

# The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,  
Cherington and Nags Head

**February 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  
 Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

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# February 2021

2021 has arrived and we all hope that it will be a better year than 2020. At least we hope that you will find plenty to interest and entertain you in this first edition of The Villager. It is so heartening that people continue to send ideas and articles to us. Thank you all and please continue to do so.

There are the usual entries provided by regular contributors and one-offs like the Avening Amble Treasure Hunt in the centre pages, kindly sent us by Sue and John Pobjoy. It's good fun and might provide that extra bit of interest during one of your regular daily walks – weather permitting of course. For our younger readers, why not look at the item from the Tetbury Goods Shed with its news of a writing competition – attracting not only glory for the winner, but also a cash prize. This month's Villager also has items relating to people with local connections, and a most interesting article on local folksongs, some ancient in origin, collected in this area by an American scholar travelling around Britain in the early part of the twentieth century.

Always something to read in The Villager, but it is also a good source for finding a local tradesman. If you use the services of someone advertising in the magazine please do let them know that you found their advert here to show that local advertising really does work.

A quick reminder that the Council website has plenty of information and advice about the coronavirus emergency: [www.avening-pc.gov.uk/covid19.htm](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk/covid19.htm).

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

## Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Nigel Bowsher** for this beautiful wintry scene.

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)

**Fun in the Snow! Many thanks to Stephen Uzzell, Tony Slater and Dave Gardiner for these photos**



# 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<br/>01453 833760</del> |
| <del>Community Café</del>      | <del>Tuesday</del>                    | <del>9.00-11.30am</del> | <del>Social Club</del>           | <del>Jenny South<br/>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<br/>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<br/>01453 835783</del>      |
| <del>Line Dancing</del>        | <del>Tuesday</del>                    | <del>8.00-10.00pm</del> | <del>Social Club</del>           | <del>Social Club<br/>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<br/>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<br/>01453 833246</del>   |
| <del>Avening Cinema Club</del> | <del>1st Thursday each month</del>    | <del>7.30pm</del>       | <del>Memorial Hall</del>         | <del>Katy<br/>07806 614753</del>        |
| <del>Avening W.I.</del>        | <del>2nd Thursday each month</del>    | <del>7.30pm</del>       | <del>Memorial Hall</del>         | <del>Liz<br/>01453 833803</del>         |
| <del>Avening PC</del>          | <del>3rd Thursday each month</del>    | <del>7.30pm</del>       | <del>Zoom</del>                  | <del>Caroline<br/>01285 380041</del>    |
| <del>Summer Skittles</del>     | <del>Friday</del>                     | <del>8.00pm</del>       | <del>Social club</del>           | <del>Derrick Ind<br/>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<br>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 Baby & Toddler group         | Katy Upton                             | 07806 614753                 |
| Avening Bell Tower Captain           | Andrew Lelliott                        | 01453 835783                 |
| Avening Church Churchwardens         | Elizabeth Buchanan<br>Elizabeth Fuller | 01453 833016<br>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<br>The Door       | 01453 883456<br>01453 756745                 |
| Cherington Village Hall                     | Camilla Trotter                      | 07545 054160                                 |
| Cherington Parish Council Clerk             | Richard Smith                        | Cheringtonparishcouncil<br>@yahoo.co.uk      |
| Cherington Church<br>Churchwardens          | John Bate-Williams<br>Helen di Mauro | 01666 503544<br>07796 937268                 |
| Cherington Church Flower Team               | Elizabeth Workman                    | 01285 841294                                 |
| Cherington Church Organist                  | Elizabeth Workman                    | 01285 841294                                 |
| Cherington Church PCC<br>Secretary          | Elizabeth Workman                    | 01285 841294                                 |
| Cherington Church PCC<br>Treasurer          | Paul Cable                           | cabes50@yahoo.co.uk                          |
| Community Café                              | Jennie South                         | 01453 883456                                 |
| Community Café Crop Swap                    | Chandy Rodgers                       | Chandra.rodgers65@<br>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<br>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



Here we go again – on many levels! This lockdown has a very different feel to the last one, and it's not just the cold winter weather. There are more pupils at our school; more traffic on the roads; and more people suffering from mental health issues. Thankfully, I'm not aware of too many people being directly affected by Covid this time, and overall, the Cotswold and Stroud areas are showing the lowest infection rates in the county. Our local surgeries are doing a grand job in getting the vaccine out quickly but are being hampered by occasional supply issues. However, we mustn't be complacent and need to continue practicing 'Hands, Face, Space'. I admire everyone who is juggling work and home schooling and understand the financial pressures many people are experiencing - if you need non-urgent help or just need someone different to talk to, our Covid email (below) and support network might be able to help (full details on the website).

Our Memorial Hall is still taking a lot of our time, but I can report several pieces of good news. We now have the solid core of a management committee with four keen volunteers who bring a wealth of experience, but we could ideally do with a couple of additional people to get up to full strength. Following a meeting with Gloucestershire County Council in December we met with their surveyor to assess what works need to be completed and how it could be funded. I have provided more details in the leaflet sent with this magazine, including how it may be financed. Once we have the report from GCC we can call a hall AGM with the main user groups, which will allow us to formalise the governance and management arrangements with the Charity Commission, look at how we want to use the hall, and move forward with the improvements.

GCC are actively managing diseased Ash trees, and as part of this programme they were offering to supply saplings of native tree species to assist in replanting affected areas. We have requested a batch for the village, so may need some help with planting when they arrive.

The Environment Agency and CDC planners have almost concluded their investigations into the new dam and earthworks at Aston Farm, so I hope to be able to report back on their conclusions in the next issue.

It needs to be talked about again, but I'm not going to dwell on those ignorant people in the playing field and churchyard who aren't responsible dog owners, but instead I want to recognise the vast majority of people who do the right thing, and especially those that pick up after other people's dogs. Our extensive network of bins is very well used - thank you for using them!

As a conclusion to last year's new and unusual events, Gerald and his team put on an inspiring Nativity Trail in the churchyard just before Christmas, and what a great turn out by the village to hear the Avening Angels singing for us.

***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 Light of Hope

I walked alone, high on the hill,  
Grey clouds rolled all around,  
Then one bright shaft of sunlight pierced  
A pathway to the ground!  
I reached the shelter of the Wood  
Where trees stood, gaunt and bare,  
When suddenly a robin's song  
Thrilled through the branch-cleft air!  
My dragging footsteps scuffed the leaves,  
That lay so dank and dead,  
Uncovering, where midst green shoots  
Pale primrose thrust its head!  
And as I turned home down the lane,  
The sky darkened to night  
But all at once a tiny star  
Blazed forth, with fierce, bright light!  
So, through the gloom, search for that spark  
Of HOPE, to guide you through the dark .....

*Gilian Bulmer - Davison*

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  <p><b>TOAD HALL</b><br/>TRULL FARM<br/>TETBURY<br/>GL8 8SQ</p> |   |
|  | <p><b>Your own private room for lunches, dinners, drinks, receptions, childrens parties, business meetings, exhibitions, film nights. Large screen and internet.</b></p> <p><b>Kitchen plus smaller room available. Outside or "inhouse" catering. A marquee could be added if required.</b></p> <p><b>For Bookings and prices please contact :<br/>Fi Mitchell<br/>fimitchell06@btinternet.com<br/>01285 841229 07885 094393</b></p> |

# Avening and Cherington Churches



## Keeping up to date

Our online services continue even though, at the time of writing, there is no public worship in our two buildings: this is to eliminate the risk of infection to ourselves and many others, and to avoid increasing the already heavy workload on those working in the NHS.

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/)

## Christmas ...

... was a little different this year but brought many blessings – the online carol services with local readers and singers, the Christmas Eve Nativity Trail in Avening churchyard, the Advent displays in Cherington and the churchyard services on Christmas morning, so well attended and with a unique and delightful feel to them. Thank you to all those who made these possible – there are a lot of you.

