

NEWS
&
VIEWS

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Editor Sheila NAISH
01934-838357

Issue No. 165 May 2002

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KENN NEWS & VIEWS

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

May

- 1st Hartley Staples
Lynne & Steve Bye WA
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
Colin Webb
28th Sally White
29th Milly Stowell
Trina Willoughby
Samuel Rogers
30th Joanna Brain

Thoughts of the month

*You have two choices
You can choose to be in a good mood
Or choose to be in a bad mood
The choice is yours!!!*

Naish's Notes

Do not forget the sponsored 3 Mile Walk in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer – Sunday 19th May 3.00 p.m. from the Village Hall.

BBQ – Book Stall – Bring and Buy

All welcome

This event will be opened by our very own celebrity "GEORGE" owned and trained by Diane, bred by Ray Naish and resident of Kenn.

See you there!

Sponsor forms available from myself, Margaret or Heather.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST KENN

Kenn Altar Guild

May Rota

Mrs Wendy Papasolomontos and
Mrs Jan Bedford

Rogation Sunday

There will be a special service of Evensong on Sunday 6th 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.

Yatton Moor Annual Parochial Church Meeting April 14th

This was held at Kingston Village Hall after Evensong. Nominations for various posts were discussed and those concerning Kenn were as follows.

There had been no nomination for the position on the PCC so the possibility of co-opting someone soon will be investigated.

There were no nominations for a Deanery Synod representative, so for now Wendy P will be asked to carry on. Wendy P and John Griffin were re-elected deputy churchwardens. The existing sidespersons were re-elected en bloc.

After the parish and financial reports, Rev. Ian Hubbard gave his address. It was noted that the occasion was 'not the same' without Ray Naish and Julia Bush had to deputise with a joke.

The meeting ended with the Grace at 9.10 p.m.

Julia Bush

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Extracts from Julia's report on St. John's at the A.P.C.

I'm pleased to report that the logbook, terrier and inventory are up to date and all the items therein are in good order.

We are due for a quinquennial report in the near future.

This year we have not had to do any major repairs inside the church, the week by week cleaning and general care being mainly carried out by the ladies of the Altar Guild, to whom we are very grateful.

The churchyard has seen considerable activity. Some long overdue tree surgery was performed and with the archdeacon's permission an invasive shrub was removed. This means that when we leave the church and lift our eyes unto the (Mendip) hills the view is uninterrupted and a joy.

We have an ageing and faithful congregation, of whom a large proportion travel some distance to attend. Our attendance numbers have held up well.

Sadly we do not have many children crossing our threshold despite personal contact, both verbal and postal, with particular emphasis on the 'special' services. Thus we greatly value the youngsters who have joined us and we were thrilled to have so many little ones at the Christingle and Crib services.

Re our 'New Room and Loo Room', the wheels of progress turn exceeding slow. The next significant date is 29th April, by which time the plans will have been seen by the relevant august bodies.

Don't hold your breath. Finally, I would like to thank all the people who quietly and calmly do their bit to keep St. John's alive and well.

It's dangerous to pick out anyone in particular but Mary Holmes and Jean Naish must be in line for a special mention for their tireless contributions.

All in all I can't do better than quote the archdeacon. He ended the letter giving us the go ahead for various maintenance tasks by saying "thank you for your continued care and ministry in this lovely church"

For the year 2002/3

Our Churchwardens are
Julia Bush and Ray Naish.

Deputy Wardens:
Wendy Papasolomontos and
John Griffin.

Kenn P.C.C. Members
Renee Bell, John Ball, Wendy
Papasolomontos.

