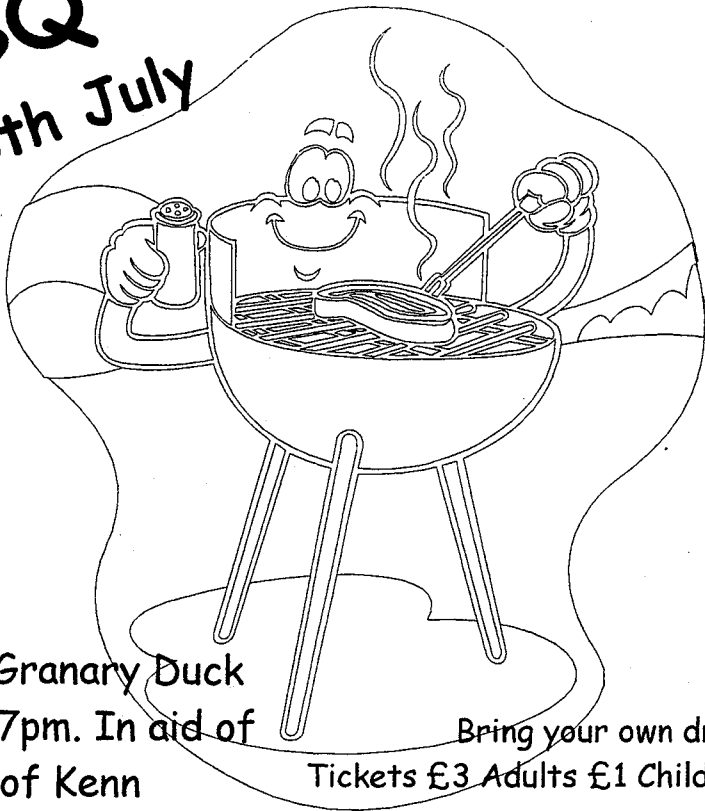


---

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

---

**BBQ**  
18th July



At The Granary Duck  
Lane at 7pm. In aid of  
Friends of Kenn  
Church

Bring your own drink  
Tickets £3 Adults £1 Children

Editor Sheila NAISH

Issue No 119 July 1998

Printed by:- Margaret STOWELL

Typed by:- Ann STOWELL

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

July 5 - Avril Gaunt  
7 - Adam Gamester  
8 - Oliver Hart  
10 - Caroline Holden  
15 - Mrs Gladys Griffin  
21 - Toby Naish  
24 - Brian Walters  
25 - Sue Pugh  
27 - Jessica Brett  
28 - Juliet Stowell  
Jack Stowell

## Message from Editor

Don't forget - Tidy your patch !!!  
Judges are about. We want to win the  
Tidy Village Competition this year.

## Naish's Notes

We wish Mrs. Win Cole a very speedy  
recovery after her operation.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Barn Dance and B.B.Q.

*Tickets for the Barn Disco and B.B.Q.  
at Oakland Farm on SATURDAY 11th  
JULY - 8.00 pm - 1.30. are now on  
sale.*

This year's charity is to be Clevedon  
Cottage Hospital

Tickets £3 from Sheila, Kenn Valley  
Social Club or Heather Jenkins.

The bar will be open all night, usual  
raffle - prizes gratefully received.

\*\*\*\*\*

## Advanced Warning

This year's FUN RUN will be on  
September 6th. A Tug of War  
competition for those of you who are  
feeling fit and there will be stalls, rides  
and various other things to keep you  
amused.

I'm collecting Bric-a-Brac, books and  
items for a tombola - all can be left  
with myself (838357), Heather Jenkins  
or Ray Naish.

- Watch this space !
- Dust off your trainers !
- Keep the afternoon free !

\*\*\*\*\*

The Parish Council would be pleased  
to hear your ideas for celebrating the  
Millennium in Kenn. Get your  
thinking caps on !!

\*\*\*\*\*

Seen on the windscreen of a Jeep  
FAT and FATTER

\*\*\*\*\*

## Warning

Travellers are on the move !

Weston-super-Mare has its share and  
locally there were two outside  
Stowell's in Yatton.

Keep your eyes open, before you know  
where you are, one caravan turns into 3  
- 4 - 5 whatever !!

Let your Parish Councillor know if you  
have any suspicions.