## It will soon be Lent ...

Ash Wednesday is on 17<sup>th</sup> February and there will be a Zoom service at 7.30pm. If you would like the link for this, please let me know.

There will also be some Zoom evening ‘gatherings’ during Lent – 40 minutes with a reading and a chance to discuss, or just listen. If you think you would be interested, or are not sure whether you would be, please get in touch with me – you won’t be committing yourself!

## Sunday services in our church buildings:

It seems likely that the suspension of public worship will continue into February: however when it does resume the planned services are below. For the current situation at any time please check on the websites above or contact me.

|                      |          |                   |                   |
|----------------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Feb  | 10.00 am | Eucharist Service | Avening Church    |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb | 10.00 am | Eucharist Service | Cherington Church |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb | 10.00 am | Eucharist Service | Avening Church    |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Feb | 10.00 am | Eucharist Service | Cherington Church |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | 10.00 am | Eucharist Service | Avening Church    |

## OCCASIONALLY yours

Arts, sciences, indeed most areas of life, have their own vocabulary – very confusing to those not ‘in the know’. Church is no exception when it talks about ‘Occasional Services’: no, these are not ones that just happen from time to time (occasionally). They are the ones to mark special occasions, notably Christenings (or Baptisms), Weddings and Funerals.

Our churches welcome approaches from all those who feel that one of these might be right for them - they are certainly not restricted to just those who are church 'regulars'.

### **Christening**



For infants - a chance for parents and family to give thanks for a new person in their lives, a chance to think about and pray about the child's future, a chance for the child to start a journey of a lifetime and to be a part of the local Christian family together with those billions of others across the world and down the centuries.

It is not only children who are Christened – many adults take this step too .

### **Wedding**

The biggest step that most of us take in our lives, something we take very seriously, something very special that calls for a special start. The 'trappings' of dress, grand reception etc. may help but they are not at the essential core of what marriage means. Something else is – and it lends itself to a service in a church which has witnessed countless local weddings down the ages. No need to spend a fortune.



### **Funeral**

Arranging a funeral for a loved one can be very challenging. You may like to speak with your parish priest as well as a funeral director– or ask them to do so on your behalf. A funeral in church can be tailored to the circumstances and is in a place that speaks of eternity beyond earthly life.

If you would like to make your own funeral wishes known in advance to those close to you, we have a leaflet that may help you.

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



This is the Church of England's booklet of readings and reflections for the days of Lent.

If you would like a copy (£2) please contact Gerald on 01453 883456.

Alternatively use online by following the leads at:

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

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

## Cherington Folk Songs

Between 1928 and 1935 James Madison Carpenter, an American scholar from Mississippi, travelled around Great Britain recording the local folklore (including songs, mummers plays and games). He played a part in a wider movement to collect this information as it rapidly dwindled in line with growing industrialisation. His collection, in typescript and on Dictaphone recordings of variable quality, is now held in the Library of Congress. Why is this of interest? Well...because he came to Avening and Cherington and you can now hear the songs that he collected here on the internet.

His main contributor in Avening was Mrs Sarah Phelps who lived at 7, Council Houses, Avening. She was originally Sarah Ockwell from Cherington, born in 1866 and married in 1886 to Charles Phelps from Nag's Head. They spent most of their married life working in agriculture in Cherington and raised 10 children. Sarah sang the songs her mother had taught her and Carpenter collected at least six Gloucestershire versions of well known folk songs from her. These included The Broomfield Hill, There was an Old Woman Tossed Up in a Basket, The Diamond Token, The Unquiet Grave, The Outlandish Knight and Fox Stepped Out One Dark Rainy Night. You can hear the recordings and read the words at [glostrad.com/performer/phelps-sarah](http://glostrad.com/performer/phelps-sarah). Charles Phelps sang John Barleycorn for Carpenter, which is also available on glostrad. Whilst the recordings are now of poor quality and difficult to follow without the typescript, you can find more modern interpretations online.

Whilst he was in the area, Carpenter also collected the Cherington Wassailing Song from a Mr Hawes and Tom Tanner, another recording of the Unquiet Grave by Tom Tanner and the text of a Mummers play from George Newman of Cherington. Wassailing in this area at that time involved a small group of men, dressed in costume and usually carrying a decorated bowl, touring the local houses, farms and inns to sing and collect small gifts of fruit etc. around Christmas and Twelfth Night. Tetbury, Hampton Fields, Avening and Minchinhampton had their own wassailing traditions...as presumably did Cherington. Meanwhile mummers plays were traditional Christmas plays performed by village people, often with a theme of good and evil.

It is interesting to think that the ballads contributed by Sarah Phelps and the people of Cherington are now the subject of serious academic study and literature on geographical variations in the texts and derivation.

*Beverley Rymer*

### Tetbury Goods Shed Young Writers Competition



Calling all under 21s who are sitting at home dreaming about their perfect day! Put pen to paper in less than 750 words before March 1 and you could win up to £30 book tokens from the Yellow Lighted Book Shop. It can be poetry or prose, fiction or reality. For more details visit our website: [www.shed-arts.co.uk/perfect-day](http://www.shed-arts.co.uk/perfect-day)

# In Loving Memory of Rick Hewitt

14.12.1946 – 04.12.2020



Rick spent most of his working life as a Hercules pilot in the RAF, which took him to many places all over the world. Germany became one of his favourite places to visit after he was stationed there with his family for 3 ½ years. During his time in the RAF, Rick served in both the Falklands War and the first Gulf War.

On leaving the RAF Rick and Pam set up their own business venture, Chemdry, from their home in Sandford Leaze. Recently, Rick retired completely and loved nothing more than going

out with Pam for nice meals, along with a glass of wine or two, as well as walking their dog, Edie.

Rick passed away peacefully in his sleep on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020. He will be forever in our hearts – cherished and loved husband to Pam, Dad to Angie and Kirstie, Father-in-Law to James and Matt, and Papa to Tom, Elsie Bo, Nina, Frankie and Layla.

We love and salute you – Prost Rick!

*Angie Heslop*

## Cas Boddam-Whetham. MCSP RCT **Chartered Physiotherapist** **Craniosacral Therapist**

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# Avening Community Café

## Diary of a Café



As I write this, a very challenging year is drawing to a close and I am reminded that on New's Year's Eve morning last year we were celebrating the passing of the old year 2019, with music at the Café in the Social Club. It was a very special occasion with impromptu light show provided by some handy mobile torches from the audience and topped off by a trombone solo from Jim Hill.

The Café has tried to keep going in the face of some of the challenges and sadness that have confronted all of us, in different ways. Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March marked the final opportunity to meet together at the Social Club, with a self-service table for coffee and cakes. One of the customers on that morning was one of our very youngest customers (I won't mention her name, as she might be embarrassed. I think she might be nearly three by now), who expressed her appreciation with a delighted exclamation of 'oh cake!', when she spotted the mini display of goodies. It was a sombre morning, but we had to smile.

The ethos of the Café, the company of neighbours and friendships made, continued in a variety of ways during 2020 and now into 2021, through all seasons, some days very warm and others much colder, sometimes over the airwaves and often at a distance.

Communicating via Zoom was a possibility through the spring of 2020, going from being completely unknown for some, to a very social way of 'meeting up' and a musical evening of a very different type at the end of May.

The often busy team of bakers helped to commemorate the anniversary of VE Day by offering boxes of delicious cakes to friends and neighbours in the community and continued throughout 2020 to deliver boxes of lovely cakes for many occasions and many different reasons. To say 'thank you', 'happy birthday' or 'hello and how are you? If you would like a box of special cakes on 14<sup>th</sup> February, for either yourself, your valentine or just because, please contact Clare Bebbington, at [ccbebbbs@gmail.com](mailto:ccbebbbs@gmail.com).

