

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

Birthdays and Anniversaries

June 1 - Simon Pascoe
- Tyler Silvester
3 - Joshua Middleton
5 - David Porch
- Margaret & Brian Cook W.A.
9 - Lois Webb
11 - Naomi Brain
Wendy Papasolomontos
13 - Lynn Bye
- Bradley Harris
18 - Ian Pascoe
21 - Tom Bye
Heather Brain
Dave Pugh
23 - Robin Mackay
27 - Pip Jenkins
28 - Liz & Martin Jaehme W.A.

St. John the Evangelist, Kenn

St. John's Altar Guild

June Rota

Mrs Valerie Cox, Kate Hatcher
and Lise Willcox

July Rota

Sunday 1st Jilly Butland and
Dave and Sue Pugh
Sunday 8th - Jan Bedford and
Wendy Papasolomontos
Sundays 15th/22nd/29th
Jilly Butland, Dave & Sue Pugh

Churchyard Spring Clean-up

The evening of **Wednesday 6th June** has been selected and everyone is invited to come along and help prepare the Churchyard for the Best Kept Village Competition. Meet from

6.00 - bring your own tools and invite a friend or neighbour.

CHRISTIAN AID IN KENN 2007.

Lise Willcox, who has taken on the collection of Christian Aid in Kenn, would like to thank everyone for giving so generously this year.

The magnificent sum of £967.75 was raised in Kenn, including £106.40 from Celia's Coffee Morning.

Well done.

Thanks go to the villagers who delivered and collected the envelopes.

PS. If you still have your C.A. envelope, could you drop it in at Ray's house, Cloverlea, Kenn Street.

Julia Bush

Mrs. Gladys Griffin

The Griffin family would like to thank everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy following the death of our mother on 13th May.

Also thank you to those who supported us at her funeral on Tuesday 22nd.

Your kind consideration is much appreciated.

Church Tower Floodlighting

Our church tower was floodlit on the 22nd May in memory of Mrs. Gladys Griffin

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It comes soon enough

June 11th – St. Barnabas

Joseph Barnabas (meaning of consolation) was a native of Cyprus.

Most of what is known of him dates from the time he travelled with St. Paul. Their apostolic work together continued for about four years. Tradition has it that St. Barnabas died at Salamis, stoned and burned by Jews from Syria, in about 60 A.D.

“Barnabas bright, Barnabas bright, the longest day and the shortest night.”

“When St. Barnabas smiles both night and day - Poor ragged robin blooms in the hay.”

“On St. Barnabas’ put the scythe to the grass”.

Hartley Staples

Summer Walk

It is hoped to have another Summer’s Walk on Monday 11th June. We hope to take a walk in Clevedon Moor, meeting at 7 pm at Cloverlea, Kenn Street. Walkers old and new are welcome to join in

Ray Naish

I never think of the future.

Our Flag

Our flag was flown at half-mast on Sunday 13th May and again on 22nd May to mark the passage and funeral of Mrs Gladys Griffin

It was also flown at full mast on 26th May in celebration of Emily Limage's 18th birthday.

“THANK YOU”

Kenn Brunch

Another successful Brunch was held at Kenn Hall on Saturday 26th May in aid of Hall funds, on a lovely sunny morning.

Very grateful thanks to all who helped make it a success, especially Hazel and family for the excellent cooking, waiting at table with drinks and washing up the dishes. Also to the ladies who served the food, made the toast, tea and coffee; sold the plants and cakes and ran the raffle.

We are delighted to report that the total profit at today’s date - 29th May has reached £613.55.

Well done everyone.

John and Grace

Don't forget! You can still pick up your North Somerset Times and Clevedon Mercury at The Drum and Monkey

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Times Thursday - Mercury Friday

Parish Council Notes

It's all change at North Somerset District Council! As a result of the elections at the beginning of May we, sadly, have to say goodbye to Isobel Cummings, Peter Kehoe and Wendy Griggs. Isobel and Peter have been our Councillors for some years and Wendy joined them after the death of Mrs. Greta Lewis.

They have attended Parish Council meetings regularly and represented Kenn's interests at North Somerset. We shall miss them.

Three new Councillors have been elected in their places they are:

Mrs. Ericka Blades,
9 Tiverton Road,
Clevedon BS21 6LP
Tel. 01275 343166

Mrs. Jill Iles,
Bridgefoot Farm,
Kingston Bridge,
Northend, Yatton BS21 6TX
Tel. 01934 830430

Mr. Tony Moulin,
33 Court Avenue
Yatton
Bristol. BS49 4EP.
Tel. 01934 834282

They have been invited to the next Parish Council meeting on 4th June in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m. when it is hoped that we will be able to meet them. We look forward to a productive association with them. All parishioners are welcome to attend these meetings.

