

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

July 5 - Avril Gaunt  
7 - Adam Gamester  
10 - Caroline Holden  
Molly Cheek  
11 - Thomas Hicks  
13 - Laura Beardshaw  
14 - Lois & Colin Webb W.A.  
15 - Mrs Gladys Griffin 103  
20 - Andrew Hicks  
21 - Toby Naish  
24 - Brian Walters  
- Eloise Gale  
25 - Sue Pugh  
27 - Jessica Brett  
28 - Juliet Stowell  
Jack Stowell  
Millie & Mike Stowell WA  
29 - Emma & Peter Brooks WA

## Thought of the Month

*Life is not measured by the number of  
breaths we take, but by the moments  
that take our breath away!*

## Naish's Notes

Congratulations to Robert & Lise Willcox on their Wedding at St. John the Evangelist, Kenn on Saturday 25th July. We wish them every happiness for their future.

Congratulations to Dave and Lucy on the arrival of baby daughter Bryony on the 11<sup>th</sup> June at Laurel Cottage, Kenn Street.

**Don't forget** - Pick up litter, tidy verges – We are being judged!!!

Our new speed signs have been erected around the village.

Sheila

## St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

### FIRST CHURCH ROOM COFFEE MORNING

The first of the Kenn village coffee mornings was held on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of June. This is to become a regular event on the third Saturday of each month. The venue is the new Church Room.

About 40 villagers attended, so this is the start of an inspired local tradition. The forecourt was crowded with Kenn people from all the generations exchanging news, affirming friendships and becoming better acquainted with neighbours. The Church grounds provided a safe place for the children to play in.

Julia Bush and Cecelia Andrews sold cakes for the Blay family who live in Kumasi in Ghana and the amount raised was £120.

With social and charitable causes fulfilled, the morning also satisfied a more basic human drive. Quality delicious cakes and buns filled the Saturday morning gap, when it is too late for breakfast and too early for lunch.

Many thanks to Julia and Cecelia. The next coffee morning is on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2005.

Caroline Holden

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## **Kenn Family Service**

**26<sup>th</sup> June**

This was the Sunday nearest 29<sup>th</sup> June, which is St. Peter's Day; so he was the subject of our service.

The church was full of flowers from Robert and Lise Willcox's wedding the day before and it looked lovely in the sunshine.

Our Bible Reading (very well read by Matthew Hayden) was from Acts, where an angel rescues Peter from his prison cell. He was in trouble from Herod because he was starting to found the Christian Church to which we still belong today.

Celia Andrews and George Noad gave a dramatic reading, with George as Peter. After this Celia talked about Peter being the "Rock" and how there are many people being 'rocks' today. They can be depended on when things need to be done.

Then Julia explained about how she started to help the Blay family in Ghana more than 20 years ago. For some years now the people of Kenn have helped the Blays through life by buying cakes from Julia and giving contributions.

They are still doing this £120 was raised at the Coffee Morning two weeks ago.

Daphne Holding  
(Julia's very proud Mum)

## **Churchyard Tidy Up**

Around fifteen people, of all ages, took part in the Churchyard Tidy Up at different times of the day. It was wonderful that several people who have no relatives buried there took the trouble to help, staying all the evening. It was a very friendly get together.

Very many thanks to all who joined in

Ray Naish

## **Church Car Park Wall**

A small party of gentlemen have done a great job of re-pointing the churchyard-car park wall, a job that had needed doing for years.

This repair work took several days. Fortunately the rebuilt Church Room, with its kitchen area, came in very useful for providing hot drinks for this willing party of workers.

The wall should be safe for many years to come.

Very many thanks to all who took part.

Ray Naish and Julia Bush

## **July Summer Walk**

The next Summer Walk will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July. We hope to take a walk in Kenn Moor, meeting at Cloverlea, Kenn Street at 7.00 pm.

All are welcome to join us.

