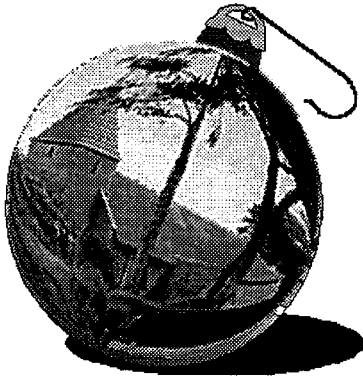


HAPPY

XMAS



FROM NEWS

AND VIEWS

**K
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Editor Sheila NAISH
01934-838357

Issue No 160 December 2001

Printed by - Margaret BALL
01275-874077

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS ETC.

- 1st Sotoris Papasolomontos
Verity Rogers
4th Sally Whitehead
Roger Jenkins
5th Jerry Naish
Chris Wall
10th Louise Pugh
Tom Clark
Penny Leiper (Griffin)
15th Emma Palmer (Smith)
20th Angel Middleton
Vincent Stowell
21st John Griffin
23rd Richard & Avril Gaunt W.A
24th Shirley Wall
John Street
25th HAPPY CHRISTMAS ONE AND ALL
31st HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU ALL

Message from Ed.

Happy Christmas to all our readers. Thanks to Margaret whose sterling efforts each month, reminding, even nagging, the rest of us, actually gets the magazine to you all.

We would be so delighted if more of you would contribute, so go on, New Year's Resolution – Write in the Mag! This is Your Mag. Your News, Your Views.

I was so thrilled to be told how much this magazine was looked forward to and read by one family this month – together we can make it the No. 1 read of the month. I myself, am very proud of our News and Views.

Quote of the Month

The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world

R.V.N.

Thoughts of the Month

*No matter what you do,
Someone always knew
you would do it!*

*Never burn bridges,
You never know when you will need
to go back over them!*

Village Disco Party - 15th December Kenn Village Hall

Don't forget to get your Christmas Party tickets - £5 from Heather Jenkins 877389 or Sheila Naish 01934 838357
Or just turn up -
Bar and Disco
by Kenn Valley Social Club

Fancy Dress - Theme - Films & Movies
(optional)

Be your very own Film Star for a night
- Win an Oscar or a Raffle Prize

Kenn Village Hall
Bar - Disco - Raffle

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Naish's Notes

Roadworks

We are all going to be troubled by various roadworks in the next few weeks. We have obtained the following information which you may like to take note of.

"The following information has been received from North Somerset Council Highways Department concerning the Railway Bridge closure and diversions.

"Traffic will continue to be controlled by traffic lights until 3rd December. During this period the bridge will be **closed overnight on Saturday 1st December from 8 p.m. until 6 a.m. on Sunday 2nd**

"The bridge will be closed from 3rd December for approx. 2 weeks.

"During this closure a one-way system from Lower Claverham Road to Moor Road will be implemented. During this period you will not be allowed to travel in a West to East direction along Claverham Drove from its junction with Moor Road to its junction with Lower Claverham.

"The Bridge will then be re-opened and traffic will again be controlled by traffic lights until 6th January 2002.

"From 6th January until 24th February the Bridge will be fully closed. Again during this

closure the one-way system from Lower Claverham Road to Moor Road will be implemented.

"During this road closure period, maintenance works will also be undertaken"

Sheila has copies of a map showing the one-way system.

Roadworks II

"North End Yatton – Bryant Homes will be starting work on the residential development site at North End.

"The off-site roadworks will include the construction of a 4 way mini-roundabout on the B3133 at its junction with Wemberham lane, improvement works to the B3133 in the form of street lighting, white lining and highway signage.

"The contract period for these works is 15 weeks.

"The work will be programmed to minimise disruption to the local public, taking into consideration the Yatton Railway Bridge Works."

(source – North Somerset District Council)

Naish's Notes continued

Don't forget your tickets for the Disco Party on the 15th in the Village Hall – get jigging on our new dance floor! Come along and try it out.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

This is in aid of **Breast Cancer Awareness** – I have to raise £1,000 by 1st January.

