

# *The Villager*

*A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head*

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*March 2012*

*50p*



*Spring? Who said spring?*

*editors@acvillager.co.uk*

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01453 835 541

#### PCC Treasurer

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01453 835 287

#### Organist

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01453833175

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01453835090

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John Bate-Williams

01666 503 544

#### Sacristan

Beryl Milsom

01285 841 248

#### PCC Secretary

Elizabeth Workman

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#### PCC Treasurer

#### Organist

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#### Flower Team

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## The Villager Magazine

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**20th of each month**

# *Services in Avening & Cherington March*

<b>Sunday</b>	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<b>4th March</b>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
<b>Sunday</b>	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
<b>11th March</b>	09.30	Cherington	Matins BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
<b>Mothering</b>			
<b>Sunday</b>	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<b>18th March</b>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
<b>Sunday</b>	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
<b>25th March</b>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
<b>Palm Sunday</b>			
<b>Sunday</b>	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<b>1st April</b>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School

**There will be coffee after the service in Avening on  
4th March and 1st April.  
As usual, all are very welcome!!**

## **Church Electoral Roll**

The annual revision of the above is due. A notice about this will be put up very soon in the Church porch. For further information or an application form, please contact:

**Frances Conway      01453 832177**

# Church Floodlighting



*The Church looks lovely when it is lit up at night.*

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

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## **7th February**

In memory of Basil Fletcher,  
John and Family, Valerie, Celia and Family and Sylvia.

## **12th February**

to celebrate the 98th birthday of Georgie Edmunds.

# Preachers for Lent

The Reverend Anthony Roberts, Mr Simon Moxon, Mrs Rachel Maurice and Mr Vincent Marshall have agreed to preach during the weeks of Lent on their understanding of the "Easter Experience".

On Mothering Sunday (18<sup>th</sup> March) there will be a special celebration for families, with posies being blessed and given to the children to give to their mothers and grandmothers. We will also be sharing the traditional Simnel cake.....!

On Palm Sunday, marking the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, we invite all children to come and join the procession with palm crosses and the donkey. All are welcome at this lovely service.

***Rev Celia***

# Church Duties in Avening



Date	Sides persons	Chalice	Sacristan
March 4 <sup>th</sup>	Jeanie/George	Paul	Ann
March 11 <sup>th</sup>	Cas/Piers	Derrick	Elizabeth
March 18 <sup>th</sup>	Stephanie./Margaret	Stephen	Marion
March 25 <sup>th</sup>	Frances/George	Derrick	Ann
April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Cas/Jeanie	Paul	Marion

## Lenten Supper Meetings

Please do come!

You are all are invited to one or all of the Supper evenings.  
7.30-9.00 supper, followed by a usually lively discussion.

- March 14th      Lockstone Barn, Cherington  
                         Hosted by Liz & John Bate- Williams
- March 21st      Church Farm, Point Road  
                         Hosted by Frances & Dominic Conway
- March 28th      Park Farm, Avening Park, West End  
                         Hosted by Rev Celia

If you have any enquiries, call Rev Celia on 01453 832716.

## Avening Memorial Hall

For all bookings & enquiries regarding the Memorial Hall:

**07583 073 604**

# The Parish Letter

How refreshing it was to hear the speech of HM the Queen delivered at Lambeth Palace before the Archbishop of Canterbury and nine leaders of the major Faiths....affirming the significant role of the Church of England in our National life.

What an example she gave. Unafraid and speaking out, witnessing to her own faith while affirming the right of other faiths to practice in this Country, free from fear of persecution. At a time when Church leaders fall over themselves in their attempt not to cause offence to anyone, in any way, and consequently saying nothing of any value, it was a joy to hear our Queen speak with conviction and truth. This is one of the many reasons she is held in great respect and affection all over the World, and by people of other faiths, for she is proud to be known as a follower of Christ. As she said in the speech "The Church is often misunderstood and commonly unappreciated"...but **not**, as a militant atheist would like us to believe, 'unwanted'.

Our national traditions and culture are interwoven by the Christian Faith and we traditionally turn to the Church at times of celebration, and of grief. Our sense of tolerance and acceptance - rare in many parts of the world - stem from the command to 'Love one Another', as does our care for the old and the sick. We take such things for granted and the atheists would have us believe that these are values common to all humanity. An evening watching the World news will tell you otherwise.

The Queen said that Faith plays a key role in building communities and establishing justice in our society. This is so true as the law, over the centuries, has been built on the values of Christianity. The Church is the heart beat of British life....not only do we need to be reminded of Christ's teaching of tolerance and love in our overcrowded island, but the Establishment of the Church of England allows Clergy to enter any hospital ward to minister to the sick and the dying, to enter any prison to be alongside the convicted, to have Bishops in the House of Lords to be a part of the legislation of law, and to be members of the Armed Forces in times of peace and War..... to ensure that people are cared for and their rights protected.

Our values in this Country may have changed, as happens with the natural evolution of people, but there will always be a need to have the Christian values stated and adhered to in all aspects of public life. So much of the colour and richness of State occasions, which are the envy of the World, are focussed on the role of the Church. May we too have the courage of the Queen to speak out in defence of the Christian Faith and the Established Church.

