

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS

WINTER

BRITISH SUMMER TIME STARTS ON
SUNDAY 29TH MARCH

CLOCKS GO FORWARD 1 HOUR

SUMMER

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Printed by:- Margaret STOWELL

Issue No 115 MARCH 1998

Typed by:- Ann STOWELL

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BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March 1st St. David's Day

March 5th Jean Naish

March 8th Jeremy Osbourne

March 16th Angie Carpenter (up the garage)

W.A. Brian and Juliet Stowell

March 17th Lee Staples

March 18th Quinton Stowell

March 27th Amy Bye

March 31st Sam and Ruth Dyer W.A.

MESSAGE FROM LITTLE ED.

Sunday 22nd March is Mothering Sunday.

To the children of the readers of this magazine, I offer this quotation, with all mums in mind.

3 years of nappies

7 years of tantrums

18 years of worry

1 day of the year to thank her !!

Mothers Day.

Enough said.

Naish's Notes

Many thanks to everyone who attended the Valentine's Dance at Kenn Valley Social Club. We raised the marvellous sum of £377.04 for the Wallace and Gromit Appeal for the new Children's Hospital in Bristol.

Well done to Ben and Jean Woods who were dressed in the "wrong trousers" in true Wallace and Gromit fashion and won a bottle of wine for their efforts.

North Somerset Council

North Somerset Council are looking for people to sit on the School Appeals Panels - anyone interested in sitting on this panel can contact me and I will give them the appropriate forms.

Sheila Naish.

Diary Date

Darts Competition - open to all at Kenn Valley Social Club - Sunday 1st March. Phone 01934 832086 for further details.

SNIPPETS

30th January, 1998 our flag was flown at half mast for the burial in Kenn Churchyard of the late Mr. Charles Harris, formerly of Orchard House.

Welcome

A warm welcome to Bethany Eve, baby daughter of Vincent and Ann Stowell and a granddaughter for Margaret. She was born on 4th February and we flew our flag to welcome her.

Welcome

To Max White, second son for Rob and Sally, another grandchild for Gill Taylor.

Welcome

To Jake Knight, born 23.2.98 to Debbie and Ian (Debbie keeps her horse with Julie and is well known in the village.

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Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning held at Kenn Court on February 10th raised £65 for News and Views. A warm thank you to all those who supported the morning and gave donations.

Blue Peter "Bring and Buy"

Pip Jenkins raised over £75 for the Cystic Fibrosis Appeal.

Many thanks to everyone who donated cakes, toys, china, monies etc. and a special thank you for the donation of a free table by the village committee at the recent Jumble Sale in aid of the Christmas Parties.

Heather Jenkins.

Jumble Sale

Many thanks to all who made donations, helped at and supported the recent Jumble Sale which raised over £95 to help finance the Christmas Parties. The Jumble which remained has gone to the local C.L.I.C. Shop.

Margaret Stowell

St. John's Altar Guild

March Rota

Mrs. J. Fenwick, Mrs. J. Pascoe and Mrs. J. Bush

THANK YOU

Many thanks to all the ladies who decorated the Church for the Christmas Festival. All the windows and the altar looked beautiful.

The Altar flowers and one of the windows were decorated in memory of Mrs. Barbara Edwards. Money given by the family.

Thank you to everyone who kept the church in immaculate order during 1997, cleaning and arranging flowers. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Many thanks to everyone; if there are any problems, please get in touch with Jean Naish or Iris Goldsworthy.

Convalescents

Mrs. Margaret Ford of Duck Lane and Mr. Parrish of One Elm have both returned from hospital. We wish them both a speedy recovery.

Charles and Kay Harris

As was reported in last month's News and Views, Charles and Kay passed away within three weeks of each other.

They had lived at "Orchard House" near the Post Office for around fifty years.

During the 1950's and 60's Chas. and Kay ran a Y.H.A. youth hostel in the buildings around their orchard. Young people from all around the world stayed overnight there during their travels around this country. At this time Chas. had a go at small time farming, he kept a Jersey house cow in the orchard and milked her early in the morning before setting off to work at the B.A.C. in Filton and again when he came home in the evening. After using the milk required for the house the surplus was used to feed a couple of calves.

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Charles worked on building Concorde. He and Kay were sent to Toulouse in France where they lived for several years while Chas. was engaged in developing Concorde in that country.

Charles and Kay were buried together in the churchyard here at Kenn. Several Villagers who remembered them attended the burial service. Their four sons David, Myles, Brendan and Charles and their families were very pleased that their parents were able to be buried in the Village Churchyard in the place where they had spent so much of their lives.

