The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head

April 2013

50p



Farewell, Rev Celia!

editors@acvillager.co.uk

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For all enquiries regarding extra services in either church please contact the church wardens as below:-

Licensed Lay minister (READER)	Derrick Pierce	01453 835 090
AVENING		
Churchwardens	George Buchanan	01453 833 016
	Stephanie Hamilton	01453 834 910
PCC Secretary	Ann Buxton	01453 836342
PCC Treasurer	Peter Best	01453 835 287
Organist	Stuart Walkley	01453 757 784
Flower Team	Gill Adams Doreen Pierce	01453833175 01453835090
CHERINGTON		
Churchwardens	Roger Gegg	01453 834 805
	John Bate-Williams	01666 503 544
Sacristan	Beryl Milsom	01285 841 248
PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841 294
PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841 294
	Beryl Milsom	01285 841 248
Flower Team	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841 294

The Villager Magazine

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The Parish Letter

I am delighted to have this opportunity to write in 'The Villager'. Let me first of all add my thanks and my tribute to Celia's remarkable ministry in your benefice. There is so much to be grateful for in her ministry locally as the life to be found in the church in Avening and Cherington shows.



Appreciation for Celia's ministry will

in many ways be demonstrated by the way that life is nurtured and allowed to continue to grow. Your greatest tribute to her will be to cherish the gift of a lively church she has helped create with you!

We as a diocese together and I as your Archdeacon need to play our part also. This is first of all, of course, in the commitment to the appointment of her successor, plans for which are underway. I have already met the PCCs and they are preparing a profile for the next appointment. I then look forward to working with your parish representatives to find your new priest. This will be <u>your</u> priest, living in Avening, leading your worship, offering local pastoral care but working as part of a team under the oversight of the priest in Tetbury to offer mutual support and encouragement.

Do please keep this process in your thoughts and prayers. Your new priest will need your welcome, support and love when he or she comes, later this year or early next.

In the meantime it is the Church Wardens who have the responsibility for the parish, supported by me and the Area Dean, Canon Leonard Doolan at Cirencester. I know they already have services planned and the people to lead them – indeed I am looking forward to being with you on 21 April. They are also



putting in place arrangements to ensure the need for the pastoral offices of baptisms, weddings and funerals are met.

So I trust it will be business as usual over the next few months and much to look forward to in the life of the church in your benefice in the years to come.

Archdeacon Robert

EASTER SUNDAY

On Easter Day, following Rev. Celia's last services as Priest-in-charge, celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, **EVERYONE** is invited to party on the Playing Fields with a 'bring and share' lunch, Hog Roast with bar, music and magician and bouncy castle for the children

TRANSPORT FOR THE PARTY

2 minibuses will be in the village (Sunground/High Street) to give lifts to and from the Church and/or the Party.

IF YOU NEED TO BE PICKED UP AT YOUR DOOR PLEASE CONTACT: 01453 836390

PLEASE NOTE

From April 1st any requests for weddings, baptisms or funerals MUST be made through the church wardens, doing this will ensure that the church is available.

The relevant telephone numbers can be found on page 3

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

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

Services in Avening and Cherington February

Sunday 31st March	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
EASTER DAY	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11am	Avening	Holy communion FOLLOWED BY Rev Celia's retirement party
Sunday 7th April	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
Low Sunday	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW and Sun- day school followed by AGM
Sunday 14th April	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
Third of Easter	09.30	Cherington	Matins BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion and Sunday School.
Sunday 21st April	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
Fourth of Easter	09.30	Cherington	Holy communion BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
Sunday 28th April	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
Fifth of Easter	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
Sunday 5th May	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy communion BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School

Church Duties in Avening



Date	Sides persons	Chalice Sad	cristan
April 7 th	Piers/ Jeanie	Stephen	Ann
April 14 th	Cas/Margaret	Hamish	Elizabeth
April 21 st	Stephanie/Piers	Paul	Ann
April 28 th	George/Jeanie	Derrick	Elizabeth
May 5 th	Margaret/Cas	Stephen	Ann
There will be coffee after the service in Avening on April 7 th Followed by the Annual Church meeting			





The Duck Races ARE BACK TO JUNE IN 2013

Get your "Duck for all Races" early as sold out in 2012!

Just £20 allows you to own and name one duck in each of the races on at the

Avening Church Fete

Sunday June 2nd, 2013.