I need you all to help me succeed!
I am well on the way, I know I can do it, I just need your support – Tickets £5

Be there, have fun, get your Christmas off to a good start.

See you there !!!

Sheila

St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

Kenn Altar Guild - December Rota

2nd - Mrs J. Fenwick/Mrs J. Pascoe

9th - Mrs R. Bell/Mrs G. Griffin

16th - CAROL SERVICE
Mrs M. Ball/Mrs H. Jenkins

23rd - Mrs J. Cheek/Mrs M. Mackay

30th - Mrs J. Naish /Mrs J. Staples

Mrs J. Naish, with helpers, will decorate the tree in Church for the Carol Service.

Please can ladies decorate their windows in time for the Carol Service,

Thank you,

Jean

Christingle Service 2001

There is always a moment, when one surveys the huge mound of Christingles that have just been constructed by your band of faithful orange trimmers, tape stickers and sweet loaders (just what is the most humane way of impaling a jelly baby?) When the question surfaces "Will they all go?"

This year Kenn's Christingle Service was particularly adrenalin charged as Team Rector Ian had dramatised the reading with an all miming/all singing extravaganza to tell the story of the Prodigal Son.

Christingle Services throughout the land raise money for the work of The Children's Society, who amongst other things, help children who run away to what they think will be a better life in our big cities. The Children's Society is there to pick up the pieces when the dream turns sour.

They have 'safe houses' where runaways can re-establish themselves, or at least get a message home to say they are OK.

By 11 o'clock our church was full and the service went without a hitch. Thank you to Ian, Mary Holmes and everyone who turned out on a chilly rehearsal night. It was well worth it

Julia Bush

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

*Sr. John the Evangelist, Kenn
Church Services for December*

*Sunday 2nd December
8 a.m. Holy Communion*

*Sunday 9th December
11 a.m. Sung Holy Communion*

*Sunday 16th December
6 p.m. Service of Carols & Lessons
followed by BBQ at Village Hall*

*Wednesday 19th December
11 a.m. Holy Communion*

*Sunday 23rd December
11 a.m. Holy Communion*

*Monday 24th December
Christmas Eve
3 p.m. Crib Service*

*Tuesday 25th December
Christmas Day
11 a.m. Family Communion*

*Thursday 27th December
11 a.m. Holy Communion*

*Sunday 30th December
6 p.m. Special Evensong
Patronal Festival -
St. John the Evangelist*

Crib Service 3.00 p.m.
Christmas Eve 2001

The main rehearsal for this will
be held Saturday 22nd
December 2.00 p.m. at Church

for everyone! Heavenly Host,
Shepherds and all!

If you want a speaking part
(narrator) please contact -
Julia Bush 01275 873554 or
Heather Noad 01275 874078
A.S.A.P.

SNIPPETS

Our Flag

Celebration - We flew our flag for
the Prince of Wales' birthday.

Remembrance

11th November - We flew our flag to
remember all those who gave their
lives in two World Wars.

"At the going down of the sun
And in the morning
We will remember them"

"They gave their lives for our
tomorrow"

**KENN CHRISTMAS TREE
LIGHTS FRIDAY 14th
DECEMBER AT 6.30 p.m.
ON THE VILLAGE GREEN**

The lights on our Christmas Tree will
be switched on by a Kenn Celebrity to
be followed by Carols being sung
around the tree. (if wet in the Church)
Young Kennites will collect for the
Children's Society.

Mince Pies will be provided by The
Drum and Monkey this year.
Kennites and friends come along and
join us.

Ruth Dyer.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Kenn Village Hall

Monday 3rd December

7.30 pm - Kenn Parish Council

Drum and Monkey

12.30 pm. Tuesday 4th December

Village Lunch - 2 courses £5.45 or full menu - Everyone welcome.

Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 5th December

Christmas Tea Party, 3pm.

Wednesday 12th December

- Kenn W.I. Meeting at 7.30 pm.
- Christmas Post for Members.

Kenn Village Green

6.30 pm. Friday 14th December

Christmas Tree lighting and Carol Singing then mince pies - Everyone welcome.

