

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Birthdays and Anniversaries

September

- 1st - Tina Smith
Clare & Matt Hibbs (WA)
2nd - Marianna & Robin Mackay
(WA)
- Tina & Mike Smith (WA)
3rd – Mrs. Renee Russell
7th - Mr. George Holtham
7th - Mike and Joan Stephens (WA)
8th - Matthew Hayden
18th - Jean Fenwick
20th - Jessica Quinn
20th - Clive & Suzanne Golding-Ellis
(WA)
24th - Iris and Dennis Goldsworthy
(WA)
25th - Caroline and John Hayden
(WA)
26th - Joanna (Staples) Cheek
28th - Heather Jenkins

St. John's Altar Guild

September Rota

Mrs. J. Stowell, Mrs. J. Naish
and Mrs. S. Pugh

St. John the Evangelist **ANNUAL DEEP CLEAN**

The Annual Spring/Deep clean of our lovely church is planned for Monday 20th September when the heavy and high work will be addressed and Tuesday 21st when lots of help will be needed for sweeping, washing, polishing etc.

All help will be greatly appreciated –

***MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT
WORK.***

Jean Naish, Altar Guild Secretary

Church News

Kenn Church A 'Quiet Time'

About three or four times a year, when there are five Sundays in the month, we have a quiet spell at Kenn. On the fifth Sunday the primetime service for the whole team is at Yatton and Kenn and Kingston alternate in having 8am Communion (this time it's at KS).

The first Sunday of the next month is always 8am HC.

This year on the second Sunday in September there will be no services at Kenn because Kingston is having its Harvest Festival that day and will be having morning and evening services.

St John's will spring back to life on 19th September, with morning and evening services, followed by the Harvest Meal (details elsewhere in KN&V) Hope this explains 'the quiet spell'

Julia Bush

Harvest Festival

Kenn and Kingston Seymour Churches have changed over dates for their Harvest Festivals this year.

Kingston's Harvest will be held on Sunday 12th September with Kenn's Harvest on the 19th. It would be nice if more people

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moved from church to church to join in the celebration of the completion of harvest which affects everyone not just farmers.

At the morning service at Kenn at 11 am, children are invited to bring Harvest Gifts. Later in the week these gifts will be distributed to the sick and elderly.

Ray Naish

Kenn Harvest Festival

The Crazy Kenn Cookers are at it again!

In a moment of total insanity we have decided to cook you all a roast dinner to follow the Harvest Festival Evensong.

You will be served roast dinner with all the trimmings and be surprised to be able to select your scrumptious second course from a stupendous sweet trolley.

Numbers are strictly limited and tickets will be available on a first come, first served basis, at an amazing price of £5 for adults and £2.50 for children (free for under fives).

Venue: Kenn Village Hall
Drinks: Bring your own!

Tickets from Churchwardens, Ray Naish and Julia Bush also from 'Kooks' Jenny Pascoe and Marianna Mackay

KENN NOTES – SNIPPETS

Our Flag on the Village Green

Celebrations –

Safe Arrival

We were pleased to fly our flag on 18th August to celebrate the safe arrival of Isaac Thomas a son for Emma and Peter Brooks and a grandson for Fred and Jean Fenwick

Kenn Nonagenarian

Congratulations to Sam Staples of Riverside Farm, who celebrated his ninetieth birthday on August 24th.

Ruby Wedding 29th August

We flew our flag to celebrate the Ruby Wedding of Jane and Hartley Staples, of Elm Bank. We wish them many more happy years together.

Kenn Village Hall Fund Raising Events.

The Coffee Morning arranged for 28th July raised £115 and the Jumble Sale held on 18th August raised £107. Sincere thanks to everyone who supported these events.

Kenn Women's Institute 8th September at 7.30 pm.

Kenn Women's Institute will meet in Kenn Village Hall on 8th September when Mrs Kidner will speak on 'Badgers in my Kitchen' Competition wildlife photograph.

Non members always welcome

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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Cloverlea, Kenn Street

7.00 pm Monday 6th September
meet for a walk with Ray Naish
Probably the last of the season.

Drum & Monkey

Tuesday 7th September
Village Lunch from 12.30
everyone welcome

Every Wednesday
QUIZ NIGHT

All Welcome

Make an evening of it - Have a
Meal and stay for the Quiz

Mike's Monday Night Specials
See board outside Drum

Clevedon Salerooms

Thursday 2nd September 10 am

Sale of Victorian and Later Furniture
and Effects

Viewing Wednesday prior 10-7
and Morning of sale 9-10

Wednesday 8th September at
7.30 pm at Kenn Village Hall

Kenn W.I. Meeting – 7.30 pm
Speaker - Mrs. Kidner
Subject - 'Badgers in my Kitchen
Competition – Wildlife Photograph

Everyone welcome

Tuesday 14th September

Outing to Royal Portbury and
Avonmouth Docks.