**Rev. Celia**

**All Take Note.**

**A Royal Decree has been sent out!**

# **The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.**

**Monday June 4th 2012.**

Avening is now registered for a Beacon Ceremony, meaning a Beacon will be lit on the ridge of Avening Park that evening.

The village and the Parish Council have been asked, by Royal Decree, to have a big party for everyone. Thus there is to be a Hog Roast, Bars, Music, a big screen showing the Buckingham Palace Concert the Park, etc. etc.

From 6.30pm onwards. Tuesday is a bank holiday so no problem for everybody to stay up later than normal!

More information closer to the time.

## **Photographs in The Villager Magazine**

Many thanks to **Tony Slater** for this month's cover photo.

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

**[editors@acvillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@acvillager.co.uk)**

# What's On In Avening & Cherington

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

<b>Event</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Social Club	
Cherington PC	4th Monday each month	6.30pm	Village Hall	Sue 01666 503370
Boot Camp	Tuesday	6.30 - 7.30pm	Playing Field	
Youth Club	Tuesday	6.00 - 8.00pm	Memorial Hall	Cassie 01453 834182
Adult Ballet	Wednesday	7.00 - 8.00pm	Memorial Hall	Sophie 07887 671956
WI	2nd Thursday each month		Memorial Hall	Doreen 01453 835090
Avening PC	3rd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Julie 01453 751823
Folk Club	Thursday	8.15pm	Cross Inn	Chris 01453 450010
Mobile Library	Every other Friday	12.30 - 12.50pm	Cherington Green	
Boot Camp	Saturday	10.00 - 11.00am	Playing Field	
Entertainment	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	Social Club	Derek 01453 835752
Quiz Nights	1st /3rd Saturday each month	7.30pm	Cross Inn	
Almost Angels Choir	Sunday	12.15pm	Holy Cross Church	Derrick 01453 835090

# Avening Roll of Honour

## No. 42

### William George Tanner

#### Private: 7th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment

On the 4th of August 1914, Great Britain declared war on Germany. Twenty days later, in Avening, at least three Avening men volunteered for army service and they left for Bristol where they completed their attestation along with others. Their service numbers help us understand their situation. All joined the 7th Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment. First in line was 10712 William G Tanner of Avening, 10713 was James Swain of South Wales, 10725 was Arthur Bennett of Cheltenham. He was followed by 10726 Hubert Ind of Bell Cottages, Avening and then, as 10727, came his cousin, Edwin George Ind of the High Street, Avening, all followed by 10734 William Bishop of London.

The military records are sparse to say the least, having suffered from the Blitz bombing of London in 1940 but we know that James Swain eventually transferred to the Tank Corps and then the Machine Gun Corps. Arthur Bennett was almost immediately discharged as being unfit for service (hearing defect).

After training, the Battalion was shipped with the Middle East Expeditionary Force to Gallipoli on the 19th June, 1915. William Bishop died there on the 8th August of that year. Hubert Ind (see Roll of Honour No 7) died three days later, neither of them have any known grave. Bill Tanner was injured in the hand from gunshot wounds three days later and was shipped on the MS Aquitania back to England on the 22nd of that month for surgery and recovery.

He was fit again for service six months later and was posted back to the 7th Battalion, which by that time had moved to France, arriving back to his unit on the 14th February 1916.

The Battalion was in action at Loos in May and Bill received gunshot wounds again. The records quote: "In action 14th May 1916 at Loos was bombed when in the course of his duty he was jointing wire around a bomb sap". He was taken to hospital in Rouen with wounds, again to his right hand but also to his face. The following day he was returned to hospital in England.

Bill was invalided out of the service on the 10th November 1916 and was awarded a pension from that day by a Medical Board in Sutton Coldfield.

Before his service, Bill was a baker probably working for Hubert Fowles at Point House but it is unlikely that he returned to that work because of his disability.

He was the eldest child of six children born to George Tanner, a sawmill worker, and his wife Lucy Ann (nee Newman). The family lived next door but one to the Butcher's Arms in Point Road in the 1911 census, almost opposite to the bakery.

Bill does not appear in the Holy Cross baptism records so he may have been brought up as a Baptist. He was unmarried and was awarded three medals - the 1915 Star, the Victory and British Medals.

He was buried at Holy Cross on Saturday the 22nd October 1921 but his grave is unmarked.

Such are the fortunes of war, that the remaining colleague, Edwin Ind, survived the war, apparently physically unscathed.

***Fred Vening***

### **Our Roll of Honour**

Bill Tanner is the last of our listed World War 1 casualties, dying in 1921 as a result of his injuries.

Our memorial to WW1 heroes is listed in chronological order and I shall now attempt to carry on the investigations into those who died in the Second World War. In our Church, this memorial is listed alphabetically and I shall slavishly follow that pattern.

We failed on one of those listed for the First War - i.e. William Freeman. There is no mention of him, or any other "Freeman" in the 1891, 1901 or 1911 census returns for the village nor does his name feature in the Holy Cross baptism records. Can anyone help as to his identity?

The other kerfuffle was over Walter Ind. There were three Walter Inds born in the village between 1890 and 1892 and I managed to confuse myself, and probably you as well, with my report in last November's issue on mixed information. I cleared this up, thanks to the assistance of Ann Brick who made a visit to Stroud library to search the newspapers of the day. The Walter Ind I reported on last month was correct!!

