

# The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,  
Cherington and Nags Head

December 2020 & January 2021

*[editors@villagemag.online](mailto:editors@villagemag.online)*



## OPEN

Mon - Thur: 11am - 11pm  
 Fri - Sat: 11am - 11.30pm  
 Sunday: 12pm - 11pm

## LUNCH

Mon - Sat: 12pm - 2.30pm  
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# December 2020/January 2021

Welcome to the last edition of The Villager for this strangest of years. By the time we write again, let us hope that vaccinations will be underway and we can soon meet and enjoy each other's company in a more relaxed fashion.

What has been wonderful about this experience is to discover the extent of the ingenuity and kindness, which is so much in evidence in our villages. I am sure that everyone will have been surprised and touched by the arrival of a very attractive second birthday card for the Community Café, accompanied by some tea bags to make a celebratory cup of tea. What an original idea. The Noah's Ark walks are another way of keeping in touch and they help to minimise the sense of isolation and loneliness, which some people have been experiencing during the past months. On both Remembrance Sunday and on the 11th, when the school held their own ceremony of Remembrance, our villages managed to offer our own tributes in special and dignified ways, whilst abiding by the Covid rules.

We hope that you will find much to enjoy in this edition of the Villager. Not only have we articles from many familiar contributors, but you will find suggestions for Christmas presents created by our talented local artists. Christmas will be different in 2020, but not absent. Read all about the many plans being made to celebrate it in a slightly different way – and remember to send us articles and photos of any Christmas events in the villages.

Finally, may we wish all our readers a Happy Christmas and New Year.

*The Villager Editors*

## The Villager Magazine

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

**Advertising** [editors@villagemag.online](mailto:editors@villagemag.online) **PLEASE NOTE NEW EMAIL ADDRESS!**  
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**Deliveries** Cas Boddam-Whetham 01453 834834

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Read online at [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)

## Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Lisa Harwood** for this beautiful photo of Avening Water meadow.

Keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine

[editors@villagemag.online](mailto:editors@villagemag.online)

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# Regular Activities in the Villages

Items struck through are temporarily suspended.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
<del>Line Dancing</del>	<del>Monday</del>	<del>7.30-9.30pm</del>	<del>Social Club</del>	<del>Social Club 01453 833760</del>
<del>Community Cafe</del>	<del>Tuesday</del>	<del>9.00-11.30am</del>	<del>Social Club</del>	<del>Jenny South 01453 883456</del>
<del>Churchyard tidy up</del>	<del>Tuesday</del>	<del>6.00-7.00pm</del>	<del>Holy Cross churchyard</del>	<del>Rev. Gerald 01453 883456</del>
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Zoom	Richard Smith
<del>Bell Ringing</del>	<del>Tuesday</del>	<del>7.30-9.00pm</del>	<del>Church Bell Tower</del>	<del>Andrew 01453 835783</del>
<del>Line Dancing</del>	<del>Tuesday</del>	<del>8.00-10.00pm</del>	<del>Social Club</del>	<del>Social Club 01453 833760</del>
<del>Avening Youth Club</del>	<del>Every Tuesday in term time</del>	<del>6.00-7.30pm</del>	<del>Avening church</del>	<del>Rev. Gerald 01453 883456</del>
<del>Over 60s Lunch Club</del>	<del>1st Wednesday each month</del>	<del>12.30pm</del>	<del>Social Club</del>	<del>Christine 01453 833246</del>
<del>Avening Cinema Club</del>	<del>1st Thursday each month</del>	<del>7.30pm</del>	<del>Memorial Hall</del>	<del>Katy 07806 614753</del>
<del>Avening W.I.</del>	<del>2nd Thursday each month</del>	<del>7.30pm</del>	<del>Memorial Hall</del>	<del>Liz 01453 833803</del>
<del>Avening PC</del>	<del>3rd Thursday each month</del>	<del>7.30pm</del>	<del>Zoom</del>	<del>Caroline 01285 380041</del>
<del>Summer Skittles</del>	<del>Friday</del>	<del>8.00pm</del>	<del>Social club</del>	<del>Derrick Ind 01453 835752</del>
<del>Charity Quiz</del>	<del>1st Saturday each month</del>	<del>8.00pm</del>	<del>The Bell</del>	
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.30pm	Avening Church	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	Phoebe 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](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)**

**Avening Church: [www.aveningchurch.info](http://www.aveningchurch.info)**

**Cherington Parish Council: [cheringtonpc.org.uk](http://cheringtonpc.org.uk).**

**Cherington Village: [www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk](http://www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk)**

**Cotswold District Council: [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk)**

# Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



Our actions in relation to the stream and associated smoke issues have unfortunately fallen foul of our friends in Cherington. Being a very small community, their PC naturally has close relationships with the local estates, and they were disappointed they had not been asked to help resolve the situation. It was not our intention to exclude them, but it was an emergency event that needed direct action to be taken when the issues occurred. Kate Gegg from Cherington PC joined our November meeting and we agreed to let the relevant authorities conclude their investigations.

I have received the flood prevention report that I mentioned last month, and the Environment Agency will be talking to local landowners to arrange some strategic 'leaky dams' to slow the flow of water during potential flood events.

It's the time of year when we look at our income and spending priorities for the next year. One impact of the lockdown is that we haven't been able to progress either of our two main projects, while the benefit has been to restore our reserves towards the recommended sum. The downside is the Memorial Hall is now even more in need of structural works, and this will be our main priority next year. In December we will be reviewing the hall maintenance priorities, but these are likely to include a partial new roof; replacement floor; flood prevention (there have been two floods this year); refurbishment of the toilets; and refurbishment of the public kitchen. This will obviously cost a huge sum, and we can't do this from the precept alone, and probably not all in one go, but as the hall approaches its centenary, we need to ensure that she is viable for the next 100 years. It is likely that there will be an increase in what we ask households to pay via their council tax, but this will work out at less than £2 per month on a band D property. We are acutely aware that any increase is never welcome, especially now, but this is vital to secure the future of the school and be available for public bookings when these are once again allowed. I will provide all the details in the February edition. In the meantime we are still searching for additional people to join the management committee to look after the day to day running of the hall.

CDC have published their own spending consultation document – this is a radical departure from the previous balanced budget strategies, and I would encourage you to review it and leave your comments before it closes on 6<sup>th</sup> December.

The Remembrance service was a little different this year but worked very well with a socially distanced outdoor gathering. Thanks to Rev. Gerald for arranging it, and to Avening Angels for providing the recorded hymns. It had been hoped to put on another showing of the Son-et-Lumiere on the church, but the lockdown sadly put paid to that idea!

We received two significant donations this month – the first was from Shirley Hand and the Tetbury Lions who gave a donation towards the Zipwire fund in remembrance of Bert. The trustees of the football ground fund distributed the final balance of the fund and made a donation for the wider improvements to the playing field. Our sincere

thanks go to all those involved.

Martyn Hanley will unfortunately be leaving his role at Avening Court in December. He has made a big impact in the village, and specifically at Avening Court where he has been the driving force behind the recent refurbishments. Good luck for the future.

