

# KENN

ISSUE 415  
MARCH  
2023



**Pylon towers are just the visible tip, here are its foundations before concrete is poured, which are themselves on piles sunk deep in the earth.**

*(Thanks to Stephen Brain for this photograph)*

# NEWS & VIEWS

## Birthdays /Anniversaries in March

5th Leon Naish  
9th Tassos Papasolomontos  
10th Jack Butland  
12th Wendy Van Riessen  
15th Jenny Treble  
17th Lee Staples  
    James Mackay  
    Liz Stowell  
18th Quinton Stowell  
    Grace Griffin  
20th Olivia Gale  
21st Margaret Cook  
27th Amy Bye  
    Christopher Taylor  
31st Iris and Mike Callow W.A.

## St John The Evangelist, Kenn Altar Guild for March



**Julia Bush, Jenny Pascoe and  
Jean Fenwick**

## Our Flag

Sunday 14th February, our flag was flown in celebration of the birth of baby Hallie Rebecca Bessant-Hawken., on Saturday 13th.

It was flown at half-mast on Wednesday 8th February for the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Colin Cooper at St John the Evangelist, Kenn. Colin passed away on 15th January.

On Saturday 18th February, at half-mast to mark the death of Jo Cooper, who was Colin's widow.

On Sunday 19th February again at half-mast to mark the passing of Margaret Dunne who died on 15th February. Margaret was Mary Ashton's mother and had been living with her for the past few months.

## Kenn Village Hall



We are looking after our 100 year old hall by adding some 21st century insulation.

The time has come to finally get round to fully insulating and replacing the metal cladding on the walls of the Village Hall.

Up until now most of the walls have had no insulation. This work should greatly reduce heating costs and be better for the environment.

**VOLUNTEERS WELCOME** - (depending on weather)

**Sat 4<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am - Sun 5<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am at Kenn Village Hall**

Anyone interested in helping and has DIY skills or is good at making tea.....

Please contact - John Hayden Tel 0773 0776 782

### **KENN CHURCH ROOM - CHARITY COFFEE MORNING**

**Saturday 25th March - 10am —12 noon**

**Charity - St. Peter's Hospice - Hostess - Ann Holtham**

**All Welcome - Come and enjoy coffee and a chat for a good cause!**

\*\*\*\*\*

February Coffee Morning - Julia Bush thanks everyone for supporting the Blay Family - £125.00 was raised

January Coffee Morning - Margaret Bessant is pleased that the donation for Dementia UK was £140.00 - thanks to extra monies received

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Anyone wishing to host one of the monthly Coffee Mornings should contact Celia Andrews on: 01275 877806

## SERVICES FOR MARCH 2023

### Friday 3rd March – World Day of Prayer

10.30am St Barnabas: World Day of Prayer Service for  
Cleeve & Claverham

2.00pm Chapter House at St Mary's: World Day of Prayer Service for  
Yatton, Kenn, Kingston Seymour and Yatton Methodist Church

### 1st Sunday 5th SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

8.30am St. John's: BCP Holy Communion  
10.00am St. Mary's: Holy Communion  
10.00am Holy Trinity: Shared Parish Communion  
11.00am All Saints': All Together in Church

### 2nd Sunday 12th THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

8.30am All Saints': BCP Holy Communion  
10.00am St. Mary's: Morning Prayer  
10.00am St. Barnabas: Shared Parish Communion  
10.00am Holy Trinity: Lent Waymarks  
11.00am St. John's: All Together in Church

### 3rd Sunday 19th MOTHERING SUNDAY

10.00am St. Mary's: Holy Communion  
10.00am Holy Trinity: Shared Parish Communion  
11.00am All Saints': Holy Communion

### 4th Sunday 26th FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – **CLOCKS GO FORWARD**

10.00am St. Mary's: Morning Prayer  
10.00am St. Barnabas: Shared Parish Communion  
10.00am Cleeve Village Hall: Café Church  
11.00am St. John's: Holy Communion  
3.00pm All Saints': Holy Baptism