The Parish Council remains unchanged. To remind you, Parish Councillors are:

Mrs. Sarah Clark
Tel. 01934 833307
Mr. John Griffin (Chairman)
Tel 01275 872948
Mr. Robin Mackay
Tel. 01275 873774
Mrs. Sheila Naish (Vice Chairman)
01934 838357
Mrs. Cheryl Quinn
Tel. 01275 876850
Mr. Hartley Staples
Tel. 01275 340771
Mr. Rob Treble
Tel 01275 878782

Clerk to the Parish Council:
Ann Holtham 01275 875877

The burning question of the moment is still the employment site. The matter came before the Area Planning Committee on 17th May and was deferred for a site meeting. This will take place on Monday 11th June at 9.30a.m. There is an opportunity for Parish Councillors and objectors and interested parties to speak. If you would like to join the throng and come along and help to hold up the traffic, please do.

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Ann Holtham.

Fashion Show **- Monday 17th September**

We are holding a fashion show in Kenn Village Hall in aid of the building project for the new porch and gents loos in the Hall.

We will also send half the money raised to Sight Savers who work, mainly in India, to give people life enhancing cataract operations.

The show will suit all sizes and pockets. It will mainly be Marks and Spencer and Next seconds so hopefully there will be something for everyone.

Tickets will soon be available from any member of the Hall Committee.

Marianna Mackay

Duck Lane, Neighbourhood Watch

John Staples would like to thank his neighbours John Croxton and Mike Spears who disturbed three men who had broken into his late mother's bungalow at 11.30am on Saturday 19th May.

Nothing of value was taken although they had forced the door to gain access and were rummaging through drawers when they realised that they were being observed.

The police were called but the intruders are believed to have escaped in a silver Mercedes.

Opportunity seldom knocks twice

Harvest Supper 9th September

This is now becoming an annual fixture. As always there will be sumptuous feast organised expertly by Jenny. Roast Pork and all the trimmings, followed by a delectable array of puddings provided by the ladies of Kenn. Tickets will be on sale soon.

Marianna 01275 340323

Village Hall Update

We had hoped that by now we would have made a start, or even finished, our proposed alterations to the Hall and whilst we tried again for grant funding, we have not been successful.

However, rather than hold off any longer, we have decided to make a start on the works (commencing in late July) and in the meantime carry on fundraising.

An idea has been suggested in that we could ask via the News and Views if anyone feels they would like to make a donation (however small or large) towards our new works, it would so help us on our way to completing the final phase of our alterations, and if anyone would like to, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Everyone's continued support for the Hall and its activities is very much appreciated, and on behalf of the Hall Committee, I would like to say a big thank you to all of you who have recently held events and to those who are currently in the process of organising future events.

Sarah Clark

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Hon Sec

Foxes

A vixen has had five cubs in the orchard behind Stonehouse Farm. Several people have seen them.

29th of May – it's Oak Apple Day

When we were at Kenn School, if you didn't wear an oak apple or a spray of oak leaves in your coat on Oak Apple Day you got stung by the other children with stinging nettles.

They also sang a song:
"It's Oak Apple Day, if we don't get a holiday we will all run away!"

Ray Naish

RUSH SUNDAY

I was very lucky to be given a ticket to attend this year's Rush Sunday Service at St. Mary Redcliffe in Bristol. The Lord Mayor and his entourage in full civic regalia attend. It is a very moving occasion with lots of pageantry and wonderful music.

The church of St. Mary Redcliffe was built between 1320 and 1400. Following severe damage to the spire and church during a violent storm in 1446, it was restored by William Canynges, a wealthy merchant living in Redcliffe Street, who was Lord Mayor of Bristol five times.

In 1468 he was ordained a priest and first celebrated Holy Eucharist in St. Mary Redcliffe on Whitsunday that year. To commemorate this, William Spenser, sometime Mayor of Bristol, made provision in 1493 for three sermons to be preached before the mayor on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday after Whitsun.

In accordance with the mediaeval use of Sarum for Whitsunday, the church was strewn with rushes, those attending the service carried nosegays of herbs to guard against infection (They still do!). The change to one sermon on Whitsunday was made at the time of the Reformation.