As the weather became more spring-like, the search was on for a way of meeting in small groups. This was resolved very successfully thanks to the hospitality offered in many of the gardens in Avening and the huge logistical task taken on by Jennie South to match hosts with the correct number of guests. The weather was very much in our favour, often warm and sunny. In fact occasionally rather too hot!

Of course delightful weather was a very important factor in keeping our spirits up and the gardeners of Avening were kept busy with planting and repotting. As a result there was a huge amount of interest in the plant and produce stall at 14, High Street, which Elizabeth Buchanan kept orderly through spring, summer and into autumn. Not only a

source of plants but also an opportunity occasionally to exchange greetings and gardening knowledge with friends and walkers passing by. These brief chats in the street, at a distance, were and continue to be a welcome source of solace and encouragement.



The green spaces in the school garden and the Orchard on the playing field provided some ideal opportunities during the summer and autumn to meet up at a distance and do a spot of gardening and have a bit of a chat with friends and neighbours. Of course, being café people, there was always a flask of coffee and good cake somewhere handy.

Courtesy of Glyn and Andy, there was the opportunity during the autumn for small groups to visit for coffee mornings or curry evening at the Bell. As the days started to draw in, the warmth and friendly welcome offered at the pub was much appreciated. We look forward to the day when we can meet there again safely.

As summer drew to a close we were fortunate to have a beautiful sunny Sunday afternoon on 13<sup>th</sup> September to walk round the village and find a wonderful selection of stalls, with lots of goodies on offer. Not forgetting the fabulous music. A special mention here for the performance by the 'Beat-less' (not a spelling mistake!), on a garage roof in the High Street.

On the subject of garages, the garages and forecourt for number 17 and 18, High Street have been busy this year, with Rima's art stall on Sundays in the summer and winter. A lovely opportunity for a browse and a chat. Even better, there was sometimes mulled wine on offer!

Of course we can't wait to get back to the Social Club but meanwhile the car park has proved very handy for meeting at a distance (and very sunny sometimes!). Either for a quick chat, to use the Post Office facilities or more recently meeting up and setting off in pairs for a walk round the village or even further afield, whether (weather) permitting. The walks continue but for the moment, if you are interested, please contact Wendy Jennings on 832881.

If you run out of reading materials, the book box is always available on steps of Rose Cottage, 6, Old Hill.

In this new year we are always looking for new ways to keep connected. Clare is also coordinating the production of the Buzz newspaper. Contributions are welcome.

Pete Barton ([pbarton354@gmail.com](mailto:pbarton354@gmail.com)) is our Facebook contact and again, feedback, photos and comments will be much appreciated.

We hope to meet you all again very soon.

***Gill Adams; Avening Community Café***

## Play Your Part in Avening Community Café's Future



In September 2018 Clare Bebbington responded, in an email, to a paragraph tucked away in the Villager asking: 'Is anyone out there interested in a Community Café'. She wrote: 'Wonderful idea! I run my own business from our home in Avening and would love to have a cafe in the village. Happy to help where I can .....'. What an offer and how serendipitous that we have been able to tap into all that 'happy to help where I can' as the café has evolved over the last two years.

Clare started as she meant to go on – her vision, enthusiasm, ideas, attention to detail and general all round, good humour and a determination to find a way of making things work has been invaluable. Those who have worked more closely with her, either as committee members or in the various 'specials' that the café has initiated will know what I mean.

However, all good things come to an end, and Clare says that now, because of increasing work and other commitments she has very reluctantly decided to step down from the Café committee. Luckily this doesn't mean that she won't still be involved! She has committed to producing The Buzz until Easter (or whenever we can return to the Club), will continue to put out the book boxes and to bake when baking is wanted – those of us addicted to her cheese scones will be particularly pleased with the latter! And of course she will continue to come along to the Café whenever possible. Clare will be very much missed as a committee member and we thank her very much for all that she has done. So, a door now opens for someone else to contribute to the Café in this way. We want the ethos of the Café committee to be open and evolving, each member contributing in their own unique way and in so doing keeping the Café fresh while at the same time holding on to our aim 'to provide a welcoming and inclusive social meeting place for residents and visitors'. New blood is good and we want people to know that joining the Café committee is not a life sentence! To give it your all for a while and then step aside for someone else is good and you can always come back after a break! We will elect the new committee at the 2021 AGM which will be held sometime before June by which time we will hopefully be working in a more 'normal' way. So if over the next few months you would like to get a bit more involved and help us keep up our 'we're not closed message' by joining us informally at one of our monthly committee meeting please let us know - it's a good chance to dip a toe in the water and see what goes on behind the scenes to make the front of house happen.

***Jennie South; Avening Community Café Chair***



## KEITH THE COMMUNITY FREEZER

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The delicious meals, cooked by the talented chefs at The Long Table, are approximately £3.80 to make per meal. If you can pay above £3.80 you are essentially paying for a child or parent who maybe cannot afford to buy the meals. Payment for meals is completely ANONYMOUS and can be cash or online @ The Long Table website:

<https://www.thelongtableonline.com>

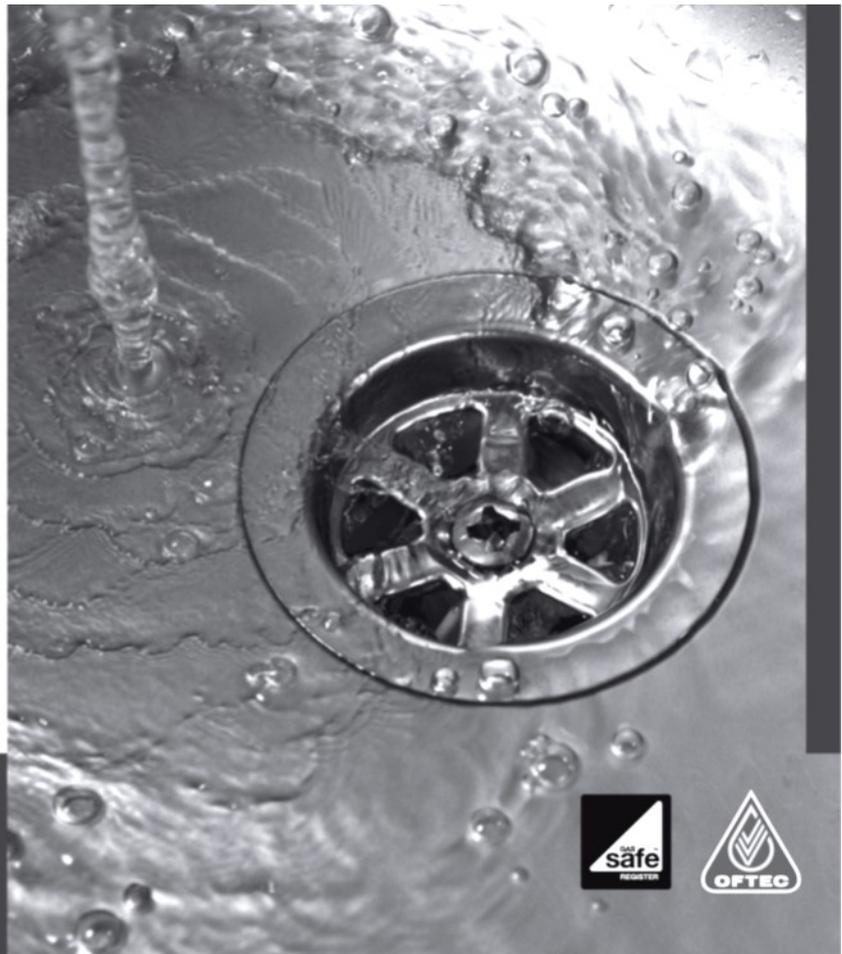
Sample menu: chicken curry, sausage casserole, easy cheesy pasta, vegetable curry, butterbean cobbler, sausage & mash and pork hotpot. Meals change weekly and Keith is also open to requests. Please either make contact through: the Facebook page 'Keith the community freezer,' or come along on a Wednesday morning.