## THE YATTON MOOR TEAM MINISTRY



**Website:** [www.yattonchurches.org](http://www.yattonchurches.org)



**Facebook:** **Yatton Moor Churches**

**Team Office:**

St Mary's Church, Church Road,  
Yatton, BRISTOL BS49 4HH



Monday - Friday 9.30 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

01934 832184 ~ Answerphone at all times



**E-mail:** [office@yattonchurches.org](mailto:office@yattonchurches.org)

**Team Rector:**

Vacancy

**Team Vicar:**

Revd Nigel Thomas, Tel: 01934 283340

**House for Duty Priest:**

Revd Fran Binding, Tel: 01934 830120

**Assist. Priests:**

Revd John Angle, Tel: 01934 835521

Revd Avril Gaunt, Tel: 01934 832995

Revd Richard Taylor, Tel: 01934 413263

**Readers:**

Allan Attwood, Tel: 01934 838000

Paul Stalder, Tel: 01934 832935

### Churches and Churchwardens:

***St Mary the Virgin, Yatton:***

Lesley Farrall, Tel: 01934 832903

***All Saints', Kingston Seymour:***

Sue Thomas, Tel: 01934 833593

***St John the Evangelist, Kenn:***

John Ball, Tel: 01275 874077  
or 07816 671304

Julia Bush, Tel: 01275 873554

***St Barnabas, Claverham & Holy Trinity, Cleeve:***

Nicholas Cush, Tel: 01934 832059

Clive Perrott, Tel: 01934 832811

## Lunch Break

The next Lunch Break is on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March in our lovely Village Hall at the slightly later time of 12.30.

So please come along, a very warm welcome awaits anyone who fancies coming.

Homemade soup, bread, cheese, homemade cake and, of course, tea and coffee all served at your table.

A donation of £5 per person goes towards the cost of the lunch and any leftover money is donated to the local food bank. Foodbank donation update next month!

So, if you work from home, are retired, or otherwise free on a Monday lunchtime please pop along and share lunch with friends.

**Next Lunch Break - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 12.30-2pm**

April - Monday 3rd

Hope to see you there!

Sarah and Tim



## TICKENHAM

**Saturday 25th March**  
**at Tickenham Village Hall**

**50 years of  
MUSICALS CONCERT.**

**Tickets are £10 and available  
from [www.ticketsource](http://www.ticketsource)**

**or from me - Sue Parker**

**[suzyjeg@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:suzyjeg@hotmail.co.uk)**

## **Kenn Village Market**

**Saturday 11th March**

**10.00am - 12noon**



### **Village Market**

Kenn market is such a lovely place to catch up with neighbours and friends while you enjoy a coffee and browse the wide assortment of produce.

We were pleased to welcome Clovis back to the market in February. with his delicious French patisserie and we hope to have a few more stall holders next month, so please drop in.

We had a helper serving the refreshments this month, Callum, he managed to collect £94 to go towards his 'Deki challenge', a very worthwhile charity helping families in Africa.

*"Deki believes that everyone should have the opportunity to work their way out of poverty, to create a better future for their families, and to have the chance to change their lives and the lives of those around them."*

Callum is really grateful for your generosity and knows your donations will make a significant difference to many people.

Don't forget if you have a charity you would like to raise money for and would like to provide the refreshments, please contact either Lyn or Maggie.

Our next market is Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March from 10 am to 12pm; we hope to see you there.

Maggie Hobbs 876277 or Lyn Burnett 870189

## Bird News

The main ornithological event of the month was the impressive Starling murmuration in Clevedon by Tesco's store.

I estimated 12,000 birds on the 5th with a few less on the 12th.

At least one Sparrowhawk was in attendance and the spectacle attracted a good number of watchers.

The birds are likely to disperse and return to Europe fairly soon.



The local moors were quiet but with a few flocks of Redwings and Fieldfares could be seen and there were some big gatherings of Gulls.

YACWAG's Kenn Moor Reserve had 15 roosting Snipe at the beginning of the month, a low count probably due to the dry weather.

A Kingfisher was there and also by the Little River. Mistle Thrushes were seen at Little River and at Brockley.

Eight Goosanders were on the River Yeo at Congresbury with a decent flock of Meadow Pipits nearby.

A Red Kite was unseasonal over Smallway Congresbury with a Woodcock on the slopes of Cadbury Hill where a flock of ten Siskins provided a welcome sight.

Finally a Lapland Bunting near the Kenn Estuary on the 24th was the **rarest bird of the month in the Parish of Kenn and it's likely to be the rarest bird of 2023 in Kenn.**

Trevor Riddle - 01934 835208.