No Olympics this year but you can still get all the thrills of the chase by entering your own Duck

Numbers are limited, so to secure your duck, please call **Andrew & Nicky Young** on 01453 886750.

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What's On 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 - 9.00pm	Social Club	
Cherington PC	4th Monday each month	6.30pm	Village Hall	Sam 01285 885334
Book Club	First Monday	7.30pm	The Bell	Kristiana 01453 836515
Youth Club	Tuesday	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Memorial Hall	Cassie 01453 834182
Yoga	Wednesday	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Memorial Hall	Elles 0781 555 2952
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
WI	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Maisie 01453 834679
Avening PC	3rd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Caroline 01285 380041
Folk Club	Thursday	8.15pm	Cross Inn	Chris 01453 450 010
Quiz Nights	1st /3rd Saturday each month	7.30pm	Cross Inn	Rob 08444 123 100
Almost Angels Choir	Sunday	12.15pm	Holy Cross Church	Derrick 01453 835090

Made in Avening

Hand Made Silver, Silver Plated and Glass Bead Jewellery

by Katie Turner Need a present in a hurry? Looking for some jewellery to match your outfit? Why leave the village? Call Katie on 07968 030 219 and pop round to Sandford Leaze to see what's on offer Bracelets from £10.00 to £12.00,

Necklaces from £6.00 to £15.00, Earrings from £4.00 All items presented in an organza gift bag with "Made in Avening" gift card



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, Steele Rose & Co (Nailsworth & surrounding areas) 01453 836699 (M) 07973 405997 Email: dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk

Email: dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk www.steelerose.co.uk Members of the Society of Will Writers





Lee Abbey, Devon



people of Avening and Cherington as their spiritual leader.

Abbey is by Lee run an international community of around 90 people of all ages and 20 nationalities. The community live together, offering and work rest. activity hospitality. and teaching to quests of many backgrounds. The Lee Abbey vision is to build community and renew and serve the church.

On Friday March 15th, several loaded cars set forth from Avening for the 2¹/₂ hour journey to Lee Abbey, near Lynton, on the north coast of Devon. This conference, retreat and holiday centre, set in an exceptionally beautiful corner of England was the place where, many years ago, Rev. Celia experienced the call to ordination and entered the difficult path she has trodden so devotedly over the past two decades: to serve the



Our purpose was to join a weekend of "Renewal, Refreshment and



Transformational Resource: in Faith", to prepare us for the fastapproaching time when Celia enters her well-earned retirement. Our Avening and Cherington church communities will need to stand on our own feet during a short before vacancy the appointment of a new vicar in Tetbury. We will then fall under his/ her supervision in an expanded benefice. Once that appointment is made, we will be looking for a part-



time priest to help the new appointee in Tetbury but whose main responsibility will be to our two parishes.

But a church is a corporate body which should radiate its own faith and we sincerely hope that we have learned from Rev. Celia how to look out for our fellows and continue her amazing work in these communities. Our church community will still be here,

services will be held every Sunday, the festivals will be celebrated and people in need will still find others to help in times of difficulty. We offer our services and pray that our churches will carry on the work which Rev. Celia

has led so wonderfully. Please do keep coming and, if in need, please let us know.

The eleven people who attended the weekend, found much to inspire us in the devotional part of the timetable and thoroughly enjoyed the rest, good food and loving attention of the international team who worked so hard to make us welcome. Although the weather was not the best, we were treated



on Sunday to blue skies and sunshine in which to walk the path down to the beach, and around the estate, some even venturing further. We enjoyed the sunshine shining on the sparkling sea, the stunning views



along the cliffs, getting to know each other better, and contemplating the new-born lambs, with their reminder of Christ's promise:-

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep."

Margaret Barton



This photograph has been shown to Fred Venning - it shows teachers and pupils of Avening School in 1950. Do you recognise anyone or are you in the photo?

Would you like to come along to a Fun Quiz Evening?



Everyone welcome

Avening WI invite you to a Fun Quiz
Night in the Social Club on Friday 26th
April 2013 at 7.30 pm.
Teams of 4 people - £16 per team to

include a Ploughman's Supper

Proceeds to go towards the Air Ambulance Service





Annual Charity Quiz Night in aid of Hope for Tomorrow

Monday 29th April 2013 Evergreen Cottage, Cherington, GL8 8SH By kind permission of Mrs Laura Bailey and Mr Hugh Shuttleworth

Teams

Quiz teams need to be made up of 8-10 people at a cost of \pm 10.00pp or \pm 90.00 per table of 10.

