

# KENN

ISSUE 413

JANUARY 2022



Wishing all our readers a  
Very Happy and Healthy New Year

NEWS & VIEWS

**JANUARY BIRTHDAYS**

13th Abigail Smith

14th Rebecca Brain

Ella Hibbs

15th James Hayzen

18th Mike Callow

26th Elijah Stowell

30th Mike Smith



**Christingle in Kenn 2020**

Christingle activities and events all over the country are the main fundraisers for **The Children's Society**, which supports hundreds of vulnerable children and young people (check on line).

Kenn has a brilliant track record for supporting this charity.

Although the usual Christingle Service was not possible due to Covid restrictions - children in the village received a 'Messy Christingle' bag with a Christingle kit and other activities.

If you would like to make a donation to the Children's Society please contact me and I can supply you with an envelope and collect it later.

Many thanks to everyone who has donated so far.

Julia Bush 01275 873554

Our flag was flown in December

3rd to celebrate the Diamond Wedding Anniversary of Liz and Mike Bell of Greenacres.

15th at Half-Mast to mark the passing of Gerald Griffin on the 14th aged 88. Gerald was formerly of Mill Farm.

25th to celebrate Christmas

Thanks to Robin and Marianna and to Chris Taylor

Church Floodlighting

Our Church was floodlit over the Christmas period and for the New Year

Thanks go to David Pugh

Dear friends,

It was so lovely to be in such a beautifully decorated church over Christmas and to come out of church on Christmas morning into crisp sunshine.

And as we celebrate Epiphany and the coming of the wise men, I'm pretty sure that their perseverance, courage, and wisdom are characteristics it would be really helpful to have for 2021.

As we look back on a year when our world was turned upside down, and too many in our village have experienced heartache and loss, we can decide again which values we are going to prioritise going forward into 2021.

In so many ways our New Year resolutions could be ones that make a difference this year and there is always hope.

One of the stories we often revisit in church in January is how Simeon and Anna met Jesus in the temple while he was still a baby and although they remarked that Mary would see much suffering, they also recognised that this baby brought great hope for the future with the possibilities of love, peace, and redemption.

The road ahead is not easy but as vaccines are beginning to be rolled out, we have hope, and I am looking forward to being able to get to know the village properly, to meet in the village hall, to start having social events there and in church and to having no restrictions on who can come!

I know it may be some time yet but now I know there is a light in the darkness I can wait maybe more patiently.

In the meantime, I pray that everyone remains safe and that we keep others safe.

Won't it be great to have a party when the time is right!

I wish you a happy and a healthy New Year.

*Fran*

Robin Mackay  
Church Path Cottage  
Kenn  
Clevedon  
BS21 6TR



**Caring in Bristol**

17/12/20

Dear Robin and the Village of Kenn,

We're creating a city empowered to solve homelessness this Christmas. THIS CITY CAN. So let's make it happen.

Your support really does make a difference to those experiencing homelessness. We understand that the world has changed so much in the midst of Covid19, and that yourself and your family may have also been victims of the pandemic, which is why it means so much that you have chosen to support our life-changing work this Christmas.

Thank you so much for your kind donations, a total of £2,458.00 this Christmas, you really are amazing! Thank you also for your kind donations of clothing and items to help those who need them this winter.

Your donation will help to provide warmth, food, medical support and care to those experiencing homelessness at one of the hardest times of the year. Your actions really do make a difference.

Thanks to your support:

THIS CITY CAN

Care for those who are street homeless.

THIS CITY CAN

Provide food, shelter, medical care and companionship at one of the most exposing times of the year.

THIS CITY CAN

Solve homelessness

We are so proud of the Bristol community for coming together and supporting some of Bristol's most vulnerable residents this Christmas. Thank each and every one of you for being part of that.

Once again, we thank you for your support and helping us in our work. The work of Caring in Bristol is only made possible by our supporters.

Yours sincerely,

Edd Smith,  
Head of Income Generation.

## Caring in Bristol 2020

Thank you Kenn, you have surpassed yourselves this year. Your generosity has enabled us to donate more than £2,400 (£1,000+ up on last year) to this vital Charity as well as items of clothing, toiletries and food.

In these uncertain times the fact that so many of you felt able to donate generously means that people who have nothing are going to have a better Christmas.

The numbers sleeping “rough” are still rising and once the full effects of the pandemic are felt there will be even more.