Typist's note - thanks go to everyone who sent an amazing number of pictures of the murmuration



Useful Numbers:

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

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

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

**Churchwardens:**  
Julia Bush 01275 873554  
John Ball 874077 - 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](mailto:Margaret.john@btinternet.com)  
Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn



**Saturday 11th March 10 — 12noon**

**North Somerset Times**

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



**MARCH WASTE COLLECTIONS — MONDAYS**

**Recycling and food waste 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th March**  
**Dustbin 6th and 20th March**



Clevedon Salerooms Ltd, The Auction Centre, Kenn Road, Kenn, Clevedon, BS21 6TT  
<https://www.clevedonsalerooms.com>

Antique, Interiors, Collectables & Jewellery

**30th March 10.30am**  
Viewing Wednesday prior 10.00am-5.00pm

catalogues can be viewed at

Quarterly Specialist Sale

**Thursday 9th March 10.30am**  
Viewing Wednesday prior 10.00am-5.00pm

[www.clevedonsalerooms.com](http://www.clevedonsalerooms.com)

## Rome & Assisi Pilgrimage

Bishop Mike Hill, Archdeacon Christine Froude & Canon David Froude invite you to a holiday of a different kind...

If you want a holiday with a difference, this really is for you. We are very warmly inviting you to join us on a pilgrimage. This is an opportunity to spend some time together exploring this beautiful part of God's world. Bible study, praying, enjoying each other's company, whether single or part of a couple, time for reflection and worship combine to weave the rich pattern that pilgrims have established over the centuries.

Each day will begin with a short 'thought for the day' and a prayer on the coach. During the period away there will be a couple of opportunities to share in Holy Communion and each day will conclude with some Bible teaching followed by a short service of Night Prayer. Most of this is entirely optional and to some extent local facilities dictate what is possible.

The experienced leaders of the pilgrimage will do all they can to make sure you have an enriching and enjoyable time. Why not take a look via this link:

<http://www.maranatha.co.uk/PILGRIMAGE2023-ROME&ASSISI/>

Click on "e-Brochure" to look at the full details. Forwarded by the Team Office, Clare Attrill

## Kenn Parish Council

The Annual Village meeting is before the Parish Council meeting on Monday 6th March. Do come along, its your chance to put questions and ideas to the Council. I am informed that Councillor Bridger will be attending and ready to answer any questions from the public

There are elections this year, this is now the time to stand for the Parish Council, Stephen has given his thoughts and advice on the Council in the News and Views, you can ask any councillor how it works and how they contribute.

There are many new folk in the village now, and it's the time to put new ideas and views to the council, and maybe stand as a councillor, we have meetings every 2 months so its not mega time consuming.

I am available if anyone wants any information.

Kind regards Sheila - 0780 892 0962



## KENN W.I.

A meeting of Kenn Women's Institute held on Wednesday  
8<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 2.00p.m. in the Village Hall

Mrs. Diane Woolf, President, welcomed members who were attending. Gill was there as a visitor.

Apologies were received from Mrs. Mary Ashton, Mrs. Sylvia Genge, Mrs. Barbara Hancock, Mrs. Marion Hulance, Mrs. Betty Loveridge, and Mrs. Irene Stowell. Ms. Caroline Holden welcomed our speaker for the afternoon, Mrs. Pauline Cox from Sow and Arrow in Clevedon. She was making a return visit and spoke about good nutrition and the benefits of magnesium. She was warmly thanked and did a brisk trade with her book and food supplements.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and signed.

**Matters arising:** The lunch at Carriages, Tickenham had been much enjoyed by all those who attended. The skittles players had won their first match against Blagdon which was played at Redhill. The next match will be against **Abbots Leigh W.I.**

Mrs. Margaret Burdge is negotiating with them to set the next venue and date. The match has to be played by the end of February.

**Treasurers Report:** In her absence Mrs. Marion Hulance reported a credit balance of £2,507.85. Copies of the Avon Newsletter will be ordered to appear from April. Eight copies will be ordered and there were no members wishing for an electronic copy. £5 will be collected from those members wishing to attend the celebratory lunch at the Mendip Springs Golf Club in November.

**Newsletter, Board and Correspondence.** There was a letter from the W.I. announcing that Coronation cards are to be sent to the Royal Ladies who are W.I. members and asking for ideas. There were ten items for the Board and members were urged to look at them and sign.

**Jobs** Mrs. Marlene Arney, Mrs. Jane Clark and Mrs. Chris Honor will not be at the March meeting so their jobs were reallocated.

**Group Meeting and Group Affairs.** The next Group Meeting is to be held in Yatton on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> April. There will be information about the venue and speaker for the next meeting. There will be a Kurling evening at Tickenham Village Hall at 7pm on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March when Kenn W.I. will be defending the championship.

