

KENN

ISSUE 448
DECEMBER

2025

We Wish You a

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR



NEWS & VIEWS

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS and ANNIVERSARIES

1st Verity Rogers
3rd Mike & Liz Bell W.A.
5th Jerry Naish
10th Louise Hayzen (Pugh)
Tom Clark
Penny Leiper (Griffin)
Dicky Howett
15th Emma Palmer (Smith)
20th Vincent Stowell
21st John Griffin
23rd Richard & Avril Gaunt W.A.
24th John Streat

25th **HAPPY CHRISTMAS**
EVERYONE

28th Ethan Mackay
Hector Humberstone
Olive Tran
29th Iris Callow

31st **HAPPY NEW YEAR**
EVERYONE

St John the Evangelist, Kenn



Altar Guild Flowers

**Could people doing Christmas
flower arrangements in the Church
please do so on
Saturday 20th December.**

**Carol Service at 6.00pm
Sunday 21st December**

Cleaning — Everyone to help please

Kenn Village Flag - Our flag was flown at half-mast on Sunday 9th November to mark the passing of Robin Mackay on Saturday 8th.
A Celebration of Robin's Life will be held on 27th December at St John's at 1.00pm.

17th November our flag was flown at half-mast for Trevor George of Kenn Pier Cottage who passed away on 14th November,



The church was floodlit on Monday November 10th to mark what would have been Irene Stowell's 95th birthday.

**Irene passed away on November 6th last year.
She is greatly missed by family and friends.**

The Christmas the Power Went Out

Many years ago, a team of young international Christian voluntary workers were in Zimbabwe ministering over the Christmas holidays. The team of 7 were missing their Christmas celebrations in order to share the good news of Jesus Christ, born on the earth for all people, to know God loved them.

After ministering in schools and on rural farms by headlights at night, their work was finally finished. They returned to the family home of the butcher whose house they were staying at and began their own Christmas dinner preparations and sharing of gifts. Suddenly, in the midst of cooking Christmas dinner, the electricity went out. It was pitch black in that place.

As foreigners here, there was nothing they could do, no one to call in the darkness, to help prepare the meal. But they could pray. So, they gathered close together by torchlight and candlelight and prayed. They gave thanks for being together at this very special Christmas when they were away from their homes, nations and families. They also prayed blessing over the food they hoped to be able to eat later...

Then they realised, their situation was similar to what Mary and Joseph were going through. They were alone in a place that was foreign to Mary, with no one to help cook a meal or offer a warm bed or help her give birth to Jesus.

Only Lord Almighty would be their light and help. He who brought his Son the Saviour into the world would provide for them too.

After some time, just as they were getting used to the idea of no Christmas dinner, the power popped back on! Swiss Rosti never tasted so good. Later, the tiny gifts they'd all brought with them, to give to each other this Christmas were the second most precious gifts they could have imagined. Jesus was the light of their Christmas just as he has always been the light of the world.

Isaiah 9:6 For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,and he will be called Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

A happy and holy Christmas to all,

Rev Denise Calverley

Priest in the Parish of Yatton Moor

Calling all Kenn Children. Christingle Fun.

On Sunday 14th of December at 11am, we will be celebrating Christingle with our new Vicar Denise.

This service is always lots of fun, the church smells of oranges, we light the Christingle candles and turn the lights out, and no-one can resist eating the sweets and fruit while trying to sing at the same time.



On a more thoughtful note, Christingle Services are a main source of income for the Children's Society, a forward thinking and courageous charity which supports children and young people who are growing up under difficult and sometimes dangerous circumstances.

There will be plenty of Children's Society envelopes in Kenn church throughout December

Come and help make the Christingles

We will make the Christingles in the New Room (by the Church car park) From 2 'til 3pm on Saturday 13th December and would love some help from children in Kenn on the day.

If you cannot come to the service next day, you can take one home with you.



From Julia, Hilary and Margaret.

Kenn Church Carol Service 2025

Whether you like to sing or just listen, there will be lots of Carols at our service at 6pm Sunday 21st December.

Hope to see you there.

