

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

*Happy
New Year*



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MESSAGE FROM ED

Well Christmas is over and by the time the magazine reaches you we will have seen out the old year rung in the new. We would like to wish all our readers a very Happy Healthy and Prosperous New Year. We have New Year resolution for you all - I must send a contribution to News & Views!! - we would love to hear from any of you so get your pens out and get writing.

Contributions to the Post Office, Ray Naish, Simon or ring me on 01934-838357

Ed

NAISH'S NOTES

Spotted in Russ Lane recently - a flock of long-tailed tits of about 30-50 birds an unusual sight.

Thank you to the kind person who sent a lovely card to us, in fact the first we received, but forgot to sign it. Yes, it was completely blank inside, bit like I've been just lately.....

Thanks very much to our readers on behalf of Simon and Margaret and myself for our Christmas gifts. My vouchers came in handy for purchasing a "father Christmas" teddy-bear centre piece for my Christmas window display - lovely.

I'm sure you have all had your best and worst Christmas cracker jokes - here is my best??? four:

Whats big and hairy and flies at the speed of sound?

King Kong-corde

What kind of puzzle makes people angry?

A crossword puzzle

What goes oink clink, oink clink?

A piggy-bank

Did you hear about the man who drank 8 cokes and burped 7-up?

Aah well they seemed better after vast quantities of festive wine.....

We held a social evening with punch, mince pies and Puddleducks gift shop in attendance but clashing with the Victorian Fayre it was not as well supported as last year but thanks to all those who did come. The proceeds will be sent to Childline.

Disco - The Christmas Disco was very well supported with most people entering into the spirit by turning up in fancy dress! I'm sure he costumes get better every year. Many thanks once again to Johnny HAZELL for his brilliant Disco and to Derek and Shirley for their excellent bar. A brilliant time was had by all and no one wanted to leave at 12 - all I can say is get there earlier next year. Thanks to all who helped The proceeds will go to the MS centre in Nailsea.

Kenn Valley Social Club held a charity football match against Nick's Nobblers from Worle on Boxing Day followed by a disco and a superb live band called Neon Gods. As usual a raffle was held and the proceeds from the day went to the MS centre also.

Confession time.....

I have (temporarily) misplaced the Birthday list - its in a pile somewhere! To everone who has a birthday or anniversary this month have a happy one I'll find it by next month but at the time of writing its already New Years Day and our typist is already tearing his hair out that I am late - So please get any articles in early - its a case of dont do what I do!!!

Sorry Simon - grovel.....

Sheila

TYPISTS THANKS

Thanks to one and all for the gift of wine - at least this month I can claim an excuse for any typing errors.

Simon PASCOE

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NEW YEARS RESOLUTIONS

For those who have decided to improve their fitness in 1997 Jacqui's Low Impact Aerobics, stretching and toning classes are for you.

The classes which started in Kenn last year are now held in Kingston Seymour Village Hall on Monday evenings. They will resume after the Christmas break on Monday 13th January at the new time of 8-9pm and cost 2.50 per session.

The classes are relaxed and informal catering for mixed abilities and ages.

Why not give it a try.

COFFEE AND CHAT

This month Coffee and Chat will be held at Apple Acre Kenn Street, the home of Deryck and Renee BELL on Thursday 16th January from 10.30 -

KENN WOMENS INSTITUTE

Members of Kenn WI really let their hair down at the December meeting, when ably refereed by Megan HARRIS complete with whistle, they enjoyed a Beetle Drive. Those new to Beetle soon got the hang of it and the decibels rose as the game progressed.

The response to the notice about First Aid classes has been good and the arrangements will be made to hold them in the New Year. It was felt that when a definite date is announced more people may feel able to attend.

The Flower Demonstration given by Joanna STAPLES was judged a great success. The demonstrator for 1997 has already been booked. The programme and job allocations for 1997 were announced and there will be the usual jumble sale and Birthday Party.

The Christmas post table did a brisk business and contributions to Associated Country Women of the World were made in lieu of postage. Mrs BLAKE and Mrs KINGCOTT

were also doing good trade their stall.

There was a beautiful floral decoration on the president's table. The competition for a Christmas Table decoration was won by Mrs NAISH, Mrs HARRIS silver and Mrs BUBB green.

Refreshments of mince pies were served and the meeting ended with warm wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

It was with great regret that the Council accepted the resignation of Dennis GOLDS-WORTHY on health grounds. It is hoped that his health will improve. He will be missed not least for his interest in the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes. We all send our good wishes to Dennis and Iris.

The Parish Council is in the process of co-opting a new member and it is hoped that an announcement can be made soon.

The next meeting will take place on February 3rd in the Village Hall at 7.30. All are welcome.

