



1953

Coronation

Memories

centre

Margaret Bessant
(Staples)
with dad
Sam Staples
carrying sister
Kathleen Shepstone
(Staples)

left

Reg Russell with son
Brian Russell

right

Bert Hollyman

(All were living in Kenn
Moor Road at the time)

Birthdays and Anniversaries in February

1st Tim Taylor
2nd Katy Hill
4th Beth Stowell
9th Sizzle Summerell
11th Alexis Papasolomontos
14th Richard Dyer
15th John Andrews
16th Marianna Mackay
 Fran Binding
17th Jeff Naish
 Julian Gale
21st William Cheek
22nd Polly Summerell
 Lizzy Dyer
23rd Lorraine & Jonathan Allison W.A.
25th James Griffin
 Rebecca Stowell
26th Amelia Ann Bone

St John the Evangelist, Kenn

Altar Guild for February



Jan Bedford and Maggie Hobbs

Our Flag

Thursday 14th January, our flag was flown at half-mast for the passing of Mrs Joyce Alexander of Colehouse Farm, who passed away on the 13th January at the age of 91. Our sympathy goes to her son Colin and all his family.

It was also flown at half-mast on Tuesday 18th January for the funeral service of Joanne Doods aged 57, who passed away only a short time after moving into the pink cottage next to Elm Bank.

Celebrations in Kenn

Thanks go to John Griffin, as our Church Bell rang out at midnight on 31st December to ring in the **New Year**. The church tower was also floodlit.

Thanks go to Robin and Marianna for supplying the power to the Christmas Lights, on our Christmas Tree and to all who helped

Dear friends,

My camelia is flowering and my daffodils are in bud and almost out as I write – hope springs eternal! It's wonderful to see signs of Spring and to begin to plan for lighter and, I hope, sunnier days. For those who have had a really hard 2021, I sincerely hope that 2022 is a better year and that we all enjoy a Spring that will remind us of hope and new life.

At church we are settling into to enjoying the new and adaptable space we have at the front of church and using the screen and projector.

If there are any other groups in the village who would find this facility helpful then please do get in touch with me. It may be that your meeting would be much easier if you could share some material on screen with your group and we want it to be used.

Thank you to all those who have sponsored new chairs for use both in church and the New Room. We hope they will arrive in the next few weeks and so we have to 'crack on' with refurbishing the New Room. Please if anyone would like to help with this – cleaning, sorting, decorating please be in touch (franbindingkks@gmail.com). Also if you think that a newly refurbished small meeting room with adaptable space and facilities for refreshments might be useful to you for a small group event, rehearsal space or a small family gathering then please be in touch with me. I can't imagine we'll be up and running much before Easter but again it is a community resource that we want to see being used.

Our Team Rector Tim Scott will be moving on after Easter and his final service will be at St Mary's Church on May 8th. I am personally very grateful to Tim for being a supportive and caring colleague and I worked with him as part of the Deanery Team for 5 years before I moved to Kenn and Kingston Seymour. With many others, I wish him and Linda every blessing for the future.

For some, an interregnum (the time between priests) can be a daunting one, but it can also be a time of knowing more strongly than ever that God is with us and that we can trust in him if we prayerfully and collaboratively look for his guidance.

The world is full of cycles and seasons and my favourite season is Spring. St David's day falls in Spring and the daffodil is one of the emblems of Wales.

It is a flower that lifts the spirits and brings a splash of colour to our lives.



Dymuniadau gorau!

Fran

Cakes and Jam

There will be the usual selection of cakes and Heaven Preserve Us items on sale at the Village Market on Saturday 12th February.

Profits from the cakes will go to Caring in Bristol, a charity usually associated with providing Christmas support for homeless people in Bristol.



Since the Covid pandemic they have moved into year round care for some of the most vulnerable people in the city.

Julia Bush

The Children's Society 2021

Thankyou to everyone who donated to the Children's Society in any way in 2021. I was able to send in £141 from Christingle donations.

