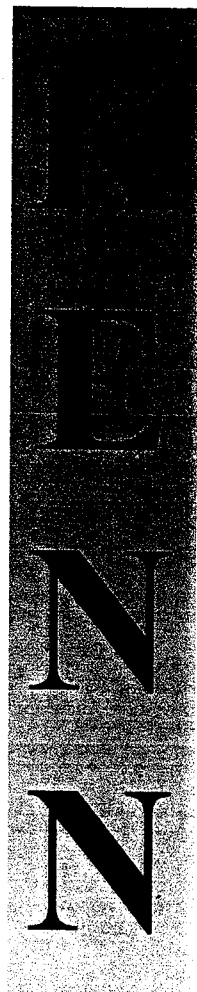


NEWS & VIEWS



Editor Sheila NAISH
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KENN NEWS & VIEWS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May

1st Hartley Staples
4th Nigel Middleton
8th Mike Stowell
Tina & Nigel Middleton WA
10th Jill Butland
Jayne Morris
11th Tina Middleton
15th Samuel Leiper
20th Harrison Flower
22nd Duncan Mackay
26th Brian Stowell
Jane Staples
28th Sally White
29th Milly Stowell
Trina Willoughby
Samuel Rogers
30th Joanna Brain

COPY DATE FOR JUNE MAGAZINE

**Final date for Magazine Material
for June News and Views will be
Tuesday 22nd May – sorry folks but
the typist needs a holiday !!**

Thoughts of the month

*One cheer is better than a dozen
groans*

*Tough times never last
Tough people do*

Naith's Notes

Best Kept Village 2001

The Tidy Village Competition begins on 14th June, so if everyone could make an attempt around their own area and maybe pick up litter here and there on their travels it would be very useful.

We hope to do well this year.

Mrs Bowering

We send our condolences and love to the family of Mrs Bowering who passed away in April, having been ill for a very long time..

Mr and Mrs Bowering had been married for 41 years. They have been neighbours of ours "down the lane" for a good many years and have always been good neighbours, helping keep an eye on the stock around them and calling us in times of need or when an animal was in trouble or got out.

When the children from Yeo Moor Infants School visited every year for their outing, Mr and Mrs Bowering would greet the children and show them their own menagerie of ducks, geese, hens and the ever popular goats.

Mrs Bowering loved her dogs and was always taking in needy animals to be looked after. Good neighbours are hard to find and Mrs Bowering will be sadly missed.

Foot & Mouth

We continue to be free of the foot and mouth epidemic in our village and neighbouring villages which is a blessing.

The media have less coverage of it than in previous weeks. We are however not free from the worries which are still hanging over us and many farmers are still on 'restricted movement' of cattle, sheep etc.

Many cannot and have not sold anything in weeks and therefore have loss of earnings. Those who can, find the expense of vets inspections, disinfecting, hauliers etc. crippling.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

These are still very worrying times. We must try to support one another as best we can, no matter how small, a smile, a phone call, or as one lovely person said to me on presenting me with some flowers, "just because you need someone to be nice to you"

Kenn Parish Council, with the worries and fears of the farming community in mind, organised a meeting with Dr. Liam Fox, our MP and anyone who wanted to raise an issue with him at the Village Hall one Saturday afternoon.

The meeting was very well attended with over 50 people from Kenn, Kingston and Yatton attending. Everyone had a chance to speak to Dr. Fox and he went away with lots of questions to be asked of other government bodies and views to be expressed.

We were delighted that Dr. Fox could give us as much time as he did. Many thanks to Felicity from the N.F.U. who came and gave support and direction.

Dr. Fox has since replied to the Parish Council and sent copies of his letters to us. We await answers. He has christened us the "revolting" people of Kenn. I think it was a very apt description.

If anyone has a question they would like put to Dr. Fox, I have his fax number or I will be glad to pass it on to him. Give me a ring.

Sheila

Kenn Altar Guild

May Rota

Mrs Wendy Papasolomontos and
Mrs Jan Bedford

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST KENN

Reunion of Choristers

There will be a reunion of Choristers, past and present, at the Evening Service at Kenn Church on Sunday 17th June at 6.00 p.m.

This will be followed by a get together with light refreshments in Kenn Village Hall.

Readers of News & Views who know former choristers of any age are asked to let them know of the event.

Further information can be obtained from John Griffin 01275 872948 or Ray Naish 01275 872493

Rogation Sunday

There will be a special service of Evensong on Sunday 20th May at Kenn Church at 6.00 p.m. At this service, Rogation-tide will be celebrated with part of the service held in the Churchyard.