On a personal note, Jean and I were very pleased to meet the four sons again after very many years. We didn't recognise them, or they us; it had been such a long time since we had met. We knew them extremely well when they were schoolboys, at that time we lived in part of the Post Office and were their next door neighbours.

Ray Naish.

Kenn Village Hall

March 25th 2 pm - Jumble Sale in aid of Kenn Village Hall. Offers of help will be very much appreciated, also plants, cakes, produce, bric-a-brac, books, jumble, raffle prizes.

Come along meet your friends and neighbours and support the Hall. Goods to Hall 10 am - 11 am morning of Sale please.

Kenn Thro' the Ages

We hope to have a "Kenn thro' the Ages" day on Saturday 29th August in aid of Kenn Village Hall when it is hoped every Kennite will participate.

Suggestion are for displays representing Kennites in Education, Church, Women's Institutes, Local Government, Leisure and Crafts, Fashion, War, Health, Transport, Hall, Occupations.

Various residents are being asked to organise displays and it is hoped they will invite others to help.

Further details later - watch this space

Coffee & Chat - March

You are invited to Wimbridge, Kenn Street, Kenn on Thursday 19th March from 10.30 - 12 noon - your hostesses will be Iris Surridge and Mary Lamb.

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 11th March - Kenn Women's Institute 7.30 pm at the Village Hall. Mrs. Rideout will speak on Homelessness and The Julian Trust.

Competition - Five Specimen Daffodils.

Kenn Village Hall - Wednesday 25th March 2 pm. Jumble Sale

Kenn Village Hall - Mondays 7.45 pm. Keep Fit with Jacqui Curwen.

Kenn Village Hall - Tuesdays - Dog Training.

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Kenn Village Hall - Thursdays -
Tums, Bums and Thighs - Keep Fit at
8.00 pm with Sue.

Advance Date

Wednesday 15th April 7 pm -
Women's Institute Jumble Sale.

Parish Council Notes

After a great deal of trying Kenn has at last got a speed limit in the village. There will be a limit of 40 m.p.h. on the main B3133 from the Motorway Bridge to Kenn Estate. This will be extended when the development takes place behind Portbury House Farm.

There is also to be a 30 m.p.h. limit in Kenn Street and Duck Lane.

Parish Councillors were very concerned to hear that Mrs. Brockway's daughter was knocked down on the Moor Road near her home and that her leg was broken. The motorist did not stop. It was also regrettable that the ambulance lost its way trying to find the Moor Road. There was also a fatal accident on the same road one frosty morning.

This road is being used as a rat run by people who do not show proper respect for the surface conditions or the width of the road and drive far too fast. It is not eligible for a speed limit and the nature of the ground on the moor means that the road will never have an even surface.

This road is part of the Avon cycleway, has a weight limit except for access, is used by horseriders and walkers and animals are frequently moved on it. The Parish Council has written to North Somerset Council, the

Police and Yatton Parish Council seeking help in getting the road properly signed so that users are aware of the hazards they might meet. It may be a long slow job but the matter will be pursued as far as it can be.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 6th April. It will be followed by the Annual parish Meeting at 8 pm. All are welcome to attend.

THANKS

Mrs. Win Coles would like to thank everyone for the cards and gifts received whilst she has been unwell. She would also like to thank her wonderful family and friends who organized her surprise evening party for her 80th birthday on the 10th February.

THANKS

My thanks to all those kind people who sent cards, flowers and good wishes for my speedy recovery following my recent operation.

I can only echo that which has been said often before - "what would we do without our friends and neighbours!"

Once again my thanks,

Margaret Ford.

The Titanic

The sinking of the Titanic is very much in the news now that the film on the tragedy is being shown.

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It is almost certain that a young man from Kenn was amongst those who perished with the ship.

Around the early years of the century the Locke family lived in what was then "Stonehouse Cottages" (the house adjoining the Old Ox House, where the late Toby Gale used to live).

Mrs. Locke was the village midwife, she attended the birth of most of the babies born here for many years. It has been said that she managed to bring them into the world without ever having to call a Doctor.

Mr. and Mrs Locke had a large family; two of their sons joined the army.

The older one, who I believe was named Alfred, fought in the Boer war. When the war was over he eventually got back to Kenn. The family held a party in the orchard behind the cottage to celebrate his safe return. John the younger brother was also on leave at the time.

Before the party got under way John went up to the "Rose and Crown" as Kenn pub was called in those days, to have a drink. Unfortunately, he got a bit tiddly and when he arrived back at the cottage his father had a row with him and told him he was a disgrace to the uniform he was wearing. This was a very serious thing to say to a soldier in those days.

