

KENN NEWS & VIEWS.

ISSUE NO 20

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KENN

NEWS

And

VIEWS

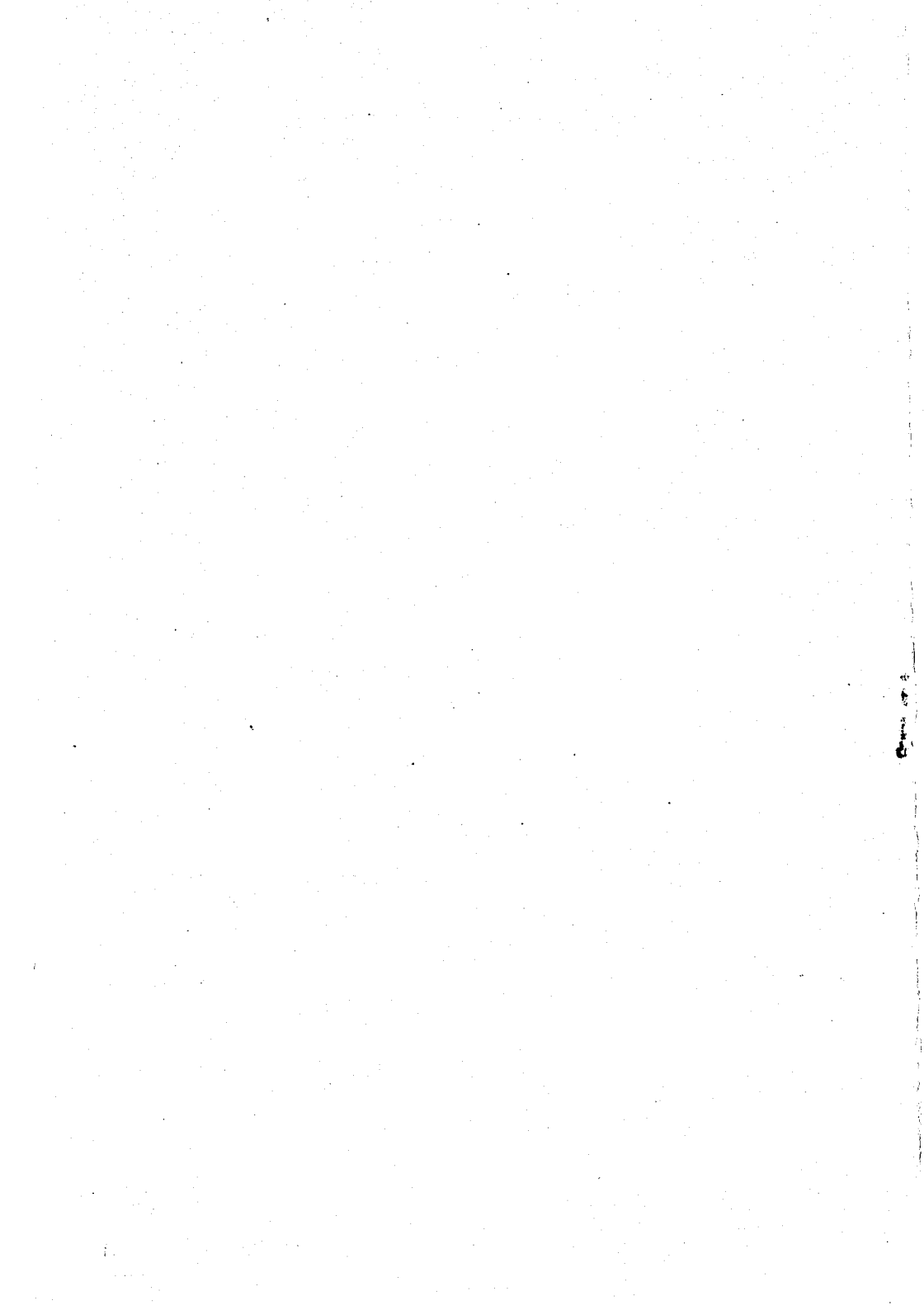
Editors

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& SHEILA NAISH

your own
magazine

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

Once again another publication hits the streets with a nice sprinkling of interesting articles. Spring must see the rising of ideas to the brain as we have travel reports from Australia and America as well as a Times Past story from Ray Naish. Last May the magazine was also full of similar articles and they do make very interesting reading. I know many of you who have stories to relate are worried about spelling and such like. Please don't let this stop you from contributing to Kenn News & Views as this is where Sheila and Kate come in, and what we get wrong has a third chance of correction through Jo Cooper. So please let's hear your stories because we know you have a lot to share. We are also available to visit and do the writing for you if you wish. Just telephone. Kate and Sheila 834894 & 838357