19:00

Arrival. Guests are welcome to bring their own picnic and drinks to enjoy during the quiz.

Wine

Wine merchant 'The Oxford Wine Company' will be introducing the wine related question round as well as generously donating some wine to the auction.

Live auction

Don't forget to bring some spare cash to bid on some of our wonderful auction items! Cheltenham based auctioneers 'Chorley's' are kindly hosting this part of the evening.

Brain power

Come along and test yourself, your friends and work colleagues!

Thank you to Richardson Marquees, The Ornamental Tree Hire Company and all our sponsors for making the event possible.





To book, or for more information, contact Kate Gegg on 07976 570754 or email kategegg@hotmail.co.uk.

www.hopefortomorrow.org.uk





KATE GEGG WITH SOME OF THE LITTER COLLECTED AROUND CHERINGTON ON THE ANNUAL LITTER PICK A big thank you to all who helped

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Avening Primary School

END OF TERM CELEBRATIONS INCLUDE A FOND FAREWELL

Our Easter end of term is always jam-packed and fun-filled – there's the Easter Egg hunt, the celebration assembly and the legendary Avening School Talent Show. But this year's end of term celebrations included a tinge of sadness. We said 'Happy retirement' to our fantastic village vicar, Reverend Ceiia Carter.



Adam, Lucy, Phoebe, Tom & Daniel Presenting Rev. Celia with the sampler

Reverend Celia has always Easter Assembly, attended our bringing treats sometimes like lambs along! This time it was for her to get the treats! The Avening Primary School children sang her two specially adapted songs to mark her retirement and finally they with presented her а memento of her relationship with the School.

Thanks to the fantastic commitment and creative skills of two of our staff – Kelly Wilkinson

and Alison Sollis - the children created a very special farewell 'sampler' with every one of our pupils sewing a section. The design, which shows owls (our school symbol), sheep, flowers and children, was a fitting thank you for the kindness Reverend Celia has shown the school.

And not to spare your blushes Reverend Celia, here are some of the 'nice things' the children wanted to say to you as you go into your retirement:

Hope you have a nice retirement. Thank you for the Easter talk. Peace, love, hope, kindness. Take care. From Soni Maidment

Thank you for telling us the Easter story and the Christmas story. We will look after the church for you. We will miss you and good luck and take care. From Nathan Pope. Thank you for being our lovely vicar. I remember when you brought your very cute black lamb in for our assembly when I was very little. Have a wonderful retirement. From Greta Lukas

I am so sad that you are leaving and I will miss you and I wish you good luck in the future. I really like how you tell us the Easter story. Thank you so much. From Matthew Turner

We are all going to miss you working at the church. You are the best Reverend ever. Love from Elsie Heslop

We are going to miss you and your blessings. We hope you have a wonderful retirement. Thank you. From Tom Stewart

STOP PRESS:

Well done to our year 5/6 tag rugby team (pic.) who won a very close tournament at Kingshill School in the last week of term. Out of a total of 42 schools, they are now the Sainsbury's Sport Cotswold Schools champions! Well done to all the players and to our committed coach Mr Wilkinson!

(And in other story of brilliant team work - well done to our fantastic FOAS team - who raised nearly £3,000 in the



auction of promises event they worked really hard to put on!)

If you are interested in finding out more about our school please take a regular look at our website which is updated often. In particular take a look at the interesting introduction to all our staff – with pictures courtesy of the children!

Village People

Rev Celia Carter's life (continued from last month's edition of the Villager)

The Family Arrive in Avening



Stewart felt that the army was not the right place to raise a family and resigned his commission. Celia and Stewart's eldest child, Georgina, was born in London and the family went to live in Derbyshire. This period saw the start of Celia's interest in sheep; twenty-four in their first flock.

Then in 1967, when Stewart started a new job, the family finally came to

Avening. Here they bought the Park and proceeded to renovate it, doing much of the work themselves. Celia vividly remembers one of the ladies of the village who 'called' on her very soon after the family's arrival, complete with the requisite calling card and who was visibly disappointed to be greeted by the 'lady' of the house, clutching a paint brush, wearing disreputable clothes and with her hair standing on end!