More families will split up, houses will be repossessed and rents for many without jobs will be unaffordable.

It is a desperate situation and one that should not exist in modern Britain.

Hopefully other communities will have been equally generous and Charities can alleviate the suffering, as government is obviously not going to.

So THANK YOU Kenn we should be very proud that we felt we could reach out to people who are a LOT worse off than ourselves.

Robin & Marianna.

## THANK YOU

On behalf of Weston Hospicecare I would like to thank everyone for their generosity in supporting the Kenn Christmas Card.

The total from the village has surpassed all expectations, after a number of “offline” donations over Christmas have been added in, it now stands at a magnificent £410.

It is possible that the overall total might be even higher when some donations, sent direct to Weston Hospicecare, are included.

Once again a huge thank-you. Simon



**Welcome** - Caroline from Chapel Cottage writes:

Did you know there are now loads of people living round at Stonehouse farm and the Barn. The place feels so vibrant with people moving around.

The people in The Threshing Barn are Andrea and Steve Mapstone and their children Dylan and Deacon.

May we give them all a very Warm Welcome to Kenn

## **Altar Guild**

Enormous thanks to all who participated in decorating our church this year.

It probably looked better than ever and gave everyone who saw it a great deal of cheer during this difficult time. Each placement had a different theme but was joyful in its use of the Christmas colours.

We are very privileged in having two new flower arrangers with Carly Naish and Natasha Stone joining us.



A very special thanks must go to Sam Hibbs for decorating the tree. It looked absolutely splendid, professional and sparkly.

Can I take this opportunity of thanking everyone who helps with cleaning as well as flower arranging throughout the year, also to point out that we are always looking for volunteers so if anyone feels as though they would like to help during the year or do a flower arrangement at Easter they would be most welcome

A very Happy New Year to all .

Take care

Marianna (07860 497203)



## Supper Club and News from The Drum

As we look forward to the New Year – Hopefully, in the short term Jamie will be able to still provide take-aways from the Drum.



Then hopefully, in the long term, he may at some point be able to re-open the restaurant and we may actually be able to return for a Supper Club!

Time will tell!

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

## Kenn Parish Council

### Chairman's notes

Well, what can be said? In these difficult times we have only had a couple of meetings, work goes on behind the scenes, takes a while longer and questions to North Somerset and other authorities are all taking longer to respond.

If anyone has anything they wish to raise, drop me an email and I will try and sort or answer

The constant car parking at the garages and car wash are an ongoing problem, we continue to complain, and if you encounter a problem it would be useful if an official complaint could be made...either to the police or garage direct...we will keep monitoring.

Many thanks to the folk involved in the erecting and lighting of our Christmas tree, as always it is stunning and a joy to behold.

Stay safe and well everyone, Happy New Year.

Sheila

## Broadband – not too late

From time to time I am asked,  
“Is it too late to sign up to Truespeed?”

The short answer is NO! It is dead easy – just go to the Truespeed web site and sign up there.

If you don't have access to the internet get a socially distanced friend to do it for you.

The good news for the rest of us (yes, there is good news!) is that Truespeed have reduced prices!



To be exact, they have added a lower cost deal which means that for a 80M speed (which is 45 times faster than I currently get) you pay nearly £20 less per month than you otherwise would have done. The new price is £29.99 per month.

By comparison, Gigabyte who are currently digging up Yatton and who have said they are not interested in Kenn are charging £39 for a 30M speed, still adequate for everyone but not as cost effective.

I've no idea how you sign up to the new Truespeed deal but I'm sure all will be made clear when they start to arrange installations and want our bank details.

Recently I have met two Truespeed engineers who, while they couldn't give me a timescale, did say that Kenn has a high level of importance within Truespeed due to our high sign up and they have increased the team working on the project.

How it works out in practice remains to be seen but we are getting there.

Stephen Brain

## Masks Preserves and Cakes at Quercus.

Although I am no longer leaving masks and Heaven Preserve Us jams, chutneys and marmalade outside Quercus I still have a plentiful supply and can deliver on request. Please leave a message on the landline and I will respond. I will be baking on Friday 8th January, all the usual candidates, Sponges, Lemon Drizzles, Fruit, Spicy Apples, Marmalade Loaf, Banana Loaf etc. by 7th Jan.

