

KENN NEWS AND VIEWS



*Snow at Easter
Wettest April on
record*

*Summer is just around
the corner!!!*

Editor Sheila NAISH

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Dates for your diary

8.00 pm each Thursday

Bums, Turns and Thighs - Keep Fit
with Sue Gilbert - Kenn Village Hall

9.00 am - Saturday 9th May

Bird Walk with Trevor Riddle, meet at
Station Car Park, by Grahams, Yatton.

7.30 a.m. Wednesday 13th May

Kenn Womens' Institute

Kenn Village Hall - Mrs Morris will
speak on Beauty for the Mature
Women - Competition - A Beauty Tip.

Monday/Tuesday 18th/19th May

Spring Cleaning at St. John the

Evangelist, Kenn - Everyone
welcome to come and help.

2.30-4.00 pm Thursday 21st May

Willow House, Kenn Street

Tea and Chat

7.30 pm - Thursday 28th May

St. John the Evangelist

Friends of Kenn Church -
Annual General Meeting in church.

Advance Notice

Saturday 29th August - Kenn Thro'
the Ages.

Snippets

Kenn Village Hall

The Jumble Sale held on March 25th
raised £100 for Hall Funds. Many
thanks to everyone who supported it.

Mrs. Lamb.

Mrs. Lamb has had a short stay in
Hospital, we wish her a speedy
recovery.

St. George's Day April 23rd

As is our custom in Kenn, we flew our
St. George's Flag to celebrate our
Patron Saint's Day.

Congratulations to Julia and Jeremy
Hart of Fresh Fields, Kenn Street on
the safe arrival of their second son on
Sunday 26th April. A brother for
Oliver.

Our flag was flown in celebration.

Golden Wedding March 31st 1998

We wish to thank our family Marianna
and Robin, Richard and Barbara, our
relations, our friends and neighbours
for the love, good wishes, cards,
flowers and gifts to our Church and
Village Hall we received when we
celebrated our Golden Wedding.

Gifts to our Church amounted to £175
and the Village Hall received £155.

We were indeed blest with perfect
weather. The Thanksgiving Service
was led by the Reverend Avril Gaunt;
the organ being played by Mrs. Mary
Holmes. The lesson was read by Joe
and James read his poem on Marriage;
Lizzie said Grace before lunch and
Duncan wished us well.

We were pleased our flag was flown
for us.

Sam and Ruth Dyer.

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Marriage

What is it that this word marriage
means:

A rock in a stream.
Everything moving, nothing changing -
Or, rather, everything changing:
Reshaping, moulding,
Softened by the flow.

And time flows slowly sometimes,
When two are brought together.

We talk of a moment,
We talk of fifty years,

As though they were nothing.
Just water flowing past our feet:
Fleet of foot as we are,
Can we evade the current?

But time flows slowly sometimes,
When two are brought together.

Sometimes you see a stone
Holding fast against the river
Secure in its place;
Proof against the race
That send pebbles seaward
And splits all too many.

And time flows slowly sometimes,
When two are brought together.

We celebrate the strength,
The push against the tide,
The two stones that stay together,
Grow together, mould together,
Unbroken and unbowed.
We celebrate, as we do not understand

That time flows slowly sometimes
When two are brought together.

James Mackay

Countryside March

On 1st March, I and hundreds of
thousands of others took part in The
Countryside March.

My chief concern was hunting and
also the beef crisis. The march was
primarily a hunting one as it was
organized by The British Field Sports
Society but, it did cover many other
aspects of the countryside which were
under threat like building on green belt
land.

Our bus which had been organized by
a local hunt, like many others, arrived
in London at around eleven o'clock to
discover that the tube system was
completely bunged up with marchers
so we would have to walk to the
march.

When we finally arrived at the start of
the march we were greeted by an
incredibly large queue. I had never
seen so many people in my whole life.

Occasionally a hunting horn would be
blown and everyone would holler and
cheer. The cheers would move up the
line creating a Mexican Wave effect.

I surveyed the crowd, a myriad of
colours; wax jackets, caps and
banners bearing various messages
mainly focusing on farming and
hunting. When we finally reached the
start line we were counted. However,
time was not on our side and we had to
leave the march before the end.

I think we delivered a clear message to
the Government, this was

"Leave the Countryside alone !!"

