue of "Home and Country", the Women's Institute magazine we read that over 3 000 villages have no shop of any kind.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Wed August 3rd - Jumble Sale in Kenn Village Hall. 7pm.
- Thu August 11th - Coffee Evening for Kenn People at Kenn Court.
- Sun September 4th - Kenn Fun Run in aid of Children's Hospice, South West.

COW PAT II

The event raised the magnificent total of £2275. To all those that helped to stage this year's event and provided their time, effort and most importantly enthusiasm, many thanks. Without you these activities just won't happen.

To all the people who came to the event, both villagers and visitors, we thank you for your support and contributions.

The mission statement for the committee was "to provide a good value family day out and raise money for the Church Roof Fund". I think everyone would agree that Cow Pat II delivered the goods.

You may be surprised to know that 1086 cow pat squares were sold to not only people from this village and the surrounding district but people from places as remote from Kenn as Glasgow, New-

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

quay, Aberport and Cambridge. The eventual winner of this year's Cow Pat £100 prize came from London - Miss Helen BATTEN.

After the cow was released into the field, everybody waited for the special moment (or should we say movement). A sheep racing programme provided the entertainment during this hiatus with the final race providing more than a little surprise to the assembled masses as some extremely dubious looking sheep were paraded in the collecting ring.

The Cow Pat also stages several championship events which again were well supported including four ladies, six junior and nine men's tug of war teams competing for some very desirable trophies.

Well done and thanks to everyone. A marvellous effort. Give yourself a pat on the back Kenn.

Will there be a Cow Pat III I hear you ask. Well, is there anyone out there prepared to accept the challenge, if so the committee would be delighted to hear from you. But remember don't leave it too long - Cow Pat II was a year in the planning.

PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

I believe all will be well eventually
But God is certainly taking his time!

SHIP SCIENTIST

Congratulations to Russell HANCOCK of Dewsbury Cottage who has graduated from Southampton University with a degree in ship science.

CHURCH RESTORATION FUND

Maurice FORD has agreed to organise a Grand Draw to be made in November,



the proceeds of which will go to the Church Restoration Fund. He has applied to Woodspring District Council for the necessary licence and has been told by the local police that they do not see a problem in granting it. In the meantime, he has sent nearly 150 letters to local and national businesses asking for prizes that by their magnitude would encourage people to buy tickets when they go on sale. Sadly, repairs to Churches do not inspire generosity and many letters have been received saying that they cannot help. So if any readers know of companies or individuals that can offer suitable prizes will they please let Maurice know.

Offers of help have so far come from:

Malaysian Airlines - a flight bag

Clevedon Conservative Club - A bottle of whisky

Theatre Royal, Bath - A ticket for 4 to tour the theatre

Spilsbury's - a gift to be nominated

Diane Ford School of Motoring - 3 free driving lessons.

TEA AND CHAT

The next Tea and Chat will be on Thursday 4th August. It will be held in church from 2-30 to 4pm. Everyone welcome.

The following session will be held in the same location on the 1st September.

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KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Kenn Women's Institute met for their July meeting on a beautiful summer's evening when the village was looking particularly good as the judging for the Britain in Bloom Competition had just taken place.

Julia CRISFIELD gave a most illuminating talk on the subject of dyslexia explaining that it is a genetic disorder and tends to be hereditary. Some years ago Kenn W.I. tried to get a resolution tabled at the Annual General Meeting so that work and research could be done on the subject but was unsuccessful. It is still very difficult for parents to get the appropriate teaching for their children and some Education Authorities are much less helpful than others. The competition for a poem in best handwriting was won by Mrs. BUBB, gold, Mrs. PRUE, silver, Mrs. SURRIDGE and Mrs. DYER both had green.

It is hoped that the outing to the Chewton Cheese Dairy on the 17th August will be able to go ahead. There is a group outing to Greenwich on 21st September. Even further into the future, the Group Carol Service will take place on 7th December at Nailsea. Plans are well under way for the Birthday Party on the 26th October. Entertainment has been arranged.

Letters are to be written to MPs, MEPs and the Agriculture Minister on the subject of BSt milk; apparently it may not be labelled as such and members felt that they ought to know what they were buying.

Mrs. HOLTHAM was congratulated on the birth of her fourth great grandson. Best wishes were sent to Mrs. Rose JEFFERY who has shingles and to Mrs. STOWELL whose husband is very unwell.

At the September meeting Joan GREENMAN will talk on rag dolls and the

competition will be for a knitted doll. It is hoped that Walton-in-Gordano Institute will be our guests.

