

JUMBLE SALE AT KENN VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 25th October - Many thanks to all, especially the young folk, who helped and supported this event.

The magnificent sum of £116.58 was raised and of this £58 has been taken to the M.S. Unit at Nailsea.

Come now Ms. McCULLY
I ask you, play the game
You cannot ask a superstar
To just reveal her name.

That is the burning question,
The whole world seems to ask,
Just who the heck is Alice?
To find out, what a task.

Who do I live next door to?
You asked me for a clue,
For me to answer truthfully
Would be no use to you.

I used to live near Smokey.
And Smokey as you know,
An American name for policeman,
But I moved not long ago.

But no, I'm not a Kennite,
Although it's true to say,
That just 'cos I don't live here,
I'm in Kenn every day.

And as for these big cities,
Like Hollywood and Dallas,
I think I'll stick to village life

With lots of love
From ALICE!

safely. All the able-bodied men left in the village were instructed to join one of the civil defence organisations, which included the Special Constabulary, the ARP and the Fire Service. The Home Guard were stationed in the Old Windmill at Mill Farm and did their training under the keen eye of sergeant William GRIGG. The Fire Brigade were in the charge of that well-known former Kenn resident Mr William John STAPLES whose headquarters were in an old cottage that stood where Westonwood bungalow now stands. Their equipment consisted of a four-man manual pump loaded on a small trailer towed behind an even smaller Austin sports car. As it was only a two seater, the firemen had to walk behind.

The ARP (short for Air Raid Precautions) had their headquarters in an old cottage which still stands in Stonehouse farmyard. A lady called Mrs FARMER of Green Acres was in charge of that.

On the night of September 3rd 1940 a stick of bombs was dropped on the village. I am not sure whether it was 6 or 8 bombs. The first one fell in a field behind Kenn Pier Farm killing Ralph BYE's milk car pony and injuring several cows. The next two fell on Mr Edgar WILLCOX's farm killing a bull and hurting several cows and his favourite horse called Charlie who had a large piece of shrapnel in his rump.

The last two fell on the edge of our garden here at Stonehouse Farm right by the back door of Orchard End, Kenn Street and behind Mendip View, a tremendous amount of damage was done to property but luckily no one was hurt.

About 1941 the Ministry of Defence built a decoy fire in the moors between here and Claverham which was manned by members of the RAF who were billeted around the village; several at Kenn Court and some of the others at Mill Farm.

The villagers at that time thought it would be a good idea to make an air raid shelter for the school children, and permission was obtained from the late Mr George STUCKEY to use his orchard which was opposite the school. So a shelter was dug in what is now One Elm. The men of the village got to work in their spare

time and built a big shelter, but they had no proper plan. I remember Mr Wally MOORE saying that we were putting too much earth on the top, sure enough, he was right, after a few days the roof fell in - fortunately it happened during the night when there were no children about.

There were many fund raising events at that time - Wings for Victory - Spitfire Week - Red Cross Collections to name only a few. We had special events to raise money for all of these, for the Wings for Victory week we had a football match - ladies dressed as gents versus gents dressed as ladies - the referee was the former well known Kenn Pier resident, piermaster Mr Harry STONE, who wore his red top hat for the occasion. I forget who won the game, but I know there were several own goals.

For Spitfire Week we had pony racing in The Park, the field opposite Kenn Court. All the ponies in the village were got together including George GRIFFIN's mule from Lower Farm, Clevedon. Baden LEAMAN, the landlord of the Rose and Crown as it was then called arrived with his breeches and leggings on - was persuaded to ride the mule but could not get him out of a walk.

The British Red Cross was supported throughout the war, all the girls in the village took lessons on nursing and did work at Clevedon and Winford hospitals on Sundays and any other spare time they had. Whist Drives and Dances were held regularly and the proceeds sent to the Duke of Gloucester's Red Cross and St John's Fund at Lancaster Gate, London.