**Annual Meeting** Mrs. Diane Woolf and Miss Ann Holtham will be attending the W.I. Annual Meeting in Cardiff on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May.

On each chair was a questionnaire on the future of Kenn W.I. for members to take away and think about.

The replies will be collected at the March meeting and analysed by the Committee.

The meeting closed at 4.00 p.m.

...

Ann Holtham

**Barbara April Middleton —21.4.36 - 31.12.22**

**Thank you.**

It was a joy, and very moving, to see Kenn Church packed with friends and family on the 27th January, to bid a fond farewell to Mum.

We know she would have loved to have been there, and will have been looking down on us all with a big smile on her face.

We'd just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came to pay their respects, both at the Crematorium and the Church.



It went to show how much you all thought of Mum.

She had an awful lot of great memories of her time in Kenn, and with the many friends she made there.

We'd particularly like to thank the Church Wardens (Julia Bush, and John Ball) for all their hard work in ensuring the day went so well, and Avril (for the truly excellent service and all her support - prior to, and on, the day), and Jo (for the music in church).

Thanks must also go to the Undertakers, Keith C. Britton & Son, for all their help, guidance, and effort in ensuring the day went as well as it did.

The collection raised £1,326 for the Alzheimer's Society, and £1,201 for Dementia UK - a fantastic total of £2,527 - so thank you all for your generosity.

Finally, a big thank you to Margaret Ball for her lovely write up in last month's Kenn News and Views.

With heartfelt thanks,

Nigel, Tina and Family.  
Kevin, Penny and Family.

## Give a Dog a Home - Mum's Dog Caspar.....

Would anyone like to re-home Caspar?

8 year old Springer Spaniel. Needs to go on a diet.

Very friendly to humans but not so with other dogs.

Needs to be kept on a lead and muzzled on walks. Pulls on the lead.

Thanks Chris Cooper - more details [chriscooper.010@gmail.com](mailto:chriscooper.010@gmail.com)

