

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## **BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES** **NOVEMBER**

9th Andrew Jenkins  
Gina & Hilton Minakawa WA  
11th Irene Stowell  
12th Derek Wall  
13th Sheila Naish – a special one  
Jody Stowell  
16th Miles and Sheila Naish - W.A  
22nd Emma Palmer (Smith)  
27th Rebecca Brett (Fenwick)  
Sarah Melling (Griffin)  
28th Sarah Clark  
Grace & John Griffin - W.A.  
29th Mr & Mrs George Holtham WA

### **Thoughts of the Month**

*As you get older you learn that the people you most care about in life are taken from you too soon, and all the less important ones just never go away.*

\*\*\*\*\*

If you can't be a good example, then you will have to be a horrible warning.

### **Naish's Notes**

Please keep all bric-a-brac books and Jumble for a sale to be held shortly. Details to follow.

Thanks to John Ball for quickly sorting out the problem of the wasps in the Village Hall. We can at least sit still in there now, I for one am very nervous of them.

Window Cleaner.

If anyone needs a reliable window cleaner, look no further than Clearview Window Cleaning Services, a friendly reliable chap called Dave Sims, give him a ring on 01934 519477 or 07779 725650. He is brill.

## OVER THE MOON

Freshly made Pizza delivered to your door  
Available Tuesday-Thursday 5-10.30pm  
Friday-Saturday 5-11pm

Telephone 01275 873007

Also Lasagne, Cannelloni and Chilli  
Vegetarian Meals and Baguettes

Ring for a menu, many fillings available.

Sheila

### **St. John the Evangelist, Kenn**

### **What's happening in Kenn?**

#### **Installation of 'Induction Loop System'**

On 14<sup>th</sup> October the first stage of the sound enhancement system at St. John's was installed. This was the improvement asked for by members of the congregation when a small survey was carried out to assess the church after I read "Widening the Eye of the Needle". This booklet illustrates how the Church of England will be affected by the Disability Act of 1995.

#### **Quinquennial Survey**

Church Architect Julian Hannam carried out said survey on 8<sup>th</sup> October. We await his findings with interest. Ref the above article, Julian said he thought Disabled Access at St. John's needed no further action.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## NEW ROOM NEWS!!!!

### Watch this Space! or There it was Gone!

Do you remember the episode in Mark Twain's 'Huckleberry Finn' when Finn has to whitewash a fence as a punishment for some dire misdemeanour? By making this mundane job seem enticing Huck soon has a queue of willing helpers, some even prepared to pay to take part. John Ball obviously has the same knack and in a village of skilled artisans, passers by could not resist helping demolish "The Old Room" to make way for "The New Room" Thanks go to Messrs Taylor, Staples, Griffin, Gale and the neighbourly refreshment team. The site was cleared by John and TCB on the JCB.

### Christingle Service

Our Annual Christingle Service  
will take place on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
November at 11.00 a.m.

Children of all ages will be warmly  
welcomed.

### Christmas Puddings

Last date for Superior Christmas  
Pudding orders is 30<sup>th</sup> November  
to me Julia Bush - Tel. 01275  
873554

### Archdeacon's Visit to Kenn

You may have noticed that for about 3 months, I have been banging on and on about the fact that on 7<sup>th</sup> November, Ven Bob Evens, Archdeacon of Bath will be joining us in Kenn Village Hall, to start the official fundraising efforts in aid of "The New Room" for St. John's.

I hope that by early in November, Ray and I will have contacted as many people as possible personally to invite you to this presentation.

We are very fortunate to have someone as busy as Archdeacon Bob willing to spend the evening with us, especially as it will be at the end of a particularly hectic day (memorial service for Bishop Jim Thompson 2 pm 7/11).

Please come and help the evening go with a swing 7.30 for 8 pm. There will be tea, coffee and nibbles.