The outing arranged by Kenn
Women's Institute to visit the Royal
Portbury and Avonmouth Docks.

The coach will leave the Church
Lay by at 10.45 a.m.

After the tour the party will visit The
Drum and Monkey for lunch if
wished.

Saturday 18th September 2 - 5 pm

Littlewood Open Day

St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

Sunday 19th September

Harvest Festival

11.00 a.m. Harvest Family
Service

6.00 p.m. Festal Evensong

7.00 pm. Harvest Supper
at Kenn Village Hall

St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

Annual Deep Clean

Monday 20th September
Evening

Tuesday 21st September

From 9.30 am.

HELP NEEDED!!!

Clevedon Salerooms

Thursday 23rd September

10.30 a.m.

Specialist Antique Sale

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Kenn Village Hall

Monday 4th October

7.30 pm Kenn Parish Council Meeting.

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES

A very respectable number of parishioners were present at the last Parish Council meeting to discuss two problems, which are causing concern at the moment.

Chief Inspector Nick Walker came to explain police powers relating to the recent invasion by travellers and the way in which it was handled.

Sergeant Steve Wright talked about road safety problems. The ensuing debate was animated and frank and while no conclusions were reached both sides probably understand each other a little better now.

It would appear that in the matter of the travellers, the police have very few powers unless the travellers actually break the law, and they are much too well informed to do anything that can give the police an opportunity to move them on. The law is very woolly and they know their 'rights'. The Parish Council has written to our M.P. to see if there is any possibility of changing the law.

At last the potholes at the Drum and Monkey lay by have been repaired. Unfortunately the day that the roadmen were in the village a group of ramblers set off on a walk from the village and left their cars in the Church lay by. We have asked for a few days notice and some bollards so that when they return there are no cars to prevent them doing the job.

The next full meeting of the Parish Council will be held on 4th October. Do come along and see your representatives in action.

Ann Holtham,
Clerk to Kenn Parish Council

KENN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Kenn had no formal meeting in August.

The September meeting will be held on the 8th at 7.30 pm when Mrs Kidner will be speaking on "Badgers in my Kitchen. The Competition will be for a Wildlife Photograph.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Point to Ponder

War does not determine who is right, war determines who is left!

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RAY'S HISTORICAL RAMBLINGS!

Do readers know that the population of Weston-super-Mare in 1811 was one hundred and twenty three people. The number of people living in Kenn at that time was probably more than twice that number. At that time there were more people in Kenn than there was in Clevedon, which was, in those days, just a farming and fishing village.

Clevedon began to expand when rich people from Bristol began having houses built on the hillside because it was considered much healthier than living in Bristol.

The population of Kenn has not altered greatly in several hundred years. As far as I can reckon, there are around three hundred and thirty people living here at the present time. This does not include any people living permanently at the caravan park at Lake Farm.

The difference between Kenn at the present time and years ago, is that instead of the houses being crammed full of people, most houses now have only two occupants. There are around fifteen houses in Kenn each with only one occupant, and only three houses with five people living in them. Compare that with "Stonehouse" the derelict house in Kenn Street, which ninety years ago had about twelve people living in it.

Kingston Seymour is much the same, two hundred years ago there were over three hundred people living there in a small number of houses, all the people working in the village.

Ray Naish

BIRD NEWS 1

A visit to Northamptonshire to visit my brother allowed a trip to The Wash where an official Montagu's Harrier watchpoint had been opened.

Montagu's Harriers are our rarest birds of prey with only about ten breeding pairs. They are similar to Hen Harriers and were named after Colonel George Montagu, who distinguished the species. The watchpoint was signed from the main road and eventually involved driving along a farm track to a grass car park close to the sea wall. Here was an information point, display small mobile shop and a portaloo!

A walk of a quarter of a mile along the top of the sea wall took me to the viewpoint, where 30 other people were watching. The female was immediately on view, perched near to her nest which (we were told) contained 2 well grown chicks.

It was a long, but pleasant wait for the male, a stunning grey bird with wonderfully buoyant flight.

When I visited there had been 4,500 visitors and pictures were being sold in aid of Frampton Village Funds as much traffic had passed through.

