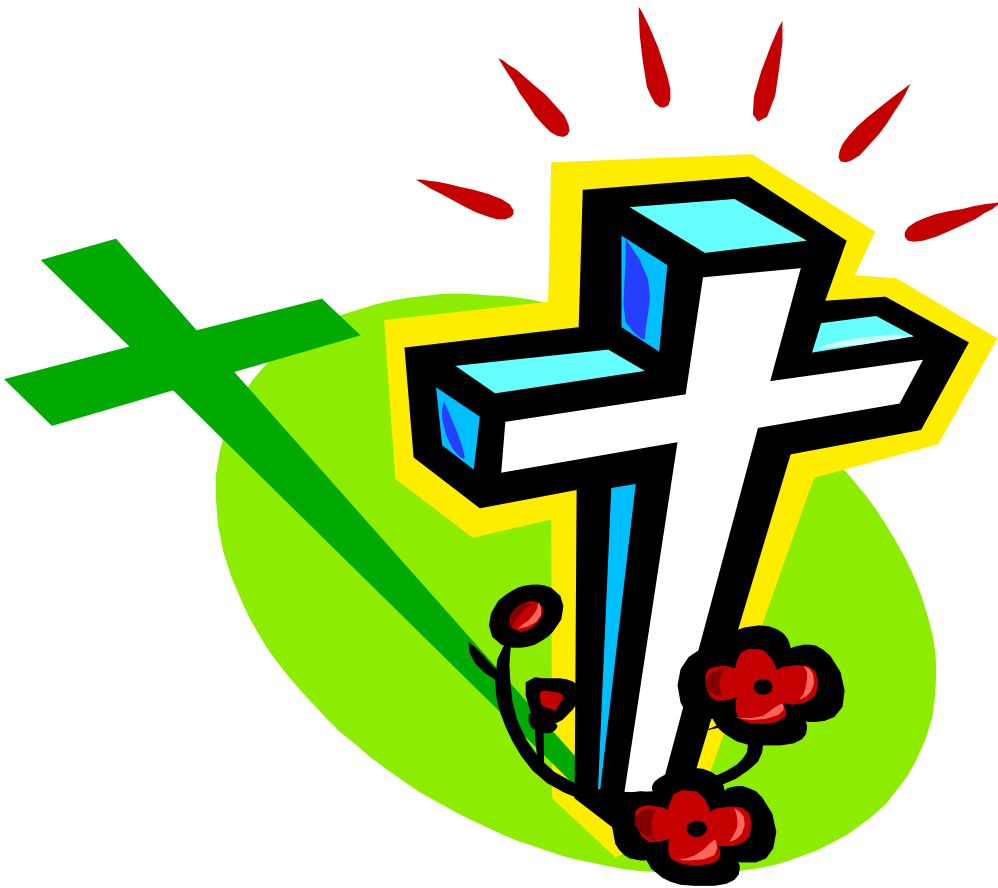


The Villager

A magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head

November 2008

50p



REMEMBRANCE DAY

Sunday November 9th 2008

10.50 am at Avening Church

6.00 pm at Cherington Church

Who to Contact

Parish Priest: The Reverend Celia Carter
Tel: 01453 832716 Fax: 01453 834885

Lay Reader: Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

AVENING:

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	Stephanie Hamilton	01453 834910
SACRISTAN	Gill Parsons	01453 832247
PCC SECRETARY	Margaret Barton	01453 835541
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ORGANIST	Stuart Walkley	01453 757784
FLOWER TEAM	Gill Parsons	01453 832247

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e mail villager@lindesay.demon.co.uk

DEADLINE FOR COPY 20th of each month

If you would like to have a copy of the magazine delivered to your home each month, please contact: Cas Boddam-Whetham 01453 834834

The Parish Letter

After the weeks of rain and wind – how thrilling it is to be enjoying this glorious Autumn with its richness of colour and warm sunshine. It is difficult to believe that winter is fast approaching – and that we are entering the traditional season of Remembrance. We are celebrating All Souls on Friday 31st October with a service of thanksgiving for those who have died – and on November 9th we will be remembering, with the rest of the country, the fallen of the two World Wars and those who have died in the service of our country in other conflicts.

It will be a time that we can be alongside those families who have lost a husband or son in the present fighting in Afghanistan and Iraq – and give thanks with them, for the courage and self sacrifice of the men and women of our Armed Forces. It must be particularly hard to bear the loss of a loved one – when the war that they are fighting on our behalf is so remote from most of us. It is right that we should take time to grieve with them and to be alongside them in their loneliness and pray for an end of conflict and fighting.

