

ISSUE 265 SEPTEMBER 2010



NEWS & VIEWS

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Well, another odd month. Today is September the 4th, which makes the magazine very late, for which I apologise.

Half the problem is that this has been a sillier season than most - not only has parliament been in recess, it seems like Kenn has been away as well...

So, not much has happened. And I've had health and family issues, which hasn't helped concentrate my mind. I don't need much distracting, mind...

But the meagre twenty pages have finally filled themselves up and we're almost ready to print.

BUT here is where I say again - where are our youngsters? Our magazine is very, very good on history and bygones, which is very interesting and informative. But our children are always markedly absent from its pages, which is a worry. The church does its best, but not all children are that way minded - so, Children of Kenn, please bash out an email to me at hazel.limage@kennvillage.co.uk to tell me what's missing from the magazine; write something (anything!); or just let me know that you're still out there, somewhere...

My thanks again to everyone who helped me on the sanity/family/injury front - Iris, Wendy, Caroline, Kate, Marianna, Jo, Margaret, Hartley and Julia. It means a lot.

Hazel

Down on the Farm

Cometh the rain, cometh the grain.

The heavy rainstorms that arrived in July have altered the fields in this part of the country completely. Where they were brown and scorched they soon became green again. Much to the relief of farmers and gardeners and the animals, who had been very short of grass all the summer. Although the grass has grown quite fast, it has not jumped out of the ground like farmers thought it would after such a dry early summer.

The corn harvest has had a good start, with the hot weather making the grain very dry as it came off the combines, saving having it artificially dried, this saved the growers great expense. The yields are slightly better than expected considering the lack of rain all through the best growing period. As expected the grains are smaller than usual, making the weight per acre down on a normal year.

Shockwaves were sent around the world when Mr. Putin announced that Russia would ban all export of grain from that country until the New Year. This was because the crops there are very light and the very hot weather they have experienced, with the temperature around Moscow reaching 40 degrees (never before recorded), setting off massive fires; some of them in the corn fields before the corn was harvested causing tremendous loss.

This announcement sent the world price of grain soaring – on the first day after the announcement grain prices rose seventeen pounds per tonne.

All this is good news for corn growers in this country and all over Europe, but it is serious news for everyone else. The price of cattle feed has risen by as much as forty pounds per tonne. The shopping bills for the housewife will almost certainly rise and the price of bread will be the first to be affected.

Vegetable growers are reporting poor crops, a friend of mine who is in his eighties has told me that he has been a vegetable grower all his life, this year his garden produced the poorest crops ever.

All this adds up to a very expensive winter to come for everyone, especially for farmers who keep large numbers of animals. I am afraid that people's shopping bills will be much higher.

Farmers who grow large acreages of sugar beet report the roots are much smaller than usual due to the lack of rain, this will almost certainly mean that sugar will be dearer.

Ray Naish

KENN W.I.

Just because there is no formal meeting in August it does not mean that the members of the W.I. stay quietly in their homes waiting for September. The annual mystery tour took place as planned and on a lovely evening we enjoyed a drive around the lakes, Cheddar and the Somerset Levels. It is very pleasant to be driven around some unfamiliar places and be able to look at the scenery without having to watch the road. After one misadventure we all enjoyed an excellent meal in a pub.

Two teams are entered for the South Clevedon W.I. Quiz and one for the County Quiz at Portishead in September. We hope that they will be successful.

Roger Morgan is paying a very welcome re-visit in September. This time he is talking about the Anglo-Zulu wars. If you would like to come and hear him, please come along on Wednesday 8th September in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. All viitors are very welcome.

Ann Holtham

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

Owing to the absence of the Clerk at the beginning of October the next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Monday 27th September in the Village Hall at 7.30p.m. The usual notices will be displayed to remind everyone that they are very welcome to attend.

Ann Holtham

Kenn Village Lunch

We have arranged that our next lunch meeting will be the first Tuesday in September (7th), and our new venue is the Moorend Spout at West End, Nailsea.

In order for the management to lay out our table, we would like to advise them of our numbers; therefore please let us know if you can come. Our phone number is 872948.

John and Grace Griffin

A huge welcome to Wilf and Diane to Kenn Court Cottages. They moved in a couple of weeks ago and have already made the house and garden a sight for sore eyes. It's lovely to finally have the top (or bottom!) end of the village looking so pretty.

