

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,
Cherington and Nags Head

March 2022

editors@villagermag.online

**Join us for
Avening Playgroup's
Easter Egg Hunt and Trail
On
Saturday 2nd April
In the School Garden
1 until 4pm**



SAVE THE DATES!

Monday 11th April:

All Village Meeting re Show 2022

Saturday 4th June:

Queen's Jubilee Hog Roast

Sunday 5th June:

Jubilee Service of Thanks

Saturday 25th June: Plant Sale

Sunday 24th July: Cherington Show

March 2022.

As usual there is lots to read and think about in this edition. Of particular interest are the various items raised by Patrick Mulligan, Chairman of the Parish Council, which deal with the various upcoming events in the year ahead. We are sure that many will be glad to read of the introduction of 'Flare', which is an App dedicated to combatting violence towards women in all its various forms. Do read Patrick's article, with its details as to how to access the App.

In addition, Patrick highlights some of the vacancies needing to be filled in various village roles. We wonder if there are people out there who would be interested in helping. In the same vein, we are hoping to recruit an additional member to our Villager team to help with maintaining and introducing new advertisements. The revenue raised from this source is vital in helping to maintain the production and distribution of a free copy of the Villager to every house in our community. Whilst we are enormously grateful for the vital financial support we receive from the Parish Council and others, we are eager to increase the number of advertisements and hence bring in some much needed additional income. The cost of placing an ad is quite modest. People learn through the advertisements of the services available locally and at the same time the advertisers know that they are helping to sustain what we believe is a valued resource for our readers – a win, win situation! Please do get in touch if you think you could help.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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

Advertising editors@villagermag.online Gwyneth Simpson 01453 836556

Deliveries Cas Boddam-Whetham 01453 834834

Deadline 18th of each month

Read online at www.avening-pc.gov.uk

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Kris Kerry** for the photo on the front cover of this month's Villager. Keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine.

editors@villagermag.online

Wanted!

Ads salesperson for the Villager Magazine

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Enact

Stepping into who you're willing to be

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*Mapping out and taking charge of
your life's adventure*

Regular Activities in the Villages

Items struck through are temporarily suspended. Would organisers please let us know when they restart.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Community Café	Tuesday	9.30 - 11.30am	Social Club	Gill Adams 07826 291759
Churchyard tidy up	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Churchwardens
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday	10.30am - 12.30pm	Social Club car park	
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Zoom	Richard Smith
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	6.00 - 7.30pm	Avening church	
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening PC	3rd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Avening Cinema Club	Last Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	avening Cinemaclub@gmail.com
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Social Club/ Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.30pm	tba	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

Contacts for the Villages

Avening & Cherington Churches Reader	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
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 Elizabeth Fuller	01453 833016 01453 835067
Avening Church Flower Team	Gill Adams	01453 833175
Avening Church Organist		
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Nicholas Winkfield	07885 139275
Avening Cinema Club	Sophie or Sue	aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com
Avening Community Café	Gill Adams	07826 291759
Avening Community Orchard	Phoebe Carter	pklc1@hotmail.com
Avening History Project	Jean Chatelain	ajeanchatelain@icloud.com
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 WI	Liz Knowles	01453 833803

Avening Youth Club	The Door	01453 756745
Cherington Village Hall	Camilla Trotter	07545 054160
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Richard Smith	Cheringtonparishcouncil @yahoo.co.uk
Cherington Church Churchwardens	Helen Di Mauro Claudia Unger	07796 937268 07867 350122
Cherington Church Flower Team	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Community Café Crop Swap	Chandy Rodgers	Chandra.rodgers65@ gmail.com 07734 971211
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Nicky Dill	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
South Cotswold Community Wellbeing Agent		01452 528491
Stroud Hospital	Reception	0300 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336

VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

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

Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk



Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



February is that quiet time of the year which I tend to think of as a kind of dormant period, allowing a brief time to ponder while awaiting the arrival of spring with all the busyness in the garden that comes with it. Snowdrops have arrived and the winter sunshine reminds us of better things to come. Very similar in some respects to the issues lining up to be dealt with and/or enjoyed over the coming year by the Parish Council and the village as a whole. We will have the Queen's Jubilee celebrations, the Centenary of the Avening Memorial Hall, the Village Fete and the 160th anniversary of the Parish School to name but a few, as life hopefully returns to pre-covid normality.

There are a few changes afoot; firstly, we have a change in personnel to our local Police. Our PCSO Sue Fellows departs for a more northern posting in the Cotswolds with our good wishes and thanks for her dedicated service over recent years. In her place we welcome PCSO Kimberley Collins. She has already become acquainted with Avening and we look forward to supporting her in her new role.

Staying with the 'policing theme' there is now a new innovative App available which aims to combat 'violence against women'. Titled 'Flare' it is a safe space to share the everyday experiences of women and girls. You can use the app to share your experiences of behaviours such as: drink spiking, verbal abuse, feeling unsafe in public spaces, being sent inappropriate images, sexual comments in public, inappropriate touching without consent, indecent exposure, stalking, harassment, staring, upskirting, etc etc. The app helps local agencies understand how and where you feel unsafe and take action. It's anonymous, quick, free to use and can connect you to support and advice in Gloucestershire. You can download it by visiting flareport.co.uk

'Your Village Needs You'! There are couple of positions available for those interested:

- There is a forthcoming vacancy on the Parish Council - anyone interested in joining and giving their services for the benefit of Avening please contact me or any of the other Parish Councillors for a first-hand account of what's involved.
- The village needs a handyman to cover minor odd jobs as they arise in connection with the Playing Field (fence repair or similar)
- Whilst not the direct responsibility of the Parish Council, I would mention that the Youth Club has somewhat fallen by the wayside for the want of a person to run it – if you are interested please email the Parish Clerk and we will be in touch to put the necessary wheels in motion.

I'm always available on the phone or at the Tuesday Café if you want to discuss any of the issues mentioned or have any others that need addressing.

Keep safe and well.

Patrick Mulligan (Mob: 07713 068436)

Chairman of Avening Parish Council

For Covid assistance contact Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk or call 07415 03923

Continuing the regular feature of getting to know the Parish Councillors; following on from Richard King and Craig Forster, this month it's the turn of:

Stephanie Hamilton

I have lived in Avening for 31 years since I brought my young daughter here. She joined the playgroup before it moved to its current building and I did a stint as secretary and then followed this with another as Chair of FOAS at the school. I married Ian in 1997 in Holy Cross and we have lived in the middle of the village on the High Street ever since.