FLYING ACES

The sound of aero engines large and small echoed around the moor on the weekend of July 2nd at the Woodspring Model Aircraft Display.

This year's event was blessed with good weather so the joy-riding helicopter was busy over the two days. A Spitfire from the Battle of Britain Flight gave a brilliant display for all those who were present.

Back in 1972 this was the site chosen by an Evening Post reader to become Bristol's third airport!!

David GLASSON

THANK YOU

Well done Kenn.

A grand total of £83-45 was collected in Kenn in aid of Cancer Research.

Thank you all for your support.

HJ

PLANT SALE

Many thanks to Mary WILCOX for her excellent green fingered efforts and kind donation to the St. John Restoration Fund.

KENN HISTORY GROUP

On the beautiful summer evening of Monday June 27th, about 17 people arrived at the Sea Wall at Kingston Seymour to learn more about the history of the area - to realize also that the sea had become the greatest enemy of those living there.

We were most fortunate in having archaeologist Richard BROOMHEAD as one of our knowledgeable tutors - the others being ornithologist Trevor RID-

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DLE and our own local historian Ray NLAISH. From the talk which Richard gave, we learnt that a Bronze Age footprint, about 3000BC, had been found during excavations for the Severn Barge Feasibility Study. In those days of long ago the Channel was about 2 miles narrower although deeper than at present, the area being a fertile peat-based freshwater bog with outcrops of rock. Gradually grey clay covered the peat, moulding the landscape to that of the present day with its rich grazing pasture.

As the area became more populated around 700AD, the Saxon King Ine took it over as one of his "Tuns" or enclosures, having several others in the surrounding district with Chewton Mendip being his most important. This land was enclosed long before the Land Enclosure Act at the beginning of the 19th century. Later, men with their boats plied the coast for coal and other products, to dock and unload at Kingston Seymoor harbour.

The encroachment of the sea brought a great fear of flooding. The sea wall was a very simple affair, each person having to maintain their portion, marked by a stone, but the water swept inland at every high tide - especially in the Spring and Autumn - the tides of St. Matthew and St. David. This arrangement became totally inadequate to deal with the situation. A farmer sold his coastal land cheaply to several people but one of these marketed the soft weedless grass of his ground as turf, laying a track for trucks and using horses to cart it all away. People were discovering the beauty of a lawn!

Just after the war, the Italians helped to construct and secure a new sea wall using chicken wire and tar to hold the stones in place. Reg BESSANT supervised the work which held, until the great flood of 1981 when the wind and tide combined in a ferocious attack upon the coast from Uphill to Clevedon. Kingston Seymoor was flooded as far as the

Chapel - almost another total disaster for the village. Fortunately no one lost their life. Now, a new sea wall defence is being built with high boulders being put in place all along the coastline.

We walked along the remains of the old sea wall through a warth of fine grazing cattle, to look at an old cottage among the trees - trees planted by the SMYTH-PIGGOTT family once the landowners here. Here was where the stockman lived in summertime looking after the cattle fattening for Autumn. Next to this building there used to be a shack belonging to Sam COX a local character of great eccentricity, sharing a drink, a song and a story with each family in Kingston Seymoor and Kenn. He was taken poorly in his little home and died soon afterwards in hospital, but is still remembered with affection.

A beautiful rose grows in the garden here, having weathered many gales, storms, draughts and floods. Yet this evening, the peace and gentle murmuring of the flowing tide, the cool breeze lifting the grass, the song of the Lesser Whitethroat and the setting sun with its red and orange rays, seemed to span the ages; each member of our group took home with them vivid pictures of the past to keep for tomorrow.

A NOTE OF ASSURANCE

Like numerous people at some stage in their lives, whether through psycho-regression or spontaneously, I remembered myself before physical birth and not wanting to come here. The sense of impending restriction on sight of the foetus, and of a life in which personal problems had to be faced, both unnerved me. So not until after the foetus was born did I join it - a stifling sensation that blacked me out. No continuity of consciousness is recalled thereafter, but when I think of childhood it is of Kenn, and especially Bow Cottage where on 24th April 1948 I must have taken that

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plunge first into oblivion, a cloud of unknowing; then a crude primordial awareness as though underived.

