

NEWS  
&  
VIEWS

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Printed by - Margaret BALL  
01275-874077

Issue No. 170 October 2002

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### October

1 <sup>st</sup>	Katy Golding Ellis
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Gill Taylor
4 <sup>th</sup>	Roland Hazell
6 <sup>th</sup>	Daniel Quinn
7 <sup>th</sup>	Tim and Julia Bush W.A.
8 <sup>th</sup>	Robin Rogers
12 <sup>th</sup>	Dave and Sue Pugh W.A
16 <sup>th</sup>	Cheryl Quinn
18 <sup>th</sup>	Wendy and Sotoris Papasolomontos W.A.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Troy and Julian Gale W.A.
26 <sup>th</sup>	Justin Naish

### Thought of the Month

*It takes a minute to find a special person, an hour to appreciate them, a day to love them, but an entire life to forget them.*

### Naish's Notes

#### Hand Stadium

All those people who wrote in to protest about the late licence may be aware that the licence application was adjourned until 11<sup>th</sup> October at 11.30 a.m. We need to attend the court hearing to put our views over. It is very important that people attend.

The Hand Stadium has a petition going which everyone who goes there is being asked to sign in support of the application. We have a mammoth task ahead!

### Kenn News & Views

Well summer is over, autumn is here. We would like some funny/disastrous tales. Send them to us!

### Diary Date – Advance Warning

15<sup>th</sup> November is Children in Need Night. A Fund Quiz will be held in the Village Hall - Details next month.

### St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

#### Altar Guild – October Rota

Jean Woods, Heather Jenkins and Tina Middleton

#### Cake Sale News

THANK YOU, THANK YOU,  
THANK YOU!"

Due to the generosity of the congregation at Holy Communion at Kenn on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September, I was able to send £60 to Mr. Blay and his family in Ghana. I think this will cover the bill for his three youngest children to attend primary school until Christmas. Normally there is no free education in Ghana.

Deep Cleaning at St. John's  
A GREAT BIG THANK YOU to all the folk who turned out on Monday and Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> Sept to give the church a 'Spring (Autumn?)Clean'. Working in spontaneous shifts, teams of villagers spent a glorious day proving that 'many hands really do make light work'

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## Church News

### Sound Enhancement at Kenn

'The Sound Man' inspected a pristine church interior with a view to fitting a 'loop system' and some form of sound enhancement. Quote expected within days. Watch this space!

Julia Bush

There were large congregations at the two services on Harvest Festival Sunday. The Church was decorated beautifully. There was a large amount of harvest produce, which was delivered to the sick and elderly.

We were very pleased to welcome members of Kingston Sunday School and their leaders to the morning Family Service.

Many thanks to all who helped in any way to make this a very successful day.

Ray Naish

May I add my thanks to all, both ladies and gentlemen who helped to 'spring clean' the church on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> September (a bit later in the year than usual). The Church now looks wonderful.

Thanks also go to those who keep the grass in the Churchyard neat and tidy.

We are very fortunate that there are so many people who are willing to help keep everything neat and in good order in this village.

Ray Naish

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Jennie and Robert John Hancock on the safe arrival of their first grandchild, Amelia Jennifer on 19<sup>th</sup> September. Best wishes to proud parents Leanna and Russell

### WANTED

Not for sale or to buy  
but  
YOUR TIME

FOR ONE MONTH OF THE YEAR TO  
HELP TO KEEP OUR LOVELY CHURCH  
CLEAN

All you have to do is sweep, and dust the pews, vacuum, clean the brass and change the flowers on the Altar each week. (but don't let the flowers put you off, I'm not any good at arranging flowers, so I do the brass or cleaning)

As you are aware we all need the church sometimes – for Christenings, Weddings or Funerals – so please help us to keep it clean so we can be proud of 'our church' on that special day when we want to use it.

If you can spare 1 hour a week for 1 month of the year please contact Jean Naish on 872493

Thanking you in advance

Juliet Stowell

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## Correspondence

From Riverside, Nailsea Wall

Dear Sheila,

Can I, through your very interesting News and Views, thank the people of the church for binging me such a lovely box of harvest produce after the Harvest Festival. I was particularly pleased that it was the children's gifts that I received. I enjoyed them very much.