Cake Profits to GOSH (Great Ormond St Hospital).  
Julia Bush 01275 873554

*Kenn is well on its way to paying for a third cleft palate surgery from mask sales*



Useful Numbers:

**Village Hall Booking:**  
**Lyn & Nigel Burnett 01275 870189**  
**kvhallbooking@gmail.com**

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

**The Team of Yatton Moor**  
Parish Office 01934 832184  
[office@yattonchurches.org](mailto:office@yattonchurches.org)

**Altar Guild Secretary:**  
Marianna Mackay 340323

**St John the Evangelist :**  
**Priest in charge**  
**Revd Fran Binding 01934 830120**

**Church Floodlighting:**  
David Pugh 874278

**Churchwardens:**  
Julia Bush 01275 873554  
John Ball 874077 - 078 1667 1304

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



Postponed  
Due  
Covid

**North Somerset Times**



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

**JANUARY WASTE COLLECTION**

**Recycling and food-waste** Tues. 5th, Mon 11th, 18th, 25th  
**Dustbin** Mon. 11th, Mon 25th  
**Garden Waste** Monday 25th including real Christmas Trees



**Clevedon Salerooms**

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

Tel: 01934 830111

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

Antiques, Interiors, Collectables & Jewellery Sales  
Thursday 7th January  
Thursday 21st January  
10.30am

Auction on-line

Quarterly Specialist Sale  
Thursday 11th March 10.30am

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

## Gerald Charles Griffin. 1932 – 2020

On December 14<sup>th</sup>, three days after his 88<sup>th</sup> birthday my brother Gerald sadly passed away at his home in Torquay, Devon.

Gerald arrived in Kenn in September 1939 when our family moved here from Lower Claverham to Mill Farm. In 1950, after being schooled in Clevedon,

Gerald went to the Somerset Agricultural College at Cannington near Bridgewater, where he obtained his General Agricultural Certificate.

He married Jennifer Tompkins in 1955 at St John's Church, Kenn, where he had been a member of the choir for some years.

Very soon after their marriage he took up a position in the Agricultural Advisory Department, Kenya. Jenny joined him in Africa about three months later. The contract in Kenya lasted seven years.

They returned to farm at Mill Farm in 1962, after our father had retired, and remained in business until the early 1990s. Latterly, he had diversified into timber fencing products.

Some 25 years ago Gerald and Jenny retired to Kingswear on the River Dart, Devon. Two years ago they moved from there to Torquay.

Gerald leaves his wife, Jenny, one son, two daughters, three grandsons, two granddaughters and two great granddaughters.

Gerald and Jenny were married for 65 years and lived in Kenn for nearly 50.

He was dearly loved and will be missed by us all.

John Griffin



With Coffee Morning  
Kenn Village Hall - 10.00am—12noon  
Usually second Saturday of each month

**Postponed due to  
Coronavirus Pandemic**



**St John's Kenn**  
**All Saints' Kingston Seymour**



**SERVICES - JANUARY 2021**

**3<sup>rd</sup> January Epiphany**

- 8.30am**            **St John's: BCP Holy Communion**  
**11.00am**            All Saints': All Together in Church (A service with no communion and more informal)  
**4.00pm**            All Saints': The littlest camel – a story for Epiphany. Suitable for KS1 and 2 children and parents

**10<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 1 (Baptism of Christ)**

- 8.30 am**            All Saints': BCP Holy Communion  
**11.00 am**            **St John's: All Together In Church (A service with no communion and more informal)**

**17<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 2**

- 8.30 am**            **St John's: Morning Prayer**  
**11.00 am**            All Saints': Holy Communion

**24<sup>th</sup> January Epiphany 3**

- 8.30 am**            All Saints': Morning Prayer  
**11.00 am**            **St. John's: Holy Communion**

**31<sup>st</sup> January Epiphany 4**

- 11.00 am**            **St John's: Joint Morning Prayer with All Saints'**

**Change of days for Morning Prayer -**

**8.15am Tuesdays and Wednesdays** from 5th January Morning Prayer by Zoom - Please contact Fran if you would like to have the log in details.

**Contact details: Fran Binding (House for duty priest)**  
**01934 830120            franbindingkks@gmail.com**

## **Clevedon Foodbank**

Thank you Thank you Thank you to everyone who gave so generously in the run up to Christmas.

I spoke to the administrator just before Christmas and she said they had had a massive demand this year, due to Covid.