Julia Bush

Saturday

12th February

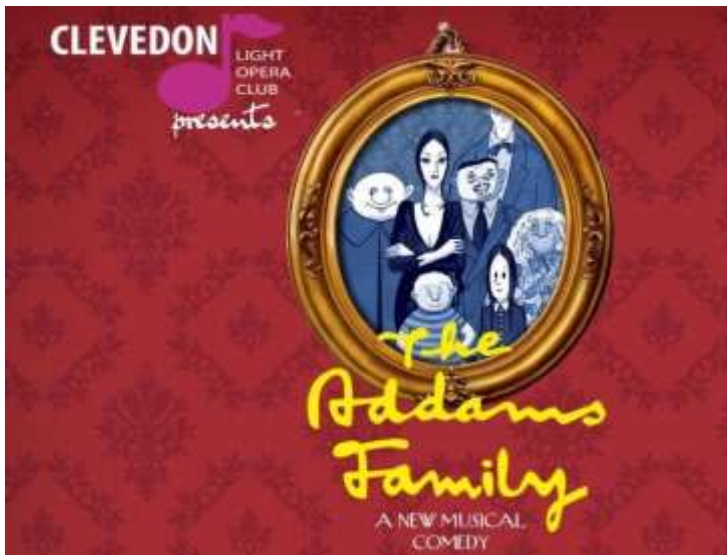
10.00am—12 noon

Books, Stalls, Produce, Coffee and Cakes and the chance to chat with your friends and neighbours.



Late news from the Christmas Market -

Andre was delighted that the Tombola profit amounted to £149.00 for Crisis for Christmas



I'm delighted to be working as musical director with CLOC once again.

Our next production is The Addams Family - great cast crew and orchestra.

Come and see the kookiest family in town,

March 15th-19th at the Princes Hall, Clevedon

Tickets available from: www.ticketsource.co.uk/cloc or let me know and I can get some for you.

Sue Parker

The Yellow Teapot Gang had a lovely, (Socially) spaced out meeting in January, in the Village Hall where the seating can be as distanced or close as each person feels comfortable.



February's meeting will be on

Monday 14th, 2-30 to 4-30pm.

If the meeting is to be cancelled, I will decide on Friday 11th February and put up posters to say so.

Julia Bush



St John's Kenn



All Saints' Kingston Seymour

Sunday Services at St. John's Kenn and All Saints' Kingston Seymour February 2022

February 6th

8.30am St John's BCP Communion

11am All Saints' All Together in Church

February 13th

8.30am All Saints' BCP Communion

11am St John's Holy Communion

February 20th

11am All Saints' Holy Communion

February 27th

11am St John's All Together in Church for a baptism

Every Sunday 6pm Team Evening Worship on Zoom

BIRD NEWS

Otters, Goosanders and Little Grebes were reported regularly from the Blind Yeo at Clevedon with the Black Redstart still resident on the rocks by the pier.

Two Kingfishers were by Kenn Pier. The Duck Lane Black Redstart was only seen occasionally but two different birds were photographed on the Chestnut Park estate in Yatton. There do seem to be more around this winter.

Goosanders were also on the Yeo at Congresbury with a couple of Siskins with Goldfinches nearby. A party of five Bullfinches on the Strawberry Line brightened up a dull day and a large puddle by a manure heap attracted two Grey Wagtails, a Pied Wagtail and a Meadow Pipit.

Song Thrushes were singing from early in the month and the Wemberham area held a few Skylarks, the regular Peregrine and on the Yeo three Green Sandpipers.

One field contained 200 Black headed gulls at the beginning of the month.

Water levels were good for Snipe at YACWAG's Kenn Moor reserve where 49 were counted plus two Jack Snipe.

The numbers of small birds along the sea wall has declined markedly in recent years, and there are very few now. Despite this a Merlin was on station perhaps predated the Starling flock. Wader numbers have also been low this winter but the development of Reserves at Steart and Pilning may have attracted birds to feed and roost there.

Some Avocets have been seen in Woodspring bay and 600 Lapwings were favouring that area.

A thousand Dunlin at the Kenn estuary with 200 Redshank and a smattering Curlew (25th) was more like old times.

