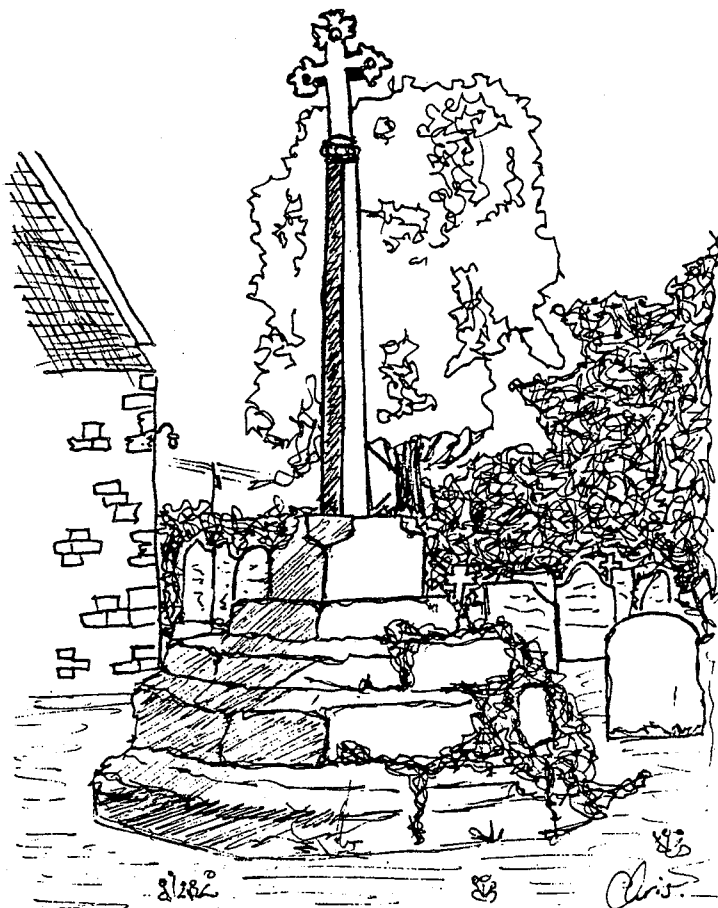


KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

JULY 1994 ISSUE 72



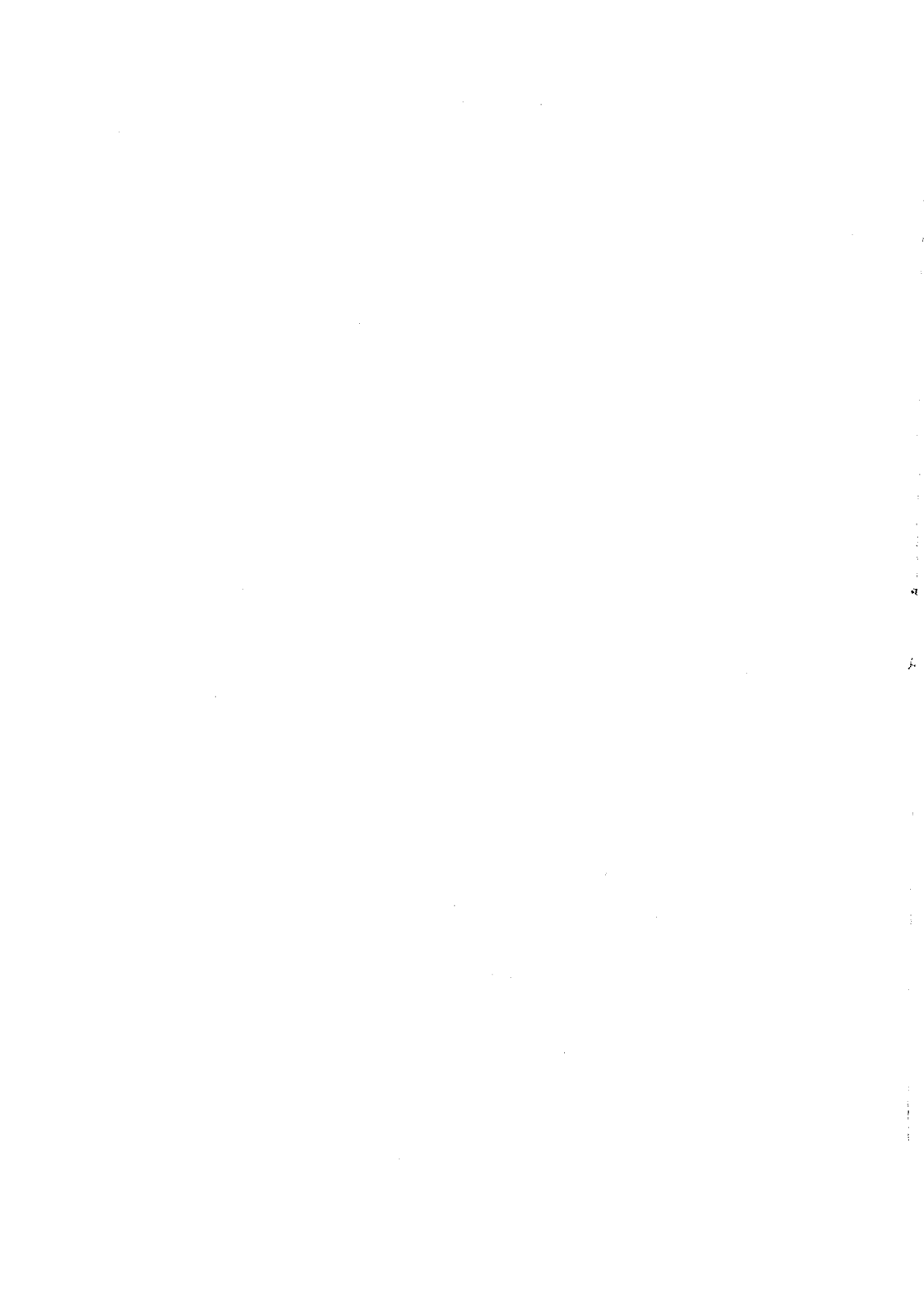
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KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