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.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Friends of Kenn Church Annual General Meeting

7.30 pm Thursday 9th May 2002
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 22nd May 2001
3. Matters arising
4. Finance
5. Election of Committee
6. Future Events:

May Services at St. Johns

5th May 8.00 Holy Communion
6.00 Rogation Evensong

12th May 11.00 Holy Communion

15th May – Midweek Communion

Whit Sunday
19th May 6.00 Evensong

26th May – 11.00 Family Service

KENN NOTES

SNIPPETS

Bereavements

Her Majesty the Queen Mother

March 31st. We flew our flag at half-mast when Her Majesty the Queen Mother passed away at the great age of one hundred and one years and again on the day of her funeral.

Mrs. Ayres

We are sorry to record the passing of Mrs Yvonne Ayres who lived for many years at Mendip View before, due to ill health, moving into Clevedon.

When in Kenn she was an active member of Kenn Women's Institute.

She was able to attend Kenn Church on Easter Sunday. Her funeral conducted by the Revd Avril Gaunt on 18th April in Kenn Church was well attended. We flew our flag at half-mast. We send our sincere sympathy to her daughters Jane, Beverley and Rowena and their families.

April 30th

Our flag was flown for the funeral of Mrs. Kathleen Hawes, nee Stowell of Portbury House, who lived in Bognor Regis for many years. To her children Richard, Helen and James and families we extend our sincere sympathy.

Celebrations

Easter Sunday 31st March

Two Kenn couples celebrated their wedding anniversaries. Together they have been married one hundred years – is this a record for Kenn?

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

April 23rd - We flew our St. George's Flag to celebrate St. George's Day.

This was also the occasion of the Revd. Mary Welsh's 80th birthday – and we send her our best wishes.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

To all Kennites

We fly our flag to celebrate happy and sad events for Kennites, special birthdays and anniversaries. Kennites who no longer live in the village but continue to help we remember.

We do not mind how many times we are told about special occasions, but we do mind when we are not told - please ring 872676.

Kenn Women's Institute

Jumble Sale Wednesday 15th May
7.00 p.m.

Many stalls, plants, bric-a-brac, books, produce etc. etc. Raffle

Goods to Hall 10 - 11 a.m.

Ruth Dyer

Queen's Golden Jubilee
- Plans to date! (30.4.02)

Service of Thanksgiving at St. John's
6.00 p.m. Evensong Sunday 2nd June

Monday 3rd June

This is planned as a day for
Kennites and their families.

11.30 a.m. Hand bells at St. Johns

12 noon - Bell Ringing

Our bell expert Geoff Marchant will supervise bell ringing by villagers.

He is also planning an informal concert by the Handbell Team - more details next month.

Names of bell ringers will be noted and kept with our Church Records

12.30 onwards - Village Lunch at The Drum and Monkey

As this is a Bank Holiday, Mike has requested that we book in advance to ensure that sufficient room is available for villagers.

Village Photograph - John and Grace Griffin have arranged for a visit by the photographer during the afternoon.

Bouncy Castle
Children's Sports
Rounders
Welly-throwing
Bale loading

In the field adjoining the Village Hall during the afternoon.

Jo and Rob Treble and Vince Stowell organising.

Skittles - in Village Hall during the afternoon - Gill Taylor and daughter Sally White have kindly agreed to organise our skittles.

Afternoon Tea

Jean Fenwick with helpers is preparing Cream Teas and Cakes, which will be available at the Village Hall during the afternoon.

Barbecue - Jenny and Simon Pascoe will organise from late afternoon into the evening.

Drinks "bring your own" by day, possibly a bar in the evening.

Raffle

Ruth Dyer and Marianna have kindly agreed to organise and will be pleased to receive prizes - see separate note

Balloons/Bunting have been ordered.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Treasure Hunt on foot, within the Parish area - John & Margaret Ball will arrange.

Bonfire - Hartley Staples and John Griffin investigating.

Jubilee Mugs - Have been purchased and will be given to all village children under 16

If you have not yet returned your form - please do so soon - as we would hate to miss out any child under the age of 16!