DEADLINE FOR JUNE ISSUE - 17th May

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

May 10th - Jill and Jayne Morris
 22nd - Duncan Mackay
 26th - Brian Stowell
 28th - Sally Taylor
 29th - Trina Willoughby
 30th - Joanna Brain

and Hartley and Jane Staples on 1st and 26th May.

NAISH'S NOTES

Our sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Summerell on the sad loss of Mrs. Summerell's step-father. Happily Mrs. Summerell's mother is now out of hospital and much better.

Mrs. Ruth Dyer has hurt her back but bravely continued on her trip to Holland with our other W.I. ladies.

KIDS I - No prizes for guessing whose child suggested his Mum tried anti-wrinkle cream after a very late night and early morning lambing! Yes, I'm beginning to get a complex.

IQ - Having come last in Big Ed's Quiz Night and been awarded two short planks of wood, I am lost for words (for once)! Pass!

AN EMPTY SHED - Uncle Freddie is away on holiday at present; this is to help him get over the shock of Big Ed actually turving her concrete jungle.

Our lambing season is nearly at an end. We have had a very good season with few losses. The mild weather has been very kind to us - let's hope we're as lucky with the spring calvings. Sheila Naish.

SNIPPETS

Celebrations - Our flag flew on April 10th on the occasion of the Ruby Wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Naish, on Easter Sunday and on April 21st to celebrate the birthday of Her Majesty our Queen who shares her birthday with a very popular Kenn resident.

St. George's flag was flown on Monday, 23rd April to celebrate St. George's Day.

Our Village Green - A warm thankyou to Alex and Mathy Gaunt and friends who 'headed' the daffodils to encourage an even better display in 1991.

N.S.P.C.C.

A very successful Coffee Morning and Bring and Buy Sale was recently held at the home of Mrs. Ruth Dyer in Kenn. A magnificent total of £101.05 was raised in aid of the NSPCC. Many thanks to all who helped and gave so generously. Angela Bullock

SINCERE CONDOLENCES

It is with great sadness that we learn of the sudden passing on 23rd April of Mr. Bob Brice, beloved father of Gill Taylor. Our thoughts are with Gill, Robin and family at this sad time. K.D.

KENN VILLAGE HALL

Arrangements have been made to improve the cloakrooms with the installation of a hot water supply, to comply with an instruction from the Environmental Officer. Over the past year many Kennites have enjoyed some of the many activities which are held in the Hall. We know that those in charge try to leave the Hall as they would wish to find it. The Committee has decided an extra clean and polish is now required - the date is June 16th from 9.30 a.m. onwards. We hope that everyone who has enjoyed an event or events in the Hall will offer to help. Should you be unable to help on the day but are willing to undertake a job, please let me know. R.M.Dyer

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

A highly successful and well supported Jumble Sale was held on 19th April. Stalls were laden with a wide variety of goods and at the end of the evening £128 had been raised for W.I. funds. A warm thankyou to all those who gave their time and goods and we hope they were well satisfied with their purchases. R.M.Dyer

BACK TO SOMERSET CAMPAIGN

"The new County boundaries are administrative areas, and will not alter the traditional boundaries of counties; nor is it intended that the loyalties of people living in them will change, despite the different names adopted by the new administrative counties." Government Statement, April 1974.

FACT - The Government Statement makes it absolutely clear that we all still live in Somerset.

Our campaign is designed to spread this message all over North Somerset until the Somerset name is restored to everyday use. Would you like to help fund the campaign - £3 single, £5 household? R.M.Dyer

HAVE FAITH IN YOUR TEAM!

That's what I had. I knew they would do their best and get us through to the quarter finals of the W.I. Skittle Tournament.

A very happy and close fought match was played against Congresbury Evening W.I. Ladies at Kingston Seymour. At one time it could have been anyone's game, but then Jean Ings and Irene Stowell scored spares and that gave us the overall win of 16 pins.

