



**KENN**

ISSUE 315  
NOVEMBER  
2014

**NEWS & VIEWS**

### November Birthdays Anniversaries

9th	Andrew Jenkins
10th	Irene Stowell
13th	Sheila Naish Jody Stowell
16th	Miles and Sheila Naish - W.A
22nd	Emma Palmer (Smith)
27th	Rebecca Brett (Fenwick) arah Melling (Griffin)
28th	Sarah Clark Grace and John Griffin wedding anniversary
29 <sup>th</sup>	Richard Jaehme

### St John the Evangelist, Kenn ALTAR GUILD



**November** Sarah Clark, Marianna Mackay,  
and Ann Holtham

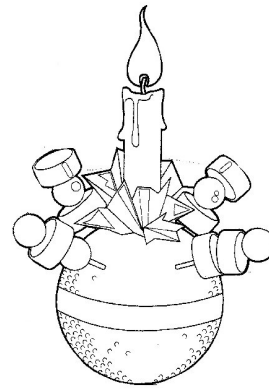
#### **December**

Week 1 - Jean Fenwick, Jenny Pascoe  
Week 2 - Caroline Holden, Hazel Limage  
Week 3 - Iris Callow, Heather Jenkins  
Week 4 - Jo Cheek, Marianna Mackay

**Our Church was floodlit on Saturday 4th  
October for the Autumn by Candlelight  
Concert in Church**

**And again on**

**Sunday 19th October for our service of  
Evensong**



### Christingles in Kenn

This year's Christingle Family Service at St John's will be at 11.00am on Sunday 23rd November.

The Christingle, a creation made from an orange, ribbon and dried fruit and sweets is a tradition from the Moravian Church adopted by The Children's Society and used as their main fundraiser.

We will be making the Christingles on Saturday 22nd November in the New Room from 2.30pm. Children are particularly welcome to help to make the Christingles, play chat and finish with snacks.

Julia and Caroline

**Church Room  
Charity Coffee Morning**

**Saturday 22nd November  
10 - 12 noon  
Everyone Welcome**

### Our Flag

was flown at half mast on Wednesday 8th October for the funeral service at St John the Evangelist, Kenn for Mervyn Baker

And again on

Thursday 9th October when his ashes were interred in the churchyard.



Bell-ringing one-handed!  
Demonstrated by Mike Callow  
(he is better now)



**Congratulations to Revd Simon Hill** who has raised £1,200.00 for the local charity Motivation.

He sends his thanks to everyone who sponsored him for the Bristol Half Marathon at the end of September.

He was absolutely delighted to have done it in a couple of minutes under 2 hours.

### **For loved ones**

Team "All Souls "  
Service of Remembrance  
takes place at  
St. Mary's, Yatton on  
Sunday 2nd November  
at  
6.00p.m.

People are invited to go along to remember and celebrate the lives of loved ones

### **MOOR NEWS**

Have you paid your 2014  
Subscription of £6.00  
for Moor News ?  
If not

Please pass it to your News & Views  
Distributor as soon as possible.

**Many Thanks.**

If you do not currently receive Moor News  
but would like to do so -  
please ask your Distributor

## CARING AT CHRISTMAS

Once again we are collecting items for the homeless in Bristol. The donations will go to the Charity "Caring at Christmas" who have been providing shelter for many years to those who are unfortunate enough to be without a home during the "Festive Season". They provide the following:

1. 50+ beds/night as well as 300+ hot meals/day
2. First aid everyday and Doctors calling periodically.
3. Laundry and clean clothes. TV, DVDs, books and games.
4. Companionship and Counselling, hairdressing, chiropody, massages etc.
5. Art, music and writing workshops.

What is needed? Donations can be divided into 4 main areas.

1. Food: tea, coffee, sugar, tinned foods, custard, cereals, biscuits and snacks.
2. Toiletries: toothpastes, shampoo, conditioner, shower gels (not bars of soap), roll on deodorant, razors, women's sanitary products.
3. Clothes: warm casual winter clothing for men and women aged 18-40 years such as

jumpers, coats, gloves, scarves, hats, trousers, jeans and trainers, ensuring that the clothes are clean and in a good state.

Only new underwear please.

4. Bedding/Towels: good quality second hand towels, single sheets, blankets, sleeping bags, pillows. NO double sheets, duvets or bedspreads.
5. Cheques made payable to Caring at Christmas

Donations can be left with us at Church Path Cottage or in the Church porch.

We have been supporting this worthwhile charity for many, many years and Kenn has a proud record of being very generous.

Robin and Marianna

SONGS FROM THE SHED PRESENTS

## SARA PETITE



Kenn Village Hall  
Tuesday November 4th

"She could sing a buzzard  
off a Slop Wagon,"

Tickets £10.00

from [www.songsfromtheshed.com](http://www.songsfromtheshed.com)

## Carols and Christmas Tree Lights.

Yes it is that time of year again! As has become a Kenn Tradition over the last 20 or so years we are inviting everyone to join us on the VILLAGE GREEN to switch on the lights on Kenn's own Christmas Tree.

Following the ceremony we will, as usual, be singing our favourite Carols whilst consuming Hot Punch and eating Mince Pies.

The date for this event is  
FRIDAY 12th DECEMBER and the lights will  
be switched on at 7pm.

Do come and join us to get the Christmas  
season started and meet up with your  
neighbours.

Useful Numbers:

**Village Hall Booking Secretary:**  
Sarah Clark 01934 833307

**St John the Evangelist Priest in charge:**  
Rev. Warren Williams 01934 833608

**Churchwardens:**  
Julia Bush 873554  
John Ball 874077

**Village Flag Flying:**  
Marianna or Robin 340323 or  
Hazel 349535

**Church Floodlighting**  
David Pugh 874278

**Altar Guild Secretary:**  
Marianna Mackay 340323

**North Somerset Council:**  
01934 888 888  
out of hours:  
01934 622 669

**News & Views:**  
Margaret Ball 01275 874077  
Email; Margaret.john@btinternet.com  
Chaseside, Kenn Street, Kenn



Will be held in Kenn Village Hall on Saturday,  
9th November - 10:00am till midday.

