

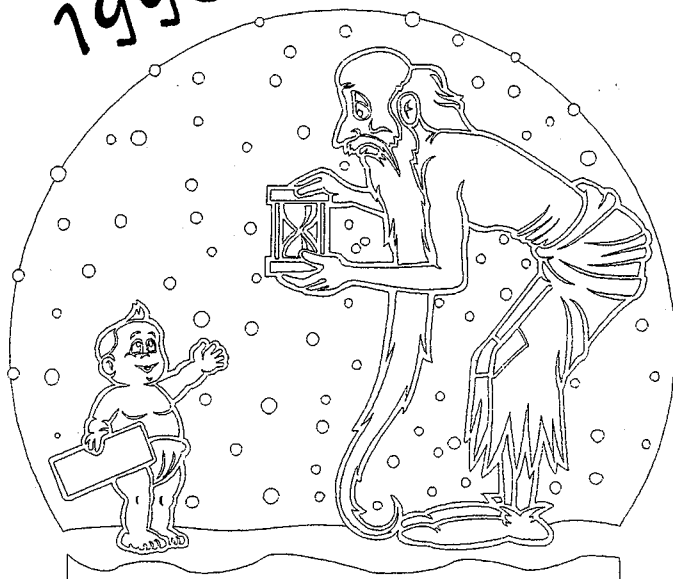
KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

1998

Happy

New

Year



STOP PRESS

**Don't forget the Quiz Night January 9th
£4 per team
Entries and fish & chip orders
to Simon or Margaret
Don't miss out places going fast**

Editor Sheila NAISH

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KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

Message from Ed.

As we enter into the New Year, we at News and Views would like to wish you all a Happy Prosperous New Year and remind you that we would be very pleased to receive any articles for the magazine at any time. Articles etc. may be left at Kenn Post Office, with Ray Naish, or Margaret Stowell, or phone me 01934 838357 and I will collect them.

Sheila.

Thank you on behalf of the team at News and Views for our Christmas Gifts - Very much appreciated.

Naish's Notes

Mrs. Grace Griffin fell over her Hoover before Christmas and has broken her arm (I'm not likely to do that my husband says - I think he means I never do any Hoovering !! 'nuff said).

John however has been to the rescue and iced the cake, made mince pies and generally been very helpful. When he was just thinking Grace was able to do a bit more, the news arrived that Mrs. Joyce Kent, whilst staying with her daughter has fallen outside the pub (who am I to cast aspersions - a bit more water with it Joyce !) and not only broken her right arm, but had dislocated two fingers too. She is being returned to stay with Grace and John. John now has two of them to look after. He's just hoping the other sister doesn't make it a hat-trick - watch this space.

We hope both sisters are soon fit and able again.

FUND RAISING

The Christmas Disco held at the Village Hall was absolutely brilliant fun. - Thank you to all involved ! The total monies raised for the M.S. Centre in Nailsea was £323.50. Thanks again.

Snippets

As we say goodbye to 1997 and welcome 1998 it is good to pause to say thank you to all the Kennites who have given of their time and energy in so many different ways to our village and its well being.

We remember all the ladies who week by week clean our church, polish the brass and arrange fresh flowers; and the two senior citizens who open the church whatever the weather for early morning service; the mothers who run the Sunday club; those who mow the churchyard from time to time and the Friends of Kenn church.

Our village green is kept tidy and the pots planted and our flags raised for special happenings.

The village hall is kept solvent and ready for use by Kennites and their friends by volunteers.

During the year it has been used for jumble sales, children's parties, OAPs' party, discos, fashion show, antiques valuation evening, Women's Institute meetings, Parish Council meetings, keep fit and dog training. The Kenn Women's Institute offers a variety of interests for all ages and welcomes new members.

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The Parish Council does its best to liaise with local authorities on many subjects. We remember all those who visit older members of our community taking them shopping, to the doctor or hospital when needed.

We say thank you to those who erect our Christmas tree on the green and support our "switch on evening" and provide mince pies and music for carol singing.

Finally, we remember all those who work so hard to produce and deliver News and Views to our home.

To everyone who has helped during 1997, a warm thank you. To all our readers, volunteers are always welcome!

Our Flag

In Kenn it is our custom to raise our flag for Royal and National events and also for special joys and sorrows of Kenn families. We fly our flag for births, special birthdays i.e. 21 and 80, weddings and special wedding anniversaries and at half mast when our loved ones leave us.

We do not mind how many times we are told about these events but we are concerned when we are not told - our telephone number; 872676 The Dyers.

Celebration - Diamond Wedding

November 29th we were pleased to fly our flag to celebrate the Diamond Wedding of Mr & Mrs Holtham who kept Kenn garage for many years before moving to Clevedon.