We finished our evening with bread and cheese and REAL coffee - we don't need beer!!! Thankyou girls and good luck for the next game. Rachael Pearce

QUIZ NIGHT II

A capacity crowd of 25 teams filled Kenn Village Hall on Saturday, 31st March, for Quiz Night II. BEDLAM is one word that springs to mind as I recall my inadequacies at crowd control and I feel I should put in an official request for a bigger bell or the services of a town crier! Aside from my failing voice there was also the problem of shell fire from some of the contestants; and as for the newly introduced Joker system, it was just that! Two particular teams (they'll know who they are) will be changing places next time - the first, for continual harassment of the questionmaster will be dispatched to the back of the room, and the second will be brought to the front, where a watchful eye can be kept on their diabolical cheating - which incidentally did them no good at all. Several members of the crowd have voluntarily put themselves on the waiting list for a brain implant (note - you cannot transplant something that is not there to begin with).

Joking aside though, everyone has said what an enjoyable evening it was - if a good deal harder than Quiz Night I. Can I be blamed for over-estimating the average intelligence of those present?

Refreshments were organised and dispensed by Simon and Jenny Pascoe and Richard and Avril Gaunt. The fish and chips is always welcome at half-time although it has caused a few headaches through the ordering system, so well done Jenny for making sure everyone was satisfied. Extra special thanks are due to Ian Pascoe and Timothy Denmead who acted as our 'Runners' and were exhausted at the end. They were suitably rewarded along with Christopher Denmead who assisted with the sale of raffle tickets and with scoring. Thanks also to husband Roger for doing the scoring and for not succumbing to the various bribes that were offered by a certain small person with journalistic tendencies! Finally, thankyou to David Gray for his assistance. I don't have the official figure to hand but I believe something plus or minus £250 was raised on the night and will go towards necessary improvements in the Village Hall.

For your entertainment there follows some of the more doubtful answers offered in desperation:

- Q. Geography - There are 5 inhabited Scilly Isles - St. Mary's, Tresco and St. Agnes are 3, name the other 2.
- A's Bill and Ben / Agatha and Christie. (Bryher and St. Martins.)
- Q. Signs and Symbols - What does a solid pink triangle mean on an ordnance survey map?
- A's Wigwam / Indian reservation. (Youth Hostel)

- Q. Food and Drink - What is added to vodka and orange juice to make a Harvey wallbanger?
- A. A straw. (Galliano)
- Q. History - What kind of wood was the Ark built from?
- A. Chipboard. (Gopher wood)
- Q. Cinema - What is the legend that encircles the lion's head announcing MGM films?
- A. Come to Longleat. (Ars Gratia Artis)
- Q. Industry - Gemstones are measured in carats, but a carat is made up of a hundred what?
- A. Peas / sprouts. (Points)
- Q. What is E.F.T.A?
- A. European foot-tappers Association. (European Free Trade Association)
- Q. Creatures - What is the term for the mythical creature with the head of an eagle and the body of a lion?
- A. Les Dawson (Gryphon)
- Q. Music - What is the English name for the Welsh National Anthem?
- A. Rock on Boys. (Land of our Fathers)
- Q. From which film came the song 'Up where we belong'?
- A. One team gave us a whole paragraph describing the plot of the film but no title. It was 'An Officer and a Gentleman', and I wasn't convinced they even had the plot right.
- Q. Crafts and Skills - What does an onomastician study?
- A. Cows udders. (Names)
- Q. Famous People - Who is the Duke of Norfolk's TV presenter son-in-law?
- A's Timmy Mallett / Andy Crane / Chris Tarrant / Bernard Matthews / Clive Anderson. (David Frost)
- Q. Transport - Which make of car is promoted as 'The Ultimate Driving Machine'?
- A. Robin Reliant. (BMW)
- Q. Sciences - What was known as the 'Royal Disease'?
- A. Most of the wrong answers were unprintable. Suffice it to say if they'd been right, either we wouldn't have a Royal family or we'd be very worried. The answer was Haemophilia.
- Q. Literature - Who wrote Lorna Doone?
- A. Jeffrey Archer. (R.D.Blackmore)

Q. What was the name of the gardener in Lady Chatterley's Lover?

A. Jeff Naish / Percy Thrower / Ted on a sit down mower. (Mellors)

At the end of the evening the winning team from The Blue Flame took first prize of four bottles of wine for their score of 132.