For more than thirty years the rushes have been gathered and taken to S. Mary Redcliffe by Ray Chappell who so ably mows our green.

He has lately obtained the rushes from fields in Kingston Seymour but in some years he has been able to get them from land belonging to the Naish family. It is rather nice that Kenn and Kingston Seymour can play a part in such an ancient and colourful ceremony.

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Ann Holtham

Dates for your Diary

Kenn Village Hall

Monday 4th June 7.30 pm
Kenn Parish Council Meeting
– everyone welcome

Drum and Monkey

Tuesday 5th June 12. noon
Village Lunch

Wednesdays 6th and 20th June
At Your Garden Gate – Recycling –
don't forget to put out your Green Box
with bottles, paper and cans!

St. John the Evangelist Wednesday 6th June

Evening Working Party to prepare
our Churchyard for the
Best Kept Village Competition
Come along and help tidy your
family graves, or if you have none,
help someone else.
Bring your own tools
The Social Event of the Year

Monday 11th June - 9.30 am.

B3133 near Business Park

Planning Committee Site Meeting
Interested parties welcome!

Cloverlea, Kenn Street

Monday 11th June 7.00 pm,
Meet at Cloverlea, Kenn Street
for a "Summer's Evening Walk"
with Ray Naish.

Kenn Village Hall

Wednesday 13th June 7.30 pm
Kenn Women's Institute
Mrs Sarah Harris from
Kingston Seymour on
"The Woad Show"
Everyone Welcome!

Clevedon Salerooms

Thursday 14th June 10.30 a.m.
**Specialist Antique, Fine Art
and Collectors Items**

NEW CHURCH ROOM or KENN VILLAGE HALL

(venue to be decided)
Saturday 16th June
10.00 – 12 noon Coffee Morning
Proceeds to Breast Cancer
Research
Hosted by the Fenwick Family

Saturday 23rd June MIDSUMMER MADNESS CHARITY BASH

Live Music at Kenn Village Hall
6.00pm till late
Featuring top band
JUSOULD
Pig Roast, Auctions, Bar,
Barbecue, Disco, Raffle
Tickets from Avril 07967 628064
or Rob 07831 506721
Adults £10
16 and under £5

Proceeds to be shared between
Weston Hospice Care and
Village Hall Funds

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DRUM AND MONKEY

Monday 25th / Tuesday 26th June

The Fabulous Paul McCartney
Neil Tudor, a finalist of
Stars in your Eyes
Sound alike, look alike and he
comes from Liverpool
2 nights of Beatles
Entertainment
£20 per person for 3 course
meal and entertainment.

Clevedon Salerooms

28th June 10.00 am

Sales of Victorian and Later Furniture
and Effects

ADVANCE DATES

Garden Party and Fundraising

at

The Willows, Kenn

on

Saturday 21st July 2007.

at 3.00 pm

£3.50 (£1.50 children under 12)

Proceeds to Kenn Village Hall Funds

Tuesday 21st August

The Mocking Birds

An Evening of Adult Comedy
and Songs

£20 per person meal and fun
**PROCEEDS TO KENN VILLAGE
HALL FUNDS**

ART EXHIBITION

KENN VILLAGE HALL

Saturday 11th August

11am – 5pm

Sunday 12th August

11am-4pm

by locally-born artist
HEATHER PRESTON

Most pieces for sale, including
watercolours, oils,
acrylics and mixed media

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

Saturday 8th September

2pm - 5pm - Open day at

YACWAG'S Littlewood Reserve

Free Entrance

No parking, but a free minibus
service will run from Kenn
(every 30 minutes)

Harvest Supper

Sunday 9th September

**After Evensong at St. John's
Tickets available soon**

FASHION SHOW/SALE

at Kenn Village Hall

on

Monday 17th September at 7.30pm

Admission Price £4.00

proceeds to

Sight Savers and Kenn Village Hall

High Street Quality – Bargain Prices –
All Sizes

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*Tickets now available from
Marianna Mackay*

Tickets £4 (under 16 half price)
available on the door.

Gilbert & Sullivan Society Visits Kingston Seymour

In July, the Clevedon G&S Society will be staging a concert in the Kingston Seymour Village Hall, featuring Gilbert and Sullivan highlights and a complete G&S operetta, as well as numbers from the 1940's hit musical, **Oklahoma**, and a chance for the audience to join in with a sing-song.

The programme will include numbers from the group's recent hit productions, **The Mikado** and **The Pirates of Penzance** and some songs from a future production, **H.M.S Pinafore**.