One big event was an auction for the fund, it was organised by Mr Archie GRIFFIN and Mrs M NAISH. One hundred and fifty-nine lots were auctioned by Mr Teddy DAWES the Clevedon Auctioneer and £150 was realised. By the end of the war Kenn had sent £500 to this particular fund, not a bad effort when you think that the population at that time was about 200 and the average wage was less than £3 per week.

There are only about ²⁵~~30~~ people left in Kenn who were here during the war years.

Ray NAISH



KENN NEWS AND VIEWS



EDITOR

Sheila NAISH 01934 838357

Issue 88 November 1995

Printer:- Margaret STOWELL

Typist:- Richard GAUNT

MESSAGE FROM LITTLE ED

Christmas is nearly upon us and I cannot believe that no-one in the village has come up with a cover for next month's magazine! Come on, don't let us down.

The Three-fingered typist is now commuting to London and has less time to spend typing at home, so help him out and give him something to do on the train (thank goodness for lap-top computers). Can I have magazine articles as quickly as possible. If you've got them don't wait for the copy date. Next month's articles need to be in by the 20th.

BIRTHDAYS

9th - Andrew JENKINS

13th - Sheila NAISH

14th - Rowena AYRES

15th - Timothy DENMEAD

16th - Sebastian WILCOX

27th - Rebecca BRETT

28th - Sarah CLARKE

ANNIVERSARIES

16th - Sheila and Miles NAISH

NAISH'S NOTES

Welcome to John and Heather SAXBY and son Robin who have moved into The Orchards.

We raised money last year for the Hospice (South West) and it is with much pleasure that we are able to report that Little Bridge House, Barnstaple is now open and received much earned publicity on the tv.

DAIRY DATE REMINDER

Puddleducks Gift Party at Kenn Village Hall.

Friday 10th November, 8pm onwards.

Punch and raffle.

In aid of DREAMFLIGHT.

Admission free.

Come along and buy your Christmas gifts. Gentlemen and children welcome (now you

have no excuse for not knowing what to get your wife/mum/girlfriend. Mrs Sue JORDAN will be available from 6-30pm onwards if you want to pop in on the way home.

There will be a large range of gifts on offer for all ages and price range.

If anyone needs a lift to and from the hall, please let me know and I'll gladly help. Don't worry about the dark. Phone 01934 838357.

CHRISTMAS DISCO PARTY

Saturday 16th December at Kenn Village Hall. Tickets £3 from Sheila or Kenn Stores. Fancy

Dress of course.

Bar, Raffle.

In aid of Nailsea Multiple Sclerosis Unit.

FLOWERS

I had blue violets out in my garden on the 15th October. I thought I was seeing things.

FUN RUN SPONSOR MONEY

We really would like any outstanding money in by the end of November so that we can send a cheque off to Dreamflight. Please send money direct to Simon PASCOE, me or the Post Office.

Thank you.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Bob and Jenny HANCOCK who staged a brilliant hair and fashion show at Cadbury Country Club in aid of the British Heart Foundation. The grand sum of more than £200 was raised. Well done to them a tremendous amount of hard work well rewarded.

TYPIST'S TITTLE-TATTLE

A major difference between males and females is that girls mature into ladies whereas boys change into bigger boys. Thus, while Avril worked hard to become ordained, I bought myself a new toy - computer and printer. The slightly revised layout of the magazine is one consequence. A second is that, subject to the trial on the front of this month being successful, it will be possible to include the occasional photograph in the magazine. The final consequence is that the new computer has a very

advice, help and love will never be forgotten in Kenn.

DIARY DATES

November 8th @ 7-30pm. Kenn WI Annual General Meeting.

November 25th @ 8pm. Silent auction with buffet supper.

November 29th @ 7-30. Christmas Flower Arrangements. Tickets £2 to include coffee and home made biscuits. Ladies and gentlemen are invited to the demonstration.

KENN POST OFFICE

Another first for Kenn Post Office. Many congratulations to Mrs MIDDLETON and Mrs FENWICK for being awarded by their customers 99% marks in answers to a recent questionnaire concerning the running and service received at our Post Office.