The earliest image after that is of gazing up at coloured balls on the rung of a playpen. Enchanted by their colour and shape I had no inkling of their use, and arithmetic remained a weakpoint! Other, later images crowded in: our beautiful cottage garden resplendent with large fruit trees, roses galore, flowers of every description and a cool, clear-running stream along the lawn edge. Beyond this stretched a meadow where Mr Flowers quartered his horse, then the wide, full-flowing river under Bow Bridge. Away over an adjacent field, steam trains puffed to and fro under their own great bridge. Down the lane past our cottage trundled gaily coloured caravans bound for Clevedon Fair, and while I pedalled safely about on my tricycle or suckled lambs from the Griffin's Farm next door, all was well with the world of an idyllic country childhood. Moreover, there is an impression that deep inside me this wholesome environment smoothed off the sharpness of not wanting to come.

The last of three births in our family, I was the only one born in Kenn, a bouncing boy of 10lbs. Sisters Rosemary and Judith already had several years start on me, their parity soon making friends in the village such as Ann Lehman from the Rose and Crown. Once on my feet I would sometimes trot along behind them to sit on the kerb whilst they chatted outside Holtham's Garage, or to peep through the back of the bus shelter at Rosemary kissing Hartley Staples. Cold indeed must have been the winter when I watched them ice-skating over a broad sheet of Kenn river near farm buildings; though in the dewy dawn of spring we picked mushrooms and on halcyon summer days we played croquet on the vicarage lawn, or I would come upon them swimming with their friends in "Black Ditch" - wherever that was! But

largely I amused myself, for our garden with its orchard, the open countryside and the spirit of friendliness in Kenn were my faithful companions; alongside books. It was Thomas the Tank Engine who chugged whistling under the railway bridge at Colehouse Lane, and Little Grey Rabbit who lived up that ash trail before the village. The first eight years of one's life are said to be the most formative. Certainly by the time we left for Sussex in 1956 those years at Kenn had been most formative in mine.

Much has now changed of course, as I discovered on a return visit in 1990. Our tall, graceful trees and shrubs around Bow Cotthage were sadly all razed to the ground; the deep surge of Kenn river under Bow Bridge was reduced to a drainpipe; pastoral Kenn road had been ousted by a grand racetrack, and looming over the remains of my childhood paradise sprawled the monster M5 motorway. An albeit familiar modern ravage, ultimately for that greed to whom "progress" is an economic not a spiritual matter, here such unforeseen change wrought across my history quite startled me. Yet on entering the Parish Church nostalgia suddenly took on its last image of standing at the font as a little lad just before we left, and while a finger traced the watery cross on my brow, of looking up - like in infancy I had once done at coloured balls - enchanted then in boyhood by the stained glass windows with light shining through. The same sight at age 42 however was bringing an added dimension: of nature's light shining through superficial stain.

"Truth will out". I was reminded that because our ever-unfolding spiritual nature values quality of life above all, and because this inexorable light in us can only expand, its flame would in time burn through outer error. Despoilation would seem a temporary childish blot, greed a mere adolescent fad on the road to spiritual adulthood. Future gener-

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ations cannot help but gradually awaken to a more practical way of living which is in tune with our Source. Meanwhile the spirit of Kenn, alive in the hearts of folk who love the village, will always shine through them even as sunlight does through cloud. I was reminded too that wherever that love is most cherished it will already have been drawing them, one by one after shredding their physical form, to the truest original Kenn they knew among those multi-dimensional realities which are the bulk and basis of our Universe. It will forever endure there, quietly gleaming through physical life, solid-made by those who need it awile, sustained by Those who recognise that need, and reinforced from afar by those like me who value the cradle of peace and strength it gave to tender growing years.

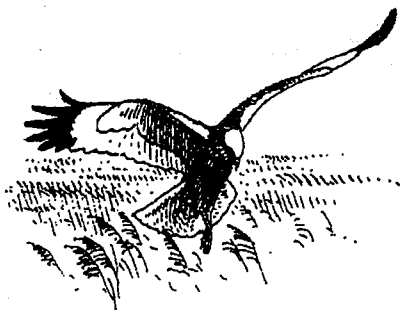
c Julian HILLYAR, 1994 Sidmouth

SKYE AND ARRAN 2

On arrival in Arran we were delighted to see SISKINS feeding on the red peanut bags - they are all year round visitors here. GANNETS from Ailsa Craig were constantly passing. Islanders call them 'STUKAS' because of their vertical fishing dives.

RED THROATED DIVERS nest in the hill lochons but feed on the sea and we were lucky to see two individuals during our week. They are wonderfully smart birds in summer, much in contrast to the GREAT NORTHERN DIVER we saw, still in drab winter garb.

