



Snow Bunting - A local visitor (page15)

We Wish You a

ME RRY CHRIST MAS and a HAPPY NE WYE AR

# NEWS & VIEWS

**DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES**

- 1st Sotoris Papasolomonto  
Verity Rogers  
3rd Mike & Liz Bell W.A. (60)  
5th Jerry Naish  
8th Alice Roberts  
10th Louise Hayzen (Pugh)  
Tom Clark  
Penny Leiper (Griffin)  
15th Emma Palmer (Smith)  
20th Vincent Stowell  
21st John Griffin  
23rd Richard & Avril Gaunt W.A.  
24th John Streat

**25th HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE**

- 28th Ethan Mackay  
Hector Humberstone  
Olive Tran  
29th Iris Callow

**31st HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE**

**St John the Evangelist, Kenn**



**Altar Guild Flowers**

**Could people doing arrangements in the Church please do so on Saturday 19th December.**

The Church will be open for **Christmas Flowers and Music** from

**December 21st - 27th  
From 11am - 4pm**

Many thanks to all who make the Church so beautiful at Christmas.

Marianna

**Our flag has been flown recently:**

**Thursday 5th November at half-mast for the funeral of Mrs Win Cole at St John the Evangelist, Kenn.**

Remembrance Day Sunday 8th November to honour the people who lost their lives during the last two world wars.

**Church Floodlighting**

Our church tower was flood-lit Saturday 7th and Sunday 8th November, when the Armistice was remembered

Dear all,

It was a real sadness for us to stop services in church at the beginning of lockdown but we have kept busy on Zoom and thank you to all who have made generous donations to the Foodbank and to Caring in Bristol via the church porch!

We are able to meet for worship in December despite being in Tier 3 - hurray!  
So, the plan is:

**December 6<sup>th</sup> 8.30am BCP Communion**

**December 13<sup>th</sup> 11am Holy Communion**

**December 20<sup>th</sup> 3pm Getting ready for Christmas.**

**a service of Christmas readings, poems, and music**

**December 25<sup>th</sup> 10am Christmas Day Communion for All Ages.**

**Dec 27<sup>th</sup> 11am Joint service for Kenn and Kingston Seymour at All Saints'**

*Those who want to come on the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> will need to book their seats as we are limited on numbers so please do contact me if you would like to join us.*

The church will be beautifully decorated and we shall be opening it in the week running up to Christmas so that anyone who would like to pop in can.

It will be really festive with Christmas music playing, just right for putting us in the mood for Christmas.

We will have Messy Christingle bags for families that we are putting together with all the ingredients to make your own Christingle, a star, an angel and instructions for a Christmas story trail and these will be delivered in the middle of the month.

Keep an ear open in the week leading up to Christmas as you may also hear some carolling.

Christmas is far from being cancelled and we are looking forward to sharing some comfort and joy, love, and hope.

This Christmas will be very different I know but the meaning and the message remain the same, as we remember the love that came to Bethlehem against the odds, that still endures, and with mysterious power redeems the irredeemable and if we welcome it can bring us comfort and joy.

I wish you every blessing this Christmas and a safe and healthy New Year.  
Peace be with you.

Fran - 01934 830120



## KENN W.I.

Sadly we will not be meeting in December in order to see what Santa has in his sack for us all and to exchange our Christmas Cards. However, it has been decided that each member will receive one Christmas Card from their fellow

members and a small token gift.

If any member would like to make a donation to our Charity this year Marion Hulance, our Treasurer, would be happy to receive it. This year we have elected to collect money for the Bristol Centre for Seafarers.

I expect members will have seen the list of Resolutions for the AGM in April 2021 on page 23 of their magazine WI Life.

If it has already gone into the recycling, they are as follows:

Resolution 1. A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer.

Resolution 2. Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease.

Resolution 3. Racism and discrimination.

Resolution 4. Protect your nature space to create wildlife-friendly communities.

Resolution 5 Stop the elimination of peat bogs to tackle climate change.

You may choose one of them.

If you would like to tell either me or Diane Woolf, our President, which you have chosen we will undertake to pass the information to W.I. House.

We need to have told W.I. House by 18<sup>th</sup> January 2021. Thanks

It only remains for the Committee to wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and New Year and may 2021 bring us better luck so that we can hold our meetings again.

Ann Holtham

Hello all,

Hope you are all keeping warm, safe and well.

Remember I'm a phone call away if you need any advice or help on anything, big or small, or just a chat. Would be lovely to hear from you.

For all of you on the internet, The Village Agents have set up a Zoom **Storytelling Session** on the 15th December. Let me know if you are interested.