As many of you will know, Little Ed has had a spell in hospital during June and - I am told - is getting "littler" with all these bits she keeps having removed. Is there no justice!? Seriously though, we're glad our Sheila is back home safely and hope she will go from strength to strength as she recuperates, and that she will soon be chasing us all around again.

Get well soon, Partner.

Kate

BIRTHDAYS

- 5th - Avril GAUNT
- 15th - Gladys GRIFFIN
- 21st - Toby NAISH
- 24th - Roger STOWELL
- 24th - Brian WATERS
- 25th - Sue PUGH
- 27th - Jessica BRETT
- 28th - Juliet STOWELL
- 28th - Jack STOWELL

RUBY WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

- 24th - Philip & Connie WILSON

Connie and Philip WILSON of Honey-mead, Duck Lane celebrate their Ruby Wedding Anniversary on 24th July. They were the last couple to be married at the Congregational Chapel in Kenn. Their daughter Suzanne and son David were both born whilst Connie and Philip were living at Pear Tree House, Duck Lane.

Best wishes to them for the future.

SNIPPETS

WEDDINGS

On June 3rd Alison, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Fred FENWICK married Philip HAGUE at Weston-super-Mare Registry Office.

On June 4th Stewart INGS, son of Mrs Jean INGS married Jennifer MEAKIN at Kenn Church.

We wish both couples a long and happy life together.

CHRISTENING

On June 5th, Jack Freddie, son of Paul and Rebecca BRETT and grandson of Mr and Mrs Fred FENWICK was christened.

D DAY

On 6th of June, 50 years on from D Day, we remembered the sacrifice and tremendous effort so many of our people made that we might be free.

ROYAL BIRTHDAYS

June 10th - The birthday of His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh, and

June 11th - The official birthday of Her Majesty, our Queen.

Our flag was flown on all these happy occasions.

MRS OSMAN

We are sorry to record the passing of Mrs OSMAN, who died in St. Margaret's Hospice on May 27th. Mrs OSMAN kept the Post Office and shop in the seventies.

ON THE SICK LIST

Mrs Sheila NAISH, our famous "Little Ed" has had a short stay in hospital and is now convalescing.

Mrs John STOWELL is presently in Southmead Hospital.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE COMPETITION

Many thanks to Kennites who have cut the Village Hall hedge, tidied up the churchyard and church car park and given the Green an extra cut.

POSTER AND ESSAY COMPETITION

Alas the competition was very poorly supported, only two entries being received. Prizes were awarded to:

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Class 1 (4-7years) - Pip JENKINS

Class 2 (8-12years) - Andrew JENKINS

Well done to Pip and Andrew.

BRITAIN IN BLOOM

Judging starts on July 1st so please everyone keep up the good work and keep Kenn blooming.

NORTH SOMERSET PRIZEWINNERS

A shorthorn cow from the renowned Withersleigh herd owned by Mr John WITHERS of Moorside Farm won the Champion Prize at this show and a heifer from the same herd won a second prize in her class.