I have been involved with the church for years and feel privileged to have held the role of Churchwarden for 12 years. Now having taken a step back I am still on the church council and currently serve on both Deanery and Diocesan Synods. Organising the annual fete is my main task which is both enjoyable and hard work but brings all the village together either through helping or supporting on the day which we are always grateful for.

I work in Tetbury as a dental nurse and have spent the last two years dealing with the safety issues and working constraints brought on by the pandemic .

I joined the Parish Council three years ago and enjoy supporting the council helping, through discussion, the concerns residents may have with planning and highways or indeed just village issues that are so important to many of us.

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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH

Avening and Cherington Churches

Dear Friends,

As we begin the month of March we enter, almost immediately, into the season of Lent.

The word 'lent' comes from lengthen and, indeed, the days (and our hopes) are lengthening right now. Some of us will get out the seed catalogues, others the holiday brochures, and for some it is a time to consider tweaking our thoughts in preparation for Easter. We will be holding weekly meetings in Avening and Nags Head to discuss a book by Stephen Croft: *Experiencing God's Love*. You don't need to be a churchgoer to join in, and we would love to see you and talk together. The first meetings are on Wednesday March 9th (face to face) and Thursday March 10th (by Zoom). Books will be available in the groups. Do get in touch with either Derrick on 01453 835090 (email derrickcompline@gmail.com) or Elizabeth on 01453 833016 to find out more.

The month of March begins with Pancake Day, then Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent. By the end of the month, we will have noticed Spring Equinox and then, on the day we set the clocks ahead to Summer time, celebrated Mothering Sunday, when we will gather to give thanks for the Mother Church and our own mothers, mother figures and grandmothers. As usual, there will be posies to distribute at church and slices of Simnel Cake for the occasion. Do come and join us at this hopeful time of year. We would love to see you.

With love,

Elizabeth and Liz, churchwardens.

Church Services

	Holy Cross, Avening	St. Nicholas, Cherington
6 th March 10 am	Holy Communion	No Service
13 th March 10 am	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
20 th March 10 am	Holy Communion	No Service
27 th March 10 am Mothers Day	Holy Communion	Holy Communion
3 rd April 10 am	Holy Communion	No service
10 th April 10 am	Palm Sunday Morning Prayer	Holy Communion

Working Together in Avening, Cherington, and the Benefice of Minchinhampton with Box and Amberley

Increasingly our churches are clubbing together in teams and wider benefices. The nature of benefices vary considerably within the Church of England, ranging from those who work closely together, to others which are an administrative necessity.

For the last four years Gerald South has been the House for Duty priest in charge of the parishes of Avening and Cherington. Now that Gerald has retired, the Diocese (and the parishes themselves) do not wish to appoint another House for Duty priest as a priest-in-charge as it is difficult to be a solitary priest with all of the responsibilities that come with this role. As both Avening and Cherington parishes adjoin the parish of Minchinhampton and both are less than three miles from Minchinhampton, conversations have been underway with the wardens of both parishes and the Archdeacons of Gloucester and Cheltenham exploring the possibility of combining these parishes and the Benefice of Minchinhampton with Box and Amberley.

The parishes of Amberley and Minchinhampton with Box were joined together as a benefice around twelve years ago and our benefice works on four levels:

- Ministerial support: We have a supportive group of active and retired clergy and a lay reader. This is invaluable as being a priest in a parish or benefice on one's own can be stressful and demanding.
- Administrative support: Having one administrator who is available four days a week is helpful as it reduces workload on the ministry team.
- Shared resources: We have run joint Lent courses, retreats, and borrowed equipment from each other.
- Joint services: Prior to the pandemic we had shared two services a year; Harvest evensong and Trinity Sunday evensong. It is hoped that this will resume in 2022.

Our conversations about working together have resulted in the following proposal:

A new House for Duty priest will be appointed to the parishes of Avening and Cherington. They will be an associate priest, and will report to the Rector of the Benefice of Minchinhampton with Box and Amberley, Howard Gilbert, who will be appointed as a priest in charge of Avening and Cherington. This new position will be an interim role for three years and the individual will be tasked with exploring what an enlarged benefice would look like and how it might work. The post may then be made permanent should we choose to continue with enlarging the benefice.

These proposals may well raise questions or concerns in people's minds. Please do speak to one of the wardens if you would like to talk more about this.

Rev. Howard Gilbert (Minchinhampton) and Rev. John Spiers (Amberley)

Puzzle Corner

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

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Sudoku

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

Answers on page 34

Across

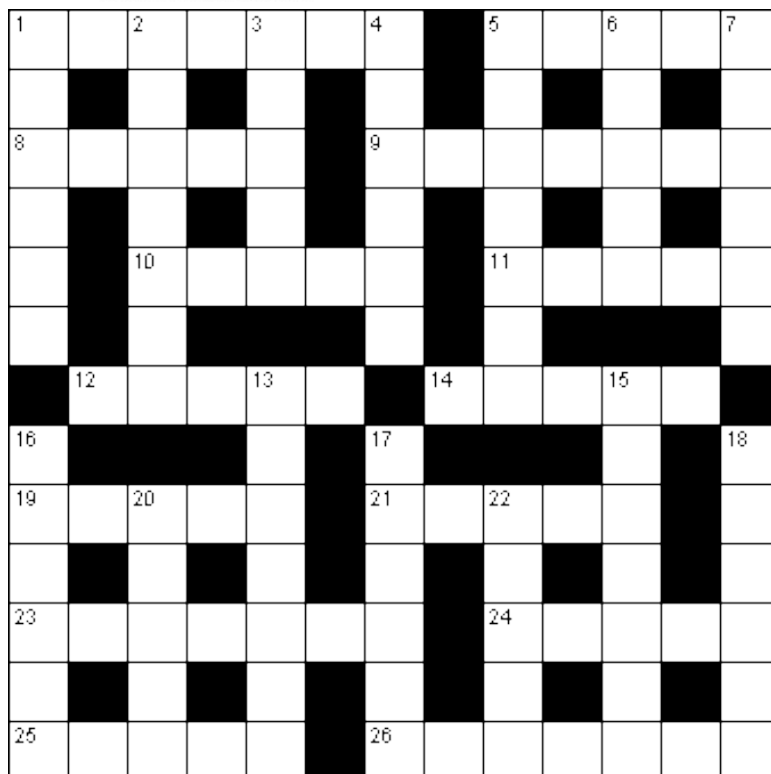
1. Major prize (7)
5. Sentinel (5)
8. Circus performer (5)
9. Skittish (7)
10. Synthetic fabric (5)
11. Relating to the moon (5)
12. Proficient (5)
14. Mild and pleasant (5)
19. A closed litter for one passenger (5)
21. One more time (5)
23. Copy (7)
24. Rabbit shelter (5)
25. Locations (5)
26. Assimilates (7)