**Recycling - 4th,11th,18th,25th**

**Dustbin - 4th,18th November**

**Green Waste - 11th, 25th**



**North Somerset  
Times**

Don't forget that copies  
of this local newspaper  
are freely available at  
the bar Drum and  
Monkey from Wednesday afternoons.



**Kenn Women's Institute**

Kenn Village Hall, 7:30pm  
Wednesday 12th November

Christmas Flower Demonstration  
7.30 pm Wednesday 26th November  
Visitors welcome

Tel: 01934 830111

**Clevedon Salerooms**

FINE ART AUCTIONEERS & VALUERS

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

**Antique and Quality Furnishings.  
Collectables etc**  
4th December

**Viewing at Saleroom**  
Wednesday 3rd December 10am - 7:30pm  
Morning of sale from 9am

**Quarterly Specialist Sale**  
Thursday 20th November 10.30am

**Viewing at Saleroom**  
Tuesday 18th November - 2pm - 5:30pm  
Wednesday 19th November - 10am - 7:30pm  
Morning of sale from 9am  
Catalogues can be viewed at  
[www.clevedon-salerooms.com](http://www.clevedon-salerooms.com)

## What's on in Kenn - November 2014

Tuesday 4th November - KVH - Songs from the Shed - Sara Petite

Saturday 8th November - KVH - 10-12noon - Kenn Village Market and Coffee Morning

Monday 10th November - KVH - 7.30pm Defibrillator Familiarisation Session

Tuesday 11th November - Drum and Monkey - 12noon onwards - Village Lunch

Wednesday 12th November - KVH - 7.30pm - Kenn Women's Institute Meeting

Monday 17th November - KVH - 2.30pm Parish Council Defibrillator training session

Monday 17th November - Chaseside - 7.30 meeting ref Christmas Tea Party 3.12.14

Saturday 22nd November - Church Room - 10-12noon - Charity Coffee Morning

Saturday 22nd November - Church Room - 2.30pm Christingle Making

Wednesday 26th November - KVH - 7.30pm Christmas Flower Demonstration Evening



Poppy display at the Tower of London - photo taken by Sheila Naish 4.10.14



## The Village Market

Thank you to all who came along and supported the market in October and of course to the stall holders who fill the village hall with so many tempting products.

Lyn and I provided the refreshments which proved to be a great way to meet some new visitors and get to know the locals.

Proceeds went to Market Funds, but please remember if you are looking for an easy way to raise money for a favourite charity and would like to run the refreshments, we would love to hear from you.

We were delighted to welcome two new stall holders and congratulations must go to Debbie, our jewellery lady from Kenn who has made it to the finals of the Bead Making National Competition.

**The next market is Saturday 8th November from 10am to 12pm**

Remember there are only 2 markets until Christmas - so if you are searching for that unique gift for someone special, come and have a browse.

If you would like to run the refreshments or would like a table for the November Market please get in touch.

Maggie Hobbs 876277 or Lyn Burnett 870189

Our picture shows Debbie at the September Market displaying her piece entitled "Byzantine Garden" which was exhibited at Sandown Park in October.



Sue Parker asked Maggie Hobbs for a little piece for News & Views...

**We are delighted to welcome Maggie, Jon and Callum Hobbs to Kenn.**

We have had a very warm welcome to the village and are beginning to settle into our new home, although there are still boxes to unpack! We are Jonathan, Margaret (Maggie) and Callum Hobbs and we live at The Brambles, Duck Lane. Jon is a landscape gardener and is busy at the moment cutting hedges, he supports Bath Rugby and Somerset Cricket. Callum was four last Friday and is at Nursery school, he enjoys gym club and his climbing frame. Margaret (Maggie) teaches at The Downs School, Wraxall and helps run the Kenn Market.

Maggie is also a member of Tickenham Drama Group and is performing in 'All my Sons' from 19th November to 22nd November, Box office is 01275 852663. Hope this is OK, must get back to the decorating!

Best wishes,

Maggie Hobbs



## KENN W.I.

At the September meeting of the Kenn W.I. we were delighted to welcome Terry Merrett-Smith with his talk entitled 'Some Enchanted Evening' which was accompanied by slides and music from the shows. We all enjoyed being taken down memory lane.

John Gingell will come to speak to us on the Art and Science of Chocolate Making at the November Meeting. It is a subject dear to all our hearts and as it had to be postponed on account of the atrocious weather in February we are all looking forward to it. We will be delighted to welcome visitors to hear him at the meeting on Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

We were all saddened to hear that one of our members, Ruth Dobbs, has died. She had been a faithful attendee for many years until ill health prevented her. She will be remembered by all who knew her with great fondness.

The Bag a Bra campaign has now closed and the splendid number of bras that we collected have now been given to the Great Western Air Ambulance who will sell them to a charity that reconditions them and then they go to support (no pun intended) women in third world countries who do not have easy access to shops selling such things. As a result of their fund raising the GWAA has now received its new ambulance and will continue with its great work in the community.

Our next campaign is to raise money to help the fish vending women of Coastal Kanyakumari (on the southernmost tip of India) receive training in the processing and packaging of fish, thus enabling them to support their families and improve their lives. We are doing this by donating "a p for a wee for a week". We estimate that this is about 50p per member and all over the Avon Federation this will raise a great deal of money.

Ann Holtham

## CHRISTMAS FLOWER DEMONSTRATION EVENING

The W.I. is holding its annual Flower Demonstration evening on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November in the Village Hall at 7.30p.m. The demonstrator this year will be Jill Hayward who is going to depict Christmas arrangements over the past decades. All her arrangements will be raffled at the end of the proceedings. The tickets are £5 from Marian Hulance or Ann Holtham, or if you prefer you can pay at the door. We look forward to seeing you.

### Welcome

A very warm welcome to new neighbours in Mink Hollow, Duck Lane; Alistair, Jo and daughter Olivia plus two Jack Russell terriers, Mollie and Maisie!

We hope that they enjoy their new home.