During her time in Avening, Celia has been involved in so much. For thirty years she served as a magistrate on the local bench and had the distinction of being the youngest magistrate they had appointed to date. She was also involved in prison visiting over many years. On one occasion Celia wanted to visit a young man from the village, who had got himself into a spot of bother, and was serving out his prison sentence. She was escorted to the high security wing, where the warden was reluctant to allow her to go in by herself, but Celia insisted that all would be well. On entering, the young man soon spotted her and, running over, swept her up in a huge bear hug!!! Within seconds, all the alarm bells in the prison were ringing and wardens came running. It was not a popular move!

Life was happy and busy for Celia with three children to look after by this time. What came next resulted in a momentous change in her life. She developed a particularly deadly form of meningitis and her life hung in the balance for some time. She remembers lying paralysed and unable to communicate, while people around her discussed her possible demise. She says that it was a strange time, when she first became acutely aware of her God and resolved that if she recovered, she would find some special way of serving Him.

Following that recovery, she volunteered amongst other things to sit with the dying, but in those days the Church was peculiarly resistant to help offered by 'amateurs' and she became quite despondent. Happily, on a visit to Lee Abbey, she met someone, who encouraged her to consider training at the Gloucester School of Ministry. Here she undertook a three year degree course. She then applied to become a Deacon. Of the sixteen candidates initially accepted, only two completed the course. She then served as a Deacon for five years, working as a hospital chaplain. Finally, in 1994 she was priested. There was still opposition from many of the established clergy to serving with a woman and indeed Celia faced that here in Avening. But she remembers, with gratitude, the great support she did receive from so many in the village. A petition was signed by several hundred and the Church, bowing to popular demand, finally installed her as Priest-in-Charge in Avening, where she has served ever since.

Her husband, Stewart, was travelling a lot at this time and Celia went with him when possible, but he was glad to accept retirement and spend more time at home. He was a well known figure, riding through the village on his horse, and taking part in village events. He led the Royal British Legion for many years as their President, and it was he who built up the Remembrance Service to what it is today. He also served on the Parish and District Council for twenty years or so, making sure that it was Avening people who were allocated housing and not 'outsiders'!!

During this period Celia has continued with her other great interest, serving as a Founder Trustee of Hop, Skip and Jump, a charity offering respite care to families of severely disabled children. When she first was asked to help by Click Mitchell, who had set up the charity, there was one centre in Pretty soon this had become enlarged and demand had Cheltenham. come for a second centre in Bristol. In the meantime a Turkish friend, who was over in this country on holiday, saw what was going on and asked that Celia and Click might consider doing something similar in Turkey. What an incredible thing to be asked to do and to be offered financial help by the Turkish government to put the idea into effect. At the same time, in this country, a Swindon centre was created. There was little or no money available, but Celia always speaks with admiration and gratitude of the way that people offered materials and labour for nothing to help the dream come true for some of the most desperate families in our society. This work has always been for her a wonderful additional role to her parish work; what she describes as Christian mission in the 'real' world.

<u>Stop press news</u>: yet another new centre is to open soon in Wigan, with money generously donated by a well-known local figure in the football world. As often, in Celia's life, this introduction was serendipitous (*Continued on page 24*)











(Continued from page 21)

Whilst on her travels, she decided to visit a house which had originally been built by her cousin, Oliver Messel. She boldly walked in and asked to talk to the present owner. She apologised for her temerity in asking to see round the house, explaining her interest in it. The owner was so tickled by the appearance of this 'high class' lass and intrigued by her story about Hop Skip and Jump, that he undertook to fund another centre locally and found himself invited to the reception held recently at Downing Street. It is hoped that eventually the finished centre will be opened by the Prime Minister.

There have been several great occasions in the village in the last fifteen years; the Millennium, the Jubilee and the visit to the Church by H.M. The Queen and HRH Prince Phillip, to attend the christening of their great granddaughter Savannah. This is only the second time a reigning monarch has attended a church service in Holy Cross Church, since Queen Matilda did so at the consecration in 1080.

Celia's final words to me were that she would like to think that her Ministry has concentrated on making Christianity accessible, fun and all inclusive and this is why she wanted her Leaving Party to be a celebration of her Christian faith to be shared with everyone who wanted to come. On a personal note, my husband and I, as relative newcomers to the village have observed how her aspirations translate into reality. On our arrival we experienced her generous welcome. We were immediately included in the life of this vibrant village. We are not unique. Celia offers this to all; church goers and others alike and it is remarkable how many she has involved in the Christian life of Avening. This is her legacy to her successor – a welcoming, lively parish and at its centre the Church, which so many come to and support.