I am pleased to say that I can still look after myself and I do my own cooking. I am now 94 years of age and have lived in this house for well over 70 years. I am always pleased to have visits from Village people. Many thanks once more,

Yours sincerely

Edith Tripp

## A Daughter Returns

I'm really chuffed (and touched) that so many peoples have been genuinely pleased to hear of the recent Bush family event, and Margaret says I should put something down on paper, so here goes.

Our elder daughter Rachel, long time Sunday Club member and sleepy teenage communicant, left dance college in 2000 and after a summer of auditions took to the high seas, working for Celebrity Cruises. Last autumn she started another contract, and after delays due to Sept. 22 did 6 month circulating the Caribbean.

Most of the cast then came home, but Rachel decided to stay on for an extra contract and headed for the West Coast of the U.S. via the Panama Canal.

Then she broke her arm (she was dancing, the ship pitched, she landed on her elbow OUCH). We noticed her emails were being typed by one Jeremy Diffeys, Australian saxophonist from the orchestra.

Having never seen Ray dance professionally, we booked a cruise along the coast of Alaska. A knock on our cabin door, in walks daughter 'Hallo, this is Jeremy and we're getting married 21/9 on the Hawaiian Island of Maui'. So at 4 am our time last Saturday, they did!

They will be home at any moment and will have their marriage blessed in Kenn Church at the end of October. Then on to Australia for more celebrations and a new life 'Down Under'.

Julia Bush

## Kenn Notes – Snippets

### Our Flag

#### Bereavement

6<sup>th</sup> September, our flag was flown at half mast for the funeral of Mrs Barbara Bowring of The Retreat, Russ Lane. We extend our sincere sympathy to her husband and family.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## Antiques Evening September 25<sup>th</sup>

Items representing many interests were submitted for valuation at Kenn Village by Toby Pinn and Mark Burridge of Clevedon Salerooms.

These ranged from Military Swords, Japanese Pots, silver pots and Doulton and Worcester pieces to very early tyre repair tools.

Mark and Toby spoke about each item which proved to be of great interest.

To everyone who came along and to those who helped a warm thank you. The evening raised £155 for Hall Funds.

Clevedon Salerooms hope to move to Kenn Valley Ground in the near future; as we go to press we understand their application will be decided on in three weeks time. We wish them well.

Ruth Dyer

## Dates For Your Diary

### **Drum & Monkey**

**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October**  
- 12.30 onwards - Village Lunch  
- all welcome

### **Kenn Village Hall**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October,  
Kenn Women's Institute 7.30 pm.

Speaker Mrs Jackson – Bristol International Airport  
Competition – Photograph of an aeroplane.

Non-members always welcome.

**The Court House, Flax Bourton**  
Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October at 11.30 Licensing Application for The Hand Stadium

**Kenn Village Hall**  
Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October Kenn Women's Institute 49<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party

### **Drum and Monkey**

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October**  
**Race Night**

### Advance Dates

### Kenn Village Hall

**15<sup>th</sup> November Fun Quiz for Children in Need**

**28<sup>th</sup> November – W.I. Christmas Flowers**

### **What's on at the Drum**

Every Wednesday evening  
**QUIZ NIGHT**  
With Raffle

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October  
Village Lunch  
Meet from 12.30 pm

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October**  
**RACE NIGHT**  
**Proceeds to Children's Charity**

**Curry and Rice £2**

**First come, first served so**

**Book your Table early!**

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

### SEPTEMBER MEETING

After our August 'recess' our social calendar has started again with a vengeance because apart from our monthly meetings, the skittles season is back so we are in training! Our Quiz Team will also be in action in a few weeks, and Avon Federation of Women's Institutes is very active building up to Christmas with a Concert, visits, various craft and lecture days and Carol Services.

Our September meeting saw us 'crafting'. Mrs Lois Knight introduced us to handmade cards and boxes by adding colour, feathers, paper flowers; in fact the choice of 'bits' with which to decorate our projects was terrific.

Most of us who did not think they would like 'making something' thoroughly enjoyed creating and decorating and went home with something to show. However, one member was heard to say "Give me the washing-up any time!" - I wonder if she would like to come and live with me.....

In October Mrs Jackson will be telling us about Bristol International Airport, and later that month we shall be celebrating our 49th Birthday.