Jenny and John Croxton

### Church Room Charity Coffee Morning

**Saturday 25th October**

**John and Grace would like to thank everyone who supported them.**

**£ 100.00 has been raised which will go to the Bone Marrow Charity**



**BIRD NEWS**

The most exciting local news concerns a very late Barn Owl nest in YACWAG's Littlewood reserve. This was discovered by volunteer warden John Croxton at the end of September and five owlets were duly ringed by Chris Sperring MBE from the Hawk & Owl Trust early in October.

The persistent rain mid month was a major concern but we believe that at least four of the young survived this and hopefully will have fledged by the time that you read this. It has been a great year for our owls: this nest box has already produced two Tawny Owls and then Stock Doves nested in it. Three species in one season must be some kind of record.

Staying with owls a trip to the sea wall during the very high tides produced a lovely Short Eared Owl, no doubt on migration. A flock of 40 Goldfinches was less impressive but a welcome sight after reports of few of these birds in gardens.

A Peregrine was seen (unsuccessfully) chasing a curlew at the old Kenn estuary and another was feeding on a pylon near Yatton where it successfully saw off two Ravens that were coveting its kill.

Wheatears were still to be seen along the estuary in good numbers mid month with hundreds of Meadow Pipits on their way south. Four clouded yellow butterflies was a nice sight as well.

There seems to be a few more Grey Wagtails around this autumn, perhaps reflecting a more productive breeding season: Sheila Naish saw one in her garden and there was another on Stowell's buildings viewed from Wemberham Lane with some Pied Wagtails.

A Kingfisher caused a surprise when it flew out over the road near The Bridge Inn and another was by Wemberham rhyme : this species has also had a productive year. Kestrels too seem more abundant around Kenn Moor for the same reason and at least one stonechat was back on winter territory there by the 23rd.

Jill and I visited Chew Valley Lake to see a Great Skua. This brute of a bird was living on a Coot a day and had probably been driven inland by bad weather. Certainly ex hurricane Gonzalo played a major part in 305 Great Skuas being recorded of the North Cornwall coast.



*Chris Sperring and Noah Croxton  
with young owls  
Photos by John Croxton*



Trevor Riddle 01934 835208

## Autumn by Candlelight

We wish to record our appreciation to all those who gave us, and everyone attending, such a lovely evening on the fourth. Truly a night to remember. The programme was just right and much enjoyed. The refreshment generous, in fact more than we could manage:

We hear a goodly sum was raised for both the good causes. It was nice to have St. John's being used to provide a warm and welcoming setting for us to come together to enjoy the evening also the company of each other.

So to all of you who made it happen, it was brilliant and you are brilliant.

Thank you Grace and John Griffin

**The Final Total was £1,150.00. Above & Beyond received £640.00 and Yatton Moor £510.00.**

What a wonderful evening it was - Autumn by Candlelight - Bubbly by moonlight!

Canapes by choir stalls and font - pews and sharing the good news - of remembering together a commemoration of World War One...

What Talent !! WOW - let's get those fine multi-talented dear people back again before too long! ( I could have done with a 'Churchillian interval' - but, hey - never mind - most of us were probably in the same boat .. )

A Big THANK YOU also to everyone who provided rapturous amazing canapes, bubbly, setting things up, putting things back, carrying, preparing, cleaning, electrics, music, kitchen work .... and the list goes on ....

I thank God for you all and I am sure the recipients of the charitable monies collected / donated / gifted to - will do so as well, and we pray that, for them it will be a great blessing ....

With love, light and peace - Warren

Bridgnorth, Shropshire.

Many thanks to the talented team who produced 'Pack up your troubles'. It was truly a memorable evening. I guess there were a lot of lumps in throats, as many of us lost relatives in the first world war.

It was good to see the poppy festooned church full for this autumn entertainment. I asked Caroline in advance 'Will it be weepy?' She said 'Yes, but fun too'. She was so right. The poems (read beautifully), tales and music were a perfect balance.

As for the refreshments - move over Gino, Jamie & co.!

Although we remember the first and second wars with sadness, sometimes there are rays of sunshine. In 1939, because of the London blitz, our family came to live in Kenn, where my brother and I spent an idyllic, 'cider with Rosie' childhood, for which I'll always be grateful.

Glenis Lansley

**SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER 2014**

**1st SUNDAY 2nd November THE FOURTH SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT GREEN**  
**ALL SAINTS' DAY WHITE**

**8.30am Holy Communion at Kenn\* Please note new Winter time**  
 9.30am Parish Communion at Yatton  
 9.30am Holy Communion at Cleeve  
 11.00am Patronal Family Service at Kingston Seymour  
 11.00am Morning Prayer at Claverham  
 6.00pm Team "All Souls" Service of Remembrance at Yatton

**2nd Sunday 9th November THE THIRD SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT RED**  
**(REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY)**

8.30am Holy Communion (said BCP) at Yatton  
 9.30am Holy Communion at Claverham  
 10.00am Remembrance Service at Yatton  
 followed by wreath laying at War Memorial at 10.50am  
 10.50am Remembrance Service at Cleeve  
**11.00am Holy Communion with Remembrance at Kenn**  
 3.30pm War Memorial Ceremony  
 Followed by Remembrance Service at Kingston Seymour

**3rd Sunday 16th November THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT GREEN**

8.00am Holy Communion at Claverham\*  
 9.30am Parish Communion at Yatton  
 9.30am Holy Communion at Cleeve  
 11.00am Holy Communion at Kingston Seymour  
 12.15pm Holy Baptism at Yatton  
**6.00pm Evensong at Kenn\***

**3rd Wednesday 19th November**

**11.00am Holy Communion at Kenn**

**4th Sunday 23rd November CHRIST THE KING WHITE**

**(The Sunday next before Advent)**

8.00am Holy Communion at Yatton\*  
 8.30am Holy Communion at Kingston Seymour\*  
 9.30am Parish Communion at Yatton  
 10.00am Café Church at Court de Wyck School  
**11.00am Family Christingle Service at Kenn**  
 6.00pm Evensong at Yatton  
 6.00pm Holy Communion at Cleeve

**5th Sunday 30th November ADVENT SUNDAY PURPLE**

8.00am Holy Communion at Yatton\*  
 10.00am TEAM Holy Communion at Kingston Seymour  
 4.00pm Christingle Carol Service at Claverham  
 6.30pm Ecumenical Advent Carol Service at Yatton Methodist Church

\* Book of Common Prayer (1662)

## Down on the Farm

After an unusually warm September the return to autumnal weather has come as a bit of a shock.