I hope that any of you who would like to lay a wreath – or a bunch of flowers at the foot of the Millennium Cross, after the Church Service, in memory and in gratitude, will do so at 12:00pm on 9th November. There will be many representatives of different nationalities – and of organisations laying wreaths of this time following a brief, secular service and I hope that you will join us.

Rev Celia

**A Service of Healing,
of quietness, music and prayer,
on Tuesday 25th November
at Holy Cross Church - 7pm**

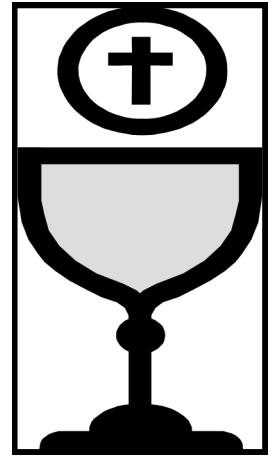
Come along, whether or not you are accustomed to church, and pray for loved ones, for yourselves, and for those suffering, whether in body, mind, or spirit.

SERVICES IN AVENING & CHERINGTON

Day/Date	Church	Time	Service
SUNDAY November 2nd <i>4th Sunday before Advent</i>	Avening	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	Cherington	9.30 am	Holy Communion BCW
ALL SAINTS DAY	Avening	11 am	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School. Dedication of Maud's cupboard
SUNDAY November 9th <i>3rd Sunday before Advent</i> REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY	Avening	8 am	NO SERVICE
	Avening	10.50am	Service of Remembrance followed by laying of wreaths at the Millennium Cross
	Cherington	6.00pm	Service of Remembrance
SUNDAY November 16th <i>2nd Sunday before Advent</i>	Avening	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	Cherington	9.30 am	Holy Communion BCP
	Avening	11 am	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
SUNDAY November 23rd <i>Festival of Christ the King</i>	Avening	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	Cherington	9.30am	Holy Communion BCW
	Avening	11 am	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
TUESDAY 25th November	Avening	7 pm	Service of Healing
SUNDAY November 30th <i>Advent Sunday</i>	Avening	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	Cherington	9.30 am	Holy Communion BCW
	Avening	11 am	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
SUNDAY December 7th <i>2nd in Advent</i>	Avening	8 am	Holy Communion BCP
	Cherington	9.30 am	Holy Communion BCW
	Avening	11 am	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School

Church Duties:

AVENING



Date	Sidespersons	Chalice Assistant	Sacristan
Nov 2nd	M Barton / J Pargetter	D Pierce	M Cox
Nov 9th	G Buchanan / H Graham-Munro	S Uzzell	G Parsons
Nov 16th	F Conway / K Lindesay	P.Lindesay	A Brick
Nov 23rd	C Boddam-Whetham / P Hansen	P Brown	P Sanders
Nov 30th	S Hamilton / M Barton	D Pierce	G Parsons
Dec 7th	G Buchanan / M Barton	P Lindesay	

Avening Church Floodlighting

October 13th In loving memory of Nicky on her birthday, from all the family.

October 19th On St Luke's Day, for all doctors and nurses, Christine Duff and Elizabeth Buchanan

October 24th In loving memory of John Pargetter from his family

If you would like to have the church floodlit to commemorate a loved one or to celebrate a special event, please contact

Paul Brown 01453 835983

The cost is £5 for 2 hours

Avening Roll of Honour No. 10

Samuel Fletcher

Private: 10th Battalion Gloucestershire Regiment

The day of Wednesday the 13th of October 1915 dawned bright and sunny over the Loos battlefield. This was the 19th day of the "Big Push" during which Avening had already lost two of its sons - Charles William Fletcher (Roll of Honour No. 8) and Charles Smith (Roll of Honour No. 9). Samuel Fletcher was in the same battalion (10th Gloucestershire) as Charles William which had been billeted in Cheltenham in November 1914, moved to Salisbury Plain in April 1915 and landed in France on the 8th of August.

Sam had survived the first day of the battle and the battalion was withdrawn from the front line and spent up to the early days of October resting and training. At this time, the battalion also suffered a mumps epidemic.

They were called for again on the 7th of October although reduced from a full strength of 750 down to 400 men. Initially, they occupied British Support Line trenches. On the 11th, they moved further forward into a battle position and were to attack 1400 yards of enemy positions along the Le Brasse-Lens Road, south west of Hulloch.