We meet at Kenn Village Hall on the second Wednesday of the month and new members would be very welcome.

ROSEMARIE FORD - Tel: 543651

## BIRD NEWS

Most birds have now got over their annual moult and are now more active and in pristine condition, ready to face the winter.

As I write on 26<sup>th</sup> September, there are very few Swallows left around here. They have moved away onto the first part of their remarkable migration to Africa. On the very wet Monday in mid August, some young Swallows died because they could not feed.

Robins have had a marvellous breeding season. This is obvious by the number that are around singing to claim their winter territory. They are singing their winter song, which is slightly different from the one they use in the springtime. Robins are usually associated with built up areas, but I have heard them recently singing in hedges far away from buildings. I think it is remarkable that so many very small birds can survive the winter without any shelter from the weather.

Jeff reports seeing a flock of Long Tailed Tits at Kingston and several Wheatears in the moor. Owls are getting noisy as they always do at this time of the year. I have heard Tawny Owls calling at night and heard and seen several Little Owls.

Ray Naish

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## "Three Village Tour"

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 15 local people set out from Cloverlea in Kenn Street. We drove right to the end of Wemberham Lane in Yatton and into an area known as The Outback. So began Ray Naish's second and final 'guided walk' of the year.

The land we crossed was originally owned by the Smyth Piggot family, then 'Lance and Lance' from Weston-super-Mare, then Ray's son Miles and currently Michael Stowell from Portbury House Farm, Kenn. Ray assures us that these are the only four owners in history.

We started our walk in a field called the First Rambles, which contains the remains of a large Roman Settlement. This has been the subject of archaeological investigations, which uncovered a mosaic tiled floor. This site is now owned by the country. In Roman times the tidal river went up as far as Congresbury and this area was part of the sea wall. We understand that the Roman Settlement housed large numbers of men who were responsible for the keeping the sea defences in good order.

We noted two river banks, one on the actual bank and the other some distance back to retain flood water from high tides.

Historically everyone who lived at Kingston Seymour had responsibility for repairing part of the sea wall – to keep it clear of thistles etc. and to mend any holes. Ray remembered going with his grandfather to do this work and both Ray and Norman Harris remembered being told by family that

farmers on horseback did regular inspections.

Around 30 years ago, when the motorway was built, sluices were installed so that the tidal part of the River Yeo was held back to the Kingston side of the new road.

We walked across The First Rambles, then the Second Rambles and into Sheep House.

At this stage we were in the parish of Yatton. As we passed over a small bridge we entered Kingston Seymour and as we crossed the old sluice gate, at Phipps Bridge, with the mechanism built by Ransomes & Rapier Engineers of Ipswich in 1956, we entered the parish of Hewish. At this point we could clearly see the '1 mile to exit' sign for Weston on the Motorway and in the other direction the upraised level crossing barriers at Hewish on the road behind the Full Quart.

This area had been the public footpath from Weston-super-Mare to Hewish, then to Kingston and on to Clevedon.

Ray regaled us with many stories of the local people who had lived there before the motorway was built and several cottages destroyed.

Of William Scribbins, later sexton at Kingston, who as a child was sent bird-scaring in a field called Horseleighs where he met people of all nationalities walking the footpath, including many tramps.

Of Frank Stuckey, Margaret Stuckey's great grandfather, who made cider available for travellers who passed by and kept a special barrel for tramps!

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Of Harry Jones, who was Ray's aunties' father who had fields in Hewish. When the area was still tidal and a high tide was expected Harry would get his men to collect all the cow pats from the land between the two sea walls and put them on other ground – as he said he was not going to let the tide rob him!

Passing back over Phipps Bridge to Kingston Seymour, Ray pointed out the small river, which feeds all the ditches in Kingston Seymour and remembered the Tozer family who had lived in a cottage nearby and Jacob Hale and his wife, also a Mrs MacRory who lived with Tom Cobbley (yes he was related!) She had 40 cats.

In this remote area people lived on fish from the rivers and eels as well as rabbits. Eel spearing was discussed and the expert from Kenn was one Ella Badman. Also 'clotting' when worms were threaded onto cotton which was dangled into the water. When the eel grabbed the worm the cotton was flicked out of the water and the eel caught in a bucket.

