

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington
and Nags Head

March 2019

editors@acvillager.co.uk

Fieldfare Café at Thistledown Farm



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March 2019

This edition of the Villager includes another tale from Riley Vincent's memories of being in the Western Desert during WWII. Riley has a message for everyone: "I'm not the only one with memories - why doesn't anyone else want to tell us about their past?" A good point, Riley! We'd love to hear from anyone, young or old, who has a story to tell us. It could be from something that happened when you were a child; or memories from when you first came to Avening or Cherington; or like Riley, your experiences in a battle zone. And we'd also like to hear about more recent events, like your travels or other adventures. Send us your tales to the email address below - and if you're not confident about writing it down, one of us would be happy to help be your scribe, so give us a call on one of the phone numbers below.

The whole village of Avening was shaken by the death of Eileen Ind, as shown by the amazing turnout at her funeral in Avening church on February 21st. Eileen was or had been involved in many aspects of village life, from Play Group and Cricket Teas to WI and 'Bite to Eat', and was a wonderful, cheerful neighbour and friend. Her absence will be keenly felt. The Editors extend their condolences to Derrick and his family.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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Deadline	18th of each month

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Rose Grant** for the photo of swans on Cherington Lake. If you have a photo of Avening or Cherington which you would like to share with us, please feel free to send it to us. You never know, it might turn up on the front cover...!

editors@acvillager.co.uk



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Regular Activities in Avening and Cherington

Please let us know if we have forgotten any regular event or if there is something you would like to have included here.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Mobile Post Office	Monday and Thursday	12.00 to 1.00pm	opposite 65, Sunground	J. Clutterbuck 01453 542754
Community Cafe	Tuesday	9.00 - 11.30am	Social Club	
Churchyard tidy up	Tuesday fortnightly	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Rev. Gerald 01453 834884
Cherington PC	Tuesday	6.00pm	Village Hall	Beverley 01453 832100
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 10.00pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	6.00—7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Rev. Gerald 01453 834884
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Maisie 01453 834679
Avening PC	3rd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Caroline 01285 380041
Summer Skittles	Friday	8.00pm	Social club	Derrick Ind 01453 835752
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.00pm	Various	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

Contacts for the Villages

Avening and Cherington Priest	Revd. Gerald South	01453 834884
Avening & Cherington Churches Reader	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening & Cherington Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Avening Angels	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Art Group	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Elizabeth Buchanan Ann Brick	01453 833016
Avening Church Flower Team	Doreen Pierce Gill Adams	01453 835090 01453 833175
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Ann Brick	01453 834311
Avening Film Club	Katy Upton	07806 614753.
Avening History Project	Jean Chatelain	01453 834713
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Sue Bryant	01452 770792
Avening Playgroup	Angie Heslop	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Social Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Avening Youth Club	Revd. Gerald South The Door	01453 834884 01453 756745

Cherington Village Hall	Wendy Eldridge	01285 841327
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Beverley Rymer	01453 832100
Cherington Church Churchwarden	John Bate-Williams	01666 503544
Cherington Church Flower Team	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Community Café	Jennie South	01453 834884
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Mel Pegler	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
South Cotswold Community Wellbeing Agent		01452 528491
Stroud Hospital	Reception	0300 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Gwyneth Simpson	01453 836556

VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council: www.avening-pc.gov

Avening Church: www.aveningchurch.info

Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



Cable Laying: You won't have missed the team who have been laying fibre optic cables – we are the first village in the Cotswolds to get this infrastructure, and we will soon have the option to be connected to super-fast broadband. Unfortunately, the communication has been very poor, with only badly phrased and frightening letters sent to a few households. **We have arranged a public meeting on 4th March in the hall at 7.30** to discuss matters with the management of the company involved – all welcome.

Snow: Hopefully the snow is now over for the winter, but the early February dump gave me some food for thought, and some interesting photo opportunities (see later in the magazine). There was some good cooperation to clear some local roads, but others became very dangerous as the melting snow froze. It's a shame our wheeled gritter was only lightly used, as it makes clearance a breeze, and conserves valuable grit. We have also identified the need for an additional grit bin at the top of Star Lane. Most amusing was the use of Sandford Leaze as a sledging run (before the grit kicked in) – it was like a busy alpine piste!

Dog Poo: I'm afraid I have to give another airing for dog poo! It's becoming a problem in the playing field again, and a new front has opened on the east along the lane through to Nags Head – unbelievably, people are going to the trouble of bagging it up, but then chucking the bag in the verge! We're commissioning a new bin at the crossroads in Nags Head, so there will be no excuse.

Footpaths: I've had a few reports of issues relating to access along footpaths – some paths have been blocked, leaving no stile or opening gate, and there have been a couple of occasions where walkers have been challenged while walking perfectly responsibly along a formal path. Most recently (and worryingly) a deer was shot with a rifle on a path close to the village, and the carcass dumped in the hedge. Landowners, please ensure all your paths are passable (ideally with dog access), allow people unfettered access along them, and hunt away from areas of population.

Playing Field: It's a year since we faced the 'angry mob' over our ambitious but misunderstood plans for the field, but we have listened to public feedback. We appreciate there is no appetite for organised sport, and we have since focussed on safety improvements and enhancing the existing facilities. In the May Villager we will publish full details, and we plan to get to as many local groups as we can in April/May, with a display at the annual Village Meeting on 18th May.

Precept: We managed to make some good savings in the last financial year despite continued investment in the hall, and organising a series of successful

events. The next year will focus on our two big projects – the replacement of the hall roof, and improvements to the playing field. We hope to fund these with as much external funding as possible, but have budgeted for the preliminary works within current balances. You will see a small increase in the village precept but that just keeps pace with inflation, and is the equivalent of a couple of pounds in a year for the average household.

Villager of the Year: As mentioned above, the Annual Village Meeting (or outdoor party!) will be on Saturday May 18th, so mark it in your diary. One of the most important features is the Villager of the Year award – this is your opportunity to nominate anyone who you think has contributed significantly to village life in the last year (or longer). We're also looking for junior and student nominations for our younger residents. Please let me, the clerk, or any councillor know your nominations as soon as possible, but by 5th April latest.