The last month has been a real bonus on the farm with grass still growing and the cattle and sheep have benefited from this.

Local farmers are still cutting good crops of grass for silage and record amounts have been cut.

The corn harvest is over and most of the fields have been re-seeded. Much of the maize has been harvested and the rest will no doubt be done in the coming days.

The autumn weather has brought some of the autumn birds to the area and I have seen several Wheatears near the coast and also at Failand.



Miles Naish

**Please note new Winter Time for early morning Communion in Kenn from November till the spring - 1st Sunday 8.30am**



**Invitation  
to attend free training  
for  
Heart Sine defibrillator  
Located in Kenn's Phonebox**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November at 2pm  
at Kenn Village Hall, Kenn Street**

The defibrillator purchased and maintained by the Parish Council on behalf of Kenn differs from the free one donated by South West Ambulance Service to the village hall, although the AED external housing is similar. Thanks to the funds donated by residents, businesses and the Parish Council, it was decided to buy a higher specification semi-automatic model which provides step-by-step voice commands tailored to guide the user through defibrillation and CPR [especially useful for an inexperienced user], and also retains usage information which can be transferred to computerised equipment for analysis, alongside the patient.

Training will be delivered by the supplier AED and will therefore cover the use of the HeartSine defibrillator only. It is anticipated that the session will last approximately an hour and a quarter.

All parishioners and representatives of Kenn businesses are welcome to attend.





### **Great Taste 2014 reveals new stars and Just Kidding is a winner**

The world's largest blind-tasted food awards, Great Taste, has just released the stars of 2014 and Just Kidding has been awarded two gold stars!

Just Kidding is a purveyor of quality Cotswold Kid Meat and is run by Lizzie Dyer. Just Kidding produces free range Kid Meat using only Billies from dairy farms where currently they are seen as a by-product of the dairy industry, and destroyed at birth. Lizzie and her partner, Jamie, keep the Billies on a farm near Cricklade where they are reared in a natural environment using sustainable farming practices.

The meat, which has a very delicate flavour, is produced very similarly to Spring Lamb and is being enjoyed in pubs and restaurants in the Cotswolds, and beyond. It is a very versatile product, excellent as chops and cutlets, mince, diced and, of course, roasting joints. In addition, it is a particularly healthy meat, being lower in saturated fat than chicken, and higher in iron than beef. In the ethos of not wasting anything, Lizzie is using the Kid skins which, after being tanned at the only organic tannery left in the country, are being used to upholster chairs and to make hats.

Lizzie set up Just Kidding after finishing her degree at the Royal Agricultural College in 2013. She is thrilled to have the Great Taste award within her first year of trading and is the first and only Kid Meat producer to hold a Gold Star. She has also just found out she is a finalist for Young Farmer of the Year in the Gloucestershire Taste Awards. Lizzie's Kid Meat can be bought directly from the farm or can be delivered to your door. For more information, please visit [www.cotswoldkidmeat.com](http://www.cotswoldkidmeat.com) or call Lizzie on 07875331434

#### ***Late news from Lizzie—***

***I actually found out on Tuesday night that I have won Gloucestershire Food and Farming***

***Young Farmer of the Year!***

## FACE TO FACE WITH WILD AFRICA

It's with humility and huge pride that I can announce that my photograph 'Living Rock Art' has won me the overall title of 2014 European Wildlife Photographer of the Year



The photograph is an artistic take on two blesbok antelope stampeding across the plains of South Africa's Kariega Game Reserve. However, it's a photo that very nearly didn't happen...

I was in South Africa working on a story about rhino poaching. I had been tracking one particular rhino all day so I decided to take a break and go and look for something else. As we drove onto the plains, we found the blesbok out in the open in the fading light.

I stepped off the side of my 4x4 to get a ground-level angle of the animals stampeding past. That's when I heard a loud crack. My ankle had turned in a hole and I landed in a heap in the dust. The pain was unbelievable but somehow I had planted my tripod and camera safely as I fell. I was able to sit up just in time to see the blesbok approaching. I grabbed my camera, locked my focus on them and panned smoothly as they careered past. Only once they had disappeared in a cloud of dust did I turn my attention to my injuries. My fall may have been, but the image, was no accident. It won't be everyone's cup of tea but I was working hard to capture their movement in a still photograph. What I hadn't banked on was that the shapes created by their striking leg markings would so closely resemble Bushman rock art, which influenced the title of the image.

Happily, this was not my only success in the competition. My photograph of a shoal of tiny Okavango robber fish swimming up the Selinda Spillway in northern Botswana was selected as Highly Commended in the *Underwater* category too.

I used the awards ceremony in Germany to promote the launch of my second book – Face to Face with Wild Africa – proceeds from which I will be using to help stop the poaching of our endangered rhinos back home in Africa. You can pre-order a personally signed copy of my new book on my website [www.conservationphotojournalism.com](http://www.conservationphotojournalism.com)

Neil Aldridge, Somerset Cottage, Duck Lane, Kenn



"Lest We Forget"

**Remembrance Weekend Exhibition**  
*A display of history and memories*

at The Chapter House  
St. Mary's, Yatton

**Saturday 8th Nov 2pm - 5pm**  
**Sunday 9th Nov 2pm - 4pm**

Quiet space for reflection

Tea and Coffee

Donation box for The Royal British Legion



**Nailsea Choral Society**

President - David Pountney CBE Vice President - Christopher Jennings  
Registered Charity No 263411

## Music for Remembrance



**DURUFLÉ - Requiem and Ubi caritas**

Douglas Guest - For the Fallen

Vaughan Williams - Lord thou hast been our refuge

Director of Music - Tom Williams

Organist - Paul Walton

Soprano - Cynthia Dobson Bass - Antony Evans

Saturday 8th November 2014

7.30 pm at Christ Church, Nailsea

Admission £10 to include  
programme & refreshments



### Margaret's Mutterings

Elections in Kenn — my memory failed me —  
I apologise - especially to Sheila , but also  
thank  
her for her research — please take time to read  
her Chairman's Chat - pages 21/22/23 — fas-  
cinating.