Congratulations.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- July 13th Kenn W.I. 7-30pm.
Speaker Mrs CRISFIELD on the subject of Dyslexia.
- July 24th Open Gardens and Cream Teas 2-6pm. In aid of the Church Roof Fund.
- August 3rd Jumble Sale 7pm. In aid of Kenn Village Hall.

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the June meeting of Kern Women's Institute, Miss Priest took us, by way of some marvellous slides and a very entertaining talk, on a voyage to China. She was warmly thanked by Mrs. Harris. Miss Priest judged the competition for a Chinese recipe and awarded Mrs. Crawley gold and Mrs Jackson silver.

Walton-in-Gordano W.I. were to have been our guests this month, but quite coincidentally they had arranged for Miss Priest to be speaker at their own June meeting. The invitation has been extended for the September meeting instead.

As a result of a Coffee Evening very kindly held by Mrs. Dyer and a profit from the Flower Arranging classes £113 has been sent to CLIC.

Those members who went to see Me and My Girl at the Bristol Hippodrome had much enjoyed it.

Diaries are beginning to fill up for the autumn and late summer. It is hoped to arrange an outing to the Chewton Cheese Dairy on August 17th. There is to be a Jacques Vert Fashion Show at Somerset Hall, Portishead, on 29th September. Also in September there are trips to the Commonwealth Institute in London and a Bowls Day at Bristol City Bowling Club.

At the July meeting Julia Crisfield will talk on Dyslexia and the competition will be for a poem or verse in best handwriting.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE/BRITAIN IN BLOOM COMPETITIONS

Judging is already underway in the Best Kept Village Competition and is due to start soon in the Britain in Bloom Competition.

The West Country Tourist Board have sent a list of the West Country entrants in the Britain in Bloom Competition. Kenn has been entered for the Mary Mortimer Trophy for villages with less than 800 population. No other village in Avon has entered this section. The other entrants are Berrynarbor (Devon pop. 570), Catcott (Somerset pop.500), Cockington (Devon pop. 100), Cossington (Somerset pop. 445), East Budleigh (Devon pop. 737), Goodleigh (Devon pop. 350), Hinton St. George (Somerset pop. 400), Pentewan (Cornwall pop. 160), Plympton St. Maurice (Devon pop. 600) and Sutton Poyntz (Dorset pop. 400).

As you can see we are scattered far and wide. The judges will have a lovely time visiting us all. Hopefully we shall have plenty to show them. This competition goes on until September so there should be all the summer flowers.

The McCully family have undertaken to see to the pots on the green. Thankyou to

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them. It has also been suggested that tubs made from tyres piled on top of each other and planted would look very colourful sited in strategic places in the village. If anyone was so unfortunate as to collide with them it would not be too serious.

AND NOT A DROP TO DRINK

These are some more extracts from the Parish Council minutes. Note the dates - it wasn't very long ago.

July 23rd 1934 At the request of the Long Ashton RDC, the meeting considered what steps could be taken to improve the Water Supply of Kenn.

The Report of the Sanitary Inspector on samples of water was read.

After considerable discussion Mr. Selwyn proposed and Mr. Edwards seconded and it was carried nem. con. that the RDC ask the Ministry of Health whether they would make a grant towards the cost of a water supply through Kenn - and what the approximate total cost would be likely to be.

March 28th 1935 The question of the water supply for the village was again discussed but no action was taken in the matter.

September 15th 1947 The following proposition was passed, that a letter should be sent to the RDC with regard to providing drinking water to the Council Houses, as the present method of carrying water thrice weekly is absolutely inadequate. The water at present becomes stagnant in a very short time.

November 11th 1947 It was proposed by Mr. Selwyn and seconded by Mr. Flowers that Long Ashton RDC be written to about the supply of water to the Council Houses. Carried.

Thursday January 8th 1948 A letter was read from L.A. R.D.C. stating that the

matter was now in hand and that a 3" main would be laid from Hope Farm to the Council Houses. It was then proposed by Mr. Saunders and seconded by Mr. Flowers that the Council should be asked to extend the water main to the Pond Cottages thus linking up with the present supply. Carried.

February 16th 1948 Mr. Naish informed the meeting that the water for the Council Houses was well in hand.

March 15th 1948 Mr. Bye presented a petition from the householders in the Kenn Pier-Moor Road area. In some cases the only supply was water from Kenn River in others the water had to be carried long distances. The farmers in this area also wished to have a piped supply so as to increase and better the milk production. The Clerk was instructed to write to the RDC regarding this matter.