We wish her well in all her future endeavours and I am sure I am not alone in wanting to thank her for the friendship and inspiration that she has offered as our Priest to so many and for so long.

Frances Conway



Church Floodlighting

The Church looks lovely when it is lit up at night. 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 £5.00 for 2 hours





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The Cross Inn

* New Look * * New Menu * * New Management *

The Cross Inn is pleased to announce that we will be re-opening in April with a fresh new look and an exciting new menu.

We will be closed over the Easter Holidays but re-opening on Tuesday 2nd April and starting our new menu shortly afterwards. Please see the black boards for more details.

We look forward to meeting you soon.

Mark & Val

The Cross Inn At the heart of Avening 01453 56 97 56

Events in Gloucester Diocese,

Saturday April 13, 9am Pilgrimage in Gloucester Diocese

St Swithin, Quinton, CV37 8SG. Morning prayer at St Swithin, then to St Thomas, Todenham, GL56 9PL via Ebrington and Paxford. A Eucharist will take place at one of these churches and the day will finish with Evening Prayer. 11.48 miles. Find out more from www.experiencepilgrimage.org.uk or 01285 821008.

Wednesday April 17, 7.30pm

St Lawrence Church, Stroud

Stroud Deanery's Open Debate on Gay Marriage

Leading our discussions: Bishop John Gladwin, former Bishop of Chelmsford and Mr Andrew Marsh, Campaigns Director of Christian Concern. All welcome. For more information contact 01452 741808.

Thursday April 18, 7.30pm to 9.30pm Divorce Recovery Workshop

St Andrew's Churchdown. A six week self help workshop for anyone who is separated/ divorced, going through a divorce or been involved in a relationship that has irretrievably broken down. Cost £40. Book on 01452 303604 or email churchdown@drw.org.uk. More details are available at <u>www.drwgloucestershire.org.uk</u>.

Thursday April 18, 7pm

WEMTC in partnership with Ripon College Cuddesdon, Open Evening

Redcliffe College, Gloucester. Find out more about training for Christian ministry, growing in faith and discipleship or learning with others. contact Jane Cusworth, 01452 874969 jcusworth@wemtc.org.uk

Saturday April 20

Exploring Christian Vocation 10am-4pm. Explore your calling and be encouraged. Gloucester Farmers Club, Greville Close, sandhurst Lane, Gloucester, GL2 9RG. Contact Natasha for more details 01452 835544

Monday April 22

Day of Reflection

'There is a dreamer, dreaming us' Exploring God's dream for us and how we tune into it. Led by Nick Helm at Glenfall House Cheltenham. Full details available at 01242 583654. www.glenfallhouse.org

Sunday April 28, 7pm

Mininhampton Church

Music@Minch presents the world renowned Maggini String Quartet playing Mozart, Britten and Mendelssohn. £10 in advance from Deborah Smith 01453 883611 or music@minchchurch.org.uk or at M&B Stores. There will be tickets available on the door at £12. Accompanied children are free.

For more coming events and the latest diocesan news, <u>www.gloucester.anglican.org</u>

ngs gardens open for charity

Garden Open The Old Rectory 60 High Street Avening GL8 8NF Sun 12 May 2 - 6pm

Adm: £4 Children: free

Plants for Sale

The National Gardens Scheme: Registered Charity No. 1112664

www.ngs.org.uk

SWAP TILL YOU DROP A really fun way to shop !



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WHY:- To swap them with your friends and raise money for **Hope for Tomorrow** the local cancer charity providing mobile chemotherapy units.

WHERE:- Evergreen Cottages, Cherington GL8 8SH

By kind permission for Mrs Laura Bailey and Mr Hugh Shuttleworth

WHEN:- Monday 29th April at 10 am

HOW MUCH:- £10 admission

Arrive at 10 am to allow us time to sort out all the clothes. We give you vouchers for all your items . You then have a coffee with friends and we open the swap shop at 10.45 when the fun begins , trying on outfits to purchase with your vouchers. (that's all, its so easy)

Do join us . For more information call Kate 01453 834805 or mail to <u>kategegg@hotmail.co.uk</u>



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DO YOU KNOW YOUR HYMNS?