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# Puzzle Corner

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

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## Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 - 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

*Answers on page 40*

### Across

- 1. Cultivated plot (6)
- 4. Written musical compositions (6)
- 9. Film (5)
- 10. Refrain from voting (7)
- 11. Listlessness (8)
- 12. Meat or vegetables cooked slowly (4)
- 14. Shrink (6)
- 16. Evaded (6)
- 19. Part of the neck (4)
- 20. Resident (8)
- 23. Inactivity (7)
- 24. Play (5)
- 25. Excused (6)
- 26. Deferred payment (6)

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

### Down

- |                       |                   |                                |
|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Risk taker (7)     | 7. Tendon (5)     | 18. Large expanse of water (5) |
| 2. Stud (5)           | 8. Freight (5)    | 19. Dissonance (5)             |
| 3. Panache (8)        | 13. Flatfish (8)  | 21. Accolade (5)               |
| 5. Monetary value (4) | 15. Use up (7)    | 22. Pace (4)                   |
| 6. Responded (7)      | 17. Take away (7) |                                |

## Cherington Show 2021

The Cherington Show Committee met recently to discuss the 2021 Show.

Having missed it last year they were very keen for it to go ahead this year. It is such an important event for our Village but It is very difficult to set a date when we have no idea what the world will look like.

We also wanted to ensure we look after the safety of our stall holders as well as our loyal attendees. We have therefore set a date, for this year only, for Sunday 19th September in the hope that we can go ahead. We will be meeting again in April to make a final decision.

*Kate Gegg*

## Avening Angels

Although still not able to meet in person, Avening Angels managed to meet virtually in January for a zoom social that was enjoyed by all attendees. We even managed to sing a song together – all muted except for Sue on the piano and therefore able to convince ourselves that we all sounded like Angels!! Thanks to Sue as well for a fun quiz, which included a round on some of the highlights of the 10 year history of the choir (an event we seem to have forgotten to celebrate!), which brought back many hilarious memories.

The choir continue to individually record hymns, which Sarah Hale ably combines so they can be included in Rev. Gerald's virtual services. We are also starting to practice some numbers to sing at Easter, although whether we will be able to sing these live or just record them is obviously as yet undecided.

We are always interested in hearing from people wanting to join this friendly, fun choir. No auditions, no need to read music, no experience needed. Contact Derrick Pierce (01453 835090) for further information.

## 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](mailto:buchanan.pg@gmail.com)



# Village People

## Jack Workman: Two World Wars and a Pandemic

My father, Jack, was born in 1897, the youngest of seven children in a family living twelve miles from Avening by road (horse and cart!) in Lower Cam where his father, a 'Master Builder', had a small farm and construction business. John Edward, (Jack) joined the Gloucester Regiment and was commissioned in 1915. His battalion was in England, so when approached by the Royal Flying Corps he volunteered to fly; If he had not I probably would not be here! His brother was killed in Flanders Fields but Jack was sent to India where the Corps used the fine weather to train air crew. He returned to England in 1918 and became an RAF officer, as the RFC evolved into the RAF (third set of badges!) until he left the service and was soon in North London, (unfamiliar territory) coping with Spanish Flu, which killed more than 200,000 in Great Britain and more than 50 million across the world. That part of London had a large number of White Russian residents, a counter revolutionary group, preparing to tackle the Red Bolshevik Russian Army, an unsuccessful challenge to communism in 1923.



*Lt. J.E. Workman in the Gold Coast*

My father was offered a job by a company still trading in Russia and was sent on a trip to what was to become the USSR (Soviet Union). He fell for the beautiful daughter of the owner of the company but when she turned him down he resolved to go abroad – there was then quite a choice with the British Empire at its peak – and applied to join the Colonial Service.



*Col. & Mrs. J. E. Workman,  
Fiji*

He was assigned to the Colonial Police, training in London with the Met and in Northern Ireland with the Royal Ulster Constabulary (yet another uniform) before being assigned as a First Lieutenant to the Gold Coast (Ghana), serving there until he left in 1936 as a Lt. Colonel.

Earlier, in 1930, returning on leave to Dursley, Jack had brought a present for his parents – an African Grey parrot. I met the beautiful bird called Tommy just after WW2 – they can live for more than 40 years – however towards the end of a happy life, Tommy started laying eggs several times a week! Name change to Thomasina!

In 1937 Jack was about to move on – to the other end of the world, Fiji in the South Pacific, as Commissioner of Police and head of the Fiji Defence Force. Just before he was due to sail for Fiji, my father Jack was in London and

discovered that my mother-to-be had been widowed. Her first husband, Captain Harry Linton-Bogle R.E., had died of malaria 4 years earlier after service in India. They had first met Jack in the Gold Coast before Captain Harry was transferred with his wife and their two daughters to India. Acting swiftly with only weeks before his departure, they became engaged and she followed him out there with Peggy and Sue and they married in Suva, Fiji in 1938. I was born in 1939 in Auckland, N.Z. A nanny came out to Suva on a one-year contract: this was my Nanny Brooks from Fishponds, Bristol. It was her first time abroad. She was, happily for me, with us throughout the Second World War.



*My mother in the garden, Fiji*

After Pearl Harbour it was a significant place to be for my father, working closely with the Americans, who made Fiji a major base during the war with Japan in the South Pacific – ironically not short of mosquitos but malaria free, amongst other strategic advantages.

Jack's three-year Fiji assignment continued on through the war until 1947 – and my mother had many vital roles including running the Girl Guides. As an eight-year-old I have vivid

memories of our departure. A large group of Fijians spent a long evening outside the Grand Hotel in Suva singing their wonderful, lilting Melanesian songs, memorably 'Isa Lei' and 'Now is the hour when we must say Goodbye' – it was unforgettable.

The war years in Fiji and time in Rhodesia thereafter is another story.

Since 1945 we have not experienced another World War: my life has been lived in relative peacetime ... since the first five – war years – in the Fiji Islands. My father, on the other hand, lived through two world wars and a devastating pandemic. However, I did serve three years as an officer in Germany (2 years with tanks in Berlin before the Berlin Wall went up) with a regiment which became the King's Royal Hussars, with connections to Gloucestershire.

In my early years my father said to me 'I have seen two world wars and a world under pandemic: I expect you will experience similar crises in your lifetime. Learn to use a hammer and nails. You may be building a shelter for your family one day.' Such abilities turn out to be in my genes, thanks to both my father and grandfather.



*Constable Leke with Junior Recruit Peter*

***Peter Workman - Cherington***

# Avening Amble Lockdown Treasure Hunt

Clues within each section are not in order of appearance but should all be answered before you get to the next direction instruction. The treasure hunt route is dog-friendly and pushchair/wheelchair/kids scooter accessible all the way round. Please note that everything can be seen from the road; please do not go into any gardens or other private land.

**Start on the main High Street in Avening, opposite the school.**

1. So where are we time/wise?

**Turn right up Rectory Lane.**

2. Jam from Stoke-on-Trent?
3. How much for a family early bird ticket for Tetfest 2019
4. Bruce and Annabelle
5. 828,829

**Turn left at the large gate into the playing field, and follow the path to the right towards the play area. Follow the path through the playing field, up towards Sunground.**

6. Mary Poppins fan lives here?
7. What colour is the hen house?
8. How many pieces of play equipment?
9. Perhaps the home of a pyromaniac, or maybe they have a lot of garden rubbish to burn!

**At the garages, follow the road round to the right past the flats and head to the alley at the end.**

10. How many airbricks in the row of garages?
11. Feel sorry for this creature having to match the colours of the hedgehog!
12. Where are the Electro-Mechanical Manufacturing Company based?

**Go through the alley and continue along Lawrence Road towards Hampton Hill.**

13. On reflection, that's a good idea!
14. I can ride my horse up here but not drive my cart
15. Keen washer uppers here!