\*\*\*\*\*

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## Church News

### Friends of Kenn Church

At the Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Kenn Church on the 28th May several matters were discussed.

Our Church Heating will, hopefully be renewed before the cold weather and specifications and faculties are all in hand.

A Barbecue, hosted by John and Grace Griffin on Saturday 18th July will be our main Fund Raising Event for this. Last year's BBQ was a most successful and we are expecting a great night.

We hope to install Flood Lighting for the Church to celebrate the Millennium - this will be next year's project.

The Quinquennial Inspection has now been carried out and the Architect's Report is awaited.

Jean Naish will host a Coffee Morning at Stonehouse Farm on Tuesday 11th August 10-12 Noon.

Churchyard - The hedging work had improved the view from the churchyard and the gates and seats will soon be painted.

The Committee elected for the coming year are:

Rev. John Cruse (Ex Officio)  
Renee Bell and Ray Naish (Churchwardens),  
John Griffin (Chairman)  
Simon Pascoe (Treasurer)  
Margaret Stowell (Secretary)

Ruth Dyer, Cliff Edwards,  
Grace Griffin, Jill Hackett,  
Marianna Mackay.

### St. John's Altar Guild

#### July Rota

Mrs. G. Griffin and Mrs. S. Naish.

Many Thanks to all who helped tidy the Churchyard ready for the Best Kept Village Competition, it looks a picture.

### The Choir

Are you interested in Church Choir singing ?

If so we have vacancies in our choir. We are especially short of sopranos for our morning Communion Services.

If you are interested would you please contact either of the Churchwardens.

### Kenn Village Hall

Thanks largely to the efforts of Mrs. Denmead in selling Christmas Cards, the Hall Committee has been able to buy one hundred matching cups and saucers.

#### Hall Rents

The Committee has decided that the rents for using the Village Hall will not be raised for one year as from 1st September.

A big thank you to Robert Willcox who has trimmed the village hall hedge.

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## Jumble Sale

7 pm Wednesday 19th August

A Jumble Sale in aid of Hall Funds will be held on August 19th when offers of books, plants, bric-a-brac, jumble and help will be gratefully received.

## **KENN NOTES - SNIPPETS**

### **Our Flag**

14th June - we flew our flag to celebrate the official birthday of Her Majesty our Queen.

### **Kenn thro' the Ages**

It has been decided to postpone this event until 1999.

### **Mrs Denmead**

We are sorry to learn Mrs. Denmead is leaving Kenn to live in Clevedon.

During the many years she has lived in Kenn she has always been a very active member in the community, helping in many ways.

She helped her husband Stanley in his business and when he was Secretary for Kenn Village Hall.

She was a founder member of Kenn Womens' Institute, holding many offices: even today she is responsible for Calendars and Diaries. For many years she has regularly sold Christmas Cards, giving all the profit to local good causes, including the Village Hall Funds.

When Kenn Mothers' Union was in being she was an active member and

for many years she has helped when the local handicapped come to tea at Kenn.

We wish her well in her new home and hope she will still be able to attend Kenn events.

R.M.Dyer

### **Dates for your Diary**

#### **Bums, Tums and Thighs**

Thursdays 8-9 pm. Keep Fit with Sue Gilbert

#### **Kenn Womens' Institute**

#### **4th July - Strawberry Tea**

Saturday 4th July - 3 pm Strawberry Tea for the Friends of Clevedon Hospital at Kenn Court Garden (weather permitting) otherwise in Kenn Village Hall.

Plant Stall - Bring and Buy - Raffle

Tea Ticket £3 from W.I. members or Ruth Dyer.

#### **Wednesday 8th July at Kenn Village Hall**

Kenn W.I. Meeting at 7.30 pm  
History of H.M. Customs and Excise.  
Competition - An Animal Teapot.

**Saturday 11th July** - Barn Disco and B.B.Q. at Oaklands Farm

**Saturday 18th July** - Barbecue at The Granary, Duck Lane, Kenn in aid of the Friends of Kenn Church.

## KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

### Tuesday 11th August

- 10 - 12 noon - Coffee Morning at Stonehouse Farm, Kenn - by kind invitation of Jean Naish - Proceeds to the Friends of Kenn Church.

### 18th August - Jumble Sale

7 pm at Kenn Village Hall - Proceeds to Kenn Village Hall Funds.

### KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The June meeting was well attended. President Miss Holtham welcomed everyone, especially Mrs Lamb and Mrs Rose Jeffrey who have been unwell and Mrs. Withers; the first we hope, of further visits.

Mrs Bubb was thanked for her very summery flower arrangement.

Mrs. Denmead is leaving the village to live in Clevedon but we hope we shall be seeing her just as often. She is a long-time member of the Institute and is very much involved, dealing with the diaries and calendars every year as well as helping with raffles etc.

Mrs. Ball from Clevedon WI came to give her report on the IGM at Brighton and also gave us a lovely fuchsia plant named after Adelaide Hoodlass, the founder of the WI. The plant was raffled later in the evening.

Mrs. Ball reported that child carers (Resolution 1) have an average age of twelve years, the youngest known being an unbelievable four years old. School nurses are now being trained to look for these children. It was felt that practical help is needed without there being too much interference in the

family. the resolution was carried by 99.8% in favour.

The second Resolution, the using of brownfield sites for building was carried by a vote of 98% in favour.

The Speaker at the IGM was a farmer who urged members to buy organically-grown foods. Not only is it more economical by using less chemicals and having healthier animals, it could prevent another crisis such as BSE.

It was also urged that more information is needed by the public on genetically altered food.

Denman College is doing well, having had 6,000 members take courses during the last year. We were assured the food is much improved and we can now buy chocolate there.

There is also now a gold version of the WI tree brooch available for £145 !

"Where did you get that name?" was the question asked by Mrs. Amesbury, our speaker. He gave a very entertaining talk on surnames - the main sources of these being location (Hill), employment (Tanner, Weaver) looks (Long, Redhead) and it was amazing the number of strange names Mr. Amesbury had extracted from the Bristol telephone directory. One of the shortest is By and the longest Featherstonehaugh. And yes, Smith is the most common.

The competition for three roses was won by Mrs. Dyer, second was Mrs. Bubb and third Mrs. Prew.

Next month's speaker will be Mr. Davey on the History of HM Customs

## KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

and Excise and the competition is for an animal teapot.

\*\*\*\*\*

We are sorry to report on the passing on May 13th at Yatton Hall Nursing Home of Mrs. Hilda Dietreich who lived with her family in Duck Lane for several years. She lived to the grand old age of 91 years, just missing her 92nd birthday by two months.

Our sympathy goes to Robin Jenkins and family.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Christian Aid 1998

#### THANK YOU

To Claire, Jean and Clifford for helping with the Envelope collection and to everyone in Kenn for the magnificent collection of £163.97.

Well done,

Julia Bush

\*\*\*\*\*

### News from Duck Lane

Congratulations to John Griffin who was recently awarded a Gold Badge and Certificate by the Blood Donors Association for donating 50 pints of blood for the benefit of others.

### The Denmeads

We are very sorry that Gladys Denmead has left Kenn. She has gone to be near her son in Clevedon and we wish her well in her new home.

When Gladys left Kenn at the end of June, after living in Duck Lane for around fifty years, it meant that there are now no Denmeads living in Kenn. This is for the first time for at least two hundred years. They had probably lived here longer than any other family in the history of this village.

By sheer coincidence when I was thinking about writing these notes, I received a letter from Australia from Mrs. W. Baker who lives in the town of Dapto, New South Wales who is a descendant of the members of the Denmead family whose lines came from Kingston Seymour, Kenn, Yatton and Hutton who emigrated to Australia in 1856 on the ship "Escort" - a voyage of 100 days.

They were James and Elizabeth Denmead. On arrival James got a farm job in Geelong, Victoria for £33 a year, plus three months rations and accommodation for twelve months.

There is far too much information in the letter to print in News and Views. If anyone would like to look through it feel free.

Our Church records at Kenn tell us that the Denmeads were here in the 1700's.

The next longest family to have continuously lived in Kenn and are still here are probably the Bakers, of which Lucy Baker and Cyril Willcox are members. The Bakers have probably lived here for the best part of 200 years. Robert Willcox, who now farms "Yew Tree Farm" is at least the sixth generation of the family to have done so.

Ray Naish.

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

## FOR SALE - BEDDING PLANTS

Mrs Mary Willcox of Yew Tree Farm is again offering Bedding Plants for sale with proceeds going towards Kenn Church Funds.