Julia and Hilary (Church Wardens)



Advent and Christmas Services St John's Kenn

Sunday December 7th - 8.30am Traditional Communion

Sunday December 14th - 11.00am Christingle

Sunday December 21st - 6.00pm Carol Service

Christmas Eve - 2.00pm Crib Service

Christmas Day - 10am Christmas All Age Communion

Sunday 28th December - 11.00am Holy Communion

Kenn Church Crib Service — 2.00pm Christmas Eve

Kenn Children and Friends, colour in this picture to remind you that we will have our Crib Service and Nativity Play - At **2pm** (Note the new time) on Christmas Eve.

Just turn up at 1.30 if you need to find a costume, or come in your own Nativity outfit.



If you would like to narrate or have a speaking part, please contact me so we can get the script to you to practise.

There won't be a collection but you can donate to the Children's Society after the Service.

Hope to see you there,

Julia Bush 01275 873554

Robin Mackay

Our father, Robin Mackay, passed away on 8th November following a long period of dealing with cancer. We would like to thank the many, many people of Kenn who reached out in so many ways to offer support to him and to our mother, Marianna, during this hard time.

Robin was a resident of the village for more than thirty years, and most of the readers of *Kenn News and Views* will be familiar with at least some of the many ways that he contributed to this community, including a stint on the parish council, helping with the Big Lunch, hosting the carol singers and dozens of individual events raising donations for various charities. Originally from Surrey, he fell in love not only with Marianna but also with the Somerset countryside, and a great deal of his last years were spent on conservation efforts.

It has been lovely to see his contribution to the community repaid in care from so many of the friends that he made during his time here, and reminds us of what a special place Kenn can be.

James and Duncan and family

A Celebration of Robin's Life will be held 1.00pm 27th December at St John's.



What a poignant moment to see the village flag flying for Robin on 9th November. During the very many years Robin and Marianna have lived in the village, how many times has he flown the flag for others!

This is not all the community of Kenn has to thank Robin for, and it will not be the same without his presence and influence.

Over the years he was so generous with his time as a parish councillor, on matters involving the running of the church, and in the organisation of so many village parties and events.

Robin made the perfect compere, with his rich, eloquent voice to guide us through. Alongside him always of course was Marianna, both of them with such enthusiasm, but also an unflappable style. Between them they have also raised incredible amounts of money over the years, with their wonderful yearly carol-singing and cream tea events around their beautiful cottage and garden.

Robin also drove for "Clevedon Care" for many years, even when he had become ill himself. He made light of his own illness.

Robin believed that "life is for living" and he and Marianna have lived happy and fulfilling lives, together with James, Duncan and the rest of their loving family.

Our best wishes to you all as you now go on living your lives in his absence.

Jan and Colin Bedford and family.

Marianna and friends invite you to witness the
*Annual Lighting of Kenn's
Christmas Tree*

SINGING OF POPULAR CHRISTMAS CAROLS

ACCOMPANIED BY THE LOCHRIAN FAMILY BAND



MULLED WINE AND MINCE PIES

7.00pm Friday 19th December.

The Posada in Kenn 2025

Our knitted figures of Joseph, Mary and the donkey are now progressing around the village going from home to home.



Each night, their hosts will light their lantern, give them shelter for the night, and take a photo to post on the village Facebook page.

They will be arriving at St. John the Evangelist, Kenn for the

Nativity Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 2.00pm

Thank you for joining us at the November Kenn market. As promised the WI ladies provided delicious cakes for the refreshments and raised a grand sum of £124.00 for the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity.



Looking forward to our Christmas market on 13th December there will be a tombola which Dee will be running, if you have any gifts you would like to donate please contact Lyn or Maggie and we will make sure they are added to the prizes.

To help you find the perfect Christmas present and stocking filler come along to see the wide variety of handicrafts our talented stall holders produce. We will be providing seasonal refreshments and hope to see you there.

**Please note that the next market is
Saturday 13th December from 10am to 12pm.**

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

Maggie 876277 or Lyn 870189

CHRISTMAS TOMBOLA

Proceeds this year will go to the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity (GWAAC).