The Dentist hymnCrown him with many Crowns
The Weatherman's hymnThere shall be showers of blessings
The Contractors hymnThe church's one foundation
The Taylors hymnHoly, Holy, Holy
The Golfers hymnThere is a green hill far away
The Politicians hymnStanding on the promises
The Opticians hymnOpen my eyes that I might see
The Inland Revenue hymnI surrender all
The gossips hymnPass it on
The electricians hymnSend the light
The shoppers hymnSweet Bye and bye
The Estate agents hymnI've got a mansion just over the hilltop
The Physiotherapists hymnHe touched me

These hymns are all genuine and were submitted by Hillary Hodges

Avening Playgroup



After watching the rain and hail on Saturday afternoon and the snow flurries early Sunday morning, we were blessed with wonderful weather for our first Easter Egg hunt. There was then a flurry, this time not of snow but of excited children and parents all coming to participate in our event. They set off through the village following clues and collecting letters as they went. The course led them on a circular walk up to the playgroup and back via Old Hill to the church where they collected the last letter of the hunt. They then had to form a word with the letters to claim their prize. Everybody managed to complete the course and form the word. Even the really young children amazed us with their anagram solving abilities! As the afternoon went on more families arrived to participate in the event and in the end there were 36 entries.

Everyone seemed to have a great time and it was a delight to see so many happy children and adults all enjoying such a simple event.

The playgroup raised just short of £70 after expenses and we would like to thank all those that took part as well as Richard at The Bell for his kind donation. We would also like to thank his regular Sunday afternoon customers for putting up with several chocolate overloaded children and their parents post-hunt!

We hope to be able to run this event again next year as the feedback was so positive. We hope if you joined in this year we will see you again or if you couldn't make it this year you will be inspired to try it next time.

We must take this opportunity to tell you about the 'Avening cycle hill climb' which will be held on Saturday 29th June. This is another fund raising event which should be so much fun! More information on this coming soon.

If you would like your child to join our lovely playgroup please contact Debbie any week day between 9.15am and 12.15am on 01453 832695.

Estelle St John-Smith and Emma Silvey-Ratcliffe

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thew INSPIRING WOMEN

Avening WI

The new year's programme is now in full swing. Our first visit of the year was to the BBC studios in Bristol. Not sure what to expect we were shown around by 2 experienced guides who made the tour an extremely informative and fun morning. Many more programmes than we ever imagined are produced from Bristol including Antiques Roadshow, Flog It, cookery shows and of course the Natural History Unit is based there.

We were shown the control centre, the news room and the Points West studio



which is much smaller than it appears. There is no room for the weather presenters on days when they have guests seated in the studio and that is when you see him or her broadcasting from the roof. We saw the Radio Bristol studios which were in operation and finally spent some time in a spare studio presenting a version of Points West, the weather, and an extract from the Archers including various sound effects. The photo shows some of our members being characters from the Archers and very good they were too!

The BBC do these tours regularly for small groups (up to 15). I would thoroughly recommend it.

At this month's meeting the annual bursary towards a residential course at Denman (the W.I's. College in Oxfordshire) was awarded to Anne Antrobus after her name was drawn from a hat.

There was no speaker this month and instead we had a mini fashion show presented by Stafford Cottage of Minchinhampton. One of the models was our own Di Wall who was very stylish. I think she has done it before! The members enjoyed the show very much.

We have 4 teams entered for the County W.I. Federation Quiz. We attended the first round and one of our teams was equal first. A very good start.

We are also having a fun quiz open to everyone in the village and beyond on 26th April, 7.30 p.m. at the Sports and Social Club. We need teams of 4 and there will be a ploughman's supper included in the price of £16 per team. The money raised from the quiz will go to the Gloucestershire Air Ambulance service which needs to buy a new helicopter.

We have a walk and lunch organised as well before the end of this month. We also have a small group of members attending the Annual Council Meeting at Cheltenham Town Hall. One of the speakers this year is Sharon Davis the Olympic swimmer.

Avening Book Club

To The End of the Land, David Grossman, Translated by Jessica Cohen, Vintage 2011

This is a challenging book. With the war in Israel as a background it's a tale of broken people in a broken land. Or it's the tale of a journey through that broken land in which two walkers come closer again to one another as Ora and to a much lesser degree Avram recount pieces of their broken tale. Pieces which eventually start forming in the readers mind as a coherent whole. We all found it quite a difficult book to get into. After the 45 pages of the *Prologue* I'd almost lost the will to continue, but then as the journey started the style and mood changed and I started enjoying the book.