COMPASSION AT CHRISTMAS

December saw the possibly annual Crisis at Christmas appeal for Kennites to give generously to the homeless. As usual, you surpassed every expectation, turning up at the Post Office with tins galore, and coming to me personally with all sorts of goodies, including coats and blankets.

People often say this is just an excuse for an end-of-year spring clean, but this was definitely not true as one could tell from the uniformly high quality of the things given. Some of the coats especially were very nice indeed and will hopefully go some way to alleviating these cold winter nights.

I took the stuff in on Christmas Eve and found volunteers ready to give up their

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Chritmases to help. They were extremely grateful for all that this village did for them and the homeless people they represent.

Marianna MacKAY

BLUE PETER APPEAL

Thank you to everyone who supported, helped and supplied goodies to the event on 7th December.

A grand total of 186.00 was raised.

Philippa JENKINS (Pip)

BIRD NEWS - DECEMBER

The cold weather in the second half of November and into December brought an influx of winter birds. As well as good numbers of Fieldfares and Redwings there seem to be some large finch flocks which include the odd Brambling, a chaffinch like bird from Scandinavia.

Siskins too have been arriving in good numbers and Blackcaps are beginning to appear in gardens. one (male) was reported from Kenn whilst a Yatton front garden hosted a Black Redstart. Ray NAISH tells me that a Barn Owl has been seen near to the Clevedon Equestrian Centre, an encouraging record of this threatened species. Meanwhile mid-month a party of Long Tailed Tits were active in the Plantation on Kenn Moor as was a single Stonechat. The weather forecast was for cold weather from the north and Lapwings were passing over heading south.

Trevor RIDDLE

BIRD NEWS - II

Early on Boxing Day morning Jeff NAISH went to check his sheep at Nailsea Moor and found a ewe and two newborn lambs, standing nearby were a pair of Ravens and a Buzzard. Luckily the lambs were strong and on their feet, if they had been weaker it is

possible that they would have been attacked.

Ray NAISH

Stop Press!!! Since the above Jeff has found a lamb that was not so lucky which had been attacked and injured by birds pecking at its eyes and body.

KENN HISTORY GROUP

The next meeting will be on Monday January 13th at 7.30 at the Granary Duck Lane when Ann HOLTHAM will tell us about Mrs Brunetta GRIFFIN who lived in Kenn in the last century.

New members will be most welcome.

Grace GRIFFIN

CHILDRENS PARTY

A lovely afternoon was had by all, lots of games and good food and of course that special visit from Father Christmas.

Many thanks to Jo and Millie and all their helpers, not forgetting father Christmas who we all know is a very busy man at this festive time.

Heather JENKINS

CHRISTMAS AT ST JOHNS KENN

The church in Kenn has had a great Christmas this year, we are all grateful to all those ladies who gave their time and talents to decorate the church, it has never looked better.

The Service of Carols and Lessons on December 15th was very well attended by about 100 people with just about every seat filled. As they left people were saying how much they enjoyed the service, many said it was the most successful for a very long time. As is the custom in Kenn some of the readers were arranged in groups generally of families or friends. The choir sang two less well known

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carols and were joined by several members of the Yatton choir. The MacKAY family did a splendid job of illuminating the path into the church with flares for the.

The crib service on Christmas Eve was excellent, there was a good congregation who appreciated the Nativity scene enacted by members of the Sunday Club and their friends. Many thanks to the club leaders who took so much time and trouble instructing the children and preparing costumes.

On Christmas Morning there was a very large congregation of over 50 people at the Family Communion with a large number of young people present.

KENN VILLAGE PARTY

Committee members entertained over 50 Senior residents and friends to afternoon tea on December 5th.

Guests enjoyed a wonderful tea provided by ladies from the village and were later entertained by Colin VICK from Clevedon, all joined in with carol singing and before leaving each guest received a small Christmas gift. Everyone enjoyed the afternoon including the Committee members who made the arrangements. This annual event has become one of the highlights of the Christmas season for many people.

ALTAR GUILD ROTA - January

Mrs Jane STAPLES & Mrs Mary WILLCOX

KENN IN 1934

As John GRIFFIN explained in last months News & Views I recently gave a talk on the people living in Kenn in 1934. He made one little mistake saying that I was 12 at that time, in fact I was 8 (several people have commented that they didn't realise I was so old!!!) Many thanks John for your report. I mentioned that there were only 11 people still

living here from that time and several villagers have asked me who they are, I think the following names are correct, Gerald NEATH, Sam DYER, Pamela STUCKEY, Brian STOWELL, Lucy BAKER, Cyril WILCOX, Hilda STAPLES, Roland HAZELL, Sam STAPLES, Edith TRIPP and myself.

