

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,
Cherington and Nags Head



March 2023

editors@villagemag.online



Richard Murray



Liane Wheeler



Raph Arwas



Annabel Crapper



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March 2023

Isn't extraordinary how much better we all feel once the dismal winter weather gives way to something more springlike? It is heartening to feel more like popping into the garden to admire the bulbs and do a spot of gardening, and the clocks "springing" forward on 26 March.

So too, things in the villages are beginning to look up. Plans for Easter are being made, starting with the Easter Egg Hunt.

Patrick Mulligan urges us, in his report, to think ahead and contribute our ideas for two events coming up later this year. Firstly, how do you think Coronation Day should be marked in our villages? For those of us old enough to remember the Queen's Coronation, we must try to remember what things we did then, that have remained with us for ever and make some special memories for this generation of young people. Secondly, Pig Face Day is going to make a return after the interruptions caused by Covid. This celebration is unique to these villages. No doubt many are enjoying Roger Lindley's fascinating and light hearted articles, bringing Queen Matilda to life. It was she who was responsible for the the building of our lovely church and the founding of the Feast. Volunteer your ideas and help to make this year's celebrations happy and memorable. We look forward to hearing from you.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Claudia Ungar** for the photograph of an unusual meeting on Cherington Green on the front cover.

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

editors@villagemag.online

The Editors do not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained in this publication or accept responsibility for errors or omissions or their consequences. Opinions expressed by contributors to this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors.

CHERINGTON CLEAN UP – HELPING HANDS NEEDED!



Saturday 18th March 10 am onwards

Please join us for the Annual Litter Pick and Church



Spring Clean

**Are you a picker or a polisher? You decide!
Stop by Cherington Village Hall on Saturday
morning from 10 am, and we will provide the
equipment & products you need to get stuck
in. Stay as long or as little as your schedule
permits but do please get involved!**

**Refreshments will be provided as well as
plenty of Cherington Community cheer!**



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	9.00am - 12.00pm	Social Club	Gill Adams 07826 291759
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday	10.30am - 12.30pm	Social Club car park	NOTE from 27th March 9.30-11.30
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Cherington Village hall	Richard Smith 07884 265117
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	6.30 – 8.00pm	Avening Memorial Hall	01453 756745
Avening Churchyard tidy up	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Churchwardens
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 Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Elizabeth Buchanan Elizabeth Fuller	01453 833016 07773 272933
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	David Bendall	01453833479
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	flndly4@aol.com
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 07884 265117
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
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	richard.morgan @cotswold.gov.uk 07483 835137
Friends of Avening School	Nicky Dill	01453 833191
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



Already and all too soon, the celebrations for Christmas and New Year seem a distant memory in the rear view mirror of time.

On the Parish Council front, it has been a relatively quiet period. Now it's time to concentrate on the months ahead, in what will potentially be a busy and enjoyable period for the village. The big national event will be the Coronation.

Coronation Celebrations 6th May: There are many conversations going on within the village from the various organisations such as The Church, FOAS, W.I., Avening Nursery and the Tuesday Café as to what format their celebrations will take.

I know that there will be various smaller parties planned around the enclaves of Avening with the possible result that a larger Village event would become diluted. There is also the need to have a plan which can go ahead irrespective of the prevailing weather conditions. The Parish Council therefore intends to make the Memorial Hall available for the day as a central village venue. Whilst I stress that no firm plans have been agreed; it was a suggestion that if the Memorial Hall is available, then those organisations that are planning an event might want to come together and turn it into more of a village celebration. Following the Church Service, the Hall can be available from 12 noon until at least 3pm (or longer if required). Then there would still be time later in the day, for localised gatherings and private parties around Avening. Your input, ideas and suggestions would be welcome. Can I suggest that the Avening Café might be a good forum; or if you can't make Tuesday mornings just send an email to the Parish Clerk and we will forward it on as appropriate.

There is much to be discussed and explored but I have confidence that a cohesive plan will come together.

