

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS ETC.

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

Thoughts for New Year

- 1. Never lose a chance to tell
someone you love them*
- 2. Never accept a closed door in
life – push it open, if you want
to pass through and
experience what lies on the
other side.*

Naish's Notes

What a magnificent sight it was to see
Concorde fly over on its final flight!
What a shame such a beautiful plane
has to end its days.

Well done to the England Rugby
Squad, what a nail-biting final and
what a fitting result.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year to all our readers

Sheila

From Clevedon Salerooms

Invitation

Just a note to say that on the morning
of our last Victorian & Later Sale
before Christmas - Thursday 11th
December, all our customers, past,
present and future are invited to join us
for a glass of sherry and a mince pie.

The sale starts at 10.00am and we will
be serving from 10.30am.

Look forward to seeing you there

The viewing for this sale is on
Wednesday 10th December from
10.00am - 7.30pm

Toby

St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

Kenn Altar Guild - December Rota

7th - Mrs J. Fenwick/Mrs J. Pascoe
14th - Mrs R. Bell/Mrs G. Griffin
21st - CAROL SERVICE
Mrs M. Ball/Mrs J. Staples
28th - Mrs J. Cheek/Mrs M. Mackay

Grace and John Griffin will assist
Mrs Jean Naish, to decorate the tree in
Church for the Carol Service.

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

Thank you, Jean 872493

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The Service of Carols and Lessons

The Service of Carols and Lessons at Church will be at 6.00 pm on Sunday 21st December.

If anyone would like to take part in the choir for that service, please join us at Choir Practice at 7.15 pm on Thursday 18th December.

Christingles at Kenn

Kenn's Christingle Service took place on Sunday 23rd November in the Family Service slot.

The Christingles had been made the day before at The Ox House, Kenn Street, and despite candles, sharp pointy sticks and children being in close proximity a good time was had by all.

Lots of children came to the service and we had a lovely time. Afterwards there was a lot of chewing and munching, as the sweets and fruit from the Christingles as well as the usual coffee and biscuits were consumed.

As with the feeding of the 5000 this left a lot of crumbs, Rev John Andrews set to with the Dyson and celebrated the end of his first year at Kenn with a spot of housework.

It's hard to believe that Celia and John have been here for a whole year, until you think of how much they've done for us already.

Celia now edits Moor News as well as The Grapevine, somehow managing to dream up the 'talks' for the Family services at both Kenn and Kingston, write Nativity Plays and run a drama group at KS.

John has visited a multitude of people, seems to be at just about all of our services and has made us feel we are 'his' flock. All this in a job which is officially a half post!

THANKS YOU GUYS!
Julia Bush

Archdeacon Bob Comes to Kenn

Despite a very busy afternoon (Memorial Service for Bishop Jim and a meeting on his home turf) Ven. Bob Evens made his way to Kenn Village Hall on the evening of Friday 7/11 to kick off the official fundraising for "The New Room for St. John's"

A goodly crowd of Kennites gathered for chat and light refreshments, and a short but heartfelt address from Bob 'Paperwork' was circulated outlining ways we could commit to giving to the fund in various ways, and this has brought forth some very generous offers.

If you were not able to attend the meeting but would like to see how you could help swell the funds, please contact me. Julia Bush 01275 873554.

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More News about MOOR NEWS

If you are a Moor News reader, stop and ask yourself, 'Have I paid for my 2003 magazines yet?' If the answer is 'No' please contact your distributor or the churchwardens about getting up to date.

In the recent past there has been some confusion about 'MagMoney' from Kenn and I would like to finish this year in a clear position. It is important that Moor News money is kept separate from the general collections, otherwise it isn't recorded as having been paid and it looks as if we are slipping behind.

Please find and read the piece in Moor News written by the Mag Treasurer Martin Ansell, outlining the new proposals for ordering and paying for your copies. It is hoped that his will make all things clear for 2004 (well I did only say 'hope')

Julia Bush

SNIPPETS

Kenn Village Hall – Jumble Sale

The Jumble sale held on November 19th for Hall Funds raised £143 towards the new kitchen. Our sincere thanks for donations, help on the day and removing unsold goods and for all contributions of goods for sale. It is hoped to start work on the new kitchen late in February.

Wednesday 12th November

Our flag was flown at half-mast to mark the funeral service of Mrs Hilda Staples who passed away at the end of October.