In second place with 130 were the Hermits who took home Easter eggs. And last but not least I think you all know who took the booby prize of 'Two short planks' with a score of 73.

See you in October hopefully for Quiz Night III.

Kate Denmead

RUBY WEDDING PARTY

To celebrate their fortieth wedding anniversary, Ray and Jean Naish entertained fifty relatives and friends to a supper party at Stonehouse Farm on Tuesday, 10th April. The guests enjoyed a really lovely evening and had much pleasure in looking over the wedding photos and reminiscing. The slimline groom was noted for his elegance and good 'fortune' in having such a charming bride on his arm. A young couple looking forward to life together, the presence of so many friends and family a living proof of their success.

In the toast Ray and Jean were congratulated and thanked for (among other things) the special contribution they make to our village life. Ray, in his reply, said how grateful they were to be living in the village - (they once moved for a while, as far as Kingston!) and to have all their children and seven grandchildren living nearby. John Griffin.

Note: Ray and Jean entertained even more people to tea on Friday, 20th April in celebration of their Ruby Wedding. SN

UPDATE ON JAMES AND ROBERT "THE TRAVELLERS"

Having completed the Tasmanian experience: they very much liked 'Tassie' which reminded them of England, weather and also people again kind and friendly.

One nasty problem was that at the end of March, early April, James spent four days in hospital with some kind of food poisoning. He thinks that some chicken that he had cooked was in fact only half done. Raw chicken is bad news lads. He's quite recovered now and back up to over 13 stone!

They have teamed up with a guy called Roger from Ledbury. The three of them took the ferry from Hobart to Melbourne, then overland to Sydney from where Robert and Roger will go up the coast to the Great Barrier Reef for a holiday as they have all been working in 'Tassie'. Meanwhile, James hopes to get a job crewing on a yacht going up the coast to Cairns where he plans to work - having 'done' the Great Barrier Reef in January. They then will regroup and travel across to Perth looking for work on a large outback station. James tells us many of these stations are so far out they have their own light aircraft to get into town! Should be quite an experience for them. John & Grace Griffin.

FOREIGN NEWS II

Rosemary would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and sends her love to all in Kenn. She arrived in Miami on 10.2.90, met up with a Dutch girl the next day who is also a croupier and they flew to Jamaica to board the ship at Montego Bay.

The Regent Star is a large ship 24,500 tons, 9 decks, and can carry a thousand passengers. She found the corridors and different decks very confusing to start with. There is plenty of organised entertainment on board, there is a library, computer room, hair salon and beauty parlour, cinema and swimming pool. There are various band and disco rooms and plenty of bars! They have fire drill every week, and practise launching the lifeboats which she found great fun. They are each responsible for so many passengers and have to

make sure their lifebelts are correctly fitted. The officers and crew are of various nationalities, very friendly and all speak English - there are plenty of parties.

They sail weekly from Montego Bay to the Panama Canal. Although there is fighting going on on either side it was all very calm and peaceful. They then cruise to Aruba where they spend a day, passengers can go on various organised excursions, officers go free if there is room. They also collect any mail from here (the post is very erratic!) Thanks Barbara and Jean for help and advice on postal matters. In the evening they cruise to Curacao and spend a half-day sightseeing and then cruise back to Montego Bay. The temperatures are in the 90's with usually a slight breeze - the beaches have beautiful white sand, very little rain - occasionally a five minute downpour and then back to glorious sunshine. The food is excellent on the ship - the evening dinners usually having a theme, e.g. Mexican, French, Italian, etc. The Casino staff are classified as officers and are allowed to use all the facilities on the ship. The Casino is only open when they are cruising and closes at 2.00 a.m. The Americans are not heavy punters, so there are no large bets to work out. In May Rosemary will be cruising from New York to Montreal fortnightly on the Regent Star.

Rosemary's friend Cath Arnold who used to live at Fairways is off to work in Tenerife - we wish her well and look forward to hearing from her.

FAMILY GET TOGETHER

The grandchildren of the late Charles and Mary Ann Staples held a get together recently.

