

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,
Cherington and Nags Head



August 2020

editors@villagemag.online



OPEN

Mon - Thur: 11am - 11pm
 Fri - Sat: 11am - 11.30pm
 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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August 2020

This month Avening, Nags Head and Cherington have continued to cautiously enjoy the gradual process of 'unlocking' from the previous months of isolation. Church services in both villages have started again in a modest way, blessed on the first two Sundays with wonderful weather. The format may have been different, but no one who was there is likely to forget these events, which spoke of hope for better things to come and thankfulness for what we all enjoy here in this lovely corner of our country. The garden community café coffee mornings also continue to be a roaring success. Particular thanks go to Jennie South and others for their continuing hard work in organising them.

Last month we asked for help for the financial difficulties that were besetting the magazine. We had some very generous donations as a result of this appeal – thank you! We continue to look for new advertisers, so thinking caps still on please! In the same vein the Avening Church Wardens have sent a letter to the Villager asking for financial help. Readers will be disappointed to see that it has been decided to cancel the Fete. Neither Avening nor Cherington has therefore been able to hold their major fund raising events this year, with potentially very damaging results. We know that any donations will be enormously appreciated.

FINALLY: PLEASE NOTE THE VILLAGER EMAIL ADDRESS FROM JULY 2020 WILL BE : editors@villagemag.online as shown below. We will continue to monitor the current address for several months, but ask you to use the new one wherever possible.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

Editors Jane Archer (07812 137161), Frances Conway (01453 832177) and Derrick Pierce (01453 835090).

Advertising editors@villagemag.online **PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!**
Gwyneth Simpson 01453 836556

Deliveries Cas Boddam-Whetham 01453 834834

Deadline 18th of each month

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Leon Merrison Thieme** for this beautiful butterfly. Keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine

editors@villagemag.online

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Regular Activities in the Villages

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Community Cafe	Tuesday	9.00 - 11.30am	Social Club	Jenny South 01453 883456
Churchyard tidy up	Tuesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Rev. Gerald 01453 883456
Cherington PC	Tuesday	6.00pm	Village Hall	Richard Smith
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 term time	6.00 - 7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Rev. Gerald 01453 883456
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening Cinema Club	1st Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Katy 07806 614753
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
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 883456
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 Baby & Toddler group	Katy Upton	07806 614753
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Elizabeth Buchanan Elizabeth Fuller	01453 833016 01453 835067
Avening Church Flower Team	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Ann Brick	01453 834311
Avening Cinema Club	Katy Upton	07806 614753
Avening Community Orchard	Pheobe Carter	pklc1@hotmail.com
Avening History Project	Jean Chatelain	01453 834713
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Shani Baker	07415 039234
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 883456 01453 756745
Cherington Village Hall	Camilla Trotter	07545 054160
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Richard Smith	Cheringtonparishcouncil @yahoo.co.uk
Cherington Church Churchwardens	John Bate-Williams Helen di Mauro	01666 503544 07796 937268
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 883456
Community Café Crop Swap	Chandy Rodgers	Chandra.rodgers65@ gmail.com 07734 971211
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Nicky Dill	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	Liz Knowles	01453 833803

VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council: www.avening-pc.gov.uk

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



The past month has seen two extraordinary engagements in our community. In an effort to replace the zip wire that was damaged last year, Cllr. John Hetterley led a campaign via the Calor crowdfunding scheme. Anyone who 'liked' the scheme or pledged some money will have been notified that we exceeded our target and raised over £3,000 with 185 supporters - more details are provided later in the magazine. Huge thanks to everyone who contributed, and especially to John and his family for the fantastic efforts they put in to get us over the line. If we don't make the final cut for the full grant, there will still be a bit more fundraising work to do to raise the remainder of the costs, but we're already well on the way.

Our other significant engagement this month was to get support to amend the unsuitable building application at Sunground. Cllrs. David Bendall, Christine Howell and John (again) called into households in Lawrence Road and Sunground and found unanimous support, raising a petition with 60 signatures for the CDC planning committee to consider when they debated the application. It was also good for the PC as there is a (false) perception that we forget about residents in the north of the village, and some good conversations were had on the doorstep. We lost (as we realistically expected to) the debate by 6 votes to 4 on the day, but things have taken a genuinely concerning twist subsequently. Following an exchange of emails Cllr. King received this response from Joe Harris, the head of CDC: *'petitions and local strength of feeling hold no weight in planning law which I've learnt over the years is extremely frustrating as it quite often gives residents false hope that they can influence or overturn a planning decision when in reality solid material planning considerations are what's needed'*. This confirms the opinion held by some that whatever the PC or other local people say constructively about a development, it is ignored in favour of the developer. We are of course taking this much further and will be working with other district and county councillors to ensure the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) interpretation by CDC does not exclude local considerations.



The Bear Hunt was a great success, and the lovely weather ensured the Teddy bears could enjoy their picnics, although mama bear did overheat a little. Well done to Stephanie Luff and her team for raising over £700 over the weekend.

I have been told that this year's fete has unfortunately had to be cancelled and we'll have to wait for June 13th 2021 for the next one. This is a great shame as it is always one of the highlights of the village calendar. Without a PC-sponsored village AGM event this year we had hoped to join with the fete to announce the Villager of the Year, but will need to find another way to do this. But now is the time to nominate someone that you feel has made a big difference in Avening the last year – this can be someone in a paid job or a voluntary

position; perhaps a carer; an emergency worker; or a neighbour. I am sure we will have a difficult job to choose a winner, as so many people have excelled in the community this year. As always there are three categories: - Adult; Student (12-21 years of age); and Junior (up to age 11).

Please let me, the clerk, or any councillor have your nominations by Friday 28th August, and we'll announce the winners after the PC meeting in September.

**Tony Slater – email: chair@avening-pc.gov.uk: Web: www.avening-pc.gov.uk
For assistance contact Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk or call 07415 039234**

ZIPWIRE Crowdfunder - Final Position

A huge thank you to everyone who supported the crowdfunder for a new zipwire!

We raised just over £3,000 which was a fantastic effort; achieved through the publicity given by all organisations in the village and generosity of 185 supporters. If anyone still wishes to donate to the zipwire fund, please contact me or the Parish Council Clerk.