At midnight of the 12th/13th they took up their position in the firing line and spent the morning drawing bombs and making final preparations. There was an initial artillery bombardment, aimed to cut the German wire and a gas attack, starting at 1pm. The gas was stopped at 1.50pm, giving the enemy evidence of an imminent attack and the battalion, along with their comrades of the 1st Brigade and 1st Division, went over the top at precisely 2pm. Because of the prior warning, they immediately met fire of increasing intensity from rifle, small arms and machine guns and then found that only four passages had been cut through the wire. Despite efforts to break through, the attack was halted, by which time the battalion had lost a further 150 men wounded, killed or missing. Sam (aged 26) was one of the latter. He has no known grave but is remembered on the Loos Memorial, tended by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

He was posthumously awarded the British Medal, the Victory Medal

Marie Cuss 1915-2008

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all the lovely people in Cherington for their kindness, love and support after the death of my dear Mother. The flowers, cards and letters have helped Marlene, Chris and me so much through this difficult time.

Wendy Eldridge

ADVENT DEBATES

There will be a series of supper & debating evenings during Advent to which all are invited.

They will take place on:

Wednesdays December 3rd, 10th and 17th.

at 7.00pm. December 3rd at Avening Park

Other venues to be advised.

Please see next month's Villager

Continued from previous page

and the 1915 Star.

He was one of the eight children of Henry Fletcher and his wife Esther (nee Glastonbury) being born on Thursday the 17th of January 1889 and was baptised aged 93 days on Saturday the 20th of April in Holy Cross Church, Avening. From the Parish Records we can trace his Fletcher ancestry back a further three generations to William Fletcher born in the mid-1700s. We have been unable to locate any immediate relatives.

Fred Vening

My Trip to Flanders Fields

From a very young age I often wondered what the five gleaming medals hanging in a wooden picture frame in our hallway were for and who they belonged to. When I asked my dad, he told me they belonged to my great-grandfather, Charles Albert Russell - who I am named after. Charles enlisted in the British Army on 29th May 1915 and then spent over three years on the Western Front in the Kings Royal Rifle Corps, during which time he was wounded twice and won the Military Medal for bravery in the field. Ever since then, I have always been fascinated by the First World War knowing that my grandfather played such a part in it.

Also in our house however, was another medal, a brass commemorative medal, which simply said 'He died for freedom and honour' and then gave a name, Alfred Cokayne. Dad was able to tell me that Alfred was Charles's brother-in-law. Dad knew Alfred had married Dorothy - Charles's sister - only two days before he was sent to France and then was killed in action just a few days later, but other than that he knew little else. As a child dad could remember going with his mother to have tea with Dorothy; she never re-married but lived a widow's life with a female companion until she died in the 1970's.

So when my school offered me the opportunity to visit the battlefields I jumped at the chance.

Before I went, I did some research on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website and found out that Alfred fought at Thiepval ridge which was on the British front line. He fought as a Lance Corporal until the 18th of October 1916 when he was reported missing and presumed dead. His body was never identified so he had no marked grave but was remembered at Thiepval memorial, France. To my amazement, this was one of the three War cemeteries that we would be visiting on our trip. When I read more into it, I was shocked to find out that the day that we would be visiting the memorial was on the 18th of October 2008, exactly 92 years to the day from when Alfred was killed in action.

A few days later we arrived in France and what I saw on the border between France and Belgium shocked me. I went not expecting to be too affected by the battlefields and the memorials in and around Flanders, but as soon as I turned the corner at our first destination -Tyne Cot Cemetery and saw a hillside of what looked like white snow, I

instantly felt a lump in my throat and struggled to hold back my tears. Looking around, I soon realised that the rest of my group felt the same. The sun was just going down and a strange pink glow was cast upon the 12,000 white memorial stones that stood in front of us.



