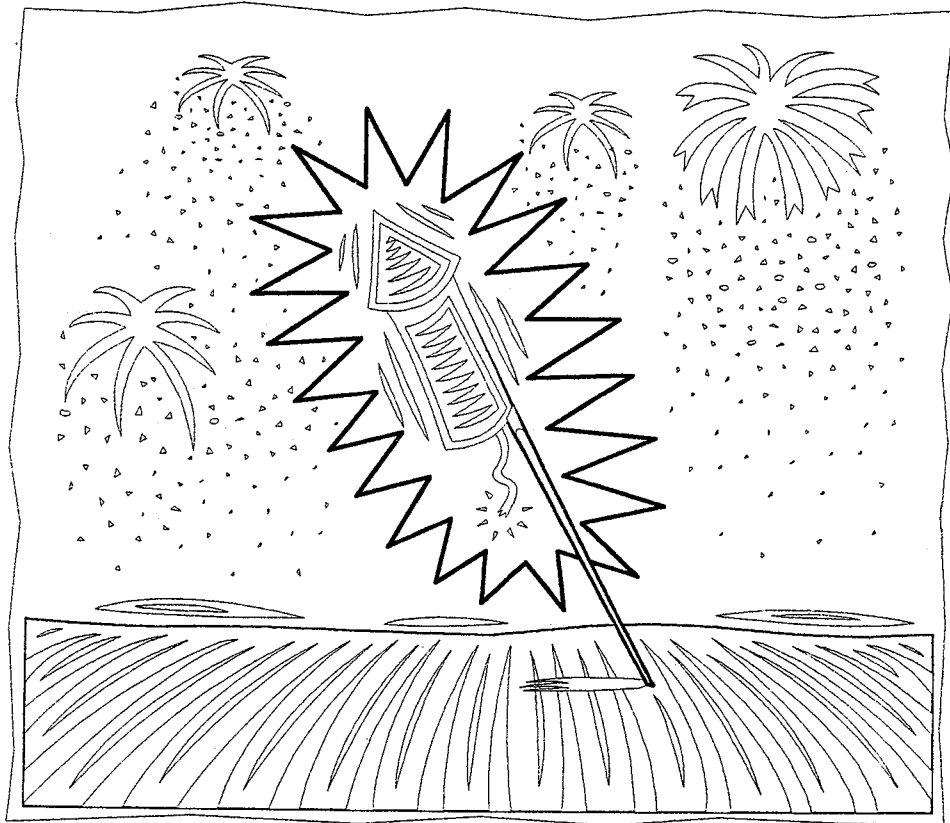


# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS



EDITOR

Sheila NAISH

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# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## MESSAGE FROM ED

Christmas is coming and we'd really love to have a festive theme cover for the December magazine. So come on ye merry artists and produce a cover for us.

## BIRTHDAYS etc

November

- 9th Andrew JENKINS
- 12th Derek WALL
- 13th Sheila NAISH (21 again and again and again....)
- 16th Sebastian WILLCOX
- 16th Miles and Sheila NAISH (Anniversary)
- 28th Sarah CLARKE

## NAISH'S NOTES

### FUN RUN

We would hope that all sponsor monies due are now in!! If not please get them to me ASAP We are hoping to present a cheque to Hearing Dogs for the Deaf later this month.

### CHRISTMAS DISCO

This year's Christmas Disco Party is on December 14th at 8pm - Fancy Dress. In aid of the Multiple Sclerosis Unit at Nailsea. Raffle prizes please. Tickets 3.00 from myself or Liz at the shop.

Sheila

## KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Members of Kenn W.I. were delighted to welcome June and robin SMALL when they made a return visit to talk about apples. There were some delicious apples to taste and we were assured that there was an English apple

for all seasons if you search for it. Mrs SMALL judged the competition for an apple dish. Mrs HACKETT was awarded gold and Mrs PREW silver. They were warmly thanked by Mrs DOBBS.

Mrs WITHERS was thanked for the flowers on the presidents table and Mrs SURRIDGE was welcomed back after her illness, Mrs BLAKE was congratulated on her success at the North Somerset Show.