Tony Slater
Chairman

Friends of Avening School

FOAS would like to say a huge thank-you to all those who attended our quiz night last month. We made a profit of £468.34 from the night.



Quizmaster Andrea



The winning team and their prize - a wheelbarrow of wine!

Our next event will be a wine tasting evening on Friday 26th April. This will be limited by numbers and tickets are available in advance only for this event. To register your interest for tickets, please email our Chair on melpegler@hotmail.com

Avening and Cherington Churches



Misery and gloom, or a chance for inspiration

... what is your image of Lent? Do you see it as a time when Christians appear to indulge their favourite pastime of being totally miserable and lots of people forsake chocolate for a while? Let's hope not, because Lent can be a far more positive time if we choose to make it so.

Step back, chill out. What is it that really matters in life for you? What is it that you take seriously without any reservation? What makes you feel content (be thankful for it) and what seems less good (be optimistic about it)? Christians may think of this style of thinking as prayer in the presence of God but, whatever it is called, it might move us to become more like the person we feel we want to be.

Ash Wednesday to Easter

This significant period of the Christian year will start on Ash Wednesday, 6th March when there will be a service at 7.00 pm at Avening. There will also be some Lent evenings on Wednesdays in Avening and Cherington to which all are welcome: if you are interested please contact me for further information.

All Age Services at Cherington

We heard a story about Jesus and the fisherman at the February service and made our own boat to demonstrate it. The next all age service will be on Sunday 10th March at 10.30am – all are welcome.

Mothering Sunday, 31st March

This is the day when we say a thank you to our mothers (and fathers need not be left out). There will be special services (9.30am at Cherington and 11.00am at Avening) to mark this day, offering something for everyone., including those with little experience of church, and children of all ages will be most welcome.

Stroud Sacred Comedy Festival 2019, Saturday 16th March

St Laurence's Church, Stroud. A full day of laughs from a deeper place. Includes improvised comedy, kids comedy show, a multi-dimensional chat show and a sacred stand up night. Includes Tony Vino, Jo Enright, Stephen Cookson and Mark Palmer. Free entry to all shows, with suggested donations to cover costs. www.stlaurencefuture.org.uk for full details.

***Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington
01453 834884 gp.south@btopenworld.com***

**A Morning for Children and Families
Good Friday at Avening Church**
(Easter activities – more information in the April Villager)

Church Services and Events

March	Holy Cross Avening	St Nicholas Cherington
3rd	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
5th	12.30 Praying the Parish (Avening Rectory)	
6th	7.00 pm Eucharist for Ash Wednesday	
10th	8.30 am Eucharist 5.30 pm Evening Prayer	10.30 am All Age Service 11.15 am PCC Meeting
13th	7.00 pm Lent Evening	
14th	2.00 pm Wedding	
17th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
20th	7.00 pm Lent Evening	
24th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
27th	6.45 pm PCC Meeting 7.00 pm Lent Evening	7.00 pm Lent Evening
31st	8.00 am Eucharist 11.00 am Mothering Day Service	9.30 am Mothering Day Service
Apr 3	7.00 pm Lent Evening	
7th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
14th	Palm Sunday	
19th	Good Friday 2 pm Tenebrae Service	
21	11 am Easter Sunday	9.30 am Easter Sunday

Mothering Sunday

31st March

9.30 am at Cherington Church

11.00 am at Avening Church



If you can, bring your mum (and dad) to say a special thank you to them.

Come and thank God for the people who brought you up.

This service is for everyone and children are most welcome.

A Thank You to Avening.



Despite my parents getting married and settling in North Woodchester, Avening was always a pull to my family. We used to joke that the car knew its own way around the Avening bends as Dad drove daily to see his mother and check on the Social Club. It did not come as a surprise then that Dad persuaded Mum to permanently become an Avening resident 30 years ago.

Still tending his Mother's large garden, it was here that they put down their own roots in the orchard, designing their own dream house together. I remember being taken around a muddy patch as Mum eagerly explained the layout of their house to be, complete with a large fireplace in the living room. In later days it was great to hear them arguing over lighting the fire as Dad hated the lingering smell of smoke afterwards.

Mum was soon welcomed into village life, helping the Playgroup and at the Village Fete, and the journey to the Post Office or shop always took longer than it should as there was always someone to stop chat to and pass the time of day with.

It did not take long for Mum to be accepted as an Avening resident. My sister and I joked she was busier in her retirement than she had been in her working life. When we called she was volunteering at Longfields shop, swimming with friends, getting WI, Flower Arranging or Trefoil Guild stuff ready, if not down the Club or making cricket teas. Later on, there were practices and events with the Stuart Singers. During this time she was also helping others who were nearing the ends of their lives and helping with trips to the hospital – a bit ironic that

she never knew how precious little time she herself would have....

Mum's last few weeks became rather a fast action blur to me. In just a few short weeks, we gathered around to say our last goodbye. During these last few weeks we have been surrounded by the care of the village, from sympathy cards (I'm sure the Postman stood for about five minutes posting at least thirty cards on one day) to visitors and phone calls. The WI and members of The Social Club swung into action and organised us well!

I was overwhelmed by the hundreds of people who came to the funeral, filling it to bursting point. I would like to thank everyone I did not get round to see. It is comforting to know that as I travel up and down from Reading, there are so many wonderful people who will continue to look out for Dad.

Avening is a proud, village community with a great spirit, where people know and look out for each other. I only wish that my own village could become like this as I don't even know half of my neighbours!

Thank you, Avening, for your support.

Katrina Cuthbertson (née Ind).

IMPORTANT NOTICE

A public meeting is to be held in the Avening Memorial Hall on

Monday 4 March at 7-30 pm.

Representatives from both Gigaclear and Dalcour Maclaren, the companies involved in the installation of fibre broadband in the village will be present to answer questions about the problems of communication and installation of the fibre cable.

Please try to attend as there are possible legal issues for some householders.