Mugs will be available for sale on The Day at £5 each

Art/Painting Competition

Julian and Troy Gale have agreed to organise - see separate note

Best Poem Competition

Cliff Edwards has kindly taken this on - Entries will be displayed in the Village Hall and published in Kenn News and Views - see separate note.

Music Tim Taylor's friend John Burge has kindly offered to do a "Disco" during the evening.

Permanent Memorial

Suggestions so far:

Gold Crown to top our Flagpole
Tree/Trees planted
More daffodils throughout the village
Gold coloured rose bushes
Update Village Hall Kitchen for future Kennites
Donate to Charity
New fridge for Village Hall

A seat somewhere in the Village
A plaque to be added to our Millennium Stone

Many thanks to all of you who have returned your forms

*Everyone's views are welcomed,
so please - if you haven't done it yet
return your form now*

*either to Liz at the Post Office
or Jane Staples at Elmbank,
or Sheila at Oaklands Farm,
or Margaret at Chaseside
or Mike or Graham at the Pub.*

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed towards the cost of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations.

Donations can be made to Liz Noyes at Kenn Post Office, Sheila Naish or Margaret Ball.

Queen's Golden Jubilee Raffle

Okay so you cannot afford to give us the Crown Jewels but a little trinket would be greatly appreciated.

We want to make this a day to remember and therefore it would greatly enhance proceedings if we can have a really good raffle.

We have already been promised a Crown so if you cannot donate a prize please come along and support by buying a ticket.

Prizes please to Ruth Dyer, Margaret Ball and Marianna Mackay.

Queen's Golden Jubilee – Poetry Competition

As one of a number of ways to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of H.M. The Queen, the village is organising a Best Poem Competition.

Anyone can enter, child or adult. The closing date will be the 18th May and the collecting point will be:

Cliff Edwards' house,
Tramar in Kenn Street.

C.E.

Queen's Golden Jubilee – Art Competition

For all those younger members of Kenn! We need you to put your creative skills down on paper. We want to see works of art, poetry, writing, drawing or painting. All will be used to decorate the walls of the Village Hall during Jubilee Day.

There will be prizes awarded so please pass your entries to:

John and Margaret Ball at Chaseside,
or Julian and Troy Gale at The
Brambles, Duck Lane

Closing date 1st June

– please be sure to put your name,
address and age on the back.

No excuses for those who cannot be
here on the day!

So sharpen your nibs, topical entries
welcome.

Julian Gale

Parish Council Matters

At the last Parish Council Meeting we were all very saddened to receive the resignation of Mr. Naish on the grounds of ill health. In accepting his resignation and thanking Ray for all his hard work Mr Griffin wished him a speedy return to full health.

Ray joined the Parish Council in 1961 and has been Chairman twice in that time. It is unlikely that Kenn parishioners will ever again benefit from the wisdom and experience gained by Mr Naish over the years and so willingly given to his community.

The proposed development for Smart Systems at Yatton evoked a great deal of lively debate. The Parish Council was not minded to oppose the application but has written to the Planning Department in the following vein.

1. The proposed development is outside the Yatton village fence and sets a very dangerous precedent.

2. The B3133 is totally unsuitable for the volume of traffic that would eventually use it and should be resurfaced and maintained to a high level.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

The speed limit should continue right though Kenn and be enforced.

The stretch of road from Kenn Street to Kenn Estate and beyond is lethal to people on foot and with prams etc. and some thought should be given to providing a footpath all the way through the village.

3. The whole matter should be decided by the Planning Committee, which the public can attend, so that the reasons for whatever decision is made are in the public domain.

Kenn is again taking part in the Best Kept Village Competition. The village is being divided into sections with someone responsible for tidying each part. The Parish Council will be grateful for any help they are offered.

Mrs. Ball has worked out a splendid programme for the Jubilee celebrations.

The world is such a terrible place at the moment, let's support her and her helpers and let our hair down and enjoy ourselves. Please.