Songs from the Shed 24.10.14 - £300.00

### DEFIBRILLATOR SESSION at KVH 7.30pm Monday 10th November

Everyone is invited to come along for a familiarisation session on the Defibrillator - supplied free of charge by South Western Ambulance Service Trust who have also undertaken the servicing and maintenance of this machine. Our trainer will be Kim Davey from SWAST and we understand that the training given will enable us to use any Defibrillator.



*Refreshments will be provided.*

## The Great War

As we approach Remembrance Day on the 11<sup>th</sup> November Kennites may be interested to know that three Kenn men lost lives during the Great War, 1914 to 1918. These were Anthony Marchant, Arthur Gale and William Vickery. Another thirty-two also served in the war.

I have researched the life of Arthur Gale. He was the oldest son of seven children born to Archie and Mary Gale. Arthur was born in March 5<sup>th</sup> 1897, while his parents were living in the Horsecastle part of Yatton. His father was working as a baker at the time and later they moved sometime after 1911 to Meadowside on Kenn Street.

Arthur Gale enlisted in the Somerset Light Infantry at Taunton, Somerset, (date unknown), his Army Number being 6883. He was sent to France date on 8<sup>th</sup> June 1915 at the age of 18. During the spring and summer of 1915 the Somerset Light Infantry had been involved in battles on the front line a couple of miles east of Ypres and he may have fought in some of these battles.

At a later unknown date the Gloucestershire's regimental records reveal that Arthur was transferred to their 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion where his new Army Number became 3314. I understand from a colleague that such transfers were not uncommon, and to avoid groups of 'pals' who had signed up together from one village being wiped out in one single battle.

During the war the 7<sup>th</sup> fought in Gallipoli, Egypt, Mesopotamia and Persia; all were civilians who had volunteered at the outbreak of war. Serving with D company Arthur was sent to Mesopotamia, now part of Iraq, Mesopotamia then included the areas from the Basra and up to, and including areas north of Baghdad and was part of the Ottoman Empire.

Allied involvement in the Middle East during the Great War had begun in Nov. 1914 with the seizure of Basra to protect local oil supplies, the weak local Turkish opposition had been defeated, and encouraged by this, the Allies decided to press on to Baghdad. The only route was to travel up the Euphrates or Tigris rivers. The lack of fresh water, flat open terrain, swamp flies, mosquitoes and high temperatures during the summer made for a very harsh environment. Despite this, with a small division, General Townshend advanced up the Tigris and easily captured the garrison of Amara in May 1914. He was now about a third of the way to Baghdad. The next step in securing the delta was to take the town of Kut-al-Amara held by over 6,000 Turks, which using clever tactics he achieved in late September. Now Townshend was only 380 miles from Baghdad. However with only two divisions Townshend was becoming concerned as the communications and supply line back to Basra was now long and therefore very weak.

Just thirty miles south of Baghdad, during a two day battle in late November, the Turks sustained 6,200 casualties and Townshend 4,600 of his 11,000 men. On learning that Turkish reinforcements were already heading south from Baghdad Townshend wisely started to retreat back down the Tigris, taking his wounded with him. Many of the wounded died during the dreadful conditions in which they were travelling and within two weeks the Turks had caught up with the retreating army at Kut.

Recklessly, but trying to regain some honour, Townshend signalled that he intended to defend Kut until relieved. The Turks surrounded the town, and after failing to storm it, decided to starve them into surrender. Townshend signalled exaggerated reports to London that his garrison was short of food supplies. Every attempt over the next few months by the Allies to relieve Townshend's troops failed and London became gravely concerned with the increasing losses. When 23,000 Allied casualties had been incurred in trying to relieve the Townshend's Kut garrison of only 13,000 men, senior heads started to roll. In April 1915 Kitchener commanded that no further efforts were to be made to relieve Kut.



Townshend then tried to buy the garrison's parole from the Turks for £1 million then £2 million but they refused. In the dreadful conditions of captivity 7,000 of his men died, while he himself disgracefully accepted and spent the remainder of the war in a luxurious villa on an island in the Sea of Marmara consequently his men or country never forgave him.

A postcard from Egypt dated 29<sup>th</sup> May 1916 was received from Arthur Gale by his parents, and he was just about to be sent to Mesopotamia to join the Kut relief operation as part of the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment.

For several months the Mesopotamia Front had remained quiet until General Maude was appointed to the relief operation, he built a railway and commissioned special boats. By December 1916 he had a strong infrastructure to support operations. The battle between Maude and the Turks began on 13<sup>th</sup> December 1916, and he made steady progress up the Tigris until the third week of February 1916 by which time Maude's men had driven the Turks several miles north of Kut. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> February the demoralised Turks finally left their trenches after enduring weeks of shelling from across the river, the same day Maude's men laid a pontoon bridge across the Tigris. On the 24<sup>th</sup> February Maude's cavalry crossed and joined their infantrymen. During the night the Turkish flank guard withdrew.

The following day the infantry and cavalry pursued the Turks. It was during the skirmishes on this day, that Lance Corporal Arthur Gale was posted as "missing or killed in action on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February 1917" (aged 20). Baghdad was subsequently captured in March. General Maude died in November of the same year of cholera.

Arthur John Gale has no known grave and like many of his Mesopotamia comrades is commemorated on the Basra Memorial in southern Iraq. At home, along with his fellow Kenn soldiers he is also remembered on monuments in Kenn Church and Yatton Village hall.

His brother Harry Gale, my Grandfather, kept his service medals which included one for serving in Gloucester Regiment in Mesopotamia.

Julian Gale  
Originally published October 2003



Christmas Afternoon-Tea Party  
Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014  
3.00-5.00 pm - K.V.H.

A short meeting to sort out guest list and  
arrangements will be held at Chaseside  
7.30pm Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Helpers old and new are invited to attend.