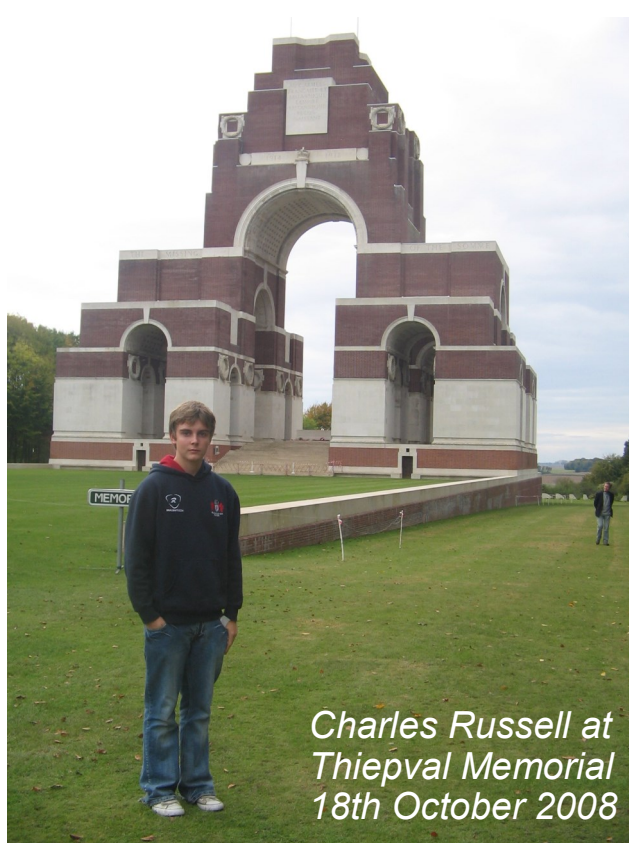
Over the days we

Fields of Snow at Tyne Cot

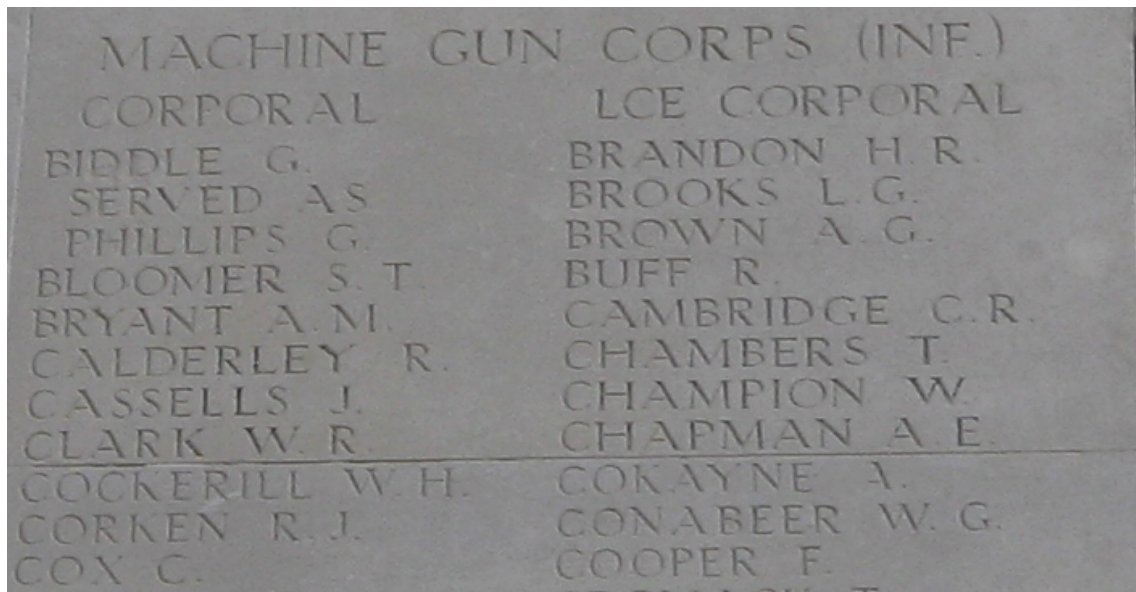
next three visited

The Flanders Field Museum at Ypres, The Menin Gate, Newfoundland

monument – near where the Allies and Germans played football together on Christmas Day - Vimy Ridge, and the Thiepval Memorial on the Somme front line. It was here that I hoped to find the plaque commemorating my Great Great Uncle Alfred Cokayne. I first checked at the Visitor Centre and was given a rough location, but even so the memorial was so vast that after almost half an hour I had still not found it and began to think that perhaps it wasn't there, but then finally I saw it.....Lance-Corporal Alfred Cokayne, Machine Gun Corps (Infantry).



Charles Russell at Thiepval Memorial 18th October 2008



I
to

felt so
happy
at long
last be
with

him, the first Russell to visit him, I stayed there quietly thinking for about 15 minutes and then laid the single red rose that mum had given me below his name.

In a few days time it will be Remembrance Sunday, and we will all put on hold our busy lives just for a few minutes to remember the millions of soldiers who died fighting for us all those years ago, I hope they all have someone who remembers their name.