**We will be selling a strip of 5 tickets for £4.00 which means every strip of tickets will win a prize. So please come along, buy some tickets and see what you can win.
Big thanks to everyone who has donated prizes.**

Denise and Andre

The Yellow Teapot will preside over the bar at Disati on

Wednesday 17th December, 2.30 - 4pm.

A chance to enjoy coffee and cake, tea and a pre-Christmas Catch up.

Great! Julia Bush



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

Parish Office Tel 01934 832184
teamoffice.yattonchurches@gmail.com

St John the Evangelist
Priest in charge
 Revd Denise Calverley 07361 827800
revdencalverley@icloud.com

Churchwardens:
 Julia Bush 873554
 Hilary Landers 878283
 :
Kenn Village Website:
Kennvillage.co.uk

Village Flag Flying:
 Marianna Mackay 340323
 or Chris Taylor 872781

Altar Guild Secretary:
 Marianna Mackay 340323

Church Floodlighting:
 Geoff Hulance 077 1554 8860

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



**with Coffee
 Morning
 and Tombola**

Saturday 13th December 10 —12noon

**North Somerset
 Times**

Copies are freely
 available in the
 porch at St. John's
 from Wednesdays



**CLEVEDON
 SALEROOMS**



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

**Jewellery, Collectables, Antiques, &
 Interiors**
8th and 29th January 2026
Auctions start at 10.30am

Viewing day before auction
 10.00am—5.00pm

Quarterly Specialist Sale
Thursday 4th December 10.30am
Viewing Wednesday 4th December
10.00am to 5.00pm

Catalogues can be viewed at
www.clevedonsalerooms.com

Bird News

It has been a quiet month bird wise probably due at least in part to the mostly mild weather.

A flock of 20 Lapwings flew south over Congresbury, the only report of this species, and winter thrushes arrived late and in low numbers.

The best was 24 Fieldfares with a few Redwings and a couple of Mistle Thrushes on Kenn Moor. 12 Snipe were on Tickenham Moor on the 23rd.

A Crossbill was an unusual record at Goblin Combe along with Siskins, Treecreeper, Nuthatch and Marsh Tit.

The Yatton section of the Strawberry Line hosted several Chiffchaffs (more overwinter now), Blackcap and Goldcrest as well as a squealing Water Rail.

There have been few reports of raptors but a Peregrine flew over Wemberham where there were four Green Sandpipers by the river and up to four Little Egrets.

The reservoirs are still low providing good fishing opportunities so many Egrets of all three species are camped there still.

A Kingfisher has been on Wemberham Rhyne and has been flying into Stowell's towards the ponds there.

A male Bullfinch nearby added colour to a dull day.

Jays have become more visible and pairs of Stonechats seem to be in good numbers. A few Skylarks are audible at Wemberham with a Little Owl an unusual record there and a Tawny Owl more expected.

Trevor Riddle. 01934 835208.

birds@yacwag.org.uk



Lunch Break

Christmas Lunch Break will be served on Monday 1st December from 12.30 onwards.

Please wear your favourite Christmas Jumper/hat and bring your singing voice!

Carols, crackers, mince pies and the usual soups, cheeses, bread, cakes, tea & coffee will be served with Christmas cheer.

Please come and join us on Monday December 1st from 12.30.

A warm Village Hall and a warm welcome awaits!

Sarah and Tim

December - Monday 1st from 12.30

January - Monday 5th from 12.30



Many thanks to everyone for their support this year.

For anyone wishing to donate direct to the foodbank

These are their bank details.

Clevedon and District Foodbank CIO

Account Number: 41477102

Sort Code : 40 17 50



Tuesday December 2nd
Yatton Local History Society talk by Pat Denny
on Railway Station to Northend of Yatton
By Zoom Contact yattonlocalhistorysoc@gmail.com



KENN W.I.

At the November meeting of the W.I., which was also the occasion of the AGM, members enjoyed a splendid lunch to round off all the business that there had been beforehand.

It was catered by Zena and her helpers from Clevedon and it was thanks to Marion Hulance that it was so well organised.

It was so much enjoyed that a booking has been made for 2026.

Members are going to be kept busy in the days following the meetings. There is to be a Flower Demonstration by Jo Cheek on November 26th at 2 p.m.