Wilf and Diane are very, very busy with family and logistics so we may not see much of them for a while, but we look forward to meeting them out and about in the village when the dust settles!!



What's on at the Drum

Midweek Special

Come and try our new midweek menu at lunchtimes - it's a little bit different.

1 course £7.95

2 courses (starter and main or main and dessert) £9

3 courses £12

We have a Daily Specials Board which includes fish, poultry and lots of fresh vegetables. Vegetarian options are always available, and produce is locally sourced wherever possible.

Bookings can be made well in advance (we'll ring you to remind you).

For parties of eight or more it would help us to serve you if you pre-order your food. We'll provide you with all the forms.

Contact Rosemary or Graham to find out more

01275 873433

drumandmonkey@btconnect.com

Kenn Harvest Supper

Don't forget the Harvest supper on 12th September 7pm. Tickets still available Adults £7; Children under 12 £3.50; Family (two adults and two children £18

If you have helped in previous years and would like to help again such as making stuffing balls then please let me know.

We shall be meeting at Troy's - Walnut House - on Saturday 11th at 2pm for peeling veg please come along and help.

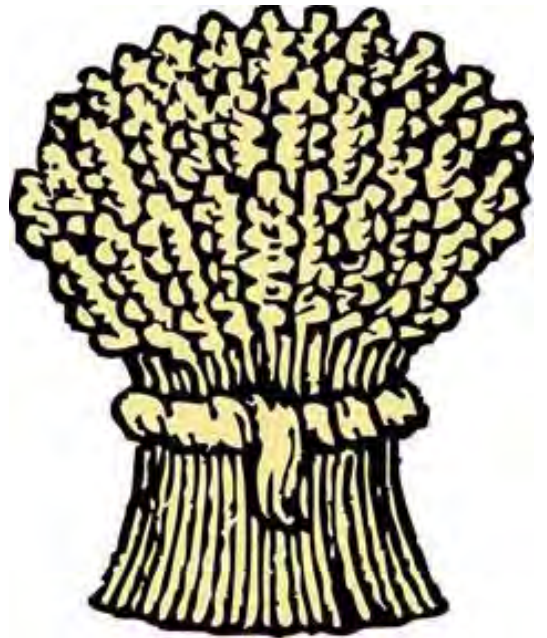
If any children in the village would like to make table decorations then please let me know.

Also to remind you to bring your own drink and glasses we will provide water.

With the new rubbish collection could you please take home your own rubbish this year.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

Caroline Hicks
870765



Kenn in the Early 1930s

Kenn was a very different place to live in the 1930s than it is in 2010. Before that time there was no electricity, gas, piped water or telephones in the village and only about 3 motor cars. Everyone then had a well in their garden or pump, which was water from a spring, which they had to use.

The only lighting we had was oil lamps, lanterns, or candles. When you walked down the road at night, in the winter time it was



completely dark because people drew their curtains and that kept the light and warmth in, so it was almost completely dark. Farmers used to have to carry lanterns around with them to feed the animals in the morning and evening.

Farm workers, in the early 1930s, earned 32 to 36 shillings per week. All people were very poor, a widow's pension at that time was 10 shillings, no matter how many children they had. Most people had a very large vegetable garden, buying vegetables was unheard of in those days.

The only telephone in Kenn in those days was in the post office - if you wanted to make a call, the post-mistress would get through to the exchange for you, by asking the operator to get a certain number for you.

In 1934 there was a big air display in the big field at Kenn Court. It was all fenced in so there was no entry without paying, large crowds turned up to watch the parachute displays. The operators took people out on trips in the small aircraft, you could go for a ride out over the channel for ten shillings.

In those days all cows were milked by hand, generally about eight cows per man. A great improvement occurred in about 1935, when the Clevedon Gas Company and Clevedon Water Company joined forces and brought the gas and water into Kenn in one pipe track. This was at a time of great unemployment and men were glad to get a job digging this pipe track by hand for 10 old pence an hour. These men had to find their own shovel and get so much track out each day.

The small amount of traffic was controlled by stop and go signs. The stop and go sign was outside Stonehouse Farm for a long time, in Kenn Street. The night watchman on duty, manning the stop and go sign was Bill Perry, from Clevedon; he had lost a leg and this is one of the few jobs he could do (he had a wooden leg).