Ann Holtham

Kenn Parish Council

Kenn Parish Council meets bi-monthly at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

Notice of when meetings are held is posted on the Parish Council Noticeboard on the green outside the Drum and Monkey and noted in Kenn News and Views.

Members of the public are always welcome.

Members of the public are able to speak at these meetings but only at the allotted time.

Members of the Parish Council are listed below

John Griffin	01275 872948
Cheryl Quinn	01275 876850
Hartley Staples	01275 340771
Ruth Dyer	01275 872676
Sheila Naish	01934 838357
Cliff Edwards	01275 870329

Ann Holtham, Parish Clerk is contactable on 01275 875877 and her address is 16 Parnell Road, Clevedon, North Somerset.

All correspondence should be sent to Ann in advance wherever possible, for inclusion in the meeting. Or if this is not possible, given to Ann before the meeting.

Any member of the Parish Council can be contacted with regard to any village matter they would like discussed or help with.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Kenn Women's Institute

After a minute's silence for the Queen Mother our meeting proceeded.

We have received a reply from the Post Office regarding rural deliveries and Post Offices - despite being three pages long it says very little.

We have also received replies from the Town Council and N E Somerset Council regarding the closure of the Six Ways toilets - let's hope they reverse this decision as they are very necessary at the bus stop for passengers and bus staff.

It is our Golden Jubilee next year and we have three members who have belonged to our Branch for that time.

We were also shown the exquisite card, created by Joy Morris, and which we are sending to the Queen for her Jubilee.

We are holding a JUMBLE SALE on the 15th May 2002 (Wednesday) at 7.00 p.m. - please come but we do not require any 'stock'.

Our speaker, Mr Holland, provided an enlightening and interesting talk 'Food is Fun'; he explained the natural chemicals in food and the use of artificial ones, how a list of ingredients on a packet starts with the largest quantity (usually water in 'wet foods'), and the use of the dreaded 'E' numbers.

We also discussed various allergies such as peanuts and their ramifications.

The monthly competition was a medicine bottle, Margaret Chappell had gold, Ruth Dyer silver, and Rose Jeffrey green.

Our May meeting on the 8th is a talk by Mrs L. Sellers entitled 'Science in a Picnic Basket'.

DON'T FORGET THE JUMBLE SALE ON THE 15TH MAY - 7.00 P.M. AT KENN VILLAGE HALL, KENN STREET, KENN.

For further information please contact Rosemarie Ford 01275-542651 (change of number!)

ARTHRITIS CARE

Our new venue at The Masons Hall in Albert Road Clevedon from 2.30 - 4 o'clock on the third Tuesday of each month is encouraging new members and the welcome return of some 'lost' ones.

For our April get-together 33 members gathered to hear Derek Lilley give a delightful and amusing talk on Hill Road, Alexandra Road, and Marine Parade.

We learned that Hagleys was the longest business in Hill Road until it closed, and now Seeleys has taken over this distinguished mantle.

Derek's slides were so interesting and many of our members could

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

remember as far back as the First World War (albeit towards the end) - your correspondent is somewhat younger but it brought back lovely memories for me dating back some 50 years.

Derek always 'delivers the goods' and his knowledge of Clevedon is quite astonishing.

We then had a nice cup of tea and cakes when the raffle was drawn.

Please ring Rosemarie Ford on 01275-542651 if you would like details - 'able-bodied' people would be most welcome as the group is not just for arthritis sufferers.

We are having a coach trip in May with lunch out, and are using a coach which will take wheelchairs, therefore it is easier to get on - again, if you would like details, please contact Rosemarie Ford, also if you would like to join us for the trip as a helper you would be most welcome.

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT

Oh God I am tired,
I've been up all night
Pushing my way through the ground.
I've finally made it and now I can see
A beautiful world all around.

My fam'ly are with me
- we all look the same
White spotted on skins of bright red.
Ooh there's a squirrel.
He's just dropped his nuts
Right on the top of my head!