Trevor Riddle (01934 835208)

News from St. Johns mid-month - Jill and I have cleaned out both boxes and I'm pleased to report both contained nests and that blue tits were scolding us at both boxes.

So it looks positive for this Spring. The box at the east end may need replacing next winter but will be ok for this year.

Coronation Day 1953 -

This year we celebrate the Platinum Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's accession to the throne. A party is being planned – see elsewhere—

Memories are being revived, special thanks to Margaret Bessant for our front cover photograph.

If others find Coronation photographs and would like to share them, please let me know.

I can scan them and return very quickly - I appreciate that their sentimental value is hugely important.

Margaret

Book group. We last met during December 2021.

Our venue is now The New Room at the top of Kenn Street. A bargain rent as we only have to cover the cost of the heating and electric. As usual we shared what we had been reading. One member was doing reading for Advent. Basil Hume's book 'To Be a Pilgrim' is broadly about the search for God in life and God's search for us. We also discussed Mary Beard's book 'Twelve Caesars'. This book covers the rise of power in the Roman Empire.



Another book that a reader enjoyed was 'The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist' by Robert Tressell. This is a lengthy novel with a political economic philosophy embedded in the narrative. That the poor keep the rich in their wealth. Affluence needs an underclass to survive.

One member confessed to the group that in the daytime psychotherapy books were read for study and research. Then in the evening trashy romantic novels are equally satisfying.

The best thing about book group is our reading is so diverse.

We take an eager interest in each other's literature choice.

We are meeting again at the beginning of February.



KENN W.I.

At the January meeting of Kenn W.I. which was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 12th January we discussed the Resolutions for the National AGM and chose the one we would like to propose should go forward.

There were five resolutions to choose from and each one was be proposed by a different member.

Resolution 1 was about sportswear for girls and proposed that girl's sportswear should be designed to take account of girl's changing shape and size and that they should not be fobbed of with inferior design. This one was proposed by Caroline Holden and did not receive any votes.

Resolution 2 dealt with the sentencing on non-violent women offenders and contended that prison sentencing is not always appropriate.

This was introduced by Ann Holtham and it received 8 votes.

Resolution 3 was about equality in law for menopausal women and discrimination in the workplace. Mary Bessant introduced this one which did not receive any votes.

Resolution 4 contended that women and girls suffering with autism and hyperactivity are being under-identified, under-diagnosed, misdiagnosed and under-supported.

Rose Wootten spoke to us about this one which received one vote.

The winner was Resolution 5 which tackled digital exclusion. Barbara Hancock researched this one and it received seventeen votes.

The results have been relayed to W.I. House and it will be interesting to see what the final result is when every Institute has had time to vote.

Kenn is to be the hostess Institute for the next Group Meeting to be held on April 27th. We were to have held it in 2019 but the dreaded Covid intervened. Sadly because of it several Institutes have closed, so there will not be so many members at this one.

Later on in January our President, Diane Woolf, with Marion Hulance and Ann Holtham will pay a visit to the Seafarer's Centre at Avonmouth to hand over money, clothing and knitted items that we have collected for them.

An invitation has been received to take part in an evacuee experience that year 6 at Yatton School are holding. We look forward to taking part in this and will be able to report at the next meeting.

Everyone is reminded that in the months of January, February and March meetings will begin at 2 p.m. and end at 4 p.m. so that members can be on their way home before it gets too dark. At the next meeting that will be held on the 9th February the speaker will be Pauline Cox from Sow and Arrow, a vegan shop in Clevedon.

Ann Holtham

Useful Numbers:

Village Hall Booking Secretary:
Lyn & Nigel Burnett 01275 870189

St John the Evangelist:

Priest in charge
Revd Fran Binding 01934 830120

Parish Office 01934 832184
office@yattonchurches.org

Churchwarden:
Julia Bush 873554
John Ball 874077 - Mobile 078 1667 1304

Village Flag Flying:

Marianna or Robin 340323
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
Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn



Saturday 12th February 10 - 12

North Somerset Times

Don't forget that copies of this local newspaper are available in the Church Porch from Wednesdays.