What a different place Kenn is today, at that time there was only one telephone which was at Mrs MOORES in the Post Office, you had to ask her if you could use it. There was no piped water, electricity or gas, no one owned a radio or wireless as it was called in those days. I think there were only 2 cars in the village, the rev Thatcher had one at 'The Vicarage' and the other was owned by Mr Tommy HOPTON who lived at 'Briarside' which is no longer there. It was opposite 'The Vicarage' about where the motorway bridge is now.

People were poor compared with today many of them earned 32 or 34 shillings a week about 1.60 or 1.70 in today's money. A widows pension was 10 shillings or 50p no matter how many children she had to support. People with their own businesses like farmers had difficulty in earning enough money to pay their workers or their bills, some were selling their milk at sixpence a gallon (just over 2p)

People were much more dependent on their gardens in those days, buying vegetables was almost unheard of in the village, many were quite clever at living off the land catching rabbits and birds or eels from the river. Some cottagers kept a pig in a sty in the garden which would be killed and salted in the autumn. The meat from these pigs which were fed on household waste was almost almost all fat, this was considered a great delicacy in those days much of it was melted down for lard.

Ray NAISH

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SNIPPITS

Wine and Cheese Party - held on November 23rd raised 315.00 for Hall funds. The winner of the Guess the weight of the turkey competition was Susanne PRESTON of Penzance.

Many thanks to everyone who helped with the preparation, raffle prizes and to those who attended.

Presentations - Every month all the Kenn households receive a copy of News & Views and once a year it is a pleasure to thank those key workers and present them with a gift.

Sheila received a Gift Voucher, Simon a bottle of wine and our indefatigable printer Margaret will receive flowers on Christmas Eve. Thanks also to those who deliver News & Views each month.

This year Robin and Marianna MacKAY were presented with a Garden Voucher as a thank you for all their support in supplying electricity for the Christmas Tree and mulled wine to the Carol Singers.

Kenn Christmas Tree - On December 13th a hardy bunch of Kennites gathered on the Green to watch Mrs DENMEAD, helped by Sam DYER switch on our Christmas tree lights.

After the switch on the company moved to Church Path where, accompanied by music from Clive GOLDING-ELLIS, familiar carols were sung.

Delicious mincepies, sausage rolls, mulled wine and soft drinks were served and a collection for the Children's Society raised 32.00.

The Chaiman of Kenn Parish Council thanked Sam DYER for erecting the tree, Roger STOWELL for his help with the lights the MacKAYs for their cooperation and Clive GOLDING-ELLIS for the music.

New Flagpole - the new fibre-glass pole is now in position having been put up by Roger STOWELL. Costing 450.00 - 425.00 was raised by the village with the remainder coming from the Council.

Reflections - As 1996 draws to a close it is wise to pause, give thanks, reflect and hope.

We remember the 7 Kennites who passed away during the year, their families; the new babies and residents we have welcomed, we remember the kindnesses we have received, the good neighbours. We thank those who produce and deliver News & Views, the ladies who clean the church and arrange the flowers, those who tidy the churchyard and cut the green, those who plant the flower pots and fly the flag, those who clean the hall and keep it solvent, our Parish Coucillors who do their best and those who really help to keep Kenn blooming

In April we were pleased to bury Avon once and for all and to return to our historic County of Somerset. In June the Friends of Kenn Church organised Kenn Fete. Throughout the year we have had jumble sales, parties for recycled teenagers and the younger generation, charity events, a fun run, the WI meets every month as does the History Group.

To one and all we say come and join in the fun.

R M DYER

Diary Dates

Jan 7th 7.30 WI - Mrs BELL speaks on Tristan da Cunha

Advance dates

March 19th and April 16th - Jumble Sales

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OLD MONEY

Not quite back to 1934, but for those with one or two brain cells left after the challenge of the nigh impossible Village colour quiz and who are not still suffering from too much festive food and drink, here is another brain teaser sent in by a reader of News & Views.

Can you make it add up?

	£	s	d
A Stone	14	0	0
A bicycle	10	0	0
A singer	1	0	0
Part of a monkeys leg	1	0	0
A man's name	1	0	0
A kind of pig	5	0	0
Sun, Moon and Pluto	3	0	0
A leather worker	6	0	0
50% of panties	2	10	0
A Royal headress	5	0	0
Hit repeatedly	1	0	0
Unwell sea creature	1	0	0

TOTAL £32 : 17 : 8½

See Sheila who claims to have the correct answer although of course she is too young to remember the old money !!!!!!!

£	s	d
14	0	0
10	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
5	0	0
3	0	0
6	0	0
2	10	0
5	0	0
1	0	0
1	0	0
<hr/>		
7	8½	

14	00	0
10	00	0
1	00	0
1	00	0
1	00	0
5	00	0
3	00	0
6	00	0
2	10	0
5	00	0
1	00	0
1	00	0
<hr/>		
32	17	8½