Kenn Village Hall

Saturday 15th December

- Christmas Party and Disco
- 8.00-midnight
Tickets £5 from Sheila or Heather

Kenn Village Hall

Sunday 16th December

6.00 pm in church Carol Service followed by Barbecue at Kenn Village Hall - Admission by ticket only. £4 from Ray Naish, Marianna Mackay or Jenny Pascoe.

Friday 21st December

- Kenn Children's Party, 4.00 pm

All ages and interested are being catered for in Kenn for Christmas 2001
- Come and Join us!

A very Happy Christmas and New Year to all our readers.

Ruth Dyer

Children's Christmas Party

The Kenn Children's Christmas Party will be held from 4.00 pm on Friday 21st December.

(note the date !!)

This party is not only for Kenn Children, but also for the children and grandchildren of Kenn folk - for further information contact Jo Batten on 01275 878782

Thank you

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the many local people who enquired after my health during my recent stay in hospital.

I am pleased to report that I have been discharged and am now safely at home being well cared for by Marlene - who would also like to thank all those who have shown care and attention to her during my absence.

It gives us both so much pleasure to know that you were all thinking of us.

John Arney
The Willows

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Correspondence

From: **The Community of the Sisters of The Church**

82 Ashley Road, St. Pauls,
Bristol. BSS6 5NT –
Tel. 0117 941 3268

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your much appreciated support for our food parcel ministry. After a record Harvest – with over 90 deliveries at the time of writing (27th October) our cellar is well stocked with most basic items which should last us well for a few weeks. Now, inevitably we are already planning ahead for Christmas.

Once again we hope to give all our callers (around 300 now) special Christmas bags with festive tins and packets and a small gift. Each year we have been delighted with the generous response to our appeal and so we are asking again for Christmas contributions.

FOOD: Some parishes have agreed to collect a specific item but anything festive will be well received. It would be lovely to be able to give everyone some chocolate and are always being asked for tinned custard and evaporated milk.

GIFT EXAMPLES:

MEN: warm socks are always appreciated as are gloves or scarves.

WOMEN: again gloves and scarves, also toiletries- perfume sprays etc.

CHILDREN: We see children of all ages 0-16. It is always a joy to pass on new toys and small clothing items eg socks, gloves etc. toiletries etc. for teenagers (most years we have been short of gifts for teenagers especially boys)

As always we are sure to be able to find happy homes for anything donated but we do request that only new items are sent – we do not give anything second-hand at Christmas and our storage space is VERY limited!

Please do not wrap gifts as we can then allocate them more personally.

Please get all Christmas contributions in to us as early as possible and no later than 9th December to give us chance to see what we still need to buy in.

This is also an Open Invitation from the Sisters to a “Eucharist of Celebration” to be held on Thursday 24th January at 7.00 p.m. at St. Agnes Church, St. Pauls, Bristol. (including finger buffet – contributions invited) Numbers needed by 10th December please.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Drum & Monkey Kenn Christmas & New Year

There are a few dates left for
Christmas Dinner between 1st and
24th December

Wednesday Night is Quiz Night

Free Entry - Prizes
Raffle for Local Charities

Kenn Village Lunch
Tuesday 4th December
from 12.30 p.m.

Carol Singers
One Thursday Night -
The Carol Singers will appear -
Awaiting Information

Sunday 23rd December
The Drum and Monkey Xmas Raffle

Tickets available behind the bar.

Raffle starts 8.00 p.m.

All Welcome

Be here - join in the fun !!!

Christmas Eve
Open all day

Christmas Day
Bar - 11.30 am till 1.00 pm
Christmas Day Lunch fully booked
Lunch served at 1.00 p.m.
Evening Closed

Boxing Day
Open 12 noon till 4.00 p.m.
Evening Closed

New Years Eve

Open 11.30 - 4.00 p.m.

Evening

9.00 p.m. till late
Entrance by Ticket only
£5.00 per ticket

Buffet,
Entertainment, - female singer
Prize Raffle

Fancy Dress - as you please!!