Final touche were put to the arrangements for a birthday party which will be held on 23 October. A skittles evening at Kenn Valley Social Club had been very much enjoyed. The first round of the County skittles competition will be played in November - this year Kenn hopes to get beyond the first round. There is to be a WI train to Chester in the spring. These days out were always much enjoyed in the past so it is hoped that it will be successful. Adjustments have been made to the amount that will be paid for a bursary to Denman College to take account of possible future financial situations.

The November meeting will be the AGM and will begin at 7.15pm. The speaker will be Miss HOLTHAM and the competition will be for a paperweight.

## FIRST AID CLASSES

The WI is hoping to hold some classes for basic First Aid in the home or what to do until the doctor comes. The will be given by the Red Cross and there will be 4 sessions of 2 hours each. The cost of the course will be 14.00 plus a manual at 4.99. The cost of the rent of the village hall will be added when it is known how many people will be attending.

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## DIARY DATES

Wednesday November 27th at 7.30pm - Christmas Made Easy Christmas Flower Arrangements by Mrs Joanne STAPLES Ticket 2.00 to include coffee

## KENN CHRISTMAS TREE

Arrangements are being made to have a tree on the green - details in December N&V.

## COFFEE AND CHAT

This month Coffee and Chat will be held at Claire LEAMAN's house 6 Kenn Estate on Thursday 21st November from 10.30 to 12 noon.

Everyone welcome.

## MESSAGE FROM KENN PO

You can now get your cleaning or laundry done at the Post Office, Liz is an agent for A&P Cleaners of Yatton.

Christmas selection boxes, sweets and Advent calendars are now on sale and can be ordered for Christmas.

Liz.

## BIRD NEWS

As I write this most of our swallows and house martins have now left with just a few late migrants passing through. The House Martins left us around the 20th September quite an early date. Following the cold spring nesting was much delayed and probably accounted for the late brood at Stonehouse Farm reported last month in N & V.

During the second half of September water levels at the local reservoirs dropped considerably, encouraging many passing wading birds to stop over. This coincided with a run of Easterly winds and produced a record count of Little Stints, tiny sparrow sized

waders en route from Northern Europe to Africa. I had never seen more than half a dozen together before but there was a flock of 108 at Cheddar Reservoir.

The same climatic conditions brought a very rare visitor to Blagdon Lake in the form of a Red Necked Phalarope, the first record in the old county of Avon since 1979. Like many waders this species breeds in the far north - the nearest to us nest in the Shetland Isles, but after egg-laying the male raises the family. The Blagdon bird was a juvenile, racing around in the mud amongst the other birds rather like a Gurkha marching with other soldiers.

At the end of the month a Grey Phalarope arrived at Cheddar reservoir. This individual was feeding in a shallow pool by swimming in circles and picking insects from the surface, a diagnostic action for Phalarope species.

On the moors small parties of Goldfinches are beginning to gather and the Buzzard is to be seen perched on the pylon by the railway. Next will be Redwings and Fieldfares, a few of the former having already been reported from Mendip.

Trevor RIDDLE

## HARVEST SONGS OF PRAISE

The Harvest Songs of Praise only attracted a small congregation, less than at a normal Evensong, which was disappointing.

It was a service of Harvest Hymns and Readings and there can be few Churches in the area where there were eight hymns sung all referring to harvest and farming.

RVN

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## SNIPPETS

### Bereavement

22nd September - Mr. Toby Gale passed away after a long illness in Belmont Nursing Home where he was regularly visited by friends and neighbours of Kenn.

27th September. His funeral took place at Kenn Church attended by relations and friends.

Our flag was flown at half mast on both occasions.

### Christenings

October 6th - a double christening took place in Kenn Church when two granddaughters of Mr and Mrs Fenwick were baptized.

Olivia Una Rose, daughter of Rebecca and Paul Brett and Georgia Francesca daughter of Allison and Philip Hague. Our flag was flown in celebration.

### Prizewinner

Many congratulations to sixteen year old Louise Edwards daughter of Mr and Mrs Edwards of Duck Lane, who, riding her horse Tribal Dancer, won second prize at the Horse of the Year Show at Wembley in the Junior British Novice Jumping Class. We wish her more successes in the future.