April 19th 1948 At 8.15 p.m. the Council met all interested parties regarding the supply of piped water to the Kenn Pier area. The Clerk read the correspondence received from the Sanitary Inspector, Long Ashton RDC. After a lengthy discussion the Clerk was instructed to write to Long Ashton RDC when he has the actual cost from the Clevedon Water Company and also the reply from Clevedon U.D.C. A meeting shall be arranged at a date and time to be fixed by the Sanitary Inspector to discuss the matter more fully and to ascertain the basis of fixing the extra water charges.

May 24th 1948 The Sanitary Inspector is awaiting a reply from the Clevedon Waterworks. As soon as this is received he will meet the people concerned at Kenn Pier.

July 26th 1948 The Clerk drew the attention of the Council to the unsatisfactory supply of water at the Council Houses. 12 gals being brought 3 times a week in unsatisfactory utensils. Mr. Flowers pro-

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posed and Mrs. Baker seconded that LARDC be urged to push on with the laying of the pipe at the earliest possible moment. As no reply about Kenn Pier had been received since April 24th the Clerk was instructed to enquire what progress had been made in this matter.

September 6th 1948 The Clerk to LARDC states that the contract for the Council Houses water scheme was let and that they hoped to start in September. They had written to the Clevedon Waterworks regarding the Kenn Pier scheme and asked them for an early reply.

October 1st 1948 The Chairman introduced Mr. Foster who explained the scheme as worked out by the Clevedon Water Company. He asked for a guarantee of £100 per year for 12 years from the owners concerned. Questions were put to Mr. Foster and he asked for offers for the guarantee. Several owners offered substantial sums and Mr. Foster said he would get in touch with the others and would inform the Clerk of progress.

November 15th 1948 The Clerk informed the Council that the Council House water scheme was held up for two bends and a stop tap. The Clerk instructed to write very strongly to the RDC on this matter. Mr. Bye drew the attention of the Council to the plight of the Kenn Pier residents through having no piped water. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Surveyor over this matter.

November 22nd 1948 The Clerk read correspondence received from the Surveyor regarding the Kenn Pier Water Scheme. The Clevedon U.D.C. were getting in touch with the Somerset C.C. to see if a grant could be had towards this scheme.

January 12th 1949 The Clerk informed the Council that the Surveyor had informed him that morning that the Clevedon U.D.C. would not consider joining with Long Ashton RDC to provide water for

the Kenn Pier area. Mr. Flowers then proposed and Mr. Dyer seconded that the RDC be asked to push on with the Kenn Pier Water Scheme. Carried unanimously.

February 14th 1949 Mr. Foster informed the meeting that the Clevedon UDC would not entertain the taking of water to the three houses in the Kenn Pier area within their boundary. At a meeting held on the 2nd February the Health and Housing Committee had discussed the scheme and required a much larger guarantee. One owner increased her offer. A lengthy discussion took place. Mr. Pike then proposed and Mr. Bye seconded that a Ministry of Health Enquiry be asked for. This was carried unanimously. Mr. Flower proposed and Mr. Dyer seconded that the County Medical Officer of Health be asked to investigate the Kenn Pier water supply. This was carried unanimously. Mr. Pike then proposed and Mr. Hazell seconded that the farmers should contact the NFU to support them. This was carried unanimously. The Chairman thanked Mr. Foster for attending the meeting and asked him and Mr. Flower, Parish representative, to express the feeling of the meeting at the RDC meeting to be held on the 15th inst.

There is no more. Does anyone know what happened next? It would be most interesting to know.

Ann HOLTHAM

TUNISIAN TALES

In search of the sun, two ladies from Kenn travelled to Tunisia.

One was frisked at the airport - an experience to be remembered. One was propositioned by a lustful Maitre D' and one narrowly escaped being taken into the Casbah in the Medina while buying a rug.

Both were hustled into a cab by three strange Arabs and driven at great speed,

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not knowing their destination - and one won a ring emblazoned with 4 camels.

Regardless of these adventures, they had a wonderful holiday in a very interesting country, returning home suntanned and ready to take off again.

ST JOHN'S GIFT DAY



Very many thanks to those who contributed in any way to the grand total of £538.53. This sum includes money from the sale of plants given by a friend from outside the village. We hope that work will start on the Church roof in August, but quite a large sum of money is still needed to reach our target. The Churchwardens are very grateful to those who so kindly give small and large sums towards our funds.