Puzzle Corner

	8		9		1			
	3	9	5				7	1
	1	4			6		2	
	9	8	3	2			6	
7								2
	2			8	4	1	9	
	7		2			6	5	
9	5				3	7	1	
			7		8		3	

Answers on page 32

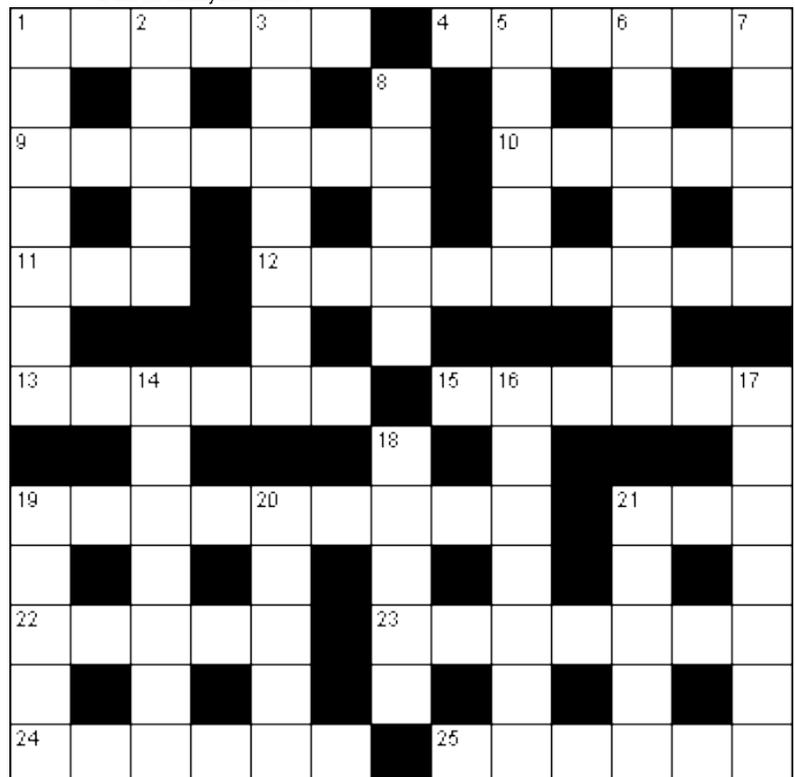
Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 - 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

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Across

1. Afternoon nap in Spain (6)
4. Wide street (6)
9. Coherent (7)
10. Speak (5)
11. Playing card (3)
12. Exactly the same (9)
13. Not as strict (6)
15. Armed thief (6)
19. Set up or found (9)
21. Australian flightless bird (3)
22. Stories (5)
23. Chosen by vote (7)
24. Fervid (6)
25. Basement (6)



<http://www.puzzlechoice.com>

Down

- | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Save from destruction (7) | 6. Observed (7) | 17. Booming noise (7) |
| 2. Bird of prey (5) | 7. Join up (5) | 18. More judicious (5) |
| 3. Haptic (7) | 8. Hints (5) | 19. Additional (5) |
| 5. Strongroom (5) | 14. Resolved (7) | 20. Large shaggy bovid (5) |
| | 16. Sports contestant (7) | 21. Exalt (5) |



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Avening Playgroup



On the very first day of February, we were all greeted by a white blanket of snow which the children were very excited about. They painted lovely snowmen and snowflake pictures, and we also managed to build a fantastic snow man. As both members of staff live in the village, we will always endeavour to open the playgroup. If we do have to close, all parents will be notified before 9am.

Since the last article the children have been very busy learning about the Chinese New Year of the Pig; the story of 'The 3 Little Pigs'; and language associated with shape, size and position.

They have been listening to the story of 'The 3 Little Pigs', acting out the story themselves and using dolls and animals to act out the story. They have been making paper plate pigs and wolves, as well pig collages for the Chinese New Year.

The children used their cutting and colouring skills to make Chinese lanterns and egg box dragons. We have also been comparing the width and height of items and looking at where Elmer is positioned on a chair. The children have recently started to trace over their names as they arrive each morning. This is really helping them to gain confidence in forming the letters in their names correctly.



A big highlight for February was a visit from the Art Teacher, Mr Davies and ten of the art students from Sir William Romney's School in Tetbury. The art department has been very busy over the last few terms designing and repainting murals for the playgroup. We talked with the playgroup children about what they wanted on the murals and they came up with three designs: nature, fairy tales and superheroes. The students and Mr Davies have put a lot of effort and time into ensuring that the murals are both bright and bold. It was lovely for the children to meet the students who had painted the murals and it was nice for the students to see their finished work displayed on the side of the playgroup

building. We must say a very big thank you to everyone involved in the process. The children love them!

Playgroup is open weekday mornings during term time between 9.15 and 12.15. We run a lunch on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays until 1.15. If you would like your child to join us please call us on 01453 832695 or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com .



Situation Vacant

Avening Playgroup : Early Years Deputy Manager required 18-20 hours per week for term time only

The successful candidate must be enthusiastic and dedicated to delivering outstanding provision, have a minimum 2 years' experience working at level 3 or above in early years; as well as certificates in both child protection and first aid and ability to take the lead SENDCo role. If you enjoy working in a small dedicated team, have a creative mind, the ability to maintain a stimulating environment and the personality to inspire and engage young minds, then we are keen to hear from you.

For further information or to request a job description and application form please contact Helen Hatt on hatthelen@gmail.com.

Closing date: 8 March 2019

Start date: ASAP

Avening Playgroup is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants will need to provide right to work in the UK documentation, undertake an enhanced DBS check and provide two satisfactory references prior to starting employment.



Avening School

We're travelling to Bristol, Wales and The Jungle!

As spring gets closer and the weather becomes warmer, we are taking our learning outside in many different ways. From forest school sessions during the weekly timetable to after school forest school and nature club, the garden is currently a hive of activity and exploration. Thanks to an 'Awards for all' donation, we now have a fantastic new outdoor classroom. This invaluable addition to our outside space will enable the children to do more of their learning outside, developing vital outdoor skills and a knowledge and respect of the natural environment. Our weekly Fledglings sessions for pre-school children have also resumed after the winter break and take place every Friday 2-3pm. If you would like more information on Fledglings, please contact the school.

We are very excited about World Book Day, one of the highlights of our annual calendar. Every year we take a classic children's book and bring it to life for the day. This year we have chosen the classic children's story 'The Jungle Book' by Rudyard Kipling. Children will be invited to come to school in costume and the school will transform into a jungle for the day with activities such as mask making, 'jungle' school and a dance workshop.