Watch out for details of the Christmas doorstep singalong provisionally booked for the 20<sup>th</sup> December. It is hoped to coincide this with Father Christmas doing his rounds of the village.

The Christmas tree will arrive in early December, and you are welcome to add as many decorations as you can spare.

The year has certainly been exceptional! Many have struggled with finances, shopping, or mental health, but when it mattered our community came together to help. My personal thanks are extended to all the friends, family and neighbours that have kept us going. To the healthcare professionals; the postie; teachers; delivery drivers; publicans; the Café committee; event organisers and contributors; and to everyone that I have inevitably not mentioned individually. Thank you!

If we all continue with sensible precautions there is light at the end of the tunnel, and hopefully 2021 will be a better year! Stay safe.

On behalf of the PC I wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

***Tony Slater – email: [chair@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chair@avening-pc.gov.uk): Web: [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)  
For Covid assistance contact [Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk) or call 07415 039234***

## **The Friends of Tetbury Hospital Cook Book**

Anyone involved in fund-raising will know that 2020 has been a pretty disastrous year. All planned events have been cancelled, so two of us on the Fund-Raising Committee decided to compile a collection of recipes in aid of Tetbury Hospital. For the last three months we've had the not unpleasant task of going through some really mouth-watering recipes given to us by kind friends and colleagues: so many, in fact, that very sadly it's been impossible to include them all in the book. And to bring a smile to your face, you'll see some of Oliver Preston's cartoons featuring in the book.

Warming, flavoursome soups, tasty meat and fish dishes, really yummy puddings, a large section on vegetables and salads, cakes and biscuits and to finish it off a chapter on drinks and cordials will all, I think, cater for a good cross-section of dishes and individual tastes so the book really has something for everyone to experiment with new recipes.

It's selling at £12.00 a copy with all proceeds going to Tetbury Hospital and for the first three Saturdays in December you will find us in a gazebo behind the Market Hall in Tetbury or you can email me [annietarlton@gmail.com](mailto:annietarlton@gmail.com) or contact the Hospital on [www.friendsoftetburyhospital.co.uk](http://www.friendsoftetburyhospital.co.uk). Payment, at the moment, is by cheque made out to Friends of Tetbury Hospital or by cash but we hope to set up a direct debit line in due course and will put that up on our website.

***Ann Tarlton***

# Avening and Cherington Churches



## Keeping up to date

The arrangements for services and other aspects of our churches will be kept up to date on our churchnearyou websites: these are:

Avening: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/)

Cherington: [www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14319/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14319/)

Please especially be aware that the arrangements for Christmas etc. as below may change in the light of Covid restrictions.

## Remembrance 2020 at Avening Church

This year we could not gather in the church as usual but the service was held in the churchyard with the millennium cross as a focal point and with the laying of wreaths around the cross.

On 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am the pupils of Avening School also gathered around the cross following their Remembrance assembly in school. They had written the names of those to be remembered on wooden crosses and placed these around the cross. The next generation are aware of the horrors of war and will be anxious to promote peace.



There could be no house-to-house collection for the British Legion this year but Derrick Pierce provided a 'poppies etc. shop' prior to some services and is pleased with the response – thank you to all those who contributed.

## Current services at Avening and Cherington

During the current lockdown online services continue, using the recordings of local people to read and lead prayers, together with musical inputs, including those from the Avening Angels and our talented young organist, Rachel Mapp: we are most grateful to them all. These are on our churchnearyou websites (above).

## Christmas Services at Avening and Cherington

At the time of writing we are assuming that the Covid restrictions will apply much as they did between the two lockdowns. The arrangements below are dependent on this: should the situation change please check on the churchnearyou websites listed above.

Unfortunately the numbers attending indoor services must be limited to allow appropriate physical distancing between those present. ***We are sorry that you need to book in advance for some of the services: the church is likely to be full if you arrive without booking as below.***

We can listen to some carols even if we cannot sing them. Face coverings will be needed at all indoor services.

## Christmas Services

### Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December

**The Cherington Nine Lessons and Carols Service Watch Party:** on Zoom (further detail elsewhere in this magazine).

**Carol Service online:** including local readers and carols from Avening Angels: this will be on the churchnearyou sites as mentioned above and will remain there over the Christmas period.

### Christmas Eve

**Christmas Eve Event** in Avening Churchyard at 4.30 pm (further detail elsewhere in this magazine).

**Cherington 'Midnight' Eucharist** at 10.00 pm. *Advance booking essential*, either at:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/midnight-mass-cherington-tickets-127992925285](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/midnight-mass-cherington-tickets-127992925285)

or, if this is not possible, phone Claudia on 07867 350122.

**Avening 'Midnight' Eucharist** at 11.30 pm. *Advance booking essential*, by emailing [gp.south@btopenworld.com](mailto:gp.south@btopenworld.com) or 'phone 01453 883456.

### Christmas Day

**Cherington Christmas Service** at 10.00 am. Bring a present to show us if you can.

*Advance booking essential*, either at: [www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-morning-tickets-127991924291](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/christmas-morning-tickets-127991924291)

or, if this is not possible, phone Claudia on 07867 350122.

**Avening Christmas Service** at 11.00 am in the churchyard: a short get together and celebration of Christmas – bring a present to show us if you can.

### Sunday Services

6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
13 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
27 <sup>th</sup> Dec	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Epiphany Eucharist	Avening Church
10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
24 <sup>th</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
31 <sup>st</sup> Jan	10.00 am	Candlemas Service	Cherington Church
7 <sup>th</sup> Feb	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church

**But before Christmas ..... it's Advent**

In recent years we have welcomed the Posada figures of Mary and Joseph into our homes as they travelled round the villages. To prevent the risk of spreading the virus we will not be doing so this year but that does not stop us recalling their journey in other ways: we could make our own figures (however approximate they may be) and put them in the front window for others to see; we could choose a couple of toys to be Mary and Joseph on their way to Bethlehem and each day they can do something along the way—sing songs, have a picnic, look at the stars, feed the donkey, sleep in a tent, tell jokes, cross a stream, read a map, play I Spy, listen to Christmas music... Imagine the journey they might have taken and join them in the experience. Here is the Posada prayer:

*Eternal God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, You are always present in our home unseen and often not acknowledged. Help us to experience the joy of looking forward this Advent and make it a time of new beginnings. We welcome these figures from the nativity and pray that You will bless this house and all who live here. Amen*

I would be interested to hear what you have done – some pictures perhaps.