KENN PIER NOTES

In response to the June issue of Kenn News and Views, and Ray NAISH's bird notes.

The many local bird names were completely unknown to me, an ex-townsperson from "East of Bristol". But I did get the Dunnock right. I wonder what the local name for the flycatcher is?

We watched one from our kitchen win-

dow as it took off, caught an insect and flew back to its perch, a fence post, repeating this over and over again.

This weekend (June 18th), the "Pier" was very busy with anglers for the new course fishing season which began on the 16th, with the water level quite high.

In the afternoon we were treated to the annual 'Triangle Farm' pony and trap event which travels round Kenn. How well they came over the Pier bridge.

This event coincides with Weston's Flower Down Fair at RAF Locking. Later, on hearing a familiar sound, I looked skywards and saw 'Those Magnificent Men' flying two Spitfires, circle over Clevedon, waiting their turn to take part in the air display, reminding us of their sacrifice 50 years ago so that we could have our today.

David GLASSON

BIRD GETS THE BRIDE

Precisely at 1pm on a Saturday in June, St John's was all set for a wedding.

The church was full of guests, the bride had arrived punctually and was waiting in the porch. John CRUSE had asked the congregation to stand and the organist was ready to strike up the Wagner's Wedding March when disaster struck.

All the lights went out, the heating went off and the organ refused to make a sound; all because a magpie had flown into a local overhead power line.

Declining John CRUSE's invitation to sing the hymns 'a capella' and with true British grit and determination, everyone soldiered on in the hope that their darkness would be lightened.

Alas! It was not to be and the power stayed off until after the ceremony was over.

The fate of the magpie is not known.

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SAVE THE CHILDREN

£73-72p was collected in Kenn. Thank you everyone for your wonderful generosity - a fantastic total.

Claire LEAMAN

THANK YOU

Chapel Cottage, Kenn.

I would like to thank neighbours, friends and family for lovely cards, flowers and gifts on my 87th birthday.

Sorry I can't do this individually.

Thank you.

Winnie GRIGG

KENN HISTORY GROUP

On May 25th, about a dozen enthusiastic people from Kenn History Group, set out on a cold grey evening, to walk the old Roman Road from the Moors to Kenn.

Driving to the top of Ham Lane, we first inspected the BOW (bridge over water) over the Little River, looking for the three identifications where countless numbers of men had sharpened their tools on the smooth stones of this bridge. This also was where the farmers from Kingston Seymoor brought their animals to drink in times of draught - the widened watering place clearly recognisable; a long trek twice a day. On the other side, we noted the well-kept river banks and were told that in earlier times, each person had their own part of riverbank to clear - this stretch clearly defined by large boulders. Unfortunately these have been removed to enable modern machinery to do the work.

The thatched Dove Cote at Ham Farm, with its 365 nesting holes, was beautiful. Years ago, the birds provided food for the occupants of the Manor, in the lean hungry months early in the year, there being no meat available after the autumn

butchering of cattle. No such benefits were allowed for the ordinary people.

Climbing over the stile nearby, we were impressed by the well-maintained foot-path - hard work undertaken by the local Ramblers Group. Mr CROSSMAN's horses were most enthusiastic in escorting us through the fields and over the stile! We were told that this large farm would have employed up to ten men, yet, today, the farmer works it alone.

The hedgerows and vegetation were very wet after the rain, yet we had good sightings of herons standing in fields of newly sprouted maize now used in silage production. We also noted the place where a Roman corn-drying kiln was found by the farmer, on Mead Moor.

With fields full of high grass ready to be cut covering any vestige of a Roman road, we retraced our steps back to the cars and made a speedy trip to Mr BYE's field opposite Manor Farm. Here we picked up the ancient road again, now well-defined being wide and raised above the surrounding moorland by several feet.

We spent a while imagining the Romans using this highway, which continued along Duck Lane and marvelling at their expertise which enables us still to admire their workmanship. From this viewpoint, Kenn, comprising 125 acres in the Doomsday Book, could be seen set upon the higher ground, with her distinct Church silhouette and towering Scots Pines.

Back at Stonehouse Farm, we looked at the East end of the building, all that remains of the original farmhouse after a severe fire. We were also shown the old well and the dairy, before being taken into the cosy warmth of a blazing fire and the hot coffee prepared by Jean.

Thank you Ray and Jean for a most enjoyable and enlightening evening.