Ray Naish

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## **St. John's Altar Guild – July Rota**

Mrs Jan Bedford and  
Mrs Wendy Papasolomontos  
and Mrs Juliet Stowell and  
Mrs Sue Pugh

Volunteers to join the Altar Guild are always welcome – all it entails is about an hour a week for one month each year – If you think you might like to help contact the Altar Guild Secretary, Jean Naish at Cloverlea, Kenn, or phone 872493

## **Snippets**

### **Thanks**

Ruth Dyer wishes to thank everybody for the visits, inquiries and flowers she has received while being unwell. They were all much appreciated.

Thank you all very much

## **Kenn Women's Institute**

**Meeting Wednesday 13th July  
7.30 pm at Kenn Village Hall**

Subject: Television Tales  
Speaker: Mr. Tim Hooper  
Competition: My Three Favourite TV Programmes

Ruth Dyer

## **PARISH COUNCIL NOTES**

Next Meeting Monday 1<sup>st</sup> August,  
7.30 pm Kenn Village Hall.

Ann Holtham,

Clerk to the Council

## **VILLAGE CLEAN UP**

I would like to thank, on behalf of the Parish Council, all those who bravely turned up to give Kenn its annual Spring Clean.

As we huddled in the doorway of the Village Hall with the rain sheeting down I did wonder if we were mad.

However then the clouds rolled back and small army started work.

We managed to pick up a lorry load of rubbish including a few items that are best not described.

If anybody knows the Bettaware agent for this area could they ask them to stop dumping ALL their catalogues in Davis Lane!

On the plus side there was less rubbish than last year but still far too much.

Thanks must go particularly to John Haydon for the use of his lorry and to Jenny & Simon who provided the workers with an excellent lunch.

The Clean Up next year will be on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006.

Robin Mackay

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## 15<sup>th</sup> July St. Swithin

Very little is known about St. Swithin or Swithun. He was an Anglo-Saxon bishop of Winchester from about 852 until he died in 861 or 862. Some have claimed that he wished to be buried outside the church so that he would be exposed to the feet of passers by, and the drops of falling rain;

Legend has it that when the Cathedral in Winchester was completed in 972, and the bones of St. Swithin were transferred from the Churchyard to the Shrine, the Saint protested and wept.

In some countries it was believed that if rain fell on St. Swithin's Day and 'christened' the apples this was a favourable omen. It was also thought that apples were unfit for food until after 15<sup>th</sup> July.

Now, if on St. Swithin's Feast the welkin lours (the sky threatens) and every penthouse streams with hasty showers.

Twice twenty days shall clouds their fleeces drain,  
And wash the pavements with incessant rain.

St. Swithin's day, if thou dost rain,  
For forty days it will remain;  
St. Swithin's day, if thou be fair,  
For forty days 'twill rain nae mair

Hartley Staples

## Ruth Dyer

On behalf of my family, I would like to say a huge thank you for all the support we have received over the last couple of weeks during some very difficult times. My Mother has received lots of cards, flowers and visitors, all of which have been gratefully received and much appreciated by us all.

Marianna Mackay

## Our Flag

The flag has flown this month for:

The birth of Bryony Tara Ellora Jepson at Laurel Cottage

The Queen's birthday

The marriage of Robert and Lise Willcox

The 21<sup>st</sup> birthday of Tom Bye

The Silver Wedding Anniversary of Liz and Martin Jaehme.

Please remember that if you want the flag flown for any of your special occasions to phone Robin or Marianna on 01275 340323.

## **'MAKE POVERTY HISTORY'**

A 'Rich Man, Poor Man Supper'

will be held at Kingston  
Seymour Village Hall on  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July  
7.15 for 7.30 pm

Tickets at £3 are on sale from  
the Team Office or  
Margaret Ball 01275 874077

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## **Make Poverty History!**

After a 'wake up' call from MPH activist Myra Birdsall, Daphne Holding and Julia Bush sallied forth to College Green on Saturday 11th June.

Having carefully noted where we had left the car (all multi-storeys look the same to me), we set off for Park Street.