KS1 and KS2 children have plenty to look forward to this month with The Owls class (y5/6) taking part in a Lego computer control session in school. Meanwhile, the Hawks(y3&4) will be travelling to Caerleon in South Wales to visit the Roman legion museum, baths and amphitheatre to further their learning on The Romans and the 'curious' Kestrels (y1/2) are off to @Bristol as the culmination of their 'Superheroes' theme.

There is plenty to look forward to in the run up to Easter, with Red Nose Day where school will raise money for Comic Relief, a dance festival at SWR and our annual Easter Egg Hunt and Avening school talent show taking place in the last week of term.

For further information about this busy place of learning please see our school website: www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk

Alex Adcock

The Egg That Tells the Easter Story



The Real Easter Egg is made of Fairtrade chocolate and is the only one which has a copy of the Easter story in the box. They cost £3.99.

If you would like to order one please contact Jennie South 01453 834884 jennie.south@btopenworld.com

You can see the whole range online www.realeasteregg.co.uk

Thank you!

100 Mile Walk - a big 'THANK YOU'



Day 3 and still smiling!

In the January Villager you will have read that 15 intrepid walkers, including our own **Stephen Uzzell**, planned to walk **100 miles to raise £100,000 for Syrian refugees**. Well done to them – they accomplished the 100 miles and so far have reached 90% of their fund-raising target. The Just Giving page is open until the end of May so if you would like to contribute but have not managed it yet it is not too late. To

sponsor the walk online visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hundred-mile-walk> and then type in 100 mile walk.

Thank you to all who sponsored the walkers and thank you to those who joined them to walk part of the way.

Stress Chronic Pain Anxiety

Cas Boddam-Whetham is planning to offer an introductory course on Mindfulness/Meditation to those interested.

There is no charge.

Anyone interested or wanting to know more, do contact

Cas: 01453 834834/07900472999

e-mail: casbw@btinternet.com

web site: www.casbw.co.uk

Avening W.I.



We are all feeling the very sad loss of Eileen Ind, one of our committee members. Eileen joined Avening WI in 2010 and soon became active on the committee, first as secretary and then in charge of our 'Bite to Eat' catering activities. Her kind, calm and organised manner ensured the success of all the events undertaken. She will be sorely missed and we will try to follow her example and to continue to provide the service as required.

Our speaker for February was Richard Burton who regaled us with some very amusing anecdotes of his life as a salesman in various department stores. He was brought up on the Barrington Court estate in Somerset where his father was gardener, but decided that a job on the land was not for him. He had been impressed in his young days by various salesmen, including a Sikh gentleman who arrived with suitcases and set out his fine linens on the lawns outside the workers' cottages, and so decided that a career in sales was what he would like to do. He secured a job in a local department store and started in the carpet and linoleum department, shadowing one of the experienced salesmen until the day came when he was allowed to make a sale of some carpet webbing! His tales illustrated how different the retail experience was in the 1960s.

Our next Fun Quiz, run by the amazing Shirley Hand, will take place on Friday 5th April with a 7.30pm start at the Social Club. This is always a popular village event and everyone is welcome. Teams of four people compete, and there are usually people who can make up a team on the night if required. The cost is £4 a head, which includes a ploughman's supper. All proceeds will go to Longfields in memory of Eileen, who was a volunteer at the Minchinhampton shop.

Our speaker for March is Graeme Payne with an illustrated talk entitled 'A Trip on the Royal Train'. He has been speaking to groups about travel-related subjects for 40 years, having worked in the airline, shipping and rail industries, including a time in charge of the Royal Train. He is author of numerous books and websites, which focus on luxury travel and cruising and has provided presentations in over 70 countries. He is a regular speaker on Cunard, Saga Cruises and Fred Olsen Cruise Lines and is a Destination Speaker on Queen Mary 2's world voyages.

Visitors are welcome to join us to hear this highly recommended speaker on Thursday March 14th 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall.

Helen Haiselden

Letter to the Editors

Regarding the dog fouling issue around Nags Head:

First of all many thanks to the Nags Head poo bag fairy and anyone else who picks up litter. Thank you to the majority of dog owners who pick up after their dogs and dispose of their bags in a proper manner.

Unfortunately the extensive problem around Nags Head lanes and footpaths is greater than discarded bags. The message has still not got through to a number of dog owners who don't pick up at all. On one occasion last year I counted over thirty mounds of canine faeces along a half a mile stretch of the lane adjacent to the golf course. A couple of council bins would no doubt help the situation. Possibly one central to the village and another near the lake. Clean up signage would be useful here too.

However the responsibility still lies with the dog owners. IF YOU ARE IN CHARGE OF A DOG YOU ARE REQUIRED BY LAW TO CLEAN UP AFTER IT. This also applies to you folks who walk or run with your dogs off lead!! Leaving poo bags around is littering.

Come on all you dog lovers of Avening and Cherington, you know who you are, please, please clean up your act. It is very simple. Poo bags are readily available at all supermarkets and pet shops. Never leave home without them. Pick up after your dog, if no bins are available take it home and dispose of it in your general waste. Laws are made for a reason. We should all be aware by now of the lasting harm these toxins have on the soil and water courses. Also to human, livestock and other animals' health. The countryside should be for everyone to enjoy.

Thank you for doing your bit to put an end to this unpleasant mess.

Do you have a mole problem?

With over 30 years experience in traditional mole control I can effectively, discreetly and humanely remove the culprit(s)! No gas, chemicals or poisons used and completely safe to children and pets.

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Avening Community Café

Choc-tastic Tuesday, Our First Seed Swap and The Café's 1000th Customer

February was a wonderful month for the café: record numbers and many new faces turned up for our Valentine's Week love-in; there was some good news about a grant from Gloucestershire County Council and we held a lively Open Meeting for all those with ideas and feedback to share. But we're not resting on our laurels and there's plenty going on in March too.