FEBRUARY WASTE COLLECTION - MONDAYS

Recycling and food waste - 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th February
Dustbin 14th and 28th February
Garden Waste 7th February



Tel: 01934 830111

Clevedon Salerooms

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

Email: info@clevedon-salerooms.com

Antique, Interiors, Collectables & Jewellery

17th February

Quarterly Specialist Sale
Thursday 10th March 10.30am

catalogues can be viewed at
www.clevedon-salerooms.com

LUNCH AT KENN VILLAGE HALL.

It is time to start the lunches again. Goodness, who knew we would only meet twice in 2000 and twice in 2021. We will have soup, bread, and cheese.

Followed by coffee and cake. I will get some interesting soups together.

For a fiver a head what is not to like?

At the same time raise some money for the food bank.

I am so excited that we will be back together again. However these are still covid times. Let's just be mindful of space and ventilation.

Lunch dates for 2022.

Monday February 7 th	Lunch
Monday March 7 th	Lunch
Monday April 4 th	Lunch.
Monday May 2 nd	Lunch. Bank holiday. Lunch will go ahead
Monday June 6 th	No lunch. Queen's Platinum weekend.
Monday July 4 th	Lunch
Monday August 1 st	Lunch. Bank holiday. Lunch will go ahead
Monday Sept 5 th	Lunch
Monday Oct 3 rd	Lunch
Monday Nov 7 th	Lunch
Monday Dec 5 th	Lunch



URGENT REQUIREMENTS -

tinned fruit, instant mashed potatoes, microwaveable rice, jam, long life milk, tinned pasta, cat food, toilet rolls, all personal toiletries – laundry liquid and laundry powder

Please leave in the collecting box at St. John's –Thanks

More Musings and Memories from Kennite Janet Skinner

Musings.....I was delighted that Ann Holtham could give me a name for the pony and trap passenger Dorothy Brittain, and as she worked in Honiton, only 10 miles away from me here in Cullompton, I have instigated enquires to see if she is still around. Some of the large stones had fallen from the school playground wall and were great for off-ground touch and also for peering at the pony. We had big skipping ropes and drew hopscotch squares. When playing a game, if we wanted to have a break we crossed our fingers and said "Cree". I later found that didn't work in Devon... I had to say "fains"

Mrs. Griffiths taught all the school children from 4+ to 11 and when the school closed she went to Kingston Seymour, again with a class of vari-aged children. I don't know how she did it. I left at Easter 1953 but continued to visit Kenn until January 1966 when Grandma, aged 78 finally retired from the Post Office.

The vicar would visit the school for morning prayers, walking down from the vicarage. Mr Langham was a tall man and I was a little in awe of him but skipping along beside him one morning I told him I had new shoes. "They are very nice. I have some new shoes but Mrs. Langham won't let me wear them." "You should come and live with my Grandma. She will let you" He called in at the PO on his way home most amused to tell Grandma he had been invited to live with her. I cannot remember Mrs Langham but do recall Ann Leaman (Tossell) and I being asked by her to go away when singing Christmas carols, because Mr. Langham was writing a sermon.

My parents were married by Mr Hodgshon who retired to Nailsea. I can remember him coming for Sunday lunch, perhaps on locum and between services. I have his Church School Hymnal and the Somerset Service book for Schools I would willingly donate to any local collection of memorability.

My special friend was Ann Leaman whose father Baden was the publican of the Rose and Crown. We spent hours playing with our model farmyards on the large scrubbed table in Orchard House. Sunday afternoons I had to listen quietly to the radio in a little sitting room while Ann absorbed Dick Barton, special agent. She is 5 years older than me and I learned so much from her. The pub was shut in the mornings and I recall one occasion Ann teaching me, with blackboard, how to draw Australia and name the most important points. We took home-made boats into Baker's field in winter, sailing them in the gripes and moulding the mud into harbours. That field was good for mushrooms, blackberries and cowslips.

Somewhere Ann found a top hat. She made herself a whip and organised a circus out in Sam Dyer's field opposite the PO. We had Margaret Holtham who could do a hornpipe, (and did you have a bright orange clown's outfit, Margaret?) Sukie Ekins a very fat spaniel with her human, Carol, Ann's black curly haired Labrador with the same name as Douglas Bader's dog, and me. The sun was always shining.