Village Maintenance: Some of you may have noticed a few vehicles and workers carrying out repairs and maintenance around the village over recent weeks. GCC are experimenting with having teams dedicated to their own specific area; who will constantly go around and clean signs, maintain grit bins and fill in any obvious potholes they come across on the day. This is a scheme that Wiltshire C.C. have employed for a number of years and has proved successful. The teams currently covering our villages are 'on loan' from Wiltshire to prove the efficiency of the scheme. I have to say that seeing the one team take it upon themselves to do a multitude of tasks — clean the bus shelter, grit bins, road signs and mirrors, and then fill in some potholes — made me dream that common sense on the use of resources had finally arrived. Well done to the team and congratulations to G.C.C. for giving this enterprising scheme a go. Certainly there is no shortage of work to be done. Please find time to send G.C.C. / Highways an email to support this initiative as this will help drive the acceptance of this experiment.

Could this be an answer to our ever-present pothole woes?

Andriivka: Just a reminder for those who want to become involved with a link-up of Avening with Andriivka in Ukraine to contact Clare Beddington to register your interest.

The Sunground and Lawrence Road: Work is planned to start on the 27th February on the 14 new houses at the end of Lawrence Road; letters will have been sent to local residents informing them of the planned activity which will last through until the spring of 2024. Please remember to be extra vigilant in keeping children and pets away from this building site. The developers have promised to sweep Lawrence Road regularly to minimise the disruption.

Pig Face Day: Just to repeat what I said in the January Villager; this was last held in pre-Covid 2018. We now have the chance to revive it; this will also be an item on the agenda for the Parish Council meeting in March. Whilst it's primarily a Church event, support from outside of the Church to support this ancient tradition would be welcome; with the aim of turning it into a full village event. Ideas and volunteers needed – register your interest via the parish clerk or any of the parish councillors.

Hedgehogs & Hedgehog Highways: A word for our prickly little friends; as they come out of hibernation they will look to travel across our gardens (eating slugs as they go). Travel can be made easy for them by the provision of small exits in the bottom of your fences. Later in the year the Parish Council will revisit the possibility of sourcing nesting boxes closer to their hibernation in the Autumn.

Avening Parish Council Grants: -Just a reminder that A.P.C.C. have a limited amount of funds that we can donate to local good causes or groups. The closing date for applications is 1st April 2023 and should be made on line to the Parish Clerk – parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

Patrick Mulligan (Mob: 07713 068436)
Chairman of Avening Parish Council



SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY 11 JUNE 2023

AVENING CHURCH

ART SHOW - BOTTLE TOMBOLA - TEAS AND CAKES

MORE INFO TO FOLLOW!

Puzzle Corner

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

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Sudoku

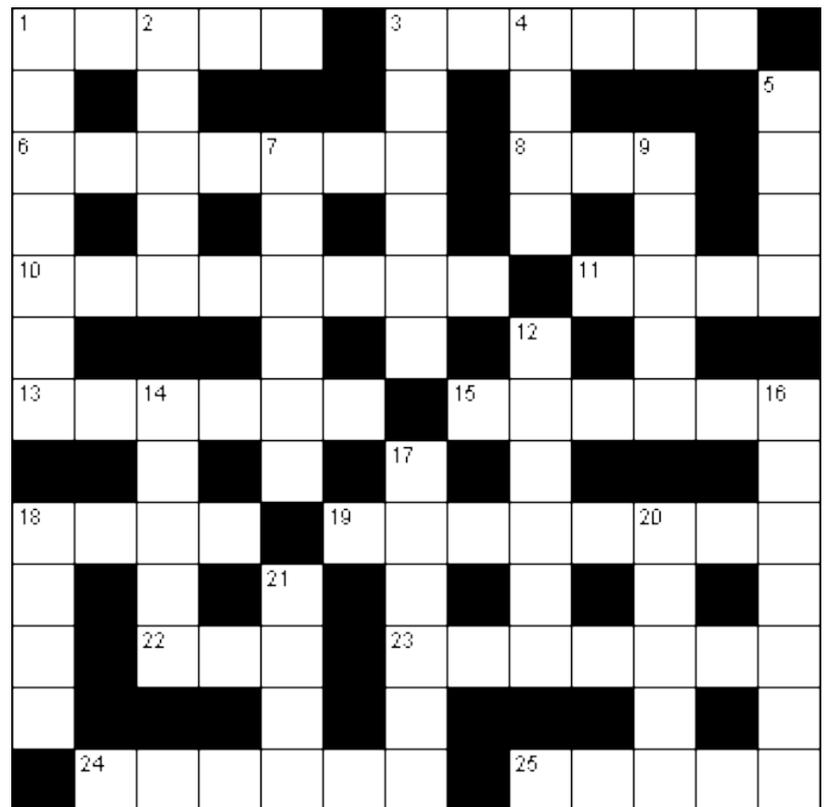
Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 - 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