My father Victor Naish made a large amount of cider at Stonehouse Farm, at that time, he brought cider apples from all over the district. He grew a large tonnage of apples in his own orchards. It was no trouble to get people to pick up apples in those days. it was a job elderly men could do, because it was not heavy work. He employed casual workers to pick up these apples, these men where glad to get the job, although it was very boring, they earned about 2 shillings an hour. Electricity was brought to Kenn about the same time as the gas and water. Most people had their houses wired and connected straight away, but some didn't bother, they kept relying on their lamps.

All the children in Kenn, under 11, without exception, attended Kenn School, by the church. There were 2 school teachers, Head Teacher, Mrs Olive Griffiths and infants teacher, Mrs Isabelle Pilgrim. There were 2 small playgrounds at the School, one for the boys and one for the girls, which had no room for any sporting activities, so Kenn children were no good at sport because they had no facilities to learn and play it.

When they were 11 years old, they had to go to senior school in Clevedon or Weston. The school was heated by a 'Tortoise Stove' which burnt coke (coal), the oldest boys had to stoke the fire. Although there were very few facilities, Kenn was quite a happy place to live, as it is today.

Dictated by Ray Naish and Written by Leon Naish

Editor's note - for our younger readers: A basket of groceries, which in 1930 cost two shillings, costs £6.61 today.

<http://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/members/robert.allen/WagesFiles/wagesnew2.pdf>

Snakes Alive!

Having just returned from shopping I decided Fred and I deserved a nice cup of coffee and a biscuit!! As I returned to the conservatory with our eleveses, Fred was sat reading the paper that we had just bought. It was a warm day so I turned to open the conservatory door, just then i discovered a 3 foot long snake curled up in the sun on the rug. I let out a very loud scream which managed to frighten the life out of poor Fred! Presumably it had come in when I had left the doors open earlier, and had become locked in when we left to go shopping. Even though the snake was now hissing at us, Fred proceeded to scoop it up with the dustpan and brush and put it outside. In the meantime, Joanne (in Laurel Cottage) was joined by her mum who bravely, with Fred, coaxed the snake into a black bin liner and managed to safely contain it. We gently took it over to the field opposite where we set it free and were delighted to see it slither away, hopefully never to return!! After looking on the Internet, we discovered it was only a grass snake but still quite scary!

Jean

Visitor from Down Under

When Kenn Festival was being held recently, David and Mary Holmes were on duty in the church as stewards (Mary is the organist at the church). A gentleman came into the church and had a look around. He then spoke to David and asked him where Kenn Court was situated. David took him to the door and showed him, he then explained that he was on a visit to England from Melbourne in Australia. The reason for him coming to Kenn was to find the Court, where he said, that his ancestors had lived years ago. He explained that he was a descendent of the Knight family who lived there many years ago.

Some years ago, the late Mrs Ruth Dyer who lived at the Court, found amongst some old documents a record of a farm sale held at The Court in the early 1800's on the retirement of Miss Knight, who was tenant of the farm following the death of her father who had been tenant of the farm before her.

It made very interesting reading. It contained an account of the furniture sold at the sale, including eleven four-poster and other beds, also a very large amount of glassware and china. The farm produce sold at the sale included bundles of teasels that had been grown on the farm, also several ricks of hay which was surprising because the grass to make that hay must have been cut with scythes by hand, because this was before there were horse mowing machines. There was also farm equipment and carts, horses, cattle and sheep and dairy utensils sold that day.

Unfortunately, the gentleman, after having a look around the Court never came back to talk to David.

Ray Naish

Pull-out and Keep Centre Section - Dates

Useful Numbers:

Village Hall Booking Secretary:
Jean Fenwick 875073 or
Irene Stowell 872472

St John the Evangelist Priest in charge:
Rev Preb John Andrews
01934 830208

Churchwardens:
Julia Bush 873554
John Ball 874077

Church Floodlighting:
David Pugh 874278

Village Flag Flying:
Marianna or Robin 340323 or
Hazel 349535

Altar Guild Secretary:
Marianna Mackay 340323

North Somerset Council:
01934 888 888
out of hours:
01934 622 669

News & Views:
Hazel Limage 01275 349535
Sheila Naish 01934 838357
Margaret Ball 01275 874077

Kenn Women's Institute

Kenn Village Hall,
8th September 7:30pm

Recycling - Every Tuesday

Green Waste - 7th and 21st

Dustbin - 14th and 28th



September 25th Kenn Village Hall
10am until midday

**Clevedon Mercury and
North Somerset Times**

Don't forget that copies of both these
local newspapers are freely available in
the bar of the Drum and Monkey.