Suddenly we caught the sound of drum beats and soon found ourselves with a motley crew, mainly clad in white, preparing to parade down the hill amidst the Saturday shoppers.

Led by two 'banga' drummers, we made our way, exhorted by young marshals in luminous green vests.

College Green was already full of banner waving groups, who gradually drifted towards a small stage in front of the Council House.

At 2 pm sharp, a series of speakers of many persuasions gave their opinions on how we could 'Make Poverty History'. There were songs from a local choir and plenty of noise from the assembled throng.

The most moving words for me, were those of a young Ugandan woman, who simply said the Uganda has used the money released by debt relief to train enough teachers for all Ugandan children to have primary education

At 3 pm, everyone held hands on a continuous tape printed with 'Make Poverty History' stretching round the circumference of College Green. We stood in silence for three minutes as the Cathedral bell tolled every three seconds as a child died somewhere in the world, for want of simple measures in health care of feeding, often at the cost of only a few pence.

Then a great hubbub broke out as the rally ended and we headed for home. And yes, we did find the car.

p.s.

'Make Poverty History' is not a 'church thing' it is a 'humanity thing'.

## **Congratulations**

We join with Lynne, Steve and Tom Bye in congratulating Amy Bye on her 2.1 Honours degree in Zoology.

B.Sc. Amy studied at Cardiff University.

Well done!

Amy's brother Tom recently celebrated his 21<sup>st</sup> Birthday

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Veale de 13 de agosto.

## PAELLA PLUS

Don't worry if you are not going to be on holiday in Spain on 13<sup>th</sup> August, because a bit of Spain is coming to Kenn.

Kenn's No. 1 gourmet chefs, Jenny & Simon, are determined to provide the ultimate SPANISH SPECTACULAR this year. They are going to cook not one but THREE types of Paella Plus, for those who cannot wean themselves off traditional fare, their usual high quality BBQ.

We will also be providing a glass of SANGRIA to get you in the mood as well as Strawberries & Ice Cream for Dessert.

Come along to the Village Hall on 13<sup>th</sup> August for a memorable evening with a few surprises (including Pin the Tail on the Bull!).

Those wearing appropriate Fancy Dress will be competing for prizes.

And the cost?  
A mere £5 (£2.50 if under 12).

All profits will be split between the Friends of Clevedon Hospital and the ACTS community Clinic in White River, South Africa. This clinic serves a community stricken with AIDS, it not only treats patients, it is a hospice and community support centre for the many devastated families. The staff desperately need our help.

Tickets available from

Jenny and Simon on 878451  
Marianna and Robin on 340323

## Badgers

Hans and Andrea Olson who live on Nailsea Wall have told me that they heard a terrific noise one night recently in their field. They went out to investigate and found it was two badgers fighting. Shining a torch on them did not stop them. One has been found dead on the roadside since.

Jeff Naish saw a sow badger with a small cub one evening in a field near his house.

A fox has taken about 16 hens from Sizzle Summerell's flock that she keeps behind Stonehouse Farm and Jean Withers who lives at Moorside Farm has had all her young ducklings that she hatched recently in her incubator taken by a fox.

Ray Naish

## Departure from Fresh Fields

*After months of inactivity, everything has happened at once and we have less than a week to get packed up and out. Yeates deserve a bit thank you for their highly efficient service.*

*Anyway, it hasn't given us very long to say 'goodbye', but as we will only be down the road in Yatton we'll keep in touch.*

*We have thoroughly enjoyed living in Kenn and hope the new residents of Fresh Fields do too. I know Mr and Mrs Bryant and their new baby Solomon will receive a warm welcome.*

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*Jeremy, Julie, Oliver and William Hart (not forgetting Sally).*

## **Kenn Women's Institute**

The meeting on 8th May was unusual. After greeting visitors Mrs. Russell, Shirley Bryant and Liz Pickford (all the way from Kent), President Marion Carrington congratulated our team at coming first in the Clevedon W.I. Quiz.