Also the local group of W.I.'s are holding their Carol Service in St. John's Church, Kenn, on Thursday 11th December also at 2 p.m. This time has been chosen so that they are on their way home by dark.

The W.I. did the refreshments at the Village Market on November 8th. £124 was raised in donations and was sent to the Great Western Air Ambulance. Also there was a stall showing Origami stars made by members for hanging on Christmas Trees or branches. They are ideal for remembering loved ones at Christmas. There was a class teaching residents how to make them at the Hawthorns on 19th November.

Santa will visit at the December meeting of the W.I. The presents this year are to cost up to £10. As members put their present on the pile they will take one as there are now too many presents to put in a sack which can be carried.

We now have 47 members. The same principle will be used for Christmas Cards. Of course this does not prevent members sending a card to their special friends as well.

A very busy and productive year draws to a close. If you would like to join us in 2026 come along and see whether you will enjoy it.

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 2.00pm in the winter.

Ann Holtham

Thank you disati

In last month's mag. Nathan and his team at "disati" sent a "heartfelt thank-you to everyone who's supported our café."

We would like to return their "heartfelt thank-you". Although we maintained a good community spirit in Kenn in the absence of "The Drum", based around the church/church room and Village Hall, "disati" is now "the icing on the cake" for our village..

As you drive into Kenn it is immediately recognised, ready to welcome people through its doors. Even at night it makes such a difference to see the building lit up rather than the sad darkness we had for some years.

When you walk into "disati" you are always welcomed with a friendly smile and a "nothing is too much trouble" attitude.

The décor and ambience of the building is modern, simplistic and beautiful.

The menu offered is ideal to suit the needs of those who visit and the food and drinks are lovely.

We have thoroughly enjoyed our visits to "disati" since February. When we have introduced our friends to it, they have been very impressed and in turn are returning and introducing others!

These people are from Clevedon, Portishead, Nailsea, Weston and other surrounding areas. So, Nathan and the "disati" team, you are clearly getting it right.

Please keep up the good work!

We know we are not the only people in Kenn who feel as we do about you and all your efforts.

Thank-you and Well done!

Colin and Jan Bedford.



KENN CHURCH ROOM CHARITY COFFEE MORNINGS

Donations at November's event were for Christian Aid's Charity Gifts Appeal for specific much needed items in countries supported by the charity and those giving chose to send;

3 pairs of chickens; 2 olive tree saplings; 2 Send a Child to School; and 2 Train a Tailor. Many thanks to all concerned.

There is no Coffee Morning in December.

January's Host: Julia Bush. For: The Blay Family. 24th January 10-12

Anyone wishing to host a 4th Saturday Coffee Morning

please contact: Celia Andrews 01275 877806

Christmas messages

Miles and Sheila Naish would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Christmas card donations will be given to Prostate Cancer UK

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to wish all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Chairman's notes

We are looking forward to the Christmas tree and lights being erected on the green and thank Marianna for hosting the annual carols and mince pies .

Thanks to the work of the band of tree erectors and Rob for sourcing a stunning tree each year. It is always a delight to see .

Just to remind everyone that the Parish Council meetings are bi-monthly and usually held in the hall, the dates are published in the magazine and on the PC noticeboard at the hall and on our website. I do try to put on the FB page too....

All are welcome to attend, and comments and concerns can be raised at the start of a meeting.

On this note, I have been made aware of some mutterings about the Parish Council not doing a good job, if this is a concern for anyone there is an official complaints procedure. Details of which can be supplied or found on the PC website

I am always available as are any of the Councillors or clerk to address concerns .

We may not always get things done as quickly as folk would like, there are procedures and email responses waiting for, lots of things being done in the background.

However, on behalf of the whole council, I would like to just say we always strive to do our best, and , also, we may not please everyone with decisions and outcomes but we are here to represent the whole of the people of Kenn .

Constructive criticism is welcome, and can be addressed, and solutions brought forward, constant mutterings and barbed comments actually don't help!
Don't get anywhere and are not helpful to the people who represent the Village.