Tel: 01934 830111

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Thursday 23rd September 2010

Viewing at Saleroom

Wednesday 22nd 10am - 7:30pm
Morning of sale from 9am

Quarterly Specialist Sale

Thursday 9th September 10.30am

Viewing at Saleroom

Tuesday 7th 2pm - 5:30pm
Wednesday 8th 10am - 7:30pm
Morning of sale from 9am

FASHION SHOW November 2nd 2010

The annual (and eagerly anticipated) Fashion Show will be held on Tuesday 2nd November. The doors will open at 7pm and the show will commence promptly at 7.30, so get there early and arm yourself with a glass of wine, relax and enjoy the pageant of inexpensively priced clothing. The prices range from £2 to £25 approx and the sizes from 8 to 22.

Buying a glass of wine or two is guilt free because you will know that you are contributing to St Peter's Hospice - a Charity in need of our help in these times of austerity.

Tickets will go on sale from the middle of September and will be strictly on a first-come first-served basis and are limited to 120.

Marianna 340323

'THE FESTIVAL SCARECROWS WERE SO GOOD'

Calling everyone too young to vote.



The festival scarecrows were brilliant, let's try to make a 'HARVEST VEG GANG' that is just as much fun.

Meet at the church on Saturday 11th September at 4pm - 5pm

I will bring marrows, pumpkins gourds etc

You bring ideas and props (spectacles, beards, red noses etc) and we'll make a 'Veg Gang' which Celia will use in the Harvest Family Service on **Sunday 12th September 11am.**

If you can't make it on the Saturday, bring your own creation to the service.

Julia Bush and Celia Andrews

**Birthdays and Anniversaries
September**

- 1st Katy and David Hill
wedding anniversary
Clare & Matt Hibbs
wedding anniversary
Tina Smith
- 2nd Marianna & Robin Mackay
wedding anniversary
Tina & Mike Smith
wedding anniversary
- 8th Matthew Hayden
Martin Jaehme
- 10th Cyril & Mary Willcox
wedding anniversary
- 13th Gill & Nigel Hackett
wedding anniversary
- 15th Deryck Bell (now in Sandford)
- 18th Jean Fenwick
- 20th Jessica Quinn
- 20th Sam Hibbs
- 24th Mike Court
- 20th Clive and Suzanne Golding-Ellis
wedding anniversary
- 26th Joanna (Staples) Cheek
Joshua Court
- 28th Heather Jenkins

Coffee Morning September 18th 2010

The September Coffee morning will be hosted by **Matthew Hayden** and some of his friends.

They will serve tea, coffee, biscuits and cake at **Chapel Cottage** from 10.00 to 12.00. They want to raise money for the people of Pakistan who have been affected by the floods.

During August the flag was flown and the tower lit:

For the birth of Ruby Laura Hill, a daughter for Katy and David Hill on the 15th

For the marriage of Simon Alexander and Nikki Dewberry on the 21st

For the Naming of Sophia Emily Ruth Mackay on the 28th

For John and Sylvia Staples Ruby wedding anniversary on the 29th

ALTAR GUILD

- SEPT Barbara Middleton, Iris Callow
OCT Jean Woods, Tina Middleton
NOV Sarah Clark, Marianna Mackay

DECEMBER

- Week 1 Jean Fenwick, Jenny Pascoe
Week 2 Hazel Limage, Caroline Holden
Week 3 Iris Callow, Heather Jenkins
Week 4 Jo Cheek, Marianna Mackay

...

August Family Service

In the August Family Service, Celia, helped by several members of the congregation, told us the story of Onesimus, a runaway slave, his friendship with Paul, and his brave return to his former master Philemon.

We were pleased that Jo Manning put the new keyboard to good use, playing the hymns, with percussive help from the children (of all ages). The service was followed by coffee, biscuits and a lot of chatting.