Opposite the vicarage my memory sees a lovely Edwardian villa, the garden bordering on Baker's Lane. Aunty Bea and Mrs. Hopkins (?) lived there and there were residents into the 1960's. The house was removed when the road was altered for the M5. Next to the pub car park a pair of cottages once stood. Mr and Mrs Wakefield lived in one and her mother came to live in the other. The outside toilet was at the end of the tiny garden by the carpark. Mrs Wakefield used to give me beads to play with. The mother's house had been lived in by the Gissing family and my especial never forgotten friend lived there. Are you still out there Barbie Gissing?

Janet Skinner

Thank You John Croxton and Colin Bedford

for your pieces in January's Kenn News and Views about where we find ourselves today.

Here are a few thoughts those pieces fished out of my brain.

I too worry about the effect on young people, of constantly telling them that there is nothing anyone can do to help matters, and that their lives will be irreparably damaged.

For years, I thought that 'Climate change' was part of the cycle of natural variation in the world's weather. I knew for instance (because the earnest man on the BBC told me) that prehistoric foot prints found in the mud in the Severn Estuary, were made by people living at a time when the average temperature was 9 degrees F higher than at the time of the broadcast.

Another (botanic) broadcaster reminded me that when the Romans invaded us it was warm enough for them to establish vineyards as far north as Carlisle.

Then there was the 'Little Ice Age' from 1645 to 1715, when winter temperatures were so low, the Thames froze to such a depth crowded fairs could be held on it.

The Gaia Effect, posited in 1995 by James Lovelock, told us that the many eco-systems of Mother Earth would gently adjust these variations and bring things back to 'normal'. We are living in a different world now, there are far more of us, consuming far more.

Greta is not Gloomy, she's impatient and angry with grownups who aren't prepared to make it right again. She makes many of us feel uncomfortable and defensive.

In 1992, 12 year old Severn Cullis-Suzuki addressed the Rio Climate Summit. She told the delegates and politicians to simply get on with 'making it right again'. Now in her forties, Cullis-Suzuki, while acknowledging that most children are used to the adults in their lives being able to 'make it better', also knows that 'It's complicated.'

Gus Smith, environmental advisor to successive US governments, said this,

'I used to think that top environmental problems were biodiversity loss, ecosystem collapse and climate change. I thought 30 years of good science would address these problems. I was wrong. The top environmental problems are selfishness, greed and apathy, and to deal with these we need a cultural and spiritual transformation.'

This is a massive ask, but there are successful examples in the recent past. Faced with seemingly insurmountable problems with establishing The Eden Project, Tim Schmidt took courage from what he calls 'Tinkerbell* Moments', in which, if enough of us believe something can happen and are prepared to put in some action, it will happen.

So, there is hope, we just need to look out for those 'Tinkerbell moments'.

Julia Bush

* Act 2? Peter Pan.

Proud Grandparents

We had a good time in Cyprus and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Cyprus was a lot stricter re Covid than here.

First we had to take a PCR test at the airport on arrival (results within 18 hours) for £10 only, it was a requirement that everyone had to produce a vaccination certificate (Covid passport) when they went into a shop/restaurant/public building etc, we got so used to this I had mine ready when I went to Tesco!

It was lovely seeing our grandson Ethan playing with this 200 guitar orchestra (he was the youngest) in the main theatre in Nicosia backing a very famous Greek singer.

Even though we understood not a word we really enjoyed the music and the emotion.

Robin and Marianna





Date for your diary.

On Sunday 5th June 2022 we will be celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Here in Kenn we have a tradition for holding 'a big event'.

The plans for this one are advancing.
Here is the provisional running order.

12pm Arrival at the village hall.

1pm Lunch. 'A Somerset Feast'.

2pm Speech. Toast the Queen. Village Photograph.

The Kenn choir will sing.

4pm Afternoon tea and cake.

Play areas for the children.

Bar will be open all day.

The best bit is — all for a fiver a head!

I will sell tickets at the village market in April and May.