CHRISTMAS TREE and CAROLS on the VILLAGE GREEN Friday 19th December at 7.00 pm

The lights on our Christmas Tree will be switched on by a Kenn Celebrity to be followed by Carol Singing round the tree. (if wet in the Church), and mince pies kindly given by Mike of the Drum. Young Kennites will collect for the Children's Society.

To all Kennites and friends, come along and meet your friends and enjoy a Happy Evening.

Farewell and Welcome

We are sorry to learn that Dennis and Iris Goldsworthy are leaving Kenn to live in a Clevedon flat.

During the many years they have lived at Moor Lodge they have joined in many Kenn activities including Women's Institute, Parish Council and church cleaning.

For the past few years they have opened the church on Sunday mornings for early Holy Communion. We shall miss them and thank them for their help and support and wish them every happiness in their new home.

Miss Wood has bought Moor Lodge, we extend a warm welcome to her and hope she will enjoy living in Kenn

Ruth Dyer.

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Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy
on
Tuesday 9th December 10 am – 12 noon

At the home of
Mrs Jean Naish, Cloverlea, Kenn

In aid of
The New Church Room
Everyone welcome

Donations of Bring and Buy
Gratefully received
Also help would be appreciated

Many thanks, Jean Naish
and Margaret Ford

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Kenn Village Hall

Monday 1st December

7.30 pm - Kenn Parish Council

Drum and Monkey

12.30 pm. Tuesday 2nd December

Village Lunch

Everyone welcome.

Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 3rd December

Christmas Tea Party, 3pm.

Cloverlea, Kenn Street

Tuesday 9th December

10.00 am. – 12 noon

Coffee Morning – Proceeds towards
the New Church Room

Everyone welcome

Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 10th December

Kenn W.I. Meeting at 7.30 pm.

Mrs Foster will speak on

Women in Prostitution –

Competition – Three Mince Pies

Christmas Post for Members.

Non-members always welcome

Kenn Village Green

7.00 pm. Friday 19th December

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

Kenn Village Hall

Monday 22nd December

Kenn Children's Party

4.30 pm – 6.00 pm

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Parish Council Meeting Monday

1st December from 7.30 pm -

everyone welcome!

Christmas Refuse Collection Dates

A change of strategy this year -
only those whose refuse is normally
collected on a Thursday and Friday
are affected.

Thursday 25th December

- no collection

Friday 26th December

- no collection

Thursday 1st January - no collection

For those affected there will be
double collections on Friday 2nd
January and Saturday 3rd January.

All refuse collections will return to
normal from Monday 5th January.

When two egotists meet,
it's an I for an I

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WHAT'S ON AT THE DRUM!

Kenn Village Lunch

Tuesday 2nd December
from 12.30 p.m.
Everyone welcome

Tuesday 2nd December
'Songs from the Shows'
(tickets – sold out)

Sunday 21st December The Drum and Monkey Xmas Raffle

Tickets available behind the bar.
Raffle starts 8.30 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,
Prize Raffle

Fancy Dress – optional

New Years Day

Open 12 noon till 4.00 p.m.

Closed Evening

Every Wednesday

Quiz Night

Free Entry – Prizes
Raffle

Children's Christmas Party

The Kenn Children's Christmas Party will be held from 4.30- 6.00 pm on Monday 22nd December.

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

Kenn Women's Institute

The month of November sees our AGM each year and 2003 has been no exception. The outgoing Committee was re-elected en bloc (why spoil a successful formula!) and Miss Ann Holtham was voted in again as President; it will be very difficult to replace Ann as she is so efficient and hardworking in this capacity as in all things she undertakes.

The Committee was thanked for all its hard work during the past very successful year which has been our 50th Birthday and marked in several ways as featured in this publication through the year. To end the year we celebrated our birthday in October this year by enjoying a delicious meal at the Drum and Monkey; as always the hostelry excelled itself and we had a really good time.

After the AGM Mrs Pauline Alvis entertained us with her description of cheese-making by her family

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Company at Redhill. The technology that is involved now is breathtaking; their factory looks like a stainless steel operating theatre or something from outer space.

Even measuring and weighing the cheese to make it suitable for onward selling to retail outlets is controlled by computer and the machinery is sensitive enough to 'know' when a wedge is underweight or overweight and readjust the controls!

We tasted the 'squeaky' raw cheese before it has matured and the beautiful mild and mature cheddar cheese produced by their Company. Some of the cheese takes two years before it is ready and it is stored on huge pallets many feet high.

The machinery has been erected at the farm on the side of a hill and the natural undulation of the land has been used in the processing of the cheese from separating into curds and whey to the final product, which is stored in the store at the base of the slope.