News and Views

At the senior citizens party we were pleased to say thank you and present gifts to Margaret Stowell, Sheila Naish, Ann Stowell and Simon Pascoe for all the work they do each month to produce Kenn News and Views

R M Dyer

Dates for you diary:

Venue - Kenn Village Hall

Jan 9th Quiz - Friends of Kenn Church
7.45 for 8.00 pm.

Jan 13th Kenn Women's Institute
7.30 p.m.

Speaker; Mrs Pat Davies on Iceland
Competition; A holiday photo

Tuesdays - dog training

Mondays & Thursdays - keep fit

Kenn Christmas Tree on the Green

On a warm winter's evening on December 19th some seventy Kennites and their friends gathered on our Village Green for our "Carols on the Green Evening". This year Mrs. Margaret Stowell was invited to switch on the tree lights.

Everyone joined in singing well-known carols accompanied by music played by Clive Golding-Ellis and Katy his daughter.

An innovation this year was our children singing a verse of "Away in a Manger" by themselves.

Delicious mince pies donated by Kennites accompanied a Christmas Punch provided by Mr. Allan Dillon followed.

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Many villagers, past & present, were very pleased to be at the annual Kenn Christmas party for pensioners.

A collection was taken by our young folk, which with later donations raised £65 for the Children's Society.

Silver Wedding

December 23rd - Congratulations to Doctor Richard and Reverend Avril Gaunt who celebrated their Silver Wedding. We flew our flag in celebration. We wish them many more happy years together.

Kenn History Group

For our December meeting we all gathered at John and Grace Griffin's house for mulled wine and nibbles. The group spent a happy few hours chatting and enjoying the Christmas Spirit. The Kenn History Group would very much like to thank John and Grace for their hospitality, not just for the Christmas meeting, but for all the winter sessions.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year.

Mandy Boyle.

Letter

I should like to say Thank You very much indeed to everyone who so kindly sent me cards, messages and flowers wishing me well during my recent stay in Southmead. As you know I am now home and soon hope to be 'fighting fit'.

I should also like to say a special Thank You to John Cruse for his prayers.

Iris Goldsworthy

Christmas Party

This delightful party serves many purposes, for, not only is a nice tea provided in festive surroundings, but many friends & neighbours get a rare chance to meet with old friends, to chat about old times & tales of the villages around them.

Whilst I was sitting there, a few lines of poetry, remembered from my school days, slowly came to mind:

'So now is come our joyful feast,
Let everyone be jolly
Each room with ivy-leaves is dressed,
And every post with holly
Round your foreheads garlands twine
Sorrows drown with cup & wine
And let us all be merry'

Finally, I'm sure all those who were present, will join in saying thank you to all the kind hearts who organise and service this get together every year, and to assure them that we really do appreciate their thoughtfulness.

Cliff Edwards

Kenn Womens' Institute

The President, Miss Ann Holtham, welcomed members to the December meeting, and especially our guests from Clevedon and Tickenham institutes.

Mrs Betty Bubb was thanked for her very festive table decoration and the list of duties for the coming year was read out.

Votes for the 1998 charity were collected, and the result will be announced next month. The Christmas post box was sorted by Mrs Prew and Mrs Stowell.

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Mrs Dyer asked us to support a plan to get milk distributed in schools in order to prevent osteoporosis in the children in later life. She added that as a women's' organisation, this is the sort of concern we should be involved in.

We were delighted to present a gift to mark the 60th wedding anniversary of Mr & Mrs Holtham. Having been a member of Kenn WI for forty four years, Mrs Holtham actually joined the WI about fifty five years ago.

A very enjoyable Beetle Drive, which sometimes resembles a game of Musical Chairs, followed, and was won by Mrs Dobbs. Refreshments, including wine and mince pies, were then much appreciated.

Our speaker on January 14th will be Mrs Pat Davies on Iceland, and the competition is for a holiday photo. Should you wish to join us, please do so - there is no obligation to become a member!

Congratulations

Margaret Stowell is delighted to announce the engagement of Quinton to the lovely Jody Booth. The happy couple plan to tie the knot next September in Maidenhead.

FRIENDS OF KENN CHURCH -
QUIZ NIGHT
SATURDAY 6th JANUARY
Teams of 4 at £4 per Team
B.Y.O.

Meet at Kenn Village Hall at 7.45 pm for 8.00 pm start. Roger Wilcox will be our Quizmaster and Fish and Chips will be served at Half -Time - Full details in the note being circulated around the villages or from Margaret Stowell or Simon Pascoe with whom entries and fish and chip orders should be placed as soon as possible, last date Wednesday 7th January.

More Naish Notes

The Quiz Night held at Kenn Valley Social Club in aid of Children In Need raised the marvellous sum of £287. Thanks to Derek for his excellent quiz (No ! I was not bottom!! I was quite near the top - Martini works well on brain cells methinks !!).

To all who donated prizes to the auction and the raffle and to Shane Manville for gamely dressing us as Pudsey Bear ! Well done to all.