As the light was failing we turned towards the landing lights of Lulsgate and headed back across the fields, thanking Tim Taylor who became our gatekeeper, to the waiting cars. Again Ray received the now traditional standing ovation and our sincere thanks for such a pleasant evening. The weather had been kind, mild, calm, cloudy, but dry.

Before we dispersed Ray told us something of the local boundaries, but I shall leave him to write about this in detail.

Margaret Ball

## Great Wemberham Roman Villa

Intrigued by the Roman Villa site which formed part of Ray's last village walk I looked for information on the Internet and discovered an excellent article at <http://romanbristol.tripod.com/avon/yatton.html>

Apparently the Villa which was discovered in 1884 measured 65ft x 150ft which was on the 'small' side for a Romano-British villa but there was evidence of a stairway suggesting that at least part of the Villa had a second storey. Five rooms had mosaic floors but three were badly damaged. The local liking for Hot & Cold Tubs was apparently alive and well even in those days as the Villa had provision for both hot and cold bathing. No doubt they enjoyed the local Cider and maybe the odd village lunch – I like to think so.

One room had more than half the floor intact which allowed R C Meade to make drawings in 1885. The design for this mosaic appears to be based on local nature subjects with four large Oak leaves as the central subject surrounded by patterns based on leaves, mushrooms and berries. Worm like creatures (Eels?) are entwined around the outer edge. The full design can be seen on the Web site and I have a printout if anyone would like to borrow it.

In 1828 a stone coffin complete with skeleton was found in the same field and presumably was connected with the Villa. Others finds included 21 coins covering the period 250 – 305 AD.



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There is also an interesting article by Steve Hutchings about Clevedon history during the Roman period on the Internet at [www.buzz.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/clevedon/thehistory.htm](http://www.buzz.pwp.blueyonder.co.uk/clevedon/thehistory.htm) from which I have gleaned the following snippets

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> century period of the Roman occupation the moorland in and around Clevedon was apparently heavily populated. On the Kenn to Yatton moors evidence of an extensive occupation site over a mile long was found. Interestingly in this locality examples of forged Roman coins are found leading to the conjecture that in those days a local forger was at work.

Thank you Ray for a splendid walk

Robert Down

## Songs of the Months

January: By this fire I warm my hands  
February: And with this spade I delve my lands  
March: Here I set my crops to spring  
April: And here I hear the sweet birds sing  
May: I am as light as bird on bough  
June: And I weed my cornfields Well enow  
July: With my scyther my field I mow  
August: And here I shear my corn full low  
September: With my flail I earn my bread  
October: And here I sow my wheat so red  
November: At Martinmas I kill my kine  
December: And at Christmastime I drink red wine

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This was written in the 15<sup>th</sup> Century  
Author unknown

Submitted by Cliff Edwards

## The Boundaries of Kenn

There has been a lot of talk lately about the Village Boundaries of Kenn.

Until April 1982 Kenn was just about one mile square. Some of the houses which were considered in Kenn were actually in Yatton and Clevedon.

Walnut Tree Farm, Greenacres, Unique Farm, Manor Farm, Rose Bungalow and, I think, The Limes were all in Yatton.

All the five houses on Nailsea Wall, plus Whitehouse Farm, Clevedon Farm, Cole House Farm and part of Portbury House Farm were in Clevedon.

In the four years leading up to 1982, villages were given the opportunity to review their boundaries.

Kenn Parish Council at that time 'grasped the bull by the horns' and instructed Ann Holtham, in her capacity as 'Clerk to the Council' and myself at that time Council Chairman to draw up a new boundary which included all the houses mentioned above.

Yatton Parish Council objected, but when we met with them and explained the situation they withdrew their objection.

Clevedon Town Council did not object to us expanding the Kenn Boundary.

To simplify the boundaries, we decided to use water courses on three sides.

On the East side we used the Black Ditch.

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On the North side the New River Kenn or The Blind River Yeo as it was sometimes called.

On the West side Russ Rhyne.

The South side was more difficult as there was no large watercourse in that area. We decided to use small ditches, starting at the Black Ditch and continuing across country to the ditch first past Rose Bungalow on Moor Road on the way to Yatton.