But the pièce-de-résistance will be a semi-staged performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's only one act opera, **Trial by Jury**. Written in 1875, this was their second collaboration, and the only one to contain no spoken dialogue. Gilbert humorously called it 'A Dramatic Cantata,' but it is in fact a highly amusing burlesque lampooning the British legal system.

What with a sequence of popular numbers from the Rodgers and Hammerstein musical about farmers and cowmen and corn that is as high as an elephant's eye, and a chance for the audience to test out their own vocal cords in perfect harmony, this evening promises to be a delight for any light-hearted music lover.

**July 7th at the Kingston
Seymour Village Hall at 7.30pm.**



**Kenn
Women's
Institute**

Fellow member, Mrs. Heather Saxby, gave us an enthralling show of pictures and a talk on her holiday sailing down the Amazon. The exotic colours, birds, flowers and fruits were a delight to see. We enjoy these journeys by proxy and hope that Heather and her husband will let us share their next exciting voyage.

June is the month of the W. I.'s Annual General Meeting. This year it is to be held at The Royal Albert Hall in London and the resolution calls on the government to halt the closure of Community Hospitals. We are all extremely proud of our own local hospital and extremely lucky to have it. Knowing what a fight we would all put up if there was any hint of its closure members voted to support the resolution.

On the 8th August the W.I. will hold a Cheese and Wine Party to raise funds for the Dorset and Somerset Air Ambulance. The Air Ambulance is a life saver and relies on donations to carry on its work.

The next meeting is on 13th June and Mrs. Sarah Harris from Kingston Seymour is giving a talk entitled "The Woad Show". Please

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come along if you would like to hear her.

Meetings begin at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

BIRD NEWS I

So far this spring our birds seem to have enjoyed a productive breeding season but wet and cold weather is now forecast so there may be a downturn.

A Mistle Thrush was singing on Kenn Moor – the first that I have heard singing in our local area for some years. The pair of Hobbies has arrived back from their African winter quarters and Skylarks are still singing on the moor.

In Littlewood the Great Spotted Woodpeckers have young and a Tawny Owl, being harassed by every small bird in the wood (or so it seems), was probably a youngster. On the down side, I have not seen any Whimbrel on the moor this spring.

On Congresbury Moor, the Barn Owls are back and nesting, but the Kestrels seem to have given up – this will be the third consecutive unsuccessful year. Whilst there are still Kestrels on Kenn Moor, there seem to be an ongoing decline in numbers overall. There certainly aren't as many by the motorways nowadays. A Cuckoo has been present spasmodically – I have seen it once – and there does not appear to be any improvement in the fortunes of this species at present.

A Grasshopper Warbler was 'singing' – it sounds like a big grasshopper – at Kingston Seymour and there have been nine species of warbler singing along the Strawberry Line.

Finally Hartley Stapes and John Croxton both report juvenile Tawny Owls near Moorside Farm.

Trevor Riddle

BIRD NEWS II

Jeff has seen a very young Tawny Owl in Cooks Lane with its mother. I heard, but did not see, a female Cuckoo also in Cooks Lane. Females make a bubbly noise, it's the males that made the cuckoo noise.

A Sheld Duck drake has been sitting in the middle of the ploughed field behind Kenn Church. His mate must have a nest nearby. He is waiting for her to hatch her eggs, he has a long wait as they sit for 30 days.

Around 24th May, large numbers of young birds arrived in the hedges, I doubt if they all survived the very cold, wet Whitsunday weather. There were Blue Tits, Long Tailed Tits and lots of noisy young Starlings.

Miles reports lots of young Robins this year in the Russ area.

Ray Naish

Moor Men 2007 Programme

**24th June - Family Fun afternoon
(Dads do Bar-b-cue!)
with tug of war and cricket match
at the Courthouse, Wrington.**

**16th July - A summer evening's cycle ride
(with liquid refreshment)**

**August Sand yachting at Weston
(date to be confirmed)**

15th September - Bus and Steam Trains

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13th October - A Mendip Hike

10th November - A Gourmet Evening

For more information call
Chris Steed on 01934 835258

Lamb Hot Pot, Cottage Pie,
Liver & Onion, Roast Chicken,
Steak & Kidney Pie, Chicken &
Leek & Mushroom Pie and more

£7.95 eat as much as U like

Drum and Monkey News!

On a very wet Sunday in May, the new conservatory at The Drum was officially opened.