Rogation-tide has been observed in England since the year 570 (yes five seventy) to ask for blessing on the growing crops. This was very important in ancient times when all the food available had to be grown in this country. A good harvest was vital for life.

History tells us that in the Middle Ages if there was a poor harvest children were kept on half rations until the next harvest.

Is it any wonder than many children died of under nourishment in those days. We are lucky in Kenn as our Churchyard is adjoining an open field which is very convenient for this type of service.

Ray Naish

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

At the AGM of the Parish of Yatton Moor held at Kingston Seymour on 22nd April John Ball of Chaseside, Kenn, was elected to represent Kenn on the Church Council, joining Renee Bell, Nigel Middleton and Wendy Papolomontos.

Our Churchwardens are
Julia Bush and Ray Naish.

Deputy Wardens:
Wendy Papolomontos and
John Griffin.

Sidespeople:
Richard Ledbrook,
Dennis Goldsworthy
Mrs Jean Naish,
Mrs Margaret Ball,
Geoffrey Marchant,
Clifford Edwards,
Jack Hanson,
Mrs Irene Stowell,
Mrs Sally Whitehead
Michael Callow.

Friends of Kenn Church Annual General Meeting

7.30 pm Tuesday 22nd May 2001
at St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

**All Parishioners and Friends are
invited to attend this meeting**

A G E N D A

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of Annual General Meeting 25th May 2000
3. Matters Arising :
4. Finance
5. Election of Committee
6. Future Events:

Kenn Parish Council

SHALL WE HAVE A CENSUS OF OUR OWN ?

As it is the first year of the new millennium the Parish Council thought it would be a good idea to have as complete a record as possible of families in Kenn.

If you would like to take part the Parish Council would be delighted to receive a photograph of your family and the outside of your home and possibly of your car if you have one.

Should you be willing to supply brief details of the occupations of occupants that would be very nice but we have no wish to invade anyone's privacy.

If you are unable to take a photograph yourself, please contact a Parish Councillor and it will be taken for you.

The Census taken in 1901 will be published in January 2002 and it will be very interesting to compare the two to see the difference that a hundred years makes.

Thank you. Ann Holtham

KENN NOTES - SNIPPETS

Celebrations

April 21st - We flew our flag to celebrate the seventy fifth birthday of Her Majesty our Queen.

April 23rd - We flew our St. George's Flag to celebrate the day of our Patron Saint St. George.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Bereavements

April 19th The funeral service for Mrs Grace Barrett was held in Kenn Church. Mrs Barrett was Grace Stone who lived at Kenn Pier before her marriage.

April 25th The funeral service for Mrs Bowering of The Retreat, Kenn was held in Kenn Church.

We extend our sincere sympathy to both families in their great loss.

Our flag was flown at half mast on both days.

Potholes

More and more potholes are appearing in our roads needing urgent attention. Care is needed when driving, walking or cycling.

Welcome

A warm welcome on St. George's Day to Talitha Cherry, first daughter for Jody and Quinton Stowell in Maidenhead. Another granddaughter for John and Margaret Ball and a cousin for Bethany.

Spring in Kenn

Despite the rain we have had a lovely display of daffodils on The Green.

In Hospital

Lucy Baker is in Southmead Hospital and Mrs Gladys Denmead is in Clevedon Hospital. We send them both our best wishes.

Kenn Women's Institute

May 16th at 7.00 p.m.

JUMBLE SALE

at Kenn Village Hall (Foot & Mouth restrictions permitting)

Produce, Books, Toys Bric-a-Brac etc. Goods to Hall 10-11 a.m. morning of sale.

Ruth Dyer

Dates for your Diary

At The Drum and Monkey

Tuesday 1st May – Village Lunch from 12.30 p.m. – Everyone welcome !!

At Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 9th May 7.30 p.m.
Kenn Women's Institute
– Speaker Mr. D. Wakefield on the Donkey Sanctuary.
Competition – Country Ornament.

Non-members always welcome.

Wednesday 16th May 7.00 p.m.
Kenn W.I. Jumble Sale.

At St. John the Evangelist

Tuesday 22nd May – Annual General Meeting of The Friends of Kenn Church at 7.30 p.m. – Everyone welcome !!

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

What's on at The Drum

**Every Wednesday - The Drum Quiz
& Raffle**
Come early to get a seat

Tuesday 1st May
The Relaxed Sounds of
Mike & Graham

Tuesday 8th May
The Sixties-Nineties Sounds of
Monkey Finger

Tuesday 15th May
You name it, he'll sing it
Terry James

Tuesday 22nd May
50's-90's Sounds of
Bill & Bob

Tuesday 29th May
The Sounds of
Andy Tee

Steak and Strawberries £5.25
And still going well !!