The salt-marsh stretches literally for miles out to the sea and when the Montagu's were not active there were Kestrels and Marsh Harriers.

There had been wonderful co-operation from the farmer as well as other bodies and the whole venture was proving very successful.

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On a local note, the Congresbury Moor Barn Owls are now much less active in daylight: no doubt they are learning to hunt for themselves at night.

On our sea wall a couple of young Peregrines were making fools of themselves, chasing Lesser Black Backed Gulls; the Curlew flock numbered 90, and a couple of Wheatears confirmed that autumn migration was underway. In a similar vein, Kenn Moor had a Whinchat, a Redstart as well as a Hobby that is hopefully nesting not too far away.

Hobbies used to be very rare, but with the expansion of gravel pits and wetlands, as well as climate change (they migrate from Africa) their numbers are increasing.

Incidentally (and this should be a pub quiz question) do you know how the table football game got its name SUBBUTEO? Its inventor was a bird watcher – the Latin name of the Hobby is Falco Subbuteo, and playing table football could be said to be a Hobby!

Trevor Riddle

Littlewood Open Day Saturday 28th September 2– 5 pm

The YACWAG Nature Reserve at Littlewood along Claverham Drove will be open on Saturday 28th September.

There will be activities for families and children and we hope birds, (there were Hobbies last year), dragonflies and butterflies to be seen.

There is no parking at the wood, but a courtesy minibus will run from Kenn Village Green at 2.07 pm, 2.37 pm, 3.07 pm and 3.37 pm. There will return buses at half hourly intervals from 3.15 pm.

Do come along and enjoy this lovely woodland with its veteran Alder Trees.

More details from

Trevor Riddle on 01934 835208 or
Tony Moulin on 01934 834282.

Trevor Riddle

BIRD NEWS II

Many birds have now recovered from their annual moult and have become much more active. There are large flocks of both Starlings and Sparrows around the village.

Several broods of young Swallows have left their nests around the 20th August. These are all second broods.

These young birds will be building up their strength to tackle the long migration to southern Africa within the next few weeks.

Ray Naish

01275 872493

Last of this Summer's Walks!

The last summer walk for this year will take place on Monday 6th September when we hope to go to Russ, near the Kingston boundary. All are welcome to join in – Meet at Cloverlea at 7 pm.

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Margaret's Mutterings

Sam Staples' 90th Birthday

Sam was joined by most of his large family at a gathering at the Village Hall on Sunday 22nd August, and was taken in Jane and Hartley's vintage Austin to The Blue Flame at West End Nailsea, for further celebrations on his actual birthday 24th August.

Kenn's own Marathon Runner

Congratulations again to Paul Tucker who writes:

'I am pleased to say I raised £2,250 for the British Heart Foundation. Would you please put a note in the KNV for me and thank the people who kindly sponsored me.'

The question now is:

'Will he do it again next year?'

What's on at the Drum?

Tuesday 7th September
Village Lunch from 12.30
everyone welcome

Tuesday 28th September
Back by popular demand
Colin Alexander
Is

Frank Sinatra
with supporting act.

3 course meal and
entertainment

Tickets £15 per person from
The Drum

Every Wednesday

QUIZ NIGHT

All Welcome

Make an evening of it - Have a
Meal and stay for the Quiz

Mike's Monday Night Specials

6.00 pm - 9.00 pm

Serve yourself

£7.45 Eat as much as U like

Monday 30th August

Italian Night

Italian Hot Buffet

Monday 6th August

Best of British

Fish & Chips, Cottage Pie,
Faggots, Steak & Kidney Pie,
Lamb Hot Pot and more

Monday 13th September

Usual Menu

Monday 20th September

Fish Night

Monday 27th September and

Monday 4th October

Chinese Nights

Age is in the mind
not in the calendar

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Ray's Summer Walks 26 July and 9 August

The first walk covered in this note was to a location you will not find on the map. This is because the Ordnance Survey maps and North Somerset Council call the area Rust when it should really be Russ. So having first gathered at Ray's house we made our way to Russ Lane near Russ Bridge.

The lane runs parallel to the now dismantled Clevedon to Yatton branch railway line and the railway company constructed it as an accommodation lane to restore access to farmland. The branch line was made about 1860.

Permission had been granted for us to visit the fishing pond close by the site of the bridge. Ray explained that wherever a railway bridge exists you would usually find a pond. These were formed when material was excavated to form the bridge ramps. In the case of Russ Bridge there were originally three ponds but one has since been filled in.