Joe Dyer.

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What a Funny World

What a funny world we live in. There are livestock farmers who grow the food that everyone requires to exist going out of business because their profits have halved over the past year or so.

On the other hand, in the cities there are people who sit in lovely comfortable offices transferring money from one part of the world to another making vast fortunes.

Which group of people are the most important to the average resident of this country ?

R.V.Naish

The Great Steak and Kidney Pie

The biggest Steak and Kidney Pie in the world was cooked in Kenn on Easter Sunday. It is reported to have weighed 11 tonnes, it is also reported to have cost £20,000.

The plan was to have it cooked and portions sold to the public. The money raised going to Clevedon Cottage Hospital.

But things did not go according to plan. It took so long to cook that everyone had gone home by the time it was ready for eating.

This left a big problem for the organizers of finding a way of getting rid of it. It was eventually dumped in a land-fill site.

What a dreadful waste of food. There are still a lot of people around who can remember great food shortages during and immediately after the war. At one time the meat ration was ten pence worth, old money, per person per week.

During the war the population of Clevedon was about ten thousand people. That amount of meat would have fed everyone there (if you take away 1 tonne of pastry and onions) for about two weeks.

The Good News is that Bradshaw Microwave who organized the event donated a £5,000 cheque to Clevedon Hospital.

Ray Naish.

Contributed by Grace Griffin, sent from America:

THE MONKEYS' DISGRACE

Three monkeys sat in a coconut tree
Discussing things as they are said to be
Said one to the others, "Now listen,
you two.

"There's a rumor around that can't be true

"That man descended from our noble race

"The very idea is a great disgrace.

"No monkey has ever deserted his wife

"Starved her babies and ruined her life

"And you've never known a mother monk

"To leave her babies with others to bunk

"Or pass from one on to another

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"Till they scarcely knew who is their mother.

"Here's another thing a monkey won't do

"Go out a night and get on a stew

"Or use a gun or club or knife

"To take some other monkey's life

"Yes, man descended, the onery cuss

"But, brother, he didn't descend from us".

BIRD NEWS I

I have good news for Ray Naish who last month hoped the Song Thrush had found a new stage. Well, it has now come to Kenn Pier where it has dominated the April dawn chorus.

I have also heard one singing high in the fir tree at Moorside Farm.

A pair of these birds has been seen collecting nesting material during the first week of April. Let's hope they are lucky in rearing the young.

Having not seen a Kingfisher last year, I was rewarded when seeing one at Kenn Pier skimming above the water towards the motorway; this was just before Easter.

In a field near here, I noticed five shell ducks feeding when suddenly they took flight when I disturbed a hawk from a nearby tree.

When visiting the sea-walls on Easter Monday in unusually good weather we saw a Water Pippit alight onto a tall post which gave us a longer sighting of this bird which is smaller than a Skylark, but with similar colouring.

As I write this (April 17th) I have just seen one of the first migrant birds, a Swallow, at Kenn Pier.

David Glasson.

BIRD NEWS II

The first half of April was very unsettled with cold northerly winds developing, thus delaying migration.

As I write southerly winds are forecast which should put it back on course.