***Fred Vening***

## **Rose Simmonds 1938-2012**

Rose lived in these villages for most of her life and was one of the colourful threads that made up the rich tapestry of old Avening. Those times when everyone knew each other and, indeed, were often related in some way. They grew up together and went to school together, and on getting married, found a house in order that their children should grow up here too.

Rose was born in Nag's Head to the well established family, the Ockwells. She was one of a family of four, the only girl with three brothers. They all went to school in Cherington. Her first job was with Newman Hinders when most of the workforce was from these villages. Rose was always full of energy and loved sport and played with the Women's football team. She met Bernard Simmonds and they got engaged to be married but tragically two weeks before their wedding her father Percy Ockwell died. Being the selfless person she was, Rose immediately offered to move in with her mother so that she and Bernard could help look after the two young boys. Her mother was still living in Lawrence Road and this is where Rose's daughter, Helyn was born.

When Helyn was three years old, Rose and Bernard bought their first house in Rectory Lane, but even though she was working full time at Pressboards and had her own child, she still helped her mother in every way she could. Her mother developed a brain tumour and died soon afterwards, and once again Rose came to the rescue and took her young brother Larry into their own home, as he suffered from epilepsy, and needed constant care.

It was about this time that Rose changed her job and went to work at her cousin's fruit and veg shop in Nailsworth only to turn back to Pressboards later on.

My most vivid memory of Rose was when she joined the Udalls at the Garage. Both she and Molly used to love to tease and chat with the customers so filling up with petrol was always fun. Woe betide any stranger who offended Molly in any way as they were soon told to go and buy their petrol somewhere else..... and were chased off the forecourt.

As I said Rose appeared to have endless energy and would offer to look after any neighbour in trouble. She was a particularly good friend to Mrs Seggie, the school teacher from Avening, and loyally cared for her until she died.

Helping out her friends and neighbours became a little easier when she learnt to drive and she became in great demand to take people to Minchinhampton or Nailsworth for dentists and Doctor's appointments. When the Schrodgers, a London family, moved to Sandford House, Rose went to be their housekeeper. However many hours she had to work, she loved to help with her two grandchildren, Sam and Rebecca, so enabling

Helyn to find a part time job.

In 2001 her husband Bernard died, and this seemed to be the point when Rose's health began to fail. She was diagnosed with breast cancer, and when she finally recovered after months of treatment, it was only to be told that she had been diagnosed with a degenerative brain disease called 'Supra Nuclear Palsy'. For the last five years Rose suffered with this hateful complaint and finally had to move away from Avening to a bungalow in Tetbury. She resisted going into a care home so as not to lose her West Highland dog, Louis, who we all remember being constantly at her side when walking in the village. Helyn found a good home for him and Rose bravely kept going until the last few months when she then had to go the Priory Nursing Home where she was well cared for, and very fond of those looking after her.

Until the end the high points of her day were the visits of her much loved family and Joyce Howell, her dear and faithful friend.

Rose was special in so many ways .....generous with her time.....always putting others before herself.....deeply caring and loving. In spite of the many difficulties in her life, particularly so in the end, Rose never complained. As we say our last farewells, we trust that Rose is in that special place prepared for her by our Lord Jesus Christ, and reunited with all whom she loved.

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# Village People

Life's Great – but it can be a bit of a .....

## Bob Pittam's Story

Those who go to the Remembrance Sunday service each year will recognise Bob as he stands by the church door, wearing the distinctive red beret of the Parachute Regiment. He and Kim work tirelessly for the Legion, raising considerable sums from the sale of poppies, wreaths and memorial crosses, even in these times of financial stringency.

I knew that Bob's life must have been an interesting one. I am so grateful that he shared his memories with me. These are only some of them – there are so many more.



His early life was spent in Coventry. He had four sisters. His brother died in infancy and his mother suffered additional numerous miscarriages. Bob says 'one thing the family was not short of was poverty'. His father was employed as a beat keeper on a local estate, but the daily journey to work proved arduous and he eventually found work in Coventry in a chain manufacturing company. However, his experiences in the war, combined with this gruelling work, meant that he had to retire early. Bob remembers finding his first 'job', when he was thirteen, thus helping the struggling family.

Bob had only one ambition and that was to join the army, as had so many of his family before him. First there was the tiresome business of school to endure. This was made easier by the wonderful summer holidays in the country that he and his siblings enjoyed, staying with their Aunt Lucy, a remarkable woman, who took snuff and enjoyed remarkable acuity of sight, despite having only one eye. She eventually lived to the great age of 107. Bob's lifelong love of the country, animals and country sports was born during these happy summers.