Later in the night they all went to bed. In the middle of the night John got up, put on his uniform, and walked out into the night, obviously very upset.

He was never seen or heard of by his family again. His mother was so upset she kept a candle burning every night

until her death hoping he would one night return.

The only clue the family ever had of his whereabouts was when the list of those who went down with the Titanic was published there was a J. Locke on the list.

My second cousin, Reggie Hale who lived at the Stoke Inn at Rodney Stoke near Cheddar definitely went down with the Titanic. He was on his second journey to the U.S.A. He had delayed this trip so that he could travel on the Titanic because he said she was unsinkable. He was one of the twelve children of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Hale who kept The Stoke Inn.

Ray Naish

BIRD NEWS 1

The exceptionally mild weather in February has been as welcome to our birds as it is to us humans. Wintering birds have found feeding easy and many of our resident species have been singing and even nest building very early. There seem to have been fewer Redwings and Fieldfares this winter than for many years past.

In the middle of the month Mrs. Bowering phoned to report a very large bird in Russ Lane; at one point it was harrassed by crows. I guess this was a Buzzard, and they do look very big indeed (wingspan 120 cm - 4 feet in "old money") when seen closely as my correspondent evidently did.

A recent visit to Kenn Moor revealed few birds but three Kestrels, three Buzzards and a Sparrowhawk showed

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that plenty of life exists - most of it was hiding !

The biggest surprise though was a pair of Grey Partridge - the first I have seen on the Moor for ten years. These are almost certainly released birds but as they have survived the shooting season let us hope they stay and breed successfully.

Finally, I cannot finish without reporting the arrival at Shapwick Heath National Nature Reserve of a grey (male) Hen Harrier. These are my favourite birds of all and after 17 years of looking I have now seen one in Somerset.

Trevor Riddle

BIRD NEWS 2

A Song Thrush started singing here at Stonehouse Farm about a month ago, unfortunately he seems to have disappeared. It is hoped he hasn't fallen victim to the Sparrow Hawk that is seen around almost every day in the Kenn Street area.

I have recently read that one of the causes of the shortage of Song Thrushes is through the use of slug pellets. These poison the slugs and snails then the thrushes eat them and are then poisoned themselves.

Gardeners, is it necessary to use all these chemicals and sprays ?

Think before you use them about how all these things upset the balance of nature.

Ray Naish

BIRD NEWS 3

Reported in last month's KN & V was a report that a Siskin was seen in a Yatton garden. This confirmed my very first sighting of this bird with its green plumage on our nut feeder in mid-January. It didn't stay long as it was harassed by Blue-Tits and Greenfinches.

During the cold spell, we had a rare sighting of a flock of Meadow Pipits in a field at Kenn Pier Farm. In previous years there have been many sightings of Lapwings around Tickenham Moor, but so far this year we have not seen any !

Buzzards have been heard and seen again over the moorland and Kenn. We watched four circling over our garden - two males and two females, in effortless gliding flight calling together which sounded more like crying!

The Song Thrush is again being heard around Kenn, usually at daybreak or late afternoon.

Seen in our garden in February was a pair of Bullfinches feeding off the buds of the Forsythia bush.

David Glasson, Kenn Pier.

ENGAGEMENT

John and Grace Griffin are very pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Sarah to Mr. Robert Melling from Middlesex, they plan to marry in November of this year.

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KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A good turn-out was greeted by President Miss Ann Holtham at the February meeting. Mrs. M. Arney was welcomed as a new member and Mrs. A. Ford as a visitor, while Mrs. B. Bubb was thanked for her flower arrangement. The scent was wonderful and made us all think spring might not be too far away.

After minutes, correspondence and finance, the EGM was discussed, the competition being for a flower basket suitable for a small bridesmaid, the entire thing to be a maximum of ten inches square.

Our Resolution will be to urge that milk be served up to children at school to avoid osteoporosis in later life.

North Newton WI will be invited to join us for our August meeting. There will be a friendly skittles match at Kenn Valley Social Club on Monday 16th March at 8.00 pm. There will be a buffet and the cost if £1.50 per head.

Our Speaker was Supt. B.J. Allinson of the Police Air Support. The idea of 'using the high ground' was first thought of years ago in order to control the Epsom traffic on Derby Day. This did not work, as not having radios it was impossible to do anything about what was going on below. By the time the plane found somewhere to land and the police got back to the road, everyone had gone home.

Several other attempts to use airborne police were unsuccessful, until car crime became so rife that they had to use modern technology to fight it.

There not being a lot a bobby on a bike can do against ram-raiders! Though even cars had a hard time, it costing £350,000 per annum for repairs to damaged police vehicles.