As with many of our speakers this year, Mrs Alvis' enthusiasm for her chosen occupation and her natural good humour gave us a thoroughly enjoyable and entertaining talk - not to mention the lovely 'titbits' we were treated to! The competition was a recipe using cheese - won by Heather Saxby with Eileen Prew gaining silver and Madeleine Crawley green; I hope to publish these three recipes in next month's mag.

December meeting is a talk by Mrs D. Foster entitled 'Women in Prostitution'. You will be very welcome to come along and join us for mince pies.

Our Meeting starts at 7.30pm at Kenn Village Hall.

ROSEMARIE FORD 01275 542651

What the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway)

Dennis and Iris Goldsworthy

Dennis and Iris have sold their house in Kenn Street and moved to a new home in Clevedon. They had lived in Kenn for twenty years.

During their time in Kenn they had been involved in many Village activities including the Parish Council, of which Dennis was a member and at one time Vice Chairman.

He had also been Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator, Sidesman at the Church and at one time Treasurer. Iris had been a Women's Institute member and joint secretary of the Kenn Altar Guild.

Together Dennis and Iris had taken charge of the opening and arranging the Church for early morning Services for many years, also the mid-week services. This has been a great help to Clergy and Churchwardens.

No doubt we shall see them around the Village from time to time.

We send our very best wishes to them in their new home.

Ray Naish

Time flies like an arrow.
Fruit flies like a banana

HILDA AGNES STAPLES

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Mrs Staples has passed away in hospital after a short illness. She had lived alone until about two years ago and was aged 95 years.

Mrs Staples came to Kenn to live from her native Cheddar over seventy years ago. She never lost her Cheddar accent, which is slightly different from the one native Kenn people use. She was very old fashioned in her way of talking, always addressing people as Mr, Mrs or Miss.

Soon after coming to Kenn she married Donald Staples, their marriage lasted well over sixty years until Donald's death several years ago. Donald and Hilda set up home in a wooden bungalow near Riverside Farm. Just before the last war started Donald and Hilda bought 'Myrtle Cottage' at the top of Duck Lane, at that time there was a small shop attached to the cottage.

They bought the shop from Mrs. Flo Ogbourne, who was a member of the Stowell family. The shop had cigarettes, tobacco, sweets, fruit and farmhouse butter on sale.

I remember being sent down to the shop by my father with a sixpenny piece to buy 10 Players cigarettes. If you had a penny you could buy 10 aniseed balls. Clifford Moore, my friend at school, and I, often saved one penny farthing each to do down to the shop to buy 5 Clipper cigarettes for two pence ha'penny. We broke one in half and smoked two and a half each.

Donald was called up into the army early in the war. Mrs Staples had Airmen billeted in her house during the

War. They were here to man the Decoy Fire out in the moor.

When Donald was demobbed and came home, Mrs. Staples had saved enough money from her shop, her garden, and the money the Government had paid her for looking after the Airman to pay for their house.

Donald and Hilda then developed a small farm and market garden, keeping cows, pigs and poultry and growing flowers and vegetables, which Donald took to Bristol Market each morning. They continued this business until they retired.

Mrs Staples' funeral at Kenn Church was well attended, her ashes, after cremation were interred in Donald's grave in the churchyard.

Sincere sympathy is extended to her son John, daughter Christine and all their families.

Ray Naish

BIRD NEWS I

The Easterly and North-Easterly winds in October seem to have brought a lot of Scandinavian birds to Britain this autumn.

At the beginning of the month a flock of 500 Fieldfares was in the Nailsea Wall are – a very large flock for so early in the winter.

A major rarity was a Yellow Browed Warbler, this is a tiny bird from Asia, whose main wintering area is in China!

Almost as unusual in Somerset was a party of half a dozen Woodlarks near Long Ashton. This is a rare breeding

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bird in England but its numbers are increasing, due to more sympathetic forestry management.

There have been up to 3 Short Eared Owls hunting along the sea wall between the estuaries of the old River Kenn and the River Yeo.

During the last fortnight, there has been increased bird activity and there seem to be good numbers of Bullfinches and Reed Buntings as well as Scandinavian visitors such as Redpoll, Siskin and lots of Goldcrests.

Jill saw her first Otter (or at least the back of an Otter) at the Shapwick Heath National Nature Reserve mid-month, whilst I was delighted to see a Hen Harrier present at the Catcott Lows reserve of the Somerset Wildlife Trust. This bird may also be of Scandinavian origin. It is almost certainly not English as there are very few nesting in England now.