Eventually, released from school, in 1968, at the age of fifteen, Bob set off to join the Junior Parachute Company at Aldershot. He took with him his worldly goods in a paper bag - a toothbrush, a clean pair of pants and a T-shirt. At Aldershot he was taught the basics of square-bashing and given some additional academic education. The ultimate test in P Company came next. Failure, in any part of this, would mean that a career with the Regiment would not have been an option for Bob. The tasks included a 'swimming

test', swinging on a trapezium high above water and doing forward, then backward somersaults, followed by a dive. Bob could swim. Not all his companions could. Then came the boxing ring; hitting your opponent in the face, while he similarly laid into you, for a minute, or until one was knocked down. There were speed marches, covering ten miles in 1hour 40mins carrying a pack of 120 lbs, known as Tactical Advance to Battle. and tasks testing abilities to work with heights. All these were exacting, but the one that Bob remembers as nearly breaking him, was the log race, which involved marching/running with five others, carrying a telegraph pole over the roughest terrain imaginable for several miles. Finally, there was the Pen-y-Fan ascent, carried out at night. It is hardly surprising that of the thirty-nine who started the course with Bob, only nine were able to complete it.

After this, the spell at the Battle School in Brecon, learning the skills of an infantryman must have been almost restful. Better still was the month at Abingdon, being taught the art of parachute jumping and enjoying RAF food!

So, two years after joining the Junior Parachute Company, Bob won the coveted red beret and his Wings. He joined D Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, as a machine gun specialist and saw action in Northern Ireland and Malaya over the next seven years. Some of his experiences were harrowing and they continued to haunt him, but he was proud of his job and what eventually happened was devastating.

His last jump found him looking up to see the parachute had failed to open properly – no time to pull the reserve before the heavy landing and serious injury, leading to his medical discharge from the army in 1977. He left feeling utterly disconsolate, suddenly without the career he'd worked so hard for, and without his friends.

But, Bob is not one to give up and he found himself employment in a number of areas. Then one day he hit upon the plan of buying a JCB and starting his own ground works company. There was only one small problem. He could not actually drive a JCB; but - no problem - he knew a man who could, and he taught him. So from very small beginnings, he established a most successful business. It was only the difficulties of the 1990s, experienced by many, that forced him to close it.

Again Bob found all sorts of other work. His love of the countryside found him herding cattle on their way to Africa onto a giant Antomov freighter, flown by Russians, whose attitude to flying could best be described as intrepid. On one occasion, when Bob was working in Hungary, the weather was atrocious, but the Russian pilot decided that he would fly anyway. In the midst of the flight there came the most tremendous bang, which, it was discovered, was the result of the plane being struck by lightning.



It was during this period of his life that he and Kim got together. Initially, they lived in Cornwall, but Bob did not find it easy to settle there. Fortunately, he managed to find employment with DEFRA and that is how they came to be in Avening, first living in Sunground and then in recent years in West End. Here they enjoy the country idyll, living with five dogs, ducks, chickens and ferrets.

In Avening they both made their mark in the community. Bob, undaunted by redundancy from DEFRA, gained his accreditation as a mole catcher, which can mean full time employment in Avening! Kim meantime became well known and popular when she managed the Village shop, at its old site and also offered her pet grooming service. In typical original fashion, Bob decided to pursue another interest of his, historic sailing vessels. He enrolled in one of the local crafts courses, and built his own coracle. He has used it on a number of occasions, although apparently it is currently awaiting repairs.

Bob's injured knee continued to give him considerable pain and he recently underwent surgery. It has been a long slow journey to recovery, but hopefully he will be able to sail his coracle again soon!

*Frances Conway*

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# *Avening Playgroup*

This term has been a busy one! The children have been enjoying lots of activities, which help to develop their hand/eye co-ordination and fine motor skills. They have been playing with playdough, threading beads, playing with pegboards and lego and doing lots of painting and mark making. Our older children are very proud of the fact that they can all get their coats and boots on and off by themselves. Despite the cold weather the children are enjoying playing outside each day well wrapped up in hats and gloves.

The children were very interested in learning about the Chinese New Year, as 2012 is the Year of the Dragon. They made dragon models and puppets, learnt about the 12 animals used in the Chinese calendar and which animal represents the year in which they were born. They played with rice and chopsticks and sampled Chinese food at snack time. A group of children worked together to decorate a box for the dragon's head that was joined together with a fabric tail to make a large dragon for the children to dance underneath.

The children finished the term by making a Valentines Day Card for their family.

We are currently taking details of children who will be between the ages of 3 and 4 during the forthcoming September 2012-13 term. If you would like your child to join Avening Playgroup please phone Debbie on any weekday morning on 01453 832695.

***Deb Carter***



# Olympic Duck Races 2012



*Ducks massing at the starting gate, barely able to control their excitement.....*

**Get your "Duck for all Races" early as sold out in 2011!**

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

**Avening Church Fete**

**Sunday July 1st, 2012.**

This is London Olympic Year and medals will be available for the races so don't miss out on a lifetime chance to win one. As a special addition for Olympic year, if you purchase your "Duck for all races" before the 31st March 2012 then you can decorate your own duck to your chosen specification. You must have it back to us by the end of May 2012 and no dodgy duck decor please, this is a family event! All this for £20, a good discount on normal race entry fees.

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

**Quacks Away for a great 2012!!**

## *Letters to the Editor*

Dear All,

At the Parish Council meeting we have been talking about the Cotswold Stone Walls in Avening.

The Cotswolds AONB run training courses to repair Cotswolds Stone walls and are always on the lookout for new sites. The landowner pays for the stone but the labour is provided by the people running the training courses and the trainees.