You can contact me by email [sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk](mailto:sarah.friend@curo-group.co.uk) or [sarah@wern.org.uk](mailto:sarah@wern.org.uk) or phone Mobile 07422 078548 or 01275 878180. Sarah Friend

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year, see you all in 2021.



## SHARE THE LIGHT

Although we cannot hold a Christingle service this year Christingles will be given to families in the village and we still want to support the Children's Society and all the good work they do to look after children in need, especially in these difficult times.

**Envelopes for donations are  
in church and in the porch.**

Please hand your envelope in at a service or post your enveloped donation at Church Path Cottage.

**THANK YOU.**

### **Exercise at Home**

As we are now in Tier 3 and the Village Hall is no longer available –Sizzle Summerell is offering on-line classes for £22.50 a month.

If you know anyone who may be interested to keep fit and healthy during the next month. Step, Legs bums tums, Pilates, Body conditioning, Zumba, stretch and relaxation etc.

**Sizzle Summerell <[sizzle.summerell@sky.com](mailto:sizzle.summerell@sky.com)>**

**Village Hall Booking:**  
**Lyn & Nigel Burnett 01275 870189**  
[kvhallbooking@gmail.com](mailto:kvhallbooking@gmail.com)

**Parish Office Tel 01934 832184**  
[teamoffice.yattonchurches@gmail.com](mailto:teamoffice.yattonchurches@gmail.com)

**St John the Evangelist Priest in charge**

**Revd Fran Binding 01934 830120**

**Churchwardens:**

Julia Bush 01275 873554  
John Ball 01275 874077  
or 078 1667 1304

**Village Flag Flying:**  
Marianna or Robin 340323  
or Chris Taylor 872781

**Altar Guild Secretary:**  
Marianna Mackay 340323

**Church Floodlighting:**  
David Pugh 874278

**News & Views:**  
Margaret Ball 01275 874077  
Email: [margaret.john@btinternet.com](mailto:margaret.john@btinternet.com)  
Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn



**Postponed due to Covid**

**North Somerset Times**

Copies are freely available in the porch at St. John's from Wednesdays



**MONDAYS**

**Recycling /food-waste 7th, 14th, 21st Tuesday 29th December**

**Dustbin 7th, Tuesday 29th December**



Tel: 01934 830111

**Clevedon Salerooms**

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

Email: [info@clevedon-salerooms.com](mailto:info@clevedon-salerooms.com)

Antiques, Interiors, Collectables  
& Jewellery  
Thursday 7th January

Viewing on line  
AUCTION ON LINE

Quarterly Specialist Sale

AUCTION ON LINE

Thursday 10th December 10.30am  
Viewing on Line

Catalogues can be viewed at  
[www.clevedon-salerooms.com](http://www.clevedon-salerooms.com)



I am sure all our stall holders are missing our monthly market just as much as our market customers; it is such a lovely opportunity to meet our neighbours and hear their news.

Not forgetting, that Kenn market, through the year, usually donates £1,000 to local charities from your generous contributions for refreshments.

Lyn and I have our fingers crossed for the New Year and hope it will be possible to open again safely.

In the meantime we wish our many customers, helpers and stall holders a healthy and happy Christmas and look forward to 2021, when after we have all been inoculated successfully we can meet again safely in Kenn Village Hall and enjoy our wonderful community once again.

Maggie Hobbs & Lyn Burnett



### Supper Club and News from The Drum

As I collected our roast dinners from Jamie last Sunday I came away from the Drum with mixed feelings. Yes, our roast pork was delicious, but after chatting with Jamie, it reminded me just how great has been the personal cost of keeping his business going. Yet there is still no end in sight for him.



He represents for us what is happening to good, capable people in hospitality throughout the country who have been so particularly devastated.

Still Jamie is doing his utmost to stay positive and determined by offering us **takeaways:**

**Fish and chips on Friday nights**  
**Roast dinners on Sunday lunchtimes**

The support of villagers using his takeaway is so much appreciated, and maybe all we can do to help Jamie keep The Drum running at the moment.

You can contact Jamie on [jfthomas314@gmail.com](mailto:jfthomas314@gmail.com)  
 or phone him on his new number: **0791 7563099**

# **“SILENT NIGHT”**

## **Christmas 2020**

### **in Bethlehem**



*Most of you reading this article will know that Janet and I, through our volunteer work with the Hope Christian Trust make several visits a year to Palestine staying with friends in Bethlehem and Gaza supporting schools and community activities. The last visit was in February this year.*

*We have consequently been following through skype, facetime and occasional zoom gatherings all that is going on during the covid 19 pandemic in this part of the world.*

*The corona virus came to Bethlehem with a group of Greek tourists in March and spread rapidly in Palestine and then later through other tourists in Israel. Currently (end of November) there are 50-70 cases a day in Bethlehem and several hundred a day throughout the rest of Palestine and in Israel.*