Now I'll be bruised and no one will
pick me
They'll gather the others for food.
I'll be left in the forest to die all alone.
The compost that makes the earth
good.

Hush! There are footsteps.
The humans are here
Knives sharpened to harvest the crop.
But humans be careful;
you ought to beware
Pick us and you might get a shock.

We're magic you see in our fairy ring
Pretty amongst all the leaves.
Enticing to look at and easy to pick
We're danger to all that are thieves.

ROSEMARIE FORD
7/3/2002

ST. PETER'S HOSPICE SHOP 7A The Triangle, Clevedon

If you have a few hours to spare, then why not come and join our friendly team of volunteers at St. Peter's Hospice shop in Clevedon?

If you are interested please call in and have a chat with Carolyn, Monday to Saturday between the hours of 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

We look forward to seeing you,

KATHLEEN BROMFIELD
Trevone,
Kenn Street

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Dates for your Diary

At The Drum and Monkey

Tuesday 7th May - Village Lunch
from 12.30 p.m. -
Everyone welcome !!

At Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 8th May 7.30 p.m.
Kenn Women's Institute
Speaker - Mrs L. Sellers entitled
'Science in a Picnic Basket'.

Competition "Healthy Picnic Menu

Non-members always welcome.

At St. John the Evangelist

Thursday 9th May - Annual General
Meeting of The Friends of Kenn
Church at 7.30 p.m. - Everyone
welcome !!

At Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 15th May 7.00 p.m.
Kenn W.I. Jumble Sale.

Cliff Edwards' home -Tramar, Kenn Street

18th May - Closing Date for entries for
the Queen's Golden Jubilee "Best
Poem" Competition.

Advance Diary Dates

At the Drum and Monkey

Golden Jubilee Day in Kenn -
Village Lunch will be held on
Monday 3rd June from 12.30
onwards.

Strawberry Tea -Saturday 29th June

Organised by Kenn W.I. In aid of
Friends of Clevedon Hospital
details next month.

What's on at The Drum

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

Tuesday 7th May - Village Lunch
from 12.30 p.m. -
Everyone welcome !!

News from The Limes, Kenn Moor Road

You may have been following with
interest the recent extensive road works
on Kenn Moor Road. 8 men have been
working very hard on the construction
but my interest was really drawn when
early one morning they were seen
spreading white fabric across the entire
road surface. I rushed out quickly with
the camera to take a photograph. It was
an example of Geo-Textiles that I teach
my A level group about. They use
fabrics in unstable road conditions to
stabilise the road. It's often used on
desert roads. We now have our own
example right outside my front door so
I will be watching the road with great
interest to see how it copes with our
moorland conditions.

If you are interested in Geo-Textiles I
suggest you look up the Web site for
netlon.com. It is fascinating to see
what is being achieved with fabrics
nowadays.

.....

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

"THE BELL IS BEING
TOLLED 101 TIMES
AT 11.20 A.M. THIS MORNING
FOR THE FUNERAL OF
H.M. THE QUEEN MOTHER"

Geoff Marchant put this notice in the church porch at Kenn on Tuesday 9th April while he was up in the tower.

He was sat under the bell frame, pulling the clapper to the bell (and hoping no one would be mean enough to come into the church and ransack it, or remove the ladder so that he could not get down again!) He tells us that it is possible to give a more controlled, slow toll, in this way and his earplugs came in very handy!

Sally Whitehead commented on how nice it was to hear the bell at that particular time and he hopes it carried far enough for other people to hear, especially above the motorway and road traffic noise.

Regarding the **Golden Jubilee Celebrations** – Geoff is trying to get some of the hand bell team to come along and do a few items, either before or after – a sort of impromptu, free, concert.

BIRD NEWS I

By early April a good number of Chiffchaffs had arrived and a few Blackcaps were singing. Generally the run of northerly winds restricted migration until the 19th when the winds swung to the south.