New Years Day
Open 12 noon till 4.00 p.m.
Closed Evening

Tuesday Night is Music Night

Tuesday 4th
MONKEY FINGER
Deluge from the 60's to the 90's

Tuesday 11th
MIKE & GRAHAM
Beatles, Robbie Williams
Crowded House, George Michael
Excellent Duo - Not to be missed

Tuesday 18th
ROB COOK
Versatile and Entertaining -
Well worth seeing

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Kenn Valley Social Club

Sunday 16th December
Children's Christmas Party
5 - 7.00 p.m. £2 per child -
includes Magic Show - Visit from
Santa - Disco/Games - Pressie for
all kids.

Saturday 22nd December
Christmas Karaoke/Disco

Christmas Eve

7.00 - Midnight - PARTY NIGHT
Everyone welcome !

Boxing Day
Open 5.00 to midnight
Fun Night with Disco and Games

Saturday 29th December
KARAOKE CHALLENGE
Be a star for the night!

New Year's Eve
8.00 - 1.30
The only Fun Party for Miles
Around!
Disco Party Night
Coach to and from Club
Buffet
Tickets £7.50 each in Advance
Tel. Derek 01934 832986 for more
details and bookings

Correspondence

Hello,

I am Charles Holley born
23.12.1913 in the cottage of
which two walls still stand in

the Drum and Monkey Car
Park.

On 20th October my family
enjoyed a very good time in the
Village Hall. It was the first
time that it was possible to get
everyone together at one time.

My granddaughter came from
Denmark. My daughter from
New York State and other
members including my eleven
great grandchildren.

We are very grateful to Mrs
Ruth Dyer who made it easy to
move in.

I've been asked to include her a
note about the time when Tom
Baker saved up thirty shillings
for a top flight at Alan Cobhams
air circus which was in Kenn
for one day. He enjoyed a loop
the loop and a dive over the
field but found it difficult to
walk a straight line when he got
out. He, his brother Jack and I
spent many happy times together
as kids.

If those who flew on that day
knew that an engine retaining
bolt was missing on the plane
they would have taken out
insurance.

I was about 17 at that time and
Sid Wadman and I were called
out from the garage with an
assortment of bolts. The pilot
chose a bolt and some heavy
wire and took off for
Cheltenham.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

The pilot (I thought) was more like a taxi driver. He said he had noticed some vibration.

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At our AGM the new Committee was elected, with Miss Ann Holtham as President for the coming year.

We have had a successful year and look forward to welcoming new members in 2002 - please come along to meet us.

It is essential that all readers write to Margaret Beckett MP to urge the Government to instigate a Public Hearing into the foot and mouth disaster as a whole; at the moment they seem to be trying to break it down into various committees with different Chairmen who will decide individually whether their particular issue is worthy of a Public Hearing.

There were two competitions - one was a stone - Thelma Blake Gold, Margaret Bessant Silver, Ruth Dyer Green, and the other competition was a cracker - Eileen Prew Gold, Jean Naish Silver.

After the 'business' end of the meeting Mr Amesbury entertained us with his illustrated talk 'In Trail of the Matthew'.

We learned that in fact John Cabot was first to set foot on mainland America in 1497 whereas Christopher Columbus did not get there until 1499 via the Bahamas.

After Bristol decided to build a replica of 'The Matthew' to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of its voyage to Newfoundland, there were no plans of the vessel and so it was agreed they would use the design of a caravelle of the late 1400's which was 70ft long.

On the sea trials in June 1996 it was found that the crows nest, made of oak, was too heavy and in stormy weather it acted as a pendulum and nearly turned the boat over.

The vessel went into Falmouth where another 12tons of lead was put into the keel and a lighter crows nest was constructed of fibre-glass.

In May 1997 'The Matthew' sailed out of Bristol Harbour and Mr Amesbury was on 'The Waverley' accompanying her down the Bristol Channel but they had to leave her anchored in the Channel because the winds held her back and it took 16 days to clear Southern Ireland; it had taken Cabot 17 days to cover the same distance.