Charles and Mary Ann lived here at Stonehouse Farm where most of their seven children were born. Sadly Mary Ann died at the age of 49 in 1906 but Charlie, as he was generally known, lived on here with his children until 1914, when he re-married to Mrs. Lucinda Dyer who was his first wife's sister-in-law. Mrs. Dyer kept the Post Office. After his marriage to Lucinda they made their home at 'Orchard House', Kenn, and lived there until Charlie's death in 1946 aged 86 years.

During their time here at Stonehouse Farm, Charlie and his family developed a large farming and cider-making business, renting a lot of land all around this area and buying apples for cider-making all round this district. They supplied many public houses in Bristol and the surrounding area with cider. Several times when he had a surplus of cider, Charlie held Sales by auction of livestock, i.e. cattle, sheep and horses and cider. These sales were called 'Kenn Fair'. After the sales were over, great parties were held which went on way into the night.

The Staples family were great entertainers. All of them could recite or sing songs. Unfortunately, most of the old country songs and recitations they knew have been forgotten. It has been said that those who stayed on after the parties were over and were making a nuisance of themselves, were taken out into the farmyard and thrown into the pond, which in those days was by the garden gate.

Many interesting old photographs and documents were on show at the recent get together. One very interesting item was an agreement drawn up between Charles Staples and his nephew William John Staples who lived at 'The Garage', Kenn. This agreement was for the sale of six cottages known as 'The Slaughterhouse Cottages', Kenn. Charles was willing to sell to William John, all these cottages plus a large garden for the sum of £25, buyer to pay all expenses. This was in the year 1939. These cottages stood between what is now Tripp Robins and Miss Griffey's bungalow. After he had bought them, William John moved into one of the cottages as his retirement home and stayed there until his death. Another of the cottages was used as the headquarters of the Kenn Fire Service during the last war. The last of them were pulled down in the 1950's. When I was a schoolboy about 30 people lived in those cottages.

Ray Naish.

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The April meeting of Kenn Women's Institute took place, with the President Mrs. Uyer in the Chair. Mrs. Holtham was congratulated on the birth of her great grandchild and Mrs. Naish on her Ruby wedding.

After apologies, the minutes and the correspondence, Mrs. Walters and Mrs. Bubb gave accounts respectively of the Spring Council Meeting and the Group Meeting which they had each enjoyed.

Two of the resolutions for the Annual General Meeting were thoroughly discussed. No decision was made upon the revised constitution and it will be brought up at the next meeting. Members voted to support the resolution urging the Government to exercise all its powers to ban the use of Bovine Somatotropin and to withhold the granting of licences for its distribution in this country. The delegate Mrs. Mann was instructed accordingly.

The speaker was Mr. Adamson of the Automobile Association and his assistant Mr. Bryant, who showed a Video of the A.A.'s work, and some searching questions were answered. They were thanked by Mrs. Pearce, and judged the competition for the funniest A.A. rescue story. The winners were Gold, Mrs. Bubb and Silver, Mrs. Aldrick.

Next month the talk will be on Old Time Pharmacy and the competition will be for an old fashioned remedy for an ailment.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 14th May in the Village Hall at 8 p.m. All local government electors are eligible to attend. Please try and come.

BEST KEPT VILLAGE

That time of the year is nearly upon us again. This year judging will take place between 16th June and 1st July. Semi-final and final judging will follow and will be completed by the 1st August. More information will follow about litter-picking parties and such like, but work on posters and gardens can be started as soon as possible. Details of the poster competition are elsewhere in this issue. The Competition is on the Agenda of the Annual Parish Meeting, so come along and help with the arrangements.

(Item of news)... Born to Robert and Suzanne Pike, a son, Thomas Robert, on the 30th March. first great grandchild for Mr. and Mrs. Holtham.

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National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children

You are invited to a COFFEE, BRING AND BUY WITH RAFFLE to be held at Latcham House, Kenn Street, Kenn, Clevedon on THURSDAY 10th May 10.30 - 12.30

Please can you bring a rooted herb in a pot.

in aid of the N.S.P.C.C.

Angela Bullock

DUCK LANE WOODPECKERS

Last year John Griffin wrote in about the Green Woodpeckers in his garden, and I was hoping that someone would write in to say they had seen a Black Woodpecker [Greater Spotted] but no one did, and although once the noisy young Green ones were about we looked as usual, for the Black/White quieter ones it wasn't "spotted", so please keep an eye out this year as both types of Woodpeckers - Green and Black, have been in Duck Lane long before we were, and visit the garden regularly to help keep down the Ant Hills - [we never use sprays].