Answers on page 30

NEW! Themed Crossword

Across

1. Fruit (5)
3. Retail food seller (6)
6. Italian rice (7)
8. Consume (5)
10. Type of lobster (8)
11. Used to season and preserve food (4)
13. Sampled (6)
15. Pestle and ____ (6)
18. Aromatic leaves (4)
19. Thick syrup (8)
22. Cereal grass (3)
23. Pear-shaped tropical fruit (7)
24. Type of cake (6)
25. Very thin pancake (5)



www.puzzlechoice.com

Down

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Downy fruit (7) | filling (4) | coated in egg and |
| 2. Shaped and dried dough (5) | 7. Sticky candy (6) | breadcrumbs and fried (7) |
| 3. Game bird (6) | 9. Heated bread (5) | 17. Thick soup (6) |
| 4. Kitchen appliance (4) | 12. Edible tuber (6) | 18. Cook slowly in liquid (4) |
| 5. Open pastry with fruit | 14. Sweetener (5) | 20. Large edible ray (5) |
| | 16. Cooked meat or fish | 21. Vegetable (4) |

Gilian's Poem of the Month

This poem was conceived over half my lifetime ago, as I walked with the dogs, one morning in early March, along the banks of the swollen River Avon, as it flowed through the village of Great Somerford, near Malmesbury, where we were living at that time.

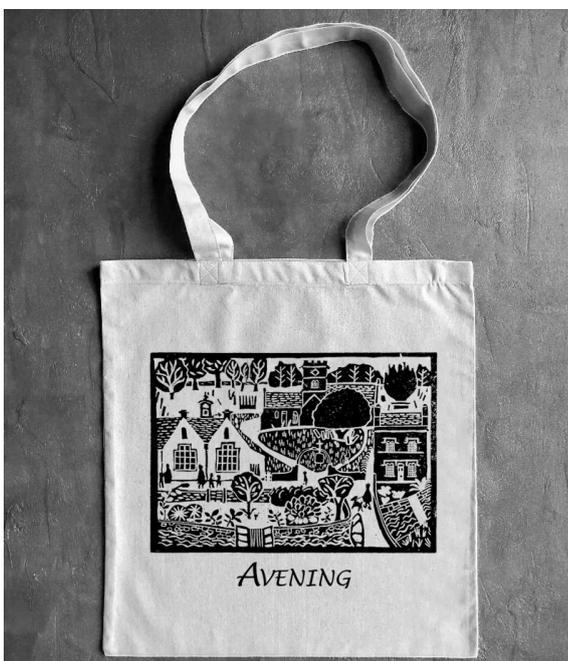
The River Of Life

I feel the sun's warm benison, as I watch the river run,
Flowing past so swift and smooth, swollen river, on the move,
To spill at last with sure intent into the waters turbulent
Beneath the weir, where currents swirl, and frothing, rushing eddies curl,
Tossing, like feathers, logs of wood into the mad, onrushing flood,
Caught in the seething, bubbling flow, dashed to destruction there below....
Yet who can tell what calms thereunder lie, 'neath the turmoil and the thunder?
What silent, hidden, unknown deeps shelter beneath those flooding sweeps?

So are we carried on with force, following each his daily course,
Hiding our deep and secret places behind composed, unfeeling faces.
What passing stranger e'er could guess the passions raging in that breast?
Or tell the loneliness that lies behind those quiet, shuttered eyes?
Or hope to touch that tender heart which broke so easily apart?
And who could see the pain and longing, or know what yearning thoughts are thronging
Through that solitary soul that longs to be serene and whole?.....

So as the swollen waters flow over the silent depths below,
The busy pace of life is sweeping over the heartache and the weeping,
Over the happiness and laughter, not knowing what may follow after.
For life goes on—we cannot stem it, no matter how we would condemn it,
Sweeping us onwards, like a song, as Life's rich tapestry flows on.....