To make this all happen we will need help. On the day if lots of people do half an hour each, we can all have a really fun time.

Caroline Holden

Neighbourhood Watch

Reminder: The Avon and Somerset Police website has a facility for you to enter your address to get the latest news for our area.



Received 17th January

Police continue to urge householders to be on the alert due to a continuing series of burglaries in which cash and jewellery are targeted.

Since mid-November 24 burglaries have been reported in Burnham-on-Sea, Clevedon, Congresbury, Highbridge, Long Ashton, Mark, Nailsea, Pill, Weston-super-Mare, Wraxall and Yatton.

While the householders were out - sometimes for just 30 minutes - burglars have forced rear doors, often smashing a glass panel to gain entry. They're targeting cash, watches and high-value jewellery and leaving costume jewellery and other valuables.

Chief Inspector Karen Corrigan, who leads the force's team targeting burglars, said: "Jewellery and watches are often given to mark special occasions, or are gifts or bequests from loved ones. They have such sentimental value that they can't be replaced in the same way as other items.

"We're determined to catch those responsible for these crimes and attend every dwelling burglary. Officers carry out detailed investigations at each crime scene, including forensic examinations and house to house enquiries, as well as issuing Neighbourhood Watch alerts.

"What we really need is for people to report any suspicious activity straight away. This could be an unfamiliar car driving slowly down the road, people looking over fences or walking around the side or back of homes, or the sound of breaking glass or alarms sounding.

"Let us know if you have CCTV or smart doorbell footage of people or cars and if not tell us as much as you can about them."

Call 999 if a crime is in progress or the suspects are still in the area. Otherwise ring our 24/7 non-emergency number 101. Even if we're not able to attend straight away, your information could be the missing link in a chain of evidence.

You can deter burglars by:

- keeping side gates locked and storing tools and ladders securely
- ensuring doors and windows are closed and locked if you're not in the room
- locking up and setting the alarm, if you have one, when it gets dark as well as when you go out
- keeping cash in a bank, building society or post office account
- using a specialist storage firm or safety deposit box for high value jewellery
- if you do use a safe, investing in a good quality one that's professionally fitted to a solid wall or floor

- keeping a record of your valuables including a photo and short description

- wherever possible, installing and using burglar alarms, CCTV and smart doorbells

- joining or setting up Neighbourhood Watch [https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/](https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/neighbourhood-watch-scheme/)
[neighbourhood-watch-scheme/](https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/apply/neighbourhood-watch-scheme/)

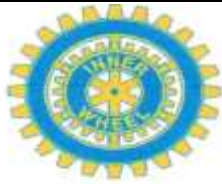
- avoiding posting on social media which could let the wrong people know you'll be out at a social event or away on holiday

You can find out more at <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/crime-prevention-advice/>

Received 21st January....This happened earlier this month to our son in Bristol!

This message is sent on behalf of Crimestoppers. There have been numerous incidents across the Avon and Somerset policing area recently, so please read the attached document to see why Catalytic Converter theft is one of the fastest rising crimes in the UK.

<https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/media/32959435/catalytic-converter-theft.pdf>



Inner Wheel Club of Clevedon
Present

The Long Ashton Orchestra

Saturday 12th February

7.30pm

Christchurch, Clevedon, BS21 7LL

The programme for the evening will be

Rossini: Overture to 'An Italian Girl in Algiers'
Weber: Clarinet Concerto No 1 (with soloist Laura Baker)
Beethoven: Symphony No 7

Conductor: Dimitri Chrysostomou
Leader: Oliver Humpage

Prebooked Tickets £10 - £12 on the door

Contact – 01275 217052

All profits to



SPRINGBOARD
OPPORTUNITY GROUP

SINCE 1986



Concert for Springboard in Clevedon
.....both Stephen Brain and myself will be playing
.....do you think you could put this in pleasemight interest a few residents
Thanks, Colin Bedford

Our Monthly Missive from The Limes

I heard recently that my article on cataracts has been forwarded to a lady on the isle of Lewis who was working out what to do about her eyes. Apparently she found the article “amusing”, but whether it was the slightest bit of use or not she didn’t say.