Telephone 872837

## Kenn History Group

A walk has been arranged in the Gordano Valley Nature Reserve, under the guidance of Tony Richardson of English Nature.

We will meet at Ray's, Stonehouse Farm at 6.45 pm and then drive to Walton-in-Gordano by 7 pm.

*Monday 6th July*  
Everyone is welcome to join us, there will be no charge, but donations will go towards providing nesting boxes for the birds.

Grace Griffin.

## BIRD NEWS I

Not very much Kenn news this month I'm afraid, as we have been away on holiday.

However, I have noted both a Buzzard and a Kestrel close to Kenn Church when I have been passing through the village. However, Ray Naish told me of a much more exciting sighting - a Red Kite - over Southfield Farm.

These birds are slowly being reintroduced in England and Scotland, so it may have been one of these, or a bird from the increasing Welsh Population.

Red Kites feed mainly on carrion and indeed, scavenged in and kept clean the streets of London 300 years ago.

They are about the same size as a Buzzard, but are more slender, with longer wings and of course a forked tail. They seem to thrive quite happily alongside Buzzards and I predict that they will be regularly seen in our area within the next ten years.

Trevor Riddle.

## Bird and Animal Notes (2)

Heather Noad has told me that she was driving by "Kenn Court" at five thirty, one morning and spotted a deer grazing on the grass verge. It jumped the gate into the field behind the Church.

Irene Stowell has reported seeing a deer grazing with her sheep several mornings running at Russ. If it is the same one it has either crossed the motorway or walked over the motorway bridge.

Tim Bush, of "Southfield Farm" has reported seeing a Red Kite flying over his farm, also one has been seen flying over Cadbury Camp, Tickenham.

There seem to be very few Skylarks around in the moor this year. I was pleased to hear one singing out there this morning the 20th June.

The very heavy rain we have had lately, (in early June) has probably killed a very large number of young birds, especially of the ground nesting varieties.

# KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

The Song Thrushes around Kenn are still singing their hearts out. What a tremendous amount of noise they can make for such a small bird.

Ray Naish.

## Bird News (3)

We had a pair of Pied Wagtails build their nest in our greenhouse this spring and rear 3 young, which we enjoyed watching the parents feed and encourage to fly when they were ready.

We hope they will return next year.

Grace Griffin.

## Progress ?

I have been asking people how long it takes them to get to Bristol in the morning, some say half an hour, others say, if you are unlucky and get caught up in the rush hour it may take an hour.

I have been thinking about that great character Charlie Staples who lived in Kenn all his life, dying here in about 1944 aged 86 years.

Charlie with his family lived here, at Stonehouse Farm, from about 1892 until 1912. While he was living here he built up a large cider making business and had customers around the area including Bristol.

I have been told that he supplied a pub called the "Hen and Chicken" in Bedminster and he delivered the cider there himself. At that time he owned a wonderful mare, a very fast trotter. It has been said that she could trot from Kenn to the "Hen and Chicken" in fifty

minutes. I expect when her head was facing home she could go even faster.

So much for modern transport when it takes just as long eighty years later.

Eighty years ago the roads were much rougher than they are today, no tarmacadam in those days !!

Ray Naish.

## **DISCO & BBQ**

**AT OAKLAND FARM,  
KENN**

**SATURDAY 11th JULY  
8 til 1:30**

**LICENCED BAR** **RAFFLE**  
**INCLUDING**  
**LATE NIGHT**  
**CABARET**  
**THE LAIDS**

**PERFORMING THE GREAT MONTY**  
**ALL PROCEEDS TO CLEVEDON COTTAGE HOSPITAL**

**NO**  
**ADMISSION**  
**BY TICKET** **£3.00** **ADMISSION**  
**ONLY** **AFTER 10:30**

**TICKETS FROM SHEILA NAIASH :01934 838357**  
**KENN VALLEY SOCIAL CLUB :01934 832086**

## **FRIENDS OF KENN CHURCH**

**Fundraiser for Kenn  
Church Heating Funds**

## **BARBECUE**

at

**THE GRANARY, DUCK LANE, KENN**

**SATURDAY 18TH JULY 1998 - from 7.00 pm**

**Bring your own drinks**

**and folding chairs (if you have them)**

**Tickets - £3.00 adults £1.00 children**

**from Committee Members, Kenn Post Office  
or ring Grace Griffin on 872948**

**(if wet in Kenn Village Hall)**