Gilian Bulmer-Davison



'Avening' tote bags for sale £8

Also, original linocut prints of local scenes:
Avening, Minchinhampton, Tetbury
From £15

Contact Liz Bury 07814410642

Will be with Avening Makers at the
Community Cafe morning 14th March



Avening Playgroup

Over the past few weeks, the children have been very busy learning about:

The Chinese New Year of the rabbit: The children have been looking at books and talking about the Chinese New Year and have made egg box dragons. They have also used their fine motor skills to make Chinese fans and to use chopsticks as well as making rabbit collages. We also tasted some Chinese foods – egg fried rice, noodles, spring rolls and prawn crackers.



Emotions: The children made their own fidget balls, played a feelings sorting game and dice game. They drew lots of happy/sad faces and talked about what made them happy or sad. They also made monster faces.

Fairy tales: The children dressed up, listened to lots of stories, made crowns and built castles. They also took part in telling a story in the right sequence.

Valentine's Day and sounds: The children made Valentine's cards and enjoyed messy play with 'gelli-baff'. We have started to look at some sounds. As Avening Primary School teach Essential Letters and Sounds (ELS), we use the same mnemonics and rhymes so that the children start to become familiar with the system. We have covered:

s-snake, a-ant and t-teacher. We have started to look at p-parrot, i-inventor and n-nest. The children have been tracing over the letters and colouring in pictures that start with these sounds.



Our next fundraiser is due to take place on the Saturday 25th March between 1.00 and 4.00 pm. The committee will, once again, be organising an Easter Egg hunt at Avening Memorial Hall and the garden outside the school. Hope to

see you all there!

Playgroup is open weekday mornings during term time between 9.15 and 12.15. We run a lunch club on Tuesdays and extended hours, for children who are 3 or over, until 2.45 pm on Mondays and Thursdays. If you would like your child to join us, please call us on 01453 832695 or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com.

Angie Heslop

Sing for the King!

Join Avening's community choir (also known as Avening Angels) to sing at events in the village to commemorate the coronation of King Charles III

The choir prides itself on its friendly and open attitude. Everyone is welcome to join, with or without experience of singing, there are no auditions, and reading music is not necessary. We sing both classical choral works and more modern pieces and the idea is to have some fun!

This year we are keen to get more people to join us so we can 'Sing for the King' at the various village events and would love to hear from you if you fancy trying it out.

Contact Derrick (01453 835090) or Jane (07812137161) for further details

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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH

Avening and Cherington Churches

The term Lent comes from the word for Lengthen. As the days get brighter and we emerge from our winter lives, the steps for the immediate future become apparent. Finish the pruning, tidy the workshop, plant the seeds—spring housekeeping, inside and out.

We do the same for our inner lives, too. Maybe it is the time of year for extra opportunities with friends, more walks or fewer cakes, and during Lent we try to tidy up our spiritual lives.

The weeks of March take us through Lent toward Easter. At our Lent Groups we will discuss, week by week: Learning, Hope, Love and Forgiveness, guided by the Character Course (www.thecharactercourse.com). Starting in the first week of March, we will meet on Thursdays by Zoom (7pm), or on Wednesdays (6:30pm) for a simple supper (alternating between 14 High Street and 21 Nags Head). Please get in touch to sign up, either Derrick on 01453 835090 so he can send you the invitation to join online, or Elizabeth on 01453 833016 so we can manage the catering for the meal.

Elizabeth and Liz

Lent Meetings

During Lent there will be discussion groups here in Avening and Cherington, based on the Character Course, (<https://www.thecharactercourse.com>). Have a look at the link to get an idea of the format. We think it looks compelling, and hope you do, too! You would be very welcome to join us, whatever your Faith, or no Faith, to learn more and discuss with others.

The first meeting will be in the week of **February 27th**. The groups we are thinking of so far are: Wednesday evening at 6:30pm.

Thursday evening by Zoom 7:00pm.

Please get in touch with Elizabeth Buchanan (01453 833016) or Derrick Pierce (01453 835090), or

with Vicki Hayward at the Benefice office, admin@minchchurch.org.uk.

We would love to have you with us!

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.