**At the end of the road, turn right down Hampton Hill, towards the village.**

16. How many buttresses holding up the wall
17. Clip paddock!
18. Double identity? Hope my date finds the right location!
19. Who must visitors be approved by before they can enter here?

**Turn right down the High Street.**

20. No mistaking which family lives here!
21. Perhaps they are aiming for bowling green flat!

**Turn left up Point Road.**

22. Ding, dong, bell – perhaps puss belonged to a cricketer?
23. No good coming here to return that parcel to Amazon any more

24. Rub-a-dub-dub, but I can only see where 2 of them might be! For a bonus, which is the other tradesman who lives in this road?
25. Sterling on the rise?
26. Competitive topiary!

**Turn right down the hill towards the main road.**

27. Neat Teeth Burn (anagram)
28. Looks like they are hoping for extra luck here
29. Which car won't get clamped if they park here?
30. 1695 – but where?
31. Pam's place?

**At the bottom of the hill, turn left towards the village hall, following the little road directly in front of the school towards the church.**

32. If the lane is busy what should you wear?
33. How many Fletchers are mentioned on the memorial hall?
34. Apr- Oct 9-5 but only 9-3 Nov-Mar – but what?
35. What play equipment is on the roof by the gate?

**Well done, you have completed the Avening Amble! We hope you have enjoyed this short wander around the village. Answers available in March Villager and on the Avening pc website [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk).**

**If you want a longer walk, or have a dog with you/children in need of a bit of a run, why not try this extra just for fun section? You might want to check out questions 16-19 before you leave the treasure hunt at this point...**

**Turn right up the Nagshead road or dog walkers cross the main road and go over the stile just opposite Lawrence Road. If you are on the road, be careful of cars as there is no footpath. No clues here, just enjoy the view!**

**Walk along the Nagshead Road or through the field. Dog walkers, cross over the stile opposite Mays Lane. Turn right down Mays Lane, passing the Dower House on your left. Clues are in order as they appear – they are not part of the main treasure hunt.**

- Big chicken house here!
- How many pillars in the arbour and how many bridges through the oval window?
- Handy place if you get caught short!
- Bit far to chuck the witch perhaps? Maybe it's just for fun these days.
- Who's got the big jugs on display? Ooh er missus!
- Looks expensive enough for the salary of Cotton or Britton, more like a mansion!

**At the bottom of Mays Lane, turn left and re-join the main treasure hunt questions 16-19.**

Wishing everyone a very Happy New Year, with the hope that life will start to return towards normality now that the vaccination programme is underway.

We are still keeping in touch with all our members with calls, emails and newsletters. In December some members were able to enjoy a Zoom get-together in place of our usual meeting. Jeff and Elaine Gillett, a folk duo from Stroud, entertained us with some festive Christmas songs, accompanied by a variety of instruments. We were suitably muted but able to sing along in our homes. It was lovely to see other members on the screen, but we were missing our usual delicious bring and share buffet!



January is not only a time for personal resolutions but also the time for all members to vote for this year's WI campaign. The WI has a long history of successfully highlighting and promoting various campaigns and issues. This year we could choose from a shortlist of five resolutions suggested by members as follows:

- Increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer;
- Stop women dying prematurely from coronary heart disease;
- Stamp out racism and discrimination;
- Protect your nature space to create wildlife-friendly communities;
- Stop the destruction of peat bogs to tackle climate change.

Our votes are currently being collected and will be taken forward to the national Annual Meeting in April for debate and further action.

At the moment we are unable to hold our usual meetings, activities and outings but we are staying safe and planning ahead. We welcome any potential members to join us, especially anyone new to the area or feeling in need of contact with others, albeit virtually at the moment! For further details please email [aveningwi@gmail.com](mailto:aveningwi@gmail.com) or telephone our President, Liz, on 01453 833803.

*Helen Haiselden*

## 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.

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# Avening School

## Together We'll Fly

After an uncertain start to the New Year, with one day of having everyone back followed by lockdown, our term of remote learning education is well under way, with two thirds of children working from home and a third of our pupils working with staff in school. Having been given 12 hours' overnight notice of lockdown by the Prime Minister, it is testament to the Herculean efforts of staff burning the midnight oil on Monday night and of parents adapting their own schedules to support their children with learning from home or notifying the school if they are critical workers, that by 9am on Tuesday morning, Avening school was open both physically and virtually, ready to start the first lesson of the day. Given the unbelievably short notice by the government and with no guidance from the Department for Education until the following Thursday afternoon, what we have achieved as a school community is nothing short of miraculous.

We would like to thank parents and guardians for sending in words of support, which have been so beneficial to staff morale, and for working patiently with teaching staff as they settle into their new dual roles. We have almost 100% engagement in our online live lessons at home and we are also recording lessons to upload onto our digital learning platform; the children are uploading work and completing electronic assignments. This is definitely a learning curve for all concerned and by working together we are managing to progress in a positive direction. The flexibility and adaptability of everyone is laudable.

We must again thank a local business for their exceedingly generous donation of second-hand laptops, which have been reconstructed for use for staff and families who do not have the appropriate equipment for remote learning. Without this donation, there would be families without the resources to enable their children to participate in online learning.

Despite the roller-coaster start to the new term, all year groups are embracing new topics as well as their normal daily lessons. We are also taking part once again in the annual Big Garden Bird Watch, which is taking place nationwide from the 29-31<sup>st</sup> January. Our nature and forest school expert Mrs Carter has been talking to the children in school about this event and encouraging the families working from home to register. All children in school will be making a bird feeder over the next couple of weeks to facilitate this exciting event.

Reading is always of great importance to children, both educationally and recreationally, but during lockdown, it is difficult for many children to access books and there are many families locally who do not have access to books at all. The benefits of reading are particularly essential in a time of increased anxiety and frustration and has such a positive impact on mental health. The Yellow Lighted Bookshop (independent booksellers based in Tetbury and Nailsworth) has come up with an initiative to provide new and interesting books to families who don't have access to books. As a school, we have already been approached by them about donating books for us to distribute to

families. We are so grateful to the Yellow Lighted Bookshop for identifying with this need and turning a good idea into reality. If you are interested in donating to this worthwhile cause, please contact the Yellow Lighted Bookshop directly.

*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**



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## The Prince of Wales Visits Tetbury Hospital

In December the Prince of Wales visited his local hospital to thank the staff for their continued hard work and support to the community during this unprecedented year. The small community hospital, which became a charity twenty-seven years ago, has kept a service running throughout most of the pandemic. The hospital were delighted to welcome their Patron who last visited in 2015 and were keen to show His Royal Highness how the hospital has adapted to the situation since March.



His Royal Highness was met on arrival by the Chairman of Tetbury Hospital Jeremy Lodwick, who handed over to Hospital Matron Mrs Sarah Taylor who escorted His Royal Highness for the 30-minute socially distanced tour. His Royal Highness met staff members in the Outpatients Unit and the Minor Injury Unit. Matron, Mrs Sarah Taylor, who has worked at the hospital for two years said “On behalf of the staff at Tetbury Hospital I would like to thank His Royal Highness for giving his time to meet and talk to them today. It was greatly appreciated as the teams have been working hard to provide a service to the local community. This was an enormous morale boost for our incredibly dedicated staff during these unprecedented times, as they shared their stories of the challenges they have faced and how we have overcome them.”



During the Pandemic, the hospital responded in a number of ways, including sending some of their staff to help out at Gloucestershire Royal Hospital. They also sent some of their equipment including ventilators to GRH as well. Debbie Loewenthal, Day Surgery Lead, who was seconded to GRH for four months and currently still supports the acute hospital, said “It was really lovely to meet His Royal Highness, he spent time with each member of our team and it really lifted our spirits at the end of a difficult year.”