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Despite our deep concern over the foot and mouth crisis, our spirits were lifted by a most entertaining talk in April.

We were taken through the musings of his life as a policeman by Alan Hale. We heard that he joined as a cadet in 1962 where he was trained to swim, he then became a senior cadet and from there joined the Police Force in Bristol, serving at the East Street Police Station as a 'Bobby' on the beat with his bicycle.

When his career started he recalled that rather than mobile phones the form of communication in Bristol were whistles and the Police Box on the street corner where the blue light flashed if a Policeman was required. Policing was very much 'hands on' with the public and the local PC

was a friend, a situation which, sadly, progress and technology has destroyed.

In the early days there was much more contact with schools than restrictions with staffing can allow now.

After tiring of cycling he applied to the Constabulary Driving School and learned to drive, becoming a driver of the then new Morris 1000 panda cars that were used in the City; he said that his dark glasses and black gloves added at least 5 m.p.h. to the speed of the Morris 1000!

One of his jobs as a driver was to collect the stray dogs from the various Police Stations and one evening there was one dog to come from Kingsweston Station and as it was a small dog Alan and his partner decided they would not waste time by going back for the van they should have used but they would put the dog on the back seat. It was a nice little lap dog and his partner encouraged the animal to settle on his lap in the front seat. On going through Dowry Square in Hotwells they spotted a car racing towards the flyover and so they gave chase to the Long Ashton bypass, weaving in and out of the traffic; they stopped the driver but as Alan stopped his car the dog was promptly very travel sick all over his partner, and they had to let the lawbreaker go while his partner travelled home in his underpants.

On another occasion they were called to Cribbs Causeway where a goat was roaming free. The only way to persuade the goat into their Triumph was by peppermints and they drove through Bristol on a Sunday morning with a large goat on the back seat - as he said, no-one would have reported him as they would not have believed their eyes!

As driving in the 60's became more 'trendy' with young people, Alan applied to become a Traffic Department driver as this meant driving the large black Wolseley cars.

After he qualified as an advanced driver eventually there was a vacancy and he joined the Traffic Department. After this experience he recalled his visit to the Horse and Dog Handling Department at Bower Ashton and decided he would like to try the mounted side of the Force. He

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

learned to ride a horse but unfortunately there was only one vacancy and the other trainee got the job but Alan rode Redcliffe, which he said was a wonderful animal, and readers may recall was Police Horse of the year for several years. He then became a motorcyclist and joined Bath Police where he lectured to schools and gave demonstrations - often following the Mounted Police when 'presents' were left by the horses, making motorcycling a bit hazardous.

Alan said his 31 years in the Police force were thoroughly enjoyable, despite the tragedy of deaths, motor accidents, and the problem with drunken brawls; he had been taught to swim, drive and become an advanced motorist with no cost to himself. He said has never lost his sense of observation and one day he was on holiday in Devon and took his dog for an early morning walk along the coast. Suddenly something came over the top of the cliff above him and fell on down; he could not see what it was so reported it to the Police Station. The Police met him at the place of the incident and the Coastguard helicopter also came overhead but all was well as it turned out that a member of the public had gained permission to throw his Mother-in-Law's ashes (at her request!) off this particular part of the coast and the Police said that before 9.00 a.m. they were sure would not be noticed by anybody.

Our competition was five daffodils and Rose Jeffrey won gold, Ruth Dyer Silver, and Jenny Croxton green.

Unfortunately we have had to cancel the Table Sale on the 21st April because of the foot and mouth difficulties but we hope to be able to hold a Jumble Sale on the 16th May at 7.00p.m.

Our next meeting on the 9th May is a talk by Mr D. Wakefield about the Donkey Sanctuary: the competition is a country ornament.

Rosemarie Ford
01275 877243

BIRD NEWS I

The Foot and Mouth restrictions have continued to prevent normal birdwatching activities but there are reports from farmers that the lack of public access to some areas is benefiting nesting birds. Lapwings have been settling on fields where they are generally disturbed by walkers and dogs, so there is at least some better news from this sad and terrible business.

A Good Friday trip to Chew Valley Lake produced a rare sighting of an Osprey. We watched it patrol the lake, catch a very large fish and then spend 20 minute circling to gain height, with great difficulty and effort, before it glided away to land in a grass field. I have never before seen an Osprey eat on the ground, but after a 5 minute rest the bird started to eat and was still eating, (without a break) an hour later!

It was an adult bird, so doubtless it will soon be continuing its journey north to Scotland.