Down

1. Nocturnal canine (6)
2. Enthroned (7)
3. Appointed committee (5)
4. Lessee (6)
5. Large ape (7)

6. Fruit of the oak (5)
7. Wilderness (6)
13. Writing implements (7)
15. Leviathan (7)
16. Takes over without authority (6)

17. Elongated fruit (6)
18. Treasure (6)
20. Terminus (5)
22. Dull pains (5)



www.puzzlechoice.com

Gilian's Poem of the Month

Frosty Dawn

Dark footprints through the pearly dawn
Scrunch, scrunch on the frosty grass;
Soft breath in clouds like angel's wings,
Hovers where'er I pass.

Brave morning star still lingers,
Bright in the eastern sky,
As daylight hovers on the brink,
And night's grey shadows fly.

The new-born day's soft primrose light
Blends with pale moonlight's blush,
As dawn-drawn rosy clouds appear
In the first -light's breathless hush.

I see, reflected in the pool,
An opalescent sky,
As bird-song fills the still, cold air
With sweetest melody.

Such beauty fills this morning,
Such peace , and promise new,
Such hope , in the dawn of a frosty morn,
As the bright sky turns to blue

Gilian Bulmer-Davison



And many thanks to Wendy Jarman for sending us this photo of a frosty dawn, which goes so well with this poem. If you take a look at the online version of The Villager, you will appreciate its delicate colours

Down Memory Lane

Nick Winkfield's article about the lost village at Ledgemore certainly caught the imagination of a number of people. Gilian Bulmer Davison wrote to The Villager to say the following:

I was most interested to read Nick's article in the Villager magazine for February, as I too have heard old tales of Ledgemore. It was soon after I first came to Avening, and, if I remember correctly, I heard these tales from both Mr. Ross of Vale Farm, and Mrs. Lawry of Church Farm. Both accounts were more or less the same, so perhaps they are correct?

So here is my version.....

There was indeed a hamlet of Ledgemore between Avening and Barton End. When the bubonic plague swept through, killing all the inhabitants, all the cottages were burnt and the ashes scattered in the valley, then covered with soil, so that no trace of it can be found today. Monks from Horsley Abbey had been tending the sick, and, fearing that the bodies were still infectious, they dug a large pit in the Bottom, into which all the bodies were placed. Inevitably they carried the disease back to Horsley and the bodies of the many people who died there were also carried down to be placed in the pit, as it was deemed to be a safe site, being a good distance from any other habitation.

When the Black Death finally died out, the remaining monks sealed the pit with layers of soil, and the rain and streams soon filled it with water, creating the large pond which can be seen today, and known as Ledgemore Pond.



Bluebells at Ledgemoor Bottom

However that is not the end of the story! It is claimed that on moonlit nights a procession of hooded monks can be seen, carrying coffins on their shoulders, and lamps in their hands, silently wending their way down to Ledgemore Bottom from Horsley. Apparently, these had been seen by several different people, who all told the same story.

I used to walk along Ledgemore frequently, with a succession of various dogs - Chips, Shan, Paddy, Zac and Pippa - so know it well. As we approached the Pond I always felt a sombre and slightly forbidding aura hung over the place, and all the dogs, without exception, would slink away up the field, tails between legs, and give the pond a wide berth, refusing to come anywhere near it !

This was especially unusual, as the three labradors would normally have leapt joyfully in for a swim, and both Shan, a red setter, and Pippa, a lurcher, would have enjoyed a paddle and drink. But not there! Which makes me think that there is almost certainly some truth in these tales!

And Gilian wasn't the only one interested in the story. We were sent the following picture of the ruins of an old house, deep in the woods at Ledgemoor Bottom – though maybe a bit too modern to be the remnants of a plague village.



Gay Powell

The funeral of Gay Powell will take place on
Tuesday March 8th at 2:30pm.

At 2:10 Gay's family will leave from her house in
Star Lane to walk to the church.

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Avening School

Swallows and Amazons Forever!

We are looking ahead to an exciting run up to Easter with plenty of activities in the pipeline, including one of the highlights of our school calendar, World Book Day. Every year, we choose one book or author and as a whole school community, delve into the story(ies), exploring the plot, author and themes. This year, our chosen book is the children's classic 'Swallows and Amazons' by Arthur Ransome. Although the official date is Thursday 3rd March this year, we will be celebrating on Friday 4th March all day, turning the school into Wild Cat Island and taking part in activities such as shelter-making and origami boat designing and recreating the story through dance. In addition to the day's events, during that week, we will also be holding our annual bedtime story time session, this year, hopefully around the campfire, weather permitting.

It feels wonderful to be able to plan events again which bring such joy to our school community and as the weather warms up, more time spent outside with forest school sessions and school outings. The Hawks Class (y3/4) will be paying a visit to Slimbridge Wetlands Centre at the beginning of March as part of their investigation of the water cycle. During their visit, the children will take part in a 'what happens to my water' workshop and also become scientists for the day, completing water tests and identifying pond creatures.

We also have a new date for our participation in Young Voices, which has been postponed several time and, all being well, will now take place in May at the Birmingham NEC. The children and staff are very much looking forward to this and have been busy rehearsing the songs and moves.

Looking further into the summer term, we are beginning to think about our celebrations to mark the Queens Jubilee as well as the school's 180 year anniversary. Watch this space for more information on both these events over the next few months.

Our Fledglings pre-school sessions held outdoor in our school garden are continuing every Friday afternoon 2-3pm. For more information on these sessions, please contact the school office.

Alex Adcock

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



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Care for Calais Parcel

Community Café 'Knit and Natter' knitters produced 13 knitted teddies and 6 scarves, which were packaged up and delivered to the local Care for Calais hub. The charity supports refugees in UK and Europe.



Organist wanted at Avening Church!

Do you play the Organ? Do you know someone who does?