**And when Christmas does come ....**

**Peace and every blessing to you from the churches of Avening and Cherington**

**Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington**  
[gp.south@btopenworld.com](mailto:gp.south@btopenworld.com) 01453 883456

### **Compline Service**

Our **Celtic** type Compline services continue on Zoom at 7.30 pm on Wednesday evenings please email [derrickcompline@gmail.com](mailto: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 TO JOIN IN**

### **HELP URGENTLY SOUGHT**

**Avening and Cherington Churches would welcome some advice on video recording, transfer to social media, streaming etc.**

**If you have some expertise in this area and would be willing to share your knowledge and experience, please contact me – this could help with our**

**Christmas arrangements.**

**Gerald South, 01453 883456, [gp.south@btopenworld.com](mailto:gp.south@btopenworld.com)**

# Cherington's 9 Lessons and Carols Moves Online



Throughout this year we've all been thinking creatively of ways to interact safely. And while we might not be able to share mince pies on the green and sing carols around the Christmas tree; we'll have our '9 Lessons and Carols Service' online.

We've reached out to our wonderful community and have had a great response. Readers and singers will be recorded via zoom, before we put all the pieces together in a video. On 20 Dec. at 5pm we plan a big watch party – again via zoom – for us all to come together and join in the festive season.

For this service we're supporting the charity Mind: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Cherington>

If you'd like to join us for the watch party please get your ticket here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/9-lessons-and-carols-tickets-129850746077>

Want to get involved?

There's still time to record a video message (max 30 seconds) – just tell us about your connection with Cherington and your wish for 2021!

Contact Claudia for details: [claudia@claudia-unger.com](mailto:claudia@claudia-unger.com) // 07867 350122



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**fimitchell06@btinternet.com**

**01285 841229 07885 094393**

# Avening Community Cafe

## Happy Birthday to The Cafe

As we celebrate Avening Community Café's 2<sup>nd</sup> birthday it is hard to believe the difference it has made in our social lives since its opening in November 2018.

'Don't it always seem to go that you don't know what you've got till it's gone' (Joni Mitchell) These words have never seemed more relevant as we negotiate our way through another period of restrictions to our lives. Nevertheless, the cafe has continued to find ways for the community to come together.

The Pop-up cafes in the social club car park on October 20<sup>th</sup> and November 3<sup>rd</sup> were well attended and customers were

rewarded with the usual excellent coffee, delicious cakes and even surprisingly good weather. Glyn has been opening The Bell on alternate Tuesday mornings for coffee and we are very grateful to him for providing an indoor venue for some of the cafe regulars and others to meet.



There have also been some excellent Café Curry nights at the Bell, the last of which was on November 3<sup>rd</sup> just before lockdown was implemented. If you would like to be included in the future when rules allow, please contact Clare on [ccbcbbs@gmail.com](mailto:ccbcbbs@gmail.com)

The cafe supported the Orchard clear up on November 1<sup>st</sup> which was well attended by a good mix of village residents who made a great difference to the trees. Coffee was available from the back of Clare's car and overall it was deemed

to be a very successful day.

Further Pop-up cafes planned for November were cancelled but Beverley Rymer and Wendy Jennings are facilitating Two by Two walks of varying lengths on Tuesday mornings during lockdown for anyone looking for a walking partner. Contact Wendy 01453 832881 or [wendyjennings2010@gmail.com](mailto:wendyjennings2010@gmail.com) for further information.

At the time of writing in mid-November we don't know when any of these events will be happening again but keep an eye out for future cafe fixtures in the next edition of *The Buzz* which is published every second and fourth Tuesday. You can read copies on the Café's Facebook page or pick up a hard copy outside 6 Old Hill.

This year the café's chosen charities are The Mark Townsend Trust and Stroud Women's Refuge and we were delighted to donate over £1,650 from the proceeds of quizzes, sweepstakes, bake sales and donations.

We are now asking for your nominations for the 2021 charity and would be very grateful for your input. If you have a suggestion for a local charity with a community wide impact, please send a message via the Avening Community Cafe Facebook page or contact one of the Cafe Committee members: -

Jennie South, Gill Adams, Peter Barton, Clare Bebbington, or Wendy Jennings.

If you read the last edition you will be aware that we have a number of volunteers in the village who will make themselves available to anyone who is struggling in any way during this difficult time. If you don't have the list, please contact me on 07967441792 and I will deliver one.

Well we know that Boris loves a soundbite but so do I. For all of us in Avening..... Avoid Infection but keep the Connection'

**Peter Barton**



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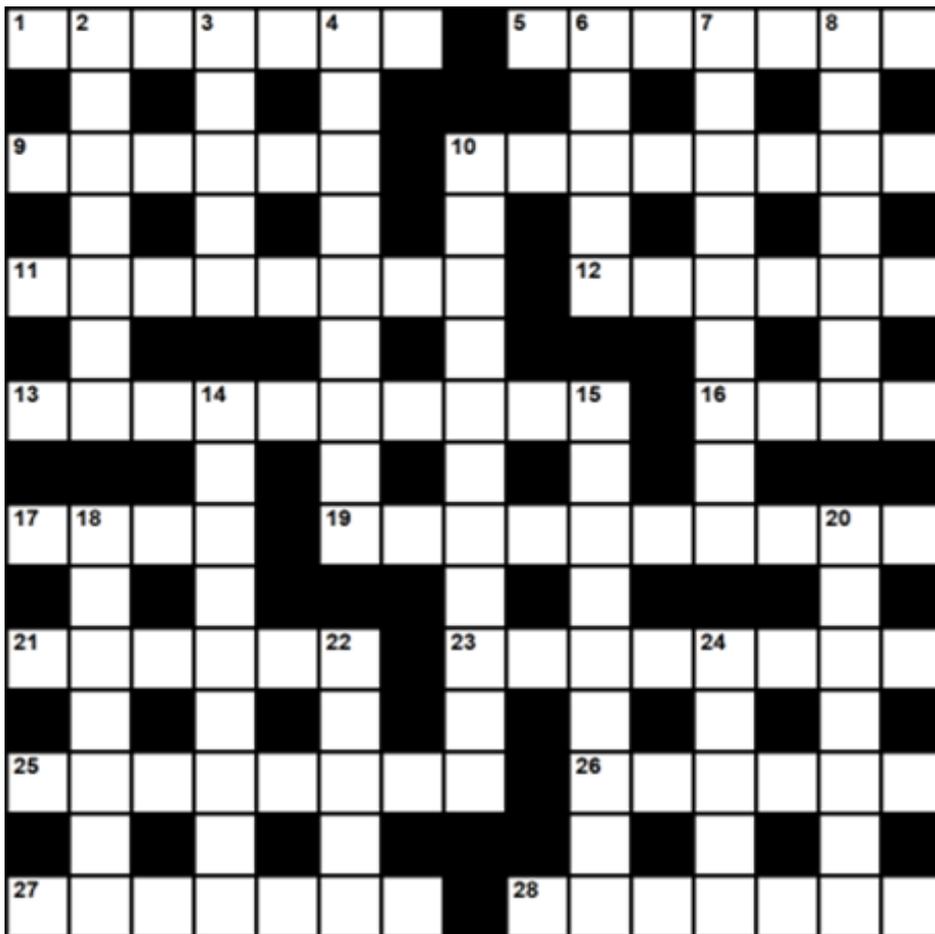
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# Puzzle Corner