If you have walls that need mending, please can you send me your name and full address with postcode, a photograph (in a small format), saying how long the wall is, and whether there is a deadline for completion of the work. I will pass all the information onto David Molloy at the Cotswolds AONB and he can then say whether they are able to help and will choose the most appropriate ones for their beginners to work on.

Do feel free to forward this email to your other networks and contacts.

Kind regards

***Julie Wickham***

***Clerk to Avening Parish Council***

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# A Bit of History About Beacons.....

A beacon is prepared for Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee  
- Burton on Trent 1897



Her Majesty The Queen has graciously agreed to light the National Beacon on Monday 4th June following the concert at Buckingham Palace. In the history of this country, the only other Monarch to achieve a reign of 60 years was Queen Victoria (1819-1901) who reigned as Queen of the UK and Ireland for a total of 63 years. In 2012, The Queen will become the second Monarch in British history to celebrate 60 years on the throne. The opportunity to witness and celebrate an occasion as

unique as this can not be understated and already preparations to mark the occasion across the world are gathering great pace as plans for a spectacular Diamond Jubilee begin.

Britain has a long history of beacon lighting spanning many hundreds of years. We have celebrated Royal Weddings, Jubilees and Coronations by lighting beacons on village greens, castle battlements, church towers, farms, beaches, front gardens, car parks and mountain tops!

A beacon chain, once used as a tool for communication, has now become a symbol of unity across towns, borders, countries and continents and is often the central point of focus for any outdoor gathering or celebration.

In 1897 beacons were lit nationally to celebrate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee. In 1977 and 2002 beacons were lit to celebrate The Queen's Silver and Golden Jubilees. On Monday 4th June 2012, the aim is to light 2,012 (or more) beacons - the length and breadth of the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, Isle of Man, the Commonwealth and other countries around the world to mark this important and historic moment in The Queen's Reign.

Over the last three decades beacons have been lit to celebrate important historic occasions/anniversaries including the following in the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth and the European Union countries:

- i) Operation Seafire – beacons were lit around the coastline of England on 31st December 1981 to officially launch the start of Maritime England, a project facilitated by the English Tourist Board for that year. The National Beacon was located on the beach at Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, and was lit by Lord Nelson, direct descendant of Horatio Nelson. (Bonfire Beacon)
- ii) Fire Over England – a chain of beacons was lit throughout England and

Armada off the coastline of England. The National Beacon was positioned on The Lizard, Cornwall, and was lit by the Spanish Ambassador to the Court of St James. (Beacon Brazier with metal shield, fuelled by wood and straw.)

iii) Beacon Europe – on 31st December 1992 a chain of beacons was lit across the then 12 countries of the European Union in celebration of the official opening of the single European Market. The National Beacon was located in the grounds of The Honourable Artillery Company, London, and was lit by the Prime Minister of the time, John Major MP. (Beacon Brazier, gas-fired.)

iv) VE Beacons – a chain of beacons was lit across the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of VE Day in 1995. The National Beacon was located in Hyde Park, London, and was lit by Her Majesty The Queen. (Beacon Brazier, gas-fired.)

v) Beacon Millennium – on 31st December 1999 a chain of beacons was lit across the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man in celebration of the start of the new millennium. The National Beacon was located on a barge on the River Thames, London, and was lit by Her Majesty The Queen. (Giant Beacon Brazier, gas-fired.)

vi) Golden Jubilee Summer Party – a chain of beacons was lit on the 3rd June 2002 across the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, the Commonwealth Countries and other locations around the world in celebration of Her Majesty The Queen's Golden Jubilee on 3rd June 2002. The National Beacon was located on the Queen Victoria Memorial, The Mall, London, and was lit by Her Majesty The Queen. (Golden Globe, gas-fired.)



vii) Trafalgar Weekend – a chain of beacons was lit across the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, in celebration of the Bi-centennial Anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar on 21st October 2005. The National Beacon was located alongside HMS Victory, Portsmouth, and was lit by Her Majesty The Queen. (Beacon Brazier, gas-fired)

Other major beacons in the UK that night were lit by HRH The Prince of Wales (Scotland – Beacon Brazier, gas-fired), HRH The Princess Royal (Wales – large Bonfire Beacon), HRH The Duke of York (Greenwich, London – Beacon Brazier, gas-fired), HRH The Earl of Wessex (Northern Ireland – Church Tower Beacon, gas-fired).

***(Thank you to Click Mitchell for submitting this article)***



# Avening Primary School

## PARENTS PROVIDE THE 'ICING ON THE CAKE'!

The 'Friends of Avening School' (or FOAS as they are affectionately known) have been described as providing the 'icing on the cake' for the children and staff at our school. Whilst the school is extremely well resourced, the funds

raised throughout the year by the hard working mums and dads who make up FOAS, provide those little extras which can make such a big difference.



*Parents help with the new school garden*

classrooms.

In the past year their varied fundraising exploits have paid for a whole host of school 'extras' including subsidising swimming lessons, coaches for the Christmas theatre trips, plants for the new school garden and a variety of new equipment for the

Fundraisers range from Friday after school treats (cookies, cakes or ice cream depending on the weather); raffles; craft markets and whole school cake sales. **This term FOAS will hold an Easter Market in the Village Hall on 23 March from 3pm until 6pm.**

For the parents, recent FOAS events have offered them an opportunity to 'step back in time'. A 1940s ball at Chavenage and a 1980s disco in the village hall



*'Fun in the Park' last summer*

were huge successes, raising large amounts of money for the school and giving parents and friends memorable evenings at the same time. This year we are looking forward to 'Avenstock' – our own Avening version of Woodstock. In a celebration of the music and style of this 1960s era, we expect to see attendees go to town with their flower power outfits.



