NEWS & VIEWS



WHAT'S KENN UP TO NOW?



SEE INSIDE

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

August

3rd Clare and Louise Edwards

5th Mrs Walker 90 - Jane Staples mum

6th Steve Bye

7th Jack Hanson Ray Naish

Lorraine Staples

10th Stephen Brain

12th Margaret & John Ball WA

14th Mrs Edith Tripp

15th Jean Naish

22nd Dave Ouinn

23rd Mark Pascoe

24th Sam Staples

25th Stella Naish

26th Peter Woods

27th Caroline & John Hayden WA

29th Sylvia & John Staples WA Jane & Hartley Staples WA

31st Jill & Matt Butland WA

Thought of the Month

If sunbeams were weapons of war, the world would have had solar energy long ago

Naish's Notes

Final reminder!! If anyone has any sponsor money for the Breakthrough Breast Cancer walk can they let me have it ASAP.

Barbara Middleton is home and is getting stronger each day. She would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes whilst she was in hospital. Ragwort - Ragwort, a tall yellow flowered daisy -like plant, now in flower, is highly toxic and should be cut down. If there is any near you, could you please destroy it.

C.L.I.C. Kenn Valley Social Club is hosting the Family Fun Day on 3rd August in aid of C.L.I.C.

Please go along and join in the fun and lend your support. It is open to all and there is lots going on to amuse the whole family.

The fun starts at 1.00 pm.

Sheila

Church News

New Team Vicar

The Churchwardens of Kenn and Kingston Seymour are pleased to announce that a new Team Vicar has been appointed to the Yatton Moor Team Ministry.

He is the Revd. John Andrews who, with his wife Celia, will be in charge of Kenn and Kingston Seymour.

The Revd. Andrews is at present of Oakhill, Ashwick and Binegar. He is also the Diocesan Communications Officer and his wife if Editor of The Grapevine Magazine. They will be moving to this area when a suitable house can be found for them in either Kenn or Kingston Seymour

Julia Bush and Ray Naish

New Room Update

At present we are awaiting the detailed plans and specifications from Julian Hannam the church architect.

When these have our approval we shall invite estimates from local builders and hope to start work early next year.

On another front, there has been considerable progress.

On 3rd July there was a very successful meeting of the Friends of Kenn Church, in the form of a Fundraising 'brainstorming session', in which members tried to think of evermore ingenious ways of raising cash for both the "New Room" and general "Housekeeping for St. Johns".

At this meeting I was able to assure the Friends that the Yatton Moor PCC is firmly behind the New Room project.

They have voted to underwrite the costs and at a Finance Committee meeting on 4th July this was clearly illustrated when I learned that the PCC has already paid a substantial architect's bill for the time being or until we raise the cash

STOP PRESS

After a very fruitful meeting with the architect 26/07/02 Detailed specifications should be ready by the end of August

and the job put out to tender in September.

Get out those jam making spoons ladies, we may be Fundraising by Christmas.

Health and Safety

I still need someone to help with Health and Safety. Not an onerous job, but if Ray and I don't get help it will just be one more thing that we do, with less and less time to do it.

Julia Bush

St. John's Altar Guild

August Rota

Helpers needed, please ring Jean Naish on 01275 872493

Thanks

Many thanks to Mrs Mary Willcox of "Yew Tree Farm" who has donated the proceeds of the sale of plants which she has grown in her garden this spring to The Friends of Kenn Church.

Mary would like the money to be used towards the restoration and enlargement of the Church Room for use of the Sunday School and general Church and Village events.

Many thanks again Mary for all your hard work and enterprise.

Margaret Ball

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the business end of our July meeting we learned that WI nationally has voted to support small abattoirs and to lobby for stricter restrictions on foodstuffs being imported.

Our speaker for the evening was Mr Tim Hooper who entertained us with his many anecdotes from 30 years in the acting business as a 'supporting actor'.

He works mainly for the BBC and appeared in Poldark, is in Casualty on occasions, and many other West Country productions, including a part where his only 'outfit' was a fig leaf—much to his surprise as he only learned his costume when he checked in for the production.