### Ladies and Tramps Ball 18/10

At the last minute this event was translocated to Southfield Farm where a select group of Tramps and Tiara-topped ladies enjoyed an evening of gay wit and badinage, as well as superior "Bangers and Mash" and comforting puddings and custard. Thanks to all who attended.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## **Altar Guild Members on Duty in November**

Mrs. Sarah Clark  
Mrs. Ruth Dyer  
Mrs. Marianna Mackay

## **December Rota**

If any ladies are unable to do their week in December, please let Jean Naish know. Tel. 872493

- Many thanks

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup>  
Mrs J. Fenwick/Mrs J. Pascoe

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup>  
Mrs R. Bell/Mrs G. Griffin

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> - CAROL SERVICE  
Mrs M Stowell/Mrs H. Jenkins

Sunday 28<sup>th</sup>  
Mrs J Cheek/Mrs M. Mackay

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

## **The Church Room**

The Church room at the end of the car park has been taken down by a valiant band of volunteer workers. This has been done to enable it to be rebuilt on a larger scale to include toilet facilities and a meeting room for the Church and Village use.

I have been told that the room was designed and paid for by Mrs. Perks, who was the wife of the Revd Walter Perks, who was Vicar of Kenn from about 1898 to 1924.

Mrs Perks had the room built to provide a meeting place for women of the village to attend sewing and knitting classes.

It was probably built about one hundred years ago. At that time people in Kenn were very poor. Farm workers wages around that time was twelve shillings per week (60 pence in today's money) for working seven days a week.

I have been told that John Stevens started work at Kenn Court in 1875 as a ploughman, a job he held for over 40 years and never earned more than twelve shillings a week. John Stevens' wife, known as Granny Stevens, most probably attended these classes.

When I was attending Kenn School in the 1930's the Parish Room, as it was called, was derelict and unused. It stayed like that for years. When the last war was over, school dinners were introduced. The Parish Room was repaired and a sink installed so that the meals could be prepared there and the washing up done. The late Mrs. Lillian Moore got the job of preparing the meals and clearing up afterwards. She was paid seventeen shillings a week.

In the 1950's the Parish Room was used for Parish Council Meetings.

It again fell into disrepair and around twenty years ago was restored by John Hazell, in memory of his late mother Mrs. Winifred Hazell (nee Dyer). This enabled it to be used as the meeting place for the Sunday School for several years and for preparing coffee for refreshments after the monthly Family Service in Church.

Ray Naish.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## The Churchyard Hedge

The hedge on the south side of the churchyard had got out of hand and badly needed cutting back.

Fortunately Jeremy Osbourne, who is well known to Kenn residents, kindly agreed to undertake this difficult job. He did a wonderful job. Taking the middle of the hedge right out. This makes it more manageable and enables it to be trimmed from either side.

Many thanks Jeremy.

Ray Naish

## PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

The subjects touched upon at the last Parish Council meeting were many and varied. Some were more light hearted than others. If it all sounds interested, come and join in at the next meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> December - the more the merrier.

Owing to the cutting of the hedgerows and the verges the litter has become all too obvious. It is hoped to arrange occasional working parties to pick up some of it. If you would like to join in please telephone John Griffin 01275 872948 and offer your services. Thank you.

Your Parish Council Chairman has been invited to various civic events and it was suggested that he should have a chain of office. What do you think?

Any comments and suggestions (polite please!) will be welcome.

BT BROADBAND has reached the area. It is available on '34' numbers only. Not on '87' numbers sadly, as the exchange is not suitable.

The Christmas Tree will be on The Green as usual, proposed date Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

Don't forget that if there is anything that the Parish Council can help with, any parish Councillor will bring it to a meeting (or of course come yourself. We look forward to seeing or hearing from you.

Ann Holtham, Clerk

(N.B. The Parish Council Post Box is situated in the Porch of the Village Hall)

## Wilfred Tiley

Former Kenn resident, Wilf Tiley has recently passed away in Clevedon Hospital aged 90 years.