**Drum and Monkey**  
**Village Lunch**  
**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November meet**  
**from 12 noon**  
**Everyone welcome**

**Every Wednesday 9.00pm**  
**QUIZ NIGHT**

## **Mervyn Wyndham Baker 16th September 1948 - 25th September 2014**

Mervyn was born 16<sup>th</sup> September 1948 to Wyndham Thomas Baker and Rose Violet Baker who lived at Kenn Court Cottages, before moving to number 5, at the newly built Kenn Estate.

Mervyn went to school at Kingston Seymour then onto Clevedon. Whilst at school, he took interest in Mr. Pople's Jerseys and his interest in farming continued on at Yew Tree Farm. When he finished school at 16, he came home one day and told his parents he had accepted a job at Percy Daniels, Organ Builders/Repairers in Clevedon.

For years Mervyn helped at Yew Tree Farm. When Robert was at boarding school in Wellington, on weekend breaks Mary and Aunt Rose (Mervyn's mum) picked Robert up, then Mervyn and Cyril took Robert back on the Sunday evening.

He would often accompany Cyril to sales and agricultural shows on his days off, including showing Heifers at North Somerset Show and the dairy breeders show at the Bath and West show ground, where he once proudly led the Champion Heifer. Always there to help Mervyn would often accompany Robert to market where he was well known and enjoyed helping out. In 2005 he was very proud to be best man at Robert and Lise's wedding.



Mervyn accompanied his father bell ringing and went round many churches with his friends. With many years experience he taught many younger people to ring. Mervyn's enjoyments were to go to Dorset Steam Fair with friends and also to Somerset Cricket Club with his fellow worker Arthur. He also drove vintage cars for Roger and Andrew Triggol of Tickenham. Driving the Bride and Groom on their wedding day to the church and reception.

When Perry Daniels closed down, Mervyn went self employed with his colleagues Colin and Arthur, who carried on working in their own organ maintenance business up until Mervyn had another heart attack which led him to be in Weston Hospital for 3 months before spending his last few days in Uphill Care Home.

Many thanks to Rev. Warren Williams who led the church service and reception at Kenn, where over 160 people attended with fellow ringers coming from as far a field as Oxford. The bells were rung before and after the funeral service at Kingston Seymour as a mark of respect.

Thank you too his family and friends who put together photo collages laid out beautifully along side tools of his trade.

Looking down from heaven Mervyn would have been surprised and delighted to see so many people come to celebrate his life.

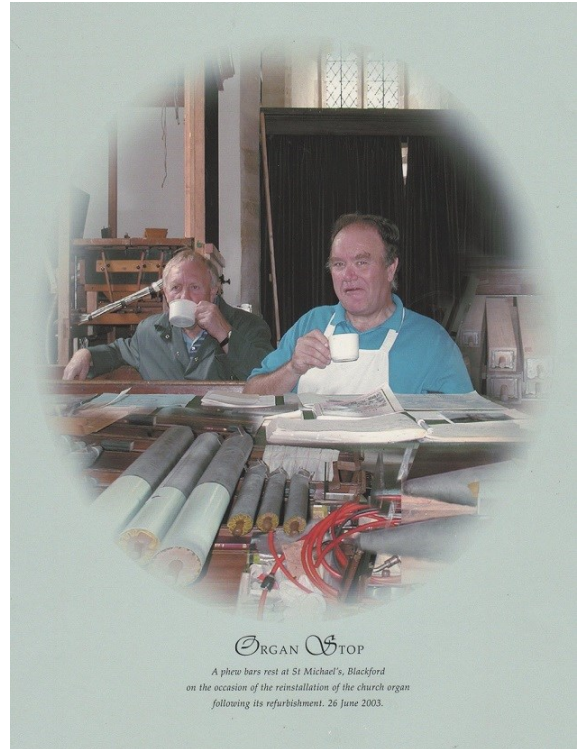
Rose Willcox

**Mervyn Baker - Bellringer - his friend and neighbour Mike Callow writes.**

I believe Mervyn learned to ring about 1964, but left off for some reason, and returned about 1977. I have, therefore, been ringing with him for about 37 years.

As the older ringers departed, he became a mainstay of Kingston Seymour band and did a great job of bell maintenance. In 1982, he was a great help with hanging St, John's, Clevedon, new treble, particularly when David James injured his back, leaving 20 year old Mark Callow in charge.

He also helped when those bells were rehung more recently. Mervyn rang 83 quarter peals at St. John's, out of his total of more than 1,000. He would often ask for the bells for a quarter on Bank Holidays and took part in the New Year's night quarter of London Minor for some years. He also shared the organisation of the annual post-Christmas quarter peal outing, with David, for many years.



*ORGAN STOP*  
A photo was taken at St Michael's, Blackford  
on the occasion of the reinstallation of the church organ  
following its refurbishment. 26 June 2003.

When Dan Willis arranged a monthly visit, by the Kingston ringers, to Weston-in- Gordano, he started a long association with that tower, taking on bell maintenance, until Derek Vowles moved in. He was also one of the tutors who trained a band, there, to ring the new bells at Walton St. Mary.

More recently, he helped the Tickenham ringers. He also had a long association with the Banwell ringers and I had the pleasure of accompanying him on their outing for some years.

He also rang quite a few quarters with the Axbridge branch. For some years, we went out on New Year's Day with Monty Ball, the famed blacksmith of Winford and father of Andrew.

Outside his job, organ builder, his main interest was bells and ringing, apart from farming. Indeed, I can only remember him going on two "away" holidays; ringing tours to Ireland and the Channel Islands.

Mervyn will be greatly missed, particularly at Kingston Seymour.

May he rest in peace.

Mike

## Neighbourhood Watch

Received 1<sup>st</sup> October

GENERAL REMINDER REGARDING CALLERS AT THE DOOR - please remember not to have dealings with any unsolicited callers whether they are at the door, calling by phone, sending Emails or writing to you. They may be offering to buy or sell items; perhaps offering to provide crime prevention advice, repair guttering or cut trees down; or they may ask to gain access inside the property. Whatever the excuse do not have dealings with them in any form. Remember all suspicious activity or callers should be reported as soon as possible to the police on 101 or in an emergency 999.