Thanks to Chandy Rodgers, we're launching a series of special events for everyone with green fingers itching to get planting. If you are anything like us, you will be pouring over the latest seed catalogues, praying for the return of Monty Don (or is that just me?) and finding the temptation to order irresistible. Some packets arrive with the bare minimum of seeds and you'll be lucky if they all survive, but others contain tens if not hundreds. Instead of over-planting and leaving yourself with a nursery full of needy offspring to nurture through the summer months, simply bring the surplus to the café on 5th March for our first Café Seed Swap. Split your surplus seeds into small envelopes, label the contents, include care instructions (add your own advice and notes for that personal touch) and swap for something else. This is our first 'Green Fingers' Cafe: seedlings, plants and produce swaps will follow during the year.

5th March is also the beginning of Lent and we thought our customers may be thinking of giving up chocolate....well, it's as good an excuse as any to make it a Choc-tastic Tuesday with all sorts of chocolate treats on sale at the café. Indulge yourself...Go on....You know you want to.....

We've been doing our sums at the café and reckon that we'll see our 1000th customer this month. We think that's worth celebrating! Counting customers is more an art than a science at the café but we think we'll pass this milestone during the morning of March 12th. Come along, enter a draw, become our Official 1000th Customer and win a cake baked specially for the occasion. There will be another Book Swap on this morning too.

March 19th introduces our first Knit and Natter table with crochet included and help for complete beginners. The month ends with the second Caffeine and Creativity art 'taster' session on March 26th. None of this would be possible without our volunteers – we salute you, couldn't do it without you, and thank you for everything you're doing to make sure our café goes from strength to strength.

Follow us on Facebook (Avening Community Café) to keep up with everything going on at the Café – and don't forget we serve great coffee and home-baked cakes too!


Avening Community Café

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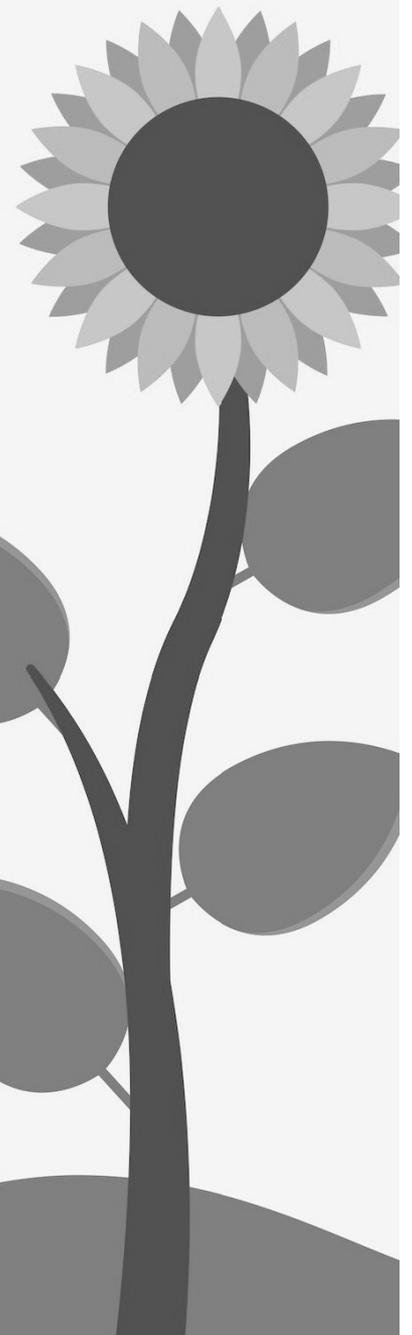
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Concessions - £3

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Vaughan Williams

Overture: The Wasps

Delius

Piano Concerto in C minor

Soloist: Alexander Soares

Butterworth

The Banks of Green Willow

Elgar

Enigma Variations

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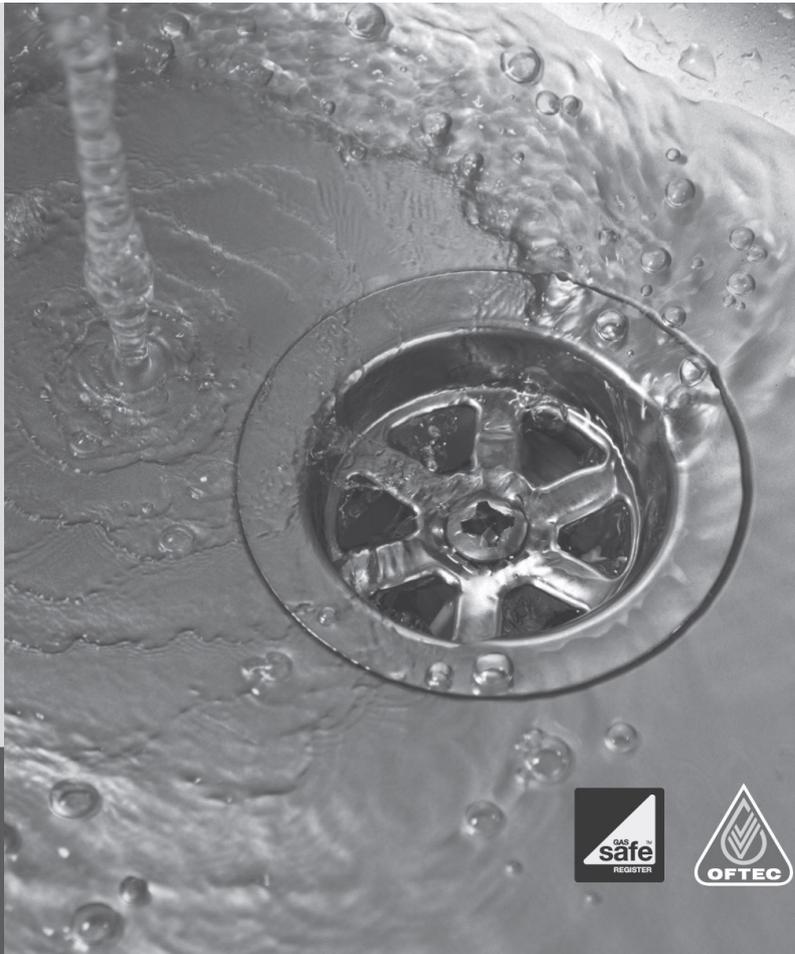
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A Bite to Eat?



Arranging a Group Lunch, Christening other social event ?