Wilf, with his late wife Cedella, ran the Sunday School, firstly at Kenn Congregational Chapel, until it closed, then in the Church for about 20 years. When he was associated with the church, Wilf undertook many running repairs to church property, including the restoration of the churchyard gates.

He is survived by his son Glynn his wife Helen and two grandsons.

Ray Naish.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## Dorothy May Bird

Dorothy, known as Dolly, has passed away after a prolonged illness. Dolly, who was one of the eight children of Joe and Lillian Cox of Kenn Estate, was aged 75.

A former Kenn Village School pupil, she lived in Kenn until her marriage.

Ivor, her youngest brother, still lives in the family home at Kenn Estate.

Dorothy's ashes, after cremation were interred by her family in the grave of her brother Philip in the churchyard.

Philip was killed in a motor cycle accident when only 22 years old, fifty years ago.

She is survived by three sons, and one daughter, also three brothers and one sister.

Ray Naish

## Kenn Notes - Snippets

### Kenn Village Hall - Coffee Morning

The Coffee Morning held at Kenn Court on 15<sup>th</sup> October raised £80 towards the new kitchen. Many thanks to everyone who came along and helped.

### Kenn Village Hall - Jumble Sale Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 2.30 pm

A Jumble Sale will be held in the Village Hall for the new kitchen. Many

stalls, Raffle - Offers of help will be appreciated.  
Goods to Hall 10 - 11 am

## Bereavement

We are very sorry to record the passing of Mrs Hilda Staples of Duck Lane on 31<sup>st</sup> October. We flew our flag at half mast and send her children John and Christine and their families our sincere sympathy.

Ruth Dyer

## Ilexmead, Kenn Street, Kenn.

Thank you Kenn News and Views for your get well good wishes and I am pleased to report progress albeit too slowly for my liking.

I should especially like to thank Maurice Ford, who came to investigate my cries for assistance and sent for the ambulance.

Meanwhile, whilst pen is in hand, I would like to make reference to Sidney Tucker who recently passed away. I believe I was fortunate enough to get to know Sid better than most others in the village. When he first arrived and I asked how he was enjoying living in Kenn his immediate response was that he had never seen so many sheep and cows in his life. He also wondered how anyone could get about after dark as there were no street lights or pavements.

Sid was an expert producer of an enormous range of vegetables and many times he came over to us with surplus fruits of his labours. He and Marian had transformed the gardens at 'Rorty Crankel but he had no time for lawns! I shall miss our chats and I know I had

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

only scratched the surface to Sid and his former working life.

Colin Cooper

## Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> November  
2.30

## JUMBLE SALE

Proceeds towards New  
Kitchen

## Dates for your Diary

### The Drum and Monkey

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November from  
12.30 p.m. Village Lunch**  
Everyone welcome

### Kenn Village Hall and Field Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November

**6.30 p.m. Bonfire Party with  
Fireworks** - organised by  
2<sup>nd</sup> Clevedon Scouts  
**Tickets £6 family or £2 single**  
from John Ball or at the gate  
Refreshments Available

Clevedon Salerooms  
Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November 10.00 am  
Sale of Victorian and Later items

### The Drum and Monkey Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November

**Curry and Race Night**  
**£3 entrance fee**  
to become a jockey or an owner  
of which £2 goes to  
"Wishes and Dreams"  
Children's Charity

Kenn Village Hall  
Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 7.30

**Kenn Women's Institute**  
Speaker Mrs Alvis  
on Farmhouse Cheese-making  
Non-members always welcome

### Clevedon Salerooms

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 10.30 am  
Specialist Sale of Antique Furniture Fine  
Art and Collectors Items

### Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 7.30  
Kenn Women's Institute  
**Flower Arrangement  
Demonstration**  
Entrance £3 to include coffee

St. John the Evangelist, Kenn  
Christingle Service  
11.00 a.m. Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November

## Advance Dates

Kenn Village Hall  
Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 7.30 pm  
**Kenn Parish Council Meeting**

Drum & Monkey  
Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December  
**"Songs from the Shows"**  
**£15 – 3 course meal with coffee**  
**Book early**

Kenn Village Hall  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## **Christmas Tea Party**

Invitations out by end of  
November  
(volunteers to help – please  
contact Margaret Ball on 874077)

## **Kenn Village Hall**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December –**

**4.30 – 6.00 pm**

## **Children's Christmas Party**

Contact Jo Batten 878782 if an  
invitation for your child or  
grandchild is not received by 14<sup>th</sup>  
December.