Charles Russell

Fred Stevens

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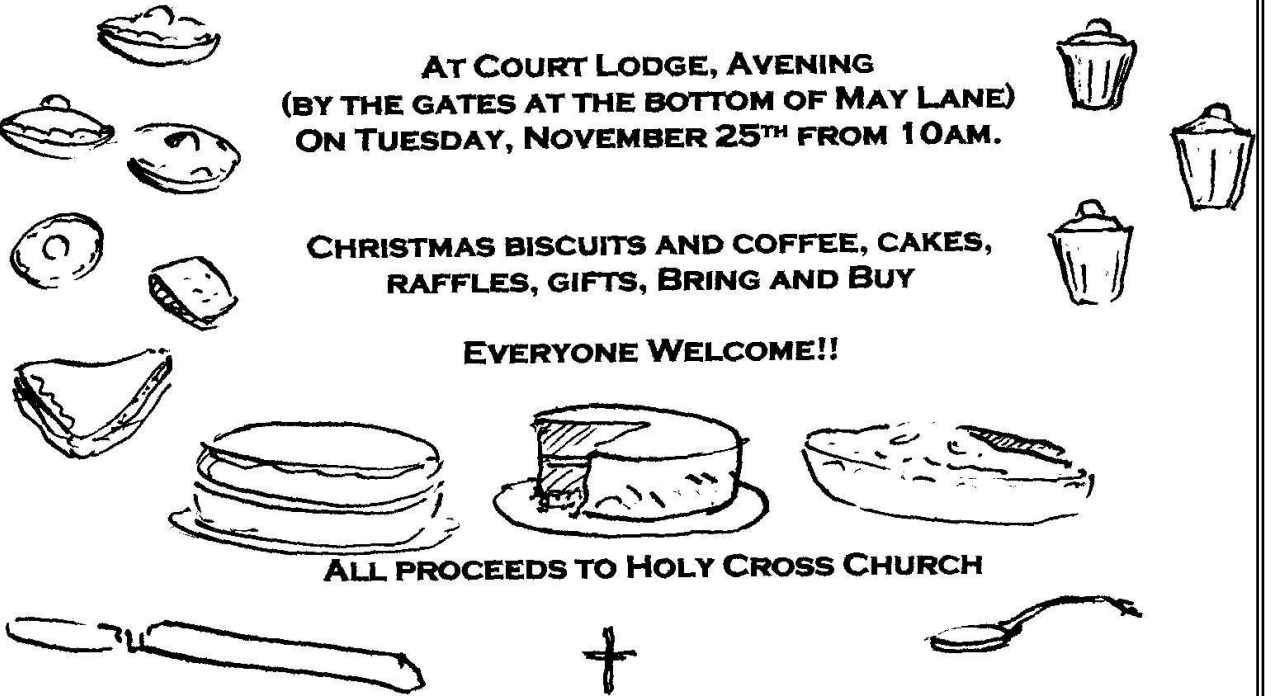


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EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS & POTTERY

John Bailey will be holding his Christmas Exhibition at Winsley Cottage, Oakridge Lynch from Saturday 29th October to Sunday 7th December 2008. The exhibition, which is in aid of Cancer Research, will feature watercolour paintings of the Stroud Valleys, Cornwall, Brittany, Mallorca, Croatia and Barbados.

There will also be a wide range of pottery for sale, including Stoneware bowls, colourful terracotta and raku pots.

The exhibition will be open from 11 am to 5 pm each day and you can contact John on 01285 760679 for further information.

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HOLY CROSS AVENING

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Saturday 13th December

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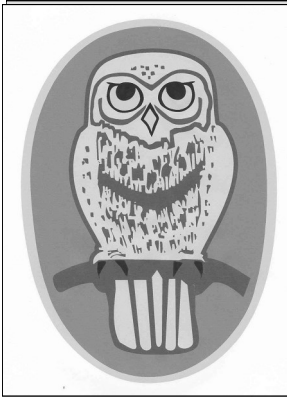
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Avening School

AVENING SCHOOLCHILDREN CELEBRATE HARVEST

On Friday 24 October, Avening pupils enjoyed the Harvest Celebration, proudly displaying their latest creations - three large golden 'Wheatsheaf' loaves!

The day before, Clive Mellum from local organic flour company, Shipton Mill, visited the school and helped the children to get into the Harvest spirit by giving them a 'hands on' bread-making lesson in which all the children played their part in collectively making the Wheatsheaf loaves.



Children from the Eagles Class making their Wheatsheaf loaf

Each of the 106 children shaped several ears of corn to contribute to the large sheaves which were also decorated with little harvest mice. The children learned more about how the corn is threshed and the grain is milled into flour before the bread can be made.

The Harvest Celebration itself had as its theme 'Bread for the World'. The musical items prepared by every class brought together songs and music from around the world – Australia, Germany and Brazil –

as well as traditional English tunes. The older pupils told the story of 'La Petite Poule Rousse' better known to us as 'The Little Red Hen', enjoying their new confidence in speaking French.

The School decided to spread the Harvest Festival spirit further by using the occasion to celebrate its Action Aid sponsorship of Indian boy, Avinash and to provide him and his community with further support.



Children from the Kestrels putting the finishing touches onto their Wheatsheaf

In the run up to the Harvest Celebrations, the years 5 and 6 football team enjoyed themselves in a number of football matches, memorably commentated upon by Y6 pupil, Jack Turner.