Telephone 0747 936 1062

## The Yellow Teapot

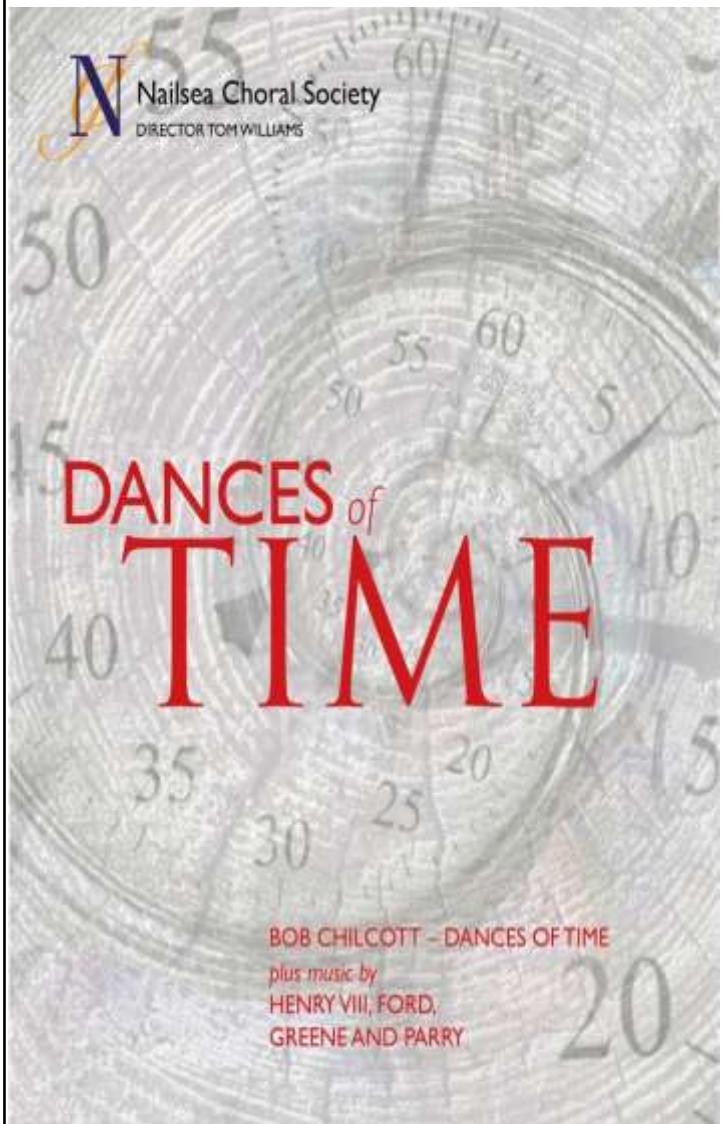


**Monday 13th March**

**From 2.30 — 4.00pm**

**Come along and enjoy good company, cakes, biscuits and all manner of beverages**

**Julia Bush**



**Saturday 25 March 2023**

**7.30 p.m. Tickets £10 (U18s £5)**

**Nailsea Methodist Church www.nailseachoral.org.uk**  
BS48 2DS



Dear Friends and Neighbours,

Thank you so much for all of the generous donations to the Foodbank this month. The money gifted together with the food items and cleaning products have been very gratefully received at the Foodbank.



It's very clear that all donations are very quickly allocated to those families who really do have to rely on the generosity of others. Therefore, as quickly as the donations arrive the needy are able to collect the much needed supplies. Nothing goes to waste!

I became aware this month that in addition to the usual donations, children's toothbrushes and toothpastes are needed.

Also fruit juices are very much appreciated as they help to supply much needed vitamins to the recipients.

Thank you for all your donations.

These can be left in the allocated box inside the village church porch and inside the front porch at Carpenters Farm, Kenn Street.

All donations are delivered every Friday morning to the Clevedon Foodbank.

Keep up the good work!

Liz Jaehme

**The Galvanised Bin.**

Keep the packs and plastic bottle tops coming!

There is a small, galvanised bin just inside the driveway at Chapel Cottage on Kenn Street



**Put used tablet blister packs and plastic bottle tops in the bin. I then take them to a collection point in Clevedon.**

From a monthly trip to the collecting point it is now weekly.

Thank you Kenn for this recycling.

Caroline x

## Lone Working Policy

This is a very short summary of the Church of England 'Lone Working Guidance'

Firstly, we have a personal responsibility when alone when in or around church buildings, to take reasonable care of ourselves.



This includes thinking whether what we are about to do could be something that could cause us to be injured.

For instance, should we be standing on a chair or pew, or moving something unreasonably heavy or unwieldy?

Would it be better to ask someone to help?

It is *ALWAYS* advisable to let someone know that we are going to be alone in church, and to let them know when we leave the building.

Secondly, if an accident or incident occurs, even a minor one, one of the clergy, a churchwarden or Parish Safeguarding Officer **must** be told as soon as possible.

By doing that, the best help can be sought, a further risk assessment can be made, and possibly, further safeguards be put in place to prevent such a thing happening again.

Julia Bush

PSO St John's

**PS This applies to all aspects of lone working, especially in a rural setting.**



**Crazy Gang Entertainment**

# ***New Beginners Class***

## **Line Dance Classes**

At

**Kenn Village Hall,  
Kenn Street,  
Kenn,  
BS21 6TN**



**STARTING 6<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Every Monday Morning 10am - 11am £6.00 (Card Or Cash)

For more information call or text Chris on 07796 140205

Crazy Gang Entertainment has been running since June 2001. I pride myself on teaching all ages with a variety of modern line dance in an energetic and fun way that's suitable for all.

### **What Is Line Dancing?**

Line dancing simply put is a form of social dance that requires no partner. Groups of people come together on a dance floor and dance side by side in lines to a pre choreographed repeating routine.

### **What is the music and dance style?**

The music and dance styles for line dancing are not bound to any specific genre. It embraces country, latin, ballroom, pop to name but a few. The same applies to it's dance genres, it utilises cha, cha cha, swing, waltz, two step and even mambo and samba, again to name but a few.

**When arriving, Please Look out for our logo and follow signage.**

Please wear sensible flat shoes with as little grip as possible. You will get hot dancing so don't be overdressed. We recommend you bring a drink. Toilets available.

[www.crazygangentertainment.co.uk](http://www.crazygangentertainment.co.uk)

**Friday 3rd March at 2.00pm - A World Day Of Prayer Service for Yatton, Kenn, Kingston Seymour and Yatton Methodist Church will be held at the Chapter House at St Mary's.**

**All are welcome to attend.**



## CONGRATULATIONS

Sunday 14th February, our flag was flown in celebration of the birth of baby Hallie Rebecca Bessant-Hawken at 7.21 on Saturday 13th, a daughter for India Bessant and Lewis Hawken, a granddaughter for Robert Bessant and great granddaughter for Margaret Bessant, who India regularly helped at the Village Markets.