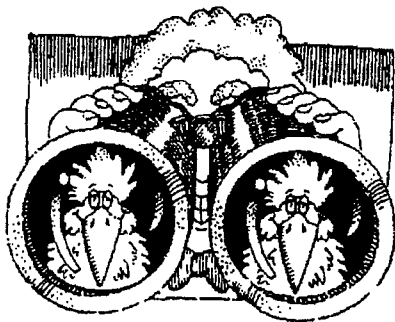
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PS In the dictionary it defines KEN as "to recognise at sight". The old English word being CENNEN, the old Saxon word KENNIAN, the old high German CHENNAN, and old Norse KENNA.

BIRDQUEST, SKYE AND ARRAN.

The WHIMBRELS and the other Spring birds were spared my attention during the latter part of May as Jill and I went north, hoping to see some of the upland birds of Scotland.

Skye is not particularly noted as a place for birds but we felt that we would like to to pay a visit before the bridge to the mainland is completed next year, and Skye does have a good population of GOLDEN EAGLES.



Our base was a bungalow built of a croft close to Portree and from there we could hear the WILLOW WARBLERS in abundance. There were WHINCHATS, passing CUCKOOS and on the sea loch RED BREASTED MERCANSERS, EIDER, CURLEW and OYSTERCATCHERS. On a couple of occasions an inquisitive SEAL came in close, and COMMON SANDPIPERS and GREENSHANKS also paid visits.

We were hoping to see WHITE TAILED (SEA) EAGLE, a specie rendered extinct

in Britain in 1916, but reintroduced during the 1980s with young birds from Norway. In this quest we were unsuccessful, which, hopefully, will lead to a more determined effort and another try in a couple of years.

There were more than adequate compensations with BLACK GUILLEMOTS in Portree Harbour and a majestic WHOOPEER SWAN on a small loch, a bird that had chosen not to return to the Arctic this summer.

One day we saw a GOLDEN EAGLE over the hill from the garden, and a splendid ashy grey male HEN HARRIER hunting an area of moorland edge. There were lots of STONECHATS, WHINCHATS and WHEATEARS in the area, no doubt an attraction for the hunting harrier.

A visit to the otter haven revealed no otters but a hundred SEALS. There were splendid REDPOLLS, and, somewhat surprisingly, BULLFINCHES. SPARROWHAWK and BUZZARD both put in appearances and the crows at these latitudes are all of the hooded variety.

We were surprised to find a bathing DIPPER at a small beach, as well as a nesting RINGED PLOVER. On our last day we found a GREENSHANK on his nesting territory just before a super view of a GOLDEN EAGLE with the black mountains as a backdrop.

So it was a drive and a two ferries to the Isle of Arran.

To be continued next month.

Trevor RIDDLE

BAPTISM

At the June Family Service, Jack Freddie FENWICK BRETT was baptised. As you can see, Jack is a member of the FENWICK family of Kenn Street.

There was a very large congregation at this service which was a very cheerful

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and happy occasion with modern hymns very suitable for the congregation of the day.

The church was beautifully decorated for the wedding on the previous day of Stuart and Jenny INGS.

The north wall of the Church was very colourful with a great display of posters depicting life in St. John's Church, Kenn; these posters had been designed by the leaders of the Sunday Club.

Ray NAISH

LOCAL NAMES

Answers to local names of various things in last month's News and Views are:

- the Sawsharpenner is the Magpie;
- the Johner is the Hare; and
- a Quinett or Road apple is a stone.

FLORENCE WITHY

Mrs WITHY has passed away recently aged 89. Older Kenn residents will

remember her living for many years with her late husband, Fred, in a redundant railway carriage in Russ Lane.

Mrs WITHY was a great character who stood up for her rights and woe betide anyone who crossed her path if it didn't suit her.

She was with her husband very kind to elderly people or to those who were down on their luck. Fred was terribly handicapped and was unable to speak for many years but he could drive his car. He and Florence regularly picked up elderly people around Kenn and took them shopping or to social events.

She had lived in Yatton for the last years of her life and leaves a daughter, Peggy. Her only son, Bobby, was killed while riding his bicycle in an accident involving a car outside the Bridge Inn when about 12 years old.

Ray NAISH



E CANCER & LEUKAEMIA IN CHILDHOOD TRUST

1-12 Fremantle Square, Cotham, Bristol BS6 5TL Telephone 0272 248844

No 040 25th July 1994.
 Received from MRS JEFFREY.
 RE WL1. KENN BRANCH.

the sum of £15.00 for the
July 1994

PLEASE
 PLEASE
 Will some kind
 Kennite
 draw some more
 cover pictures