I will supply facts and figures next month.

Meanwhile there will be a collection box in Kenn Church porch.

Please check the website for a list of their most needed items and opening hours if you want to deliver direct to their warehouse (opposite the vets in Knowles Road).

Julia Bush

## **The Blay Family, Kumasi, Ghana**

A huge 'Thank You' to everyone who has faithfully supported the Blays over the years and recently, up to Christmas.

Cake Sales and some generous donations have meant I can send the spring term school fees before school starts.

Despite all the challenges Michael Blay has to deal with, he retains the optimism and energy of youth. He cares for his wife and children and the widow and children (whose fees we pay) of his late brother Denis.

\*\*\*\*\*

Good morning,

How are you doing mummy? It's been a while since I heard from you. I and the family are blessed and am hoping you and the people of Kenn are doing great and blessed as well. How are you coping with the lock down?

I learnt the UK have found a vaccine which can cure Covid-19 I am hoping it works and thanks be to God for that. Everyone extends their greetings to you. Have a sweet great and blessed month. The chicken farming is going well,

Merry Christmas.

Michael Blay. 14.12.20



## BIRD NEWS

.Many of the Fieldfares and Redwings mentioned last month have eaten lots of Hawthorn berries and moved on.

They now seem to feed much less on invertebrates on the pasture now than in the past. There were still good numbers on Wemberham and Nailsea Moor.

The latter site hosted a flock of 36 Lapwings with Goosanders on the Yearling Ditch.

A Barn Owl was peering out of its box on Congresbury Moor with a flock of 20 Teal nearby. Snipe were present in low numbers.

A Barn Owl was also present at Wemberham but was only seen in the hours of darkness. A Kingfisher and a Grey Wagtail and a pair of Stonechats were seen regularly there with the male Peregrine now bold enough to feed on the nearest pylons.

A flock of 200 Lapwings towards the motorway may have been put to flight by hedge trimming operations but the star birds were three Green Sandpipers by the River Yeo - two was my previous best count anywhere locally.

Cadbury Hill produced 30 Long Tailed Tits, a few Goldcrests, the usual Nuthatches and the now expected Marsh Tits. Treecreepers and Coal Tits were also recorded.

The sea wall hosted the usual suspects with a Water Rail at Blake's Pools and it is good to conclude with the wintering Marsh Harrier still frequenting the wider area.

Trevor Riddle (01934 835208)



## KENN W.I

By now each member will have received the goodie bag from Santa which contains the annual booklet of offers that members all receive.

It was considered better to put it in the bag because we have no idea when we shall be able to meet again.

It is hoped that the opportunity to spend some of them will arise during the coming months, but at the moment it is looking less and less likely.

Members are reminded again about the Resolutions for the next AGM.

We have the opportunity to choose the one that we would select.

They are:

1. A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer.
2. Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease.
3. Racism and discrimination.
4. Protect your nature space to create wildlife friendly communities.
5. Stop the destruction of peat bogs to help tackle climate change.

The Committee would be grateful if members could let either Diane Woolf or Ann Holtham know which one she would choose by the 10<sup>th</sup> January so that the information can be sent to W.I. House.

Members are also asked to consider a change to the Constitution.

During the pandemic National and Federation Committee meeting have taken place via Zoom. This has proved very successful and has saved quite a lot of money in expenses for travel etc. If members agree the Constitution can be changed to allow some meetings to be held in this way in the future. If members would like to vote on this one please let Diane or Ann know at the same time as the vote for a Resolution.

Some members have received their vaccinations against Covid 19 so perhaps it will not be too long before all members will have received it and we can meet again.

It is hoped that all members will have had a Happy, Peaceful and Covid free Christmas and that they will be able to enjoy better things in 2021.

Ann Holtham



## 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. The thank-you letter from Clevedon Food Bank for our donation of £340 is displayed on the notice board in The New Room.

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

Way back at the turn off 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 me receipts.

Stay safe and well. Caroline.

## Thank You

Jenny has just presented me with the book of special memories. I am so very grateful to everyone in Kenn for contributing and for all the hours of hard work that has gone into its production.

A wonderful memory of so many lovely people in Kenn, past friends and present.

I feel very humbled and so privileged to have been able to serve the Church, a building but more importantly the people who are so much a part and will always hold a very special place in my heart.

Thank you all so much.