During the pandemic, The Minor Injuries Unit and the X-ray Department remained open throughout the initial lockdown in March, and outpatient appointments continued via telephone, where possible. Unfortunately, the Day Surgery Unit was temporarily closed during the same period, but this meant members of staff could be released to work in the frontline hospitals to help support the fight against the virus.

His Royal Highness ended his visit by signing the Visitors Book and was presented with a copy of The Tetbury Hospital Cook Book and two Tetbury Hospital Mugs.

Mrs Zena Dalton, CEO, said “It is always a pleasure to welcome His Royal Highness to our hospital, I am so proud of our staff and what they have achieved this year. Today was the perfect way for us to look back on 2020 and bring it to a close. We can now begin to look forward to the New Year with hope”



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# Avening Playgroup

It is with much disbelief and frustration that we, once again, find ourselves having to close the playgroup to our children and their families. Although nurseries and playgroups are able to remain open for the current lockdown, our staffing means we are unable to.

I will be communicating regularly with all families with a weekly email detailing what topics we had planned to cover that week. I will be giving parents ideas of what they can do with their children and will also pass on any websites that have good resources and activities.

In addition, Liz and I will be contacting the parents of the children in our key groups by phone on a weekly basis to have a chat about how they and their child are doing.

The topics planned for the first two weeks of term were 'Christmas Holidays and Ourselves' followed by 'Shapes'. This included the following activities:

- Talking about the Christmas holidays and drawing pictures of our favourite things;
- Talking about ourselves and our body parts - colour of eyes/hair, how many ears, hands etc we have, counting fingers and toes;
- Comparing ourselves with our friends and family - who is tallest etc.;
- Drawing/painting a picture of ourselves step by step;
- Singing songs such as "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes" and "1,2,3,4,5 Once I caught a fish alive";
- When playing look at different shapes - what are their names? How many sides and corners do they have? Can you draw a shape with your child and get them to colour it in?
- Look in your immediate environment to see how many shapes you can see. What shape is the doorway, TV, window etc.;
- Why don't you cut some shapes out of cardboard and hide them for your child to find and when they find the shape, see if they can name it. Describe a shape to your child and see if they can say which shape you are thinking of, e.g. "I am thinking of a shape that has four sides and four corners. The sides are all the same..."

I have already been sent some fantastic shape pictures and look forward to sharing some of the work the children are doing at home with you soon.

Avening Playgroup usually has three members of staff and we have been running with two for some time now. It is a vital charity caring for the children of our village and neighbouring villages. If you know anyone or are interested in working at this lovely early years setting, please get in touch. If you are interested in a place for your child please email Angie on [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com) (*See advertisement opposite*)

*Angie Heslop*

# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editors,

Reading about the history of Avening online, it included a piece reporting that the water wheel installed at Avening Mill boasted possibly the biggest water wheel in Gloucestershire. Does anyone know if it is still there or what happened to it?

**Hazel Redding**

*If anyone can answer Hazel's question, please drop a note to the editors.*

Dear Editors,

I would like to thank Sam Powell for his interesting articles. I was encouraged to read he is leaving some hedges uncut and others on a rotational basis, to give wildlife a chance of cover and forage through the winter.

In Winterwatch, Chris Packam was encouraging landowners to stop flailing hedges unless really necessary being such vital wildlife corridors. Isabella Tree in her book `Rewilding` writes convincingly about this.

I recently asked 2 local `hedge flailers` why such drastic measures were necessary. Their reasons were `It has always been done this way and looks tidy`.

We have to change practices and attitudes to `tidiness` if we are to save our countryside.

Best wishes,

**Cas Boddam-Whetham**



## **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. Ideally, the successful candidate will have a minimum Level 2 Early Years qualification but we would consider candidates who are willing to undertake either Level 2 or 3 training. Candidates will have a positive approach to the role and must be dedicated to working with young children.

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.

# Farm Life



I hope that everyone had a very good Christmas and Happy New Year!

Since my last article for The Villager magazine the farm has been thankfully very quiet, where our jobs have become more mundane and a winter routine has been established. Most of the day is taken up with the usual checks of the animals along with feeding them silage/hay and beef nuts (mineral and barley nut). The housed calves in the livestock shed require more time as they also need scraping out (removing manure from the pad of concrete at the front of the shed) and fresh straw bedding. After these tasks have been completed we usually move onto jobs that you can never find the time for during the rest of the year, such as machinery maintenance and if the weather holds, the all important task of spreading composted manure on the fields that is the lifeblood of grass growth.



Just before Christmas we also took the decision to de-horn our rare breed Gloucester cows. This decision wasn't taken lightly and has been the topic of much debate in our house for a number of weeks! We decided to do this as a cow came into the yard with a nasty cut from another member of the herd sticking a horn into her. To build our herd initially and due to the scarcity of Gloucester cows, we had to purchase them from three different pedigree herds. For all the animals to live contently a herd hierarchy needs to take place. This is often in the form of shoving, where a pair of cows push against each others head until one of the cows backs down.

This is normally worked out in a couple of days and the herd can then live very happily together. The difference with our Gloucester cows is that they have very sharp horns which they are never afraid to use. Most notably when they were eating together a more dominant cow can be seen to 'bully' another; this is where the cut came from. After this, along with a couple of near misses to both Dad and I, it was agreed that it was safer all round if the horns were removed. Horn is made from keratin and is the same makeup as a hoof, hair or your finger nail. The process is carried out by a vet who, after giving the cow a local anesthetic, (for any small nerve ending in the base of the horn) uses a cheese wire to remove the horn.

After watching the herd for the last few weeks they seem much more content and any bullying has now stopped, especially when they are eating.

The last few weeks has also brought further change to the farm. We are trialing a technique called 'bale grazing' to see how it fits in with our farming system. We would normally put round bales of hay in ring feeders in one corner of the field but by the end of the winter the soil is churned up due to the tractor driving on the land and the cattle standing in a





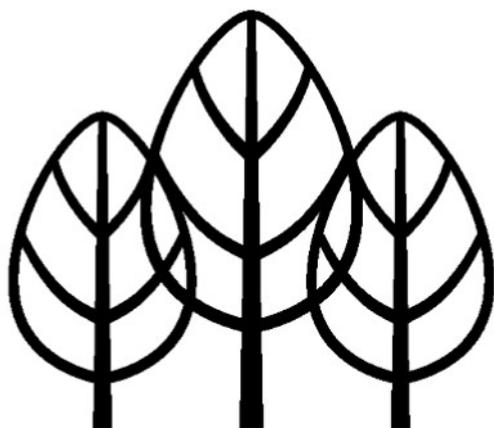
small area. Up until the purchase of a tractor capable of lifting round bales into the ring feeders, my grandfather used to adopt a similar method of bale grazing where every day he would take a number of small, square bales from a nearby shed, lift them onto the tractor where he would then take them to a field and spread the bale across different areas each day. Of course the tractors were not as heavy then and didn't cause so much damage to the ground, but if the weather turned wet enough to cause a problem; he would put a bale on his back and carry it to where the cattle were! This more modern form of bale grazing involves placing out

rows of round bales (which you would normally do in the dry summer months!) in a field. The field has been 'closed up' allowing the grass to grow long and thick providing as much soil cover as possible for when the cattle go in for the winter. An electric fence is put around each line of bales and moved back every few days to allow the cattle access to a fresh bale.

This method of feeding cattle is derived from American farms and ranches. The main benefits of this system are that tractors do not have to go into the fields to feed the cattle when the soil is waterlogged and any compaction with machinery could cause major damage. Bale grazing ensures that any wear on the ground is kept to a minimum with only cattle hoofs causing compaction and grass damage which is spread over a large area. In the spring, the fields will therefore bounce back quickly and start growing grass due to the soil structure remaining un-damaged. Other benefits also include increasing the spread of manure, spreading of seed (found in the hay or silage) and building organic matter in the soil. This contributes to increasing soil health and will hopefully be part of our overall regenerative farming system.