Mr Amesbury flew to Canada two days later and via the lovely slides we were taken from Toronto down to Niagara Falls, back up to Ottawa, Montreal, Quebec, following the St. John River to Nova Scotia, across to Newfoundland and thence to Bonavista to meet 'The Matthew' on its arrival.

They booked bed and breakfast on a daily basis apart from their accommodation at Bonavista where they had previously booked because of the obvious demand.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

His comic 'quips' and superb photography of the scenery, from seeing Minky whales to the John

Cabot Trail, made Mr Amesbury's rendition a very memorable and enjoyable evening; his attention to detail was immense and his enthusiasm for his subject was infectious.

Our December meeting on the 12th December is a Beetle Drive and the competition is a cracker.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact me –

Rosemarie Ford 01275 877243

BIRD NEWS I

Ray's notes last month mentioned flocks of Finches and the indications are that large numbers of birds are arriving in the U.K. From Scandinavia and the Arctic. There have certainly been plenty of Redwings and Fieldfares around locally and I noted a flock of 20 Siskins at Congresbury Moor. An unusual record for early November.

There have even been a number of Snowy Owls (just like the one in Harry Potter!) arriving in Europe. One is at Felixstowe Docks where it is living well on a diet of Rats and Partridges.

All of this movement means that conditions are harsh further north – whether this indicates a cold winter here remains to be seen.

At Weston Water Works, 2 Short Eared Owls were still present (17th) – these also are birds from the north.

Jill and I recently visited the Red Kite feeding station at Grigrin Farm, Rhayader.

As 2 o'clock (feeding time) approached, I counted 90 Red Kites and 20 Buzzards circling, awaiting the food and their turn to feed. The farmer said that between 100 and 120 Red Kites were coming each day and I have no doubt that he is right. A fantastic sight!

Trevor Riddle 01934 835208

Bird News II

There has been a very large number of Fieldfares and Redwings feeding on the apples in the orchard behind Stonehouse Farm.

The weather has been so mild lately that there has been very little bird life on view.

I still keep a few hens in a building behind Stonehouse Farm. One night recently, when I went to shut them in, I heard a noise in the shed. I thought it might be a rat, suddenly two foxes jumped the top of a door. They must have just walked into the shed as I arrived. The hens were unharmed, in fact when I looked at them they still had their eyes closed, sound asleep. Lucky old hens. If I hadn't arrived when I did they would probably have had their heads bitten off.

Ray Naish.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Thank you

From The Palace at Wells – The Right Reverend James Thompson writes:

Dear Julia, Ray and all at St. John's,

Thank you so much for your card and good wishes from everyone at St. John's church, Kenn. Although it's a tremendous wrench leaving the diocese it has also been extremely heart-warming to receive so many greetings and encouragements.

I have received so many thank yous myself that really I want to give one great big than you to the diocese for giving me so much prayer and support.

I shall always remember my visit to Kenn and I have so far resisted the temptation to creep up one night and paint out the second "n"

With love and prayers,

Yours as ever,

+ Jim

Betty Richards

Betty Richards has passed away after suffering poor health for some time aged 75.

Betty was brought to Kenn when a small child by her parents Mr and Mrs Bert Hollyman. They lived at Cherry Tree Cottage, Moor Road, where she lived until her marriage when aged 21. She then lived the rest of her life in Congresbury.

Betty always considered herself to be a Kenn person and was always interested in what happened here.

A pupil at Kenn School until she was eleven when she had to go to Clevedon School. She was a regular church goer here.

At here funeral at Congresbury Church there was standing room only. Betty was a very popular person.

In 1937 Betty and myself with another girl called Annie Wainwright together sat for our scholarship at Kenn School. Unfortunately none of us passed.

Annie lived at "Moorgates" Kenn Street where her parents ran a pickle factory. She married an American and went to live there. Unfortunately she died quite a young person. Her family still live in Clevedon.

Ray Naish

Flashback – May 1947

Recruiting for volunteers to work on the land has opened in large towns. The charge for food and accommodation at the camps is 28 shillings per week. The minimum rate of pay for both men and women is 1s. 3d. per hour.