The ribbon was cut by Councillor Roz Willis, Chairlady of North Somerset Council and Councillor Wendy Grigg, Yatton ward.

Both were presented with bouquets of flowers by Stefan and Kelly. We all then sat down to a fantastic lunch, courtesy of The Drum.

On behalf of fellow diners, a big thank you to Stefan, Kelly and Mike for their generosity and a thank you to the staff who looked after us so well.

Irene Stowell

What's on at The Drum!

Tuesday 5th June from 12.00
Village Lunch - All Welcome

Theme Nights - Mondays

For the next 2 weeks
BEST OF BRITISH

Fish & Chips, Sausage & Mash.

Following 2 weeks - ITALIAN

Monday 25th / Tuesday 26th June

The Fabulous Paul McCartney
Neil Tudor, a finalist of

Stars in your Eyes
Sound alike, look alike and he
comes from Liverpool

2 nights of Beatles
Entertainment
£20 per person for 3 course
meal and entertainment.

Tuesday 31st July

Roy's Rock n Roll Night
£20 per person for 3 course
meal and entertainment
Come dressed for the evening
there is a prize for the best
dressed couple

Tuesday 21st August

The Mocking Birds
An Evening of Adult Comedy
and Songs
£20 per person meal and fun
PROCEEDS TO KENN VILLAGE
HALL FUNDS

November

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Simon King is
FREDDIE STAR
+ Julie Holden support singer
details later

Telephone 01275 873433

Ray's Summer Walks – A visit to the sea wall at Channel Farm, 14 May 07

It was good to see so many familiar faces gather outside Ray's for the first of his 2007 walks and we were all pleased that he had worked his magic with the weather and we were blessed with a dry if rather windy evening. So without further ado we set off for Channel Farm at Kingston Seymour where parking had been arranged and where we were to meet the Kingston contingent.

From the farm we headed down the track leading to the sea wall. Ray explained that about 100 years ago farmer Wallace had lost so much of his land to the sea that he decided to sell out for a price thought to be about £5 an acre.

However in the 1920's lawns became fashionable and there was a particular type of grass growing here that was excellent for lawns and tennis courts.

The owners exploited this and even built a 2 ft gauge railway track to aid their venture. Initially an old mare hired out by one Bobby Norton of Kingston Seymour hauled the carts but by the 1930's a locomotive was used.

The type of grass that was harvested no longer grows along this part of the channel coast as a result of environmental changes.

Ray next pointed out areas of the sea wall where during World War 2 Italian and later German prisoners of war were put to work maintaining the sea wall by pouring bitumen into wire mesh.

As by now we were all beginning to feel the chill of the strong wind blowing in from the Bristol Channel it did not take much to imagine the arduous conditions the P.O.W's would have faced working here.

For many years the Eglinton family were employed to keep the sea wall in good repair. In 1910 Tom Eglinton brought in 80 tons of stone by sea, all of which was unloaded by hand between tides. Tom landed the stone right where it was needed by arranging for his two young children to light a beacon at exactly the right time to guide his boat in safely.

We walked a short distance along the sea wall to where the original wharf house stood and here Bob Ford told us some of the history of the house and the characters that lived there.

The house was built towards the end of the 18th century and was a two-storey structure with two bedrooms upstairs and two spiral staircases, one at each end. The Eglintons lived here from the 19th century until the house was abandoned during W.W.2.

Later in the 1950's it was vandalised and burnt down. New owners rebuilt it as a single storey holiday retreat, for which purpose it is still used. The property is surrounded by scrub, trees and water filled ditches. Only the chimney is visible. There is no access track and there are no modern facilities.

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Much of Bob's talk was about Edmund Eglington, one of the children mentioned above who lit the beacon for their father.

Edmund spent a lifetime working boats with names like Sarah, Jane and Providence up and down the Bristol Channel ports and as far as Dublin. His first job as crew was almost his last as the boat was hit by lightning. On another occasion he was shipwrecked in Ladye Bay, struggled to shore and decided to head for Kenn where his brother lived. A rescue team found him unconscious and he woke up in the mission for seamen in Bristol. On one trip Edmund's captain ran the boat aground trying to get into Lydney harbour. The boat was stuck fast for 10 days and on its return with its load of coal the captain was sacked. Edmund applied successfully for the job and hired his former captain as deck hand and they continued on as before.