The questionnaire was circulated at Post Offices throughout the South-west of England and South Wales. We are all proud of Kenn Post Office where we always get service with a smile. Long may we continue to do so.

RMD

ADVANCE NOTICE

Wednesday December 20th. Kenn Children's Party

Saturday January 27th. Quiz in aid of Friends of Kenn Church

COFFEE MORNING

There will be a coffee morning and Bring and Buy sale in aid of St. John's Altar Fund on Tuesday 14th November from 10am to noon at Stonehouse Farm. Everyone welcome. Christmas theme.

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

As an experiment the 42nd birthday celebrations of Kenn W.I. were held at the October monthly meeting instead of a separate birthday party. Kenn was pleased to welcome guests from fellow Institutes and a delicious supper followed the business and the talk. Mrs. M. Harris was thanked

for a lovely floral arrangement and a splendid cake was baked by Mrs. Stowell and iced by Mrs. Ings.

Sadly there were several apologies, but those present enjoyed a spellbinding demonstration by Mr. Cawsey who makes teddy bears from clay. These are dressed and custom made for the recipient. His talk was amusing as well as fascinating. Mr. Cawsey judged the competition for a teddy bear. Mrs. R. Jeffrey was awarded gold, Mrs. Ings silver and Mrs. Prew, green. There was a good display of much loved teddies.

Members will attend the Group Meeting at Nailsea in October. Mrs. Blake's chamber pot will be entered for the competition. It is hoped that Kenn will be able to participate in the Avon quilt project. Mrs. Mann gave a report on the I.G.M. at Weston-S-Mare, she and Mrs. Denmead had much enjoyed their day. A Kenn team took part in the County Quiz and did not entirely disgrace itself.

The meeting ended with a slice of cake and a glass of sherry and it is hoped that members felt that the anniversary had been properly marked.

BEST VILLAGE COMPETITION

The comments of the judges in this competition are now to hand. In the first round Kenn gained 92% and the comments were that the main road brings a good deal of traffic to the village, but local people clear up litter, paper etc. There were neat and tidy borders and cut edges to all roads. Front and side gardens were lovely. This village takes a great pride in its appearance. It is therefore a great pity that nothing can be done about the unsightly vehicles at the garage.

In the second round the total marks were 72% and the judge's remarks were as follows: Kenn has good features by the church, also the green spaces with cross. Weeds are difficult to manage in hot weather. The group of garage/pub/shop suffers somewhat from the street-side garage/workshop, with bits of machinery lying around. Otherwise there was nothing very noteworthy about Kenn.

(An unfortunate choice of word it seems to me!!!)

PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 4th December in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. All electors are welcome.



NOVEMBER ALTAR GUILD

Mrs R DYER, Mrs M MACKAY and Mrs S CLARKE.

TEA AND CHAT

Tea and chat will be held on Thursday 16th November from 2-30 to 4pm at Wimberidge, Kenn Street, the home of Mrs Mary LAMB.

All welcome.

THE REVEREND AVRIL GAUNT

Avril was ordained into the ministry of the Church of England at a service in Wells Cathedral on October 1st.

About thirty people from the village attended this service together with many more from Yatton and Kingston Seymour. It was a marvellous occasion that will always be remembered by those fortunate to have managed to get to Wells. I am sure those who know Avril will wish to join in congratulating her on achieving her ambition after several years of training and much hard work. To Richard, Alex and Matthew we express our thanks for giving her such great support during this long time.

Avril has already started her ministry work on Sundays and is beginning to help the other clergy in the general running of the Parish, including pastoral visiting.

Ray NAISH

ORDINATION

Words hardly begin to express the joys of my ordination day on the 1st of October. For me it was the culmination of 5 years work; firstly exploring my call, having that call confirmed and then the years of academic study leading to ordination as a "servant of God's servants". Although much of the course work was hard, as all academic courses are, few courses culminate in such a wondrous occasion as ordination in a great cathedral.

From the beginning of the 2-day retreat at Abbey House, Glastonbury to the service in the packed cathedral in Wells was an incredibly moving experience for me. Part of the joy undoubtedly resulted from the love and support expressed by so many of you. To all of you who came to the service, thank you. It was wonderful to share my special day with so many friends and family.