## REV GERALD'S CHRISTMAS CRYPTIC CROSSWORD



### Across

1. French artist for Christmas lunch? (7)
5. Church of England wish is wobbly: also participants in this winter event perhaps (3,4)
9. Ten lap movement to Venus, for example (6)
10. Minch Boots, say, sounds like cultivating an ocean (8)
11. Leg in mat may result in tearing this (8)
12. Record within medical room forms a catch phrase (6)
13. Two poles taken from a zoo and replaced by right village (10)
16. Finishes inside Nastend

- Service Station (4)
17. Kale cooked in 13 (4)
19. Singing at Christmas sounds as though time has been spent in a yacht (10)
21. Jane with a bow perhaps, a Villager editor (6)
23. Behold holy man about another backward one: stray mousers appear (4,4)
25. Could be worse for backward Lincolnshire town publicity (3,2,3)
26. Round within jiggy rousing music (6)
27. Timeless rainy bit served at The Bell (7)
28. Rusty lopsided covers a parasite affecting bees (7)

### Down

2. The soil Richard occupies contains much hydrocarbon (3-4)
- 3, 6. The flue gets him down at Christmas (5,5)
4. "Hi Kent won" is broadcast to be informed (2,3,4)
6. see 3
7. He mixes a smell about military captive and farms locally (3,6)
8. Alternatively a form of spinach to be planted in Avening (7)
10. To stop a confused top grade boy, this may go with cold 1 (6,5)
14. Drop of hard stuff from Sussex? (3,6)
15. Auditory features in darkness give imperfect vision (4,5)
18. One before one – a reason before evidence is obtained (1,6)
20. Card playing Americans may find themselves so – as do all Americans now! (2,5)
22. Christmas card favourite is, we hear, stealing endlessly, albeit chirpy (5)
24. About an acting part lacking energy, often heard at Christmas (5)

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

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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 36*

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# Village People

## Mrs Jane Rushton



“No training can prepare you for this!” That is how Mrs Rushton, the Head Teacher at Avening School, sums up running a school in the midst of a global pandemic. “Our primary duty is to keep the children safe and happy as well as educate them but it’s difficult when everything you take for granted is gone.”

Mrs Rushton grew up in Kent and went to Cambridge University, where she gained a Master’s degree in Social and Political Sciences, staying on in Cambridge to study for

her teaching PGCE. “Most of my family were teachers, or involved in community service in some way, so it seemed a logical step for me, and enabled me to give back something in return for my own amazing education,” she explains. “I chose to be a primary teacher because I have a varied educational background, not specialising in science or arts, and also wide-ranging interests, including music and sport, so for me primary teaching offered everything. I can indulge my own interests and get children excited in the things I love myself. It’s a wonderful vocation.”

After she married, Mrs Rushton moved to Gloucestershire and eventually became Deputy Head in St. Mary’s, Tetbury, before becoming Head of Avening School in 2012. “I was attracted to Avening partly because it was a small rural school with a good reputation, but it also seemed to be the heart of the village. There’s a real warmth and sense of community here. I feel very privileged and love my role; it is challenging but I love the diverse and interesting community I serve.”

The main challenge in her first few years in Avening was the implementation of the new curriculum, together with the progression of changes that have been seen in education in recent years. For a small school, some directives can be tricky, but she has found that combining with other schools in ‘clusters’ is very helpful. “Because we have fewer staff, we need to bring in people to collaborate in certain areas,” she says. “It is also useful to look beyond our walls and visit other schools to learn from them.

“In more recent years, budget cuts from austerity measures have meant that the number of vulnerable children in the school has increased, so we need to work with support services to help them thrive,” she continues. “We also realised we needed to do more to support the children emotionally, so Mrs Carter trained as a ‘Forest School’ leader and that allows us to do much more out in the fresh air, which is so good for the children’s emotional well-being. Mrs Carter also qualified as an Emotional Literacy Support Assistant

(ELSA) and works one-to-one or in small groups to help the children with issues like self-esteem and anxiety. This year the wonderful FOAS bought us a small 'ELSA Pod' in the upper playground, which allows Mrs Carter and the children some privacy to talk; in a small school we have to make the best use of all our space. Meanwhile, expectations are constantly increasing, and we need to support the whole child and encourage academic achievement."

Then, last March, with very little notice, lockdown happened. The school received guidance on the Thursday for lockdown the following Monday. On that Friday they managed to prepare work packs for every child to take home, while still ensuring that they made that final day in school very special for the children: an amazing feat. From then until June, except for a few vulnerable children and those whose parents were key workers, all the pupils were educated at home.

"We decided that each child would get a weekly phone call from their teacher, to maintain important contact and make sure they were safe and supported, including bringing them into school if we felt that was needed," Mrs Rushton explains. "We continued sending them weekly work packs, which included ideas for Forest School activities to encourage them outdoors; the pupils in school studied the same packs. I also sent out a weekly email that included photos of what the children both at home and in school had been up to, to keep the community together, while those in school wrote cards for people isolating and also for key workers like nurses and police. Until the voucher scheme was established, we delivered packed lunches and food hampers for children on free school meals and we also gave Easter eggs to a number of children. We are fortunate that we are able to work closely with people like the Mark Townsend Trust and Rev. Gerald, who are on hand to offer support to our families too.

"The wonderful Avening community really helped ," she adds. "So many acts of kindness, like a parent sending us flowers, or the Community Café delivering cakes every Tuesday; these things really kept us going in those early days. We felt an important part of Avening and also very responsible to the community."

Just before the May half-term the school were told to prepare for all Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 pupils to return to class, which meant a very busy few days for the staff as they had to move desks around to allow for self-distancing, make some toilets and sinks unavailable so children were not too close and mark social distancing on the floors, along with a myriad other tasks to ensure a safe working environment, giving the staff what Mrs Rushton understatedly describes as "an interesting workload". It paid off and the school was able to get all the Year 6 children together for that vital few weeks before they leave primary school. Thanks to good weather, they even managed a socially-distanced outdoor



*Painting social distancing lines in the summer half-term*

'leavers' assembly, an important rite of passage. In addition, they managed to get every child into school for a few days before the end of term, so they could see their friends and meet their teacher for the new school year.

The summer holidays were then spent planning, risk assessing, moving furniture again, preparing guidelines for parents and many other tasks in order to welcome the whole school back at the beginning of September. Class start and end times are staggered to ensure a safe environment for entering and leaving the school and staff do a lot of cleaning and sanitizing all areas throughout the day.



*The first ever Zoom assembly*

“It was wonderful to be back together again,” Mrs Rushton says. “At heart, the school is one big family, and we have tried hard to keep that spirit of togetherness, even though the children are all in their year ‘bubbles’. We’ve discovered the joys of Zoom assemblies, created a virtual Open Day, held virtual parent consultations and are working on our filmed carol service and school Christmas productions. It is important that we make everything as normal as possible for the children, who are really enjoying being together again.