Bob also mentioned a local character called Sam Cox who was born to a well to do family in Somerton. Settling down was not Sam's style and having fought in both the Boer War and the 1st World War he came to live in a little lean to shelter built against the side of the wharf house. During W.W.2 Sam became so ill that the doctor arranged for him to be hospitalised. German P.O.W's made a make shift stretcher from a farm gate and carried Sam across the fields to the waiting transport. Sadly he died the next day.

After Bob's talk we made our way back to the cars where we thanked Ray for organising the trip and both Ray

and Bob for their fascinating glimpse of past times.

A collection was made and presented to Bob for a charity of his choice.

The next walk will be on the second Monday in June. Meet at Cloverlea at 7 p.m. **Robert Down**

The People who lived in Kenn in 1934 continued.....

I am writing about the people who lived in Kenn in 1934 when I was eight years old.

In last month's News and Views, I got as far as the cottages, now demolished, called "Slaughter House Cottages" on the Clevedon Road.

We now move along to Beechcroft, now Kenn Garage where William John and Nellie Staples lived with William's two daughters Dorothy and Stella. Unfortunately Dorothy was mentally retarded, she died around this time aged in her twenties. Stella stayed at home to help look after her. William, or Bill-John or Shef as he was known ran a carpentry and painting business from his home. He was nicknamed Shef because he was always referring to the time when he lived in Sheffield learning his trade.

William was a very clever man. He made a model cider making outfit which worked. He also owned one of the first motor cars in Kenn, which he called the Kenn-yan. He bought it to take the children aged over eleven years to school in Clevedon on contract for Somerset County Council.

Bill-John also ran a dance band called "The Sunray Orchestra". He played for dances in Kenn Hall. He was the drummer, the tempo they played was very steady.

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The next house was the Rose and Crown pub. The Licensee was Isabella Arthur, known as Nellie. She had recently taken over the licence on the death of her husband Cornelius Meaker Arthur, also known as Nellie.

Years before 1934 she had taken pity on a little lady called Pru Say who was described as 'not zactly', who had been left at the mercy of the world when her sister disappeared when returning from a shopping trip to Clevedon. No trace of her has ever been found. Nellie looked after Pru until the end of her life. The Rose and Crown was just a beer and cider pub in those days. A rough place, especially on Saturday nights, with fights quite common among the locals who frequented it at that time.

Next door, where the pub toilets now are, was a lean to one up and one down cottage. Charlie Wakefield and his wife lived there. Charlie was a retired farm worker.

Where the pub car park now is stood two cottages. In one lived Jack Eglington and his wife and son Johnny. Jack worked at Stonehouse Farm. In the other lived Harry and Kit Wakefield. Harry worked at Wake and Deans furniture factory in Yatton. The front doors of these cottages opened onto the road.

To be continued.....

Ray Naish

Gladys Mary Griffin

Mrs Griffin, or Grannie, as she was generally known passed away recently

in Weston Hospital after a short illness aged 104 years and 10 months.

Mrs. Griffin was born in Clevedon, unfortunately her mother died when she was a small child.

After her schooling in Clevedon, she got a job in Bristol as a milliner.

Right to the end of her life she was always smartly dressed, retaining her very slim figure to the end.

Around 1930 Gladys married farmer Archie Griffin of Claverham. They set up home in Claverham where their two sons Gerald and John were born.

In 1939 the Griffin family bought Mill Farm, Kenn and moved there.

I got to know the family well soon after they moved to Kenn, I helped Archie with his first haymaking here.

Shortly after they moved to Kenn Archie cut his hand badly. He asked me if I would milk his cows for him until his hand healed. This I did before and after school. In those days we milked by hand. Gladys always had my breakfast ready after milking so that I could go straight to school in Clevedon. I was about twelve at that time.

One of the things I remember about Gladys was that she was always cooking, she had the first Rayburn that I had ever seen.

There was always a large household at Mill Farm. As the War progressed there were families of evacuees billeted there, also five R.A.F. personnel were sent there. They were in Kenn to man the decoy fire set out

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in the Moor to try to get German aeroplanes to drop their bombs there instead of Bristol.

Later the Griffins ran a Guest House at Mill Farm, which was always full.

During the war, South Clevedon Home Guard members were stationed in the windmill, together with Kenn members. On cold winter nights they often crept into the farmhouse to grab a bit of sleep lying on the floor by the cooker.

In the village Gladys and Archie were very active in fund raising for the war effort. Helping raise large amounts of money for the Red Cross etc, also arranging dances in the hall.

The Griffins were dedicated church-goers. At one time Archie was a Churchwarden and Gladys was a Kenn School manager, also a member of the W.I.