On the weekend of 20th/21st two separate friends reported Redstart in the Clevedon gardens and a Pied Flycatcher was at Poets Walk on the same date. An Alpine Swift (a very rare vagrant) was seen over Sand Point at Weston-super-Mare.

There were reports of Cuckoos from the reservoirs on the 21st and Hobbies on the Somerset Levels. Also by this time Swallows seemed to have arrived in force but our local House Martins were still to put in an appearance.

An evening stroll along Middle Lane, Kingston Seymour produced a Cetti's Warbler. This was a real surprise as they are generally confined to reasonable sized reed-beds – this bird was in a cut low hawthorn hedge with a few strands of reeds. A small party of Swallows came over, a Green Woodpecker called loudly, as did a Chiffchaff and there were Goldfinches, Robins, Wrens and Dunnocks all in song.

Many migrants will continue to arrive in May – the best month for birds in my opinion.

On Sunday 26th there is an Open Day at Shapwick Heath with lots of attractions and all free. I will be pleased to provide details.

Trevor Riddle - 01934 835208

Retirement

Veteran retired farmer, Kenn Churchwarden and parish council chairman Ray Naish has hung up his gavel and resigned from the council after 41 years' service to the parish.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

First elected in 1961, chairman from 1976-1980 and again since 1995, Ray featured in an article in The Clevedon Mercury last year but sadly has not been well lately and for the first time in years missed a parish council meeting and the Yatton Moor Annual Parish Church Meeting.

He is the senior Yatton Moor churchwarden and invariably lightened the proceedings by introducing a modicum of West Country agricultural humour into an otherwise somewhat sterile occasion

There will now have to be a by-election in Kenn for a vacancy on the parish council and in the meantime his friends in the area all wish him a prompt and full return to health.

David Holmes

Typist's notes

I am sure the whole village join me in sending Ray Naish our best wishes for a very speedy return to full health.

Thanks to everyone for the sterling efforts in filling this magazine!!

For those racking their brains about the Wedding Anniversaries on Easter Day, I have been investigating and can now tell you – Mike and Iris Callow 46 years and Ruth and Sam Dyer 54 years – congratulations to them both.

It will seem strange not to pop into the Post Office daily, but we wish Liz all the best now that she is going 'part time' and look forward to calling in on Monday mornings.

Engagement of Joanna Brain of The Limes, Kenn to Timothy Sunderland

If you have walked past The Limes in recent months you may well have spotted plants growing in all the windows and heard the sewing machine whirring in the background. It's all been about the count down for the big day on June 15th.

Stephen and Heather Brain are delighted to announce the engagement of their daughter Joanna Joy to Mr. Timothy John Sunderland.

The wedding is to be held at Clevedon Methodist Church and the reception here in our village at the bride's home.

As my Great Aunt Edie said "you put a bit of love into it when you make it yourself". So true to form Joanna has been making her own very personal invitations and Heather has faced the delightful although very daunting task of making all the dresses. As a teacher of Textiles at Clifton High School the metres of beautiful fabric have been laid across school tables and carefully designed and crafted into beautiful creations. A school trip to Paris came in useful in order to source trimmings and materials when Bristol proved limited.

Stephen has been busily engaged in chopping wood that lay in the way of the marquee site, landscaping the garden and planting shrubs.

Activity increases as the day approaches.

Joanna now works for the BBC in Bradford and Timothy works for Christian Aid in Leeds. They plan to set up home in Leeds.

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

From Kenn Post Office

Liz would like to thank the Village for their support over the last 6 years.

Yvonne Elizabeth Ayres

On Thursday 18th April Kenn Church was packed with the friends and family of Yvonne Ayres, who had come to say their last farewell to a former Kenn resident. Who although she latterly lived in Clevedon never seemed to have entirely left the village.

Mark and Yvonne Ayres met through their mutual love of light opera and choral music.