The lone fisherman must have been somewhat surprised to be visited by some forty or so assorted residents of Kenn & Kingston Seymour and hopefully we did not disturb the fishing too much. Apparently there are plenty of fish in the pond and a year or so back the surplus were removed to help re-stock other waters. Tench, Bream, Perch and Pike can all be found in the lake and I understand the largest Pike caught weighed in at 13 lb. The pond is quite shallow at approximately 4 feet deep.

The lake is a very tranquil place and we spotted a moorhen on the far side amongst the water lilies and reeds. In past times the latter were gathered by a local man Bill Holby and sold for thatching ricks. During the great drought of 1911 cattle from Kenn Court were brought here for watering. Ray recalled that back in the long hot summer of 1976 the water level dropped to only about 12 inches. There were large numbers of fish clearly visible then.

Leaving the pond we crossed the lane to an area through which the railway line used to run. Ray purchased this from the railway company and he now keeps it as a nature reserve. Some time ago whilst inspecting this land Ray discovered that the keystone of the bridge had fallen out and having reported it to the authorities the rail people came along and blew up the bridge.

A little further down the lane we visited land owned by Ray's family. I am always amazed to find the fields are named and with such special sounding names, Good Houses, Gages, Atchlands and Stubby Mead. The latter is one of the fields that was used to deposit the motorway construction debris and in consequence is much higher than the surrounding area.

This concluded what had been a pleasant evening walk made all the more interesting by Ray's knowledge of local history. All that remained was to thank Ray and to confirm the arrangements for the next walk.

The second walk, which took place on 9 August, was a visit to Jeff Naish's farm at the far end of Nailsea Wall. Once again about forty stalwarts attended and there was quite a traffic queue on Nailsea Wall road as we negotiated the entrance into the field Jeff had allocated to car parking.

Jeff started the walk by explaining that the farm had once been part of Little Manor before he purchased it and arranged for the current farmhouse to be built. The land varies considerably in height from around 20 metres near the house to near sea level where the Kenn River bounds it.

A feature of the higher land is the Nailsea stone, which lies only about 18 inches below the surface. This stone is used extensively in the locality for dry stone walling. It is ideal for this as the stone forms layers that are easily excavated and broken into suitable sizes.

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Close by the site of the new farmhouse was a stone quarry, which had been the source for some of the local walls some of which are believed to be about 300 years old.

Jeff employed a local man Matt Hobbs to build a new wall. He had learnt his trade when he was only twelve. He was eighty-four when he built Jeff's wall and it was his first entirely new wall.

Looking out across the land Jeff pointed out a rise in the ground, a location favoured by his cattle. Many years ago there had been a cottage at this spot and the owner had committed suicide. The cottage was subsequently abandoned and no longer exists.

Ray mentioned that they had started to lose land after the River Authority had altered the river bank and so the Environment Agency was given permission to plant trees which now form a mature hedge two thirds of a mile long. This prevents further erosion of the riverbank and forms a wonderful shelter for the cattle.

We made our way across the fields heading in the direction of the river. On the way Ray drew our attention to an Alder copse, which he has fenced off to keep the cattle out. It is hoped that this will protect the exposed roots of the Alders and allow regeneration of the copse with young trees. The copse was originally planted as shelter for an Orchard.

The field next to the river is almost at the same level as the water. Sam Staples told Ray that this field was once a swamp and covered in watercress. The whole field is really floating on a bed of peat and when we jumped up and down we could feel the ground vibrating and wobbling under foot.

It was quite a climb back to the high ground where we paused for a while to enjoy the scenery. A green woodpecker was heard and then seen and various members of the party reported spotting a mistle thrush, a buzzard and a heron.

Returning to the cars we paused for while in a field where Jeff keeps some interesting cattle including a rare Irish Moiled cow and Black Dexters. Close by was a most unusual fish tank, a cattle trough.

The finale of this enjoyable visit was a beautiful sunset and a rainbow appearing over Little Manor. Many thanks to Jeff for allowing us to visit his farm and to Ray for organising such an entertaining evening.

Robert Down.

"Where your bike is" – a short, short story

As Tom Meadows pedalled his old bike towards the local pub on the edge of the Village, he could hardly suppress a chuckle. I wonder, he thought, I wonder what she thinks now.

Old Tom was a real countryman, Hampshire born and bred. In fact, he'd never really been away from his Village at all, except for the war, when he served in the County Yeomanry, mostly in N. Africa. He was the cowman at the big farm up on the hill. He'd never married (some said he was wedded to his animals), didn't own a car, but was always to be seen of his bike. He liked a pint and to play dominoes at the pub.