### Kenn Village Hall

To conform with regulations for the Music and Dancing Licence it is necessary to carry out extensive work on the electrical installation in the hall. Most of the lighting wiring has to be replaced and all the wiring for heaters plus the replacement of two heaters. All this work will cost well in excess of £1000 and so the Committee invite all Kennites to help financially.

Readers, do remember the Hall was there for a meeting when it was suggested that two travellers camps should be put in the village

We invite your support at a JUMBLE SALE to be held on Wednesday 6th November and at a WINE AND CHEESE PARTY on 23rd November. Financial Contributions to Mrs. Irene Stowell. The present heating equipment was installed by the late Mr. Stanley Denmead in 1965.

R.M.Dyer.

### JUMBLE SALE - KENN VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 6th November 2.30 p.m.

PRODUCE, BOOKS, TOYS, WHITE ELEPHANT, RAFFLE, CAKES, JUMBLE etc. etc.

Goods to Hall 10 a.m - 11 a.m  
November 6th.

Please support our Hall.

Further information from Mrs. Jean Fenwick - phone 875073 - Offers of Help invited.

### KENN VILLAGE HALL

#### WINE AND CHEESE PARTY

Saturday 23rd November 8.00 p.m.

Tickets from Committee at £3 to include supper and a glass of wine.

COME AND MEET YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND FRIENDS.

Further information from R.M.Dyer 872676

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## *KENN HISTORY GROUP*

At our meeting on Monday 21st October we discussed our winter programme and managed to come up with some interesting ideas for our monthly meetings. The next one will be on Monday 11th November at 7.30pm at The Granary Duck Lane when Ray NAISH will talk with some help from friends on "The people who lived in Kenn around 1934.

We are always pleased to welcome new members, please feel free to come along for an enjoyable and interesting evening.

Grace GRIFFIN

## *THANKS*

Several letters have been received from people that were given Harvest Gifts including one from our most senior church member, Mrs Gladys GRIFFIN. She was very grateful to her grandson, James brought her to the service which she enjoyed very much.

## *HARVEST THANKSGIVING*

Kenn Church was packed for the morning Family Service with a congregation of over 100 people of all ages. During the service two children were baptised, Georgia Francesca HAGUE and Olivia Una Rose BRETT, both granddaughters of Fred and Jean FENWICK of Kenn Street.

The theme of the Service was the contrast between Harvest in Kenn and in a poor African village. The church was beautifully decorated, the porch was decorated to represent a simple African home complete with black lady

Many thanks to the ladies who decorated the church and to the Sunday club members and their leaders who prepared the African scene. Many letters have been received congratulating the young members of the congregation and their leaders for making it such a mean-

ingful service. The many gifts brought to the church have been distributed to the sick and elderly in and around the village.

RVN

## *ALTAR GUILD - November*

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

## *SIDNEY GEORGE GALE*

Toby as he was always known has passed away aged 85 after being in poor health and living in a Clevedon nursing home for about 4 years.

Toby was born at Horsecastle Yatton the youngest of the six children of Mr and Mrs Archie GALE but he had lived in Kenn Street most of his life. Like many children of his time he started work when very young, he got his first job with STOWELLS dairies at Moor-gates Kenn Street when only six years old. This involved fetching the cows for milking in the afternoons and helping milk them as this was in the days of hand milking. He continued with this job until he was nine, when he got the sack for doing a job for another farmer one evening (he and his brother Pat had undertaken to spread a field of manure by hand for neighbour Harry BARNETT)

On leaving Kenn School he was persuaded by his father to join him working at WAKE and DEAN furniture factory at Yatton, much against his will. As soon as he had served his apprenticeship he left the factory and returned to farming, closed his toolbag and claimed never to have opened it again. Toby got a job with Harry BARNETT who did contract farm work with a very good pair of working farm horses that he owned. Toby took charge of the horses and did a tremendous amount of work with them, in the summer this was chiefly grass cutting for hay. He told me that during one spell of very good hay making

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weather they were inundated with requests from farmers to cut grass for them. One evening after a very busy day he rested on a sofa without undressing ready for an early start. He awoke about three in the morning to get ready to harness the horses to the mower at daybreak. He then set off and mowed seven fields that day finishing at midnight its hard to imagine what a day like that must have been for both horses and men.