Julia Bush

SERVICES FOR SEPTEMBER 2010

1st Sunday 5th September FOURTEENTH AFTER TRINITY

8.00am Holy Communion at Kenn*

9.30am Parish Communion at Yatton

9.30am Holy Communion at Cleeve

11.00am First Sunday Special with Holy Baptism at Claverham

11.00am Holy Communion at Kingston Seymour

6.00pm Evensong at Yatton*

2nd Sunday 12th September FIFTEENTH AFTER TRINITY

KENN HARVEST FESTIVAL

8.00am Holy Communion at Yatton*

9.30am Family Communion with Holy Baptism at Yatton

9.30am Holy Communion at Claverham

11.00am Back to School Sunday at Court de Wyck

11.00am Harvest Festival Service at Kenn

6.00pm Harvest Evensong at Kenn *

6.30pm Holy Communion at Cleeve

3rd Sunday 19th September SIXTEENTH AFTER TRINITY

KINGSTON SEYMOUR HARVEST FESTIVAL

8.00am Holy Communion at Claverham*

9.30am Parish Communion at Yatton

9.30am Holy Communion at Cleeve

11.00am Harvest Festival Service at Kingston Seymour

2.30pm Holy Baptisms at Yatton

6.00pm Harvest Evensong at Kingston Seymour *

4th Sunday 26th September SEVENTEENTH AFTER TRINITY

CLAVERHAM HARVEST FESTIVAL

8.00am Holy Communion at Yatton*

8.00am Holy Communion at Kingston Seymour*

9.30am Parish Communion at Yatton

9.30am Holy Communion at Cleeve

11.00am Harvest Celebration and Thanksgiving Claverham with the Dean of Wells

11.00am Family Service Kenn

3.00pm Holy Baptism at Kenn

6.00pm Celebration Songs of Praise at Claverham

6.30pm Evening Worship at Yatton Methodist Church

HOLY DAYS IN SEPTEMBER:

Tuesday 21st September MATTHEW the APOSTLE

8.30am Holy Communion Yatton

Wednesday 29th September MICHAEL and ALL ANGELS

10.00am Holy Communion Yatton

* Book of Common Prayer

Calling all 5 - 11 year olds in Kenn

TRANSFORMERS

is

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Wednesday Afternoons
4pm until 5.15pm**

**In Church and
In the New Room**

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- You Name It, We'll Try It -

**Simply turn up on
Wednesday September 15th at 4 o'clock!**

Summer Walk

The weather was not looking hopeful for the August Kenn village walk. During the day the rain had fallen steadily and at times heavily. Come 7 o'clock it was still drizzily but clear enough to don water proofs and head out to Wraxall. We parked in a layby just beyond Budgens. Jeff led the walk and it was great to see Ray join us. We did a circular route through several fields. The walk was fascinating on two levels. The first was the beautiful countryside, lush fields and the quintessential North Somerset landscape of rhynes and abundance of trees and wild fauna.

The second reason the walk was interesting is that looking closely the area had once been very industrial. We visited two lime kilns which were probably two hundred years old. The stone arch of the kiln had a sizable tree growing on top of it with the roots spreading and curling round the rest of the kiln. This juxtaposition of nature and industrial architecture was a little unnerving as it looked surreal and the time would come when the structure would not support the tree. For the moment we were safe and the tranquility was added to by docile hand-reared Belgian Blue cows coming to see what we were up to.

Making our way across the fields we come to the convergence of two rivers and a sluice gate that managed the rivers. One of the rivers is the Clevedon Land Yeo which runs into Clevedon under Morrisons and out to the estuary at Clevedon Pill.

A further field had evidence of Iron Age and Roman settlements as lumps on the field were evidence of past habitation. At this point a few of us came over all philosophical thinking on past peoples who trod this land.

We were brought back to the present day as we entered a gate and unexpectedly happened upon a pub with lavish outdoor seating arrangements. A quick once round an old mill pond beyond the pub then back to the sofas in time for a libation and good conversation.

Next Kenn Village Walk, the last in the season, destination yet unknown, will be on Monday 6th September 2010. Meet at Cloverlea at 7pm (sharpish, as the nights will be drawing in). All Welcome.

Caroline Holden

The History Project is instituting a lunch for villagers, to be held monthly at the Drum, beginning, we hope, in October. The Project is a year old and is keen to drag itself out of the past and reconnect with the present. All will be welcome, History will only be mentioned in passing, and all our youngsters (the younger the better!) will be especially coddled. High chairs are provided at the Drum, so there's no excuse for not coming to meet up with your (new and old) neighbours and get all the news and gossip. **Dates and times in next month's magazine.**

Christmas Puddings

This year I will once again be selling Christmas Puddings made by 'The Ultimate Plum Pudding Company'

The Small Puddings (1lb) serve four people Cost £5.50

The Large Puddings (2lb) serve eight Cost £8.50

Please phone in your order on 01275 873554 (I will acknowledge)

Profits will go to Yatton Moor General Fund



September Cakes

The profits from any cakes I make in September, either to order, or at the Village Market, will go to the Blay Family in Kumasi, Ghana. Mr Emmanuel Blay, father of the family is now past retirement age, but continues to work to fund the education of his youngest children.