Gladys had been a widow for more than 40 years. After leaving Mill Farm she lived for several years at "Stonewalls", Duck Lane, before moving to Clevedon.

As the years progressed, Gladys moved to retirement homes, first in Clevedon and to the end of her life at "Somerset House, Yatton.

She retained all her faculties to the end, still being able to sing and play the piano, which she did at the church services in Somerset House.

At her funeral at Kenn Church there was a huge congregation of over 100 people present. Her family acted as pall-bearers, her sons Gerald and John

paid tributes to their mother and read the lessons.

The service was conducted by Readers Allan Attwood and Paul Stalder, who knew her well through taking services at Somerset House.

Before and during the service, Mervyn Baker tolled the bell 104 times, in her memory, once for every year of her life.

Mrs Mary Holmes was the organist for the service and there were also members of the choir leading the singing of her favourite hymns.

After cremation Mrs Griffin's ashes were interred in her husband's grave in the churchyard.

After the funeral there was a very large number of people present at a reception in the Village Hall.

I have checked the burial record for the last 200 years and found that Mrs. Gladys Griffin is only the second person entered in the Registers of Kenn Church who has lived beyond 100 years of age.

Our sympathy is extended to her sons Gerald and John and their families on the loss of their mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Ray Naish

As many Kenn people will have probably heard, my mother, Gladys Griffin, passed away on Monday the 13th of May and we had her funeral on Tuesday the 22nd of May. As she was only eight weeks short of her 105th birthday, I thought our readers may

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find this article about her life and times of some interest.

We are reminded, when reading this of the incredibly dramatic 100 years of so which has passed, dramatic, not only for the people of this country, but the nation itself and the people of the whole world.

You will see a reference to the Russian revolution, bear in mind that at the time Mum was born, one man, the Czar, was absolute ruler of approximately one fifth of the world's land surface.

The Life and times of Gladys Griffin - nee Shopland

My mother was born on the 15th of July 1902. The fourth and youngest child of John and Beatrice Shopland. She arrived in a world where one in four of the population looked to Britain as their ruler. Britain was the most wealthy and powerful nation the world had ever seen, London the greatest and most powerful City.

In her one hundred and four years of life, Mum was to see five Monarchs on the throne of Great Britain, the last one alone has been there so far for over fifty years. There have been at least seventeen Prime Ministers at number 10. In her lifetime, air travel has gone from the first flight by the Wright Brothers in 1903, to huge air liners with hundreds of passengers providing mass travel, Concorde travelling at twice the speed of sound and space flight.

In 1902 motor cars were a very rare sight. By 1903, just before Mum's first birthday, Henry Ford formed his motor company. This was the first of the great motor corporations, which are now 100 years later, producing millions of cars each year worldwide.

Also in 1903 Mrs. Pankhurst formed the first women's group to fight for votes for

women, which was to lead, by the 1980's to the election of the first woman Prime Minister.

Mum was ten years old when the Titanic sank. Among the other great events of the last century which she saw, have been two world wars, the Spanish Civil War, and numerous minor wars worldwide, the Russian Revolution, the great depression

of the thirties and a world population which has more than doubled.

While the overall wealth of our nation has greatly diminished during her lifetime, the personal earnings and disposable income have increased remarkably. For instance, the average income at the beginning of Mum's life would have been possibly £50 per annum, now £25,000 per annum? The cost of the average home in 1902 possibly £100 sterling - now well!

In the world of fashion from the total cover up of the Victorian clothes to anything, including almost nothing, goes.

In the home, from well water to mains supply. From coal fires in most rooms to central heating. From candles and oil lamps, through gas lamps to electric light. From outside privy to en-suite bathroom. From magic lantern through silent movies to television in almost every home and virtual reality experiences.

From the quill pen and early typewriters with ready-reckoners for calculations, to high speed word processors, E-.mails and computers. For communications, from the letter and spoken word to telephones, fax machines and the internet.

On the farm, from the scythe, horse and man power to super fast productive agricultural machinery, where one man can now manage acreages which would have required possibly ten men. From milking by hand eight or nine cows twice a day by one man to, also one man, using a multi-clustered parlour milking 100 plus cows twice a day.

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In the world of health, from primitive care to transplant/spare part surgery, possibly soon to include the use of animal parts.

For energy, from steam to nuclear power and solar energy and wave power in the near future. Petrol from a cost of less than 2p a litre to over 95p a litre.

A world so large it took many weeks to reach Australia, now the world is so small it takes about 20 hours to reach there.