**Sam Powell**

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# Avening Youth Club



Unfortunately the Youth Club is still unable to run, but The Door is still open. Victoria Robson, the Chief Executive Officer of The Door, sends this message:

“As we all get to grips with this third national lockdown local youth charity, The Door is still very much open in our community. They may not be able to host open access youth sessions, however, their friendly and professional teams are continuing to actively support some of our most vulnerable young people and families. Adopting a flexible approach has been crucial to respond to the continuing needs we see.”

The wider Door team are working hard continuing to support those with more specific emotional needs through 1:1 mentoring provision, both for young people and parents.

If you are a young person aged up to 25 years old or a member of their family and are in need of talking through a concern, no matter how small, request a free call from their dedicated support team at [www.thedoor.org.uk](http://www.thedoor.org.uk) or young people can call The Door Line (5-7pm Mon-Fri) on 01453 705350

Full details of how to access all of The Door's services can be found at [www.thedoor.org.uk](http://www.thedoor.org.uk) and on Social Media @TheDoorStroud.

**Want more information about Avening's Youth Club?** Contact Rev Gerald South on 883456 or Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

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# Have Briefcase, Will Travel



I had always wondered what it was like to go on a trade mission and in 1995 I was invited to go on such a trip to the newly opened up Eastern Europe. After a normal trip to Holland I met with my Australian colleague Murry Craig in Amsterdam and we flew to Prague to join the American State of Illinois trade mission.

We were to spend 3 days in Prague, then 3 days in Budapest then 2 days in Warsaw. In Prague we stayed at the wonderful Pariz Hotel with its exquisite Sarah Bernhardt art-nouveau dining room and staircase. What was even better, it was situated in the old town.

After booking into the hotel I went down to the main shopping centre and straight away saw something I had not seen in Europe before; outside every shop was an armed guard which reflected the previous lack of goods in Prague.

The famous part of Prague is the old city and the King Charles bridge which is just like a Hollywood idea of a bridge and to get to it you had to walk through narrow streets of the old town and the old town square with its world famous 14<sup>th</sup> century astronomical clock and on to the 14<sup>th</sup> century King Charles bridge across the river Vltava.

Our first task the following morning was to appoint a translator and the young university student we gained was more like a young film star. We then started to interview in the hotel where six new companies were after our agency. All six had been only going about a year which was the period of time since the country became a Democratic Socialist state escaping communism. They turned out to be mainly academics with one exception which was the company we appointed as the lady concerned had worked in Western Europe and had good connections to the government.

All of us in the trade mission went out to dinner that night to a fish restaurant close to the King Charles Bridge and had a fantastic meal including wine which was so cheap at about £10 a head but all of this changed on later visits, when due to German tourists the prices rocketed.

We arranged a visit to the Czech TV fire station the next day where they were delighted Westerners wanted to discuss how they worked, so a demonstration was arranged and we were asked to stand in the fire engine bay by the fireman's pole. Sirens went off, strobes flashed and firemen starting sliding at a great speed down the pole right beside us and then threw on fire-fighting gear and jumped into both fire appliances which had already been started and roared out into the city with sirens and light flashing; suddenly there was a complete silence. We had been treated to a most generous display.

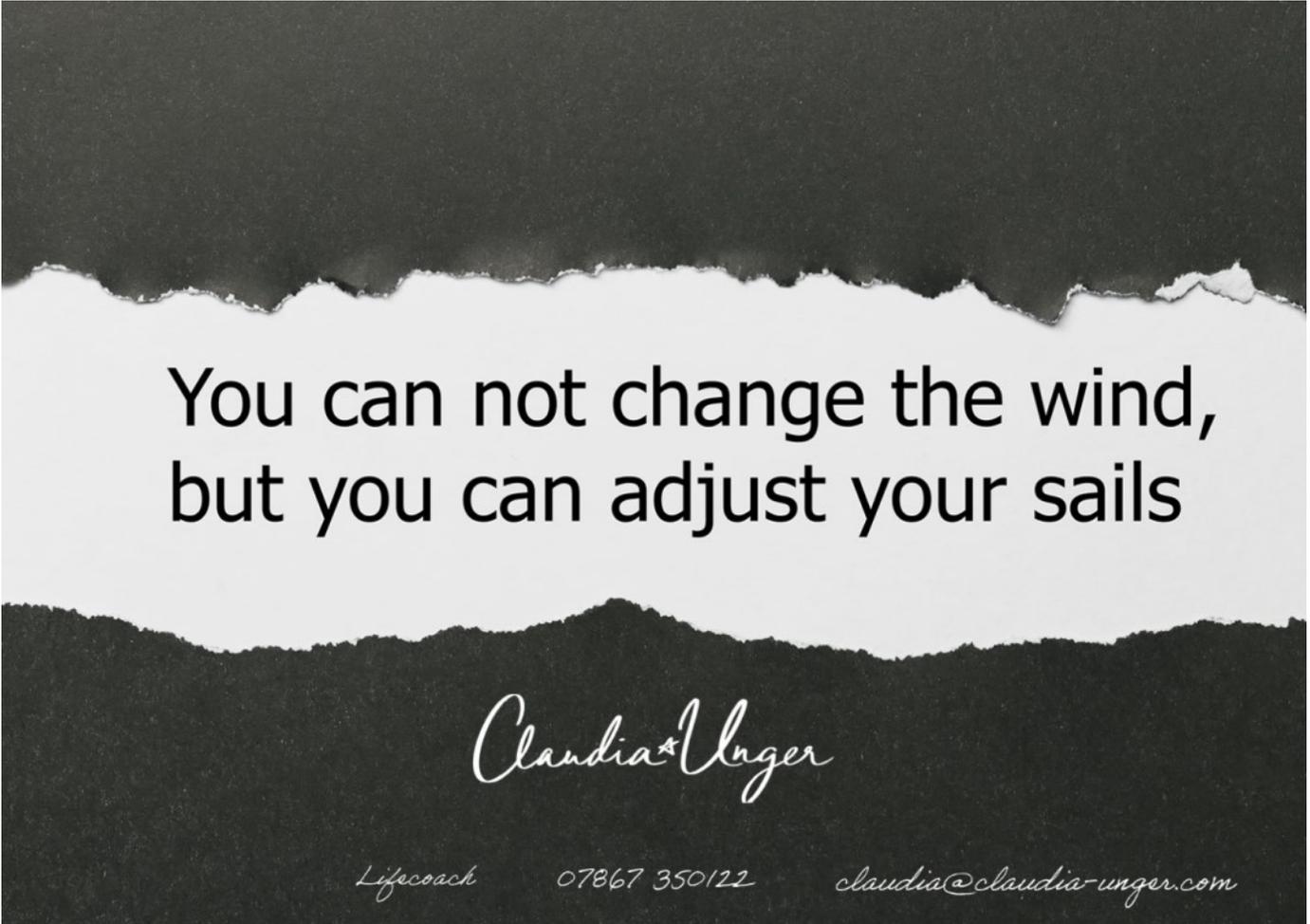
Next stop was the airport and a flight to Budapest in Hungary a destination of choice for me. This was to be the first of many visits to this beautiful city as was the Prague

visit but as always the first visit is the most memorable and not much had changed from the recent departure from the communist bloc.

Three main events took place here the first been interviewing potential agents and this turned out for me having to use my German due to the technical questions been asked and at this point I was reminded that Budapest was the second city of the Habsburg Empire and German was the second language. We then had on the following day a welcoming lunch in the Kepinski Hotel but as Murry and I had gone to a trade show in the morning we arrived a few minutes late. Our seats at a table for eight were conspicuous by being empty. On taking our places the gentleman sitting next me to said, I guess we are the only people here today that could talk about cricket and then introduced himself as Christopher Long, the British Ambassador to Hungary. Frankly, I should not have been surprised as the British Embassy is only 100 yards away. Needless to say with an Australian colleague sitting next to me lunch was a lively affair not that the other people on the table had a clue what we were discussing.