He had several 'sticky moments': one was in a period production when he was sitting on the roof of a stage coach which travelled part of its journey on two wheels in a cutting, another was in a Sinclair C5 adapted to take four people which proved impossible to stop with the brakes on a downhill run — the camera crew came to the rescue!

As he told us his experiences we recalled many programmes that are no longer shown; thirty years of television is a long time.

He had few speaking parts but a particularly memorable one was as an engine driver in a children's programme and as he was not used to speaking he took the script everywhere with him to learn his part – even walking the dog; he said he was terrified. On this film he had to change the points on a railway track but the levers got the better of him and HTV had to cheat on this 'take'.

When he started work as an extra the cast were always taken by coach but with present day budgets the actors have to make their own way to the locations; everyone is having to pull in their belts – even the BBC.

A very enjoyable evening by a speaker who came at 24 hours notice because our original speaker was taken ill.

The competition of the most words from the word 'prostitution' (our speaker was going to tell us about women in prostitution) was won by Madeleine Crawley, Heather Saxby was second and Jean Ings third.

Our next meeting is on the 11th September when Mrs Knight will be taking us through a practical course making Christmas decorations.

ROSEMARIE FORD 01275-542651

BRING AND BUY

At the home of Mrs Jean Naish Cloverlea, Kenn Street, Kenn

Tuesday Morning 20th August from 10.30 am

Everyone Welcome! In aid of Restoration of Church Room!

What's on at the Drum?

Quiz Night every Wednesday with Raffle

Tuesday 6th August Village Lainch meet from 12.30 pm.

Everyone Welcome

During September Mike is planning to repeat the most successful Dinner and Cabaret Evening featuring Frank Sinatra and Elvis Presley

Watch this space!

Belated Best Wishes

(Sadly we had already gone to press when this item was received.)

GOOD LUCK to Bob Hancock, who is travelling to the 2002 World Hairdressing Championships as coach and trainer to the British World Cup Hairdressing squad.

This year the Championships, in July, are being held in Las Vegas and National and International Hairdressing Champion Bob, will be in Nevada for a week with the British team; trying to bring at least one World Cup home!

BIRD NEWS I

Many of our garden birds are now moulting and are hence secretive but a Wren has just recommenced singing in our garden. He is probably nurturing a second or third brood.

Towards the end of June, Chris Sperring from The Hawk and Owl Trust visited the Congresbury Moor reserve to ring our 3 young Kestrels. This was an education to watch, albeit one volunteer holding the ladder, who received a stream of white liquid on his head, might choose another description.

Some British Kestrels have been found in Spain – if one of ours is found I will let you know.

In July the highlight of my month (but only just – read on) was my first ever English Otter sighting at Shapwick Heath National Nature Reserve. I believe I had made 700 previous visits without seeing one! It was a terrific view through binoculars and at half past three in the afternoon – totally unexpected.

There has been a report of a Red Kite over Cadbury Hill and of a female Sparrowhawk feeding on a Pigeon in the middle (dead centre) of the road outside Kenn Court.

There have also been some young Peregrine Falcons perched on the Clevedon radio masts.

Lastly, whilst leading a walk in connection with an open day at Congresbury Moor, I witnessed a pair of Reed Warblers feeding a (seemingly gigantic) juvenile Cuckoo.

On occasions it achieved this feat by perching on the Cuckoo's head.

All of the party watched transfixed. Something I had seen on TV but never for real.

Truly amazing"

Trevor Riddle



Prince Philip and I have been deeply touched by the many kind messages about the Golden Jubilee.

This anniversary is for us an occasion to acknowledge with gratitude the loyalty and support which we have received from so many people since I came to the Throne in 1952. It is especially an opportunity to thank all those of you who help others in your own local communities through public or voluntary service. I would like to think that your work will be particularly recognised during this Jubilee year.