Clergy in Debt

Clergy salaries have been under review during the past few weeks. Seven clergy in the diocese received only £200 per year, this included the Vicar of Kenn. Many were in debt.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Holidays

Families were starting to have holidays, the first time they have had the opportunity since the War started in 1939.

Full board in a guest house in Great Yarmouth cost four and a half guineas for a week.

July 1947

There is a heatwave. The factories have closed for two weeks. The first time this has happened since before the War. People generally cannot afford to go away on holiday. Many are making the best of as "stay at home" by having picnics on river banks and at local beauty spots.

Ray Naish

The Singing Farmer

Kenn farmer Colin Alexander of "Colehouse Farm" has been singing on Radio Bristol recently. Colin is a Frank Sinatra 'sound-alike'. The programme was broadcast at 5.45 each morning.

R.V.N.

Moorgate House

Auction Offices, Chew Magna, Jan. 24th 1930.

**SALE THURSDAY NEXT
TO THOSE SEEKING BUSINESS AS A GOING CONCERN.**

**MOORGATE HOUSE, KENN, Near
YATTON, SOMERSET.**

**A WELL-ESTABLISHED
SAUSAGE FACTORY AND BACON-
CURING BUSINESS,**

together with the GOODWILL of a MILK and BUTTER FOUNDRY, and a VALUABLE CORN GRINDING MILL attached.

The Premises are well situate on a good level road, about 2 miles from Clevedon, and the accommodation is as follows:—

Well-arranged and Equipped SAUSAGE FACTORY, DAIRY, COLD STORAGE, SLAUGHTER-HOUSE, MILL PREMISES with Loft over. OFFICES, also Motor Shed, 13 Piggies, 2 Well-built Cattle Sheds to tie 22 Cattle, Stabling, Root House, etc., 3-bay; Dutch Barn.

Substantially-built and Well-arranged DWELLING-HOUSE, containing: 3 Rooms and Offices on the Ground Floor, 2 Large Front Bedrooms, and 2 Smaller ditto; Bacon-curing Room, Dry Room with Loft over.

The Well-equipped MACHINERY includes: 22 h.p. Fielding and Platt Oil Engine, Dynamo and Switch Board, Pump, J. and E. Hall's Ammonia Freezing Plant, Sausage and Grinding Machine, Dreadnought Corn Mill, Albion Grinding and Crushing Mill, Shafting and Pulleys, 2 9-h.p. "Clitron" Motor Vans, in good running order (one with Touring Body), Dairy Equipment, etc., at present being successfully run by Messrs. Stowell and Co.; there is a small Orchard attached, the whole containing about ONE ACRE (No. 144, 145, and 139 on the O.S. Map).

Also a PIECE of Very Valuable GRAZING LAND, with Shed thereon opposite, numbered 1291 on the YATTON TITHE MAP, and containing 4 ACRES & ROOD 16 PERCH (more or less).

ELECTRIC LIGHT laid to the Dwelling-house and Premises (Own Plant). Good Water.

VACANT POSSESSION ON COMPLETION.

Which

WILLIAM KING AND SONS

Have been instructed to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION (unless previously Sold by Private Treaty) at THE GRAND HOTEL, BROAD STREET, BRISTOL, on

Thursday Next, January 30th,

at 3 o'clock in the Afternoon, subject to Conditions to be then read.

To View apply upon the Premises by appointment. (Phone Clevedon 47), when Books may be inspected and all information given.

Further Particulars may be obtained from the Auctioneers at Chew Magna, near Bristol; or Messrs. TANNER and CLARKE, Solicitors, 17, Bridge Street, Bristol, or Messrs. DAY and WRIGHT, Solicitors, 12a, Hill Road, Clevedon, Som.

Auction Offices, Chew Magna, January 24th 1930.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

When Ray and Jean Naish recently moved house, they found this notice of sale for "Moorgate House as it was then in 1930, now just called "Moorgates". They passed it to me as we now live in that part of the property described in 1930 as "Slaughter House, mill premises with loft over". This we converted into a home some forty years ago and named it "The Granary". Interestingly "Moorgates" is at this time again being offered for sale.