Bespoke Jams

Thanks to 'The Plum Fairies' (who leave me presents on the doorstep) there will be some unique seasonal jams from Heaven Preserve Us this autumn. Look out for 'Grace and Flavour', 'Pughs' Plum' and 'Cherry Plum Special'.

Julia Bush

PS Thank you to all the other fairies (apple, marrow etc) as well.

Bird News I

Hartley Staples reported a Hobby over the village early in the month, and it is thought that they are nesting in the Chelvey area, so it is a flight of about 3 miles (in a direct line) from their territory. This species is one of the few summer visitors to have increased its numbers, from a really rare less than 100 pairs forty years ago, to an estimated 2,700 breeding pairs today. Still uncommon but no longer rare, the proliferation of gravel pits, fishing lakes and water bodies has enabled Hobbies to thrive and increase.

Conversely, the Kingfisher seems to have suffered from the cold winter – I have seen very few this summer, but given a not-too-severe winter this year I am sure that they will bounce back.

The local Swallows have fared very well and there seem to be lots everywhere – the warm dry spring and rain in August will have been beneficial to them.

The few young Barn Owls in the YACWAG box along the Strawberry Line all fledged and John Croxton saw youngsters around one of the boxes at Nailsea Wall, a site where there had been no earlier evidence of nesting in progress.

An adult and a juvenile Spotted Flycatcher were duly spotted in Wemberham Lane, Yatton, a few days ago. These were almost certainly migrants as a couple of hours later they had moved on.

The Marsh Harriers at Shapwick Heath eventually raised seven youngsters – this involved one male and two females. This should provide the nucleus for a future breeding population in the area.

September is autumn migration month; anything might turn up in your gardens, particularly if the weather is unsettled. The first Whinchats have already appeared along the sea wall.



Hobby



Whinchat

Trevor Riddle

Bird News II

Every morning I feed a flock of about twenty Sparrows on the garden table, they are getting quite brave and come out of the bushes as soon as I turn my back. The pair of Swallows that built a nest in the garage as I wrote earlier in the summer, their first brood of young, four of them, fell out of the nest dead when almost fully fledged. They soon laid eggs again which hatched, unfortunately, when the young, four of them again were fully fledged they also fell out of the nest dead.

Jenny Brockway who lives at Rose Bungalow, Moor Road, Kenn tells us that she has had a large number of Swallows born in her stable this summer. Every stable had a nest in it. She has also had lots of Goldfinches born around her garden.

Jeffrey Naish reports seeing several Winchats in the moors. He has also found several young birds in distress lately including a young Goldcrest, a young Bullfinch and a young Jay.