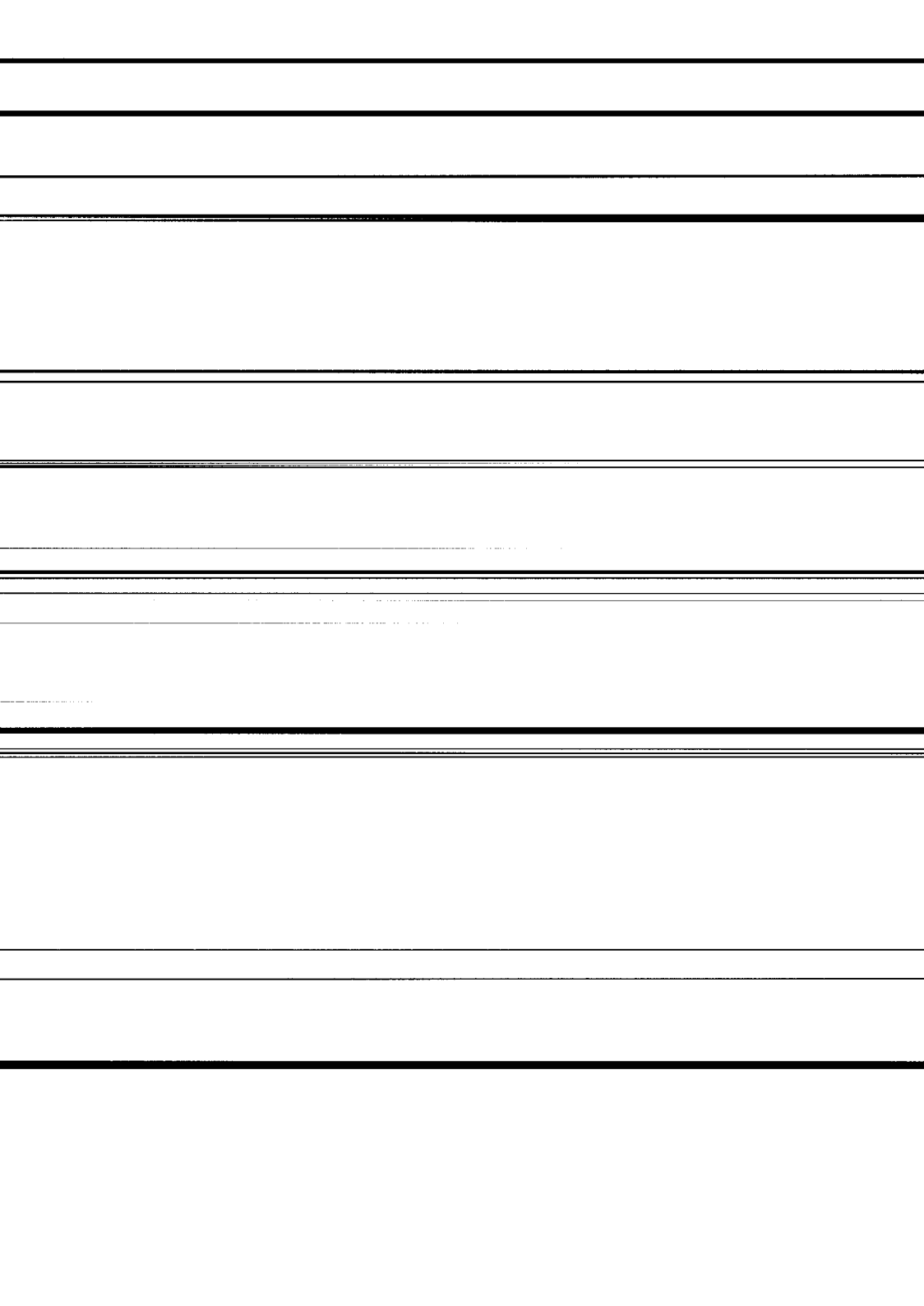
A Ring Ouzel or Mountain Blackbird was a very rare visitor to the Cheddar Valley Railway Nature Reserve at Yatton on the 3rd April, but there was no sign of it when I went to look for it the next day.

I noted a single Swallow at North End, Yatton on the 5th April, and one on the wires in Kenn Street a couple of days later - I wonder if they survived the awful Easter weather.

A Peregrine Falcon was being mobbed by Crows over Clevedon Pill on the 11th, presumably the bird that (on fine days) sometimes perches on the Radio Mast.

Further afield a Gyr Falcon from Greenland arrived near Plymouth. This all white, buzzard-sized falcon caused great excitement amongst birdwatchers - it was the first in England for 12 years and the 1986 bird turned up at Brixham only about 30 miles away and just five days earlier in the year!

I speculate that both birds were migrating north on the eastern seaboard of the United States and Canada and were carried across the Atlantic on powerful equinox depressions. I imagine the birds would have returned north via Scandinavia and into the Arctic Circle.



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Not only are the verges being gradually eroded, but also large holes are forming on the sides of the road causing danger of ankles being twisted by pedestrians and also the possibility of horses stumbling and throwing their riders.

Perhaps a little more forethought would show some respect for everyone.

Neighbourhood Watch

It has been brought to my notice that several sensors for activating security lights have been tampered with, making them inoperable.

All householders within the area should check theirs.

I have also been given a number of insurance details for members of the Neighbourhood Watch Schemes, anyone who would like a copy should please contact me: D. Goldsworthy 877392.