Those who, like me, think helicopters an expensive way of policing, will be surprised to know that to search one square mile with men and dogs costs nearly £5,000. With a helicopter it takes 12 minutes and costs £160.

I was surprised also when he said they had the best pilots in the world. The Superintendent added that all their pilots are ex-forces personnel with at least ten years flying experience.

And in case you worry when they fly over your house, the Squirrel helicopters used by Avon and Somerset have two engines.

Questions followed a very good talk, and the evening ended with a raffle, refreshments and the competition for a drinking vessel was won by Mrs. M. Harris, 2} Mrs. R. Kingcott and 3} Mrs. B. Bubb.

Kenn History Group

I was lucky enough, back in 1988, to visit Flat Holm. In fact, our first trip was abandoned due to rough seas, so some three months later, in glorious June sunshine we set off from Cardiff.

On arrival, I could easily see why our very small boat had been refused permission to attempt a landing earlier. The landing stage appeared to be a small flimsy construction surrounded by large rocks.

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Flat Holm is only 500 metres across and supported a small farming community until the end of World War II

The only dominant building on the island is St. Catherine's Lighthouse, built in 1737 after 60 soldiers lost their lives in a storm. It was taken over by Trinity House in 1823.

The island is littered with fortifications. In 1869 Palmerston ordered a small fort with 4 batteries and barracks for 50 soldiers. In World War II there were 2 anti-aircraft batteries; radar station and searchlights and 350 men were stationed there.

The farmhouse has now been fully renovated and up to 30 people can stay on the island. The remaining derelict buildings still show evidence of black-out curtains from World War II. With all these people living there water was a real problem. No water is present on the island; the Victorians had built a brick water collector, but nowadays water is delivered in very large plastic bags by helicopter ! I wonder how much that is per pint !

Flat Holm does have a claim to fame - in 1897 Marconi transmitted the first wireless message to Lavernock Point prior to the Atlantic transmissions.

If anyone wishes to visit Flat Holm contact South Glamorgan County Council who have leased the island from Trinity House.

The next Kenn History Group meeting will be March 9th at The Granary, Duck Lane, Kenn.

Mandy Boyle

And now something to make you smile? - I hope !

The Vicar's Dilemma

If his sermon is a few minutes longer than usual - "He sends us to sleep."

If it's short - "He hasn't bothered."

If he raises his voice - "He's shouting."

If he speaks normally - either

"You can't hear" or

"You can't understand what he says"

If he's away - "He's always out."

If he stays at home - "He's a stick in the mud."

If he's out visiting - "He's never at home."

If he's in the Vicarage - "He never visits."

If he talks finance - "He's too fond of money."

If he doesn't - "Nobody knows what he's up to."

If he organises a bazaar - "He wears everybody out."

If he doesn't - "The Parish is dead."

If he takes time with the people - "He goes on and on."

If he is brief - "He never listens."

If he redecorates the Church - "He's spending too much money."