Retirement for him was looming though and a few days ago he had gone to Winchester to see a solicitor to sort out some personal matters and it was on his return to the village that evening that was the cause of his brush with a certain village lady. He chuckled again.

The bus-stop to Winchester was on the main road, and next to the pub, so with the permission of the landlord, he had left his bike outside the pub all that day. As well as visiting his solicitor in Winchester, he looked up some old friends and spent time with them, consequently, he didn't get back till late.

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It was the next day, when he bumped into the formidable Miss Flint, Agnes Flint, her who was the keeper of other peoples' consciences.

"Well, Tom Meadows," she said, "have you got over that drinking spree that you had yesterday in the pub. You were there all day from ten o'clock."

What spree was that?" asked Tom.

She then went into detail, saying that she'd seen his bike outside the pub, all day. No doubt, she went on, he must have been drinking till lunchtime, slept it off in the pub till evening and then had more till night time.

"But Aggie, he persisted, I was in Winchester all day"

"I know you Tom Meadows, she continues, I know, and everyone knows that where your bike is, that where you'm is" He didn't argue, not with Aggie.

But as he told his pals that evening. "I fixed her, didn't I, I propped by bike up against the gate of her cottage, and what more, I left it there, all night."

"Where your bike is, that's where you'm is" That what she said, so that's what I did, said Tom and left it there, all night.

Cliff Edwards.

No God, No Peace!
Know God, Know Peace!

Sam's Prayer

Today, dear Lord, I'm 90, and there's much I haven't done,
So I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live, until I'm 91.

But if I haven't finished then, quite all I want to do,
Would you let me stay a while, until I'm 92?

There are many places I could go, there's so very much to see,
So perhaps, dear Lord, could you see your way, to make it 93.

The world is changing very fast, there's so much more in store,
I'd like it very much to stay until I'm 94.

Just 12 months more and if by then, I'm really still alive,
I'd like to have a little go and stay 'til 95.

More planes will then be in the air, so I'd really like to stick,
And see what happens in the world, when I'm 96.

I know dear Lord, it's much to ask, (it must be nice up Heaven)
But I'd really, really like to stay until I'm 97

I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes may be late,
But it would be so very nice, to be around at 98

I will have seen so many things and had a lovely time,
so I'm sure I might be willing to leave at 99.

On the other hand, I don't believe 't would damage anyone,
If just perhaps, I hang around, until I reach my TON.

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PARISH OF YATTON MOOR

1st Sunday - 5th September

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8am Holy Communion Kenn

8am Holy Communion Claverham
9.30am Parish Communion & Holy Baptism
Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Cleeve
11am Family Service Kingston Seymour
6pm Evensong Yatton

2nd Sunday - 12th September

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY YATTON PATRONAL FESTIVAL CLEEVE & KINGSTON SEYMOUR HARVEST FESTIVALS

8am Holy Communion Yatton
9.30am Patronal Festival Communion Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Claverham
11am Harvest Family Service Cleeve
11am Harvest Family Service
Kingston Seymour
6 pm Harvest Evensong Kingston Seymour
6.30 pm Holy Communion Cleeve

3rd Sunday - 19th September

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY KENN HARVEST FESTIVAL

8am Holy Communion Claverham
9.30am Parish Communion Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Cleeve
11am Harvest Festival Service Kenn
2.30pm Holy Baptism Yatton
6pm Harvest Evensong Kenn

SERVICES - SEPTEMBER 2004

4th Sunday - 26th September

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY YATTON & CLAVERHAM HARVESTS

8am Holy Communion Yatton
8am Holy Communion Kingston Seymour
9.30am Harvest Festival Communion Yatton
9.30am Holy Communion Cleeve
11 am Harvest Family Service Claverham
11am Holy Communion Kenn
6 pm Harvest Evensong Yatton

HOLY DAYS IN SEPTEMBER

14th Holy Cross Day

8.30 Holy Communion Yatton

21st Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

8.30 Holy Communion Yatton

29th MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

10.00 Holy Communion Yatton

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Daily 8.30am Morning Prayer at Yatton
(except Holy Days)

Every Wednesday:

10am: Holy Communion Yatton

1st Wednesday in month: 1st September

11am: Holy Communion at
Kingston Seymour

*3rd Wednesday in month: 15th September
11am: Holy Communion at Kenn*

4th Wednesday in month: 22nd September

11am: Holy Communion at Claverham

Every Thursday:

9.30am: Holy Communion at Cleeve