They came to live at Mendip View in the 60's. There they raised 3 daughters Jane, Beverley and Rowena and would have stayed in Kenn Street far longer had ill health not forced them to move to a bungalow in South Clevedon.

Sadly, Mark died in 1999, but Yvonne, though a wheelchair user, maintained her independence by staying on in the bungalow, confident in the support of 'her girls', which she treasured but never took for granted.

Yvonne and 'her wheels' were a regular feature at Communion and Family Service and she was the first to volunteer when a Cake Bake was planned.

I had recently rekindled my friendship with Yvonne and was impressed by how well organised she was in her house, and how cheerful.

I don't remember a conversation with Yvonne without a smile or an anecdote, even when we were talking about something serious like 'accessibility' in the church.

Yvonne's popularity was reflected by the number of people of all ages who attended her funeral, taken by Rev. Avril Gaunt, on a sunny spring afternoon, which I think was just as Yvonne would have liked it.

Julia Bush

Mrs Kathleen Ellen Hawes

Mrs Kathleen Ellen Hawes has passed away in Bognor Regis where she has lived for several years.

Kathleen Stowell, before her marriage to Thomas Hawes, was born at Portbury House. On their marriage Tom and Kathleen lived at Portbury House where their son Richard was born. They then moved to Bristol, where later along came Helen and James.

Kathleen in her teens was an active member of young farmers.

She then decided to make nursing her career and worked herself up to Matron at Southmead Hospital.

On the death of Tom's father, they moved to Bognor Regis to live in the Hawes family home where Kathleen has lived since the death of Tom.

Her first love has always been Kenn and her ashes will be interred in the Churchyard.

Irene Stowell.

Following is the first part of a series of articles which have been provided by Simon Pinder

WHEN THREE MEN WERE HANGED AT KENN

An article by Ronald Bailey

This is an extract from the Weston Mercury and Somersetshire Herald of August 13th 1954.

If you should ever venture down Kenn way - that no-man's land of flat moorland between Clevedon and Yatton - you must ask a few questions about the public hanging of three men at Yew Tree Farm.

It happened a long time ago - in 1830 to be exact - but the grim event so impressed everybody that fathers have handed the story down to their sons, and the sons have passed the story to their own sons.

In the course of the years the story has gathered various embellishments, and today I doubt if few people can separate fact from fiction.

The popular version of this story is that three local men were convicted of sheep stealing, in

those days a capital offence, and at Wells Assizes they were sentenced to be hanged at the scene of their crime.

The three men, tied hand and foot, and sitting in their own rudely fashioned coffins were brought, it is said, in a horse drawn waggon from Shepton Mallet Gaol to Kenn.

In every village that the grim cortege passed through the bells were tolled, and at Congresbury, where it happened to be Fair Day, the crowds broke up and followed the procession to the place of execution.

At Kenn, gallows had been erected beneath which the waggon and its victims were drawn. Fifteen thousand people were looking on and many of them clambered into trees for a better view. One tree collapsed throwing the sordid spectators into the river.

The three condemned men, each with a Prayer Book in his hands, were noosed and, at a given signal, the waggon was withdrawn and the trio were left suspended in mid-air, writhing in their last gasps. It is even told how the hangman swung on the legs of the victims until their necks 'snicked', and the whole ugly business was finished.

Special Notice

to all our customers

KENN POST OFFICE

From 1 May 2002 this post office will be opening on
Monday mornings only

The office will close at 1 pm on Tuesday 30 April and open for business at 9 am on Monday 13 May (6 May is a Bank Holiday. Double pensions are payable on Monday 29 April.)

The new opening hours will be

Monday 9am to 12.30 pm.

The nearest offices for service are

West End
Yatton
The Triangle, Clevedon

We apologise to our customers for any inconvenience this will cause. We would like to thank them for their support over the past years and look forward to seeing them on Monday mornings in the future.

Post Office Ltd