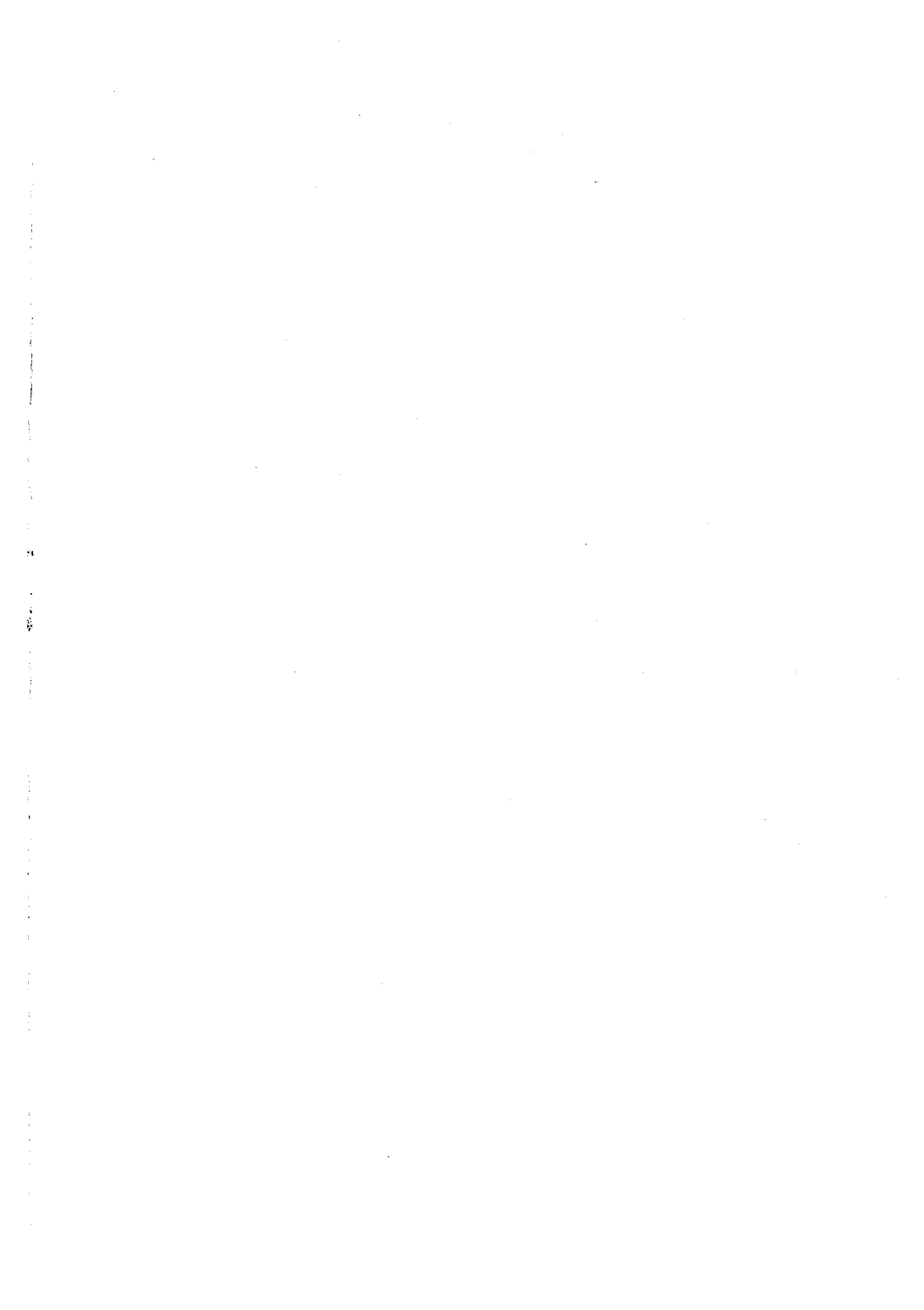
If he doesn't - "He's letting everything go."

If he is young - "He lacks experience."

If he is old - "He ought to retire."

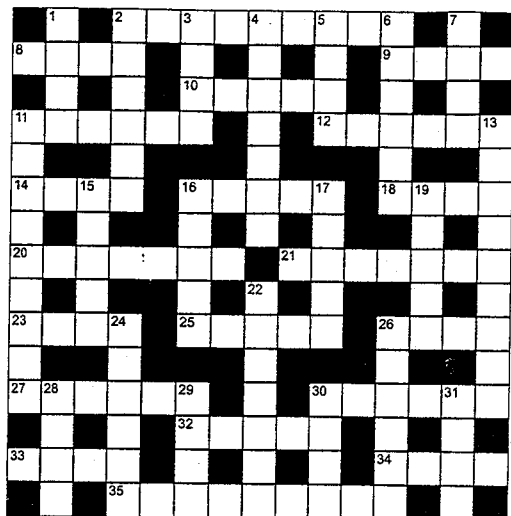
And if he dies? Well of course -

"Nobody could ever take his place"



ACROSS

- 2) Rural craft
- 8) Aquatic animal
- 9) Summit; culminating point
- 10) Songbirds do this
- 11) New growth on plants
- 12) Conclusion
- 14) Like this puzzle
- 16) Banned in dry summers
- 18) Hammer down
- 20) Sewing aid
- 21) Mixture, especially one containing mercury
- 23) Bad lad useful in the garden
- 25) Varieties
- 26) Runner, black, etc.
- 27) Straight, unambiguous
- 30) Autumnal fruit
- 32) Monarch; as straight as this
- 33) Israeli resort
- 34) Sheila does this
- 35) Slimmers should keep out of here



DOWN

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 1) Shallow vessel | 17) Lines of these in the suburbs |
| 2) Explanation or speculation | 19) Corner; member of Germanic tribe |
| 3) Creative skills | 22) Very small amount of liquid |
| 4) Industrious people who built a wall | 24) Votes for |
| 5) Not like 4 down | 26) She had better go to Priddy |
| 6) Where you can use 6 across | 28) Like Flatholm or Lundy |
| 7) Thin, without fat | 29) 'Ranter, Ringwood and Bellman so |
| 11) Protected | 30) Architectural feature |
| 13) Profitable businesses | 31) To give out, like a car exhaust |
| 15) Small notch or snip | |
| 16) Black; mouse ? | |