I thought this month I’d give a little update of things in the area, particularly the pylons, but it’s not turned out that way. With the colder weather following a wet spell I would guess most people are staying put. Certainly at present it is not terribly pleasant to waddle through mud and puddles outdoors just for the sake of exercise. Therefore the idea was that you can rest in the warm, knowing I have done some of the job for you.

As I started to think about this I was reminded about the saga of Lillypool Drove.

Most of you may have no idea where Lillypool Drove is or how it caused some ire amongst some Kenn residents a few years ago and so I thought it might be worth visiting the topic and provide you some interesting fireside reading.

So where is Lillypool Drove?

Lillypool Drove connects Claverham Drove to Kenn Moor Road by what most of us would just view as a farm track, allowing access to various fields along the way. It joins Kenn Moor Road at right angles half way between Kenn Pier and Kenn Street. After a couple of hundred yards or so it turns south towards Claverham Drove and comes out just before the Woodspring Wings site.

The Kenn Moor Road section is not nice to walk. Wellies are recommended at most times of the year. It is a lot more open that it used to be so is slightly less wet but is still full of potholes, mud and it has badger setts or fox dens below, causing hollows or cave ins where they have relocated the contents of the underneath of the track into adjacent rhynes. From time to time farmers do a little maintenance along it but no-one seems to own it or be responsible for it. Once you get to the section parallel to Kenn Moor Road it isn’t too bad.

When we moved to the area we often saw horse riders along it.

Anyway, back in 2005 is when our story starts. The Woodspring Bridleways Association (no, I’d never heard of them either) put in a request to North Somerset Council that this drove should be designated a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT). This would legally allow access by pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and mechanically propelled vehicles.

The argument is that this is a historical route dating back to 1815.

As far as I can work out the track had no status on council records or maps regarding right of way or ownership.

At this point please pause and hazard a guess of when North Somerset Council decided to deal with this request.

Ready? On 28th March 2018 a letter was sent by North Somerset Council to the Clerk to Kenn Parish Council saying “Because we have a backlog of these requests we have been instructed by the Planning Inspectorate (who reports to the Secretary of State) to process this particular one by 31st December 2018”.

So if you think the council is slow responding to you, just consider this one.

As far as I can tell, the Woodspring Bridleways Association no longer exists otherwise I would have been tempted to ask what they had done in the intervening 13 years to further their application, or perhaps they just lost interest. It might be they knew how awful it is to get a response from the Council anyway.

Certainly in my experience as a Parish Councillor I am unimpressed by the response of North Somerset Council to anything. If you get a sensible reply in a sensible timeframe you are doing well. The best we can usually do is to get our District Councillors to chase things up on our behalf.

To be fair, in December 2016 someone in the Woodspring Bridleways Association or its successor did wake up, contacted the UK Government and a kick went to North Somerset Council in 2017.

I'm surprised they bothered. As horses regularly used the track in the past with no problem I would have thought it was just easier to carry on using it and just keep one's head down, but that's just my view. If it ain't broke, don't fix it. It's not as if this would mean any improvement to the track and I can't see it ever being very attractive to motor vehicles.

Anyway North Somerset did give it attention and the report of the Public Rights of Way sub-committee dated January 2019 makes fascinating reading. Twelve documents were presented to it, including local maps going back to 1814. Also a semi-public consultation was held. What I mean by that is that the council had to elicit comments from the public but didn't go very far out of its way to publicise the fact very much. The comments that were made are in the public domain and are interesting in themselves. In general their concern was about potential use by motor vehicles.

What I have realised however from reading the comments and the final report is that comments expressing a like or dislike almost certainly get ignored. You have to play the game by different rules. Legislation, whether about planning, highways or any other matter is dispassionate and arguments for or against only succeed when based on the same cold logic. In other words, you ask does a certain course of action follow the prescribed rules and legislation – which may be complicated as there may be several Acts working together or affecting each other.

The Public Rights of Way sub committee report details the thinking, logic and interpretation of the evidence before it and like a good detective story comes to a particular conclusion and then spectacularly overturns it just at the end. Wonderful!