Church Services

Date	Holy Cross, Avening	St. Nicholas, Cherington
5 th March 10.00am	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
12 th March. 10.00am	Holy Communion	No Service
19 th March. 10.00 am	Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday	Holy Communion for Mothering Sunday
26 th March. 10.00am	Holy Communion	No Service
2 nd April 10.00am	Morning Prayer PALM SUNDAY	Holy Communion PALM SUNDAY

Donations to Avening Church



On a number of occasions recently we have been asked if we can take donations by credit or debit card. We are working on this, but to start with we have set up a QR code which if scanned with your smart phone will enable you to make a donation to Avening Church of £5, £10, £15, £20 or any amount that you are able to. You then just feed into your phone your card details and the money will be transferred to our bank account. If you are an income tax payer you will also be given the opportunity to gift aid your donation.



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Queen Matilda's Diary (Part 2)

Matilda was not keen to come to England, and only arrived over a year after William was claimed King. She was crowned Queen in Westminster by the archbishop of York in 1068, thereafter spending most of her time in Normandy. Again, I apologise for my poor translation, but Matilda's attempt at writing her diary in English makes it almost incomprehensible. Roger Lindley

4th November, 1068 - Selby, Yorkshire

Yorkshire! I specifically said I didn't want to live in the North of England. It's wet and cold, and also while my English is pretty good I can't understand a word they say around here. Well, we've had to stay in England for the Coronation, but I think both of us would prefer to be back in France. All anyone can talk about is the weather, and the food is simply appalling.

I've finally had my revenge on that Saxon wretch Brihtric, who had the nerve to ignore my advances years ago when he was the English ambassador to Flanders. How dare

he, I was a very attractive eighteen year old and of noble heritage! So I've confiscated all his lands, which covered most of the south west of the country, and had him flung into prison. I wonder if he was responsible for spreading the rumour that I was only four feet tall and had a face like a pig... which is quite untrue as I'm actually a foot taller than that, and still good looking after having produced ten children. Well, William obviously thought I was a good catch as he was not deterred when I turned him down; the cheek of it, him low born compared to me and sending an equerry on his behalf to ask for my hand! I suppose I shouldn't have reminded him that he was illegitimate and called him a bastard, as he got so angry he rode over to Flanders and dragged me from my horse by my hair and rolled me in the mud when I was on my way to church. Well, if he was that keen I just had to marry him.

It was only on our honeymoon that we heard that the Pope had banned the marriage because we were distant cousins. What a nonsense, everyone is related one way or another these days! Anyway, we carried on as normal and once there was a change of Pope we got the ban annulled, although we had to have two churches built as a penance. What with all these castles and churches William is creating in England, I told him they will be calling him Bill the Builder soon instead of William the Conqueror....he was not amused.

Next month's final extract from Matilda's diary has her in Caen, France, shortly before her death, looking back on her life.



William's statue in Falaise in Normandy

Roger Lindley

O.L.Cottle

Family Business

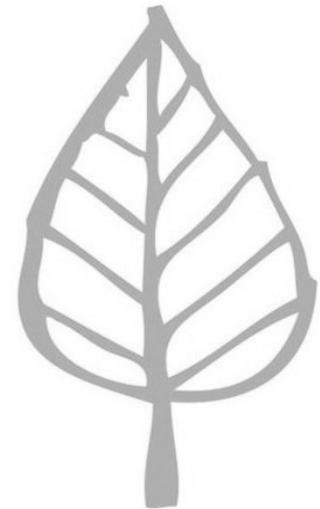
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A Bite to Eat?

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**



Join us for Avening Playgroup's Easter Egg Hunt and Trail



On Saturday 25 March
In the School Garden
and Memorial Hall
1 until 4pm

2 trails to choose from or have a go at both!

£3 per map (cash only)

Those wanting to do the BIG* trail should arrive nearer the start to allow time to complete

*Light refreshments with lovely cakes
served in the Hall*

Chocolate prizes to be won!!!

Games, puzzles and dressing-up stall



***Off-road footpath trail. Approx 2miles. Not suitable for buggies/prams.**



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Mr & Mrs T - November 2022

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Avening School

Designing, Creating and Presenting

Just before half term, the whole school celebrated Children's Mental Health Week with this year's theme 'Let's Connect', which focused on young people connecting with one another through talk, play and working together. During the week, each class practised the Jerusalema dance in their PE lessons, which they went on to perform as a whole school at the end of the week. On Friday, staff and pupils were asked to 'Dress to Express' by wearing whatever makes them happy and expressed their personalities. The school was a glittering spectacle of all sorts of attire from dinosaur onesies to football kits. As a school community, we also raised money for the young person's mental health charity Place2Be.