Our goal was to finish in the top 22 finalists on the Calor leaderboard to be in with a chance of a grant. In the last day of the crowdfunder campaign we moved from 24th to 21st place! Truly amazing support! All projects are now subject to due diligence checks – finalists and winners to be announced in August – so fingers crossed!

John Hetterley (Tel: 07729 637411)

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Avening and Cherington Churches



Public Worship is Back

Our first service since lockdown prevented public worship was on 12th July at Cherington Church when some 30 adults and 8 young people met in the churchyard for a service in which the good was celebrated and the concerns were a focus of prayer, including delightful contributions from Albie and Kitty. Although singing is still not permitted there was recorded music from the Avening Angels, Claudia Ungar and Rachel Mapp, a sixth former and an Avening organist. At Avening on the following Sunday the rain cleared and the sun appeared just in time for us to hold the service in the churchyard: many of those present commented positively on this.

For the time being there will be services every Sunday at 10.00am – 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at Avening, 2nd and 4th at Cherington. It would be good to see you but it is equally understood that you may prefer not to be there at present. We will be taking sensible precautions against the spread of virus: this includes members of the congregation not receiving the wine and receiving the wafer only if they feel comfortable in doing so: physical distancing also.

The online services will continue and may be found at: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/ and www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14319/

For the time being our churches will be open for private prayer at these times:

Avening: Wednesdays 2.00 to 3.30 pm
Cherington: Wednesdays 10.00 to 12.00 am

The Coming Months

It is becoming increasingly clear that the impact of the virus is far from over and there are going to be significant impacts on many of us over the next few weeks and months including loss of employment, reduced incomes and the stresses associated with changed circumstances and relationships. If there is anything you think the church may be able to do for you – even 'just' a listening ear – please don't hesitate to contact us.

Ladders

One of the Sunday bible readings recently was the story of Jacob. Wearied at the end of a day of travel, the sun had gone down, the day was over, all he wanted was a decent night's sleep even if his pillow did have to be a stone. That unlikely scenario turned out to be a moment of great revelation for him. He dreams of a ladder from heaven down to earth with angels enabling him to communicate between those two worlds. Later he says to himself: the Lord is in this place and I did not realise it.

One aspect of the idea of heaven is surely that of the very highest aspirations and values that we humans can imagine plus even more after that: a source of inspiration, motivation and energy. Where do each of us see the ladder that links our world to that world - a church building, the beauty of fields and hills, on a mountain or a sunset, in particular people, in challenging situations, when we are at a low point? Some may find, with Jacob, that the ladder appears when least expected and we can say, with him, God is here and I had not realised it.

You may be thinking, no – I never see ladders between heaven and earth, my life is far too ordinary to have great dramatic spiritual experiences, I just get on with the task of living as best I can. Isn't there a sense in which every moment of our consciousness is a spiritual event, a precious gift, one which we have made no effort to receive but which is beyond all value? Isn't there a sense in which every time we pause to think how best to cope with a challenge or how best to support someone else in need, then we are using that ladder? Isn't there a sense in which every time we say thank you or say sorry, those 'angels' are coming down to urge us on and taking our sentiments back up the ladder? Our God is not enclosed within a church building or anywhere else but is in all and through all, always there with a metaphorical ladder for each of us.

Gerald South, 01453 883456 gp.south@btopenworld.com

Forthcoming Services:

2 nd August	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
9 th August	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
16 th August	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
23 rd August	10.00 am	tba	Cherington Church
30 th August	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church

Compline Service

Wednesday evenings

if you would like to join in a Celtic type Compline service at 7.30 pm on Wednesday evenings please email derrickcompline@gmail.com. the link to the service will be sent to you with a copy of the service sheet

This is a short service, lasting only about 15 to 20 minutes; and is a chance for quiet prayer and contemplation.

ALL ARE WELCOME

Farm Life



In last month's column I mentioned that we were struggling to make enough fodder for the winter months due to the low yields of grass for hay and silage. Although not much has changed in terms of low yields, we have had a brief dry spell to be able to make some round hay bales.

Haymaking is one of my most favourite times of the year. Although our workload increases dramatically, there is something very satisfying looking at the hay stacked in the barn ready to be fed to the cattle during the cold winter months. Each bale trapping a little bit of summer in it.

Even in my lifetime the way we make hay has changed drastically. I'm sure some of you reading this will have at some point been dragged up to the hay fields to help my grandfather Archie with a promise of occasionally driving the tractor as a form of payment! Needless to say, health and safety didn't take the form it does now!



My grandfather, Archie, stood next to a recently built hay rick in his Sunday best - late 1940s

In my grandfather's childhood the only form of feed preservation was hay. Grass was cut and collected to make large stacks called hay ricks and cut out in chunks using a very large knife to put into the back of the horse cart to feed to the cows. Later this progressed to small square bales with two strings and this is what most people think of haymaking. To prevent dew getting into the bales, they were stacked into eights in the field by hand. The bales were then lifted onto the trailer and transported to the numerous small hay barns dotted around the farm. This is the method of haymaking that I can remember as a child. Most of the family was asked to come and lend a hand, along with anyone willing, or not so willing, to help! Haymaking used to be a family occasion, often with a picnic brought up to the fields for lunch and tea or if you were lucky, someone would go to the fish and chip shop! Back then we used to make over 6,000 small bales, each lifted on to the trailer, off the trailer, into the barn and then once more out of the barn to be fed, all by hand!

It wasn't until the early 2000's that the farm was mechanised with a front loader fitted to the tractor that had the ability to grab the small bales from the floor and lift them into a stack in the barn. Currently we predominantly make round bales where I can clear a field in a morning, compared to the week it would have taken in the past. I don't think I can count how many times I have been told how easy haymaking is now compared to then!

We now make our winter fodder in two forms, hay and silage. Hay, as I'm sure you know, is dried grass sometimes containing herbs and wild flowers which takes between 4 to 6 days (depending on the weather) to dry. Silage is 'preserved', this is done by cutting and

bailing within 2 days and then wrapping the bales in black plastic (which we later send away to be recycled). This plastic allows the bale to pickle rather than decompose due to its anaerobic conditions, meaning 'without air'. The benefit of feeding silage over hay is that most of the natural sugars and water is still present in the grass stem. Therefore, the nutritional content is significantly higher. The down side of silage is that it can only be fed to more mature cattle as calves do not have the full ability to deal with the high acidity content of the pickled grass. This means that we have to make enough hay to feed our younger stock as well. Each year we also make 1000 small square hay bales for our horse owner customers.