Sheila



**Bonfire Night
Kenn**

5th November



Update from Tessa Munt, MP for Kenn



I've spoken in Parliamentary debates on several subjects – from Sudan to Business Rates, the 'Duty of Candour' in the new 'Hillsborough Law' to the Infected Blood scandal, and prison sentences to Powers of Attorney.

I've criss-crossed the constituency harvesting organic walnuts (!), visiting schools and businesses, attending meetings and speaking with some of you at events and in my surgeries.

October marked Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and I attended the Macmillan Coffee Morning in Parliament and the Breast Cancer Now 'Wear It Pink!' event. It's good that progress has been made, awareness raised, and I know the Prostate Cancer UK campaigns are equally important annual events in Parliament too.

November is a more sombre month, with remembrance at its core. Our communities honour those who lost their lives, particularly in the Great and Second World Wars. Every year I wear both a red and a white poppy. The red poppy reminds us "never forget" the loss of British military personnel and the allied forces who died alongside them. The white 'peace' poppy pleads "never again". We remember everyone who died, those physically and mentally injured, made homeless or stateless by war. Civilians are victims of war too, as news broadcasts constantly remind us.

If you've something you'd like to bring to my attention, please get in touch or visit me at one of my 'surgeries'. I've listed the most local dates below.

If you contact me, you'll receive the full list.

Friday 5th December from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Market Kitchen Café, Churchill**

Monday 8th December from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Community Café, Congresbury**

Saturday 13th December from 14:00 to 15:00 **The Coffee Bank, Winscombe**

Friday 19th December from 10:00 to 11:00 at **The Note Warehouse, Yatton**

No appointment is necessary - it's first come, first served. If you can't come to meet me, I'll come to see you.

May I wish you a merry Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year!

Tessa

You can contact me:

Call: 01934 440639 (answerphone outside office hours)

Email: tessa.munt.mp@parliament.uk

Post: Tessa Munt Freepost (you won't need a stamp!)

Kenn Christmas Supper Club

By popular demand we will be having our Christmas Supper Club meal at the Moorend Spout at 19.00 on Thursday 11th December. In addition to the standard menu, they also have their Christmas menu for us to choose from. See below. If you would like to attend, please email or phone me to let me know your menu choices in advance from whichever menu suits you best.

Everyone in Kenn is invited to join us for seasonal festivities and a lively chat.

As the second Thursday in January falls on the 8th, quite close to the Christmas festivities, the next Supper Club meal will be at the Moorend Spout at 19.00 on Thursday 12th February.

Best wishes, Martin

Martin Jaehme - Mob 07831 137339 - Home Office Tel 01275 219003



MOOREND SPOUT MENU – SEPTEMBER 2025

STARTERS

Tomato & basil soup, pumpkin seeds, toasted ciabatta (ve) | 5.95 208 kcols
 Chicken & pork pâté, red onion chutney, toasted ciabatta | 7.95 406 kcols
 Garlic & herb chicken skewer, red cabbage slaw | 7.95 305 kcols
 Southern-fried chicken strips, Southern-style gravy | 6.95 728 kcols
 Calamari, salt & chilli seasoning, lemon mayonnaise (†) | 6.95 681 kcols
 Prawn cocktail, Marie Rose sauce, baby gem, ciabatta (†) | 9.25 325 kcols
 Beetroot falafel, spiced hummus, flatbread (ve) | 7.25 657 kcols
 Crispy pea & lemon bites, herby mayonnaise, pea shoot salad (ve) | 7.25 584 kcols