I hope also that this time of celebration in the United Kingdom and across the Commonwealth will not simply be an occasion to be nostalgic about the past. I believe that, young or old, we have as much to look forward to with confidence and hope as we have to look back on with pride.

I send my warmest good wishes to you all.

ELIZABETH R.

KENN CHILL-OUT DAY!



We all know that a room full of chimpanzees and typewriters will eventually produce the entire works of Shakespeare, but do you know what happens when you leave a group of Kennites in a room with a large box of wine?

Read on; this is where you find out...

We weren't there, but we have it on the highest authority, that "many villagers voted for a Jacuzzi on the Village Green" as Kenn's permanent memorial to Her Majesty's Golden Jubilee. Be that as it may, Margaret and John Ball bumped into Mike Sanders (Sanders Garden World, Brent Knoll) and, as you do, got talking about Jacuzzis and Village Greens. Mike Sanders offered a Hot Tub for the day, and the Balls accepted on Kenn's behalf. The rest, as they say, will become history.

Meetings and committee meetings and sub-committee meetings have happened, behind closed doors and in hushed irreverent tones. More wine has been imbibed. Ideas (idiotic, more idiotic and insane) have been peddled (and, for the most part, bought in to (we are talking a great deal of wine here)).

This is how the BIG CHILL™ was born.



Money will be raised, spirits will be lifted (and drunk), families will be reconciled, maidens will swoon and great prizes will be won on:

SATURDAY AUGUST 24th

ON THE VILLAGE GREEN (and in the immediate environs), KENN

Beginning with:

The unveiling of the (actual) Golden Jubilee Memorial – a golden crown for the top of the flagpole (we are looking for someone of above average height for the ceremony...)

A barbeque – courtesy of Mike and Liz Bell

Cream Teas - courtesy of the Cream Teas Team (thank you Jean and ladies)

Followed by (but not necessarily in this order) (or even at all):

Indian Head Massage - or just stroke a cat for a while.

Yoga

Aromatherapy

Jacuzzi Quiz

Children's Story Hour (twice!)

Children's games (children, in this context, is a loose definition. Anyone under 8 feet tall and 100 years of age qualifies) including:

Stations (rules on the day - you'll love it)

Obstacle races

Scavenger Hunt

Pin the Beak on the Penguin

Parents are required to relax while children are otherwise engaged; those who like their relaxation a little more energetic are invited to:

Pitch a golf ball into the paddling pool

Play outdoor skittles

Come in Fancy Dress (theme to be announced after the next wine-drinking committee meeting). Best costume wins a prize (if we haven't already drunk it)

Sweepstake (what time do YOU think the motorway will grind to a halt? It's Bank Holiday weekend after all...). Tickets on sale in advance of the day. Watch this

space (no, not THIS space, but a space much like it on a tree/telegraph pole/Kennite near you).

Dip in the Hot Tub – before it gets Cold – find some sponsors, raise some cash.

Watch those "many villagers who voted for a Jacuzzi on the Village Green" get in the Tub or pay a forfeit (would you like to suggest a forfeit?)

ALSO:

The Rolls Royce Enthusiasts' Club may turn up.

AND THAT'S JUST WHAT WE THOUGHT OF!

Any more thoughts, suggestions, inspirations, sensible ideas, insane notions, or other ticklings of the little grey cells, PLEASE get in touch with Margaret Ball (Chaseside, 874077), Hazel Hansford (Bram Rigg, 349535), Marianna Mackay (Church Path Cottage, 340323) or anyone else that looks likely (or suspicious).

IT'S ALL FOR THREE VERY GOOD CAUSES:

St Peter's Hospice St John's Church, Kenn Kenn Village Hall





BUCKINGHAM PALACE

To: Miss A Holtham, President and Members of Kenn Women's Institute

The Queen has asked me to thank you very much for the splendid hand made card of greetings which you have sent on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee.

Her Majesty has received this card with much pleasure and has asked that the enclosed copy of her Golden Jubilee message be sent to you with her good wishes.