"Moorgate House" with its enterprises are an interesting part of Kenn history in the last century. The story will, I feel, be a good read for Kennites.

We start around 1900 when Mr and Mrs Stowell with family moved to "Moorgate House". There were four sons and two (or three) daughters. The family were soon in business and (as we can see by the sale notice of 1930) it became a considerable operation, in fact employing several besides themselves.

The factory had its own generator producing the first electricity in the village. With that power they could run a cold store or fridge which was used also by local butchers to store unsold meat over the weekend.

Many pigs were purchased at Yatton Market weekly as their own piggery at Moorgate House could not meet the demands of the growing business.

To make good pork sausages they needed to use sows that had had several litters, i.e. good strong flavoured meat.

The late Don Staples of Duck Lane was, as a young man, the sausage maker for some years.

More on the story and how we came to the selling up of the business in 1930 next month

John Griffin

Stonehouse Farm continued

Over the years a lot of people worked at the farm, some full time, some part time.

When I was born in 1926 Wally Moore, who many in Kenn can remember, was working there. He had been in the Army. He told me that he left the army on a Sunday and started work at 6.00 a.m. the next morning.

In last month's magazine, I wrote about Reg Bessant working here. His brother Dick worked here evenings and weekends for about 30 years.

About 1932 Charlie Wakefield left his job here. He lived at that time at "The Cottage", Duck Lane. A few days later a poor, very thin little man walked into the yard and asked for the job. His name was Jack Grant. He went on to explain that he had relatives in Clevedon who had told him there was a job going here. He then said "I have walked from Stratford on Avon to get this job". He was penniless.

Father gave him the job. Jack was a carter. He looked after the cart horses beautifully. He kept them clean, polished the harness and plaited their tails before taking them out to work.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Another man who worked here part time was Harry Tucker. His regular job was a stoker at Yatton Gas Works. Harry was a formidable man, tough with a capital "T". He was very tall and very lean. The other workers referred to him as "longfellow". Harry fancied himself as a fighter; he was always getting into scraps. He lived with his family in a cottage that is no longer there, between the top of Kenn Street and where the car sales now are.

In the early 1930's a funfair came to Clevedon, complete with a boxing booth. The resident boxer with the booth was a black man called Dixie Brown. He challenged all comers to stay three rounds with him. If they could stay the three rounds they received a pound note. Harry took up the challenge and agreed to fight him the next night. Next day the news got around Clevedon. When the fight was ready to start the booth was packed to

the doors because everyone knew Harry. Unfortunately Harry only lasted one round. Reg Bessant who saw the fight said later "how could he expect to win, he had been drinking all day before the fight?"

Harry had a fight in the road outside his cottage with his neighbour Gobby Coleburn who he didn't get along with. Although Gobby was a lot smaller, he won because he hit Harry on the head with a piece of wood with a nail in it.

Dixie Brown, the boxer was said at time to be the only black man living in Bristol.

I saw him once, several years later, by that time Dixie was completely blind. He was a very big man. He was reduced to standing by the gate at Bristol Rovers football ground holding a box for gifts of money from the crowd.

Ray Naish

Late note from Sheila

In the New Year we shall be giving out names of people who can be recommended by our own parishioners for various different jobs.

If you've been happy with a job well done, let us know and we'll pass it on!

The ladies featured herewith are very good, reliable and come with references!

Sarah & Julie's Decorating Services

- * PAINTING
- * PAINT EFFECTS
- * WALLPAPERING
- * FLOOR SANDING

CALL US FOR A NO OBLIGATION QUOTE

TEL 01373 467788 or 07982 615073

KENN XMAS BBQ

BBQ at Xmas – You must be mad!!!

That's what we thought when the idea was muted last year but 100 people can't be wrong so here goes another this year.

Same venue - same format - same price – same charity

Village Hall

Sunday 16th December 7pm

Bring your own drink

Bring your own cutlery

£4 Adults £2 Children

Please bring a can for Donating to CRISIS AT CHRISTMAS