6 GOALS IN 4 GAMES FOR AVENING, BUT STILL NO VICTORY!

By Jack

On Tuesday the 21st of October, Avening went to play an 8-a side football tournament.

The 1st game was against Rodborough. It ended up as a 4-1 defeat. It was 1-1 at half time, Elliot being the goal scorer for us. After half time, it all went downhill. Lady Luck was not on our side and we conceded 3 more goals.

After that, we played King's Stanley. We went 1-0 up by a goal from myself. Modesty prevents me from telling you how good a strike it was! Unfortunately, King's Stanley didn't get put under pressure; they scored twice before half time. After that, King's Stanley scored another 3. I scored again (Rooney, eat your heart

out!). This was only a consolation goal; it was virtually the last kick of the game. The final score was 5-2 to King's Stanley.

Our next match was against Gastrells, the toughest team of the tournament. A wonder strike from Elliot put us in front. Gastrells equalised before the break. They scored twice just after too. Angus put in our second. However Gastrells scored again. It was yet another defeat, this time 4-2 was the score line.

Our final match was against Park School, the hosts of the tournament. It was a 1-1 draw. No goals were scored up to half time. Then Park scored early in the second half. Elliot equalised with 2 minutes to go and enforced the draw.

Still no victory. However, Juan de Ramos has been scouting our team so he can boost the Spurs squad (surely we can't be that bad...).

Our squad:

*Adam,
Gregory,
Sholto,
Jordan,
Elliot,
Angus,
Jack (me!),
Katie.*

Special
Mr
for being an
coach and
who helped
transport.



thanks to
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excellent
the parents
with

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Avening Playgroup

The Children have been making the most of the beautiful autumn mornings that we have had recently. They have been particularly interested in looking at the spiders' webs on the gates and bushes inside playgroup. With the webs covered in drops of dew and the sun shining on them, they look really pretty when the children arrive in the mornings. Inspired by these the children have made some lovely blow and stick paintings of webs with silver paint.

Making the most of our location, we took the children on a lovely walk through the woods collecting leaves of different shapes and colours, which they then used to print some lovely collages. They have also enjoyed drawing and printing with apples and planting spring bulbs in the vegetable garden.

At this time of year we teach the children about Divali. They really enjoyed dancing to Indian music, making chalk rangoli pictures and mendi hand patterns. Making Indian sweets and sampling Indian foods at snack time is also very popular with the children.

A date for your diaries: the ever popular **Christmas Bazaar**
Saturday 6th December at Avening Village Hall at 2pm.

For more information on the playgroup/ toddlers please call:
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Pig Face Day Photographs

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All orders are to be placed by Sunday 16th November and your prints will be ready for collection from the Corner Shop by the end of the month. The Village Grapevine should tell you when!

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ian.peters@homecall.co.uk

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“He reads much; he is a great observer.”

By Ann Tarlton

This comment refers to Cassius in Shakespeare’s Julius Caesar and it could equally well have applied to each and every one of us who attended this year’s Cheltenham Literature Festival.

For two weeks in October, Cheltenham takes on a different mantle - forget the racing, forget the shops - it becomes the mecca for those of us who find that life would be fairly intolerable if we were unable to get our daily “fix” of reading. Be it an article in a magazine, the daily press or, best of all, a really good book.

And that is what Cheltenham turns on for these two autumnal weeks. The 2008 festival has proved to be the most successful ever, pulling in 100,000 visitors. When the programme arrives in early August, it is pored over in eager anticipation. Then comes the crunch moment. Just who, out of this galaxy of writers and artists, do we want to hear. I’m sure that those of you who have had the good fortune to (a) see the brochure and (b) attend the festival will know exactly what I mean when I say it turns into a complete nightmare having to select a handful - and quite a large one at that- of, for want of a better expression, is our A list.

It’s always easy to pick out the ones you don’t want to go to but this year they seemed to be in the minority so then it was a case of settling down with Geoffrey and being excessively strong-minded. I think we made all the right choices and were able to get seats for all the events we chose. This is the other thing you have to remember- if you don’t act within almost 24 hours of the brochure landing on the mat you find that all the seats for the most popular events have gone . Julie Walters was an instant sell-out and had a full house.

As most of the speakers are, naturally enough, authors they are talking about their most recent book and indeed the Waterstone’s Book tent is piled high with copies all ready to be bought and signed, if you wish, by the author. But not only do they talk about their book, they also reveal little snippets about themselves. Did you know, for instance, that Kate Adie, the intrepid war correspondent, who has been shot at, had a knife held to her throat and covered wars in

some of the most dangerous and unfriendly countries in the world, is terrified of spiders? To the extent that, as she said in her talk, if a spider crossed the floor in front of her chair on the stage, she would have been out and into the wings in seconds!