The Owls class (y5/6) recently took part in a K'Nex challenge run by STEMworks where they were asked to design and create a recycling centre in teams of two. The winners will go on to represent the school in a further competition.

Our netball superstars have officially wowed the school with their amazing performances at the recent interschool tournament where they have played other local schools. We are incredibly proud of their perseverance, commitment and teamwork.

The Owls class participated in the Gloucestershire Oracy Competition in school last month. Each child that took part was asked to speak for two minutes of a subject of their choosing. We had an incredible variety of speeches on everything from Lego to surfing to the history of Japan. The winners

from our class heats go on to the next stage of the competition next month.

It is that time of year again when we celebrate World Book Day with a great flourish of our imaginations and a love of reading that flows through the whole school from reception to y6. This year we will be celebrating the literary works of Roald Dahl. The school will divide into their school houses - Mars, Neptune, Jupiter and Saturn - for the day and take part in activities from golden ticket treasure hunts to mixing marvellous potions to creating and performing a Roald Dahl themed dance.

Alex Adcock

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

www.stroudsymphony.org.uk

Carwithen Bishop Rock

Tchaikovsky Violin Concerto Soloist: Matthew Taylor

Sibelius Symphony No. 1

Conductor: Jonathan Trim
Leader: Angie Spencer

Saturday March 25th 2023 7.30pm
Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Road, Stroud, GL5 2HX

Tickets £14 (concessions £12) • Children under 14 free
£1 reduction on tickets purchased prior to concert evening
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How Did They Do It?

After a wait of 6 months due to high demand, my solar panels have recently been installed, and I can report that, even with the wet and dingy weather we have recently endured, some £50 came off my last month's electricity bill compared to last year. I appreciate that not everybody, especially in the financial climate we find ourselves in, can afford to invest in this technology, but as I pen this piece I can see at least 40 houses in front of me that have the potential to save themselves between £1,500 and £2,500 per year. So guys, have a look at the potential; you are not only saving money, but helping with the climate warming that is unfortunately coming our way, and gathering strength as it does.

We hear a lot from our politicians about what, and when, they are going to do about reducing our need for fossil fuel, and our dependence on brutal and corrupt regimes, and they tell us that they are going to build new nuclear power stations etc. It's a sad fact, though, that a lot of us won't see the benefits even from Hinkley C let alone anything else.

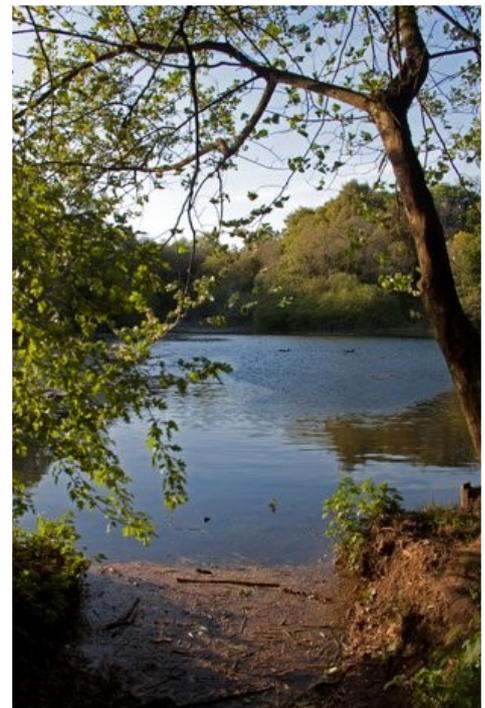
So how did our forebears manage?

As you may know, the prosperity of this and surrounding villages and towns came from the woollen trade. Woollen mills like Longford's were established in the early 1800s to turn the raw wool into usable goods. These required power, so the engineers of the day set out to build a series of lakes from here to Stroud so that the power of water could be harnessed. It starts at Cherington Lake, flows down to Longford's Lake then on down through the valley down towards Stroud and to other mills in the valleys. I can remember as a child seeing the local sluice gates and all the other requirements to keep the water flowing, the remnants of which can still be seen if you know where to look. In those days the rivers were kept clean and bridges clear of silt.

The construction of the lakes also helped in reducing flooding in the winter and a constant flow of water was released from the lakes in the summer. Cherington and Longford's lakes years ago were twice the size they are now, along with all the supporting lakes and mill ponds through the valleys.