*Checkpoints between Israel and the West Bank are closed until the middle of December which seriously limits travel, family visits and work opportunities. Bethlehem is reeling from the effects of the virus, the pandemic has left Bethlehem's tourism-reliant economy in tatters.*

*There have been no tourists since March and this Christmas the hotels which are normally overflowing (there are over 7,000 guest beds in the city !) will be empty . There will be plenty of "room in the inn"! All souvenir and olive wood shops on which so many rely for their livelihood are closed. The people are suffering greatly, 80% of Bethlehem depends on tourism - some 6,000 tourists a day visit, double that number in "high season". There is no furlough or government help. Both the Palestinian and Israeli governments are not dealing with the problem effectively although police are fining anyone they see without a mask, but sadly only a minority take regulations seriously.*

*So what of Christmas this year in Bethlehem? Will there be a sense of "peace on earth" and the experience of "good will or favour to all "? Very unlikely! The people of Bethlehem still regularly suffer from the incursions of the Israeli Army (IDF) and settlers have been rampant destroying olive trees on the outskirts of the city during the October olive harvest. Peace at home too is more elusive where there are feelings of worthlessness because there is no work, impending poverty and also the worry of medical costs for sickness and the fear of death.*

*The Bethlehem Municipality will erect a tree in Manger Square and local people will join in services in the Church of the Nativity - at least there will be room without the crush of tourists! But it will be a more silent Christmas this year, the sounds of joyful carols and excited celebrations will be muted. The Wise Men will not be able to afford expensive gifts and the shepherds will fear that hungry families will steal their sheep so will stay out on the hillsides! And Mary and Joseph? They won't be able to get into Bethlehem through the huge 25 foot wall as the gates will be firmly closed. But if they do eventually get in they will find numerous Penthouse Suites to choose from!!!*

*But seriously - hold the people of Bethlehem in your prayers this Christmastime.*

*Pray for yourselves and your family and friends as you pray for Bethlehem.*

*Pray that Jesus who came as the Saviour of the world will come to them with healing, that Immanuel - God with us - will come with His comforting presence and that "the Prince of Peace" will give security, hope and a sense of calm in the midst of this pandemic storm.*

*Please contact us if you would like to know more about our ministry with the Hope Christian Trust and would like a copy of our Christmas Newsletter. Tel 01934 835521.*

*Janet & John Angle*

*John is an assistant priest in the Yatton Moor Team*





## PLEASE COULD YOU DONATE A TOY FOR CHRISTMAS?



Our local Foodbank would be grateful for toys suitable for boys aged 5-11 - new and not wrapped.

**GIVE HELP**

## DONATE FOOD AT CHRISTMAS

If you would like to donate to the Foodbank this Christmas time they would appreciate the following:

Chutneys, Jams, Pickles,  
Savoury biscuits  
and men's and ladies toiletries sets.

A box is available for donations in the church porch.



All donations will be delivered to Clevedon Foodbank at the end of the first week in December

with grateful thanks

### The Team's Advent Quiet Day

will be dramatically different this year obviously, but we hope people will take part in the one the Education And Nurture Group has organised.

Team Vicar Fran Binding will be giving a short talk with prayers which will be circulated throughout the Team by the Church Office in the same way other items have been circulated during the lockdowns. People will then be invited to listen and then enjoy a quiet time for reflection at their homes. A similar Quiet Day in July encouraged quite a lot of people to take part and we do hope this one will be equally popular.

Celia Andrews.

### CHRISTMAS PRESENT IDEAS



Have you done your Christmas shopping yet?

Why not go online and give the gift that goes on giving.

Christian Aid has a scheme by which at Christmas we can help the poorest of the poor become self sufficient.

The Charity Gifts scheme gives us the opportunity to give presents to people in the third world at a very affordable price range from only £9 to £187.

Gifts on offer include cocoa saplings (£9), antibiotics (£9), send a child to school (£15), emergency disaster kit (£25), clean water (£30), a goat (£35), and a cow (£187).

Other gifts are available.

For further details or to order please go to [charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk](http://charity-gifts.christianaid.org.uk)

Or to learn more of Christian Aid's work visit [caid.org.uk/what-we-do](http://caid.org.uk/what-we-do)

Have a very Happy Christmas and help a poor family have a happy Christmas as well.

Thank you, John and Celia Andrews

### Clevedon's Biggest CHRISTMAS TREE SALE

Saturday

December 5<sup>th</sup>

Clevedon School Car Park

8.30am – 4.00pm



Proceeds will be split between school and local charities

**If anyone is looking for a  
zimmer (walker)  
or wheel chair**

**contact :**

**Heather on 077 7335 3978**

Happy Christmas 2020

from your Friends in Kenn



And  
Best Wishes for a very  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

Marianna and Robin would like to wish a Happy Christmas and New Year to all those who have so generously supported us during 2020.