Lady in Waiting

An Evening Walk in Clevedon Moor

I hope to arrange an Evening Walk in Clevedon Moor on Tuesday 13th August. Everyone is invited to join me and we will meet at "Cloverlea" at 6.30 pm.

I hope it will be a fine evening. It is an area few people get the chance to visit.

Ray Naish

Priddy Fair

In this month's Moor News, which was written early in July, I wrote that Priddy Fair had been cancelled this year.

Since that time the Ministry of Agriculture and the local auctioneers have revised their plans with the result that the Fair will now be held after all. It will now take place on Wednesday 21st August.

Ray Naish

Thanks

Chairman of The League of Friends of Clevedon Cottage Hospital, Mr. John Maxey has written thanking Kenn Women's Institute for the Proceeds of the Strawberry Tea held in July, which amounted to £440.

He reports that the money will be used to bring equipment and services for the benefit of future patients at Clevedon Hospital and the Outpatients department where they are currently spending large sums on new 'endoscopy' equipment.

Thanks to all who organised, supported and helped in any way.

Thanks

Mrs Mary Willcox would like to thank friends and neighbours for supporting her sale of plants in aid of The Friends of Kenn Church.

KENN NOTES - SNIPPETS

June 21st We flew our St. George's Flag to support The England Football Team in their effort to win the World Cup.

July 15th - We were pleased to fly our flag to celebrate the one hundredth birthday of Grannie Griffin, who used to live at Mill Farm before moving to Duck Lane. She is now resident at Alvony House, Clevedon.

Kenn Women's Institute Strawberry Tea 29th June.

The Strawberry Tea organised by member of Kenn Women's Institute was well supported and we raised £440 for The Friends of Clevedon Hospital.

Members gave all the scones and cakes

The strawberries were supplied by Lindsays of Hill Road.

Safeway gave a donation for the cream.

Mike at the Drum and Monkey gave a meal for two for the raffle and the cost of the hire of the Hall was given, as were all the raffle prizes.

Our sincere thanks to everyone who supported the afternoon. We are so lucky to have such a good local hospital.

Kenn Women's Institute Thursday 8th August at 7.00 pm.

It has been decided to meet for the August Social Evening at Kenn Court. Members and friends are invited to bring along a piece of handicraft if they so with and to look at the books that Kenn W.I. have compiled over the years.

Kenn Village Hall – Jumble Sale – Wednesday 21st August at 7.00 pm.

A Jumble Sale for Hall Funds will be held in the Village Hall – many stalls including plants, books, bric-a-brac, produce clothes etc. etc.

Goods to Hall 10 am - 11 am

Offers of help and raffle prizes will be much appreciated.

Come along and support our Village Hall and meet your friends and neighbours.

Golden Jubilee

The card Kenn Women's Institute members sent to our Queen to celebrate her Golden Jubilee was beautifully crafted by Joy Morris.

Women's Institute Yeo Valley Group

Some ninety members of the Yeo Valley Group enjoyed an American Supper at Kenn Court on 24th July.

Christopher Taylor

We are pleased to report that Christopher Taylor is convalescing well after his recent operation.

Ruth Dyer

Village Diary

Saturday 3rd August from 1.00 pm At Kenn Valley Social Club

Family Day for C.L.I.C.

Monday 5th August at Kenn Village Hall

Parish Council Meeting at 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday 6th August - from 12.30

 Village Lunch at The Drum & Monkey - Everyone welcome!

Thursday 8th August 7.00 pm Kenn Women's Institute Social Evening at Kenn Court

Tuesday 13th August 6.30 pm meet at Cloverlea for an Evening Walk in Clevedon Moor, led by Ray Naish

Tuesday 20th August from 10.30am - Coffee Morning with Bring and Buy at Cloverlea, Kenn Street, Kenn.

Wednesday 21st August 7.00 pm at Kenn Village Hall

Jumble Sale

Proceeds to Hall Funds

Saturday 24th August - Village Green from 11.00 am.