Field/grass selection is also important to the type of fodder we make. Each field has a different make up of grasses and therefore dictates what hay or silage we make

from them. We use our old permanent pastures that are rich with herbs and old English grass varieties such as Cocksfoot and Timothy to make our hay bales for the younger calves and horse hay customers. We are fortunate to have the ability this year of making our silage from grass and clover grown from seed which was planted in the spring. Although this new ley (temporary grass) does not have the biodiversity of our permanent pastures which have been established for over 50 years, the silage made from it will provide an invaluable energy source for our cattle to maintain and improve their body condition throughout the winter.

Sam Powell

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Gerald South M.A. Ph.D.

Unfortunately we are still unable to hold our meetings at the present time but we are keeping our eyes on the current guidance to see when and how we could possibly restart. With 40 members it is not viable at the moment to arrange anything safely, but we are looking forward to the future and are booking speakers for next year. In the meantime we are being kept up to date with all things WI related by our marvellous secretary, Soo, and wonderful newsletter editor, Bridget.



Several members have been enjoying the garden coffee mornings being arranged by the Avening Community Café for some much needed social interaction. The photo shows Jennie, Ina and Shirley having a coffee and catch up in Minchinhampton. There have also been some excellent on-line events promoted by the WI Wanderers Facebook group that some members have been able to enjoy, including art classes, cook along sessions, theatre presentations, virtual garden visits, quizzes and speakers

on a variety of topics.

We do have a very exciting event to look forward to in the future, as HRH the Princess Royal has invited Avening WI to hold a meeting at Gatcombe Park to celebrate our 90th year.

We **will** all meet again, but we are just not sure when!

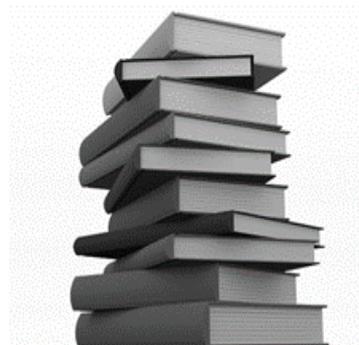
Helen Haiselden

Sandford Trust

Small grants are available from the Sandford Trust, a charity for local young people going on to university or work based training. I would welcome applications from anyone living in the parish of Avening, on or before 11th September, after which the annual distribution of funds will be made.

Applications should be made in writing by the claimant to:

Mrs Kelly Wilkinson
Larch House
Pound Hill
Avening
Gloucestershire
GL8 8LZ



Down Memory Lane



Many thanks to Hazel Redding for this photo from Nailsworth Archives of a WI presentation in 1950

Letter to the Editors

I am writing to say how much I enjoy reading the Villager every month. Now I am most interested in "This Farming Life" by Sam Powell. It takes me back to my school days at Avening when Archie, Gerald and Gay Powell were contemporaries of mine, also Edna Best, Archie's wife. They all worked very hard building up the farm to what it is today. My late friend, Barbara, often spoke of 'The Plum Patch';, is that part of Court Farm?

Now for a personal story: it was Gerald Powell who discovered me lying in the snow outside my back door (in Rectory Lane) when he was delivering the milk. My husband (the man from the Pru) was inside doing his accounts and listening to the wireless, Terry Wogan and Ken Bruce and he couldn't hear me calling, I couldn't move I had fractured my leg in two places (Tib. & Fib.) so with Basil alerted I was made comfortable until the Doctor came and then the Ambulance, (I was about 28) and taken to Gloucester Hospital where there were huts remaining from the war years – when I woke in the morning the inside walls were covered in long icicles.

Sylvia Fletcher

Puzzle Corner

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

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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.

Answers on page 34

1		2		3			4	5		6		7
					8							
9								10				
11					12							
				13								
	14	15					16					
17						18						19
20									21	22		
								23				
24						25						
26							27					

Puzzlechoice.com

Across

1. Ploy (6)
4. Requiring secret knowledge (6)
9. Disapproves (7)
10. Angry (5)
11. Land measure (4)
12. Perplexing (8)
14. Disney cartoon character (5)
16. Mournful poem (5)
20. Scorn (8)
21. Fencing sword (4)
24. Female relative (5)
25. Pills (7)
26. Unmarried (6)
27. Precious stones (6)

Down

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Worldwide (6) | 7. Come out into view (6) | 18. Catches sight of (5) |
| 2. US military officer (5) | 8. Ordinary (5) | 19. Creatures (6) |
| 3. Unit of length (4) | 13. Celestial (8) | 22. Fragment (5) |
| 5. Precipitation (8) | 15. Lamp (7) | 23. Woodwind instrument (4) |
| 6. Astounding (7) | 17. Parts of a play (6) | |



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My Borneo 2021 Adventure

Benedict Garlick, age 15



In July 2021 I will be travelling to Malaysian Borneo, with Malmesbury School and the organisation Global Action, to work with several charities after my GCSEs: the Sepilok Orangutan Rehabilitation Centre, the Bornean Sun Bear Conservation Centre and the Rainforest Discovery Centre. These charities do vital work caring for animals displaced and injured due to the effects of the massive new palm oil plantations

which are savaging the rainforests and ruining the ecosystem. I will be working with them to assist in their research and learn for myself about the delicate balance of our natural resources. My aim is to become a vet and this trip of a lifetime will allow me to have some incredible access to caring for different animals and studying new environments.

Our team are also running bake sales, car boot sales and quizzes. The whole trip costs £3,500 and there will be additional expenses of specialist clothing. A large proportion of this goes to the charities themselves – it is not all holiday costs

Paws against Palms

I am making and selling Palm-Oil-free personalised dog biscuits. "Paws Against Palms" These are dog biscuits with your dog's name or nickname on, made with sustainable palm oil peanut butter. The Loose, plastic free shop in Stroud have very generously supplied me with jars, (but we always need more! Drop off at 12, High Street) and some of the ingredients.

Gift jar of 20 biscuits £5, small jar of 12 biscuits £3: up to 3 different names

Packet of 10 biscuits £2, packet of 5 biscuits £1: one name

My mother is managing the orders, please contact Dorcas on 07881360007, dorcagarlick@btinternet.com (Thanks Mum!)