Avening WI 'Bite to Eat' scheme may be able to assist with your catering needs. We can provide and serve a selection of freshly prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes etc; a fork or finger buffet; or a two course meal.

For prices and any further details phone Liz Knowles 01453 833803 or lizknowles@hotmail.co.uk

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The BAFTAs

The BAFTA FELLOWSHIP Award goes to.....?
And the OSCAR Nominations are.....?
Thelma Schoonmaker-Powell from *Avening*.....!
And Richard E Grant from *Avening*.....!



BAFTA

Richard escorted Thelma to the steps to go up on the stage to receive her award from HRH Prince William..... as they have not only worked together, but also, only at the BAFTAs did they discover they both lived in *Amazing Avening*.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM US ALL to both Thelma and Richard on their wonderful achievement.

Thelma (who has three Oscars!) has more work to do on Martin Scorsese's 'The Irishman' after which she will be back to present two of her husband, Michael Powell's movies to our film club.

WOW!



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Riley Reminisces

In The Desert

Continuing Riley's war time memories:

Our draft had now moved to Amiraya in Egypt. Christmas 1941 had come and gone and we had a new identity. We were now to be known as 59 R.S.U. (Repair and Salvage Unit) of the R.A.F. Our Lords and Masters decided a nucleus of Base Camps with two salvage detachments to fulfil the salvage obligations (mainly crashed aircraft in the desert). Imagine, here we were with sand as far as one could see, and our detachment was ordered to collect gum boots, blankets and straw palliases!

A major emergency had erupted: it was policy for the R.A.F. to make use of the large salt flats in the region as landing strips, but that winter Egypt had an extraordinary amount of rainfall. Consequently, the surface of the flats became unable to support the weight of a number of Bristol Beauforts and despite all previous attempts to free them by mechanical means the aircraft were stuck and the surface became churned up to a deep mud which added to the possibility of losing them completely. Brute force and ignorance became the order of the day, which meant us laying a track of heavy boards. To reduce the weight, we were ordered to remove the wing assemblies and after numerous attempts we succeeded in raising the aircraft and positioning the board under the two main wheels. We could now move the aircraft the lengths of the boards and by placing similar boards one in front of the other, eventually moved the aircraft to harder ground.

Working 12 hour shifts with our sister R.S.U's (51 and 53), we accomplished our task. It took six men to reposition the boards as they were very heavy kit. It was then decided as we freed each aircraft it was to be towed (minus the mainplanes) through the streets of Alexandria to Abukir, for reassembly of the mainplanes, flight testing and return to the relative squadrons.

It all ended satisfactorily. 59 R.S.U. had been 'blooded' and we found our way back to our various units to roam the desert and salvage the many aircraft which had force-landed or otherwise. So after returning the mud-stuck planes, we made our way back to our Unit which we located at Mersa Matruh and reported "IN", glad to be rid of our gumboots! We then pitched our single bivouacs, dug a slit trench and awaited the nightly blitz which was not long in coming, but was definitely unnerving.

Approximately 24 hours later, equipped with a three-ton lorry and survival equipment, a Queen Mary trailer (specialised to carry aircraft), a Coles crane



One of Riley's photos taken during his time in the Western Desert

and most important, a compass (our sole means of navigation), we set off to trace our first downed aircraft.

Our only information was the pilot's last transmission (degrees N, degrees E etc). From a distance our Coles crane must have looked like a large gun, so we received our share of enemy action, but luckily we lost nobody. We were also close to the coast road so we came to expect a sneaky raid from the sea at any time and having no protection, one's ears were one's aircraft identifiers. In the evenings we would pitch our bivouacs well away from the unserviceable aircraft. Such was our life in the desert for the next two and a half years.

Riley Vincent

Tetbury Music Festival announce

BBC Radio 3 Big Chamber Weekend

22 – 24 March 2019

St Marys' Church, Tetbury

Tetbury Music Festival has teamed up with BBC Radio 3 to present a weekend of Chamber Music from 22 to the 24 March, featuring leading chamber ensemble The Calidore String Quartet alongside world-class soloists violinist Jennifer Pike and pianist Zee Zee. The Calidore String Quartet opens the Chamber Weekend on Friday 22 March with a performance of Prokofiev's String Quartet No. 2 and Beethoven's String Quartet No. 10. The following evening, the Quartet is joined by pianist Zee Zee for works by Schumann, Caroline Shaw, Mendelssohn, Golijov and Beethoven. The Calidore String Quartet join forces with Jennifer Pike and Zee Zee on Sunday 24 March, bringing the weekend to a close with Chausson's Concerto in D major, Op. 21 for Violin, Piano and String Quartet.

All three concerts will take place at St Marys' Church, Tetbury and be recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3.



Avening Youth Club



Youth Club is becoming very popular, with up to 21 young people coming each evening. Add your feet to those already coming through the door – you'll be very welcome.

5th March – Sports night

Fun and energetic

12th March – Create your own social media site

Social media with a difference!

19th March – How Social Media affects us all

26th March – Choices Night

Your choice. What do you want to see at youth club?

Check out the Facebook Page

Youth Club is for anyone aged 8 to 14, from Avening, Nags Head, or Cherington. We meet every Tuesday in term time from 6 to 7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall. **Once you're 13 we'll ask you to be a Young Leader and help out (don't worry, we'll give you training).** The cost is just £1 a time to include a healthy snack. Just come along and see what's what if you haven't been before.

For parents or carers: The Youth Club is run by The Door (find their website at www.thedoor.org.uk). They provide qualified and experienced Youth Workers. You just need to leave an emergency contact number when you drop your young person off. If they come on their own, we need them to give us a number to contact.

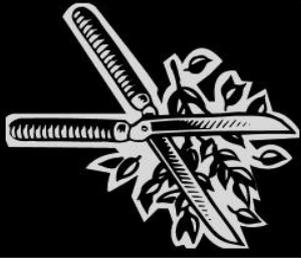
Want more information? Contact Rev Gerald South on 834884 or Becky at The Door on 01453 756745.



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Puzzle Corner Answers

2	8	7	9	3	1	5	4	6
6	3	9	5	4	2	8	7	1
5	1	4	8	7	6	9	2	3
1	9	8	3	2	7	4	6	5
7	4	6	1	9	5	3	8	2
3	2	5	6	8	4	1	9	7
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Struggling to get where you need to go, or know someone who is?