*Let's Get Cooking!*

**If you love all things 1960s and would like to come to 'Avenstock', please contact FOAS members Amanda Sanders on 07745 388012 or Katie Turner on 07968 030219**

The pupils have lots of opportunities to get involved too – not only in attending fundraising events, but also in helping to run them. In February they had fun at a school disco held in the village Social Club. In the summer FOAS organise 'Fun in the Park' events where the children are encouraged to set up and run their own stalls such as 'beat the goalie', nail and face painting.

In addition to the fun events pulled together through the committed FOAS members, parents also get involved in helping out with a whole host of other school activities, including:

- Working with teaching assistant Kelly Wilkinson for Lets Get Cooking sessions for the older children
- Running, and helping out with after school clubs
- Offering extra one-to-one reading opportunities for the children
- Helping with transport to and from various events including sports matches

Headteacher Diana Boulton says: "It is fantastic to have such supportive parents at this school as they really contribute to the whole school community. There's no doubt this involvement contributes to the happy, purposeful school we are!"

We have revamped and relaunched our website – take a look –  
[www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk).

In term time please contact 01453 833191

***Michele Wheatley***

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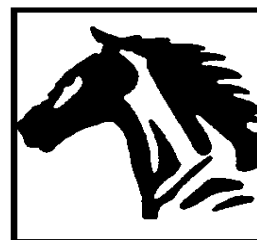
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**Avening Social Club**

We were sorry the weather caused the postponement of the return visit of the Boogie Bop Boys but they will now be with us on Sat. April 7th. Meanwhile on Sat. March 3rd a "Request Disco" will be held where the DJ will play your favourite records from the 60's to the 80's.  
All welcome.

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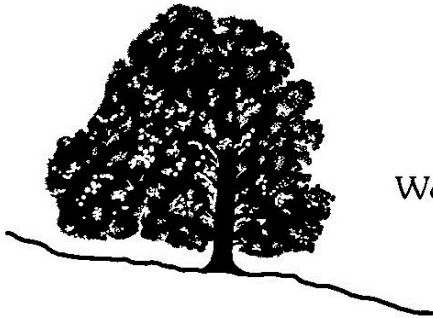
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The year has started with a good range of events for members. We had a friendly skittles match at the Avening Social Club with Tetbury W.I in January. It was an enjoyable light-hearted evening and the Avening ladies won!

The speaker at our February meeting was Jan Greenman. Her account of bringing up her autistic son Luke was inspiring and very moving. She spoke of times when Luke ate tea towels and socks, smashed furniture, and threatened to murder his sister, and then spoke of his achievements. Now 20 years old Luke drives, and does a considerable amount of public speaking in front of large audiences and is patron of 2 Charities for autistic people. Jan continues to be exasperated by Luke's behaviour but is rightly very proud of what he has achieved.

We were lucky to have a lovely sunny, spring like morning for our W.I walk. Seven members and three honorary 4 legged members enjoyed a circular walk taking in Cherington Lake where we found a delightful bank of snowdrops. The photo shows the snowdrops in the background. At the end of the walk we were all invited to have home made soup and delicious puddings at Shirley Hand's house.



Sue Osborne has once again booked a coach this time for a visit to Oxford. This trip will be open to villagers as well as members. Keep the date free if you would like to come. It will be 13<sup>th</sup> June.

We are always happy to have new members. You can come along to any meeting for a taster as a visitor without committing to joining. Our meetings are held once a month on the second Thursday at 7.30pm. in the Avening Memorial Hall.

**Gwyneth Simpson**

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

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



*David Martin*

David Martin, local consultant,  
*Steele Rose & Co*

(Nailsworth & surrounding areas)

01453 836699 (M) 07973 405997

Email: [dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk)

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Members of the Society of Will Writers



# FRIENDS OF AVENING SCHOOL

## EASTER MARKET



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

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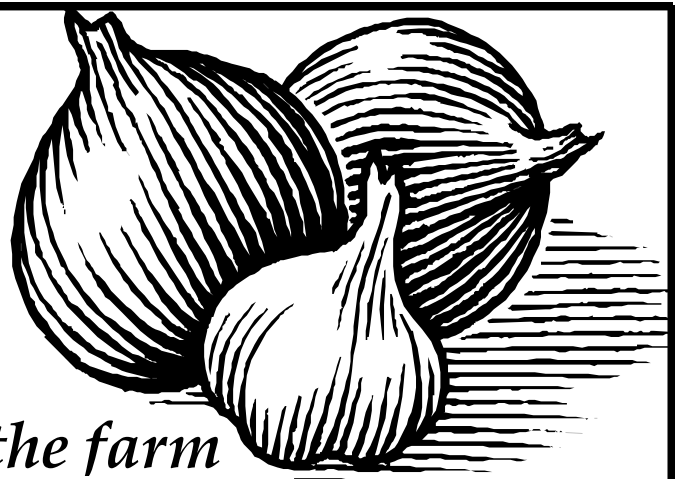
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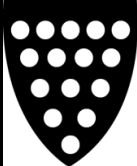