Although the next section is entitled *The Walk* it doesn't start straight away, instead for the next sixty pages or so we have two taxi rides which Ora takes with the Arab taxi driver Sami. The first is to take her son Ofer to the muster point to rejoin the Israeli Army for an important campaign. It is remarkably insensitive of Ora to inflict this humiliation on him and some of our group thought this a little out of character for Ora. It is however important for introducing the Arab viewpoint and balancing the sympathies of the book for whilst written from an Israeli perspective this is not a partisan work. The second trip is to pick up Avram, an old friend of Ora's who is to join her on the walk which will occupy the remainder of the book. On the way Sami takes the opportunity to deliver a sick Arab child to a clandestine hospital which is being run by the Arabs and we are given an insight into the sufferings of his people.

Then Ora and Avram start their long walk, camping out along the way. Ora's declared aim is to be away from home so that "notifiers" can't find her and if they can't tell her that her son's a casualty then it can't happen, can it? but of course there's more to it than that. I won't spoil the tale for you, but they talk as they walk and gradually we collect and assemble the pieces of their story, firstly and mostly from Ora and later from Avram too. By the end of the book we can fit the jigsaw together, but tantalisingly and symbolically the final piece is missing.

I enjoyed the book. It's about the impact of war upon people, it's cleverly uses the device of a walk to present Ora's story bit by bit in a broken sequence which reinforces its main message. It keeps us alert and interested as detective like we reconstruct the tale as the evidence emerges. It's a book I would never have picked up myself. I'm glad the book club chose it.

George Keeling

OUR NEXT MEETING IS April 8th *Jitterbug Perfume* by Tom Robbins The Bell 7.30

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Conserve, Enhance

Avening Parish Council

PLEASE NOTE: the Parish Council address has now changed to:

77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1BJ. The Locum Clerk, Caroline Braidwood, can be contacted on 01285 380041 or 07870 170823. The email address remains the same: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

<u>Planning</u>

If you have a computer, planning applications can be found on Cotswold District Council's website at www.cotswold.gov.uk Go to weekly planning list. You are also able to sign up for Planning Alerts so that the emails can come straight to your In Box.

New Planning Applications:

13/00393/FUL

Herons Mead, West End, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8NE Variation of condition 5 of 12/01483/FUL to extend timescale for completion

Planning Applications Responded to: 13/00686/TPO

1 Powis Lane, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8PA

Yew - reduce diameter of crown by 2m (1m of radius, 7m to 6M) reduce height from approx 17m to 15m (2m off)

Members objected very strongly to the proposed work on this tree as it is a crucial part of the historic landscape; the tree is some 80 years old and is located in the oldest part of the village and on the old toll road. Whilst maintenance of all trees is to be encouraged, Members feel that reducing the height by 2m is considerable and excessive.

Decision Notices Received:

12/04565/FUL

Land Parcel Ruggers Green Wood And Oldfield Wood, West End, Avening, Gloucestershire,

Retention of existing residential mobile home and touring caravan and associated four car parking spaces. Erection of five timber sheds for storage and animal housing

Refused 4 March 2013

13/00802/TCONR

18 Star Lane, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8NT Beech - remove lower branch, Hazel 1 and 2 - Re-coppice **Not open to public consultation. CDC – No Objection 5 March 2013**

Have you ever thought of being a Volunteer Assistant Lock Keeper ?

The Environment Agency, which is navigation authority for the Thames, is now recruiting for the 2013 season and are looking for volunteers who can commit to assisting at least one day a week between May and the end of September along the river between Reading and Lechlade. Hours are by arrangement but need to be available at least from 11 to 5. The work is done alongside paid lock keepers: helping boats pass through the lock safely, taking ropes, directing traffic, and operating sluices and lock gates; help to maintain the site by painting, tidying and gardening and provide information to visitors.

All applicants are invited to an assessment at a local lock where the role will be explained to them and be shown what it involves in practical terms. They will also be assessed to decide which site may be most appropriate and to ensure that they have the physical capabilities required. This will be followed by an induction course which focuses on safety and preparing them for the lock side.