“In order to cope with any child self-isolating, remote learning must be available for each pupil at any time, so the staff also have to prepare materials for that. Unfortunately, not every child in the school has access to a computer or tablet to work at home on. Our government allocation for children in need is only one computer, but through a governor who works there, Dyson have donated 30 used laptops, some of which we are using for support staff to facilitate online learning and the rest which we can give to any child without one at home in the case of their bubble isolating or wider lockdown.”

“Everybody is feeling tired,” Mrs Rushton admits, “It is very emotionally draining for the staff because, of course, they are also in their class bubbles and not mixing with other staff members much, so they can feel isolated, especially now it is winter and not so easy to have a socially-distanced lunch outside together. But so many schools are having a much worse time than us as we have not had a confirmed case yet, although many children have had to self-isolate waiting for a test or because a family member is infected. We are so fortunate here in Avening to have such brilliant staff who look after each other, as well as the children. The most important thing is the children are here in school and we can keep them safe.”

I think they have done an amazing job and I am sure you would like to join me in thanking Mrs Rushton and all the staff in Avening School for everything they have done for the children and the village in such difficult circumstances.

**Jane Archer**



## Avening PlayGroup



### Early Years Assistant required

15 – 20 hours per week for term time only

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.chair@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup.chair@gmail.com)

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.



Halloween Haunted House Tent



# SANTA CLAUSE IS COMING TO TOWN!

**Sunday 20 December, 6pm onwards**

Get in the festive spirit from your doorstep as  
Father Christmas travels around Avening spreading  
some Christmas cheer

Keep up to date with the route at [facebook.com/  
friendsofaveningschool](https://facebook.com/friendsofaveningschool)

*Any donations will be split between Friends of Avening School  
and Avening Playgroup*



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Prices: Small £35, Medium £55. Large £80.

Each one unique. 10% of sales go to Tetbury Hospital.

If you would like to order please email Kitty at [kitty@kittyarden.com](mailto:kitty@kittyarden.com) or call 07940587048.



# Avening School

## Countdown to Christmas

We are feeling festive at Avening School, with preparations well underway for our Christmas productions. Despite the inevitable restrictions, all classes are still getting ready to perform, albeit in a slightly different format this year. Classes will perform in their bubbles and each performance will be filmed and available for parents, families and friends to watch remotely. The Eagles (r/y1) and Kestrels (y1/2) classes will be performing 'Baubles' which is a re-telling of the nativity story set in a school. Meanwhile, the KS2 children will be narrating the Christmas story through readings and carols. It will be quite different to previous years but in no way less magical!

We have spent the past two months preparing our remote learning provision, which is available for any children who need to self-isolate and in the event of a school closure. Classes are also doing their Share and Learn homework tasks on Teams which is helping both pupils and staff familiarise themselves with working online. We are extremely grateful to Dyson for donating refurbished laptops to the school, which will prove invaluable in the current circumstances. Our community police officers paid a visit to the Owls class (y5/6) a few weeks ago, to talk about online safety. The Kestrels class also took part in an exciting 'introduction to coding' workshop last month.

FOAS are working hard to enable their usual festive fundraising events to go ahead despite current restrictions. There will be a festive fashion non-uniform day at the beginning of December where families will be asked to donate goodies for the Christmas hampers, which will be the prizes for the FOAS Christmas raffle. FOAS will also be running their annual Secret Santa session where the children can buy and wrap a small gift for a loved one and take it home to put under the tree for Christmas day. FOAS also have plans to hold festive film clubs for each key stage towards the end of term. Finally, FOAS are joining forces with Avening playgroup to revive the much loved Santa-float which will be doing the rounds from 6pm onwards on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> Dec. All proceeds will be divided between school and playgroup. For more details and a float route please visit the FOAS Facebook page.

The school kitchen is getting ready for our annual school Christmas lunch, which will be held, in class bubbles and each class will also have their own Christmas party on the last day of term. On behalf of Avening School, we wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year!

*Our virtual school tour and introductory video are available to view on our school website and the head teacher Mrs Rushton is more than happy to answer any questions or queries for families interested in joining Avening School. For further information about this busy place of learning please see our school website: [www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk)*

**Alex Adcock**

## Local Charity Promotes Lockdown Creativity



When Harriet Walker, Home-Start Volunteer and trustee, decided to clear out her cupboards during the first lockdown, she realised she had an excess of art materials from time spent working as a primary school teacher. 'I thought they'd provide a perfect way to entertain local children,' she said, so she made up twenty craft packs and advertised them on her local Facebook page. Within a day all the packs had found homes. "Families were incredibly grateful," she recalled, "many sending me messages to say how quiet their kids had been".

Other Facebook users loved the idea and offered Harriet their surplus art materials. "This was important to me," said Harriet, "because I liked the idea that children can learn that things don't always

have to be brand new; that recycled materials are just as valuable."

Donations continued to turn up on the doorstep and another Facebook user, Becky Koos, was inspired to organise a crowd-funder. "I thought Harriet was doing such a great job of collecting donations of art supplies from people, that with a little bit of funds to buy simple things like pencil sharpeners, rubbers, glue etc. it would make the donations go much further," said Becky. This, coupled with a grant from Stroud District Council, enabled another 300 packs to be made after initial donations began to run out.



The scheme really took off when Harriet, who's spent the last

twenty years volunteering for the family support charity, Home-Start Stroud and Gloucester, spoke to its scheme manager, Alex Corgier. Alex contacted Stroud District Food Bank, who offered to distribute the packs to families, along with their food packages.

The packs have proved so popular that this October, Home-Start received a request from the Food Bank for another 500 packs for their Christmas Hampers. With help from (socially distanced) Home-Start and Food Bank volunteers these were then collated. "I was very



grateful for the help,” Harriet said, “for it would have been a monumental task to do on my own – particularly as we only had two weeks to complete it before the next lockdown started. We were lucky to get a lot more donations from friends and neighbours, as well as a grant from Food Bank to enable us to buy the extra supplies that we needed to make up the craft packs. Huge thanks to everyone who contributed”.

The craft packs have now been taken to Stroud District Food Bank and will be distributed in December. Staff from Home-Start Stroud and Gloucester are replicating the idea in Gloucester for local families there.

For more information contact the Stroud and Gloucester Home-Start office on: 01453-297470 or email [enquiries@homestartsd.org](mailto:enquiries@homestartsd.org)

[www.homestartsd.org](http://www.homestartsd.org)

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## Cirencester Foodbank – Helping Local People in Crisis



Cirencester Foodbank operates across the South Cotswolds, including Avening, and supports individuals and families. To access Foodbank support, you need to be given an online voucher. Vouchers are available from organisations such as Citizens Advice, P3, GP surgeries, churches, schools, mental health teams, Cirencester Signpost, Social Services, District Councils, Town Councils etc. Vouchers can then be redeemed

online and you will be contacted by the Foodbank to arrange delivery of a food parcel directly to your home.

A food parcel contains food for a three-day period. We are also able to offer toiletries, household cleaning items, toilet rolls, baby food and nappies as well as pet food. Our teams will signpost onto additional help such as Citizens Advice, where appropriate. Our aim is to not be needed; however, the Foodbank will continue to provide support until we reach that point.