As a contrast to Kate, we had a really enlightening hour listening to a friend of ours, the biographer Michael Holroyd, talking about his latest biography of Henry Irving and Ellen Terry. Michael is a brilliant writer and an equally good speaker - they don't always go together. His biographies have included Lytton Strachey, George Bernard Shaw and Augustus John. I did ask him who was in the pipeline for his next book but I think, in fairness to him, you'll have to wait until it comes out—if the title is anything to go by it should be more than a little interesting.

Before mentioning a few of the more light-hearted events, I must mention the fascinating discussion which took place between Kate Adie and Edward Stourton, one of the presenters of the 'Today' programme. Their theme was political correctness and, as you can imagine, anyone who works in the broadcasting medium these days has to be acutely aware of what can and cannot be said on air. Edward quoted one very heart-stopping moment for him in an interview he was doing with a rather eminent gentleman who came out with an expression which I'm certainly not going to print here - you will have to buy Mr Stourton's book and read it for yourself!

So to the more light-hearted speakers. Sandi Toksvig had the audience in stitches from the word go. She has the amazing gift of expressing herself in such a way that you can't help but laugh - especially when she talks about the happy time she had, and indeed still does have, on the News Quiz. But, as she said, the best years were with the late and much-lamented Alan Coren.

Jilly Cooper had a not-too-terribly serious discussion with the Scottish author Ian Rankin - he of the Rebus novels - about, surprise, surprise, 'Sex and Permissiveness over the last 40 years'. I think you can all draw your own conclusions about how that went!

So the 28th Cheltenham Literature Festival ended after a triumphant two week run and praise must go to the organisers for

giving us all the privilege of being able to see, hear and meet such a wonderful cross-section of the literary and artistic world.

Can't wait for next year!

Ann Tarlton

	<p>TABLE TOP SALE In aid of Cherington Church & Hall At Cherington Village Hall On Saturday November 8th 10 am to 12 noon Entry 50p. Including coffee Raffle</p>	
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CROSS INN

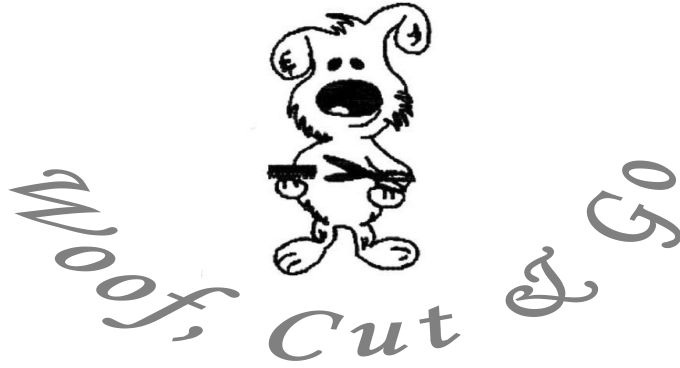
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New Planning Applications – October meeting

<p><u>08/02054/</u> <u>FUL</u></p>	<p>Avening Mill, Mill Lane, Avening, GL8 8PD Proposal: Change of use from workshop , commercial and office use to residential. Members raised the same observations as previously and needed more information.</p>
<p><u>08/01479/</u> <u>FUL</u></p>	<p>Glebe House Cottage, 5 New Inn Lane, Avening, GL8 8NB Proposal: Erection of double gates at existing entrance to property. Construction of dormer window to Glebe House Cottage. Alterations to coach house: glazed doors in 2 existing openings and enlargement of existing opening to form new external door. Members had no objections.</p>
<p><u>08/02095/</u> <u>FUL</u></p>	<p>The Boat House, Gatcombe Water, Avening, Gloucestershire Proposal: Conversion of boat house into a dwelling. Members had no objections.</p>

Decision Notices Received

<p>08/02227/ FUL</p>	<p>Coach House, Avening House, High Street, Avening, GL8 8NH Proposal: New dormers on rear elevation, conversion of adjacent workshop to games room. New single storey stair link to games room. Enclosure of porte cocheres into habitable rooms using glass screens. Date decided by CDC : 13 October 2008 CDC Decision: Application Permit</p>
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Autumn Village Clean Up

The Autumn Village Clean Up will take place on Saturday 8th November from 10.30am to 12.30am. Please meet at the Village Hall to collect your litter picking equipment. All welcome!

New Clerk Details

The Parish Council are pleased to announce the appointment of their new Parish Clerk, Wendy Jennings.