The Somerset Levels reserves remain closed, but the warden informs me that a rare Marsh Harrier has arrived this year, so we are hopeful of renewed breeding. We also hope that the reserve will open for us to watch before the middle of July when the birds start to disperse.

A few Swallows have arrived to date (14th) but they may be short of food on farms that have lost their animals as insects are likely to be less abundant

Trevor Riddle

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

BIRD NEWS II

Following last month's reported sighting of a Peregrine on the radio mast in Clevedon. Early evening of the 8th April, I was alerted by my neighbour that there was a large Falcon perched on his adjoining rear fence.

On investigation, it proved to be a Peregrine with its bluish grey back and large yellow claws. It sat there, in the rain, for about 15 minutes before flying off.

Quite a stunning sight.

Mike Stevens,
The Gables, Kenn Street

BIRD NEWS III

The first report of a Swallow in the Village was from Mrs Jill Hackett who saw one on the wires outside her house in Duck Lane on 31st March. The first ones to arrive at Stonehouse Farm came on Easter Sunday.

Several pairs are already building and repairing last year's nests in the garage and cow shed.

Ducks are very much in the news. Mrs. Jenny Hancock tells me that one is sitting on eggs underneath her kitchen window. Sam Staples had 3 ducks nests just around his house, one duck is sitting on a fallen tree about 3 yards from his back door.

Jeff Naish reports seeing 41 Sheld Ducks resting on a field near "Castle Farm", Clevedon. They are probably pairing up to nest in the many rabbit holes in that area.

Ray Naish

Mrs Shirley Bowering

Mrs Bowering has passed away after a long illness. She and her husband Richard have lived at The Retreat, Russ Lane, Kenn for the past 21 years.

During their time in the Village the Bowerings have run an animal sanctuary on their small farm taking in ill-treated and unwanted animals including goats, ponies, dogs, hens, ducks and geese.

Mrs Bowering was well known in the Clevedon area where she had a round for free range egg sales. She was known affectionately as "The Egg Lady". She also ran a small shop in Parnell Road, Clevedon selling organically produced vegetables and fruit.

In her younger days Mrs. Bowering joined the Navy as a Wren.

Mrs. Bowering was a very friendly person, she and her family have always been very helpful to our family. As we have land around their home, they have kept an eye on cows that have been calving nearby and let us know when animals have strayed onto the lane.

Richard and Shirley had been married for 41 years. There was a very large congregation at her funeral in Kenn Church which was wonderfully conducted by The Revd. Chris Horseman.

I am sure people who knew Mrs. Bowering would wish to join with me in extending our sincere sympathy to Richard and his family in their sad loss.

Ray Naish.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Dewsbury Cottage,
Kenn Road,
Kenn,
North Somerset
BS21 6TS.

11th April 2001.

FLIES !!!

Isn't it wonderful to hear the long-term weather forecasters predicting a long hot summer this year? I wonder whether they are correct this time? – Not wanting to spoil anyone else's summer, personally I really hope that it will not be too hot, too sunny or too long – The Reason? – FLIES!!

Some eight, or is it nine, years ago we endured a plague of flies that ruined any hope of being able to sit out and enjoy the fresh air in our own garden. We thought it a nuisance at the time and made some comment that it was probably a freak occurrence and would not happen again – how wrong we were!

EVERY year since then these pests have returned at the very beginning of the summer and do not disappear until the last rays of the summer sun have gone sometimes into October.

Now, I'm not talking about a few flies that are associated with living out of town, as those of you who suffer will testify, I'm talking continual swarms. Being unable to open windows from April till October, constantly disinfecting work surfaces because of fly dirt that is left every time they land, using countless odious and poisonous fly sprays as well as having those disgusting fly papers getting tangled in your hair every where you walk in the house!

At the start of this, we honestly thought that the problem might be in our garden or roof space (we had been told this was a possibility) we searched but to no avail. The solution we thought – call the Environmental Health department – after all we pay their wages indirectly and they were bound to help – flies are a health hazard aren't they?

After a succession of unhelpful, unsympathetic visits from the environmental health officers, we were told to paint our house a different colour – other than white! That might help! and as trees surrounded us –

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

we would have this problem. We had lived in Dewsbury for some 15 years prior to this problem and I'm sure we had the same amount of trees then!

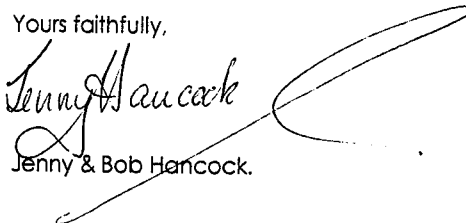
Every year we have contacted the environmental health and every year they visit and do nothing – until last year when they became offensive, rude and refused to help any further actually putting this fact in writing and also stating that flies such as these are part of a natural re-occurring process. We do not need patronising - we do know what is normal and what is not!