The Arran GOLDEN EAGLES were very reliable and they were readily seen throughout the week. Nearby on the high moor a SHORT EARED OWL was alternating between hunting and display - the latter involving exaggerated slow flight and 'wing clapping' where the wings almost meet on the down stroke. The OWLS and HEN HARRIERS favour young forestry plantations for nesting



(on the ground) but seem to prefer the open moor for for hunting. Unfortunately when the conifers grow too big the habitat becomes unsuitable for nesting.

The south of Arran is more pastoral and here we saw SEDGE WARBLERS, WOOD WARBLERS and lots of SONG THRUSHES. A few GUILLEMOTS and one RAZORBILL were watched on the sea.

By mid-week we had still not encountered a HEN HARRIER, a specie for which the island is particularly noted, so an intensive watch at a favoured hunting ground was required. CURLEWS were calling and displaying and a CUCKOO was incurring the wrath of MEADOW PIPITS as it looked for a nest to predate. A SHORT EARED OWL was evidently nesting and we watched it catch three voles in twenty minutes, so there was clearly no shortage of prey items. A BUZZARD quartered the moor and drifted on, After nearly three hours, patience was rewarded as a male HEN HARRIER, looking not unlike the many passing LESSER BLACK BACKED GULLS, flew serenely along the moor valley.

One final surprise was the sighting of a GRASSHOPPER WARBLER by a mountain path. These birds 'reel' like loud grasshoppers - hence their name - but in England are incredibly skulking. This specimen sat up quite boldly and we could watch him twist his head to deliver his 'song' over a wide area.

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Arran has WOODPECKERS, (and no magpies), few SWIFTS and there are other English species absent. It does, however, have a wealth of upland birds.

So to the ferry to Ardrossan, and 86 Scottish species seen when we crossed back into England and not a drop of rain at all! Just time for a lunchtime visit to the RSPB reserve at Leighton Moss where

we added MARSH HARRIER and WATER RAIL and in contrast to the preceding fortnight saw an awful lot of people!

Trevor RIDDLE

PS When we got home we learned that we had missed a MOUNTAIN

HARRIER at Kingston Seymoor.

children's hospice
SOUTH WEST



Mrs Jo Hearn, (Regional Co-ordinator), 52, Harcourt Road, Bristol. BS6 7RE

Tel: 0272-245224

THE GREAT KENN FUN RUN

It is that wonderful time of the year again. Time to flex your muscles - or at least walk to the Post Office instead of driving. Time to begin training for the FUN RUN.

All the usual events:

- The Three mile Race for the seriously keen
- The mile and a half jog for the seriously unfit
- A wonderful BBQ with a great new selection of your favourite meats
- A fantastic rounders match between the cheating girls and the o-so-honest boys
- A variety of sideshows

So please, please and please again:

- Get in training
- Get your sponsorship forms from Sheila, Simon, Richard or the Post Office

All in aid of the most worthwhile cause shown at the top of this section.

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RAY'S REMINISCENCES

As most people know, the Cow Pat Party held recently was a huge success. Hundreds of people from the village and outside had a great day in marvellous weather.

Quite a few people were disappointed that they were unable to attend either through illness or advancing years, or were kept away by other engagements. Most houses in the village were represented at some time during the day.

Thanks are due to Heather and Roger JENKINS who masterminded the whole thing - what an undertaking. They were wonderfully supported by a great many people in many different ways such as: catering for food and drink; organizing the field events; or running the Hall. Many of these helpers were from outside the village including members of the Caravan Club that were here for the weekend; these visitors were saying that there are few places that could put on such a spectacular event with such success.

As has been reported, the profit for the Church Roof Fund was over £2 200. Or to put that into perspective, that's twice as

much as was raised at the Clevedon Carnival held the same day.

Well done to everyone who helped, took part or just came along to enjoy themselves over the weekend.

GEORGE HEDGES

A few Sundays ago, an elderly gentleman came to the door with his two daughters and son-in-law.

He introduced himself as George HEDGES of Shepardean, Glos. He went on to explain that his family had lived here at Stonehouse Farm about 100 years ago. He added that the last time he could remember being in Kenn was when he attended his Aunt Lavinia's funeral when he had been a young man. He was not sure of the year.

I suggested that we walked up to the Church to look at the old Burial Register to find out the year. We soon found an entry stating that Lavinia HEDGES was buried in the churchyard in 1917.

I have checked the 1891 Census and found that the HEDGES family were here when that census was taken.

Ray NAISH

WANTED

NURSERY AGE TOYS FOR ZAMBIA



WE NEED:

CARS

DOLLS

JIGSAWS

SMALL BALLS

BUILDING BRICKS

APRONS

EDUCATIONAL GAMES

Please contact: Avril GAUNT (0275 875992) or the Parish Office