SEASONAL REMINDER - the end of the month will find many people enjoying Halloween. However we are aware that some people prefer not to have Halloween revellers at the door on this evening. We have flyers at the office that aim to reduce such callers and if you would like copies, please contact Lindsey at the NHW office either by 'replying' to this Email or by telephone on 01278-644799.

By the beginning of November we will see Firework celebrations and of course the Carnival Season. The police ask that if you are going out to enjoy or take part these events, you take care to ensure that properties are kept secure and alarms activated where they are fitted. Perhaps also consider leaving lights on timers or a radio on a talk channel to make properties appear as if they are occupied.

Some security items such as timers are available at a competitive price from the NHW office, again contact Lindsey direct if you would like details/order form.

Received 24<sup>th</sup> October

The fraud awareness campaign "Spot It, Stop It" has been launched in Avon and Somerset targeting doorstep, phone and online scams.

The campaign, a Home Office initiative supported by Avon and Somerset Police and Neighbourhood Watch, has been developed following input from local people across the force area.

The crime prevention advice for the campaign focuses on three key rules - making decisions in your own time, checking people are who they say they are, and not sharing personal information. Visit [www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/stop-fraud](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/stop-fraud) for straightforward advice on how you, your family and neighbours can protect themselves from fraud.

Please help us spread the word. If you would like any crime prevention leaflets, door stickers or posters email [corporatecommunicationsdepartment@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:corporatecommunicationsdepartment@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

### Spotting and stopping fraudsters:

#### **SPOT IT - Make decisions in your own time**

Obtain at least three written quotes and references before having any work done . Genuine callers won't mind coming back in a day or two so that you can make independent checks .

If a caller refuses to leave your doorstep contact the police

Check people are who they say they are

. Check a company is trustworthy by making independent checks, such as calling the National Consumer helpline or Action Fraud . Check a caller is a genuine employee by calling the company on a number you've looked up independently. Don't use the number they provide on their ID badge . Telephone fraudsters can stay on the line after you hang up. Wait at least 10 minutes or use a different line to make any other calls

#### **STOP IT- Don't share your personal information**

. Personal information includes: financial details, your full name, date of birth, address and travel plans . Always destroy documents containing your details after use

Report fraud to 0300 123 2040 / [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk) . If you are concerned and the caller is still in the area call 999. If you have information about any crime, phone the police on 101 or you can call anonymously to the independent charity CRIMESTOPPERS 0800 555 111. For general information about Neighbourhood Watch nationally see the [www.ourwatch.org.uk](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk) website.

## Parish Council – Chairman’s Chat

At last! The defibrillator is installed in the phone box, the North Somerset Times have been out and photographed it and are promising a piece in the paper and training will be organised. We are well serviced with the life -saving apparatus, we have 1 in the phone box, 1 at the Village Hall, 1 at the business park at Edwards and 1 at the Football Club.

Lovely to see so many folk at the last meeting, and meet some new residents who were intrigued as to how it all works.

We are losing our lovely Ray Chapple who has cut our verges etc for years, he is retiring, we are sad to see him go, he has been such a marvellous person to have on board, and we are in the process of selecting another grass cutter ready for next year, he has done double the cuts he usually does due to the very mild weather, the grass has just grown and grown.

North Somerset are once more being asked to look into the signage that needs replacing, and to the repairs of the Church Path, which has been put back down on their list of priorities . We constantly chase.....

**Our next meeting is 1<sup>st</sup> of December, all welcome.**

Margaret’s Mutterings in October left me feeling, well old!!, and sent me rushing to the archives to double check....she was commenting that 2015 could be the year when we have a real election in Kenn, it would be the first since she came to the Village in the '60;s.well I am pleased to report that, I am not that old after all, phew! because I stood in a “real” election, and that was on 4<sup>th</sup> May 1995.

I remember that Roger Stowell and myself were concerned about weight restrictions on the local roads proposed by the then Avon Council and the affect it would have on ours and other local businesses, and Ray Naish said to me, well if you want to take things further you should put yourselves down for the Parish Council and represent local interests, and so that is how we came to stand.

I remember the evening well, because it was the first time that I had stood and had to go to Yatton Village Hall as the named person for the vote counting, and had to give a vote of thanks to the returning officer and her teams from the Parish of Kenn, and I was nervous, having never done anything like it before or in fact spoken in public.

I have the documents from the notice of poll. found after a lot of box openings!  
They are as follows:

DYER Ruth Mary  
EDWARDS Harold Clifford  
FORD Maurice Edwin  
GEORGE Lilian Margaret  
GOLDSWORTHY Dennis  
GRIFFIN John Shopland  
NAISH Raymond Victor  
NAISH Sheila Ann  
QUINN Cheryl Jean  
STOWELL Roger Norman

Continued overleaf...

...Chairman's Chat continued

The results that night were as follows:

DYER Ruth Mary	68 elected
EDWARDS Harold Clifford	41
FORD Maurice Edwin	62 elected
GEORGE Lilian Margaret	49
GOLDSWORTHY Dennis	58 elected
GRIFFIN John Shopland	57 elected
NAISH Raymond Victor	92 elected
NAISH Sheila Ann	96 elected
QUINN Cheryl Jean	43
STOWELL Roger Norman	82 elected

There were 10 people standing for 7 seats.

At the time there were 238 people registered to vote in the Village.

All 3 of the candidates not elected went on to serve or had previously served.

I myself could not remember the date, and going back through the records was interesting, but am glad that it was the 90,s not the 60,s.

How times have changed, and how different things are now, so much more involved, paper-work, legal documents, forms, things to be looked at online and so much more time involved.

We have not had an election with people voting because there have never been over 10 people wishing to stand since, co-options have taken place mid term when folk have left for one reason or other.

We have had many different folk participate over the years, bringing different ideas, and experience to the table, some have served more than once, all having been co-opted.

It is not something to be taken lightly, we have had people stand, be accepted and then change their mind and not wish to sign up, and some only attend one meeting and then find its not for them, some find it takes up too much time and too much paperwork.