The Foodbank is incredibly grateful to everyone offering food donations, funds and time. Food donation points are available in Tesco in Tetbury and in Tesco Extra and Waitrose in Cirencester. In Avening, the Foodbank box which was previously in the Church has been moved to the garden of 14 High Street and all donations of non-perishable foodstuffs are very welcome there and will be transferred to the Foodbank warehouse for onward distribution. Please check out the Foodbank website [www.cirencester.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.cirencester.foodbank.org.uk) to see which items of non-perishable food and cleaning materials are most in demand and also to learn how to make financial donations.

Urgently needed food items at the moment include instant mash/tinned potatoes, rice pudding, long-life juices, sanitary items, toiletries and chocolate treats for children. Currently we've got plenty of pasta, beans and tinned spaghetti.

Thank you for all your ongoing support. For more information please visit [www.cirencester.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.cirencester.foodbank.org.uk) or call 07762 168297.

## Small Ads

### Child/Teen Desk For Sale £10

One previous owner for 5yrs, very good condition and hasn't been used for a year.

It's an IKEA 'Micke' model, timber, metal legs, black.

Dimensions: w1050mm h750mm d500mm

Call or text Avening 078144106429





# Avening Playgroup



During the past month the children have been busy learning about the autumn, Halloween, Bonfire Night, Diwali and also Remembrance Day. They have been taking part in lots of activities to develop their creative skills:

We have looked at the trees and talked about how the leaves change colour and fall off in the autumn. The children stuck different coloured leaves onto a picture of a tree trunk. They also made hedgehogs out of paper plates, using their cutting skills to snip around the edge to make the spines

The children have been drawing scary faces on paper pumpkins and learning about the lifecycle of a pumpkin. We have been looking at spiders and the children have been drawing them in their mark-making books. We also talked about the Haunted House Hunt and what the children saw whilst walking around Avening. Thank you so much to Steff and FOAS for organising this. Everyone really enjoyed it.

We talked about the story behind Bonfire Night and made flick painting firework pictures – which we did outside as it is quite a messy activity.

We have been looking at books to see how Hindu families celebrate their New Year and have made Rangoli chalk drawings as well as Mehndi hand patterns. We have also talked about the significance of poppies and Remembrance Day. The children have painted poppies and coloured in some poppy pictures.

The home corner has been a busy place this term and some fantastic mark making has been taking place around the table in there – lots of shopping lists and checks!

I must say a very big thank you to Liz, Jose and Gladys for stepping in at the last moment, for a couple of weeks in November, to enable the playgroup to remain open. The children really enjoyed having them at playgroup.

With COVID-19 still very present in our lives we are unable to hold our annual Christmas Extravaganza. We are, however, hoping to join up with FOAS to do a Santa Sleigh around the village on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

Dates for the diary:

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Last day of the autumn term.

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – first day of the spring term.

Everyone at Avening Playgroup wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

If you would like to know more about our lovely playgroup or to reserve a place for your child, please contact us on 01453 832695 on weekday mornings or email [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com).



**Angie Heslop**

# Farm Life



Recently our workload has shifted away from field work and more towards the farm yard, signifying the end of summer and the start of the autumn/winter. The start of November brought 27 weaned calves to the farm. These are four-month-old Aberdeen Angus calves which will be housed in the livestock shed during the winter months. Our young stock are the only cattle to be housed during the winter, with the rest of the herd being out-wintered. The fields chosen for the older cattle are the most free-draining on the farm. Anyone who has dug into the soil in this area will know that our soils are based on 'Cotswold Brash' meaning that we have a very thin

layer of topsoil covering flakey Cotswold stone. Although we often curse this when digging fence posts in, it allows water to drain from the field easily. In addition to this, we allow fields to be put aside at the end of the summer where we do not graze them. This means that we always have a number of fields that have good, thick grass cover on them and although the growth has stopped it will provide a source of feed into the winter. The older out-wintered cattle have just started to be fed the silage that we made a few months ago. This will maintain body condition and live weight gains throughout the winter; if left to their own devices they would start to lose condition on pasture alone. Our silage has just been sent off to be analysed for a number of components, most notably protein content, digestibility value, energy value and PH. Depending on the result we may be able cut back on our concentrate feed such as beef nuts, which we have to buy in. The better the silage is, the less concentrate we will have to feed.



Going back to the calves housed in the livestock shed, I often get asked why these are inside and the rest are out. All these calves have come from a farm where they have been housed from birth. Putting them straight out into the cold and wet has the potential to cause serious health problems as they are not acclimatised to the elements and will be far better off in the dry. The calves are currently going through the transitional period from their previous farm to us. This is the period that they are most at risk to suffer ailments such as pneumonia due to the higher stress levels induced by the move. A dramatic change in diet can also put stress on the animal so they are therefore fed the same as the previous farm, being ad-lib beef nuts (containing vitamins and minerals) and straw (providing roughage to aid in rumen development). They will be on this feed ration for another couple of weeks where they will then be weaned from this and put onto our own feed ration of hay and a reduced amount of beef nuts. Once spring arrives the calves will be let out into the pastures.

In other news over the last month, we have entered the period in which hedges are due

to be cut. As we try our best to farm with nature, we only cut after the end of September but often leave this later until November to ensure that there is no disruption of nesting birds. In certain areas of the farm we leave some of the hedges uncut. This is done on a rotational basis or only cut one side, giving wildlife a chance of cover and forage through the winter. It is worth bearing this in mind when you see a hedge left uncut.



We have also had our whole herd TB tested and are very pleased to say that we have passed this without any reactors. As the vet was on site and being typical farmers, we reduced the cost of a call out by adding to the vets list of jobs. We thought it may be best to have him PD (Pregnancy Diagnosis) our rare breed Gloucester cattle. We're very excited to say that four out of the six girls are in calf and possibly a fifth is in the early stages of pregnancy. Even more to our surprise, two of them are in calf to the AI bulls we used, one being from the 1970s! The others are in calf to our own bull 'Jimmy' and within the next month or so we hope that all the herd will be in calf. In nine months time we will have even more additions to the rare-breed herd.

*Sam Powell*

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# Have Briefcase, Will Travel



If you have never been to Scandinavia in the winter you cannot imagine how cold it becomes, but I found out on a visit to Finland in 1996 when our Finnish agents requested me to attend a trade exhibition in Jyvaskyla – in where? This town is 440 miles north of Helsinki and it is the centre of the Finnish timber trade, with a large university and a trade fair centre.

I flew first to Helsinki and then crossed over to the domestic terminal where my request for the Jyvaskyla flight was met with glazed looks until I found out my landing destination was a Finnish Air Force diversion base called Tikkakoski, 20 miles from my destination. The plane was a small turbo-prop with about two dozen seats so it was going to be a bumpy ride. On landing I had to go to the back of the plane where I was handed my bags from a small cargo hold and on entering a very small terminal building I had to wait for thirty minutes for a taxi in the cold.