India with Hallie and Lewis,  
Hallie asleep  
Great nanny Margaret cuddling Hallie

Below - January Coffee Morning, India, dad Robert, Auntie Kay and hostess Margaret.



**Roth Guitar Duo concert at St Mary's, Yatton, 25<sup>th</sup> March.**

Yatton Music Society's March concert will be a rare opportunity to hear a guitar duo played by two brilliant graduates from the Royal Northern College of Music.

Emma Smith and Sam Rodwell have played at venues and festivals throughout the U.K and they always strive to create varied programmes of interest to any music lover, ranging from Renaissance to newly commissioned works.

The concert starts at 7.30pm on 25<sup>th</sup> March at St Mary's Church, ticket prices are £10, students over 16 half price, children free. The audience is assured of a warm welcome and sublime music. Details of the concert can be found on the society's website [www.yms.org.uk](http://www.yms.org.uk)



**Yatton Local History Society**

Tuesday March 7th at 7 30pm Yatton Methodist Church.

The AGM will be followed by a talk on—What you might learn of the history of Cleeve by walking through it by Marianne Pitman.

If you are not a member and want to join or want to register an email address please contact YLHS at [yattonlocalhistorysoc@gmail.com](mailto:yattonlocalhistorysoc@gmail.com)



Palm Sunday 2nd April  
 - at 7:30pm  
 the Team-based  
 Yatton & Winscombe Chorale under  
 the baton of Ian Hubbard, will be  
 singing Mozart's  
 "Sparrow Mass",  
 along with other musical items  
 by Stanford, Handel,  
 Tallis & Bruckner.

Everyone is welcome, and there is no entrance charge, although a retiring collection will be taken after the concert.

## Coffee Morning in aid of DEC Turkey/Syria Earthquake Appeal

Trying to imagine what the Turkish/Syrian earthquake survivors are suffering is probably beyond our comprehension.

We live in a country mostly with only minor earthquakes which makes us very privileged.

The survivors face a future without their homes, possessions as well as friends relatives and neighbours. A bleak prospect especially in Syria where aid has been especially slow in arriving.

As with all natural disasters we all feel immense compassion in the immediate aftermath of the event. Gradually the item drops out of the news and is replaced by other events.

The DEC appeal ([dec.org.uk](http://dec.org.uk)) has raised nearly £100m but there are 18 million people in the affected area who need our help to be ongoing.

So we would like to invite you to a very special coffee morning on

**Saturday 15th April** to raise money for the DEC appeal.

Our own Sue Parker, musical director and pianist, will be playing the piano with special guests and you can rely on the cooking skills of the village to provide delicious cakes.

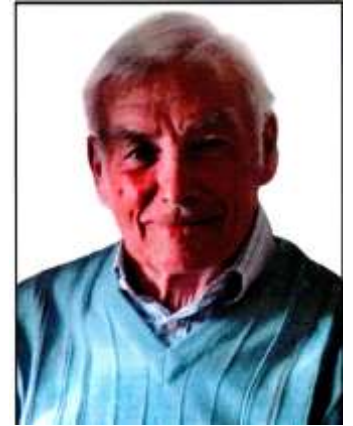
Please prepare yourselves with generous donations of cash to show the survivors that we really care.

Robin and Marianna



## Colin George Cooper - 5th November 1935 — 15th January 2023

A Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Colin George Cooper was held at St John the Evangelist, Kenn on Wednesday 8th February. The Revd. Fran Binding officiated and Jo Manning provided the musical accompaniment. Colin's family were supported by a large congregation of friends and neighbours.



Some thoughts from his son Chris - Colin was born in Hackney in London, the youngest of three children to Beatrice and William Cooper. Thanks to his sister Barbara's matchmaking Mum and Dad met in 1956 and married 5 years later. Their first home was in Dunstable, but a work opportunity with Bass Brewery in Bristol, brought Mum and Dad into Congresbury and therefore into a lot of your lives. The area of Somerset meant a great deal to Dad with walking in the Quantocks and Mendips a favourite activity, so a brief spell in Hampshire soon had them rushing back, into Langford.



Perhaps Dad's greatest achievement was their next move to the current family home in Kenn, 44 years ago, where with the knowledge that he had from his profession as a property developer, he built Ilexmead. I have fond memories of helping with the construction or rather just being the labourer, such as off loading Stowell's wagon of dense concrete blocks by hand, or sanding endless lengths of timber. Dad took a great deal of satisfaction from the process and the home that it created for us all.