We are looking to employ someone who will play on alternate Sunday mornings.

If you are interested, or know someone who might be, please get in touch with our Churchwardens:

Elizabeth Buchanan: 01453 833 016

Liz Fuller: 01453 835067

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Avening Playgroup

It's been another busy month at the Playgroup as the children have been learning about Chinese New Year, making Chinese Dragons and trying prawn crackers- some for the first time!

We have also been exploring different shapes and practising our letters as well as talking about and getting creative for Valentine's Day.

Planning is under way for the next school year, so if you have a child who is turning 3 years old between 1st September 2022 and August 2023, and you would like them to attend our playgroup, please email Angie on aveningplaygroup@gmail.com or phone us on 01453 832695. Please note that we are open mornings only during term time.

Angie Heslop

Lost and Found

Found: a Citroen car key on the High Street between the top of Sandford Leaze and the Gothic Villas. Please contact the Buchanans to claim it.

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LITTLE WOMEN



WEDNESDAY 30th March

Doors open 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm

AVENING MEMORIAL HALL

Admission £5

The film club runs on the last Wednesday of every month.

Contact us at aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com

The film club is a not for profit community event. Any profit made after screening/licence costs will be donated to local charities

The Best Days of my Life

Teresa and Wendy (Jarman) were recently going through some things belong to their mother, Pearl Fletcher, and came across a notebook in which she had written down her memories of growing up in Avening and kindly sent them to us to publish. Pearl was born on 30th October 1935, she got married to Roy Jarman in 1954 when she was just 19 and passed away on the 3rd October 2013, aged 77.

The best days of my life that I can remember.

Looking back now that I have reached middle age, I have very fond memories of my childhood. Money was tight but it didn't seem to worry us too much, we always had lovely Christmas's due to our kind relatives. Uncle Eddie, my Mum's brother, and his wife, they always made sure we had presents, and Auntie Mabel, my father's sister, and her hubby was another and Mum and Dad would go without so we had things to open. We would hang pillow cases at the bottom of the bed, which I shared with my sister Rosemary, miraculously it always seemed Father Christmas came in the night and filled them up for us both.

Mum was a Nailsworth person (Bathe) before she married dad (Fletcher) at the age of 19 yrs 5 months, Dad being 5 years older. We had quite a few relatives in the Nailsworth, Avening and surrounding areas. When we visited Grampy Bathe, he always gave us a threepenny bit and we used to pop around the corner to buy an ice cream cornet, this was from Horsley Road, (now long gone). Uncle Eddie and Auntie Annie lived nearly opposite Grampy's and he would be the next port of call, he would sometimes give a piece of coconut as he always had one which he used to feed the blue tits, it



Pearl's parents, Cis and Stan Fletcher, who lived at The Gables, Rectory Lane

was quite a treat for us. He sometimes gave us three pence then we would go to the chip shop and treat ourselves to scrumpies (the pieces of batter that came off the fish as it was being fried), we thought we were it, having a bag of those to munch on!

Dad was quite fun when he was not working at night, he was a painter and decorator by trade and he was always in demand, so sometimes we didn't see a lot of him as someone or something wanted painting or wall papering done. He must have got very tired, but when he was home he used to give me rides on his back and pretend he was a horse, he used to let me think he was going to put me in the water butt by tipping me

upside down over it, I used to scream as there were all wriggly things in it, and he used to laugh at me. Dad used to sing to us about a naughty little rabbit and he also gave me my first cigarette hoping it would make me poorly and not want to smoke; as I used to get his butt ends, it made me poorly alright.

Mum was always patient with my sister and I, she never smacked us, and I can never remember hearing her swear, she made most of our clothes and we always had new black patent leather shoes with an ankle strap, straw hats with flowers on, new dresses which mum had stayed up most of the night finishing them before chapel. Sunday school anniversary, Auntie Annie came to see us saying the pieces we had learnt and then get our presentation from the parson Smyth, which was a book, we then went home and sat down to a lovely tea.



Pearl's husband Roy, at work at Paul's in Avening Mill

Every Sunday after lunch Rosemary and I went to Sunday school chapel and when we came home there was our money on the table for our ice creams from Mr Lewis, the ice cream man, who used to come around with his bicycle and the cool box on the side, which made it look like a machine; it had three wheels and we always looked forward to seeing him.

We collected rags and bones for the war effort which we took to Lord and Lady Lea. His housekeeper Mrs Mortlock used to give us some Turkish Delight, which she had made, so we always liked going there, she was a lovely lady. At harvest time when we went gleaning, gathering the ears of wheat for Lord Lea, Mrs Mortlock would come up from the Old Quarries (Lord Lea's home), with a large basket of food and a drink for us, she was always a welcome sight to see, and we would enjoy the lovely food she had brought us in the shade of the tree.

Lord Lea was a lovely man, he and I used to have a chat many a time, when I used to see him I would call him Mr Lord Lea and he called me his little friend. Wording (*walking?*) was fun in those days, we would go into Gatcombe Wood, what a beautiful place it was to be, with the bluebells, primroses, wood anemones and wild strawberry's, large roman snails etc, we had many a happy hour in those woods. I always loved it up Steps Lane, in the summer there were always wild flowers, also orchids on the bank and when the grasses had grown very long, they used to move looking like waves in the sea when the wind blew through them. I always admired the

beautiful view looking down to Gatcombe Woods and the Nailsworth Road, this was the best place in the world.

We would play galloping horses in the fields running about like wild things, and when the blackberries had ripened we would go round the hedgerows gathering them for Mum. We also gathered rose hips to take them to school, we get 3d [*pennies*] a pound for them, someone would come to the school and pick them up for Rosehip syrup This was our way to get a little money so we could buy something with as we never got any pocket money, even so we were happy enough.

Rosemary and I used to listen to children's hour on the wireless each weekday evening. We listened to Norman and Henry, Boy detectives, Larry the lamb, Ballet Shoes which I think was called The Red Shoes, Just William, Billy Bunter and Heidi. We loved that hour with the wireless, as we called it, I remember we had an accumulator which it ran on, but when we had the electric installed we had one that worked on that.

Cherington Lake and woods was another favourite spot. In February we would go there and it was like a wonderland as one part of the wood was covered in snowdrops, which we used to pick and take back to mother and in the streams leading to the lake we went water-crossing, it was lovely when we had that for tea but it made our fingers cold as the water was so cold at that time of the year.