Ray Naish



Clevedon Light Opera Club
JUNIORS

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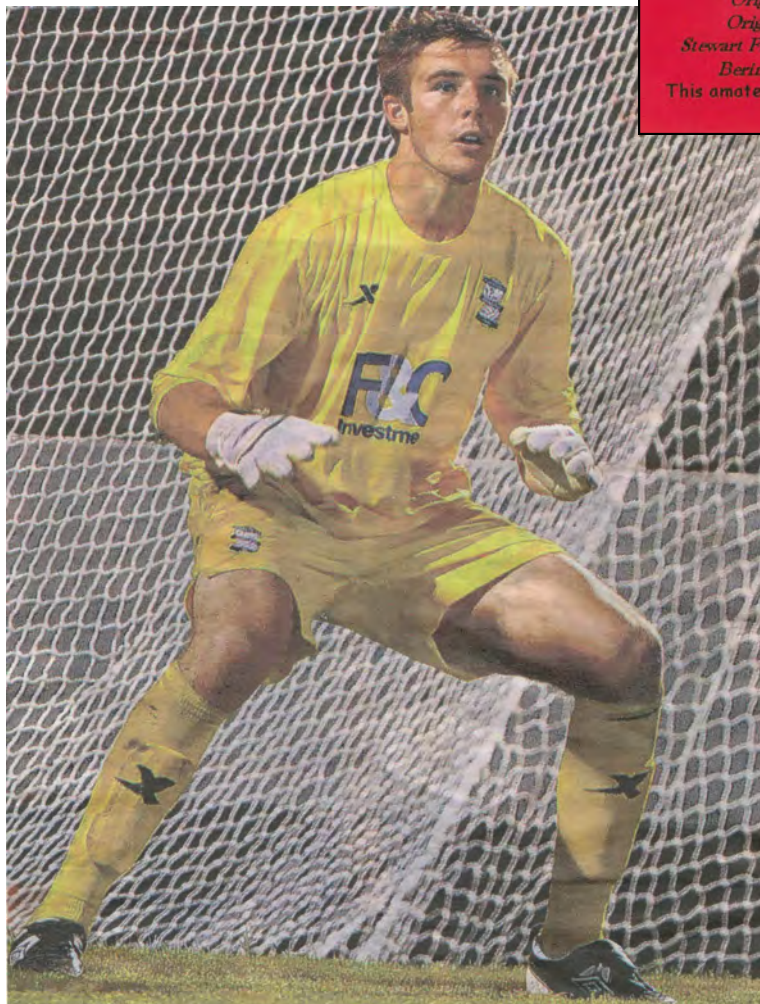


Book by
Richard Morris & Dick Scanlan
New Music by Jeanine Tesori
New Lyrics by Dick Scanlan



PRINCES HALL, CLEVEDON
15th - 18th September
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*Original Story & Screenplay by Richard Morris for the Universal Pictures Film
Originally Produced for Broadway by Michael Leavitt Fox Theatricals Hal Luftig
Stewart F. Lane James L. Nederlander Independent Presenters Network L. Mages/M. Glick
Bernstein/Manocherian/Dramatic Forces, John York Noble & Whoopi Goldberg
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with JOSEPH WEINBERGER LTD.
on behalf of MUSIC INTERNATIONAL OF NEW YORK.*



Jack Butland has been promoted from the England under-17s to the England under-19s ahead of time and is making waves with his performances. Jack, who only turned 17 in March, was an integral part of the U17 side which won the European Championships for the first time in May.

COME & SING!
RACHMANINOV *VESPERS*

WITH THE TRINITY SINGERS

CONDUCTED BY

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JEREMY MARTIN

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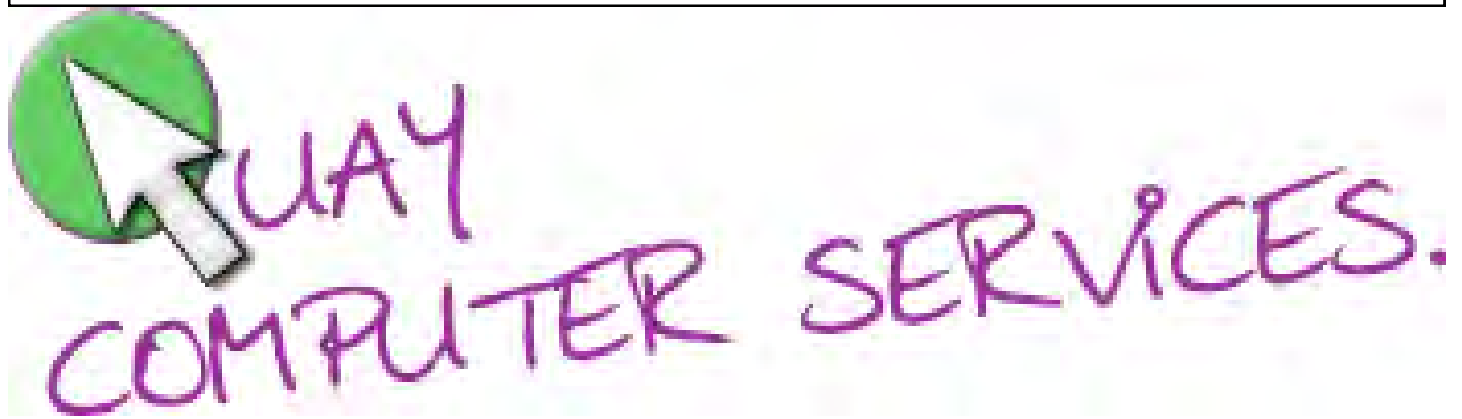
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