KENN CHILL-OUT DAY

BIRD NEWS II

Dennis and Iris Goldsworthy have had a Jay visiting their garden most days lately, but to their surprise three Jays arrived on their garden wall one morning. They perched on the wall looking into the window of their house for a long time. I think that this is a rare thing because Jays are very shy birds.

Deryck and Renee Bell have had a visit of a Greater Spotted Woodpecker to their garden and in their apple tree. Both the Goldsworthys and the Bells live in Kenn Street.

Miles Naish saw a flock of young starlings feeding in a field called "Nanny Bucks" near his house.

Among the flock was a pure white Starling. A few days later he saw them again in a field at Kingston. Someone else reported seeing the flock with the white bird feeding in the moor.

Maurice and Margaret Ford had a small flock of Starlings feeding on their bird table, among them was the white one. I have never heard of a white Starling before. Maurice and Margaret also had a visit from a Cockatiel to their bird table recently.

I was checking the sheep in the orchard behind Stonehouse Farm one morning recently. There are dozens of rabbits down there, but to my surprise I saw a pure black one. Years ago there were many black rabbits around, but I hadn't seen one for many years. I have seen it several times since. It is about half grown and lives in a badger sett,

When country people did a lot of ferreting for sport. When they put the ferrets into the rabbit holes, the rabbits bolted. If a black one came out the cry went up "here comes the Parson". They often let the black ones go free.

I never see Swifts flying in Kenn, but I went to Clevedon recently and saw a flock of twelve Swifts flying around the Alexandra Market. They have always nested under the eaves of the very tall buildings in Clevedon.

Jeff Naish saw a wild Pheasant with a brood of very young chicks at Castle Farm, Clevedon. He has also seen young Kestrels and Buzzards near his house at West End Nailsea

Ray Naish

Typist's Notes

Kenn's Chill-Out Day

Many thanks to Hazel Hansford for producing the centre-fold of this issue. Brilliant.

I must mention that the Hot Tub
we are going to play in is a 'Beach
Comber Hot Tub', and not a
'Jacuzzi' (it's a bit like vacuum
cleaner – well not really – but all
Hoovers are vacuum cleaners, but
not all vacuum cleaners are
Hoovers – if you see what I mean)

Cream Teas

Jean Fenwick has asked that I mention that she will be delighted to receive offers of scones etc and of course help.

Bomb Damage to Kenn Church

On the night of 3rd September 1940 a string of bombs was dropped on Kenn. I think it was six bombs. The first landed at "Kenn Pier Farm", killing several cows and Ralph Bye's milk cart pony Dolly, with which he delivered milk around Kenn.

Others dropped at "Yew Tree Farm" killing a bull and some cows, also injuring farmer Willcox' favourite horse Charlie.

The last but one landed in the garden at "Stonehouse Farm" where the garage of our new house had now been built.

The last one dropped behind Mendip View, Kenn Street. Elderly Mr and Mrs Flowers were living there then. They were in bed, when people went to see if they were all right they found them unhurt. Their bed was covered with plaster from the ceiling.

The blast and shrapnel from this bomb did considerable damage to the east end of the church. The stained glass window at the east end was very badly damaged. After the war finished the window was repaired by the War Damage Commission. There are still marks in the wall where it was hit by flying shrapnel.

Ray Naish

The following was handed to Kenn News and views by John Griffin, a son of Gladys Griffin who lived in Kenn from 1939 until the 1980's. She was one hundred years old on 15th July 2002.

The Life and Times of Gladys Griffin nee Shopland

Gladys was born on the 15th of July 1902. The fourth and youngest child of John and Beatrice Shopland.

She arrived in a world where one in four of the population looked to Britain as their ruler. Britain was the most wealthy and powerful nation the world had ever seen. London the greatest and most powerful city.

In the one hundred years of her life, Gladys has seen five monarchs on the throne of Great Britain. The last one alone has been there so far for fifty years.

There have been at least seventeen Prime Ministers at number 10. In her lifetime, air travel had gone from the first flight by the Wright Brothers in 1903 to huge airliners with hundreds of passengers providing mass travel.

Concorde travelling at twice the speed of sound and space flight.