A trip on the Bristol Packet was suggested and our good wishes went to Thelma Blade, who was down at the Royal Cornwall showing her cattle.

We then realised that Mr. Sharma, our Speaker was late. Then he was very late. Then we realised he wasn't coming at all. We hope all is well with Mr. Sharma and that it was just a diary mix-up.

As we now had time to spare, Marion and Hazel Limage told us how they had come to be living in Kenn. This was really interesting; harrowing drama, grit in adversity – comedy – it had the lot! Ruth Dyer then told us about Kenn in the past and some of its characters.

Not having space last month to report on our visit to Highgrove, this will make a good fill-in now! Though the day was damp and dismal this outing was truly memorable. As you may have heard, we had to take along passports or driving licences with photos, each one checked at the gate by the police, against the list sent in by Gill Hackett, our Programme Secretary.

Our guide was the Assistant Head Gardener, who though totally deaf, was excellent. He led us through shrubberies, ferny grottos, formal gardens and flower

meadows, paved walks and the most enviable vegetable garden imaginable.

This was large and walled, divided into four box-hedged beds. Like a knot-garden but with vegetables growing instead of flowers. Pathways went from corner to corner and these were tunnels of apples, grown over archways. We were told H.R.H. likes his glass of apple juice every day. One formal garden at the front of the house has only 'black' and white flowers and is surrounded by a high clipped hedge. Looking across this garden through ornamental iron gates one can see a flower meadow, which was a mass of tulips in all shades of pink and purple, leading the eye to woodland in the distance. Gorgeous!

We then went to the Orchard Room which is full of paintings by H.R.H. Here we were served tea in special Highgrove china and Duchy biscuits. Next door is a gift shop full of very tempting things and a plant stall.

All the proceeds from these and the fee charged to each visitor goes to the Prince's Trust and other charities. All the people there are volunteers.

So thanks again to Gill and David, our guide, for a really good day.

With our refreshments at the Meeting we also had some chocolates left over from last month, which went down very well. The competition for a piece of silver was won by Betty Bubb, with Ruth Dyer second and Rose Jeffreys third. Next month we will be told Television Tales by Mr. Tim Hooper and the competition is My Three Favourite TV Programmes.

Shirley Livesey

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## Visit to the Gauge on the Kenn River

Ray arranged a visit to the gauge on the Kenn River for his second summer walk of the year. There was an excellent attendance of around 35 including some new faces.

Access to the gauge was via a narrow track next to the railway line near Kenn Moor Gate and luckily Renee was able to gain permission for us to turn round in a field without which our drivers would have faced a challenging reverse manoeuvre at the end of the walk. As it was the passengers (all 2 of them) on the train that passed as we assembled must have wondered why there were a dozen cars parked there and a group of people madly waving at them.

Ray explained that at this point we were in Lower Claverham. On the way to the river we passed a fine copse of oak trees on our right but unfortunately neither Ray nor Renee could remember why they had been planted.

Arriving at the gauge we found that it was a dam that ensures the water level upstream is maintained at sufficient head to enable the water company to extract water at the Chelvey pumping station. Ray told us that an Act of Parliament was needed to enable this extraction and that conditions apply so that a certain flow of water must be maintained over the gauge. There have been problems in the past with over extraction causing large cracks in the riverbanks and depressions in the surrounding fields. Ben Crossman had brought along some interesting correspondence between his father and the authorities about this. Ray said

that during the 1976 drought the strict conditions around extraction could not

be met and Parliament sought permission from the late Sam Dyer in his official capacity for these to be temporarily waived.

Until piped water came to Kenn in 1936 people were dependent on pumps and wells. Those who lived close enough used the river water. The river also provided food in the form of eels and also water cress. Eels were caught either with a many pronged eel spear or by clotting. The latter involved threading worms onto wool. When the eels took the bait the wool became tangled in their teeth and they could be landed.

Clotting was a sport for thundery summer evenings.