Sheila.

BIRD NEWS

A Barn Owl has been a welcome visitor to Kenn Moor with it or possibly a second bird in the Nailsea Wall area. I saw the owl at dusk along Claverham Drove, my first sighting in the area in 16 years ! A few days later Rob Treble phoned me to say that he had seen the bird on a recent evening fly past his house at a few feet range !

It then proceeded to perch on a neighbour's chimney for some minutes. I am always very pleased to hear of any unusual bird sightings (01934 835208)

Along the sea wall a very rare bird, a Desert Wheatear turned up but for just one day. Slightly less rare but longer staying on the sea wall are three Shorelarks refugees from the east coast and the first I can ever remember in our area.

The cold and snow in mid-December made the birds more visible and I noted a Water Rail along the Cheddar Valley Railway Local Nature Reserve in Yatton. It was feeding unconcernedly in a shallow ditch just a few feet away. During a recent survey walk Reed Buntings were

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noticeable by their absence - they really do seem to be declining in many of our local areas now.

A recent visit to Nailsea Moor produced no less than four Short Eared Owls leaving their daytime roost and a (captive) Golden Eagle being exercised. Standard gates do appear very small when a Golden Eagle is sitting on them. There was also a very large covey of Grey Partridge, obviously reared birds but very wary and unapproachable nevertheless.

Trevor Riddle

BIRD NEWS 2

Song Thrushes started singing again around Christmas time in Kenn Street, has the very mild weather fooled them into thinking spring is already here.

Jeff Naish has seen a Barn Owl along Nailsea Wall several times.

Ray Naish.

Mrs Catherine Harris

Mrs. Harris passed away in hospital on Christmas Eve after being ill for a very long time.

With her husband Charles, Kay as she was generally known, had lived at "Orchard House" near the Post Office for almost 50 years.

Unfortunately Charles is also in poor health in hospital. We offer him best wishes and a speedy return to good health.

We extend our sympathy to Charles and his four sons.

Ray Naish.

Christmas at Kenn Church

The Services at Kenn Church during the Christmas Festival have been very well attended. There were 78 people present at the Service of Lessons and Carols, this was good considering there were so many other Carol Services on at the same evening.

The Crib Service on Christmas Eve had a congregation of 70 with a large number of children and families among them. We were pleased to welcome many visitors who were staying in the Village. The Sunday Club Members enjoyed acting the Christmas Story. Many thanks to their leaders who had put in so much time teaching them.

Ray Naish.

Emily Hobbs

I'm sure the people from Kenn who knew Emm Hobbs will be sorry to hear of her passing away recently aged 90.

Emm had lived in the West End, Nailsea area since childhood. She was the widow of Matt Hobbs who many people will remember as the master of country arts such as dry stone walling and rick thatching and hedge laying. He died a few years ago.

Emily Hobbs was a great character and very knowledgeable on local history. She had left school and started her first job when only 12 years old. This was as live-in housemaid at "Bizley Farm" for the Grey family.

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She married Matt when only 19 and they lived at Rose Cottage, West End. Both Matt and Emm were extremely hard workers; during the war Emm worked on farms and did housework at "Nailsea Court".

Their very large garden at Rose Cottage, something like a half acre in size was a picture to see. They had every sort of fruit and vegetable available growing there and all sorts of hens, bantams, ducks, rabbits and guinea pigs running around. They were true country people the sort that are fast disappearing from this area.

Ray Naish.

Christmas Tea Party

The Village Party Committee entertained about 50 senior members from the village with other guests who have connections with Kenn to a Christmas Afternoon Tea on 3rd December.

After a splendid tea supplied by ladies of the village, Mr and Mrs George Holtham who had celebrated their Diamond Wedding a few days before were given a small present and offered best wishes for the future from fellow guests.

After much talking among themselves (many villagers only meet at this annual party) the guests joined in with communal carol singing before leaving for home with a small Christmas Present given by the party committee.

A very happy afternoon was had by both guests and helpers.

The Committee would like to thank those people who have written thanking them for

the party, we really enjoy organizing this party, it starts Christmas off for us.

Members of Kenn Village Party Committee.

Letter from

National Meningitis Trust
Fern House
Bath Road
Stroud
Glos.

to Mrs. Sheila Naish.

18th December, 1997.

Dear Sheila,

Thank you very much indeed for the super donation of £690.00 raised from your Fun Run. We are extremely grateful to receive this gift and you may be assured that already it is being used to help fight meningitis.

If practical, please pass on our thanks to everyone else involved who helped to raise this marvellous contribution towards the work of the Trust.

As a small charity the challenge that faces us to provide support, raise awareness and fund research is enormous. It is a task we can only undertake with the continuing kindness and generosity of supporters like yourself. On behalf of everyone we help, please accept our thanks.

With our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

King Regards

Becca Gale
Appeals Assistant.