Payment can be made with cash when I deliver or you can pay by donating on my go Fund me page, the minimum this will accept is £5 (mine is the one with the Borneo picture above). Once on the Go fund me website, use the search icon to look for the Avening projects.

I look forward to making treats for all your good boys and gorgeous girls soon.



Benedict.

The Joy of Birds

(Whose presence, in my garden, and on my bird tables has kept me endlessly entertained and entranced during isolation in lockdown).

Birdsong fills my garden with fluttering of wings,
Beginning at first flush of dawn, when my sweet blackbird sings,
Each day I scatter seed, and grain, and nuts and biscuit crumbs,
Then watch with joy to see the many birds who flock to come.
The gold-eyed blackbird picks out treats to take back to his nest,
The mistlethrush and songthrush with softly dappled breast;
And tiny acrobatic tits of every shape and kind,
Happy to share with everyone whatever food they find;
But spotted sharp-billed starlings all squabble as they feed,
And push, and shove, and peck, and squeal – a rude ill-mannered breed!
I see a dapper nuthatch too, a sparrow, and a dove,
Chaffinch, bullfinch, greenfinch – but most of all I love
My family of robins, proud parents, trim and neat,
With three tiny, speckled balls of fluff, who jostle round my feet!
So bold, so brave, so cheeky! Their stout hearts know no fear,
And I watch them growing day-by-day, and hold them very dear.
Across the fields and echo of a distant cuckoo rings,
Where swallows swoop, and skylarks spill their notes upon the wing.
Woodpeckers drill in tall, old trees, and out across the vale.
I hear, borne on the gentle breeze, a laughing yaffingale....
At last the daylight dims its eyes, and shadows deepen, where
A speckled thrush with sweetest notes sings out my evening prayer.

Gillian Bulmer-Davison



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Avening Community Cafe

As the new picture on the café Facebook profile page says 'We're Staying Together' and this has been our focus during lockdown, during the gradual unlocking and now as we start to look ahead to what we might need to have in place over the next few months. We plan to continue the weekly Garden Coffee Breaks, started in early June, while we can. There have been 53 such happy gatherings so far! A hundred people have taken part at least once.



Huge thanks go to the hosts – 20 to date – for their hospitality, and of course to all the guests – we needed you all to make this such fun. There have been many renewed acquaintances, shared memories, local history stories, gardening tips, garden tours and a lot of laughter. People have said how much they have enjoyed meeting new people too.

There have been other unexpected positives. On a Tuesday morning, with around thirty or so people moving to and fro to their 'garden venue' at about the same time (that is a lot at once for Avening!) there are numerous chance encounters and passing conversations and even further invitations made. There have been guests and hosts from Avening, Nags Head and Cherington bringing our communities together. We have had some first-time hosts in the mix each week and continue to include some 'newcomers' each week too. We can't invite you to our usual home at the Social Club in the foreseeable future, but we are still very much open to all. The organisation is a challenge, but we will continue to do our best with your help. Please get in touch with Jennie if you would like to host a garden coffee break or would like an 'invitation'.

A Café Social Gardening Invitation from Peter Barton

Summer is in full swing and the flowers are blooming and so unfortunately are the weeds! It's a full-time job keeping our gardens tidy and the school garden is no exception. During the summer holidays a handful of stalwart volunteers have in recent summers spent time ensuring that this wonderful outdoor resource does not get overgrown and is ready for use by the children on their return to school in September.

The Community Cafe would like to extend this idea by having small teams of gardeners working together for short sessions during August incorporating a coffee, cookie or cake break to make it a more social experience. We could initially bring our own coffee to be Covid secure, but I will also bring a large flask and cakes will be provided. Diane and Michael Metcalfe have been involved before and are meeting with Deb Carter, from the school, and myself to see what work needs doing.

If you think you could spare an hour or two during August and you like the idea of sharing a coffee with old friends or making new ones whilst helping the school then please get in touch on 07967441792 or email pbarton354@gmail.com for more information.

Green fingers are not a requirement, but enthusiasm and a sense of humour will help but if you are still not sure, just remember...there will be cake! Hoping to see you soon.

Community Café 'Art in an Avening Garden'

10am til noon on Tuesdays 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th August: We can offer this block of 4 sessions at a total cost of £10 – this greatly reduced rate is thanks to a grant from Cotswold District Council. Numbers are limited so you will need to book (contact details below). Mark Kelland, our regular café art tutor invites you to try out your creative impulse in this series of art workshops. Subjects will include, drawing trees and find yourself in a self-portrait. All tuition and materials included, and physical distancing will be in place. If you would like to socialise with art in an Avening garden and discover an old or new talent, please get in touch.

The café committee are already planning for future possibilities once 'outdoors' is not such an attractive option. We would love to have ideas and suggestions from you so do get in touch.

Jennie South 01453 883456 jennie.south@btopenworld.com

Jim Townsend's 90th Birthday



Jim visited Pete and Maura Barton's garden on Tuesday July 21st for an early birthday coffee and cake. He will be 90 on July 24th so it was an opportunity to congratulate him and give him an early (socially distanced) garden coffee party.

In attendance were (left to right) Gill Adams, Maura Barton, Derek Ind, Jim Townsend, Eric Best and Pete Barton.

Hope you have a lovely day on the 24th Jim and best wishes from all your friends.



Avening School

There will be no item from the school this month, but there will be an article for the September edition.

Alex Adcock

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

Have Briefcase, Will Travel

Having spent over 45 years in the commercial fire equipment business working for USA, German and British companies travelling all over the world (37 countries on four continents) I have found that strange things can and do happen, so I thought it might be interesting to share some of these experiences with you.

The year is 1998, the place Hong Kong and China. I was visiting a Chinese supplier of fire detection devices based in Hong Kong who had a manufacturing plant in Tonghuzhen, a small town some 70 miles north of the Hong Kong border.

I had requested a visit to the factory so on the appointed day I and my two colleagues, the company owner, K W Chan, and his general manager, Malaysian Phillip Sia, crossed the border into communist China, a nervous experience as the border guards did not smile but just looked evil. Having got into mainland China I found myself in a large square in the city of Shenzhen where I was asked to stay while they arranged the taxi because if the driver saw a European the price would double. I noticed a stall selling small white dogs, which Phillip told me were sold to be eaten! Welcome to China.