Ben also recalled that during WW2 he was a home guard and that his unit as part of an exercise were required to attack and capture Nailsea West End. They used a ladder to cross the river at this point fooling the defenders who were guarding the bridges and so succeeded in their mission.

Apparently the Nailsea home guard met in a shed at the back of the Blue Flame pub. The landlord at the time a Mr Pike used to make cider, which he stored in this shed. The Nailsea lads soon found a way to tap into this supply no doubt with interesting results on their drill.

We set off to follow the river upstream, rather nervously at first as we had to share our route with a herd of very fine and rather large cattle. Initially they did not seem too keen for us to invade their domain. We walked on until we came to some swampy land on the boundary of Nailsea Court. On the way we passed a pair of swans with three cygnets. Luckily for us their nest was on the far

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bank so we were not subjected to a wing beating.

Re-tracing our steps we re-joined Ray and thanked him for arranging another interesting evening. Thanks also to Renee for arranging access and Ben for his WW2 recollections.

The next walk is Monday 11 July when Ray proposes we visit Black Ditch and on to the large plantation. Meet at Ray's house at 7 p.m.

## Robert Down

Ray Naish tells me that the following poem was taught to all the children at Kenn School:

### The Pedlar's Caravan

I wish I lived in a caravan,  
With a horse to drive, like a pedlar-  
man  
Where he comes from, nobody knows,  
Or where he goes to – but on he goes!

His caravan has windows two,  
And a chimney of tin that the smoke  
comes through;  
He has a wife and a baby brown  
And they go riding from town to town.

Chairs to mend and delft to sell!  
He clashes the basins like a bell  
Tea trays, baskets ranged in border,  
Plates, with the alphabet round the  
border.

The roads are brown and the sea is  
green  
But his house is just like a bathing-  
machine;  
He comes to a brook and he can ride  
Rumble and splash to the other side.

With the pedlar-man I'd like to roam  
And write a book when I came home  
All the people would read my book  
Just like the travels of Captain Cook

William Rands

## The Kenn Hangings

Most people are familiar with the story of the three men from Kenn who were hanged in a field off Kenn Street in 1830. Their crime was setting fire to a wheat mow, the property of Benjamin Poole of Laurel Farm, Kenn Street.

It was probably the most horrendous event ever to have taken place in the history of this village. It was around the time of the notorious Bristol Riots. The law at that time was coming down very heavily on anyone stepping out of line.

The three men were William Wall aged 32 who lived in a cottage where Julian and Troy Gale have their new house in Duck Lane, James Rowley aged 24 who lived at Middle Cottage Nailsea Wall parts of which are still visible and John Clarke aged 17 who lived in White Cottage, Kenn Street.

William Wall was hanged although he was travelling up over Failand with a cart load of potatoes on the way to Bristol at the time the fire was started. He actually saw the fire, it was two o'clock in the morning. William's wife Mary, who according to the records was four feet seven tall with brown hair, blue eyes and very sharp features, was arrested for making the matches that lit the fire. She probably made them for ordinary household use.

After spending two years in prison she was transported to Hobart, Tasmania for life. Imagine poor little Mary Wall's dilemma; she had been taken away from her six children who she had to leave to the mercy of the world. While in prison she had another baby. I wonder if she was raped? Mary's

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journey to Tasmania took four months in a convict ship called "The Hydery";

during her voyage when she was tossed about on the oceans of the works carrying her baby in her arms, the baby contracted pneumonia, but survived only to die after landing.

Mary got permission, after a couple of years, to marry a fellow convict James Hawkins who was a Bristolian. She had two children by that marriage.

One of her daughters married and went to Australia where she produced fifteen children.

Mary's maiden name was Gulliford, she came from Clevedon. She married William Wall at Temple Church, Bristol on 21<sup>st</sup> April 1816.

I have found the Baptisms of their six children.

Thomas on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1819,  
James 14<sup>th</sup> January 1821,  
Joseph 16<sup>th</sup> March 1823,  
Robert 15<sup>th</sup> May 1825,  
Daniel 18<sup>th</sup> March 1827,  
Ruth 14<sup>th</sup> December 1828.