Avril



## Our Monthly Missive from The Limes

For those who were left on the edge of their seats awaiting the next instalment of my smallholding experiences your patience is now rewarded. I just hope the wait did not ruin your Christmas. However I'm sure you'll find it is worth it and my thanks to everyone (well, one actually) who said how much they appreciated last month's article.

Before I start however I must warn readers that this article contains mention of abattoirs, DEFRA and history graduates. If you feel any of these might offend, you might want to move straight onto the back page of KN&V and be entertained by the Parish Council notes.

When we decided to keep pigs we felt now we were becoming real farmers. Poultry and lambs were small beer compared to this. Admittedly we only had about one hundredth of the land that real farmers had and no barns or stables but we did have an agricultural holding number, a herd number, numbered ear tags, a record book and a pile of movement forms in quadruplicate. What more did we need?

We also managed to procure what appeared to be a WW1 corrugated iron pigsty for £10 and had fenced off a corner of the orchard.

We knew that we would be limited in what we could do (no way could we breed pigs for example) so the plan was to get in weaners (baby pigs), fatten them up and sell most of the meat, keep some pork for ourselves and look at making bacon and sausages from the rest.

We were running the B&B at the time so guests could now have home produced bacon, eggs, sausages as well as homemade bread and marmalade, jam and honey. When children stayed they could help collect eggs and feed the pigs while their doting parents took pictures.

So what could go wrong? Probably quite a lot. On the whole it worked quite well though, and my thanks go to various farmers who aided and abetted us.

We probably gave them much entertainment in return and something to tell their mates about.

Our first pigs were Oxford Sandy and Blacks but over time we had all sorts, mainly rare breeds. (Sadly we never had Gloucestershire Old Spots which was my one disappointment). We had this first lot as part of a deal with a local farmer who had bought in 8 weaners and we went halves.

Weaners are cute but make a lot of noise! Heather carried ours across the road wriggling and squealing (the pigs that is) but once dumped over the fence into their "yard" they soon settled down.

On the movement licence you have to give details of transport and we were tempted to put down "hand carry" in place of truck or trailer details but were told that DEFRA doesn't have a sense of humour, as we found out later.

It is really fun watching pigs grow but you realise they don't stay nice and cute for ever. Feeding time can get "fun". Our troughs were just the other side of the fence so you could lean over with feed and water without traipsing through the mud they so loved. Once they were bigger it became a battle to get the troughs filled quickly, else they would be after the bucket and anything else within reach and even though you were the other side of the fence you could get quite dirty which was really annoying if you were about to go to work. By the time they were large enough to go to the abattoir we were usually glad to see the back of them and more keen on the meat that would come back.

Getting them ready to transport to the abattoir was usually a real rodeo. If you go to an agricultural show and see the pigs in the show ring you see the handlers walking them around with “pig boards” and the pigs go exactly where the handlers want. Not so with our pigs. We had to build a channel of hurdles from the orchard to the trailer and then “persuade” the pigs to go up the ramp. Even though we tempted them with the food bucket it could still be a bit of a wrestle and we always had to get in help – which we needed anyway because I didn’t have a trailer. Once they were in the trailer the real wrestling started as usually we did not ear tag them until they were due to go off, so you imagine someone going in a trailer with 2 or 4 pigs, trying to insert the tags. Think of a tool which is a large version of a cross between a stapler and pair of pliers, which is holding a tag with sharp prongs ready to be squeezed around the ear. To make it even more fun the tag would probably drop on the floor just as you were about to squeeze it.

Not for the faint hearted. Heather usually found an excuse to disappear at that stage.

Once they were trundled off to the abattoir another bit of fun started. One of the abattoirs was going through its regular period of inefficiency. We heard of one carcass that came back to someone having had a brief holiday in Devon and another which had a leg missing so we had to check everything carefully. Butchering and jointing is a separate activity which we didn’t want to do ourselves so we had to arrange that as well.

One issue was what do you do with some of the bits? I know you can use everything but we were really only interested in the meat. The abattoir tended to keep internal organs so generally that was OK. If you want the liver say, you have to ask for it, but then how much pate can you really eat?

What to do with the head of the pig was a problem at one stage. I asked around at work and was told that someone there was into bushcraft and running around woods at weekends and might be interested, so I ended up carrying a pig’s head (or was it two?) into work. Not many colleagues have a desk with a pig’s head in a cool-box by their feet.