Toby started farming on his own about 1930 which was in the depth of the farming depression first with a few breeding sows then buying a few cows. The first milk he sold from these cows realised five-pence farthing a gallon, he later sold his milk around the village door to door.

In 1932 Toby married Brenda HAZELL from Manor Farm, their first home was Meadow-side Kenn Street. A few years later they managed to gain the tenancy of Stonehouse also in Kenn Street. This was a small farm of about 10 acres and the rent was 1.50 per week and he was told by older farmers that it was impossible to make that amount of money and that he would never be able to pay it. By sheer hard work Toby and Brenda gradually increased the size of their farm and built up a lovely herd of Ayrshire cows and won awards for high milk yields.

The GALES ere the first farmers in Kenn to own a tractor, they bought a second hand Fordson in about 1940 and did a tremendous amount of work with it, Toby was kept so busy that he often only had about four hours sleep each night. During this time Toby supplemented his farming income by duck-shooting on the Moors in the wintertime. There was a ready market for ducks in and around Clevedon when food was rationed during the War. Later in their lives the GALES sold their cows and concentrated on market gardening growing wonderful crops of vegetables which were sold in the Clevedon

and Bristol markets. On Sunday mornings Toby would drive around Kenn with his car full of vegetables distributing them free of charge to those he thought were unable to grow their own.

When his friends and neighbours were ill he would go to great lengths to do what he could for them visiting them daily over long periods or taking relatives to visit them in hospitals. Toby and Brenda knew great sadness when their nephew John died aged 22 for with no children of their own they regarded him as their own son.

Toby was buried in his wife's grave in Kenn churchyard, he had been a choirboy in his young days and in his later years attended Evensong on a regular basis.

Toby and Brenda were very hard workers and seldom took any time off and never had holidays.

Ray NAISH

## CHILDREN'S XMAS PARTY

This years party will be held at the Village Hall on Sunday 22 December from 3.00-5.30 pm

Any offers of help gratefully received - Contact Jo BATTEN on 878782

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Lorraine STAPLES of Duck Lane on gaining her H.N.D.

To Louise EDWARDS of Duck Lane for 2nd at Horse of the Year Show at Wembley in the Junior British Novice Show Jumping Championships on Tribal Dancer.

Well done to both.

J STOWELL

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## FRIENDS OF KENN CHURCH

The membership year will run from 1st October annually and although a number of people have shown interest in becoming "Friends" there has been little take up of covenanted donations. It has been decided not to operate a covenant scheme at present.

Any donations or applications for membership can be given to Ray or Renee, myself or left in Church.

Simon PASCOE

## Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 6th November 2.30 p.m.  
JUMBLE SALE

Wednesday 13th November 7.15 p.m.  
Kenn Women's Institute Annual  
General Meeting. Speaker Miss Ann  
Holtham on Pot Pourri.  
Competition - A paper weight.

Saturday 23rd November 8.00 p.m.  
Wine and Cheese Party - Tickets £3  
to include a glass of wine.

## Fun Run 1996

The total monies collected to date add up to the grand sum of £1152.49.

Many thanks to everyone concerned. This money is towards a Hearing Dog for the Deaf, in memory of Dag Taylor.

Sheila

Hearing Dog for the Deaf - in memory of Dag Taylor

We have raised the £2,500 needed to buy a Hearing Dog. This dog will be named DAG, after our own Robin "DAG" Taylor. We will be holding a presentation ceremony, where a lady from hearing dogs for the deaf will accept a cheque from us. This will be a lady from Yatton who actually has a hearing dog herself.

If anyone would like to know more about the charity and how it works this would be a marvellous opportunity to find out.

We hope that as many of you as possible can come along and see this cheque presented - we have had fun raising this money and a lot of support from many people.

The cheque will be presented on behalf of the Family and Friends of Robin "DAG" Taylor and we are being given an Official Scroll in return recognizing our donation. It is hoped that the Mercury will attend too.

The presentation will be held at Kenn Valley Social club on Friday 15th November at 9 o'clock.

If anyone needs transport please let me know.

EVERYONE WELCOME.

Sheila