Thank you too for all the cards, good wishes and gifts that I have received, especially for the very generous gifts of the sick call communion set and large version of the A.S.B. I will treasure both and look forward to putting them to good use throughout my ministry.

And now to the work for which God has called me. In one sense ordination was the ending of one journey and the beginning of another. Training will continue, there are new skills to master, always new things to discover and learn, but a Deacons role is to serve, and with God's help I will serve you as faithfully as I can in all aspects of the life of the Church in Yatton Moor.

BAPTISMS AT ST JOHN'S

The Family Service on November 5th will be a great occasion in the life of the church here. Three young children will be baptized at this service, as far as we know it is the first time three have been baptized in one service here. We look forward to a very large congregation being present to welcome these children and their families.

politically correct grammar checker. It told me off for using girls in the first sentence - "more correct are young women or women." Perhaps so! And no doubt it will tell me off and say that "perhaps so" is not a complete sentence and I shouldn't start sentences with "and". Well, dear computer, this is my blow for grammatical independence. More of its strange foibles in future.

As most of you know, my office is now in London and I'm commuting daily. So I am having to type the magazine on the train. I would be extremely grateful if all contributors could bear this in mind and help me by:

- getting all articles in to Sheila as early in the month as possible;
- trying to write clearly and leaving a clear line between each paragraph so I can find where I am more easily;
- if you have a PC, getting the articles to me on disc. I can take almost any word processor file on 3½" disc. Save the file in ASCII format if you use a strange word processor. I will return your disc.

Finally all the articles on the birds of Kenn have persuaded me to review my own records of the birds seen in the garden and along Kenn Street.

Regular: Wren, dunnoek, house sparrow, blue tit, great tit, robin, siskin, chaffinch, greenfinch, pied wagtail (although why are they so much commoner in Yatton?), song thrush, blackbird, starling, house martin, swallow, swift, collared dove, pigeon, wood pigeon, magpie, jay, jackdaw, crow, rook, kestrel, sparrowhawk, buzzard, grey heron, greater black-backed gull and black-headed gull.

Others: Tree sparrow (although none for two years), goldfinch, coal tit, long tailed tit, great spotted woodpecker and firecrest - (recently, did the garden clearance down Kenn Street flush it out?)

In total 36 species have been seen in 3 years of very occasional birdwatching.

SNIPPETS

CONGRATULATIONS

A first for Kenn on October 1st when Avril Gaunt was ordained by the Bishop of Bath and Wells in Wells Cathedral. Our thoughts and prayers will be with her in her great calling.

MORE CONGRATULATIONS

Duncan MACKAY and Tassos PAPASOLOMONTOS have passed their driving tests. We wish them many years of safe and happy motoring.

KENN VILLAGE HALL

Many thanks to the Kenn volunteer who painted the cloakrooms in the hall.

HALL CLEANING

The Hall needs an extra clean and it has been decided this will take place on Tuesday November 21st from 9am. All those who have used the hall are asked to help. If the date and time is not convenient and you are willing to help on another day, please phone 872676.

SILENT AUCTION and BUFFET SUPPER

It has been decided to hold a silent auction with buffet supper in aid of hall funds. This will be held on Saturday November 25th beginning at 8pm. Offers of gifts for silent auction are invited, eg china, furniture, pictures, books, antiques. Gifts of all descriptions plants, cakes, produce etc. Please all things except perishable goods to Kenn Court by November 21st in order that they may be correctly listed. Perishable goods to the hall on the afternoon of 25th from 2-3pm.