Thank you to everyone who sent cards & gifts & enquired after me after my recent spell in hospital. I would also like to wish all my friends & neighbours a healthy and safe Christmas & New Year.

Juliet Stowell

#### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Margaret Cook sends her Christmas Greetings to all the friends and neighbours in the village who have been so kind over the past few weeks. Here's hoping that 2021 will bring happier and healthy times for everyone.

Jean Fenwick and family send best wishes to all friends and neighbours for Christmas.



Jenny and Simon Pascoe wish everyone the best for the season

Season's Greetings from Liz and Martin Jaehme

Sotoris and Wendy Papasolomontos send best wishes from Cyprus

Christmas Greetings from Sara, Steve and the Thole family with love and best wishes for a healthy 2021

Sheila and Miles Naish send Best Wishes for the Season

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL - I hope you all have a lovely festive season.

We pray that 2021 will be more positive and that we can start having some normality in our lives.

Thank you once again for all the love and support you have all given me as it's been a very difficult year losing mum. It has very much been appreciated .

I have been blessed with a beautiful granddaughter Poppy Ray this year which has been a Ray of sunshine to me . Thank goodness mum had the opportunity to have cuddles with her new great grand daughter .

Enjoy every one , Heather Jenkins

Doris Edwards, aged 92 and living in Clevedon sends her best wishes to everyone for a:

Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With her brother Cliff, and for many years after his death she was a regular at St. John's. Special thanks go to Ann Holtham for delivering News & Views

**Our VERY best wishes to the  
Kenn community at this  
strangest of Christmas times!  
We wish a MUCH happier  
New Year to you All!  
Colin and Jan Bedford**

"Sending warm and safe wishes to every-  
one this Christmas time"  
Tim & Sarah Mead Cottage

Ann Holtham sends best wishes for the festive  
season

Christmas Greeting from  
Nigel, Lyn and Billy (whoof) at  
The Oak House

Christmas Greetings  
from Julia and Tim

Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year,  
see you all in 2021. Sarah Friend

A very happy, peaceful and safe Christmas  
From Caroline, John, Matthew and Rebecca.

Tony and Sue Parker send  
Christmas Village Greetings  
to all.

Happy Christmas from Margaret Bessant

Sarah and Tom send best wishes for  
a very Happy and Healthy Christmas  
and 2021

John and Grace wish one and  
all a Very Happy Christmas

John and Margaret Ball send their  
best wishes to everyone for the  
festive season.



**Comfort and joy, hope and peace. love and prayers,**

**Fran Binding (Priest at St John's)**



# How to Donate to Weston Hospice

## How to donate to Just Giving

Open internet browser

Type “Just Giving” into a search bar.

Open Just Giving – double click

Click “Search”

Type “Kenn Christmas Card” into Search

Click on “Kenn Christmas Card”

Click “Give now”

Please take no notice of the suggested amount shown, you can amend that to anything, large or small.

Just Giving takes no fee so please press “other” from the dropdown menu.

Before pressing “continue”, check amount is correct

From there follow the on screen instructions to payment.

When asked - please consider saying “yes” to Gift Aid which will increase your donation by 25% at no extra cost to yourself.

Finally on behalf of Weston Hospice a huge “**THANK YOU**” for your support.

**PS** - If technology fails, all is not lost, a donation in an envelope with your name on it posted through the letterbox at **Willow House, Kenn Street** will find its way to Weston Hospice.

Simon

## BIRD NEWS

In the last fortnight Redwings and Fieldfares have arrived in large numbers, more than in recent years and even more have been passing over heading further south.

Blackbirds from the continent, nearly all males have come from Scandinavia and a few Siskins are wintering in Littlewood. All this suggests a big movement of birds from the north this year.

Bunting photo from Mark Savage



Snow

Kenn Pier has produced some interesting species, with Kingfisher and Grey Wagtail being notable. Little Grebes have moved from their breeding sites to fish in the rivers and larger rhynes along with a few Goosanders. Stonechats are widespread and have benefitted from the recent run of mild winters.

A Green Sandpiper was a surprise in Wemberham Lane, Yatton. It flew a high circuit and dived into Stowell's Reed bed. Two Song Thrushes were singing here, as was a Mistle Thrush and two Peregrines were feeding on pylons about a mile apart; they were certainly socially distancing.

A Mistle Thrush was singing at Cadbury Hill, with Marsh Tit, Nuthatch and Treecreeper all seen. No Siskins reported from there yet.