## **Kenn Women's Institute**

We have taken up word processor  
again to write to Mr Blair expressing  
our concern at the intended  
Government directive to make Water  
Authorities add fluoride to our water.  
At the present time it is a free choice  
of individual Water Authorities but  
again, our personal choice is being  
removed.

We shall soon be like most countries  
and have to purchase bottled water for  
'safe' drinking rather our own  
previously delicious and fairly rare  
natural water.

Also, we have written to the local  
Health Authority expressing the wish  
for a facility at Clevedon Hospital to  
provide blood transfusions for very  
fragile patients who find any form of  
travel to Bristol traumatic; particular  
reference has been made to the  
elderly. It seems to us that one or two  
days per month at least with this  
facility locally would provide such a  
worthwhile answer to some people's  
problems.

Whilst on the business side, may I  
remind you that your Christmas  
shoeboxes must be brought to the

November meeting on the 12th  
November when we shall be holding  
our AGM. Our speaker on that  
evening is Mrs Alvis who be talking  
about Farmhouse Cheese-making.

The competition is a recipe containing  
cheese.

Many of you will know the artistic  
prowess of Mrs Margaret Flux in her  
lace-making and tatting but on the 8th  
October we revelled in the skill she  
uses to create Faberge style eggs.  
She brought dozens of examples from  
the size of a quail's egg through hen's  
eggs, duck eggs, emu's eggs, and  
finally ostrich eggs decorated and  
painted by Margaret with many hours  
of patience.

The fragility of these creations was  
almost unbelievable and she put so  
much care into making them that she  
finds it very difficult to part with the  
finished article, although she does sell  
and give away some for special  
occasions - what a lovely keepsake!  
Margaret's crafting ability is  
exceptional.

The October competition was a display  
of Autumn leaves, won by Eileen  
Prew, and our entry for the Group  
competition was chosen: a pirate  
worked by Thelma Blake.

**DON'T FORGET OUR ANNUAL  
FLOWER ARRANGING  
DEMONSTRATION ON  
WEDNESDAY 26TH NOVEMBER -  
7.30 pm  
AT KENN VILLAGE HALL.**

**COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE  
EVENING WITH US FOR £3.00  
WHICH INCLUDES A CUP OF TEA  
AND HOMEMADE BISCUITS.**

**BE ASSURED YOU WILL BE MOST  
WELCOME!**

ROSEMARIE FORD - 01275-542651

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## ZOOM IN ON ZAMBIA

### KABWE APPEAL

### TEAM SUNDAY

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November  
10.00 am  
St. Mary's Yatton

A Service of Thanksgiving  
for the success of the  
Kabwe Appeal

Shapwick Heath. This is a national monthly count of wetland birds. Numbers were low (so the counting was relatively straightforward) but four days later when I was birdwatching generally there were a lot more ducks. They had obviously arrived on the north-easterly winds. In a magic ten minutes, we saw a male Marsh Harrier, and Otter and then a Bittern at Shapwick and then the marsh fell quiet.

Trevor Riddle

## Bird News I

The settled weather has continued although it has been blowing easterly or north easterly for a few days now. The east coast of Britain, it seems, is full of unusual birds that would normally migrate through Europe but have been blown over the North Sea.

Locally, it has been fairly quiet although a Kingfisher zooming across a field and perching amongst a bunch of sloes near Kingston Seymour was an unusual and pleasing sight.

As Ray mentioned last month, they and indeed most birds, seem to have enjoyed a wonderful summer and numbers are very high at present.