Mary's parents who lived in Moor Lane, Clevedon took charge and brought up the six children. What an undertaking for an elderly couple!

James Rowley came from the same family as I do. His mother's maiden name was Kingcott and my grandmother was also a Kingcott before her marriage to Alfred Naish.

The only thing I know about John Clarke is that he was only seventeen when hanged – imagine that today.

Ray Naish

## Middle Cottage Nailsea Wall

This cottage was situated between the two bungalows that are now in place along The Wall, remains of it can still be seen.

I think I am right in saying that the last people to live there, before it fell into disrepair, were Marshall Clarke and his wife. Marshall had been sent to the Middle East during the First World War, he met and married a Greek lady. After he got back to England, his wife eventually followed him bringing her brother with her.

Now this brother was known by local people as The Greek. Just before Sam Dyer passed away, he told me a story about this chap, it went like this.

The Dyer's at Kenn Court were busy haymaking, when this chap known as The Greek turned up at the farm asking for casual work, Sam's father gave him a job helping with the haymaking. At the same time an old chap from Clevedon named Jack Hollier also arrived, looking for work. Mr. Dyer also gave him a job. Unfortunately Jack had severe toothache. They worked all day, in the afternoon all the regular farm workers left the hayfield to do the milking, leaving The Greek and Jack Hollier to continue with the haymaking.

When the regular workers got back after tea they were amazed at how little work these two men had done. When questioned about it they explained that The Greek had spend a long time attending to Jack's bad tooth, but he had achieved success by getting the offending tooth out by the simple process of prizing it out with the prong of a hay peek. (A hay peek is a two pronged hay fork).

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Ray Naish

## What's on at the Drum?

**First Tuesday of Every Month  
Kenn Villagers' Lunch  
Friends and Family also  
welcome  
5<sup>th</sup> July, meet from 12.30 p.m.**

**Mike says sorry for the price  
increase on the midweek menu  
Now £6.50 per person f  
or two courses**

**Every Wednesday - Quiz Night  
Prizes and Raffle**

**Kenn Village Hall  
Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July from 7.30 pm  
Everyone is invited to a party to  
celebrate the wedding on  
Saturday at Burrington  
of Laura and Stefan Beardshaw**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> July  
Iain Payne is  
Roy Orbison  
£15 but sadly sold out**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August  
"The Blues Brothers Show"  
Not to be missed.  
£15 for a three course meal  
plus entertainment all night**

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September  
MEDIEVAL NIGHT  
Costume - Dress Code Only  
£15 per person**

**In August  
Please watch this space**

**The Drum Charity Day**

**Medieval Day  
i.e. Double Stocks etc.**

**'Guess who is going in them'  
to have things thrown at him  
plus lots of other things.**

**After the day, one set of stocks  
could go on the Village Green  
By the Millennium Stone, if  
Agreed by the Parish Council**

## **Strong Men Wanted**

We need volunteers to represent  
Kenn in a challenge Tug of War  
against Kingston Seymour on  
Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

The honour of our village is at stake  
here.

Names to Robin Mackay please -  
tel. 340323.

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of Laura and Stefan Beardshaw

## Dates For Your Diary

### VILLAGE DIARY

#### Drum and Monkey

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July

Village Lunch from 12.30 p.m.

#### Kingston Seymour Village Hall

Make Poverty History  
Rich Man, Poor Man Supper  
7.15 for 7.30 pm  
Tickets £3 from Team Office  
or Margaret Ball 01275 874077

**Monday 11th July 7.00 pm**

Meet at Cloverlea, Kenn Street  
for a walk at Kenn Moor.

#### Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July

**Kenn W.I. 7.30 p.m.**

Television Tales by Mr. Tim  
Hooper competition is My Three  
Favourite TV Programmes

Non-members always welcome.

#### Church Room Coffee Morning

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July

10.30 – 12 noon – come along,  
meet your neighbours and  
friends.