The journey to Jyvaskyla took about 45 minutes and it was like being driven through a winter wonderland, the sky being blue and clear, the forest deep green and dense, the continuous small lakes covered in ice and everything covered in a crisp white snow some 12 inches deep.

On arriving at my hotel, The Alba, which was situated on the large lake in the town centre I was made aware of the Timber Industry sponsored university on the other side of the lake opposite my hotel which was accessed by a metal footbridge the lake being quite narrow at this point near my hotel.

It was late afternoon before I called for a taxi to take me to the trade exhibition centre called Lutakko where in the car park I was met with a most unusual sight of car park attendants wearing thermal suits like Noel Edmonds, Mr Blobby, which made them look ridiculous but warm. The temperature at this point at 4-00 pm was -20°C so working in the open you needed protection and I was only in a business suit.

On entering the exhibition hall the temperature felt like a heat wave due to the huge difference to the outside temperature. I was greeted by my Finnish colleagues in a very traditional way by being offered a glass of Finnish vodka which was normal, but this was spearmint flavour and 60% proof and having not eaten for some time it was a bit of a shock to the system.

Having agreed to have dinner at my colleague's hotel I jumped a taxi into town with the temperature falling fast. After a super meal with my colleagues we went to the music bar for some entertainment and 11.00 pm arrived so I asked the hotel reception to book a taxi who gave me instructions where to pick it up, this being about 100 yards away. When I questioned her if it will be there she said it has to be as it is very cold. It was not till I got outside of the hotel I realised how cold it was and on getting into the taxi which had its engine running constantly I was told the

temperature had dropped to -35°C.

On reaching the hotel I could see that the metal footbridge was lit up and looked beautiful with the encrusted snow and ice on it so I went and got my camera to take photographs. It was now nearly mid-night and having taken several photos I realised that I had no feeling in my nose or ears so I rushed back into the hotel bar and swallowed a triple whiskey as I found out I had the start of frost bite. The temperature had fallen to nearly -40°C and I should have known better than to go out into the night just in a business suit. After a further day in the trade show I flew back to Helsinki a lot wiser about the very dry cold of Finland and how dangerous it could become.

PRONUNCIATION OF JYVASKYLA—OOVER-SKULA

*David Bendall*



## Avening W.I.

Our Remembrance Day poppy display at the Memorial Hall was well received and looked very striking. We would like to thank Nick Winkfield who not only helped us to put it in place but cleaned the plaque too. Times such as these emphasise the local community spirit and we are very lucky in Avening to have so many people who volunteer to help in lots of different ways.



This Christmas we are missing all our usual



social WI events and activities. One of these is a Christmas wreath making workshop. This is usually a lovely morning spent knee-deep in greenery at the Social Club and finished off with a delicious bring and share lunch. This year many members are still planning to make a wreath at home to keep up the tradition. We are also hoping to attempt a festive get together on Zoom if possible. The photo shows some of our Christmas wreaths made on a previous occasion.

We have still been able to gather together a much appreciated collection of Christmas goodies, donated by our members, and to deliver them to the Food bank in Stroud.

We have our fingers crossed for 2021 in the hope of resuming some kind of meetings, and in the meantime we would like to wish everyone in the villages a Merry Christmas and a Happy and, above all, healthy New Year.

*Helen Haiselden*

Come and take a journey with us on the

## *Candlelight Nativity Trail*

At Avening Churchyard

Drop by any time **between 4.30 and 5.30pm** on **24<sup>th</sup> December** and be delighted by our unique 'Life-size nativity,' hand created by our Avening families!

You will be accompanied on your journey by the live and socially-distanced voices of the 'Avening Angels' to warm your hearts – and perhaps a cup of something spiced to warm your tummies...

*We look forward to seeing you!*

(This is a fundraising event to support the work of Avening Church and your donations will be very welcome)



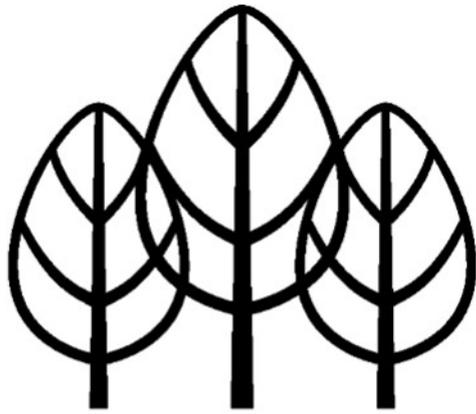
If you would like to be part of our first ever **Life-size Nativity'** you can!  
And here's how...

For just £5, we'll provide the clothes and all you'll need to do is find things to fill them with to create the characters who feature at the Christmas Nativity. You can choose a costume for Mary, Joseph, shepherd, king or angel - or a camel! And then it's time to get creative

So grab your pillows, sticks, empty plastic bottles... footballs for heads, faces glued to frisbees, a friendly face carved in to a pumpkin...! Just a few ideas and we know you'll have lots more.

All figures need to be ready for collection by Sun 20<sup>th</sup> Dec

To take part or for more information, please speak to Liz Fuller: 01453 835067 or email: [eliza.82@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:eliza.82@hotmail.co.uk)



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# Puzzle Answers

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

### Crossword answers

**Across:** 1. Poussin 5. Ice show 9. Planet 10. Pharmacy 11. Ligament 12. Slogan 13. Cherington 16. Ends 17. Lake 19. Wassailing 21. Archer 23. Lost cats 25. Not so bad 26. Gyrous 27. Biryani 28. Stylops

**Down:** 2. Oil-rich 3. Santa 4. In the know 6. Claus 7. Sam Powell 8. Orchard 10. Potato salad 14. Rye whisky 15. Near sight 18. A priori 20. No trump 22. Robin 24. Carol



## Avening Youth Club



The Door can be contacted via their website, [www.thedoor.org.uk](http://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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## Church Floodlighting



The church was floodlit on:

**29th October** in memory of **John Hopes**  
from his wife and family;

**3 December** in memory of **Joan Newman**.

It will also be floodlit on **23rd December** for **Sylvia Fletcher**  
on your 94th birthday from Val and Hugh

The church looks beautiful at night when floodlit. If you would like to have this  
in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special event, contact **Paul Brown**  
**01453 835983**. The cost is £10 for 2 hours.

## The Great Exhibition

**This year's title: 'LOCKDOWN'**

This is to remind you of the 'Great Exhibition' of Artwork,  
Projects and Accomplishments that have been achieved  
during 'Lockdown'.

The three day Exhibition will be held in Avening Church  
when people once again are free to gather together and  
enjoy the occasion, chat with their friends and look at the  
displays.

We do not know precisely when it will be held - but please  
don't forget. Keep Creating!

Dates: to be announced.

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

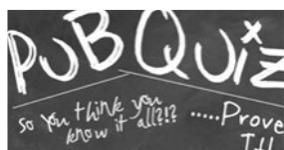


## TONY'S CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

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TEAM**



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# Made in Avening



Cottage industries really are alive and well in Avening!