POLICE REPORT FOR AVENING PARISH FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE POLICE

There were no substantiated crimes in September 2008, this compares with 2 in the same period of 2007.

CRIME CATEGORY BREAKDOWN

- There were no recorded crimes of **VIOLENCE**.
- There were no incidents of **BURGLARY**. Compared to one in Sep 2007.
- No incidents of **THEFT/HANDLING**.
- No incidents of **CRIMINAL DAMAGE**. Compared to one for the same period last year
- No **Drug** related Crimes.

Overall the figures for September 2008 are encouraging and are hopefully representative of the on going good work that has been done in Avening by all the organisations involved over the past number of months.

Obviously we will be working hard to maintain this good work and will continue to ask for the support of the Council and residents to help in the work that has been carried out in the village.

The Next Meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on Thursday, 20th November 2008 at the Village Hall.

*Wendy Jennings, Parish Clerk,
Wingfield, Hampton Hill, Avening GL8 8NS
Tel: 01453 832881
Email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk*



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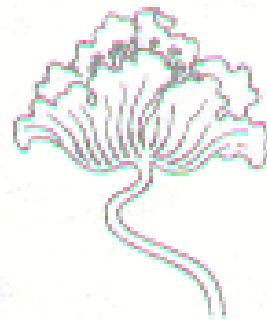
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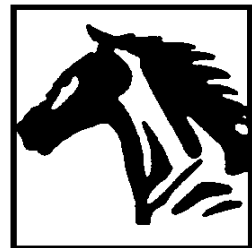
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DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DATE	EVENT	PLACE	
November 8th	Village clean up	Avening Village Hall	10.30-12.30
November 8th	Table Top Sale & Coffee Morning	Cherington Village Hall	10am -12
November 9th	Remembrance Day	Avening Church Cherington Church	10.50am 6 pm
November 19th	WI shopping trip to Coventry	From Avening	10.50am
November 25th	Maud's Coffee Morning in aid of Avening Church	Court Lodge, Avening	10 am
December 2nd	Lyn's Xmas Do for Cobalt Appeal	28 Rectory Lane	9 am - 12.30
December 3rd	First Advent Debate	Avening Park	7 pm
December 6th	Playgroup Christmas Bazaar	Memorial Hall	2 pm

THE MOBILE POLICE STATION
 will visit Avening & Cherington in November
 10th Avening 1.30 & Cherington 2.45
 27th Avening 8.30 & Cherington 9.45

FIVE VALLEYS MOBILE LIBRARY
 The mobile Library operates in this area on alternate
 Fridays. The dates November are:
 7th & 21st

The Green, Cherington 1230 - 12.50

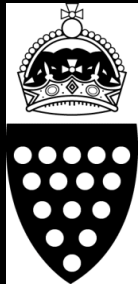
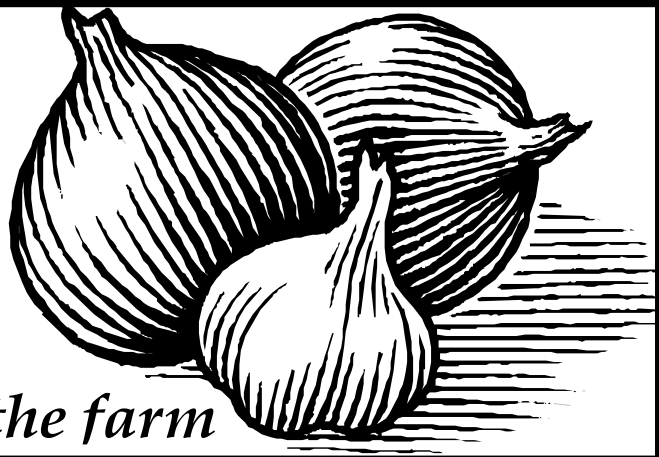


Useful Telephone Numbers

Avening Parish Council Clerk	Wendy Jennings	01453 832881
Cherington Parish Council	Sue Russell	01666 503370
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Avening Sunday School	Debbie Brown	01453 835983
Avening Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Primary School	Diana Boulton	01453 833191
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695 Home 835983
Avening Village Agent	Carolynn Dent	0781 0630156
Avening Players	Julie Sharpe	01453 835565
A & C Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Friends of Avening School	Clare Steele	01453 832712
Cherington Reading Room	G Davies	01285 841318
Memorial Hall	Simon Wheatley	
Tennis @ Avening Park	Roger Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Group Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Stroud Hospital		01453 562200
Avening Post Office		01453 832008
Women's Institute	Pat Taylor Jo Harwood	01453 833408 01453 8337-5

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