The journey took about an hour and a half mainly on an empty motorway until we got to Tonghuzhen, which seemed like a Wild West town with raised board walks. Every shop had a television working so that customers could follow what was on, as at that time televisions for most people were still rare.

On arriving at the factory the driver honked the horn and two gates swung open to show a large enclosed courtyard and I noticed both guards had automatic rifles, which quickly indicated that I was more or less in a frontier town. The factory was like a Victorian cotton mill built in red brick with four floors. I was taken up to the first floor where the owner had a live-in suite to very high standards.

Then we started the factory tour. We entered a production line with about 150 young women dressed in a uniform of skirt, blouse and head scarf; usually a shade of pink but some girls wore a blue head scarf and it was explained they were senior operators who covered for girls doing jobs that would stop the line if they went to the toilet (the given time for this was three minutes!). No talking was allowed, so it was a very strange atmosphere to work in - over seen by a reject from the Gestapo, a Hong Kong Chinese lady who ran a very tight ship.

Then I made my first mistake; when walking along the production line I stood next to a girl carrying out an important production procedure for several minutes and I heard afterwards that because the honoured visitor had stood next to her for some time it was seen as a selection by me and the girl would have to be promoted.

Suddenly, a whistle was blown and all the girls rushed out to the canteen and as soon as they were in there the noise erupted with a huge chatter as they released all their frustration at not being able to speak. We then had some lunch in the owner's quarters where I asked if I could look at one of the other manufacturing floors, so off I went to the third floor where there was only about 40 young women. The floor manager, again Hong Kong Chinese, said she was very honoured I chose to come to her floor and it was then I realised they were all staring at me. Phillip had said that they would not look at me as the

Western evil eye might get them, so why were these girls staring at me? I was astounded to learn these girls had come from over a thousand miles away in the North two weeks before and I was the very first western person they had seen in the flesh; a very Dr Livingstone moment.

I finally went into the store area as I wanted to see how certain components were kept and found a young woman picking up large handfuls of radioactive sensing devices - individually not a problem. as they rated as very low devices. but with a handful of maybe 30 devices the situation changed. I was staggered and asked why this was done and I was told they had never had a problem, so it was a good job Health & Safety did not make visits.

On leaving the plant to return to Hong Kong I realised that the culture and work practices of mainland China at that time were very different to ours and staff were treated like robots with very little freedom. Also, I learnt that their fathers signed them on for two years in a factory and that 50% of their monthly wage was sent back to their family to help the men in their family to make good marriages.

On the way back we passed through a town called Lilinzen where I witnessed a near-fatal accident as a 8-wheel truck lost control and smashed into a parked bus, but what amazed me was the indifference of the people in the town. I was very glad to return to Hong Kong, a place I understood.



David Bendall

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Avening Playgroup

Well, we have finally made it to the end of term and what an unusual term it has been. It is always sad at the end of the summer term as we have to say goodbye to those children who will be starting school in September and we wish them all the best as they start their new adventure and hope they all enjoy their time at school. I know many of them are already really excited about going to school.

Over the past few weeks we have been looking at:

- Ourselves and our feelings
- Life cycles of butterflies and frogs
- Numbers from 1 to 5
- Traditional stories

We have coloured in lots of caterpillars, butterflies and have enjoyed reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. The children also produced some lovely caterpillars and have also looked at the lifecycle of a ladybird.

'The 3 Billy Goats Gruff' was particularly popular during our story week. We have been talking about what happens in the stories and the children have been answering questions about the characters, places and what is happening. They have also been completing the sentences as I read them.

I have continued to email all the families not currently attending the playgroup, on a weekly basis and have been informing them which activities we have been doing in the setting so that they can do something similar at home, if they wish. Once again, I have had some lovely photos sent to me, particularly another alien. Thank you very much for all of those. They brought a big smile to my face.



I must say a very big thank you to Olivia for stepping in at such short notice so that we could open for the final five weeks of the term. The children have really enjoyed having her here and we wish her all the best in her new career.

It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that Sarah has decided to resign from her role as Early Years Assistant at the end of August. This was a very difficult decision for her to make but with the uncertainty of whether she would be able to return in September, with social distancing still in place, Sarah felt she needed to make the decision now to allow time for the playgroup to recruit a new member of staff. Sarah has been working at the playgroup for fifteen years and will miss working with the staff, children and their

families. I know we will all miss her, too and wish her lots of happiness for the future. Hope you all have a lovely summer and look forward to welcoming the children back at playgroup on Thursday 3rd September.

If you would like any more information about our playgroup or to reserve a place for your child, please email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com

Angie Heslop



**Early Years Assistant required, 15 – 20 hours per week
for term time only**



Start date - September 2020.

Avening Playgroup is a community led preschool. We are looking for an enthusiastic, fun loving and caring team member to join us. The successful candidate must be dedicated to delivering outstanding provision, have a minimum level 2 Early Years qualification as well as certificates in both child protection and first aid. Candidates will have a clear understanding of the EYFS, and have a positive approach and dedication to the role.

For more information or to request a job description and application form please contact Naomi on aveningplaygroup@gmail.com

Closing date for applications: August 8th 2020

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.

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The Fountain

... a letter from the heart of Cherington where we live, overlooking the village Green and the Fountain.



As ideal a place as any in England to spend the Coronavirus Lockdown in 2020. We stayed at home: cars stayed at home, so with no traffic rushing through, birdsong greeted you setting out on your daily walk. Around the Green - you could hail your neighbours, exercising and walking dogs – pass the time of day; our world had shrunk, time seemed suddenly so much more precious and so did those living close by. “All well with you?” Blessed with sunshine through most of April and May, I would set out with watering can to sustain my smallest piece of garden, the planting of hebes in the stone fountain trough. Before long the house martins returned, winging it from afar through skies now clear of vapour trails and were nesting once again in the porch roof of the Village Hall – all was well.

‘Let Him that is athirst Come’ - is the inscription on the Fountain - though no longer providing water to quench the travellers’ thirst, whole families would now stop, lay down their bikes, settle around the Fountain and drink from their flasks, or sit animatedly chatting on the seat beneath the birch tree (beside two other historical monuments, the Village Hall and the Telephone Box). Other colourfully clad cyclists would speed around the Green, their voices echoing up into our garden so that, despite the silenced traffic noise and isolation you felt glad to know there were plenty of folk enjoying a sense of exhilarated freedom.