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★

★  
★ **SATURDAY APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>** ★  
★

★  
★ **FUN** ★  
★ **CHARITY** ★  
★ **QUIZ** ★



★  
★ **In support of St Nicholas Church** ★  
★ **Cherington** ★

★  
★ **Where:-** Cherington (venue to be confirmed) ★

★  
★ **Time:-** 7.30 ★

★  
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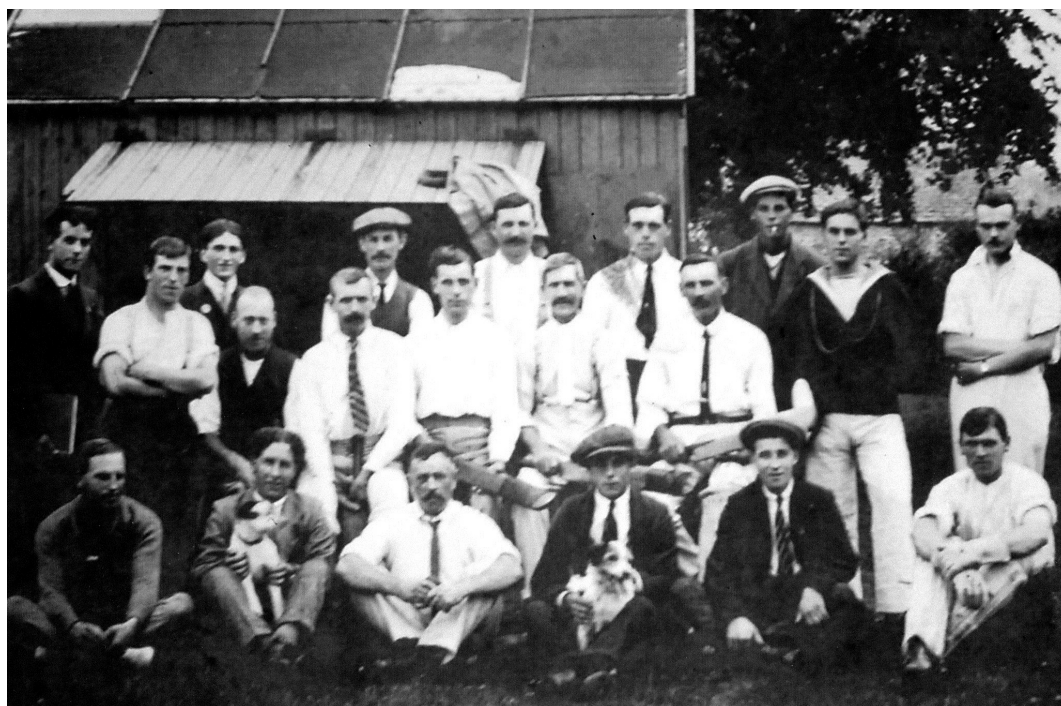
\*\*\*\*\*  
★  
★ **February 1942.....** ★

In order to preserve stocks of imported oils and fats, soap rationing was introduced in Britain. Under the new rules, people were entitled to four ounces (110 grams) of household soap or two ounces (55 grams) of toilet soap, soap flakes or chips per person per month. A typical bar of toilet soap weighs 125 grams i.e. 10 weeks supply. I think as a youth we used mainly household soap and, at last I realise, why my mother insisted that my sister and I washed our hands together.....

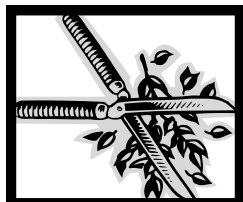
Incidentally, some ten days later, the rules were altered and it was announced that miners were exempt from the rationing!!

***Thank you to Fred Vening for this little snippet.....***

## Down Memory Lane



We asked in a recent edition if anyone could recognise any faces from this old photo, thought to be of an Avening cricket team between the wars. We were delighted to hear from Sylvia Fletcher, who said that the young man in the sailor top, second from the right, was Joseph Harry Fletcher, father of her late husband, Basil. She thinks that the photo must have been taken very shortly after the end of the First World War, as her father-in-law, who was always known as Harry, looks quite young in this picture, and he was born on 26th July, 1893. He served in the Navy at the very end of WW1 (hence the navel collar?) and was then employed at Chavenage House. Apparently he was an excellent cricketer and there was talk of him trying out for the County team. He died on 25th August 1951.



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# Cherington Parish Council

## **PLANNING**

Go to [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) then Planning Register for details

The following decisions have been made for the Parish of Cherington on 01 February 2012.

**Application:** 11/05207/FUL                      **Ward:** Avening  
**Date decided:** 1 February 2012  
**Decision:** Application Permit  
**Location:** Cherington House, Cherington, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8SN,  
**Proposal:** Construction of new two storey extension in place of demolished single storey extensions, together with renovation and re-roofing existing property

The following decisions have been made for the Parish of Cherington on 24 January 2012.