On another occasion I put an email around work to say we had pork for sale and included a picture of the pigs. I got a stropky reply back from one person to say I’d upset her as she didn’t like to see animals that were going to be slaughtered. I wondered what she looked at when she went in the countryside.

We got the butchers to do sausages for us but we had a go at doing our own bacon. I can’t say it was a great success but when we got a butcher to do it once it wasn’t much better. I think it is quite a skill and even our smallholder friends seem to find it difficult to get right. Getting the bacon fully cured but not horrendously salty is quite hard.

I mentioned DEFRA earlier. I think most farmers have a run in with DEFRA at some stage and we were to be no exception. Until now, my contact with DEFRA had been via Bee Inspectors who are fantastic people. They are helpful, professional, enthusiastic about bees and are beekeepers themselves. We now saw the other side of DEFRA.

One day an inspector turned up. He was just passing and thought he would just check up on our pigs. I was at work so Heather showed him round and he was quite happy. In passing she mentioned that we fed them not only on pig nuts but also surplus milk from a neighbour, which helped both of us. This milk could not go into the normal food chain as it was from cows that had newly given birth and so had colostrum in it, but it was OK for pigs.

A few days later I answered the phone. It was a call from DEFRA. A man with the most menacing and threatening voice I had ever heard was on the other end. Clearly customer skills training is not a priority there.

The conversation was short, sharp and straight to the point and dispensed with niceties such as politeness.

They had heard we were feeding milk from another holding. That was illegal (or words to that effect). We are breaking the law. We are villains. We were to stop immediately. Why? Because the milk is not traceable. Of course it is – you can see the cows from here. No it isn't. Stop straight away. I'm sending both of you a letter.

My own view was to tell them where to go. In practice DEFRA couldn't do much to us as we were so small. Their normal threats were to withhold grants and we didn't get any anyway. However we didn't want to get our neighbour in trouble so we did stop feeding the milk. However surprisingly that was not the end of the story.

A few weeks later the original inspector returned. He said "I've come to apologise for the trouble you've had. If I knew what they were going to do with my report I'd never have put it in about the milk. It just makes no sense. As far as I'm concerned what you were doing is fine. Those people have no idea."

He added, "Believe it or not, this actually ended up going to the top of DEFRA as they realised it was also an animal welfare issue". (If a farmer needs colostrum for his animals and another farmer can spare some, my understanding under the rule is that they were not allowed to help out). "They could see the problem but no-one was prepared to make a decision and they just passed the buck. This organisation isn't anything like it was when I joined and I can't wait to retire and get out."

His final comment on DEFRA was the ultimate put down: "What can you say about an organisation run by a history graduate?"

Nevertheless we carried on with pigs for some years. We sourced weaners by word of mouth and just had two at a time. I don't think we ever had the same breed twice. Some were better behaved than others but Tamworths were the worst. They were so nervy and just went berserk at the slightest provocation. They are a real psychiatric nut case and in need of counselling. At one stage I tried fencing an area with electric fencing and they just barged straight through. Yuk.

Occasionally there were still some surprises. For example after we'd been keeping pigs some time we were told that horses don't like pigs and some of the local horse riders had had to change their normal routes to avoid us. In fact on one occasion we saw a rider dismount to get his horse past us. It was a bit of shame as we had chosen the furthest part of the orchard from us for the pigs, but it was the nearest to the road and if we had known we could have done things differently.

In the end the only reason we phased out the pigs was that we'd had a number of rather wet seasons and I didn't like the amount of mud the pigs were in. They didn't seem to mind, but I did when I had to go in there. I also felt if I fell over in the mud they wouldn't help me get up and if it was feeding time I wouldn't fancy my chances at all. In fact, to be serious, one ex-farmer friend told me that he once had a sheep in a pen next to a pig and somehow the pig must have got to the sheep and eaten it when he was out as there was absolutely no sign of the animal when he got back and he could find no other explanation. He had a five year old son at the time and decided pigs were just too dangerous. Having said that, I don't think in our case we would ever have had a real problem as our pigs never got that large.

With the mud the choice was either stop keeping them or put in a lot of effort and expense in housing. It was good fun while it lasted though. It didn't make much money when you factored everything in but it was good experience and again my thanks to all those who helped and encouraged.