A (the?) Black Redstart is back on the rocks close to Clevedon Pier and wader numbers have built up along the estuary. A flock of 400 Lapwings was a lovely sight, there were 600 Dunlin, 400 Redshanks and 160 Curlews with smaller numbers of Oystercatchers, Grey Plovers, Ringed Plovers, Turnstones and Snipe. The Marsh Harrier was still present, a Short Eared Owl was seen and Peregrines were regular.

However, the star birds were two very confiding Snow Buntings, probably from Iceland.

Trevor Riddle (01934 835208)

## Caring in Bristol

As the picture shows the people of Kenn have already been very generous donating clothes, food, toiletries and money donations.

We need more though, as the homeless problem is getting worse.

Please put cash/cheque donations in sealed envelopes through the door at Church Path Cottage and clothes etc in the Church porch.

Please do NOT leave money at the Church.

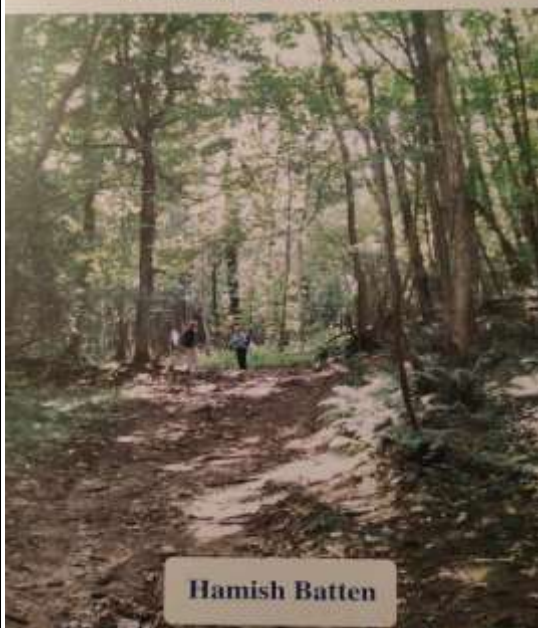
We will be taking everything to Bristol on 17th December, so all donations before then please.

Many thanks and a Happy Christmas. Robin and Marianna



## Flax Bourton Rounds

Fourteen or more Circular Walks  
Revised and Updated



## Stocking filler idea?

Jo Batten is selling copies of her father's walking book

£6.95...please

All proceeds to charity.

Contact Jo on:

07776 143900



*Church:*  
**YOUR  
SPACE TO  
Be**

**St John the Evangelist, Kenn**

**Open for private prayer  
Wednesdays 2pm till 4pm  
Sundays 11am till 4pm**

**Christmas Flowers and Music from  
December 21st - 27th December  
From 11am— 4pm**

**(Service details page 3)**

**A COVID POEM**

I won't arise and go now, and go to Innisfree,  
I'll sanitize the doorknob and make a cup of tea.  
I won't go down to the sea again; I won't go out at all,  
I'll wander lonely as a cloud from the kitchen to the hall.  
There's a green-eyed yellow monster to the north of Kathmandu  
But I shan't be seeing him just yet and nor, I think, will you.  
While the dawn comes up like thunder on the road to Mandalay  
I'll make my bit of supper and eat it off a tray.  
I shall not speed my bonnie boat across the sea to Skye  
Or take the rolling English road from Birmingham to Rye.  
About the woodland, just right now, I am not free to go  
To see the Keep Out posters or the cherry hung with snow,  
And no, I won't be travelling much, within the realms of gold,  
Or get me to Milford Haven. All that's been put on hold.  
Give me your hands, I shan't request, albeit we are friends,  
Nor come within a mile of you, until this trial ends.

ANON      Thanks to Robin for this.

**Winifred Violet Cole**  
**10.2.1918–22.10.2020**

To mark Win's 102<sup>nd</sup> birthday last February, John Griffin researched and then wrote an interesting article in Kenn's village magazine about her father; Sidney Staples who fought in the Sudan in the 1890s. Although he didn't reach a grand old age like Win, after the effects of his army career, he and his wife Maude, who also died at the young age of 43, managed to leave a rich legacy of 6 children and their descendants, 24 of whom still live in and around Kenn.



Win and her brothers and sisters were all born in Riverside Farm, Kenn Pier and one of the wonderful things about village life especially at that time is that people were born, bred and lived their entire lives in the same locale, blessed with big close knit extended families.

I quickly learned, when I first came to live here, that almost everyone is, at least distantly, related!! So, mind what you say!

Win grew up, met and married Tom and had their daughter Betty who went on to give her, her four lovely grandchildren: Lynnette, Roy, Lisa and Maria and then their children, all of whom have been devoted to her as she was to them.