Dad made us a big sledge and we used to go sledging with about 8 or 9 of us on it, that was the only time I really like the snow – we had winters then and long lovely summers.

In our garden at The Gables, Rectory lane, was a large apple tree which Dad hung a swing from it, many a happy time was spent on that. By the apple tree was a pig sty which we made into a little play house, we had a box for a table and some small chairs, we thought our little home was a palace and it was handy to the swing as well.

When the potatoes were ready we were allowed time off from school to go potato picking. I liked that as it meant no school for a while and a chance to earn some

money, which I saved to buy my parents and sister their Christmas presents. They were happy days with all the pickers singing the songs of the time we were in. I also love the smell of the new soil being turned over bringing the new potatoes out from it, combined with the smell of the tractor.

Looking back to my first years of school, we were very lucky at our village school, where Miss Chip and Miss Richins were our teachers. Miss Chip Debbie was more strict out of the two but they



Pearl and Roy Jarman celebrating Christmas

were both very good teachers, they taught us to read, write and we counted on an abacus, adding up and taking away, we used to write with chalk on a slate, there was a rocking horse and a big dolls house plus a swing which was brought down from the ceiling in the class room. I loved threading glass beads on a sort of long lace, also cutting shapes with rounded end scissors, the only thing I didn't like was drinking the milk, I hated that.

Most Christmas Dad's brother Uncle Frank and his wife Auntie Alice used to have a party with the rest of Dad's brothers, sisters and cousins etc. Uncle Frank would dress up as Santa Claus and come in with a sack over his shoulder, then everyone would sing, Uncle Frank had a few drinks and he would sing his solo piece, 'The Trouble with us Kids', we did not appreciate it at all and used to get fidgety, still it was very good of them to do a party. They used to have the shop on the corner, Auntie Alice had to be up early to get the newspapers sorted before they were delivered.

Auntie Annie lived down the street, she was very good with us, she had us most days for school dinner times, she would give us some homemade tarts and pies and lovely cups of tea, we used to chase her around a bit and she was always laughing with us. I was very fond of her and she certainly put up with something from me, she used to say she was going to adopt me she always wanted a daughter but had 4 sons instead. Uncle Alfred, who was her hubby, seemed quite a sober chap to me it's funny really but both Aunt Annies were small little ladies and both very good.

Unable to continue, end of the story.

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Covid Walks that Activated my “Beady Eye”

I think that the first Covid “lock down” stunned a lot of people and I, along with many others, as the weather was so good took advantage of what we could actually do, which was to go for a walk.

I have to tell you that my walking is normally restricted to following a golf ball, or in days gone by walking to the pub, so initially this extended form of exercise came as a bit of a shock. However in the coming days and weeks I found myself walking tracks and paths that in some cases I had not been on for over 40 years and I was both amazed and sometimes saddened by what I saw.

Names and places have been omitted as I leave it up to you to work out some of the items that I am going to mention. On one such day we were walking along and we came upon what I thought was a house where I could never remember seeing one before. I asked how long has that house been there? The reply I got was that’s a stable block.... No I said if that’s the case it’s the plushiest one I have ever seen, what horse lives in there – Shergar? The reply I got was this is an example of buildings being erected with planning permission for a stable, shed and the such like, where some folk think they won’t be spotted or objected to. Then after a short period of time, quietly a planning application goes in to turn it into a house or extension.

I have learned that just recently, as the Cilla Black catchphrase goes, “Surprise Surprise” the aforementioned stable is now being turned into a house.

Unfortunately as we walked around the neighbourhood I noticed more and more dwellings and buildings which seemed to follow this stable block criteria mentality. Word of warning as to any continuous form of this sneaky behaviour. Just like “BO-JO” your sins will eventually catch you out!

Onward with the travels and I noticed what a good job has been made of restoring and renovating the original black water pump points in the village and I just wonder as to how many residents know where, and how the water actually got fed to these outlets?

My education on the subject came from Nigel Stanton, a once staunch member of the Parish Council, who I met in the Cross one night and he said to me: “here, you’re a bit of an engineer and I understand your Grandfather was a plumber, come and have a look at this.” Laid out on the table were the original set of plans of the water system that he had just retrieved from some of the old storage boxes in the Parish Council Chamber Room. They were a delight to see drawn in colour with all sorts of artistic points of reference such as the storage tank locations that stored the water fed from springs, all set out at various heights and locations around the Parish, to keep the water pressure in the pumps up.

Basically, in order to keep the water pressure up there were three or maybe four tanks but I certainly know of three sited at various heights. One was up at the top of Steps Lane, one in The Park along West End, and another above Stephenson’s corner of which the water can be seen near the road which is the overflow from the tank further up the bank.

I can't remember who the engineers were (reference is mentioned on the drawings) but I can only admire what and how they achieved this magnificent feat of local engineering. It would be a good thing for the village to appreciate if these drawing are once again retrieved from storage and put on display for people to see – you don't have to be an engineer to appreciate how informative and artistic these drawings are and their part of the village heritage. As I understand the drawings have been relocated to Local Council Archives in Cirencester, so I would ask the Parish Council if efforts can be made to retrieve and display them, for instance during something like the Church Fete when lots of local residents are congregated .

Perhaps these observations both good and bad will provoke others into activating their "Beady Eyes". Locals should take note of all their surroundings and protect the local heritage that we have as there are individuals who take the view that they are entitled to do just what they like!!

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NAILSWORTH MILLS BOWLING CLUB

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on the Nailsworth Mills Industrial Estate.

New members welcome.

Come for a "Roll Up" on our regular
Friday evening club nights and open
days starting at 6.30pm.

Green open in mid-April, see details on
our website: nailsworthmbc.weebly.com



Nailsworth Mills Bowls Club

Lawn Bowls has a long and colourful history in Britain and the start has been traced back to the 13th century. The Stroud area pays an important part with the invention of the lawn mower by Edwin Budding in Stroud in 1830. The machine, although first developed for trimming the nap on cloth, became a green keepers pride and joy.

Lawn bowls at NMBC started in 1900 and the green is located on the Nailsworth Industrial Estate. Instead of going right to the garden centre go straight on and there we are, you will be pleasantly surprised at what meets you. The start of April sees NMBC preparing to start the new 2022 season with a social and fixture list to tempt existing and new members alike.