CLASSICS

Half roast chicken, garlic & herb rub, skin-on chips, corn on the cob, red cabbage slaw (†) | 18.50 1755 kcols
 Add your choice of sauce for £1.50: Beef dripping gravy | Frank's Hot | BBQ | Chimichurri | Southern-style gravy 159 kcols/19 kcols/278 kcols/42 kcols
 Warm Mediterranean salad, eggs, potato, green beans, olives (v) | 13.50 382 kcols
 Add chicken for £3.50 | salmon (†) £5.00 275 kcols/371 kcols
 Trulli pasta, mozzarella & green pesto, tomato, baby spinach (v) | 15.50 468 kcols
 Add chicken for £3.50 275 kcols
 Mac & cheese (v) | 14.50 576 kcols
 Add bacon 684 kcols or garlic mushrooms (v) 704 kcols for £1.50 | add garlic ciabatta (v) 151 kcols £2.50
 Hunter's chicken schnitzel, skin-on chips, baby gem | 15.50 1624 kcols
 Pan-fried salmon, mozzarella & green pesto pasta, samphire (†) | 19.95 753 kcols
 Glazed pork belly, seasonal vegetables, gravy | 17.95 1249 kcols
 Rump of lamb, potato gratin, savoy cabbage, garden peas, carrots, gravy | 19.95 1055 kcols
 Classic beef lasagne, dressed salad | 14.50 614 kcols
 Add garlic ciabatta for £2.50 151 kcols

**If you walk or cycle along the unlit roads of Kenn
Please carry a torch and wear something reflective.**

**CAR DRIVERS cannot always see walkers,
especially those in dark clothing, until they are almost alongside their car.**

Our Monthly Missive from the Limes

I'd like to start by addressing a few words to the gentleman walking along Court Lane around 9pm one night in late October.

"You sir are lucky to be alive. Why did you walk at night along Court Lane where there is no street light, no pavement and no verge wearing nothing to make you visible to traffic?

Don't you know at night you should wear something light? You were wearing dark clothing and had no torch with you. No-one could see you.

Do you have a death wish?"

I was driving from the Clevedon Court end at about 40mph on dipped headlights. Coming the other way towards me was another car, also on dipped lights.

Imagine my horror when at the furthest edge of my beam I saw a dark figure immediately in front of me. The approaching car was just about to pass me and there was no room to swerve. I braked to stop and then once the car had passed I moved to the right and passed this figure. I saw he had blue trousers but his top half was totally invisible. I was very tempted to turn back and give him a piece of my mind about not having a clue about walking out at night but decided that at this time it was not a good idea.

I just hope he had a big enough scare to make sure he never did it like this again.

"Make sure you are really visible in future."

Sadly this person is not the only idiot around. Earlier this year at 7am on a Saturday morning on the narrowest part of Davis Lane there was another person almost invisible, this time walking facing away from me so he couldn't even see me. That gave me a larger scare than the one above.

I don't know what we can do about such people. Running them over and eliminating them is probably a bad idea. I wonder what is between their ears. Don't they ever think? From a motoring point of view I'm glad I have a dashcam if the worst came to the worst but even so how much would that help?

I hope I'm never in a position to find out.

It's not just people out at night. Some of us regularly see a girl with a brown hoodie walking our lanes during the day. She has been doing it for years. She is always looking at her phone as she walks, she doesn't look up at traffic and I've seen her as far as Nailsea at one end and Yatton the other. I'm surprised she is still around and it's a tribute to the care of motorists that she is. On one occasion I saw a police car stop and an officer speak with her but he must have been satisfied as he left her and moved off.

So let's come back to the topic of night driving, visibility as well as the brightness of car LED headlights. Apart from venting my spleen on the idiot above, my thoughts are triggered by a couple of reports by the BBC from the 28th October and the 5th November about the problems of modern car headlights. You can read them for yourselves, just Google "BBC car headlights".

Most of it we already know but there are some useful snippets. For example: "the problem (dazzling) is worse for older people, whose eyes take around nine seconds to recover from glare, compared to one second for a 16-year-old, - according to a road safety consultant".

Another comment was that "worried drivers may simply be "taking the risk off the road" by not driving at night, with a big social impact, the RAC warned". Certainly I know friends of all ages who think twice about driving at night because they just can't see because of the lights of approaching cars.

Anyway, while the government makes its usual noises that it is looking at the issue (do I sound cynical?) here is some advice for driving at night:

- Ensure your windscreen is clean
- Wear glasses and keep them clean
- Avoid looking straight ahead, instead focus on the edge of the road
- Do not wear night sunglasses sold for night-driving, as they reduce overall light and won't reduce glare.

Source: College of Optometrists

So, moving on but still in moaning mode, I'm going to have a go at modern street LED lights. I agree they generally look extremely pretty and remind me of the white LED lights on Christmas trees. Unfortunately they are just as useless at providing effective illumination where I need it and I will go as far as to say our roads and streets are nowhere near as well-lit as in the past.