Community Connexions is a local community transport charity that brings together volunteers to give transport to people of all ages who can't easily access it, because of physical or mental reasons, or social or rural isolation.

Last year we helped passengers across Gloucestershire make over 95,000 trips. These were to doctor and hospital appointments, day centres, visits to friends and family, and more.

The door-to-door car service is run by trained volunteers and journeys cost £1 per mile with a minimum spend of £5, which is to help cover the volunteer's fuel costs. We also offer bus hire starting from less than £30 an hour with one of our trained and qualified drivers.

If you think you would benefit from Community Connexions or know someone who would, please call us on 0345 680 5029 for more information or visit our website www.communityconnexions.org.uk

Without volunteers, Community Connexions would not be able to provide the breadth of services or help as many people as we do. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Elaine Pearson-Scott on 0345 680 5029 or email Elaine@communityconnexions.org.uk or



Confirmations



On 9th February at a very joyful service in the beautiful chapel of Westonbirt School five pupils were Confirmed by the Bishop of Tewksbury. Two of these come from our villages, Francesca Di Mauro from Cherington and Lola Rayner from Avening.

This was the culmination of their preparation course and marks an important step in their journey of faith. We welcome them as communicant members of our community.

Gerald South

Holy Cross Church, Avening St Nicholas Church, Cherington

RENEWAL OF ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll of a church is the list of those who may vote at Church Parish Meetings. In practice it is effectively the names those who want to be considered as regular church members.

All parishes need to renew their Electoral Roll from scratch this year.

If you would like to be on the Electoral Roll of either of our churches, you will need to fill in a brief form of application and return it by 16th March.

Forms are inside the main door of both churches or may be obtained from Revd Gerald South, 5 Orchard Field, Avening, 01453 834884. Completed forms may be returned, by 16th March, to Hilary Hodges (for Cherington), Stephen Fuller (for Avening) or Gerald South (either church).



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At Avening Social Club

Phone Chris Howell on 01453 833246 to book your lunch

Main course, sweet and tea/coffee all for £6.00

A big thankyou to all who have supported in the past



Avening Cinema Club

Our next film will be:

Bohemian Rhapsody

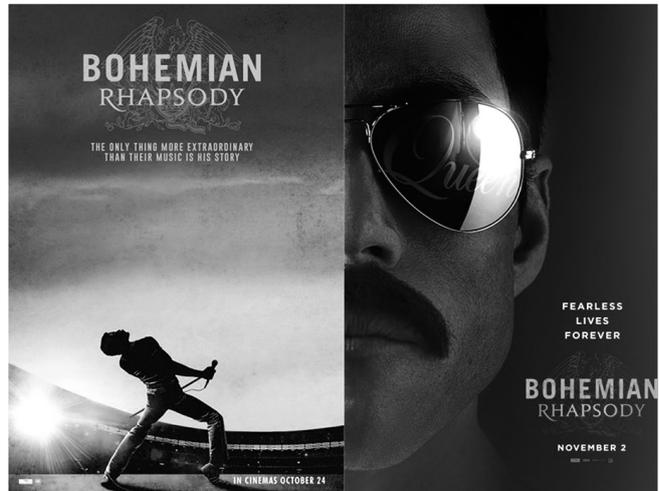
Wednesday 6th March
at 7.30pm.

Cinema-goers are encouraged to buy their drinks from the local pub both before the film and during the interval.

The film club runs on the first Wednesday of every month, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Please do check our Facebook page or contact Katy Upton for more information, and for the chance to vote on films.

In April we will be showing Mary Queen of Scots

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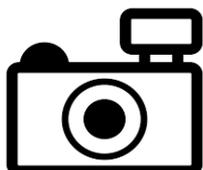
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Take out your cameras

There will be a photographic exhibition in Avening on the weekend of



9th June with categories for all ages.

Photographs will be displayed in the Church.

More Information to follow.....

Dying without a Will. Now that's a real tragedy.

No-one likes the thought of dying, so it's hardly surprising that almost 3 out of 5 UK adults don't have a valid Will (*source: www.unbiased.co.uk 2010*). Yet having one is one of the most important arrangements you can make during your lifetime.

My name is David Martin. I live in Nailsworth and I'm the local consultant for *Steele Rose & Co* - one of the UK's Premier Professional Home Visit Will Writers. After 22 years serving my country in the RAF, I have spent the last 28 years of my life professionally advising my clients on all personal financial matters and specialising in Wills.

Writing a Will is easier and cheaper than you think. It also ensures that your wishes are carried out simply and efficiently - causing the minimum of anguish for those you leave behind. If you would like to discuss your Will arrangements, redraft an existing Will, Lasting Powers of Attorney, or other associated legal services, at a mutually convenient time in the comfort and privacy of your own home, please contact me:



David Martin

**David Martin, local consultant,
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Locally-Based Charities

This table gives information about charities which are based in and around Avening and Cherington. Periodically, we will give a more detailed outline of what each organisation does.

Please let us know if any information is incorrect and also if you know of any other charities which should be included - we know there are plenty for this list.

Charity	Purpose	Further Information
Friends of Avening School (FOAS)	FOAS raises money to help with various projects and activities at the school.	01453 833191
Horsfall House	Provides nursing care for residents, a Day Centre 6 days a week Home Care and meals on Wheels in the local area.	01453 731227
Hop, Skip & Jump Foundation	Provide high quality respite care for children and young adults with disabilities and SEN	hoskipandjump.org.uk 01453 836390 marcoms@hoskipandjump.org.uk
Mark Townsend Charitable Trust	Providing help with whatever life circumstances may incur.	www.themarktownsendcharitabletrust.com 01453 832799
Friends of Little Stars	Fundraising and support for Little Stars School for underprivileged children in Varanasi, India	Kieran Archer 01453 832992 littlestarsschool.org
Avening Church of England Educational Fund	To support and promote the education of those under the age of 25 resident in the parish of Avening.	Stephanie Hamilton, 07796 981308
Longfields	Supporting any adult affected by life-limiting illness to live well; to die well; and to care well.	01453886868 day.services@longfield.org.uk

Cherington Parish Council

Parish Council Elections on 2nd May

All 5 seats on Cherington Parish Council are open for re-election on 2nd May; one of the current councillors intends to stand down. If you would like to consider standing please take a look at our website for information on the timetable for this year's election and links to further information on the role of local councils and councillors generally.