#### Clevedon Salerooms

Victorian and Later Furniture and  
Effects - 10.00 a.m.  
Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July

#### Kenn Village Hall

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July from 7.30 pm

Everyone is invited to a party to  
celebrate the wedding on  
Saturday at Burrington Church

### ADVANCE DATES

Saturday 13th August

at Kenn Village Hall

**Paella and Sangria Evening**

Proceeds to ACTS Aids Charity  
and Clevedon Cottage Hospital

#### KENN & KINGSTON KOMBINE

Sunday 28th August

Kenn has challenged Kingston Seymour to  
a Croquet Match

Croquet and Cream Teas

also Inter-Village

Tug of War Competition

at Chaseside, Kenn

#### KENN & KINGSTON KOMBINE

Saturday 3rd September

Yew Tree Farm, Kingston Seymour  
Fundraising Event for Cancer Charity

#### KENN FUNDRAISING

Saturday 10th September

3.00pm

Cream Teas and Fundraising

at The Willows, Kenn

(formerly The Vicarage)

Tickets £3.00

Proceeds to Kenn Village Hall

#### KENN & KINGSTON KOMBINE

Friday 21st October

Trafalgar Day Celebration

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at Kenn Village Hall

Trevor Riddle. 01934 835208

## BIRD NEWS I

More Swallows seem to have arrived during May and numbers now seem to be reasonable. Not so with House Martins which seem to be decidedly scarce in this locality.

Julia Bush reports all three Woodpeckers around the farm, including the scarce Lesser Spotted on a nut feeder. A friend in Cleeve has also reported a Lesser Spotted, also on a nut feeder. It will be interesting to see if any follow up visits are recorded – I am always delighted to hear of any sightings of this species which is the size of a House Sparrow.

Several Skylarks were singing on Kenn Moor in early June – a glorious sound. This species seems to have arrested its decline, and is possibly showing a small increase hereabouts.

A Cuckoo was also calling at Kenn Moor early in the month. Jill and I travelled to Othery in South Somerset to see a pair of White Storks, contentedly feeding in a newly cut hayfield. The farmer was welcoming birdwatchers and said he could not believe it – he had seen nothing like it in 50 years of farming. The birds were a real spectacle when they flew – it was a blazing hot day, giving it a truly Mediterranean flavour.

Finally, there will be Barn Owl watches along the Strawberry Line (telescopes provided) on most Tuesdays and Fridays during July at 8.30 pm.

Please phone me if you would like to come along and I will provide details.

## BIRD NEWS II

A Song Thrush has been singing his heart out from a tree in the Churchyard for the past two or three weeks. He has been singing so loudly that he could be heard way down into Kenn Street. I wonder where he has been earlier in the summer?

In our small garden here at “Cloverlea” we have enjoyed the company of lots of birds this summer. A pair of Blue Tits hatched a clutch of eggs in a nest box on the garden shed, House Sparrows have brought several broods of young, hatched under the tiles of the garage, and around Stonehouse Farm there has been the largest number of House Martins, flying around and nesting under the eaves, I have seen for years. In the old cowshed, several pairs of Swallows have brought out young.

Lots of Starlings have brought out young from under the tiles of the Old Chapel. We can see all this going on from our kitchen windows. A pair of Goldfinches have been feeding in the garden. I expect they have a nest nearby.

A Cock Blackbird has been visiting the garden and carrying away scraps of food. I think he had young in the trees in front of Carpenter’s Farm. He has since brought the young ones over to help themselves.

John Hayden of Chapel Cottage report seeing a Greater Spotted Woodpecker near his home and a Crow fighting with himself at one of his windows early in the morning. John thought it was a burglar. There was so much noise, he got up and armed himself

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with an iron bar to attack the supposed burglar.