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> October saw me undertaking WEBS (Wetland Bird Survey) counts at

## Bird News II

25<sup>th</sup> October

I can never remember such a shortage of birds on show. The summer visitors have been gone for several weeks and the winter visitors have not arrived. When they do arrive there is an abundance of berries on the hedges for them to feed on. There is a tremendous crop of sloes on the blackthorn bushes, a favourite food for Fieldfares and Redwings. There has also been a massive crop of blackberries this year. I have picked so many that Jean has told me not to pick any more as the freezer is full.

28<sup>th</sup> October

Today there are still a lot of blackberries on the bushes, in spite of their having been several hard frosts. No doubt the Fieldfares and Redwings will clear them up when they arrive.



# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Mrs Sally Whitehead and Chris Taylor have told me that a Pied Blackbird has been visiting the garden of Corner Cottage. A was pleased to hear this because these black and white Blackbirds have been appearing at intervals in, and around Kenn, all my life.

Just as we are going to print Trevor Riddle has rang me to say that he had just seen 3 Whooper Swans on Kenn Moor. These are not to be confused with Mute Swans that are common in this area.

Whooper Swans are very rarely seen in this area. They normally winter in Northern Scotland, with a few getting down as far as Slimbridge. The same afternoon Trevor saw 6 Stonechats in the moor, also 30 Fieldfares feeding on the blackberry bushes.

29<sup>th</sup> October  
I have just taken my dog for a walk into the orchard behind "Stonehouse Farm" before breakfast (by the way she is 20 years old).

It is a most beautiful morning. There has been lovely soft rain overnight and now there is warm sunshine. It is like an April morning.

It has brought a transformation on the bird scene. The orchard is alive with birds of all sorts. The first Fieldfares and Redwings have arrived from Northern Russia. Together with

many Blackbirds, Starlings, Robins and Wrens. Many of them are feeding on the last of the apple crop. It is quite noisy down there. It made me think of the old saying "Oh to be in England now that April's here" (for me this means Kenn.)

Ray Naish

Lord,  
I am at the end of my  
tether.  
I hope you are at the  
other  
end.....

## A walk along Meadmoor Lane

The evening of 1<sup>st</sup> September saw a party of thirty or so eager walkers assemble at Ray's house for the last of this seasons summer walks. From there a short car ride along Kenn Moor Road and into North End Road brought us to the start of the walk near Ham Farm.

Ray took us to the place on the road where the Little River is bridged and pointed out that on the Kingston side of the road the river widened and is known as Ham Bow. It was here that during the drought of 1911 Kingston folk would drive their cattle for water.

Ray recalled that in the past locals sharpened their knives and farm implements on the capstones of the bridge. This was confirmed when we pulled back some of the Ivy which now covers the stones and were rewarded to find the grooves caused by sharpening.

We then retraced our steps towards Ham Farm and on the left joined the public footpath know as Meadmoor

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Lane. This is a very ancient track and at one time connected to Duck Lane. Many years ago it was the route used by the Postman

Travelling from Yatton to Kenn. Ray also remembered that a well respected Gypsy family the Joules, had their encampment in this part of the lane.

As we passed Ham Farm on our right Ray commented that at one time the farm had a 10 acre orchard but none of the trees remain now. With the current market price for Apples near £75 per ton we guessed at what the crop might have been worth now.

Further along we came to a small wooded area, which Ray told us was carpeted with Primroses during the spring. Ray said that the fields have names such as Downhill, Dewberry and Barns Marsh. The latter field was derelict back in the 1930's and was covered with Emmett Batches (Ant hills). Close by on private land Ray said there is a very ancient orchard that is a wonderful habitat for wild birds.

At this point the footpath continues until it joins Kenn road opposite Kenn Court. Ray had arranged that we could continue across private land to a field where some 30 years ago an interesting find was made. The farmer Maurice Crossman had noticed some unusual bumps in his field and asked Gray Usher a Clevedon archaeologist to investigate. The investigation carried out by Gray and Dr Rahts (a teacher at Greenbank School, Bristol) revealed a Roman Corn Drying Kiln. Just six years ago an investigation by Reading University in the adjacent Great Meadmoor field revealed many other finds including a skeleton.