Please see: <https://cheringtonpc.org.uk/parish-council-elections-2nd-may/> or <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/about-the-council/elections/current-future-elections/> These pages also provide information on how to register to vote.

Litter Pick

The annual Litter Pick will be on Saturday 16th March at 10am, starting from the Village Hall.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be on Saturday 6th April at 10am in the Village Hall.

Next Parish Council Meeting

This will be held on **Tuesday 5th March at 6pm** in the Village Hall. An agenda will be placed on the notice board and cheringtonpc.org.uk. The Parish Clerk can be contacted on 01453 832100 or via email at cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk



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Avening Parish Council



The minutes of the meeting on 21st February will be published shortly, but some of the items discussed are summarised below:

Crime

One 'violent communication' was reported in January. The Police were unable to provide more detail.

Fibre Optic Cable Laying

Gigaclear have agreed to attend a public meeting on 4th March at 7.30 in the hall to address residents' concerns regarding the laying of fibre optic cables.

We are hoping that the Surveyor and a representative from the installers will be in attendance along with Cllr Hirst from GCC.

Memorial Hall

The roof project continues. We are liaising with the conservation officer as to the type of roof tile that can be used, and seeking more detailed estimates to complete the work – it is hoped that only the North elevation will need to be replaced.

Playing Field

Another special meeting of Parish Councillors was held to confirm the priorities proposed for the reduced scheme, and to set out the ways forward. Minor works previously identified will be implemented at the earliest opportunity, with priorities being:

- Fencing with matching gates around the existing play area;
- Improvements to disabled access to the playing field from Sunground, and connection to the cycle track;
- Drop kerbs around the Sunground entrance;
- Improvement to the perimeter footpath/cycle track around the playing field;
- Upgrade the playground with additional equipment with attendant maintenance and management;
- Level the main informal grass playing field to make it safe and useable for all activities;

This will enable retention of the informal North West corner of the site to conserve its flora and fauna, and retain the slope for sledging in snowy weather.

Defibrillator

A second Defibrillator will be installed in the old phone box at the junction of

Old Hill/Lawrence Road.

Recycling

Cllr Morgan of Cotswold District Council reported that all households will be provided with a separate food waste bin and that textiles, small electronics, and tetra packs will in future be part of the kerbside recycling. Green bins will be collected fortnightly for a trial period from September.

Dog Fouling

Following a complain of dog fouling at Nags Head, a new dog waste bin will be installed.

Villager of the Year

Please nominate someone you think deserves the Villager of the Year title.

Local Elections

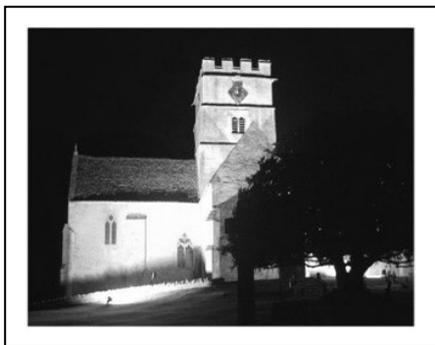
There are currently two vacancies for Parish Councillors. If you are interested in standing, please contact the Clerk for more information.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 21 March** 2019 7.30pm in the Jim Parsons room at the Memorial Hall. Agendas will be displayed on the village notice boards. Minutes of our meetings are available to view at www.avening-pc.gov.uk.

The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk or by phone: 08714 900512; 01453 860379.

Church Floodlighting



The church looks beautiful at night when floodlit.

The church was floodlit on

9th February

In memory of **Joan Newman**, from all the family

If you would like to have this in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special event, contact:

Paul Brown 01453 835 983.

The cost is £10 for 2 hours

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 Sunday: 12pm - 11pm

LUNCH

Mon - Sat: 12pm - 2.30pm
 Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

WORKERS' POT

Mon - Fri: 5pm - 6.30pm

DINNER

Mon - Sat: 6.30pm - 9.30pm

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Cask Marque excellence is awarded for the great selection of guest ales including Stroud brewery. The seasonal menus showcase organic meat from local farms, sustainably sourced fish specials and with monthly Meat Free Monday events and a standalone vegan menu the choice is excellent for all.

With **six lovely en suite rooms** including the sensational Oak Lodge, and three dog-friendly rooms, The Royal Oak is a fun and relaxed getaway from which to browse the chic boutiques of Tetbury or explore the beautiful Cotswolds.

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Dates For Your Diary

Friday 1st March	Fledglings pre-school	Avening School	
Monday 4th March	Public Meeting (Fibre Optic Cable)	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 5th March	Cherington Parish Council Meeting	Cherington Village Hall	6.00pm
Wednesday 6th March	Avening Cinema Club Bohemian Rhapsody	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 16th March	Cherington Annual Litter Pick	Cherington Village Hall	10.00am
Saturday 6th April	Cherington Annual Parish Meeting	Cherington Village Hall	10.00am
Wednesday 10th April	Avening Annual Parochial Church Meeting		7.00pm
Sunday 13th April	Cherington Annual Parochial Church Meeting		10.00 am
Friday 26th April	FOAS wine tasting	tbc	tbc
Thursday 2nd May	Local Parish Council Elections		
Saturday 18th May	Avening Annual Parish Meeting	Avening Memorial Hall	tbc
8 - 9th June	Photographic Exhibition	Avening Church	
Sunday 9th June	Avening Church Fete	Avening Churchyard and School Grounds	
Saturday 15th June	FOAS Annual Bear Hunt	tbc	tbc
Sunday 23rd June	Avening Open Gardens	Avening	tbc
Friday 5th July	FOAS School Summer Fete		tbc

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Looking Forward to Summer?



Don't forget Avening Fete, and
the famous Avening Duck Races, Dog
show, etc. etc.

It all happens on June 9th this year

For details of stalls and offers of help contact
Stephanie email stephanie2432@hotmail.co.uk