Ray Naish

## **BIRD NEWS III**

### **The first (and probably the only) bird news from Southfield Farm**

I planned to start this by saying that we might not have the rarest birds at Southfield Farm, but we possibly have the cleanest. This is due to our neighbour 'John next door' who has utilised an assortment of discarded garden furniture (farmers are genetically modified never to throw anything away) into a 'service station' for birds. This includes an old barbecue, which when full of water, has provided one particular blackbird family with a twice daily wash and brush up.

However, imagine our delight, on 6<sup>th</sup> June when we saw all three native woodpecker species, Greater and Lesser Spotted and the Green.

Julia Bush

### **Margaret's Mutterings**

#### **Kenn Fundraising**

Our thanks go to John and Marlene Arney, who after the most successful Christmas Punch and Mince Pie Fundraiser are inviting us all to their home again on:

Saturday 10th September 3.00pm  
for Cream Teas and Fundraising  
at The Willows, Kenn  
(formerly The Vicarage)  
Tickets £3.00  
Proceeds to Kenn Village Hall

### **Belated Birthday Wishes**

Best wishes go to Charlotte Bryant of The Cottage, Duck Lane, who celebrated her 18<sup>th</sup> Birthday on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June.

### **In and Out of Hospital**

Recently, Jean Withers and Ruth Dyer have spent time in hospital. We send them our best wishes.

Kenn residents seem to be suffering from broken bones – the latest we hear of are Maxine Streat at Cherry Tree Cottage and Richard Jaehme of Carpenters Farm.

Following an accident Richard is currently in Frenchay Hospital where local horse lover, Sister Di Laval has been watching over his progress. We wish him a speedy recovery. His brother Christopher has also hurt his leg, but not too seriously.

Our best wishes go to the whole family, especially parents Liz and Martin who celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June.

I have tickets for the Rich Man, Poor Man Supper at K.S. Village Hall 6.7.5 at £3 each.

### **Welcome**

We extend a warm welcome to Sam and Mel Bryant with baby Solomon, who have come to live at Fresh Fields, Kenn Street. We look forward to meeting them at Village events.

# KENN NEWS & VIEWS

## Thanks

Thanks to David Pugh who has given the Bush Shelter its annual tidy up.

## SERVICES FOR JULY 2005

### 1st Sunday 3rd July

#### Thomas the Apostle

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

#### *8am: Holy Communion Kenn*

8am: Holy Communion Claverham

9.30am: Parish Communion Yatton

9.30am: Holy Communion Cleeve

11am: Family Service

Kingston Seymour

6pm: Evensong Yatton

### 2nd Sunday 10th July

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8am: Holy Communion Yatton

9.30am: Holy Communion Claverham

9.30am: Family Communion Yatton

11.00 am Family Service Cleeve

#### *11am: Holy Communion Kenn*

6pm: Evensong Kingston Seymour

6.30pm: Holy Communion Cleeve

### 3rd Sunday 17th July

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8am: Holy Communion Claverham

9.30am: Parish Communion Yatton

9.30am: Holy Communion Cleeve

11am: Holy Communion

Kingston Seymour

2.30pm Holy Baptism Yatton

#### *6pm: Evensong Kenn*

6pm Open Air Songs of Praise at Claverham Village Hall (led by Revd Robert Widdowson, Rural Affairs Adviser)

### 4th Sunday 24th July

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

8am: Holy Communion Yatton

8am: Holy Communion

Kingston Seymour

9.30: Parish Communion Yatton

9.30: Holy Communion Cleeve

10am: Family Service Claverham

#### *11am: Family Service Kenn*

6pm: Evensong Yatton

## HOLY DAYS IN JULY:

### 22nd MARY MAGDALENE

8.30 am Holy Communion Yatton.

### 25th James the Apostle

8.30 am 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

11am: Holy Communion at

Kingston Seymour

***3rd Wednesday in month 20th July***

***11.00 am Holy Communion at Kenn***

4th Wednesday in month

11am: Holy Communion at Claverham

Every Thursday

9.30am: Holy Communion at Cleeve

7.30pm: Holy Communion at Yatton

# **KENN NEWS & VIEWS**