It is admirable that you were able to care for her especially during her last days enabling Win to die in her own home in the area she loved so well, you are to be congratulated. Win obviously taught you the art of love and care well.

Lynnette said that Win demonstrated goodness---- what a lovely description. Demonstrated goodness.....by her life and the values she lived by:  
Her kindness to everyone. - Her generosity of self, her time and her skills.  
Her compassion for those who needed care and concern.  
Her avid interest in everyone and everything around her, imparting her knowledge of nature and its importance to her grandchildren.

Her lovely warm smile that lit up her face and cheered everyone around her.  
We all have very fond memories of Win.

But, her life wasn't always easy, it was often a struggle and hard work. She helped Tom in his difficult work with the Land Drainage Board, she would pick apples and potatoes for local farmers as well as care for her home, family and large garden and the wildlife at Kingston Bridge. She knew the heart ache of losing her only child and her husband, but she carried on with strength and fortitude, a mark of her generation who witnessed so many hardships during their lifetime.

Win was always there for her family, and taking great pleasure in the simple things of life, giving her grandchildren an idyllic childhood through which they learnt so many life skills, earning her their deep and lasting love and gratitude.

Win's was a simple life you might say, we are not here to celebrate a glamorous, globetrotting, high achieving career but a fine example of what it means to be fully human, who she was and able to be over her long life, rather than what she did.

What she meant to all those who knew her and cared for her and the rich legacy of all that she leaves behind. The love and memories that cannot be taken away.

Jesus, when he knew death awaited him, comforted his family and friends by telling them that death was not the end and that in his Father's house there was room for all of them should they choose to believe and accept it. Neither should they worry because at the end of their lives he would be there to guide them to their new and eternal home where there would be no more struggling, tears and pain but only freedom and peace. This is the hope and faith we are all invited to share in and no matter what this life throws at us, there is always that love surrounding us, even though we may find it hard to always believe it.

This is what Win believed in, it gave her strength her faith was steadfast. She loved this little church and worshipped here until too frail to do so. She longed to return and today it is our privilege to bring her home, celebrate all that she was and give thanks for all that she meant to us.

Win was baptised in this church on the 7<sup>th</sup> April 1918, the record of it is in the Baptismal Register, today she comes full circle as we lay her to rest.

We may not be able to accommodate all the many people who would want to be here to offer their respect and condolences, but it is good that those of you who loved and cared for her best are here to wish her well on her final journey.

To be laid to rest with Tom, surrounded by so many family and friends who have gone before her who will be overjoyed to welcome her into her new life within the love and light of God, to whom we entrust her.

Revd Avril Gaunt

Win's funeral was held at St. John the Evangelist, Kenn at 12.30pm on Thursday 5th November. Due to Covid restrictions only close family were allowed in church but many villagers lined Kenn Street as a mark of respect.

Our flag was flown at half mast and John Griffin rang the 'Tellers' on our church bell.

Revd Avril Gaunt conducted the service.  
Thanks to Avril for sharing her words above.

## LUNCH AT ST JOHN'S KENN.

Usually on the first Monday of the month, 12.00 noon to 2.00pm.



The good news is there is a vaccine for the virus. The bad news is, it will still be some time before we are able to gather at St John's for wholesome food and great company. Now is the time to still be vigilant.

Here is an idea for when we are able to meet again in larger groups. Initially we meet in the village hall. Everyone brings their own food and drink. There is then no multiple handling of food. Let's see how the restrictions pan out in the Spring and Summer.

### **Food Bank donation.**

Several months ago, Clevedon Food Bank sent me a thank-you letter and receipt for £340. I had sent them money we had raised from the lunches. For some reason, probs my lockdown brain, the documents never made it to the 'News and Views'. They are now pinned up on the notice board in the new room.

### **Please witness here that I have £50 left from funds.**

Way back at the turn of this century Julia pioneered an idea for a church room and toilet. By 2004 after securing funds the idea had become a reality. During Covid the church room has not been open. However, every day the lovely Joan Stevens opens and closes the toilet. Post men and women, refuse and recycling collectors, delivery companies and passers by use our facility. We see this as part of the church outreach work. Often people who work on the road are on zero hours contracts and are working against a demanding clock.

As one young delivery woman told me. I can now drink on my round and not get dehydrated.

Usually we have money from coffee mornings to stock our toilet with loo roll and hand wash. I am going to use some of the £50 from the lunches to buy sundries for the toilet. Julia will audit my receipts.

Stay safe and well. Caroline.

## **Thank You from Win Cole's family**

I just want to say on behalf of the family, a big thank you to all involved at the church with nan's funeral.

In particular, John for organising the music, all perfect choices and John Griffin for ringing the bell. Also for the Altar Flowers, they were beautiful, thank you.