Avening village has 10 of its residents playing regular lawn bowls at this local club, and NMBC now invites all interested men, women and families to join a friendly club where a range of types of lawn bowls activities and, or, social activity can be participated in.

The season starts in early April and finishes in late September and during those months, Friday Club nights at 6.30 pm flourish where practice and pure enjoyment are the key elements and all new members are welcome to come and have “a roll up” and the bar is open for a social drink after.

What could be better than a little gentle exercise in the sunshine with good company and a little refreshment after?

Tuition and equipment are both supplied free and all you need to be wearing is a pair of flat-soled shoes and casual clothes. Just turn up and our dedicated members will be there to give you all the assistance you need.

Various types of membership are available, from those who want to play purely for fun and social activity and also friendly mixed mid-week and weekend games and ladies and men’s league matches in the set evenings.

Check on the season details or contact one of the local members or the website:

www.nailsworthmillsbowls.club

Church Floodlighting



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.

AVENING CHURCH FETE CHANGE OF DATE

Due to the avalanche of lovely village events in the first half of the year it has been decided after discussion with all the relevant participants to move the Annual Church Fete and Art Show from June and it will now take place along with the Duck Races and Dog Show on:

Sunday September 11th

SAVE THE DATE!

More info to follow.

A Bite to Eat?

Arranging a Group Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Christening Party or other social event ?

Avening WI 'Bite to Eat' scheme may be able to assist with your catering needs.

We can provide and serve a selection of freshly prepared sandwiches, scones and cakes; a fork or finger buffet; or a two course meal.

For prices and any further details :

Please telephone Liz on **01453 833803** or e mail **lizknowles@hotmail.co.uk**





The Children's Society

Following the recent pandemic, the work of The Children's Society has become even more urgent to support families and young people who are struggling. People in the village can help simply by having a Children's Society Charity box in their homes. Unfortunately, during the last couple of years, we have lost four of our village box holders and so we are really in need of more support from this area.

Could you help

What is The Children's Society?

They are a national charity working to transform the hopes and happiness of young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect. They work alongside families and communities to support young people through their most serious life challenges and campaign tirelessly for the big social changes that will improve the lives of those who need hope most. The Children's Society have been doing this for 140 years and declare that they “..won't stop until we've built a society where hope is alive in every child.”

You can find out more here: www.childrenssociety.org.uk

How do the box collections work?

You keep a charity box inside your home, given to you when you register, and just drop in your loose change now and then-it all adds up! Approximately 12 months later, I'll arrange with you a convenient time to collect your box, the money will be counted and distributed into the Children's Society account, and your box returned to you for another year.

If you think you would like to support The Children's Society by box donations, please get in touch with me. There are no registration fees to pay, just a short form to fill out with your contact details and then a whole year to babysit a box and feed it some pennies every so often! It really can make a difference to lives.

Please Contact Liz on 01453 835067 or you can email eliza.82@hotmail.co.uk

To all who already support The Children's Society through household box collections, a massive thank you! I'm sorry that it has been so long since you had a box. I was reluctant to return boxes to homes during the uncertainty of a pandemic lockdown and I'm afraid I just hadn't managed to pick up the baton again. So it's been a while, but the boxes are ready to be redistributed and I will be in touch soon!

Liz Fuller



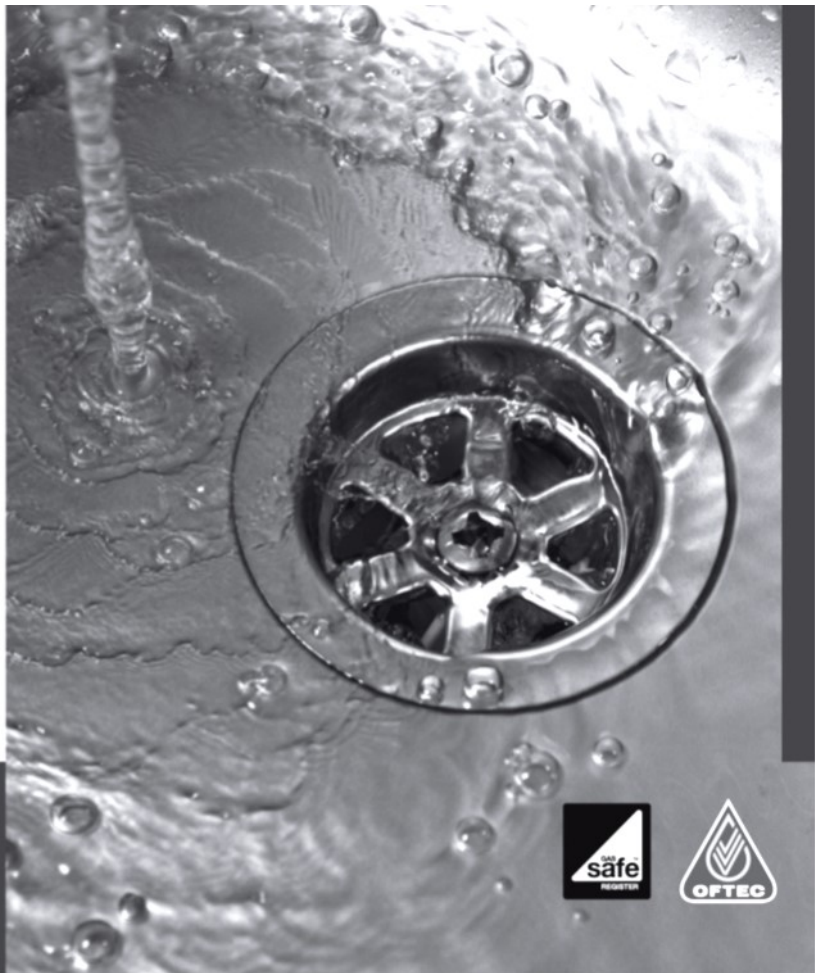
***Save the date for a special night out!
Dinner Dance in Avening Church
Saturday, May 8th.***



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Avening Community Café



Café Art

Tuesday mornings in the Social Club from 9:00 – 11:30

In February we celebrated some extra special days at the Community Cafe with Chinese New Year of the Tiger and the day after St Valentine's Day, as well as visits from Mark Kelland and Atlanta Rayner.

Coming up in March we have St David's Day to look out for and International Women's Day.

A very important date and time to note is the **Cafe AGM at 7:30 pm** in the Social Club on **Monday 21st March**, an opportunity to reflect on the life of the Cafe, with all the challenges and rewards this year has brought us. We will be glad to see you there. Please pass any nominations to join

the committee to either Gill Adams or John Hetterley.