It then crosses Mead Moor and continues until it comes out at Gypsy Lane which is a small lane on the left-hand side of the B3133 on the way to Yatton, just past Oakland Farm.

It then crosses the road and picks up a ditch which goes along under the old railway line (this was the Clevedon Branch) and continues until it meets up with Russ Rhyne in a field called Nanny Bucks which is directly behind Oakland Farm.

Russ Rhyne does not go far enough to meet up with the New River Kenn so the boundary goes across a few fields and then picks up the lane which takes you past Lake Farm.

It then bypasses Cole House caravan park and follows a ditch along one field until it meets up with the New River Kenn.

This makes the new boundaries of Kenn a complete square.

The original boundary may have been in place since Saxon times.

Ray Naish.

A further episode about the Kenn Hangings from Simon Pinder.

## THE EXECUTION

It was at twenty minutes past noon that the caps were pulled over the faces of the malefactors. All the while they were crying out "Lord have mercy upon us; Christ have mercy upon us " etc.

The spectators were kept at a convenient distance by the tenantry of Mr. J.H.S.Pigott of Brockley, and Sir Abraham Elton of Clevedon, who with yeomen of the district had been sworn in as special constables. Behind the gallows were the Bath and Bedminster troops of Yeomanry Cavalry, and the constabulary force under the Chief Constable.

At a given signal, the waggon on which the platform was erected was drawn from underneath the three men, and "they were launched into eternity."

The report says "their sufferings appeared to be of very short duration."

The lad, Clarke, being lighter than the others, did not drop so abruptly as the others and "seemed slightly convulsed."

The bodies were allowed to hang for a certain time, and were then cut down and placed in the coffins.

Then followed thanks from the High Sheriff and the magistrates to the Chief Constable and parish constables, the Cavalry and to all others who had taken part in the "unhappy ceremony."

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The "whole cavalcade" then moved off the ground, escorting the coffins a mile on the journey back to Ilchester where the bodies of incendiaries were to be interred.

The report says that "during the whole of this solemn and affecting scene, which was witnessed by nearly fifteen thousand people, the greatest order and decorum prevailed."

Mr. Pigott expressly denied statements that appeared in several newspapers to the effect that the men, since their conviction had been guilty of "indifferent conduct."

He said that he had called at Ilchester Gaol two days after their condemnation and "found them making every possible preparation to meet their fate with becoming resignation."

Final episode next month..

## STOP PRESS!

## MOOR NEWS

If you are a reader of Moor News and have not yet paid your subscription - would you please let your Magazine Distributor have the money as soon as convenient.

If you do not see him/her perhaps you could leave it with Julia Bush or Ray Naish.

Many thanks TEMPUS FUGIT

# DRUM & MONKEY



Kenn, North Somerset. Tel: 01275 873433

## Christmas Fayre

Available from December 1st to 24th, Monday to Saturday. Not available on Sundays.

### Serving Times

Lunch: 12 noon to 2pm

Evenings: 6pm to 9pm

Bookings can be taken for parties of 8 to 20 persons, with a £5 per person deposit (Non-refundable).

## Menu

### Starters:

Lobster and Prawn Cocktail with Brown Bread  
Soup of the Day with Crusty Bread.  
Hot Salmon and Cod Terrine with Balsamic Vinegar Salad

### Main Courses:

Roast Somerset Turkey  
Bacon & Sausage Roll, with Stuffing.  
Roast Sirloin of Beef  
with Yorkshire Pudding.  
Atlantic Halibut with Citrus Dressing  
*Vegetarian Option:*  
Sweet Potato, Roast Parship and Chestnut Bake

*All served with Roast & New Potatoes and with Three Seasonal Vegetables*

### Desserts:

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce  
Fruit Tart with Clotted Cream  
or Chocolate Cookie Cheesecake

Coffee & Mints

*£12.95p per person*



# APPLE DAY

12th & 13th October

11am-5pm

plus Saturday evening barbecue

Fairfield Farm, Ham Lane,  
Kingston Seymour

£1 adults, children free

Cider pressing - Rural museum -

Rural crafts demonstrations

Refreshments

in aid of FRIENDS OF ALL SAINTS CHURCH

FOR INFORMATION RING 01934 834788



FORESTS  
FOR THE  
COMMUNITY  
FOREST OF AVON