Avril conducted a service that reflected nan wonderfully and if such a day can be perfect then, that is what it was.

I know there will be others who also helped and we thank them very much too. It has been a difficult time of course but the support we had was a great comfort to us all.

Many thanks, best wishes to all.

Kind regards

Lynnette and family xxx

## Neighbourhood Watch



We have seen a vast increase in the number of telephone scams in recent weeks from fraudsters claiming to be from HMRC, TV Licencing, Amazon, Utility Companies etc.

What do most of these have in common?

When they call you, be it an automated call or a person on the phone, most will eventually ask you to press number 1 on your keypad to be connected to a particular department

**(Please do not do this).**

Why did that department not contact you in the first instance? Because they need you to press 1. The most likely outcome is you will be connected to a premium rate phone line charging an extortionate rate for absolutely nothing at all.

Please take care , If worried contact <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/contact-us>

You can report fraud or cyber crime to Action Fraud **any time of the day or night** using our [online fraud reporting tool](#). Or call 0300 123 2040.

Please be aware of any unexpected email that suggests you may have had a failed delivery, particularly this time of year and **never part with any personal information.**

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/media/32958321/scam-emails-hmrc.pdf>

See link below for security tips which can help you secure your property both at work and at home.

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/media/32958277/security-tips-for-closed-business-premises.pdf>

**Thursday 16th December—6.00pm**

**At Your Garden Gate**

**We clapped the NHS, shared V.E. Day Afternoon Tea  
Now join together to sing Christmas Carols  
Carol Sheets and details from:**

<https://www.doorstepcarols.co.uk/>

## Our Monthly Missive from The Limes

When we purchased our current property some 30 years ago it was with the intention of running it as a smallholding. We had not at that time seen "The Good Life" programmes so were a little unclear what people were talking about when we mentioned our plans and they replied, "Just like the Good Life".

I now have a full set of the DVD's and must say our smallholding was nothing like that. However we had researched the subject and decided we did want to be a little more self-sufficient and do more than just grow fruit and veg, which we had done fairly well elsewhere in the past.

Full self-sufficiency is of course, a myth and with both of us having full time jobs, a house that needed a lot of work, three children and a mortgage we were limited in what we could do anyway.

Apart from bees, the first real animals we got were Aylesbury ducks. These were real characters and made you laugh just by looking at them. We had a drake, unimaginatively called "Drakey", and Jo trained him to walk to heel along the path while she patted his head. Sadly a fox got him one day so that was the end of that. However we did keep Aylesburys for quite some time and took great delight in breeding them. We purchased an incubator and had great fun in hatching eggs. At one stage we were hatching all sorts of eggs for local farmers, ranging from quail to geese.

Our previous dog, Pip, was great with the poultry, unlike our current dog who just gets excited and finishes them off. There was one occasion when we had some newly hatched eggs (quail I think) and one or two had escaped the container and fallen onto the kitchen floor by Pip's bed. When we came down in the morning we saw the dog and the quail had swapped places with the quail having turfed the dog out and in his place. On another occasion the dog was lying down with a chick between his paws, just looking at it and guarding it.

Foxes of course were our biggest problem. Yes, we had netting and yes we were careful when we "penned up" but you still got losses from time to time. One afternoon we came back from somewhere and found a fox had killed virtually all the Aylesburys. A few had been taken away but most were left injured or dead. One farmer told us he had seen one or two dead ducks along the drove further down the road. Although it was late in the year for hatching I just took all the eggs we had and put them in the incubator and we started again. Most hatched.

From that we branched out to other poultry and when we were running the B&B and children stayed I would offer to let them come and collect the eggs. Of course the parents were dying to have a go and usually came out as well. Over the years we had ducks, geese, turkeys and chickens of various kinds. Guests loved the homegrown eggs as they were so different to shop bought eggs.

I refrained from telling them the slugs and snails may have contributed to the quality. Having said that, I was never convinced that the ducks kept down the slugs. If you gave a duck a slug it usually ignored it or ran away.

People ask did we eat our own poultry? The answer is yes. A farmer showed me how to kill them. The worst job was plucking. It always took me ages. The rest wasn't too bad. Sometimes if there wasn't much meat I didn't bother and just cut out the breast. Our main problem in the early days was that we left them too long before killing them and the meat was tough. On more than one occasion guests struggled to chew their way through the meat before admitting defeat.

Mentioning plucking reminds me of the time we had a Somerset Smallholders meeting at our place. Someone had brought along an electric chicken plucking machine. This is basically a set of brushes which pull the feathers out of the chicken. Anyway the guy demonstrated it in our garden and feathers went everywhere as he didn't have a bag connected to collect them in. I didn't really mind but the next thing I saw was the guy getting a vacuum cleaner from his van and vacuuming my lawn!