Over the years Dad enjoyed almost all sports. Cycling with Mum, playing Tennis, Squash, Badminton and Table Tennis - playing well into his 70's at Clevedon Community Centre. As well as stamp collecting, he was a keen bridge player which he was able to do with Mum. Together they loved taking holidays, at home and abroad, most recently on cruises. My brother and I have fond memories of the many family day trips and holidays to Woolacombe and Cornwall where we were always playing in the sand and surf. I think walking in the hills with his dog beside him, sums up what Dad enjoyed doing most. Recently with Caspar, who now looks after Mum.

Sadly Dementia took control of Colin and he spent some of his last years in care.

Much loved and missed by Mum; myself and brother Kevin. Grandfather to Charlotte; Michael; Thomas and George. Great Grandfather to Aaliyah

*Our Village Flag was flown for both Colin's passing and funeral, and most sadly to mark the passing of his widow, Jo Cooper on the 18th February.*

Sincere condolences go to the Cooper family from everyone in Kenn.

## Our Monthly Missive from The Limes

It seems a long time since I last wrote an article for KN&V. The reason is very simple. It IS a long time since I wrote an article for KN&V. In a moment of inspiration in early January, soon after the last article, I sat down and wrote February's piece, and like good wine, left it to mature until it needed to be sent off.

As a result, a certain amount of inertia has crept in and I was tempted to leave it for this month. However the image of the worthy burghers of Kenn spilling their coffee in their laps in dismay, unbelief and disappointment at finding the only item left to read in KN&V was the Parish Council Notes was too much for me.

Therefore I am devoting this damp, drizzly Tuesday morning putting pen to paper – actually fingers to keyboard – to inform and amuse you and I hope you appreciate it.

It is extremely easy when writing a regular column to fall into the trap of using it to express opinions and to influence the thinking of others. I try to avoid that but am aware it is not particularly easy or in some cases, achievable.

My view is that if you want to be told what to think, read the Guardian or the Telegraph or some other publication depending on your persuasion. Most of them have writers who are employed to have strong views on certain subjects. However that is my opinion, so you can see I have failed again.

In general I try to regale you with fact based articles. Sometimes the facts are so stark that it is clear what to think and thus may well influence your opinions and conversations. In others the facts are just facts. For example my article about the composition of eggs and mating habits of poultry is hardly likely to feature in an exchange of views over the dinner table unless you are consuming an omelette.

Bearing all this in mind, this month I want to turn to the subject of roads.

Last week, coming home along the Tickenham road late at night, (yes I do get out at night), halfway along the road was a "Road closed ahead" sign, sadly with no clue as to what to do about it.

Thinking it might be one of those roads that are often open at night despite the sign, and being curious anyway I continued on. A bit later was another sign. Again no suggestion as to what to do, which is a pity as the Tickenham Road is an important thoroughfare and as there is no obvious alternative, people need all the help they can get.

It transpired that the road was closed a few hundred yards short of where it goes under the motorway. It was well and truly closed with cones and lights across the road, a vehicle blocking it and even a CCTV warning sign.

All it needed was blue flashing lights and a news camera crew.

Another road closure that affected me the other day was in Pill. (Yes, I do get to some odd places). A road had been closed for several days and when I drove along it the other night looking for changes, all I could find were a couple of speed bumps outside the school, virtually hidden by being black and it being night time with no warning signs. Needless to say, them being invisible, I found them the hard way.

So where is all this going? (I mean this article – not the roads which clearly are going nowhere).

It does seem that road closures are becoming the norm in the area and I've mentioned before the mental gymnastics required to work out how to get from A to B.

So why have we so many road closures? There are several reasons and they broadly fall into two groups. One is utilities and the other is road repair. I'll come back to the first in moment, the second is so rare it's not worth considering.

But why close the roads? The answer generally is it is more efficient in theory to get the job done in one go than piecemeal. Also there is the health and safety aspect, (certainly I would not like to be some of the men working on the roads) and finally sometime it just can't be done any other way.

The last two points are valid. The problem with the first one is that it requires efficient planning and organisation. We have all seen instances where nothing seems to happen and the work has just halted.

To be fair a lot of work is done without closures. We just have traffic lights and delays instead but at least with patience we can get through. For a number of years Clevedon has been subject to upheaval while the gas pipes in the town have been replaced. I don't recollect any roads being closed but I may be wrong.