The Fountain, (often referred to as the Village Pump) was provided by Elizabeth Mary George, mother of Constance and Gertrude, in 1875. The Cherington estate was purchased by Mr. Ted Tarlton from the Misses George in 1935. He installed a pump which would gravity feed the main houses in the village, the farms and the Fountain on the Green, with water from an underground stream near the Lake via the water tower next to Cherington Park.

All the folk who lived in the cottages in Cherington drew their water from the tap on the Green for nearly a century. (History doesn’t record how they managed before that – carrying water up from the Lake?) People brought their buckets to be filled and wooden yokes enabled two full buckets to be carried home at once – a busy spot on Sunday evenings when water was collected in



readiness for the Monday wash.

Mains water was laid to the cottages and completed by 1951. Electric power came in 1954: bathrooms and kitchens were built on to cottages in the 1960s.

The installation of utilities in village houses post WW2 were life-changing. The memories of these effects on inhabitants in a village so similar to where I was raised were the inspiration for the Cherington Book, which we hope to re-print for the third time, twenty years on, to include an updated chapter .

So watch this space.

P.S. THE CHERINGTON BOOK OF PHOTOGRAPHS was compiled from a large collection of photographs assembled to illustrate our book 'CHERINGTON - a century of change in a Cotswold village', published to mark the Millennium and at the Show that year we had a display focusing on weddings over the years. All the photographs were reproduced to be collected in a beautiful leather bound volume, usually on display in the church during the Cherington Show.

Please contact Liz Workman at liz@theworkmans.co.uk if you would like to look through this book of historical photographs.



Liz Workman

British Legion Poppy Appeal



Because of the on-going coronavirus situation and to ensure the safety of both the collectors and the general public the Royal British Legion have decided that the Paper poppies will only be on sale this year at their partner outlets e.g. the supermarkets. There will be no door to door collections; however, if you would like to lay a wreath on Remembrance Sunday at the millennium cross in the churchyard, I will be ordering these very soon and do need to know as soon as possible your requirements (The recommended donation for these is £20 each). Alternatively, if you would like to make a donation to the Royal British Legion then please let me know and I will

forward details to you.

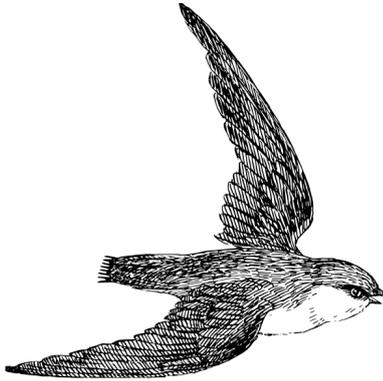
Many thanks for your support over previous years.

Derrick Pierce

email derrick.pierce@hotmail.com Tel 0153 835090 or mobile 07762 702982

Wild About Avening

This is my last monthly wildlife update due to work commitments but I hope to keep a quarterly wildlife update going. So, this month I'm going to end where I started with the Avening swifts. I can't help myself, they truly are an incredible addition to our village every summer.



The lifecycle of these birds is wonderful. Many birds struggle to hatch their eggs in times of bad weather when natural food sources are scarce. But not the swift! Their eggs can survive being chilled at any stage of development meaning the eggs survive even if the adults have to spend more time off the nest in order to feed. Once they do hatch the young are fed by the parents for around 6 weeks. From around 3 weeks old the young start getting ready to fly, building up their flight muscles by doing little 'press ups' on their wing tips. Within a few days of leaving the nest they will start their flight to Africa and the skies over the village become quieter. It doesn't come as any surprise that the collective noun for swifts is a 'scream'! Their long migration takes them through France and Spain to the south of Sahara where they follow the rains that will bring the emergence of the insects they rely on for food.

I will be keeping the **Wild about Avening Facebook page** going so please do follow us and let us know of anything you spot or would like help identifying. I would also be interested if people could let me know if they have spotted any Greenfinches in their gardens recently. These lovely little birds have really suffered recently due to a parasite which causes 'canker' but a few were recorded during the Big Avening Wildlife Watch and it would be lovely to think we might see an increase in their numbers soon. Don't forget to keep your bird feeders and bird baths clean to help reduce the risk of any disease to your visiting birds.

We are thinking of putting on some wildlife walks next year when things are hopefully back to some sort of 'normal'. Hopefully there will be some interest in taking part.

Avening Community Orchard



The orchard project is picking up a bit of speed. I have made contact with some helpful orchard owners who are going to come and give us some advice on how best to care for the fruit trees. I am working on an Orchard Management Plan and I am looking at funding avenues. I have been given a lovely donation to get us started and I am truly grateful for this incredible generosity. We also now have a wonderful logo that I hope you will agree captures the spirit of our Community Orchard. Huge thanks to Paul Sanders for this wonderful logo and for generously donating his time and skills to help us out. Please check out Paul's website www.wordtinmedia.com.

Until my next update, please keep caring for our village's wonderful wildlife. We are

so lucky to live in such an incredible part of the world where we still have lots of greenspace and wildlife. The natural world is under so many pressures from us that any little thing we can do to help really does make a difference.

Phoebe Carter

Nature

Thank goodness, in the midst of this turbulent and uncertain world, there is at least something that gives us a sense of the stability and normality we so desperately need. I'm talking about the world of nature in its widest sense. I know we complain bitterly about the unseasonal weather we've been having - high winds, lashing rain and not at all what we expect at this time of year. But, on the plus side, how many of us have remarked on the amazing display of roses in our gardens even though some of them did eventually get blown to bits in the storms. And - what about the amount of butterflies - not just the normal, run of the



mill Red Admirals, Tortoiseshells and Peacocks but the brilliant Holly Blue and the tiny Cotswold Blue not forgetting the less colourful orange/brown Fritillaries. the Marbled White, the Comma with its jagged wings and many more. Because I've left bits of the garden wild, they've benefited not only the butterflies but also a variety of extremely busy bees intent on extracting whatever goodness they can find.

Which brings me to the lovely article by Sam Powell in July's Villager. I know the cattle he's talking about because when I walk the dogs they all come over to say hello with their great big beautiful eyes and their long eyelashes. With their chins resting on the fence they give out a sense of calm and peacefulness and remind me of a lovely book called "The Secret Life of Cows". All you ever need or want to know is in that book - although it's probably not everybody's bedtime reading!