We returned to the start via Ham Farm where Ray pointed out the magnificent Dovecote. This is believed to have some 365 nesting places. Houses with manorial status were allowed dovecotes and these provided a valuable source of meat during the winter when the young birds (Squabs) would be killed and eaten. This was to some extent at the expense of poor people who were not allowed to stop the pigeons eating their cabbages. Thanks were extended to Ray for another fascinating evening and for all the previous walks this summer. Something for us to all look back on with pleasure during the coming winter months.

Robert Down.

## The Great War

As we approach Remembrance Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> November Kennites may be interested to know that three Kenn men lost lives during the Great War, 1914 to 1918. These were Anthony Marchant, Arthur Gale and William Vickery. Another thirty-two also served in the war.

I have researched the life of Arthur Gale. He was the oldest son of seven children born to Archie and Mary Gale. Arthur was born in March 5th 1897, while his parents were living in the Horsecastle part of Yatton. His father was working as a baker at the time and later they moved sometime after 1911 to Meadowside on Kenn Street.

Arthur Gale enlisted in the Somerset Light Infantry at Taunton, Somerset, (date unknown), his Army Number being 6883. He was sent to France date on 8th June 1915 at the age of 18. During the spring and summer of 1915 the Somerset Light Infantry had been involved in battles on the front line a

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

couple of miles east of Ypres and he may have fought in some of these battles.

At a later unknown date the Gloucestershire's regimental records reveal that Arthur was transferred to their 7th Battalion where his new Army Number became 3314. I understand from a colleague that such transfers were not uncommon, and to avoid groups of 'pals' who had signed up together from one village being wiped in one single battle.

During the war the 7<sup>th</sup> fought in Gallipoli, Egypt, Mesopotamia and Persia all were civilians who had volunteered at the outbreak of war.

Serving with D company Arthur was sent to Mesopotamia, now part of Iraq, Mesopotamia then included the areas from the Basra and up to, and including areas north of Baghdad and was part of the Ottoman Empire.

Allied involvement in the Middle East during the Great War had begun in November 1914 with the seizure of Basra to protect local oil supplies, the weak local Turkish opposition had been defeated, and encouraged by this, the Allies decided to press on to Baghdad. The only route was to travel up the Euphrates or Tigris rivers.

The lack of fresh water, flat open terrain, swamp flies, mosquitoes and high temperatures during the summer made for a very harsh environment.

Despite this, with a small division, General Townshend advanced up the Tigris and easily captured the garrison of Amara in May 1914. He was now about a third of the way to Baghdad.

The next step in securing the delta was to take the town of Kut-al-Amara held

by over 6,000 Turks, which using clever tactics he achieved in late September.

Now Townshend was only 380 miles from Baghdad. However with only two divisions Townshend was becoming concerned as the communications and supply line back to Basra was now long and therefore very weak.

Just thirty miles south of Baghdad, during a two day battle in late November, the Turks sustained 6,200 casualties and Townshend 4,600 of his 11,000 men.

On learning that Turkish reinforcements were already heading south from Baghdad Townshend wisely started to retreat back down the Tigris, taking his wounded with him.

Many of the wounded died during the dreadful conditions in which they were travelling and within two weeks the Turks had caught up with the retreating army at Kut.

Recklessly, but trying to regain some honour, Townshend signalled that he intended to defend Kut until relieved.

The Turks surrounded the town, and after failing to storm it, decided to starve them into surrender. Townshend signalled exaggerated reports to London that his garrison was short of food supplies.

Every attempt over the next few months by the Allies to relieve Townshend's troops failed and London became gravely concerned with the increasing losses.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

When 23,000 Allied casualties had been incurred in trying to relieve the Townshend's Kut garrison of only 13,000 men, senior heads started to roll.