When we came to Mead Cottage - 35 years ago - the garden had been more or less taken over by birds/animals and the Woodpeckers then inhabited the Electricity poles. According to Avon Wildlife they are not protected, and live in the woods during winter, leaving for the country orchards to nest in old trees or Elec. poles. When SWEB decided to replace our poles they were riddled with deep holes, they moved from us to Miss Horans orchard [where they probably nest now]. Please keep an eye open for them, especially the Black one - he usually has a lovely Red spot under his tail, the Green ones have a Rust splash on their heads.

Talking over our first years at Mead Cottage, we remembered the Beagle packs and the splendid cups which Cyril Taylor had. How about hearing from some of the old ones about the training of the Pups and what the cups were won for ?. We also used to hear of the Duck shooting nights on flooded moors.

J & J Ings. Mead Cottage.



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FRIENDS OF KENN CHURCH

The A.G.M. will be held at Kenn Church [after Choir Practice] at 8.0 pm. on Friday May 4th 1990.

-St. John the Evangelist, Kenn.

An open invitation is extended to our usual members, and to anyone interested in helping the Church. Do come along and join us - you will be very welcome.

Jean Ings
Hon Sec.

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TIDY VILLAGE COMPETITION

Judging will start in mid-June this year, full details will be given next month - but children get your thinking caps on for the Poster Competition, and adults get the spade and trowel going.

The Easter Holidays

The first proper day of the holidays I spent at guess where - Frenchay Casualty department I was told I had a chipped bone and had to go back the next day to the fracture clinic. Before we started on the long journey back to Kenn a nurse put a bulky bandage on my foot. Unfortunately I was wearing tight jeans and I wouldn't be able to get them off with the bandage on so the nurse wrapped a sheet around me to serve as a skirt!

The next day we quickly popped in at Eastfield market and then went on to fracture clinic. After what seemed like ten hours waiting (about two and a half I was seen. The doctor said I had not chipped a bone but I had a very bad sprain and he explained it all to Mummy I didn't understand a word because he had a very strange accent!

Next stop was the plaster room. All round the walls were decorated plasters. I hopped on to what looked like a flattened out dentists chair and a man started to put my plaster on. He kept talking and told us about a farmer who came in and when the plaster was taken off had muck between his toes, up the plaster - everywhere! At last half of my right leg was coated in a thick plaster which I wasn't allowed to walk on for two days and it was time to leave. I had to return on the 24th of April (the day before I have to go back to school). We collected Jo and Naomi out of the waiting room and it was time to go home. On the way we went to the shop at the site of Brockley market and bought an overall for Naomi. At last we arrived at home.

A few days later saw me back at Casualty again, the plaster had cracked at the bottom. I waited the same as in the fracture clinic, and at last a nurse slapped some more plaster on (the plaster technicians were off duty).

The next day it cracked and I went back to the fracture clinic where they added some more plaster. As soon as I got home it cracked again! I had to return to fracture clinic that evening where they would put a totally new plaster on. Because I was not very successful with plaster plasters they gave me a fibre-glass one which would dry in an hour.

Five times to Frenchay in six days - I hope I can manage to stay away from there untill the 24th!

Rebecca Brain

THE LAST WORD

Subject to permission being granted by the Kenn Village Hall Committee, we hope to organise another Skittles Marathon in July. The provisional date is 7th and as before there'll be something for everyone, so pencil in the date and start thinking of ideas for sideshows and competitions. SN & KI

THE VERY LAST WORD

Q. What does it say at the top of an Irish ladder?

A. STOP.

THE VERY, VERY LAST WORD

OK all you aspiring Crocodile Dundee's, Rolf Harris's, Edna Everadge's (Kate?), Jason and Kylie's, here's your chance. "Australian Theme" Disco Party at Kenn Village Hall, 8 - 11.45 in aid of Hall Funds and Multiple Sclerosis. Tickets £2.50 from Kenn Stores, Sheila Naish and Jean Fenwick.

This will enable us to give Trina and Emma a good send off for their trip to Australia. (Subject to Hall Committee approval.)