How lucky we are to be living in an area with wildflower meadows, hedgerows full of blossom and birdsong, clear starry nights and, just recently, the most amazing full moon. Of course nature has its sad side, particularly in late Spring/Summer when the birds are building nests and rearing their young. These industrious little people, singing their hearts out and flying backwards and forwards to feed their babies, suddenly find their nests have been raided, demolished and are no more. I witnessed a magpie doing just that a few weeks ago and found it extremely upsetting.

But nature is, thank goodness, very resilient as indeed must we all be in these strange, uncertain times.

Ann Tarlton

Avening Church Fete

It is with great disappointment that, unsurprisingly we have had to make the decision to cancel this year's Fete in September. Obviously we didn't make the decision lightly as we are aware of the financial implications not only for the church but the W.I and Playgroup as well as others who always support the Fete.

As everyone is aware there are just too many issues and uncertainties that come with putting on an event at the moment and obviously health issues are paramount for us all. We look forward to next year and offer thanks to all our helpers and supporters.

NEXT YEAR THE FETE WILL BE ON SUNDAY JUNE 13th

Stephanie Hamilton (Chair of the Fete committee)

The Great Exhibition

This year's title:

'LOCKDOWN'

Make a record of your life during Lockdown.
Start a new project and display the result!

Photographs, Drawings, Paintings, and Sculptures,

And in a separate category: **Time for:** something new, something you have made - a project or a new skill.

This will be a three day exhibition held in Avening Church, later this year.

Age Groups:

Children under 14 years of age:

Categories: My Family and Other Animals
Sport
Landscape.

Adults - from 14 years and older:

Categories: Humour
Sport
Capturing a Moment
Portrait of a Person or Place.

Dates: to be announced. For more information contact George Buchanan (01453 833016) or email: buchanan.pg@gmail.com



Watercolour by Norman Garrett

Dear Avening Villagers

These past four months or so have certainly been a new experience for all of us and we really hope that you have kept well and suitably busy during this time and that you have managed to keep in touch with loved ones... What an odd feeling it is to not be allowed to meet in person with groups of friends, share a meal with extended family or invite a passing neighbour in for a drink! Indeed, to have had the church doors locked to us over this period meant we could not celebrate weddings, christenings, or say goodbye to those we'd lost. Such gatherings that usually bring so many of us together!



I'm sure most of us have been inside Avening Church at some point, to celebrate, to worship, to look around, to seek some quiet solace or prayer or even perhaps just to shelter from the rain. You will therefore appreciate its welcome presence in our village. It is a beautiful, old building (almost 1,000 years old) with a fascinating history. Despite its locked doors, however, church expenses continue and must be paid, although without the regular giving from our Sunday worshippers, income from weddings, funerals etc and with our biggest fundraiser, the Fete, having been cancelled for the year, **our church is in need of your help!**

Some believe that our church is funded by a 'Head Office' somewhere, in fact, the opposite is true: our parish, along with every other parish, contributes a considerable sum to the diocese for essential work within the wider church: for leadership, for pastoral care, work with children, with the hungry, the homeless, the mentally ill... The vision of the church for mankind is broad and relies on the support of communities like ours.

From now, our church will be open for private prayer for a few hours on Wednesdays and, after all this time, Sunday services have begun again, alternating between Avening and Cherington churches, at 10am. It would be so good to see some familiar faces and new faces too! In the meantime, please will you consider helping? You might like to donate the amount you would have expected to spend at our summer fete? Or you may wish to make regular contributions? Perhaps you would be willing to commit £2 per week or £100 for a year of support? If the whole village did this it would ensure the life of the church continues to be here for us all when we need it, well into the future!

There are a number of ways you can donate, so please, if you're interested and able to do so, contact our treasurer, Ann Brick at p.brick.54@btinternet.com, or by calling Ann on: 01453 834 311.

We would very much appreciate you giving in any way you can in the way that best suits you. In the meantime we send you our very best wishes,

Elizabeth Buchanan and Liz Fuller, Churchwardens
Ann Brick, Church Treasurer



Although our Youth Club remains closed at the moment, there is some hope that it will be able to start again in some format or another before too long. Watch this space and the Facebook page for information. Isak has been working from home, and he and Willow have put some videos on Youtube. Why not take a look?

The Door have managed to raise enough money to stay open during the lockdown, some of which was due to Gerald South undertaking the '100k in May' sponsored walking. Thanks to those who sponsored him and to Gerald for all the walking.

The Door have services available via their website; please make use of them if you need to:

For parents: you can request a free call, get 10 top tips for family life in lockdown, apply for 1:1 support, there is Sandra on Youtube, and the Facebook community.

For young people: you can ask for a free call, join Alistair on Youtube, or apply for a mentor.

The Door can be contacted via their website, www.thedoor.org.uk, or @TheDoorStroud or via Facebook. Also visit the Avening Youth Club site. **Want more information?** Contact Rev Gerald South on 883456 or Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

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Avening Parish Council



The Parish Council Meeting was held via Zoom on the 15 July 2020 – The meeting was open to all residents of the Parish. Minutes will be published, but here are some of the highlights:

Community Support

Anyone with symptoms of Covid-19 can now have a test.

The mobile testing unit, previously at Oxstalls Tennis Centre in Gloucester, is now available at other locations across the county.

To book a test or for more information on testing, go to the [NHS website](#) or call 119.

Zipwire Funding

You did it! Avening managed to get on the leader board at the closing date of the Calor Gas Community Grant Fund. A huge thank you to everyone who like, shared and donated to the crowd funding page, and a special thank you to Cllr John Hetterley and his family for all their efforts to raise the profile of the new zip wire project. So far £3289 has been raised. Calor Gas will announce the overall winners on August 4th.

Planning Applications & Tree Works

19/04221/FUL Application for the building of 14 new houses at Sunground went to committee. Unfortunately, even with the submission of a petition with 60 signatures objecting to the proposed development and strong opposition from the Parish Council and District Councillor Richard Morgan, permission was given.

20/02114/TCONR Hanslo House, 3 Point Road – Reduce Yew Tree. No comments.

Decision Notices

20/01600/FUL: 20 Sandford Leaze – Insertion of rear dormer window. Permitted.

20/01857/TCONR: Rodways Place, Point Road – Remove limb on box tree, balance and trim crown. Permitted.