Trevor Riddle 01934 835208

BIRD NEWS II

Early in the mornings between four and five o'clock, I hear a male Tawny Owl calling, this has been going on for several weeks. He must live here in the centre of the Village.

On Sunday 16th November, during Evensong in church, he must have perched on the Church roof, he starting calling loudly and several people in the congregation heard him.

Miles Naish reports, that almost everyday, he sees a pair of Little Egrets near the sea wall at Kingston Seymour.

Jeff Naish has today seen a Little Egret and three deer in Nailsea Moor.

Jeff has also reported seeing a flock of small birds that he did not recognise. Their backs are marked like sparrows, with yellowish breasts. Can anyone help?

A pair of Cormorants has taken up residence again on an electricity pylon at the top of Nailsea Wall. They often use this very exposed vantage point. Perhaps they are looking for fish in the Old River Kenn below.

Ben Morris of Duck Lane has had a pair of Grey Wagtails in his garden, joining the Pied ones that are always around.

Ray Naish

Kenn Church Bell

Back in December 2000 my article in "News & Views" had two sentences thus:

"I feel it would be an appropriate start to the new millennium if we could soon get it (the bell) safely rehung in a modern frame and have the old cast-in crown staple (on which the clapper swings) drilled out and replaced with an independent stirrup. This would take away the possibility of our bell becoming cracked due to corrosion stresses as could so easily happen, especially in this 'near to the sea' position"

Well, thankfully the bell hasn't cracked yet, and with the new church room so much needed and to the fore as far as fund-raising was concerned, I had decided I must bide my time with any further mention of work required on the bell and its frame.

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However, fate (or the bell!) decided to take its own turn and not wait for any of us. John Griffin mentioned on more than one occasion, that when the bell was being rung he had heard a strange knocking sound while stood outside the tower.

Consequently he, John Ball and myself ascended to the bell chamber and on swinging the bell heard this knocking all too clearly and did a thorough investigation. We found that after 185 years the elm headstock, on which the bell is hung, has started to break-up in an area local to the pivots, and as it swung so the pivot would “clunk” from side to side. Tragedy! Could we do anything ourselves to rectify the problem? – even making a completely new timber head-stock was considered.

However, with today’s church authorities requiring faculty application for all such work together with stringent Health and Safety requirements and the lack of any strong beams beneath the bell on which it could be sat while the work was in progress, we had to admit eventually that a professional rehanging was probably by far the best option.

That will cost, but will also take away the fear of a crack developing. So, in the meantime, the bell is being used with even greater care than usual and if you have thought it isn’t sounding out as much that is why.

We have obtained a bell-hanger’s estimate and are now in the process of trying to decide whether we can retain the old floors (which have no large trapdoors for the bell to come down through – and also have joists in the way to complicate matters) or to build

new ones. All this at the time when the church least needs more expense.

We are seeking all ways of keeping the cost of the job down, but grant aid for a single bell is virtually non-existent unless it is of special historic interest – see more below!

The bell-hanger has tried (and is still trying!) to convince us that if we bought a separate ring of 5 small bells for which he just happens to have 4 going spare, the job would only cost a few thousand extra and we could get grant aid to cover the difference!

Well we have little chance of getting enough people to ring them and room in the ringing chamber, even without the present paraphernalia, is minimal, so unless 5 or more readers wish not only to donate a sizeable sum to buy a bell in memory of a loved one, but also to learn to ring it for services thereafter, we have no intention of pursuing that course! – but please shout quickly if you want us to reconsider!

Before I could do anything to find out whether our bell would be considered to be of special historic interest, our son Andrew (who was in at the beginning of all this by coming to the Somerset Records Office with me and helping glean information for the earlier articles) posted an enquiry on the bell historians web site asking whether there were many bells by William Jefferies still in existence.

In a rush of e-mails, various historians give dates, lists and opinions and from all this it would appear that Kenn’s bell of 1815 was the very earliest known. Others being Fishponds, Bristol (now gone) and Redlynch, Somerset, both 1820, but with most of William’s bells

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dating from 1932 when he cast the call bell for Tyntesfield House which “certainly looks like an early effort”.

So one opinion offered was that the earlier bells were cast **for** William Jefferies of Bristol and not **by** him, and possibly by the noted John Rudhall of Gloucester.

Apparently the clue to this is that the date is inscribed J8J5 i.e. with ‘Js’ rather than ‘1s’, so whether John used this “quirk” to distinguish all his castings I do not know.