Avening had 2 such mills; one which everyone may know as Rymes Mill (at the bottom of Mill Lane) and the other being Georges Mill which was eventually knocked down and which was situated near Woodstock Lane. The Rymes Mill was later converted to process grain but still used the power of water to run its operations.

Water was used to drive a system of paddles, belts and pulleys to power the looms and



Cherington Lake

other associated machines which were then later converted to provide electricity. When I was an apprentice at Redlers (originally an old mill) in Stroud in the late sixties there was a paddle which was used to create electricity which powered the machine shop.

At Longford's large amounts of water from the lake was used to produce the steam required in the production process. I remember when I was with my mother during the school holidays as she worked at Longford's in the office that at lunchtime the steam pressure was released, which was always a spectacular sight and extremely noisy.

As a country we have lots of systems put in place years ago which are based on sound and proven engineering practices; things like the canals and waterways, now thankfully being restored. Lakes, dams, and the use of hydro power are still available but for the want of some effort and not huge amounts of expense.

I don't condone the ways some environmentalists use to get their ideas across, but in truth their messages about global warming etc., which we sometimes viewed as "cranks" years ago, are unfortunately now coming horribly true.

I wonder how many paddle generators could be employed just from the lakes at Cherington and Longford's, creating not only electricity but jobs as well. I do get extremely annoyed when I see the wasted use of natural "green" resources and the resulting dereliction of the unkept waterways.

Ian Hamilton

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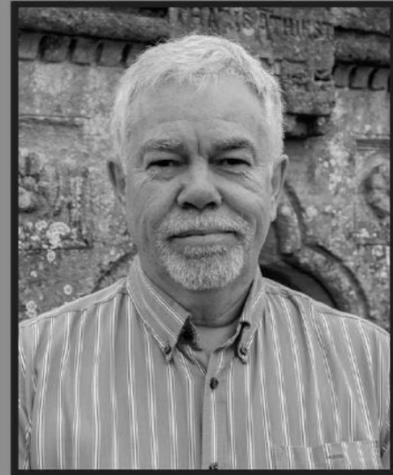
Electric Cookers . . .

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“ I called to introduce myself as the prospective Conservative Candidate for the Cotswold District Council (CDC) elections on 4th May 2023 ”

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 **Local Conservatives**

tony@slaters25.com

I am very pleased to announce that I will be standing as the prospective Conservative candidate in the May 4th local elections for Grumbold’s Ash, which includes Avening and Cherington. I will call on as many households as possible in the next few weeks. Please don’t let the ‘C’ word put you off, as this is an election for LOCAL issues, such as halting the current reckless spending, fixing the planning process, and ensuring improvements to the provision of core services.

Regular readers will know that I am passionate about our area, and have served on the Parish Council since 2006, including 7 years as its leader. I have lived in Avening since 1990 and have multi-generational connections to Cherington. I will continue to use the knowledge I have built up to ensure that my villages are at the forefront of future policies and funding.

Voting this time will be a little more complicated as everyone will need photo ID when they vote, but I will be at the café nearer the time (or you can contact me directly – see above) to explain how it works, or to help you complete a postal vote application.

Even if you are not a natural Conservative voter, I’d be very grateful for your ongoing support so that I can continue to make Avening and Cherington great places to live.

This is a paid-for advertisement. The editors of The Villager magazine do not endorse any political candidate

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ARTS CENTRE

HIGHLIGHTS FOR MARCH

- March 4** **Tango Siempre:** Time to tango to music from the slums of Buenos Aires to the golden age of elegant salons - and if you don't want to dance you can just listen! Tickets £16. 7.30
- March 15** **Playtime:** The Last Baguette Company offer 2-6 year olds a fun mix of play-acting, craft and music. The one-hour sessions are free thanks to Tesco's Community Grants. Booking essential. 10-11am
- March 18** **TJ Johnson:** one of the UK's best blues and jazz singers he's backed by his group of top class London musicians to sing a blend of music combining jazz, blues, soul, country and gospel. Tickets £15/£10 under 25. 7.30
- March 25** **Music for Miniatures:** A baby friendly concert where there's no need to sit still and dancing is encouraged. Enjoy 45 mins of live classical music with your children. Adults £6/ Children£4/£15 Family of 4
- March 25** **Rautio Piano Trio:** One of today's finest chamber ensembles will be playing Beethoven's Pastoral symphony and Schubert's Trout Quintet. Tickets £22/£16 for under 25s. 7.30

For details of cinema showings on Thursdays and other events – and to book tickets please visit our website:

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Avening WI

February has been a busy month for Avening WI. Community service has always been at the heart of the Women's Institute and our 'Bite to eat' team has been busy. We have already catered for four village events this year, as well as running the Community Café in early February, where our popular bacon butties were on the menu.