WHAT'S ON IN FEBRUARY

"KNIT & NATTER" – Every week. Bring your own craft to share.

Mar 1st St Davids Day – Croeso y Cymru

Mar 8th International Womens Day – Avening WI

Mar 15th 'ART WITH MARK' – 9:30 to 11:30am, £3 per session, all materials provided.

Mar 21st Annual General Meeting – 7:30pm Social Club lounge

Mar 22nd "Card skills & tricks"

Mar 29th 'CREATIVE WRITING' – with Atlanta from 10 to 11am, £2.50 per session.

All welcome for coffee, homemade cakes and a chat every Tuesday. Mobile Post Office on site from 10:30. Also visit "The Book Box" on Old Hill.

.....*Follow us on Facebook for one-off events and other news.*

John Hetterley
For Avening Community Café

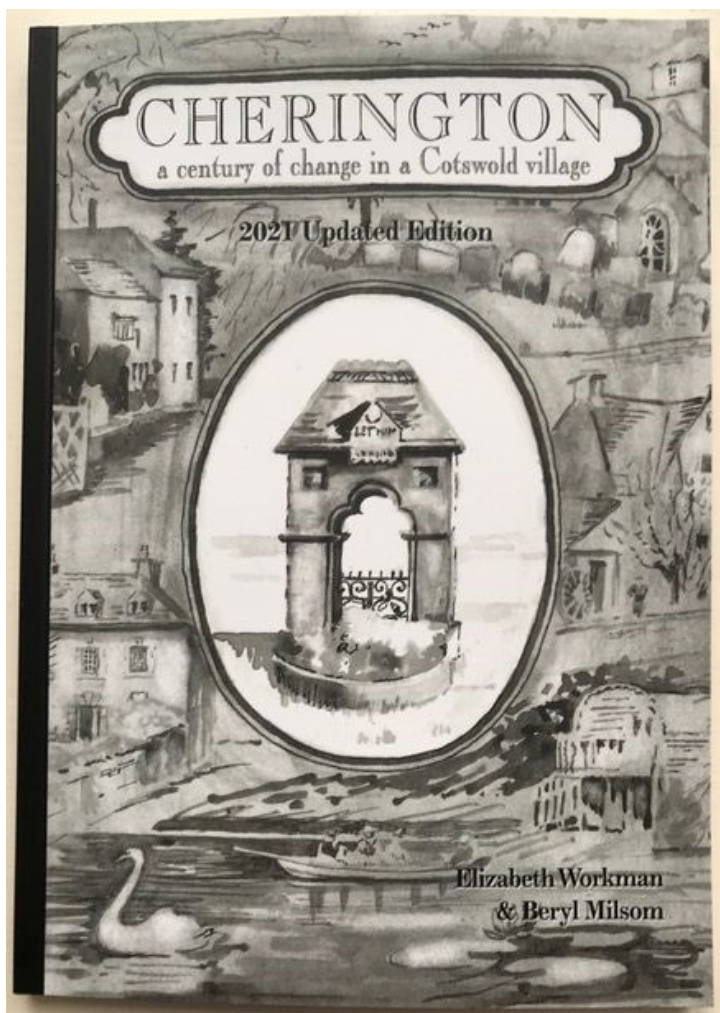
Avening Community Orchard

Saturday 19th March: 8 spaces available. We will visit several gardens/orchards and learn how to prune fruit trees to keep them healthy and productive. A great skill to have. Free.

Wednesday 9th March: 6.30pm - grafting workshop. Learn how to graft your own fruit trees. £20 for tuition and a fruit tree to take home.

Both being run by/with Martin Hayes, Chair of Gloucestershire Orchards Trust

Please book onto either ASAP



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Conductor: Jonathan Trim

Leader: Angela Spencer

Saturday March 19th 7.30pm

Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Road, Stroud, GL5 2HX

- Tickets £12 (concessions £10) • Children under 14 free
- £1 reduction on tickets purchased prior to concert evening

Tickets from Stroud Sub Rooms Box Office 01453 796880

www.stroudsymphony.org.uk

STROUD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Avening WI

Avening WI had a few moments of fame in February. Firstly we appeared in a short article about our on-going support for Stroud Women's Refuge in the national WI magazine and then we were heard on the Mark Cummings show on BBC Radio Gloucestershire following his visit to our monthly meeting. He gave us an amusing talk of anecdotes about his life, work and local interest stories, including the time when he and a colleague caused quite a stir arriving unannounced at Avening School on bikes dressed as Batman and Robin, (they were supposed to visit the Playgroup!).



Amid much hilarity, Mark tried to record us doing a short rhyme in unison for his 10 to 8 slot the following morning and then he interviewed individual members on what signified the coming of Spring to them. Apparently it all required a lot of editing before the broadcast! He also presented the birthday flowers to the appropriate members and judged the Flower of the Month Competition.

Our members were delighted to receive the following letter from Donna Morgan, Personal Assistant to Her Royal Highness the Princess Royal:

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal has asked me to write on her behalf, to thank all members of Avening Women's Institute, for the beautiful bunting they had handmade and gifted to The Princess Royal. The bunting has been placed in the function barn (the venue that the branch members had visited in 2021, during their official visit) for all to enjoy.

Her Royal Highness sends her very best wishes for the future, to all members of the Avening W.I.

Our newly formed AWI Book Group held a very successful meeting to sort out the format and logistics of the group and had interesting discussions on the first book choice, American Dirt by Jeanine Cummins.

Our February walk was very well attended with 15 members and 3 dogs taking a walk along the old railway line from the Goods Shed in Tetbury, returning past the alpaca field and allotments and finishing with a delicious lunch at the Royal Oak.

Our monthly meeting for March will be on Thursday March 10th at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Our speaker will be Clare Walsh. Clare is a local designer, maker and textile enthusiast who will be talking about and demonstrating the art of Indian Block Printing.

Visitors and potential new members are always welcome at our friendly and thriving group. For more information please contact our secretary, Soo, at aveningwi@gmail.com

Helen Haiselden



Avening Youth Club



Avening Youth Club, run by The Door, is cancelled for the moment.

Full details of how to access all of The Door's services can be found at www.thedoor.org.uk and on Social Media @TheDoorStroud.