I have never had a vacuumed lawn before or since!

Our next animal project was moving onto 4 legged animals and this was our first introduction to disease and vets. We started with a couple of orphan lambs which we initially bottle fed until they could move onto grass.

We noticed they weren't too well and were told they had "orf" and we needed "purple spray". Off to the vets and got sorted out. We found later that orf is quite prevalent and that is why some farmers have what are called "closed" flocks with no outside sheep coming in so they can maintain some degree of safety.

The kids committed the cardinal sin of giving the lambs names. One was called Bethany and the other Harriet. (No, I don't know why either).

We thought what will we do when it's time to eat them, will we have made our children vegetarian?

We needn't have worried.

Eventually we took them (the lambs that is) to Bakers (abattoir) in the back of a neighbour's Landrover – rules on things like transport were a lot easier then and Defra hadn't stifled farming quite so much – although we did have a run in with them on another occasion.

When Heather collected the meat some days later from the butchers and put it on the kitchen table the first thing the kids did was to reassemble the pieces into the original animals.

Harriet and Bethany were different sizes so it was fairly obvious which animal was which.

Subsequently when guests came for a meal and it was lamb, one of them would gleefully say to the guests, "You are eating Bethany" or "You are eating Harriet".

Although home grown lamb was (and still is) the nicest lamb I have ever eaten it was hard work. We would start by bottle feeding but we didn't really have enough grass as they grew and when they were a bit short of grass the lambs would start on tree bark.

Not a good idea. Also procuring lambs was tricky. It was really only orphan lambs that were available and we soon learnt which farmers we could trust and which ones would sell you something that would promptly die.

As with poultry, like real farmers we had to learn that keeping livestock also meant that from time to time you kept deadstock.

We also learned a lot of other things however and although our lambs never got big enough to need shearing or dipping, we did learn about castrating and tail docking and what you do with tiny rubber rings and (for some of us) the difference between baby bottle teats and lamb bottle teats. (On one occasion one of the kids was babysitting for a farmer and when the wife got back realised the baby had been given the lambs' bottle, not the baby bottle. Fortunately we could all see the funny side).

I must say how much we appreciated help and advice from local farmers who were genuinely pleased at what we were doing and were a great encouragement to us and that led us to keeping pigs which I will tell you about next time....

Stephen

# KENN PARISH COUNCIL



## Kenn Parish Council Meeting – 2 November 2020

The Parish Council managed to hold a meeting just prior to Lockdown 2. Because of the limited opportunities to hold meetings during this the strangest of years, there were quite a lot of items on the agenda, some of which were:

- Members were pleased that the Wildflower planting initiative had been such a success with Kenn residents. It was mentioned that compliments had been received from people who regularly travel on the B3133 and had also enjoyed the flowers. Try to extend areas.
- The recent Kenn Street verge repairs were discussed. Members were glad that the work had been carried out, however, it was agreed to monitor the situation regarding vehicle encroachment possibly causing the verges to deteriorate again.
- Initial readings taken from the vehicle activated speed sign showed marked reductions in traffic during Lockdown 1. There will be more analysis provided at the next meeting.
- Discussion about the current situation of having a Kenn Tree Warden who is not a member of the Council. It was felt this results in limited communication and feedback.
- A resident had reported concern that some footpaths were still closed after Lockdown 1 had been lifted. Information had been provided on Covid Safe precautions for farms.
- An email had been received from a resident who was worried about negotiating her new baby's pram around vehicles parked on the pavement in the village on Kenn Road. Also, other people had expressed concern about Oaklands car sales using the road as an extended parking space. Two Councillors agreed to speak to the respective businesses.
- A couple of raised manhole covers had been identified – it was recalled that North Somerset Council had a facility on their website for residents to report these to them.
- The heritage sign on Kennmoor Road and various damaged street signs were also noted.
- The proposed dates for meetings in 2021 was agreed – fingers crossed for a better year!



### FREE FLOWERS IN 2021

If North Somerset Council provide villages with free flowers again next year it was agreed to try to notify more widely the date when these will be delivered and made available for people in the village to collect locally.

Prior to them arriving there will be the ability provided for people to register an interest in obtaining some of the flowers and plants. **Watch this space around May 2021...**

### 2021 Meetings

7:30pm in the Village Hall

- 11 January – Council Meeting
- 01 March – Annual Parish Meeting
- 01 March – Council (following the above)
- 10 May – Statutory Annual Meeting
- 05 July – Council Meeting
- 06 September – Council Meeting
- 01 November – Council Meeting

Clerk's change of address, send to:  
10 Frobisher Avenue, Portishead, BS20 6XB

### KENN PARISH COUNCILLORS

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