No one hundred years prior, or to come has or will, experience such life affecting changes, my Mother and her peers most certainly lived through the most incredible era.

John Griffin

Margaret's Mutterings

Enjoy reading Romilly's column, it is the final one for the time being. Hasn't it been fun! Thank you to Kate and Kevin for supporting our youngest contributor.

Kenn Village Hall

THE NEW PORCH

The decision has been taken, grant or no grant, well actually NO GRANT, we are going ahead with our plans.

Starting in mid-July, after Cliff Edwards' granddaughter's wedding reception, work will start on building our grand new porch. Fingers crossed, this should be ready for use in time for the wedding reception of Kate Stowell and Dave Hill on Saturday 1st September.

John Haydon will oversee the building work assisted by Matt Butland, John Ball and any other volunteers!

If you have a skill and would like to be involved then speak to a JOHN!

It is planned to continue to use the Hall throughout the building works.

Village Brunch

Saturday 26th May - Emily Limage celebrated her 18th birthday by waiting at table for the hungry crowd that supported the most successful Brunch. Thank you Emily, I hope the rest of your weekend was more relaxing. Thanks go to the whole Limage family who supported Hazel in a cooking marathon.

Thanks go to all who helped in so many ways. I shall not attempt to name you all - but thank you.

Please support the next Fundraiser for the Village Hall, which is the annual

Garden Party at The Willows, Kenn

on

Saturday 21st July 2007.

at 3.00 pm

£3.50 (£1.50 children under 12)

by kind invitation of Marlene and John Arney

Musical Evening at Kenn Village Hall

Liz Jaehme and her mum Margaret Cook are planning a musical evening for Hall Funds - watch this space!

The Drum and Monkey -

Meal & Show Evening 21st August

Proceeds to Village Hall Funds

KENN NEWS & VIEWS

July Issue of Kenn News and Views

July's magazine, for various reasons, may be late, and may be short, sorry.

So, please, please can regular and new contributors let me have copy as early as possible, if I don't have it, I can't print it!

Please leave your contributions with Ray Naish, or Fax me on 01275 342050 or

E-mail Margaret.john@btinternet.com

4th Sunday 24th June THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

08.00 Holy Communion Yatton
08:00 Holy Communion Kingston
Seymour
09:30 Parish Communion Yatton
09:30 Holy Communion Cleeve
11:00 Family Service Kenn
18:00 Evensong Yatton

SERVICES FOR JUNE 2007

1st Sunday 3rd June TRINITY SUNDAY

08:00 Holy Communion Kenn
08:00 Holy Communion Claverham
09.30 Parish Communion Yatton
11:00 Patronal Communion Cleeve
11.00 Family Service Kingston Seymour
18:00 Evensong Yatton

2nd Sunday 10th June FIRST SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY St. Barnabas, Apostle

08:00 Holy Communion Yatton
09:30 Family Communion Yatton
09.30 Patronal Festival Holy Communion
Claverham
11.00 Open Air Pet Service, Cleeve
Cleeve Village Hall
11:00 Holy Communion Kenn
18.00 Evensong Kingston Seymour
18.30 Holy Communion Cleeve

3rd Sunday 17th June SECOND SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

08:00 Holy Communion Claverham
09:30 Parish Communion Yatton
09.30 Holy Communion Cleeve
11.00 Holy Communion Kingston
Seymour
14.30 Holy Baptism Yatton
18:00 Evensong Kenn

HOLY DAYS IN JUNE:

**7th Day of Thanksgiving for Holy
Communion**
19.30 Holy Communion Yatton

29th St. Peter, the Apostle
08.30 Holy Communion Yatton

WEEKDAY SERVICES

Daily 08:30 Morning Prayer at Yatton
(except Saturdays and Holy Days)

Every Wednesday
10:00 Holy Communion Yatton

1st Wednesday in month
11:00 Holy Communion at Kingston
Seymour

3rd Wednesday in month – 20th June
11:00 Holy Communion at Kenn

4th Wednesday in month
11:00 Holy Communion at Claverham

Every Thursday
09:30 Holy Communion at Cleeve
19:30 Holy Communion at Yatton

1st & 3rd Wednesdays
14.00 First Steps at Yatton

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JULY

1st Sunday 1st July

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

08.00 Holy Communion Kenn

08.00 Holy Communion Claverham

09.30 Parish Communion Yatton

09.30 Holy Communion Cleeve

11.00 Family Service Kingston Seymour

18.00 Evensong Yatton