So you can appreciate the wonderful legal system we have and the intricacies of trying to decide anything relating to planning or highways, and the balancing of one law against another, here is a paragraph from the Report:

“Therefore, based on the evidence detailed within this report it is felt by the Officer that a case has been made to support the claim that the route A-B-C should be recorded as a Byway Open to All Traffic. However, due to the introduction of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 routes can no longer be recorded as Byways Open to All Traffic unless it meets one of the exemptions listed in the Act. No suggestion has been made that it does, therefore such a depiction fails”.

There you are. You just think you have won when it all comes crashing down.

The result is that Lillypool Drove became a Restricted Byway instead of a BOAT on 11th Dec 2019, a year later. This allows pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and carriages, but not mechanically propelled vehicles other than for access to fields (which counts as private access and was not part of the inquiry anyway). In other words it doesn't make any practical difference to the use it has had through the years and I have yet to see a carriage along it.

I think there is a moral in this story somewhere but for the life of me I can't think what.

Anyway, back to pylons. Well, no. I've just done a word count and am up to my limit. If I do any more the editor will have to shrink my text to fit in and I'll have to ask for large print versions of KN&V. Yes, I know I have had my cataracts done but I haven't got my new glasses yet and can't see a thing close up.

Pylons perhaps next time. Wait with bated breath..... Stephen

KENN PARISH COUNCIL

2022

Parish Council meeting held on the 10 January 2022Public Participation:

6 councillors and 13 residents in attendance
 20's Plenty, Kenn Street – T Parker and J Ball gave details of the results obtained from carrying out the village survey. There had been an almost unanimous response, 98%, and a clear message of support for a 20mph limit and traffic calming. Other concerns highlighted were: no identified space for pedestrians to walk safely along Kenn Street, speed of traffic, road surface and grass verge damage. 14 households had also expressed a willingness to take part in a speed watch scheme. Residents requested the Parish Council support their findings and advise North Somerset Council (NSC) they would like Kenn Street to be considered for a 20mph speed restriction.

Drum & Monkey (D&M) Mr Kenton Mee, one of the potential D&M developers, was in attendance to convey the results of his survey of residents at the last Village Market and online. Positive responses and good ideas had been received, one of which was to have a café during the day that became a licensed café during the evening. This could also sell some local produce. All of this would be passed on to the Planning Authority when they submit their next application.

Other items on the agenda:**Queen's Jubilee**

- Information had been received from local business, Avril's Fencing & Timber, they would be willing to provide a new bus shelter and had provided a range of designs.
- A request was received to consider providing a grant towards the village event proposed to celebrate this. The Parish Council agreed to grant £500 towards the catering.

20mph Kenn Street

The Parish Council agreed to support the residents' survey and request the NSC's Highways dept consider designating one of their two proposed districtwide 20mph schemes for Kenn.

Amendment to Village Fence

Information that a planning application for a property in Duck Lane had been refused by NSC's Planning dept because it was outside of the designated Village Fence – this is the smaller area that is designated in the NS Local Plan for village development, not the larger area that is the Parish boundary. It was agreed councillors should visit the site before the next meeting. Also, to investigate what is required to review and perhaps alter the Kenn Village Fence.

Summary of various items:

Police Horses, concern at long traffic queue not being able to pass. Highways various – Delivery Programme, Road Closures, Finance – KPC payments and budget report, Precept for 2022/23

KENN PARISH COUNCILLORS

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Wilf Bessant	Tel: 01275 872 406
Jon-Paul Humberstone	Tel: 07990 690 060
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Robert Treble	Tel: 07831 316 760

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

Steve Bridger	Tel: 07762 023 423
Wendy Griggs	Tel: 01934 834 143

2022 Meetings

7 March – Ann Parish Meet & Council

9 May – Statutory Council

4 July – Council

5 September – Council

7 November – Council

The meetings will be held at 7:30pm in the Village Hall – agendas on the noticeboards before the above date

CPRE's leaflet to get started with star gazing for the CPRE Star Count 2022 (26 Feb – 6 Mar) can be download on their website, search 'Stargazing 2022'

Starry Skies – Stargazing 2022