In April 1915 Kitchener commanded that no further efforts were to be made to relieve Kut.

Townshend then tried to buy the garrison's parole from the Turks for £1 million then £2 million but they refused.

In the dreadful conditions of captivity 7,000 of his men died, while he himself disgracefully accepted and spent the remainder of the war in a

luxurious villa on an island in the Sea of Marmara consequently his men or country never forgave him.

A postcard from Egypt dated 29<sup>th</sup> May 1916 was received from Arthur Gale by his parents, and he was just about to be sent to Mesopotamia to join the Kut relief operation as part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment.

For several months the Mesopotamia Front had remained quiet until General Maude was appointed to the relief operation, he built a railway and commissioned special boats.

By December 1916 he had a strong infrastructure to support operations. The battle between Maude and the Turks began on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1916, and he made steady progress up the Tigris until the third week of February 1916 by which time Maude's men had driven the Turks several miles north of Kut.

On the 23<sup>rd</sup> February the demoralised Turks finally left their trenches after

enduring weeks of shelling from across the river, the same day Maude's men laid a pontoon bridge across the Tigris.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> February Maude's cavalry crossed and joined their infantrymen. During the night the Turkish flank guard withdrew.

The following day the infantry and cavalry pursued the Turks.

It was during the skirmishes on this day, that Lance Corporal Arthur Gale was posted as "missing or killed in action on Sunday 25 Feb. 1917" (aged 20).

Baghdad was subsequently captured in March. General Maude died in November of the same year of cholera.

Arthur John Gale has no known grave and like many of his Mesopotamia comrades is commemorated on the Basra Memorial in southern Iraq.

At home, along with his fellow Kenn soldiers he is also remembered on monuments in Kenn Church and Yatton Village hall.

His brother Harry Gale, my Grandfather, kept his service medals which included one for serving in Gloucester Regiment in Mesopotamia.

Julian Gale  
October 2003

**ZOOM IN ON ZAMBIA**

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## KABWE APPEAL

### TEAM SUNDAY

**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November  
10.00 am**

**St. Mary's Yatton**

**A Service of Thanksgiving  
for the success of the  
Kabwe Appeal**

Put everything in its proper place

Holiday bookings

Plenty of families are booking seaside holidays this year.

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

Ray Naish

No God  
No Peace  
Know God  
Know Peace

## ZAMBIA

Extracts from a Newspaper May 1947

### Spring Cleaning

Spring Cleaning thoughts are foremost in most women's minds this month.

Here are a few tips.

After the decorators have gone, there is no need to be haunted by the smell of paint if you place a handful of hay in a pail full of water and let it stand in a newly painted room.

Scratches on varnish will quickly vanish if a coarse cloth, soaked in linseed oil is placed over them.

To remove grease or oil from a carpet, cover the spot with blotting paper and press with a hot iron.

Remember to keep your house in order.

Do everything in its proper place  
Keep everything in its proper place

I trust that I am not boring readers with a small historical view of my experiences in Zambia.

In October 1966, I left Lusaka for three months to manage the company depot in Livingstone, which as some may know is just a few miles from the Victoria Falls. Lusaka is about 4500 feet above sea level and is much cooler than Livingstone, which is near to sea level. In October Lusaka is about 90 degrees F and as it is just about the end of the dry season is hot enough and everyone is waiting for the first rains. Livingstone is over 100 degrees F, which is why some people refer to it as "suicide month".

The Falls are the border between Zambia and Zimbabwe, the small

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

town on the far bank is called Victoria Falls. At their widest they measure 1700 metres and at their highest 111 metres. In mid-April when the river reaches its peak some 620 million litres a minute plunge over the lip of the Falls. A dense rain forest runs parallel to the falls among its surrounding cliffs.

David Livingstone came upon the Falls in November 1855. The local tribes call the Falls “Mosi-Oa-Tunya” which means “The Smoke that Thunders”.

The spray when the flow is at its greatest rises 250 feet into the air.