Whether or not it is one of his, we obviously do have a rather special bell even if only for the mystery and conjecture it is now causing! So I may even now see if there is a possibility of a grant based on historical interest

Geoff Marchant

The end of the year once again approaches; and it is time to write those greeting cards. Also we should be thanking those who have earned our appreciation and gratitude for the contribution they make to our village life, this and in some cases every year. Without these “movers” and “shakers” Kenn would be a far less attractive place to live.

Whatever happens in and around our Hall or in and around our Church requires considerable effort of mind and body from willing dedicated people who give of their time selflessly.

To each and every one of you we say a sincere “Thank you”.

We need a special word for Margaret, without whose monthly labours you would not be reading this. K.N.& V is a

really remarkable mag. I wonder if any other village of our modest size can boast of anything like it.

Each month is a good read with information on “What’s on” or “What’s been happening” etc.

To produce this little gem, requires time, skill and commitment, also talent.

Margaret gives generously and freely of all these for our enjoyment (how she fits it all into her busy life we can only wonder) To her and her supporters John and Sheila, plus the distributors we say a Huge Thank You.

This is a good time to thank Mike, Kelly and Staff at The Drum for good food and service, which makes our monthly midday meal so popular. In November, thirty-three of us attended. We wish all at The Drum a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.

John Griffin

Dreams

How sleep you in the darkened night
When Winter’s grip is cold and tight.
Dream your dreams of Springtime

Days

When tulips in the sun do laze
Or do you dream of Summer’s bliss
When lovers in the moonlight kiss.
Are Autumn’s dreams in colours gold
With images and dreams untold
So dream your dreams as sweet as dew
As sweet as morn when the sun shines
through

H. Cliff Edwards

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PARISH OF YATTON MOOR

1st Sunday 7th December
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8am Holy Communion Kenn

8am Holy Communion Claverham
9.30am Parish Communion Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Cleeve
11am Christingle Service
Kingston Seymour
6pm Evensong Yatton

2nd Sunday 14th December
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8am Holy Communion Yatton
9.30am Parish Communion Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Claverham
11am Holy Communion Cleeve
11am Holy Communion Kenn
3pm Christingle Service Yatton
4pm Christingle Service Cleeve
6pm Evensong Kingston Seymour

3rd Sunday 21st December
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8am Holy Communion Yatton
9.30am Parish Communion Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Cleeve
10am Nativity Service Claverham
11am Holy Communion
Kingston Seymour
6pm Carol Service Yatton
6pm Carol Service Kenn
7pm Carol Service Cleeve

4th Sunday 28th December
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS
HOLY INNOCENTS/ ST.STEPHEN/
ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

8am Holy Communion Claverham
10am Team Communion Yatton
6pm Festal Evensong Kenn

HOLY DAYS IN DECEMBER

1st ANDREW THE APOSTLE
8.30am Holy Communion Yatton

27th ***JOHN APOSTLE & EVANGELIST***
11am Holy Communion Kenn

WEEKDAY SERVICES (except
Christmas Day and New Year's Day)

Daily: 8.30am: Morning Prayer at Yatton
(except Holy Days)
Every Wednesday: 10am: Holy
Communion Yatton
1st Wednesday 11am: Holy Communion
Kingston Seymour

3rd Wednesday 17th December

11am: Holy Communion Kenn
4th Wednesday: 11am: Holy Communion
Claverham
Every Thursday: 9.30am: Holy
Communion Cleeve
7.30pm: Holy Communion Yatton

MID WEEK CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Wednesday 17th December
7pm: Carol Service Claverham

Friday 19th December
7.00pm Carol Singing Kenn Village
Green
7.30pm: Carol Service Kingston Seymour

Saturday 20th December
7pm Lions Carol Service Yatton Precinct.

Wednesday 24th December
CHRISTMAS EVE

3pm: Crib Service Kenn
6pm: Crib Service Cleeve
4pm: Crib Service Yatton (Ecumenical)
4.30pm: Crib Service Kingston Seymour

10.00pm: Holy Communion Claverham
11.30pm: Midnight Mass, Kingston
Seymour
11.30pm: Christmas Communion Yatton
11.30pm: Christmas Communion Cleeve

Thursday 25th December
CHRISTMAS DAY

8am: Holy Communion Yatton
9.30am: Family Communion Yatton
10am: Family Communion Cleeve
11am: Family Communion Kingston
11am: Family Communion Kenn