Our final event was to attend the American Embassy for a get-to-know-you social gathering of the young entrepreneurial Hungarians, all keen to be involved with major American businesses. The evening confirmed what I had assumed and that was if you spoke good English the opportunities in Hungary were unlimited, it was the passport to success; and so on to Warsaw.

*David Bendall*



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# Avening Parish Council



The Parish Council Meeting was held via Zoom on the 20 January 2021. The meeting was open to all residents of the Parish.

## Community Support

This lockdown seems to be harder than the last, but normality is on the horizon with the vaccine giving hope for a way out. If you need support the Parish Council website has a list of volunteers or email [covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk). Or phone The Buzz on 07403006106. Remember the importance of following the rules, stay at home and shop alone where you can. Hands, Face, Space! is still especially important to lower the rate of infection.

## The Memorial Hall

Your Memorial Hall Needs You! We now have formed a small management committee, but new members are still needed. Please get in touch if you would like to help support the hall in its 100<sup>th</sup> year.

## Parish Budget

The Parish Council has agreed a budget for the year 2021/22 and the request has been submitted to Cotswold District Council. The Parish Council is happy to answer any questions and a leaflet explaining the budget is included with the Villager Magazine.

## Police Report

1<sup>st</sup> Oct – 31<sup>st</sup> Dec: Reported crimes: Criminal Damage (1); Anti-Social Behaviour (1); Arson (1); Assault without injury (3).

## Dog Fouling

Please keep Avening a pleasant place to walk! Dog mess seems a never-ending problem. It is illegal not to clean up after your dog. Breaches of this can lead to a £100 fixed penalty notice or being taken to court and receiving a fine and conviction of £1000. If you witness breaches of this law, it can be reported on the Cotswold District Council website.

## Planning Applications and Tree Works Since the Last Issue

### New Applications –

20/04173/COMPLY. 20/00427/FUL: Barn at Owl House, West End, Avening Gloucestershire. Compliance with Conditions 3 (watercourse protection plan), and 7 (surface water drainage scheme) of Permission 20/00427/FUL - Conversion of barn to dwelling and installation of pitched roof (Amended design to 18/04043/FUL) – No Objections. Application Permit

20/03799/COMPLY: Longmans Barn Farm, Avening ,Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8NH Compliance with Condition 3 (design and details) of Permission 19/03144/FUL - Conversion of barn to dwelling – For Information Only

20/00430/FUL: 48 High Street: Erection of balcony at rear of property with storage beneath. No Objections

20/04338/TCONR 36, High Street: Reduce Crown and remove dead and damaged limbs on T1 Weeping Willow. – No Objections

20/04479/: Folly House, Point Road. Removal of 3 Oversized Sycamores. No Objections  
20/04493/TCONR: Blenheim Cottage, 3 Woodstock, Work to Beech Trees. No Objections  
20/03234/FUL: 11A High Street. Variation of conditions of permission 17/00216/FUL -  
No Objections.

20/04433/FUL: 15 High Street. 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Extension. Object on the grounds of scale  
and impact to neighbouring properties.

21/00232/TCONR: 14 Star Lane. Retain Copse, remove willow, Ash and Horse Chestnut,  
Coppice mature Hazel stems. No objections

### Decision Notices

20/02481/FUL - 25 High Street GL8 8NF Erection of two storey front and two storey rear  
extensions and rendering of property - Permitted.

### Potholes

Report the potholes directly to Highways on 08000 514 514 or via their 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)

## 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.

### Church Floodlighting

The church was floodlit on:

**6th December** in loving memory of **Sarah Evans;**

**16th December** with happy memories of **Richard (Dick)  
Chapman** on his birthday from Angela, Kris and family;

And will be lit on : **9th February** in memory of **Joan**, dear  
wife of Brian Newman, mother to Mary and Molly and  
Nanne to Emma, Laura, Jason, Joe and Jamie – very much  
missed;

**19th February** in memory of **Michael Powell**, celebrating  
his ability to capture England's green and pleasant land on celluloid and the  
humanity of his films from Thelma, Kevin and Columba.

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 **Piers  
Hansen on 07770 745642**. The cost is £10 for 2 hours.



# Puzzle Answers

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

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| B |   | E |   | G |   | R |   | T |   | C |   | E |   |
| L | E | T | H | A | R | G | Y |   | S | T | E | W |   |
| E |   |   |   |   |   | N |   | O |   | F |   | E |   |
| R | E | D | U | C | E |   | E | L | U | D | E | D |   |
|   |   | E |   | E |   | O |   | O |   |   |   | E |   |
| N | A | P | E |   | O | C | C | U | P | A | N | T |   |
| O |   | L |   | S |   | E |   | N |   | W |   | R |   |
| I | N | E | R | T | I | A |   | D | R | A | M | A |   |
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| E | X | E | M | P | T |   |   | C | R | E | D | I | T |

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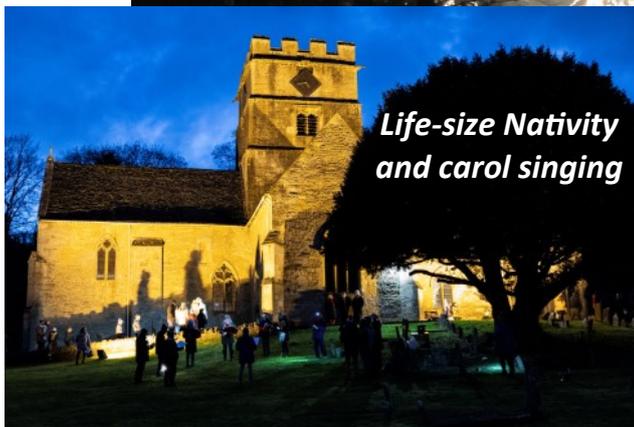
*Socially distanced carol singing in Sandford Leaze*



*Santa came to Avening!*



*Thanks you, Avening Court, for the fireworks display!*



*Life-size Nativity and carol singing*



*Café cakes for the school*



## Fairtrade Fortnight February 22 – March 7 2021

Fairtrade Fortnight is a great opportunity to connect with farmers in other parts of the world who work hard to grow the products we enjoy but can't grow here: bananas, tea, coffee, and cocoa for example.

Many will already be familiar with the Fairtrade mark, and make a choice to seek it out and buy Fairtrade products whenever possible. It is great to see that Avening Community Café chooses to use Fairtrade coffee, tea and sugar and Avening and Cherington Churches are working towards achieving Fairtrade Church status. Can I encourage you to continue to make your Fairtrade purchases, to try something new and encourage others to do the same particularly during Fairtrade Fortnight? A wide range of Fairtrade products is available in local supermarkets and online.

Thanks to the ongoing support of the public and campaigners, an increasing number of farmers in developing countries are now selling their products on Fairtrade terms, bringing them a stable income, and the chance to trade their way out of poverty. In addition, they earn the Fairtrade Premium, which they invest democratically in projects that will benefit their business or community.

If we are worried about the climate crisis, child labour, exploitation of women around the world, and racial injustice, we must make the link to what we buy. Poverty is often ignored in many corporate 'sustainability' schemes. Fairtrade aims to tackle the cause, where others address the symptoms. As consumers we have the power to bring about amazing change. There is huge value in working together. We have seen it in the million acts of kindness for others throughout the pandemic, here and abroad.

We can make trade work for all of us. Fairtrade Fortnight, this year, will focus on the



reality for farmers of the double-whammy of the climate crisis and poverty. Nationally this year, because the usual community events are not possible, there will be an exciting online '**Choose the World You Want: Fairtrade, Climate and You**' festival. To register, Just go to [www.fairtrade.org.uk](http://www.fairtrade.org.uk).

*Jennie South*



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