Livingstone named the falls after Queen Victoria. He wrote “It has never been seen before by European eyes; but scenes so lovely must have been gazed upon by angels in their flight”.

Completing nature’s master creation of the falls is a feat of man: the bridge spanning the chasm.

Cecil Rhodes stipulated the bridge should be near enough to the falls for passengers on trains traversing it to feel the spray on their faces.

The bridge was completed on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1905, to the amazement of the crowd of watching Batonka tribesmen, who had gathered with glee to witness the

White Man’s folly fall flat on its face as the first train attempted to cross. They could not believe their eyes when it chugged across from one side to the other.

We took advantage of a light aircraft flight over the falls which gives an excellent view. Nowadays, I believe flights are by helicopter.

Tourist companies also arrange “Sundowner” launch trips above the falls where one can view spectacular sunsets.

Also the gorges below the Falls provide top quality white water rafting. Back in 1990 Margaret and I tried to book a trip. The receptionist looked horrified at two pensioners and refused to take us as it was considered too dangerous.

The river then flows on into Lake Kariba – a subject on which you are all now experts!

Maurice Ford

## ZOOM IN ON ZAMBIA

### THE KABWE APPEAL

This has been a Yatton Moor wide appeal and our thanks go to everyone who has supported it.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

The money has now been raised and building work is progressing well.

The Appeal Ends with the Service of Thanksgiving on Team Sunday the 30<sup>th</sup> November at St. Mary's Church Yatton

Any remaining Smartie Tubes can be handed in as soon as possible

Margaret Ball

**11am Holy Communion Kenn**

6 pm Remembrance Service  
Kingston Seymour

6.30 pm Holy Communion Cleeve

**3rd Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> November**  
**THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE**  
**ADVENT**

8 am Holy Communion Claverham

9.30 am Family Communion Yatton

9.30 am Holy Communion Cleeve

11am Holy Communion  
Kingston Seymour

2.30 pm Holy Baptism Yatton

**6 pm Evensong Kenn**

## **PARISH OF YATTON MOOR**

**1st Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**  
**THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE**  
**ADVENT**

**8 am Holy Communion Kenn**

8 am Holy Communion Claverham

9.30 am Parish Communion Yatton

9.30 am Holy Communion Cleeve

11am Patronal Family Service  
Kingston Seymour

6 pm Evensong Service of  
Remembrance for Loved Ones Yatton

**4th Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**  
**CHRIST THE KING**  
**THE SUNDAY NEXT BEFORE**  
**ADVENT**

8 am Holy Communion Yatton

8 am Holy Communion  
Kingston Seymour

9.30 am Parish Communion Yatton

9.30 am Holy Communion Cleeve

10 am Christingle Service Claverham

**11am Christingle Service Kenn**

6 pm Evensong Yatton

**2nd Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> November**  
**THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE**  
**ADVENT**

**Remembrance Sunday**

8 am Holy Communion Yatton

9 am Holy Communion Yatton

9.30 am Holy Communion Claverham

10 am Remembrance Service Yatton  
followed by Wreath Laying at  
War Memorial

10:55am Remembrance Service  
Cleeve

**5th Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November**  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY OF**  
**ADVENT**

**TEAM SUNDAY**

8 am Holy Communion Claverham

**8 am Holy Communion Kenn**

10 am Team Communion at Yatton  
Thanksgiving for Kabwe Appeal

6 pm Advent Carol Service Yatton

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## WEEKDAY SERVICES

Daily 8.30am Morning Prayer at  
Yatton (except Holy Days)

Every Wednesday:

10am: Holy Communion Yatton

1st Wednesday in month:

11am: Holy Communion

Kingston Seymour

***3rd Wednesday in month:***

***17<sup>th</sup> December***

***11am: Holy Communion Kenn***

4th Wednesday in month:

11am: Holy Communion Claverham

Every Thursday:

9.30am: Holy Communion Cleeve

7.30pm: Holy Communion Yatton