We are extremely grateful for the help given by Cheryl Quinn, from Bow Kennels and Councillor Andrew Jopp who have recently taken up our cause by bringing this to the attention of the Parish Council and by making as many people as possible aware that there is this problem in the area.

We have been told that currently the area affected extends from Kenn Estate on Kenn Road to the motorway the other way covering the area around the village green, Drum & Monkey and as far as we know ½ way along Kenn Street. (Can anyone confirm this please)? Every year the area appears to get larger.

If you are effected – please let us know either by telephoning myself on 01275 876476 or contacting Cheryl or Andrew. If we can determine the area affected, maybe we can see what is the central point and we can then narrow the search for the cause and deal with it. The more reports we have the better our chances and with everyone's help we can all enjoy the summers we were used to before this horrendous problem started.

Yours faithfully,


Jenny & Bob Hancock.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Silent Elms, Weame, Langport,
Somerset, TA10 0QQ
01458 251808

1/5/01

Dear Mrs Holtham.

This appeal is being sent to Parish Councils within the county of Somerset. For the past fifteen years I have been locating and copying photographs of Somerset Home Guard platoons and companies, interviewing the dwindling numbers of the Home Guard with view to producing a photographic "roll call" before it is too late. I should be very grateful if you would forward the following appeal to your parish newsletter for consideration. A similar appeal was sent to all Parishes for inclusion in their church magazines. I am aware that many parishes produced a booklet to celebrate the millennium and I am hoping that the subsequent interest in our past may have caused photographs to come to light.

Yours sincerely



Jeffrey Wilson.

The Somerset Home Guard 1940-44

A Photographic Project for Posterity.

I am sure no adult in the parish would not have heard of the Home Guard, either because they lived through those dark days, have been told by their parents or watched "Dads Army". In Somerset over 20,000 men and women were members at some stage. Some remained in through out the war whilst others were members until they were "called up".

Despite a shortage of photographic paper, together with many other daily items that are now taken for granted, many formal photographs of the Home Guard were taken by professional photographers. Over the years many of these historical records have been lost through fire, flood, carelessness, general spring cleaning or house clearance.

May I appeal to any one who has any group photographs of the Somerset Home Guard or knows of the location of any to contact me at the address below. The object of my work is to copy all known photos of the H.G. to produce one large photographic record together with any names that can be offered. I estimate these may well have been some 700 photos taken during the war so there is a long way for me to go in my race against time. I am sure that there are many tucked away in drawers or lofts that deserve a wider audience as a tribute to all those who "rallied round the Flag" in our hour of need. If this letter is familiar to you it is because I ran an identical appeal in Church magazines but I am aware that not all Church magazines are delivered to all households for various reasons.

In addition I would be pleased to hear from anyone who can provide me with other information such as locations of rifle or grenade ranges, "drill halls" or positions of road blocks, the location of such points of historical interest were not documented at the time and it is a matter of reviving memories.

Jeffrey Wilson,
Silent Elms, Weame, Langport, Somerset, TA10 0QQ. Telephone 01458 251808.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

People who know Jack Hanson were very sorry to hear of the sudden death of his nephew Patrick who lived in Yorkshire. Patrick was well known to many Kenn people, he had been spending his holidays with the Hansons in Kenn since he was a teenager and often came down to look after Jack and his home during illness.

Patrick was only 64 years of age.

Ray Naish

Mrs Grace Barrett

Mrs Barrett has passed away at her home in Clevedon aged 90.

Grace as she was known by many Kenn people was born in the Village, attended school here, was baptised and married in the Church here and requested that her funeral service be held here.

Grace was one of the seven children of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Stone and was brought up at "Rosecroft Cottage" Kenn Pier. Her father Harry was a great character and was known as "Kenn Pier master".

There was a large congregation at her funeral in St. John's before cremation. She leaves a son and daughter.

Ray Naish

Refuse Collections

Normal Collection Day

May Day Bank Holiday

Monday	7 th May
Tuesday	8 th May
Wednesday	9 th May
Thursday	10 th May
Friday	11 th May

Revised Collection Day

Tuesday	8 th May
Wednesday	9 th May
Thursday	10 th May
Friday	11 th May
Saturday	12 th May

May Bank Holiday

Monday	28 th May
Tuesday	29 th May
Wednesday	30 th May
Thursday	31 st May
Friday	1 st June

Tuesday	29 th May
Wednesday	30 th May
Thursday	31 st May
Friday	1 st June
Saturday	2 nd June