The next source of upheaval is broadband. That affected our country lanes and some time ago I wrote a light hearted article tracing the route of Truespeed's and Gigaclear's routes across the moor. Now Truespeed have expanded into the local towns upheaval there will carry on for some time.

Another source is building sites. The Tickenham Road has been badly affected by building on the two Roundtrees sites. They need water, electricity, drains etc and traffic lights have come and gone on that road for years. More roadworks are planned and I have been told it will be closed totally in May for 3 weeks but I have not had that confirmed, so again, I may be wrong.

The final reason for closures will probably upset some folk as,

- a) it is not what you want to hear, and
- b) it will challenge your thinking, as ideology faces facts and reality.

The cause is electric vehicles, about which I will say I have mixed views.

I was brought up in the days of electric milk floats and the advantages of them were clear. They were relatively silent, the bottles making more noise than the vehicle and they were efficient.

However, encouraging everyone to move to electric cars is going to create a whole host of problems. Space here does not allow me to go into the eco issues (which are not as clear cut as many think) but I can say we do not have an infrastructure to support them. To put it bluntly we do not currently have enough electricity generation in this country to support wide scale use of electric vehicles or the ability to get it where needed in the volume required.

Both may be surmountable eventually but certainly putting in the large capacity cables for charging stations is an immense task. Most homes nowadays have an electric connection capable of supplying 100Amps. To charge a car to go nearly 40 miles will take about 50Amps for an hour (at a rough cost of £5 if 40p per unit) and most home supplies should accommodate that. The sting in the tail is that when electrical distribution systems are designed they are designed on the basis that not everyone is going to take large amounts of power at the same time so if you all go home and plug your cars in to charge at once there will be problems.

Fast charging points at garages are totally different and require vast amounts more of current, usually delivered at a higher voltage and possibly with a small substation alongside.

If as a result of electric vehicles, it is required that distribution cables are upgraded, you will find it is not a five minute job. Unlike broadband where you dig a small trench, put the cable in and fill it and move on, electricity cables are a much slower installation process.

The 3 or 4 way traffic lights in Clevedon where the Portishead road joins were in place for weeks. The reason, I am informed, was that it was for new electricity cables for the BP garage for EV charging points.

The roadworks along Kenn Road and through the Kenn Moor Drive housing estate are also for new power lines for one of the industrial units (although possibly not for charging) and these works have been going on for months.

Therefore be prepared for many more years of disruption on our roads.

Of course if you believe the North Somerset Council website and the media, we should all walk, cycle or use the bus, whatever our age or health or disabilities or reason for travel. I may address that parallel universe another time.

Stephen

**KENN PARISH COUNCIL****2023****ANNUAL PARISH MEETING****MONDAY – 6 March 2023 at 7.00pm**

At the Village Hall, Kenn Street, Kenn

Persons registered as local government electors for the Parish of Kenn are invited to attend and are entitled to speak and vote.

**AGENDA**

1. To sign the minutes of the 2022 Annual Parish Meeting. (Copies available on the Parish Council web site or on request to the Clerk – see below)
2. To receive the Annual Report by the Chairman of Council on the Parish Council's year from May 2022.
3. To receive the Financial Report of the Parish Council.
4. To invite Kenn local government electors to;
  - 4.1 Make comment or ask questions of Kenn Parish Councillors & North Somerset Councillors (if in attendance) representing the Parish of Kenn
  - 4.2 Suggest parish items for possible consideration during the next year.

**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

**2023 Meetings**

6 March – Ann. Parish Meeting  
6 March – Council (after A.P.M.)

**4 May – Council Elections**

15 May – Statutory Ann. Council  
3 July – Council

4 September – Council  
6 November – Council

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

**Which forms of ID can I use to vote?**

You may already have a form of photo ID that is acceptable. You can use any of the following:

- Passport
- Driving licence (including provisional license)
- Blue badge
- Certain concessionary travel cards
- Identity card with PASS mark (Proof of Age Standards Scheme)
- Biometric Immigration document
- Defence identity card
- Certain national identity cards

For more information on which forms of photo ID will be accepted, visit [electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID](http://electoralcommission.org.uk/voterID) or call their helpline on 0800 328 0280.

If you don't have an accepted form photo ID, or you're not sure whether your photo ID still looks like you, you can apply for a free voter ID document, known as a Voter Authority Certificate. You can apply for this at [voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk](http://voter-authority-certificate.service.gov.uk).

**For the local elections on 4 May 2023**

**REMEMBER TO**  
1- Register to vote  
2- Check my photo ID  
3- Vote at a  
polling station!