And what a creative bunch we are too. Homes around the village are hives of activity as local crafters are beavering away to produce some beautiful handmade gifts and products. From homespun and dyed wool, to wooden decorations and plaques, uniquely designed cards (Christmas and other occasions), gorgeous jewellery, knitted and crocheted wrist-warmers, scarves and baby hats, beautiful garments, T-shirts, mugs and so much more right here on your doorstep.



You can view the creators and their makes on Facebook at the Artisan Avening page and Instagram Made in Avening and then contact the makers direct. So go on, shop really locally this Christmas!

## Cherington Parish Council

The Parish Council Web Site is <https://cheringtonpc.org.uk/> and along with meeting, financial and council business news you may use it to address comments both to council members and to the clerk.

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# Avening Parish Council



The Parish Council Meeting via Zoom on the 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020  
The meeting was open to all residents of the Parish.

## Community Support

With the Country experiencing another lockdown, if you need support, please do not hesitate to contact us:

Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk or call 07415 039234

Please continue to do your part – Hands - Face – Space. And please check on your neighbours!

## Christmas Tree

Christmas is looking a little different this year. Celebrations will be more restrained, but the Christmas Tree will be standing tall from early December. Our thanks go to HRH the Princess Royal and Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence for the kind donation of the tree.

## The Memorial Hall

Your Memorial Hall Needs You! The meeting to set up a new management committee for the hall was very poorly attended.

The Parish Council will be hosting a Memorial Hall AGM as soon as possible in the new year. We need additional volunteers to run the hall. It is a huge asset to the village. Please give a few hours to help if you can – contact the clerk for details.

## Parish Budget

The Parish Council are working hard preparing the budget for 2021 - considering all the options to enrich the lives of the residents whilst trying to keep a tight reign on the purse strings. The percentage increase is calculated in a unique way by District Councils. So, whilst a percentage of the Council Tax for the precept may appear high, financially it is a very small increase for individual households. The Parish Council will be issuing more information explaining this in the coming months once priorities have been agreed.

## Planning Applications & Tree Works

New Applications – Planning

20/03234/Ful: 11A High Street – Variation on application 17/00216/Ful – no objections

20/00887/Ful: Brook House, Hampton Hill – Alteration to existing window/door openings and repair to garden wall. No comments

20/00888/LBC: Brook House, Hampton Hill – Alteration to existing window/door openings and repair to garden wall. No comments

20/02653/REM: Tetbury Hill House - Reserved Matters to outline permission 19/00725/Out - No comments

20/02368/Ful: Vale Farm, West End – Demolition of existing dwelling to form pool.

No objection, but we have asked that drainage be considered to ensure run off continues to reach the stream.

20/01140/Ful: Pimbury Park - Change of use and equestrian stable block. No comments

### Decision Notices

20/02999/FUL : Tallet Barn, Hampton Hill, - Amendment to 20/01251/FUL – Permitted

20/03360/TCONR: Sandford House, 56 High St. - Reduce Ash Tree – Permitted

19/04221/FUL: Land at Sunground, - Development of affordable Housing - Permitted

### Potholes

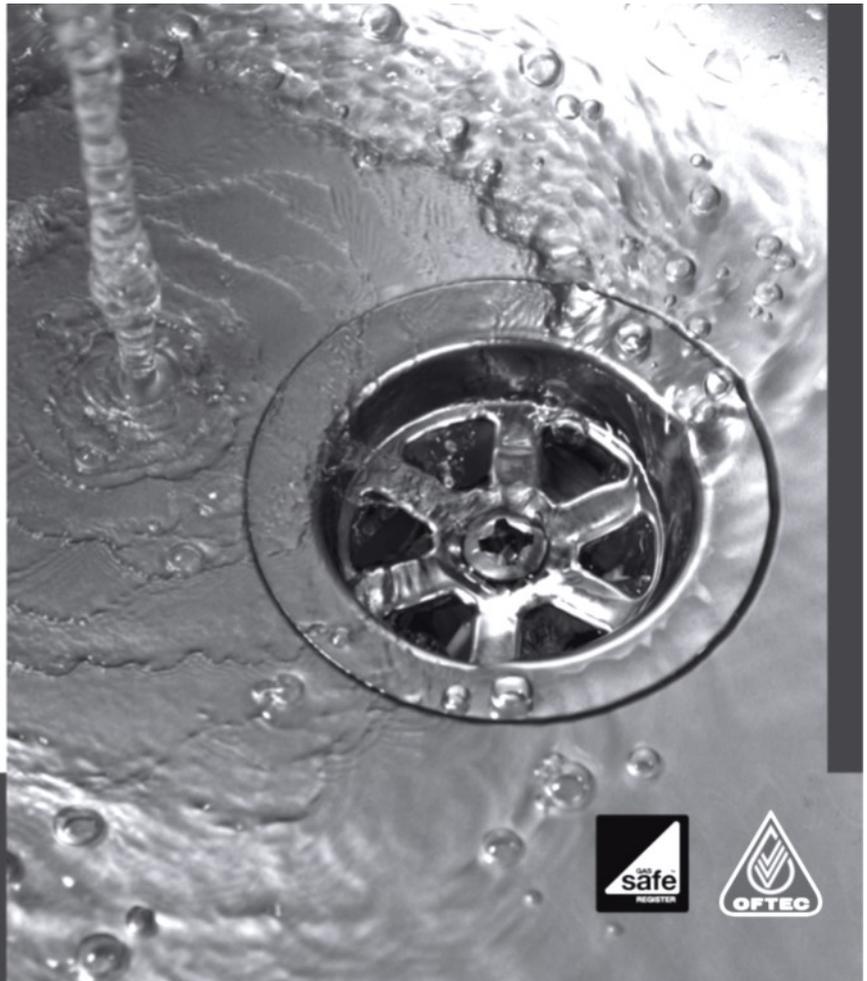
The major works in the area will conclude in late November. Continue to report any potholes or issues directly to Highways on 08000 514 514 or via the 'report it' section of the GCC website.

Agendas and minutes can be viewed at [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk). The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)



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# Dates for Your Diary

Friday 18th December	School and Play Group Term ends		
Sunday 20th December	Cherington Nine Lessons and Carols Service Watch Party	Zoom	5.00pm
Sunday 20th December	Avening Nine Lessons and Carols Service	churchnearyou websites	Available throughout Christmas period
Sunday 20th December	Santa Claus is coming to town! And doorstep singalong	All Avening	6.00pm onwards
Thursday 24th December	Avening Nativity Trail	Avening churchyard	4.30– 5.30 pm
Thursday 24th – Friday 25th December	Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Services	See page 11	
Monday 4th January	School and Play Group Term starts		

## Peace for the Soul



**The first peace is with your soul.  
The second peace is with your neighbour.  
The third peace is between nations.**

**However, there can never be peace between nations  
until there is first known that true peace which is  
within the soul.**

Black Elk

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# Thank you to our amazing NHS staff

*#thankyouNHS*



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## Flowers at the Church Gate