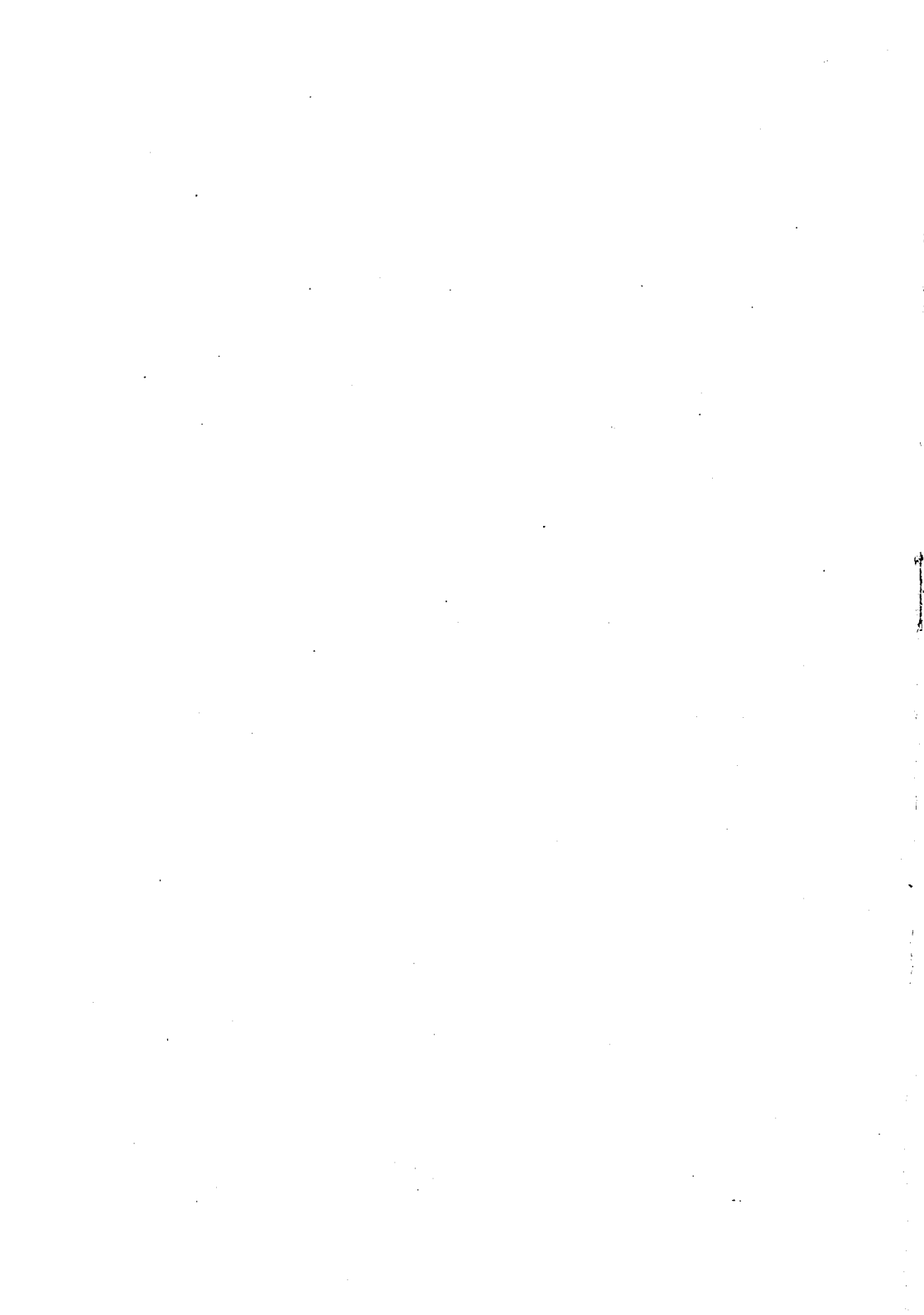
Come and bring your friends, meet your neighbours and support the hall.

SICK LIST

We are sorry to report Mr PARISH of One Elm has had a short stay in hospital. We wish him a speedy recovery.

SISTER WALL

We are sorry to learn of the passing away of Sister Eunice WALL at Wonash Rest Home in Clevedon on October 18th 1995. Sister WALL was a most welcome visitor to parents of little babies and children in Kenn for many years. Her



British Heart Foundation

The heart research charity



48 Sunnymede Road
Nailsea
BS19 1ES

9 October 1995

Mr & Mrs M Naish
Oakland Farm
Kenn
Clevedon
BS21 6TT

Dear Mr & Mrs Naish

On behalf of the North Woodspring Branch of the British Heart Foundation I would like to thank you for raising the marvellous sum of £365 from your BBQ and Disco. I am enclosing our official receipt.