In 1902 motor cars were a very rare occurrence. By 1903, just before Gladys' first birthday, Henry Ford formed his motor company. This was the first of the great motor corporations which are now, 100 years later, producing millions of car per annum worldwide.

Also in 1903 Mrs Pankhurst formed the first women's group to fight for votes for women which were to lead by the

1980's to the election of the first woman Prime Minister.

Gladys was ten years old when the Titanic sank. Among the other great events of the last century which she has seen, there have been two World Ward, the Spanish Civil War, numerous minor wars worldwide, the Russian Revolution, the great depression in the thirties and a world population which has more than doubled.

While the overall wealth of our nation has greatly diminished during her lifetime. The personal earnings and disposable income has increased remarkably. For instance, the average income at the beginning of Gladys' life would have been possibly £50.00 per annum, now £25,000.00 per annum?

The cost of the average home in 1902 possibly £100.00 sterling. The cost of the average home now in excess of £100,000.00.

In the world of fashion, from the total cover up of the Victorian clothes to anything, including almost nothing, goes!

In the home, from well water to main supply. From coal fires in most rooms to central heating.

From candles and oil lamps, through gas lamps to electric light. From outside privy to en suite bathroom.

From magic lantern through silent movies to televisions in almost all homes and virtual reality experiences.

From the quill pen and early typewriters with ready reckoners for calculations to high speed word processors, emails and computers.

For communications, from the letter and spoken word to telephones in most homes including in your pocket mobiles and instant world-wide contact via satellite.

On the farm from the scythe, horse and man power to super fast productive agricultural machinery where one man can now manage acreages which would have required possibly fifteen men.

From milking by hand eight or nine cows per person to one in a multi clustered parlour milking 100 or more cows twice a day.

In the world of health, from primitive care to transplant/spare part surgery, possibly soon to include the use of animal parts.

For energy, from steam to nuclear power and solar energy and wave power in the near future.

Petrol from a cost of less than 2p. a litre to over 75p. a litre.

In the world of money, from the real golden guinea, to the pound paper money, now decimalised, to a European currency, the euro.

A world so large it took many weeks to reach Australia, now the world so small it takes about 20 hours to reach there. Breakfast in London, overtake the sun via Concorde and breakfast again in New York.

No one hundred years prior or to come have or will experience such life effecting changes. Mum and her peers have certainly lived through the most incredible era.

Next month

Milestones along Mum's Life

Part four from Simon Pinder regarding the Kenn Hangings...

SISTERS' VAIN APPEAL

The report added: "the firing of the mows, therefore, appears to have originated out of revenge to Mr. Poole from the supposition that he had been the cause of Wall's having been fined, Rowley appeared to possess considerable fortitude, and walked to and fro with a tolerable firm step."

The sisters of Wall and Rowley pleaded with the High Sheriff for permission to speak the their brothers, but "that gentleman, in a most feeling manner, assured them that although he deeply sympathised with them, he could not, out of the consideration to the feelings of all parties, grant their request. Such a course, he feared, would draw the minds of the prisoners from the contemplation of the solemn ordeal they were about to undergo, Mr. Gordon also informed them that the bodies of their brothers would be taken back to Ilchester, where they would be decently interred."

The place of execution was a sevenacre field directly opposite the spot where the mows had stood. On the gallows was the inscription: "FOR FIRING STACKS."

The fetters were taken off the three men, and they climbed on to the platform followed by the chaplain who "since their condemnation had been unremitting in his endeavours to impress them with a sense of their dreadful situation, and to direct their minds to the Throne of Divine Grace, where alone they might hope for mercy."

At the chaplain's request the three men knelt before him on the platform, each holding a Prayer Book, and they repeated after him the whole of the Litany "and several appropriate verses."

The conduct of the men was described as "truly devout." Their attention it was said, seemed solely to be directed to the solemn act in which they were engaged, and they did not appear to take the least notice of "the immense multitude" of onlookers.

Maria	400	Call	
More	to	TOHOW	