Stephen

## Neighbourhood Watch



### Telephone Fraud Alert -

Two elderly residents in the Clevedon area have been the subject of serious fraud. Both received telephone calls today, 2nd December, stating they were police officers - one from Luton and the other allegedly from Bristol. The supposed officers were very persistent and even asked one of the victims to call 191 to check their identity with a colleague. This was a clever ploy, as the line had not been disconnected and the phone was merely handed to an accomplice.

In both instances they were asked to attend their banks, and were advised by the fake police that they could get around the security measures / questions. On arrival the victims withdrew thousands of pounds between them, which was later collected from their homes by a courier. A password was given by the fraudster to use when handing the money over to the courier to make it even more convincing.

This type of fraud can occur anywhere, so always be wary of unexpected calls. Never give out any personal details, especially financial account numbers or passwords. If you have any concerns, hang up immediately. Contact the bank or organisation they claim to represent using a mobile or different phone in case the offenders are still on the line.

Never use any telephone numbers provided by the fraudster. Police will never ask you to attend your bank or withdraw cash.

<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](#). You can also report and get advice about fraud or cyber crime by calling 0300 123 2040.

**Received 4<sup>th</sup> December**

### Ongoing Amazon Scam Calls

Please NEVER give out any personal details to anyone claiming to be from Amazon or any other company that calls you out of the blue. Terminate the call and call back on a number you trust and preferably from a different phone, if this is not possible then wait at least 5 minutes for the line to disconnect.



# KENN PARISH COUNCIL

2021



## Garden Waste & Disposal of Christmas Trees

The garden waste service is suspended between 21 Dec – 15 Jan. When the service resumes on 18 January, if residents are signed up to the garden waste service, they can place real Christmas trees (up to 2m high minus pot and decorations) out for collection next to their bin. There are also options to dispose of a real tree by donating to charity or local organisation – we ask residents to choose the option closest to where they live to cut down on travel:

- **St Peter's Hospice** – Long Ashton based. Collections for BS48, BS21 and BS20 – 'Just giving' scheme, donation for collection to go to charity [www.stpetershospice.org/support-us/join-our-events/christmas-tree-collection](http://www.stpetershospice.org/support-us/join-our-events/christmas-tree-collection)
- **Noah's Ark Zoo and Farm** Wraxhall – 1000 repurposed for animal enrichment and the rest to be chipped to mulch for the zoo. Here will be a drop off point for trees in the main car park. Limit of 2000 trees.



## Your library, your place

## Libraries strategy 2020 – 2030

North Somerset's Libraries Strategy outlines their ambitions as a public libraries authority to provide a network of libraries which support the needs of communities. The strategy builds on past success of the library service with future outcome aims & directly responding to the needs of communities based on feedback. It outlines ways to work with other organisations to deliver a modern library service equipped to empower North Somerset communities. The strategy has been developed with the belief that providing access to books, digital resources, learning materials, safe workspace & skills development support is vital. There will be significant challenges in coming years to rebuild the economy from the impacts of austerity & Covid-19. To help with this, library services can support:

- those affected by providing high quality advice, information & access to Council & other services that are moving to the digital platform
- older people & those living with a disability to have access to books, resources, & community-based advice, support & opportunities to stay active and keep independence
- children & young people are the future of the area & supporting their potential is another key aim. They can play a role by engaging young people with local cultural activities & providing work, skills & career support

The strategy aligns libraries service priorities to the Council's Corporate Plan – ensuring delivery of a real contribution to the quality of life of North Somerset communities, set within a changing environment & financial constraint, so needing to make the most of resources. The strategy will provide an essential framework under which actions related to libraries can be placed and decisions can be made. See page 12 & 24 on:

[www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-03/Corporate%20Plan%202020-2024\\_0.pdf](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2020-03/Corporate%20Plan%202020-2024_0.pdf)

### 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

### KENN PARISH COUNCILLORS

Sheila Naish (Chairman)	Tel: 07808 920 962
Neal Breeden (Vice-Chairman)	Tel: 01275 879 636
Stephen Brain	Tel: 07773 211 394
Wilf Bessant	Tel: 01275 872 406
Jon-Paul Humberstone	Tel: 07990 690 060
Mark Titterton	Tel: 07960 240 960
Robert Treble	Tel: 07831 316 760

### NORTH SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

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

Hoping for an improved & more normal.....



Parish Clerk – Eleanor Wade

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