I don't want to go into great scientific explanations but clearly I need to justify what I have just said so bear with me:

We see objects by the light emitted from them. Unless they generate their own light they can only emit, or more accurately reflect, light that falls on them.

Most of the light falling on an object is reflected back towards where it came from. That is why when you shine a torch on an object you sometimes look along the beam to see better. With car headlights we are basically doing the same.

Most LED street lights are downlighters. They shine downwards very well and provide very nice pools of light on the ground. They provide very little sideways light.

We need that sideways light to see objects at night. The old sodium street lights did that very well.

I rest my case.

And finally - the other hazards of driving at night, also in towns, is cyclists with no lights, and riders of electric scooters, many of which are totally illegal and are ridden with no road sense.

One the other day went straight across the road in front of me - no looking.

So what is the answer to all this? It would be nice if the police were more active but in the absence of that probably we should go back to what our ancestors did. Do nothing at night. Don't go out. No clubs or societies. No meals out or trips to the cinema or to see friends. Go to bed when it gets dark and get up when it gets light.

Happy Christmas.

Scrooge (alias Stephen)

(PS - I'll try to think of something cheerful to write next year).

KENN PARISH COUNCIL**2025****The Parish Council meetings for 2026 will be held on the second Monday – see below****Parish Council meeting held on the 3 November 2025**

6 Kenn Councillors, 4 Kenn Residents, 1 North Somerset Councillor in attendance.

Resident enquiries: (1) support for extra 20mph signs, (2) why can't the Vehicle Activated Speed Sign (VASS) data be provided for reporting in Kenn News & Views, (3) NSC's reply to Yatton Ward Cllr's enquires on behalf of a resident about planning monitoring's related to large impact building sites. ie existing utilities (wastewater / sewage) – there are none!

- **Junction of Colehouse Lane & Kenn Rd** – some waste from the works still need clearing
- **Road Signs** – Davis Lane horse sign has been corrected. Boundary sign still outstanding.
- **20mph Signage** – the data was indicating some drivers were still exceeding the 20mph. Information was provided on investigations made with NSC and village with a similar situation. There was a challenge about the amount of concentration on one road, Kenn St, when within the parish there are other roads where speeding is more excessive.
- **VASS data**, currently downloading is difficult, there was concern about supplying this.
- **Bollards on The Green** – a reply had been received from NSC providing public highway specifications, advising more consultation was required to ensure these are met.
- **NSC Local Devolution** – updated information had been provided. The NSC Yatton Ward Cllr gave some additional information on the problems being experienced with this.
- **Police & Crime Commissioner's Forum** – invitation to attend this to share views, raise concerns and ideas to help shape local policing priorities – to be held in WSM.
- **Planning** – Kenn planning applications recently reviewed, NSC update on new comment requirements on the weekly planning list, NSC consultation on bat conservation.
- **NS Recycle Centres** – a booking system to attend at these is to be implemented.



Recycle Centres Bookings the system will be introduced in 2026 at the Weston-super-Mare site first, a few weeks later at Portishead and Backwell sites. More information will be available on NSC's website. Residents with existing permits will be contacted before the new system is launched on how these will be managed in transition.

Merry Christmas!**2026 Meetings**

12 January – Council

9 March – Parish Meeting / Council

11 May, 13 July, 14 Sept, 9 Nov
Council meetings

Meetings held at 7:30pm in the Village Hall, Kenn Street agendas on parish noticeboards and Parish Council website 3 days before.

KENN PARISH COUNCILLORS

Sheila Naish (chair)	Tel: 07808 920 962
Neal Breeden (vice-chair)	Tel: 01275 879 636
Wilf Bessant	Tel: 01275 872 406
Jon-Paul Humberstone	Tel: 07990 690 060
Tony Parker	Tel: 07815 908 542
Mark Titterton	Tel: 07960 240 960
Robert Treble	Tel: 07831 316 760

NORTH SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

Steve Bridger	Tel: 07762 023 423
Wendy Griggs	Tel: 01934 834 143