Want more information about Avening's Youth Club? Contact Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

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Puzzle Answers

J	A	C	K	P	O	T		G	U	A	R	D
A		R		A		E		O		C		E
C	L	O	W	N		N	E	R	V	O	U	S
K		W		E		A		I		R		E
A		N	Y	L	O	N		L	U	N	A	R
L		E				T		L				T
	A	D	E	P	T		B	A	L	M	Y	
U				E		B				O		R
S	E	D	A	N		A	G	A	I	N		I
U		E		C		N		C		S		C
R	E	P	L	I	C	A		H	U	T	C	H
P		O		L		N		E		E		E
S	I	T	E	S		A	B	S	O	R	B	S

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

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Cherington Parish Council

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

Mike Mitchell
Chairman Cherington Parish Council

The Church Electoral Roll

What is it?

It's a register of church members.

What does it mean?

It's a way of confirming your commitment to the Avening Holy Cross community and entitles you to have a participatory role in the life of the church. It qualifies you to attend annual meetings, vote in any elections and stand for election. Being on the Electoral Roll does not entail signing up to any additional commitments.

Do I have to?

No. You can still be a full and active member of the Church without joining the Roll, but it can provide a sense of belonging and identity with your church.

If you would like to join our Electoral Roll please request an enrolment form from Liz Fuller: eliza.82@hotmail.co.uk. or 01453 835 067. Alternatively there are copies of the form available inside the church.

If you have previously enrolled and wish to remain on the register for another year, you must also complete a form.

The Village Notice Board

The village notice board, on the side of the Memorial Hall, is a good way of publicising village events and items of local information. Posters, ideally size A4 or A5, can be put up for you on this board. They can be delivered to John and Sandra Hetterley 2, Orchard Field or given to them directly. They will be taken down once they are out of date. Other posters may be removed and recycled once they are faded or to make space for others.

Playing Field

Ash trees will be felled over the coming weeks. This is a necessary due to Ash Dieback.

Gloucestershire County Council have provided Avening with 300 native whips over the past year as part of their replanting scheme. Most of these have been planted at the playing field.

There is a short delay on the installation of a new slide and low rotator due to the sourcing of materials. We are hoping the work will be completed before May.

Please be aware that dogs are forbidden in the fenced children's play area.

Planning Applications & Tree Works Since the Last Issue

New Planning Applications

21/02282/FUL – Plum Patch Cottage – Erection of earth sheltered accommodation - Updated details. -Support.

Decision Notices

22/00056/TPO The Coach House, High Street: Reduce Beech Tree, Reduce Horse Chestnut. Permitted

21/03201/COMPLY Land Parcel at Sunground: 12 Landscape, 15 Drainage, 17 Lighting, 18 Biodiversity, 22 Method Statement, 25 Broadband. Permitted

21/0288/FUL Land Parcel at Sunground: Variation on conditions two approved plans and 20 tree protection plan. -Permitted

20/03727/FUL Norn House 12 Nags Head Lane: Alterations to outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation to existing private dwelling house. Permitted

Police Report

During the period of 1st December 2021 – 1st February 2022, four crimes were reported in comparison to ten crimes for the same period the year before. One theft - stolen number plates; one criminal damage - vehicle; two violence - allegations of harassment.

Women Staying Safe - The police are promoting the Flare app. It is recommended downloading the app to enable women and girls to share and report everyday experiences including verbal abuse, sexual comments in public spaces, as well as issues such as drink spiking, harassment, and indecent exposure. You can get the app by visiting [flarereport.co.uk](https://www.flarereport.co.uk)

Sad Farewell - PCSO Sue Fellows has announced she is moving to pastures new. Avening will miss her. Thanks for all your hard work, Sue. We welcome Sue's replacement, PCSO Kimberley Collins, and we look forward to working with her.

Cotswold District Local Plan

CDC are running a consultation on the proposed partial update on the local development plan. The consultation started 4th February and ends 20th March. You can view and comment at www.cotswold.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-policy/

Potholes Report the potholes directly to Highways on 08000 514514 or at the GCC Report It website.

The next meeting will be on 16th March in the Memorial Hall

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



TONY'S CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

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Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event	Location	Time
Tuesday 1st March	Cherington PC	Cherington Village Hall	
Wednesday 16th March	Avening PC	Avening Memorial Hall	19.30
Sunday 27th March	Clocks go forward		
Wednesday 30th March	Avening Film Club Little Women	Avening Memorial Hall	19.30
Saturday 2nd April	Easter Egg Hunt	Avening School Gardens	13.00—16.00
Monday 11th April	Cherington Show meeting	Cherington Village Hall	tba
Saturday 8th May	Dinner Dance	Avening Church	tba
Sunday 15th May	Avening Open Gardens		tba
Saturday 4th June	Queen's Jubilee Hog Roast	Cherington	tba
Saturday 25th June	Plant Sale	Cherington	tba
Sunday 24th July	Cherington Show	Cherington Village	tba
Sunday 11th September	Avening Fete and Art Show	Avening Church and School	tba



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CERT NO 125/10910



The Bell at Avening

a traditional British pub serving a great selection of real ales and authentic Indian food



OPENING TIMES:
MONDAY: CLOSED
TUESDAY-THURSDAY: 5.00PM-CLOSE
FRIDAY: 4PM-CLOSE
SATURDAY & SUNDAY: 3PM-CLOSE
FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
IS TONY'S QUIZ NIGHT

Little
INDIA
at THE BELL

Little India @ The Bell, serving food from Tues-Sun 5.30pm-close
Call **01453 836453** for great food to takeaway
Visit our website for full menu

FOOD HYGIENE RATING

0 1 2 3 4 **5**

Call us on: **01453 836422** or e-mail us at **info@agpubs.co.uk**

www.thebellavening.co.uk

Find us on Facebook
by simply searching
"Bell at Avening"



Day Centre & Social Club

- Home cooked lunch plus teas/coffees
- Group activities, craft sessions and companionship

Home Care Services

- Help with Personal & Domestic tasks, Sitting Service
- Meals on Wheels locally

Nursing Home

- General & Specialist Dementia Nursing
- Registered Nurses on duty 24 hours a day
- Free and Pre-arranged Respite Care available all year round



**Horsfall
House**

For more information please
contact us on **01453 731 227** for
an Information Pack or go to:
www.horsfallhouse.co.uk

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal, Minchinhampton Centre for the Elderly, Registered Charity No: 287479