Robin and myself both stood down and left room for others to stand a few years ago and due to not enough folk wishing to do the job we were asked to return straight away.

The position is held for 4 years, vacancies within these years are put out officially for co-options to take place and this is how new Councillors are found.

2015 could well be the year that we are inundated with people wishing to be nominated for election, Eleanor will publish the Notice of Election, and how copies of the nomination papers can be requested. CVs are not needed, just a nomination paper signed by 2 registered electors for Kenn and returned to the Returning Officer.

If you feel that you wish to represent your community by standing to be a Parish Councillor, come along to meetings and get a feel for how they work, talk to the Parish Councillors , or the Clerk, visit other Parish Council meetings locally, it will all help with deciding if it's for you.

The Parish Council is not alone in finding that some folk are willing to do the job year after year, the Church Wardens, WI, Altar Guild, Village Hall, Kenn News and Views and various other bodies even coffee mornings have usually got the same faces on...

I have been on lots over the years, it is great when new folk come into the village and join in. The Market has new folk who have moved into the Village taking over its running, how marvellous.

Sheila, Chair (without a chain) Kenn Parish Council

I visited the Tower of London earlier in the month to see the sea of poppies in the moat to mark the centenary of WW1. 888,246 ceramic poppies were handmade by 50 potters in Derby for the installation, one for each British and Colonial military fatality during the war.

A truly memorable emotional moment. I have ordered 2 of the Poppies. You can go on line and order them. They will go on sale after the last poppy is planted on the 11<sup>th</sup> November.

*Sheila's poppy photo is on page 6*

### **Parish Councillor Wilf Bessant writes**

The parish council have tasked me with trying to organise a rota of residents for a monthly clean up of litter around the parish. I thought the best way to attempt to secure volunteers was through the parish magazine.

Would it be possible to ask for people to take part in this task and if so to contact me on 01275 872406 so I can formulate a rota to cover the year

### **Wow! No Parish Council elections for over 50 years! (News & Views issue 314).**

Perhaps we should put 'new' villagers' minds at rest and explain that this does not mean that there have been no changes to PC personnel for this period!

It does however indicate that 'Real Elections' are NOT a requisite to the smooth running of this particular village.

I would suggest that elections can, very often, cause friction and divisions in any community.

In a village, such as ours, a small self interest pressure group could easily nominate an individual for the purpose of serving their interests above those of the village in general.

Is it not a fact that most of the members of our current Parish Council are new Councillors who were co-opted due to a spate of resignations, some acrimonious, much less than five years ago?

These new Councillors have undergone a learning curve and now have some valuable experience from which the village can benefit. It does not sound very sensible to consider replacing them for no apparent reason.

Whilst I am confident that none of our current Councillors would claim to be irreplaceable why would anyone want to change something that is serving our village so well!

Surely at the present time we need stability not change for change sake!

In conclusion, if there are villagers that wish to serve the community perhaps they should offer their services to the County Council via the election box and if chosen could promote the needs of Kenn for the benefit of all of us.

John Croxton

# KENN PARISH COUNCIL

2014

## MEETINGS

**The Village Hall, Kenn St, Kenn**  
**1 December – General Council**  
 Agendas will be on notice boards  
 3 clear days before the meeting.

## KENN PARISH COUNCILLORS

Sheila Naish – Tel: 07808 920 962  
 Council Chairman  
 Kate Hatcher – Tel: 01275 871 860  
 Council Vice-Chairman  
 Wilf Bessant – Tel: 01275 872 406  
 Stephen Brain – Tel: 07773 211 394  
 Jon-Paul Humberstone – Tel: 07990 690 060  
 Cheryl Quinn – Tel: 07983 015 286  
 Robert Treble – Tel: 07831 316 760

### Parish Council Meeting – 6 October 2014

The representatives for 2 planning applications provided some details and answered questions.

The general business covered items which the council has under regular review:

hedges, enhance the village with planters/flowers, keeping up with signs that need replacing and traffic speed measures, efforts to get the litter rota established again, dog bin maintenance, trying to progress the church bridge repairs, defibrillator update, community resilience (snow wardens and grit bins), 2 planning applications to provided comments on and details of a planning decision.

Various local councils & authorities had been in contact to obtain the parish council's views: Locking Parish, Clevedon Town, Long Ashton Neighbourhood Plan, N S Council (various items), ideas for works for the Community Payback Scheme, Vodafone mobile coverage to rural areas.

Members received information on: the final recommendations of the electoral review of North Somerset, Community Health Services, Schools Admissions, N Somerset's new planning web site, Liaison meetings, Police public presentation team who will come and do talks on various topics.

## 👏 Kenn Parish Council Elections – Part 2: ever wondered..... 👏

**What are local councils?** There are over 9,000 local councils representing around 16 million people (there are some areas such as in London that do not have local councils) across England and they form the most local level of government. Local councils can be found in a diverse range of communities. Whether urban or rural, local councils have one thing in common – to try to make their local community better and to give the local community a voice and means to achieve this.

**What local councils do?** A local council has an overall responsibility to endeavour to maintain the well-being of their local neighbourhood, this falls into three main categories:

- Representing the local community by being consulted on anything that affects it such as; government consultations, district council policy documents, large infrastructure projects going through their boundary, planning applications, enforcement actions, licensing etc
- Identifying local needs and making efforts to ensure these services are delivered
- Striving to improve the quality of life in the local area

Some of services a local council might also provide, maintain or contribute to are:-

Allotments; leisure facilities; bus shelters; litter bins; car parks; local illuminations; community centres; local youth projects; community safety schemes; parks and open spaces; community transport schemes; planning; public lavatories; crime reduction measures; street cleaning and lighting; cycle paths; tourism activities; festivals and celebrations; traffic calming measures; and many more.....

They will often work with the principal authority in their area and cooperate to ensure the effective delivery of services to the local community.

**How local councils are funded?** Each year a sum of money raised locally called a 'precept' is collected through the council tax. This money is invested back into the local neighbourhood by the local council to improve facilities and services. It is local councillors representing the aspirations of their community who will decide how to spend this money.