20/01922/TCONR: The Bannut Tree, New Inn Lane – Re-Coppice Hazel Tree. Permitted.

20/01127/FUL. Herons Mead, West End – Single storey extension and rear porch canopy. Permitted.

Potholes

Report the potholes directly to Highways on 08000 514 514 or via their website – it only takes a couple of minutes.

Agendas and Minutes can be viewed at www.avening-pc.gov.uk. The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

Cherington Parish Council

The Clerk to the Cherington Parish Council can be contacted via email:
cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Telephone scams – how you can protect yourself and others

As lockdown measures around the world ease, National Trading Standards are predicting a sharp rise in scam telephone calls in the coming weeks. Fraudsters are likely to exploit coronavirus fears and prey on vulnerable and older people self-isolating at home.



Stroud and Cotswold Citizens Advice has the following advice to help you protect yourself and people that you care for – we know that many people are concerned about relatives and friends who are not seeing people in person on a regular basis.

1. You can register your landline with the Telephone Preference Service. It's free to register and doing so will reduce the amount of unwanted sales and marketing calls you receive. It won't block all unwanted calls (it won't work on calls from abroad or companies you have already given your number to) so you will need to remain vigilant, but it'll certainly lessen the number of them. You can register another person's number if they give you permission.
2. Talk to your phone provider to see what privacy services and call-blocking services are available. These services aren't always free but are useful in ensuring any call coming through is from a trusted or known source. You could suggest that people you look after do the same.
3. Make sure you know how to spot the marks of scam and let others know about them too. .At Citizens Advice we always advise the following:
 - Be suspicious if you're contacted out of the blue, even if it's from a name you recognise
 - If it sounds too good to be true it probably is
 - Never give out your bank details unless you are certain you can trust the person contacting you
 - Don't be rushed – you never need to make a decision straight away and if you feel pressured say "no", hang up the phone, or close the door.

If someone you know receives care from the local authority and you think they might be being scammed, it's worth reporting your concerns to the Adult Safeguarding team.

If you have access to the internet you can also check if something might be a scam at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer/scams/check-if-something-might-be-a-scam/.

If you don't have access to the internet we can help you check if something is a scam. Please call us on 0808 800 0511 Monday to Friday 10am-4pm –one of our friendly advisers will be able to help you.

Dates for your Diary

tbcc	Avening Photographic Exhibition-tbc	Avening Church	
Sunday 13th September	Avening Church Fete tbc	School and Church	2.00pm

Cherington Show

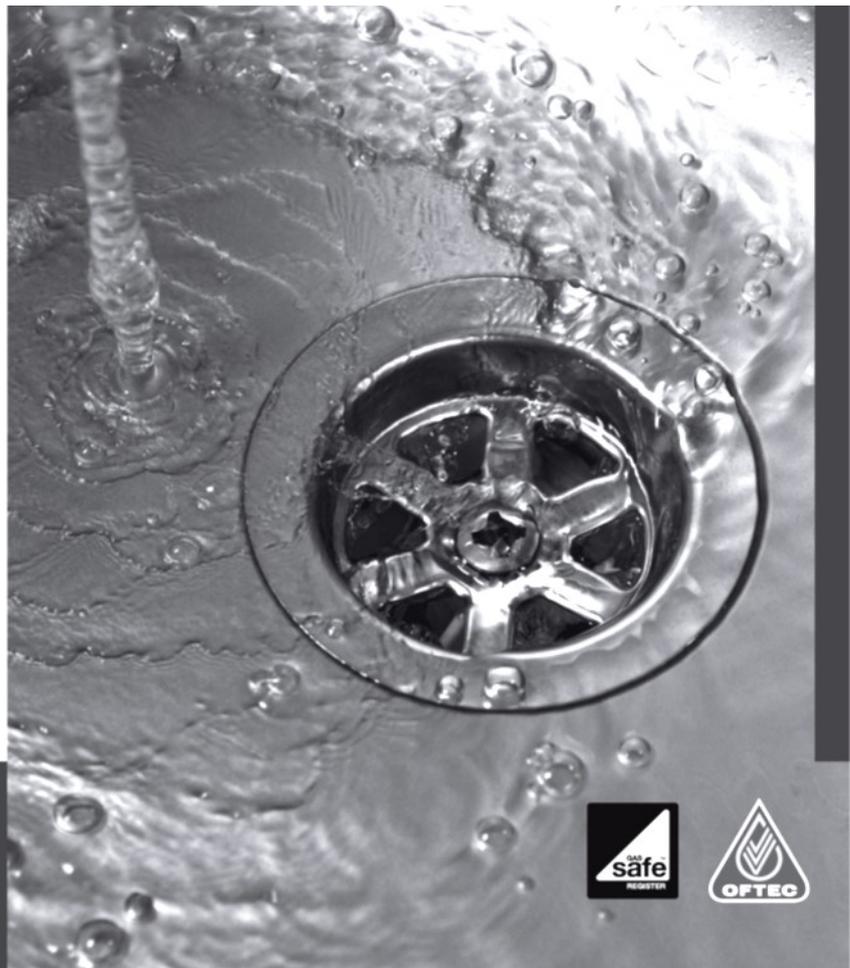
Although the committee had decided to cancel the Cherington Show, which was to have been held in July, it is hoped that an alternative fundraising community event can be held later in the year.



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Extra support and discount for all Frontline Key Workers

The team at Auto Bodytech want to say thank you to all the incredible emergency services, health and social care workers, for all your efforts to keep us safe and secure at this difficult time!

We are currently carrying out support and repairs to emergency vehicles but now expanding this to all key workers*, and anybody that may need vehicle repairs.

From immediate effect we will carry out urgent repairs, offer loan vehicles and a discount of 15% to all NHS staff on your invoice or use the equivalent funds as a donation to your local NHS trust.

We are also practising social distancing with our customers and sanitising vehicles before handover.



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In Avening and Cherington we are blessed with two beautiful old churches. These are part of the heritage of our villages and are the responsibility of all of us who value their presence and historic significance, and not just of those who are regular worshippers.

Without regular services and fundraising events such as the annual fete and show, these ancient buildings are hard to maintain.

If you would like to contribute to the upkeep of these two superb churches at the heart of our villages, please contact Ann Brick on 01453 834 311

p.brick.54@btinternet.com