**Application:** 11/02925/FUL                      **Ward:** Avening  
**Date decided:** 24 January 2012  
**Decision:** Application Permit  
**Location:** The Gastons, Cherington, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8SL,  
**Proposal:** Proposed replacement dwelling (amendments to 06/00306/FUL)

## **LITTER PICK**

The annual litter pick will take place at 10am on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> March. Equipment will be provided, the Parish Council will be grateful for any help you can give so please come along

## **CAR PARK SPACES**

Two car park spaces have become available, please contact the Clerk if you wish to take any of these spaces.

## **JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS**

The spring newsletter will be distributed soon and it will give you some options for the celebrations. It will be planned so as not to clash with Avening's events so that if you so wish you can attend both.

## **GRITTING**

Thanks must go to Alison and Henry for manning the hand gritter, I understand it was a learning curve but worked quite well.

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012, 6.30pm in the Village Hall, all residents welcome to attend.

***Sue Russell, Clerk to Cherington Parish Council***



Preserve  
Conserve, Enhance

# Avening Parish Council

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & VILLAGE SHOWCASE**

This year's Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 24<sup>th</sup> May, at the Memorial Hall. At this meeting, as well as reporting on the Parish Council's work over the past year and asking you to help us identify priorities for the future, we would also like to showcase the depth and range of activities and services available to villagers. This means that, as well as hearing from the usual bodies or groups who receive grant aid from the Council, we will be inviting other groups\* or individuals\* to 'set out their stall' and showcase their work or activity.

The Parish Council would like this to be a key annual event and, in anticipation of a big turnout, will be providing light refreshments.

*\* We'll be sending out invitations to groups and individuals to put on a showcase. If you've not heard from us by the time the Villager is published and would like to 'book' a table, please contact the Clerk.*



## **SNOW, ICE AND GRIT BINS**



The Parish Council will be reviewing the provision of grit bins across the village at their March meeting. If you have any thoughts do get in touch.

The next time the Council will consider grit bins will be approximately March 2013 (this helps us keep costs down if we do this once a year).



## **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

We are seeking nominations for our Volunteer of the Year Award 2012 – please nominate a volunteer who has contributed to improving life in the village. Council will decide who has won the title at our April meeting and the award will be made at our Parish Meeting. Please either contact a Councillor, or the Clerk, to make your nomination by 13<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

## **PARISH COUNCIL ANNUAL GRANTS 2012**

Local groups who usually apply for their annual grant from the Parish Council will be sent a letter and form in April. If your contact details have changed

please let us know. The letter will contain all instructions that applicants will need to apply for their annual grant. Annual grants will be decided at the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2012 Parish Council meeting. If you have any questions please email or telephone the Clerk (details below).

**The next meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 19th April 2012 at 7.30pm, in the Memorial Hall. All Welcome.**

*Julie Wickham, Parish Clerk, PO Box 400,  
Stroud, GL6 1GZ Tel: 01453 751823  
Email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)*

*Julie Wickham, Parish Clerk, PO Box 400, Stroud, GL6 1GZ Tel: 01453  
751823  
Email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)*



## **The Mobile Police Station**

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Avening between 09.30 and 10.00  
Cherington between 10.15 and 10.45  
Both visits on **9th March.**

## **The Mobile Library**

This will call at Cherington on  
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12.30 - 12.50.

Tetbury Library have increased opening hours:

Tuesdays & Wednesdays 9.30am-5pm:

Fridays 9.30am-7pm.

Saturdays 9.30am-1pm.



# Useful Telephone Numbers

Avening Parish Council Clerk	Julie Wickham	01453 751823
Cherington Parish Council	Sue Russell	01666 503370
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Avening Sunday School	Debbie Brown	01453 835983
Avening Tower Captain	David Govier	01453 882914
Avening Primary School	Diana Boulton	01453 833191
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695 Home 835983
Avening Village Agent	Aileen Bendall	07810-630156
Avening Youth Club	Cassie Chesterman	01453 834182
A & C Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Friends of Avening School	Katie Turner	01453 832556
Cherington Village Hall	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Tennis @ Avening Park	Roger Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Group Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Avening History Project	Fred Vening fred@fvening.fsnet.co.uk	01285 850624
Stroud Hospital		01453 562200
Women's Institute	Maisie Stanton Wendy Jennings	01453 834679 01453 832881
The Cross Village Shop	Claire and Glyn Cross-	01453833240

## *Dates for your Diary*

Saturday 3rd March	60s, 70s and 80s Disco	Social Club	8.00pm
Wednesday 14th March	Lenten Supper	Lockstone Barn Cherington	7.30 - 9.00pm
Wednesday 21st March	Lenten Supper	Church Farm Point Rd	7.30 - 9.00pm
Friday 23rd March	FOAS Easter Market	Memorial Hall	3.00 -6.00pm
Wednesday 28th March	Lenten Supper	Park Farm Avening Park	7.30 - 9.00pm
Thursday 5th April	Agape Supper	Holy Cross Church	7.00pm
Friday 30th March - Monday 16th April	Easter Holidays	Avening Primary School	
Saturday 7th April	Boogie Bop Boys	Social Club	9.00pm
Saturday 28th April	Quiz	Cherington (venue tbc)	
Thursday 24th May	Avening Annual Meeting		
Monday June 4th	Queens Diamond Jubilee Party		6.30pm

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