Volunteers are provided with some uniform and can claim mileage for travel to and from their lock (subject to a daily maximum). They also receive a monthly newsletter which keeps them in touch with what is going on along the river and other activities of the Environment Agency.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering on the Thames and to receive an information pack and application form, please contact the Volunteer team on 01491 828360 or email thames.volunteers@environment -agency.gov.uk

The next meeting of **Avening Parish Council** will be held on **Thursday 18 April 2013, at 7.30pm, in the Memorial Hall**. Parish Council meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month. All are welcome. The Parish Council address is below.

Parish Clerk, 77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1BQ Tel: 01285 380041 Email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

The Mobile Police StationWill call atKening between 09.30 and 10.00Cherington between 10.15 and 10.45Both visits on 23rd April

Cherington Parish Council

CHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL Vacancy for Parish Clerk

Cherington Parish Council is seeking to recruit a new Parish Clerk to start as soon as possible We are looking for an enthusiastic individual to take responsibility for all aspects of the administrative and financial operations of the Council.

You will be expected to prepare agendas, minutes, handle correspondence, and financial budgeting and reporting .

Ideally you should have some knowledge of local government and procedures relating to local councils but training will be offered .

Applicants should have access to a computer and have relevant IT skills. The successful applicant will be required to attend evening meetings at least 8 times per year and all other council administrative tasks will be carried out working from home

For further information on this post contact Kate Gegg at <u>cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk</u> or on 07976 570754

Nailsworth Festival 2013

Nailsworth Festival is celebrating its 30th birthday in 2013. It all kicks off with the family fun of Festival Saturday on May 18th in Mortimer Gardens, Nailsworth (behind the bus station) where you will find street entertainment and lots of interesting market stalls and activities.

The programme runs from 18th to 26th May and promises a very full programme of entertainment and activities to appeal to everyone. You can choose comedy (Clever Peter), choral singing (the renowned Bristol Gasworks choir), theatre (Bristol Old Vic theatre school are back with 'Moonfleet'), classical (the Galliard wind quintet), jazz and poetry at Egypt Mill and our own local star Mike D'Abo with his Mighty Quintet, who will stir happy memories from the 60s in a concert at the Carol Embrey Suite in the Forest Green Rovers stadium. The festival ends with the Nailsworth Youth Showcase, a celebration of young performers from the area.

There are also a number of children's events and walks and workshops including drumming, weaving and researching your house's history.

Go to www.nailsworthfestival .org.uk for full details or get hold of a festival brochure from the Town Information Centre (where you can also buy tickets), the library or any of a number of shops in the town.

Tim Hughes Regd. Charity 1004442 Publicity: 01453 836993

Useful Telephone Numbers

Avening Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Braidwood	01285 380041
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Sam Penney	01285 885334
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Avening Sunday School	Debbie Brown	01453 835983
Avening Tower Captain	David Govier	01453 882914
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695 Home 835983
Avening Village Agent	Aileen Bendall	07810-630156
Avening Youth Club	Cassie Chesterman	01453 834182
A and C Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Friends of Avening School	Jo Missenden	01453 833688
Cherington Village Hall	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Tennis @ Avening Park	Roger Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Group Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Avening History Project	Fred Vening fred@fvening.fsnet.co.uk	01285 850624
Stroud Hospital		01453 562200
Women's Institute	Maisie Stanton	01453 834679
The Cross Village Shop	Rob	01453 569756
Avening Book Club	Kristiana Maseyk	01453 836515

Dates for your Diary

Easter Sunday 31st March	Party celebrating Rev Celia's ministry in Avening	Playing Fields	From 12.30pm (following 11.00am service)
Sunday 7th April	AGM of Parochial Church Council	Holy Cross Avening	12.15pm (following 11.00am service
Friday 8th April	Return to school	Avening Primary School	
Friday 26th April	W.I. Quiz In aid of the Air Ambulance	Social Club	7-30pm
Saturday 6th & 20th April	Quiz nights	Cross Inn	8-00pm
Monday 29th April	Swap till you drop Quiz Night Both events in aid of Hope for Tomorrow	Evergreen Cottage, Cherrington	10.00am 7.00pm
Sunday 12th May	N.G.S. Open Garden	The Old Rectory 60 High St	2-6pm.
Sunday 2nd June	Avening Church Fete	Various venues	Afternoon
	Cherington Show??		



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