We do appreciate the support that people like you and your friends give to heart research. It takes a lot of time and effort to organise an event like a BBQ.

I understand you have spoken to our Regional Administrator, Carolyn Grant and to our Area Organiser, Pauline Kennedy. They have asked me to send you a publications list which I enclose. I have a small stock of leaflets should you require anything.

We have a supporters group, comprised of people who occasionally help with fund-raising. If you would like further details please contact me.

Please convey our thanks to everyone who kindly helped you raise money for the BHF.

Yours sincerely

Margaret Rock (Mrs)
Hon Secretary
North Woodspring Branch

ROMAN REMAINS

Students from Reading University have been doing another dig in the Meadmoor area just outside the Kenn boundary in Yatton. Readers may remember a Roman corn drying kiln being uncovered last year in the same area.

There is evidence of Roman habitation all around this area. During this year's dig the students found many interesting articles, some of which had to be taken back to Reading to be studied further. In my view, almost all the stones uncovered came from the West End of Nailsea, fairly flat stones just over 1" thick and similar to the ones used when the tower of Kenn Church was built.

The students know where to dig by studying aerial photographs and inspecting land that has been ploughed.

I asked the professor in charge if he thought there were Roman remains nearer to Kenn. He thought there most certainly was because the land rises all the way from Meadmoor to the gravel ridge that runs through the village. This obviously is a drier area and much more suitable for the building of dwellings and for cultivation. If anyone in Kenn notices unusual land formations, it would be good to have it looked at by an expert. We may be living by some very interesting things underneath the ground.

Ray NAISH

KENN HISTORY GROUP

At our first meeting of the winter season on Monday October 9th, we discussed the future programmes, when we hope to have a speaker on the Clevedon Railway, also a member of the Staples family, this will happen after Christmas. We also had the pleasure of reliving the Kenn School reunion in August and the VE Day celebrations in May, both skilfully taken by Maurice FORD, whom we are most grateful to in recording these events for our village history.

The November meeting will be on Monday November 13th at 7-30pm when we will visit Kenn Court by kind consent of Sam and Ruth DYER and be able to hear and learn more about Kenn Court and its history. If anyone wishes to

join us for the evening, please let us know on Clevedon 872948.

Grace GRIFFIN

OCTOBER BIRD NEWS

Autumn migration has been much in evidence along the sea wall towards the River Kenn estuary with good numbers of Wheatears passing through.

The flocks of Dunlin are building up and they make a breathtaking sight, wheeling like a smoke cloud over the estuary.

A very much rarer visitor was a Grey phalarope, a small wader that breeds in the tundra and is marine in winter. This individual was swimming in a small puddle (!) by the sea wall the day after some bad weather.

October 8 was World BirdWatch Day, the world's biggest birdwatch. Our group hosted an event at Westhay Moor near Glastonbury and clocked 54 species at this splendid Somerset Trust for Nature Conservation Reserve. A migrant Hen harrier was perhaps the most spectacular sighting, but Little egret, Water rail and Greenshank provided a good supporting cast.

Trevor RIDDLE.

KENN IN WARTIME

Soon after the last war broke out, a large number of evacuees were sent to Kenn from the East End of London. They were taken to the Village Hall and people were asked to have them in their homes; the Revd and Mrs HODGSON were soon on the scene, and said that they had the biggest house and were willing to have the biggest family, so Mrs PICKETT and her six children took up residence in the Vicarage. Some of the evacuees were very homesick, they only stayed a few days before returning to London, but others settled down well and stayed a long time. Several families never returned to London and are still in the district now.

Mr and Mrs BYE of Kenn Pier Farm had a family of Austrian refugees who could not speak English but stayed until the end of the war.

About 12 men from the village were called into the armed forces and luckily all returned home