Last year we started a Book Club that meets once a month in a members' home. Members take turns choosing the book, which means we are introduced to 'new' authors as well as trying books we may not have chosen ourselves. The discussions are always lively and interesting and of course cake is involved!

At our February monthly meeting Frances Culham of Five Valley Sounds – Talking News, gave an informative and entertaining talk about the process involved in recording and distributing the local news to visually impaired people in the Stroud area. She thanked us for funding one of the players supplied by them. At our next meeting on Thursday 9th March the speaker is Ashley Jones, who will talk about Fraud Safety in the Modern Age. We meet at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Visitors and potential members are always welcome to join us.



Our regular walks continue and on a bright, cold morning eight members enjoyed a stroll around Westonbirt Old Arboretum, followed by lunch at The Cat and Custard Pot in Shipton Moyne. Our next walk is at Boundary Court, Woodchester, then lunch at The Old Fleece.

Our skittles' team will be in action shortly, starting with a friendly match against Uley WI. We have entered a team in the Gloucestershire WI

County Skittles competition and hopefully I can report good progress next month.

For further information please contact our secretary Helen at aveningwi@gmail.com or our president Liz on 01453 833803

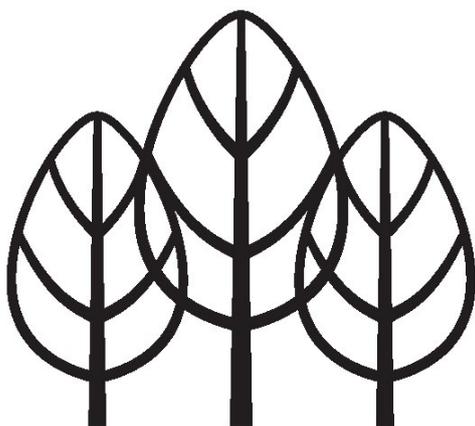
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Avening Community Café

The Café is open every Tuesday morning from 9 to 12 in the Social Club for coffee, homemade cakes and a chat. Mobile Post Office on site from 10:30 – 12:15.

February was another busy month at the café, lovely to see many café friends from further afield as well. We enjoyed bacon butties from the WI team who also set up an interesting display showing many different aspects of WI life. Arts and Crafts are always welcome and it was fun to make delightful mini photo albums with Gill Thomas. Thanks also to our Parish Councillors who came along on Valentines Day to listen to concerns and ideas for the village.

The completed rag rug went up on the wall to help with sound insulation and also looks very decorative. Come along and join in with Michael and help us complete the next rug project.



HIGHLIGHTS for MARCH

Mar 7th AGM 7.30pm in The Bell

Mar 14th St Patricks Day theme. Also 'Made In Avening' craft stalls. Try your luck in a Cheltenham Gold Cup Sweepstake.

Mar 21st Art with Mark 9:30 to 11:30am, £3 per session, all materials provided.

Mar 28th Group 'Singalong with Mel' in Lounge bar – your favourite Karaoke songs with backing track.

Also visit "The Book Box" (Old Hill) and "Plants on the Wall" (High Street).



Please note that the times for the Post Office van are changing to 9.30-11.30 from the 27th March.

John Hetterley, for Avening Community Cafe



Avening Youth Club



The Youth Club is held every Tuesday in term time **6.30-8pm (note new times!)** in the Memorial Hall.

All children aged 8 to 14 are welcome and there is now **NO CHARGE!**

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Puzzle Answers

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

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

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AVENINGCINEMA CLUB



WEDNESDAY 29th 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

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Avening Parish Council



Crime report:

1st – 31st January. 2 Crimes were reported.

1 Children sending abusive messages. 1 Damage to wire fence.

The Tetbury Neighbourhood Policing Team can be contacted on 101 or emailing 101@gloucestershire.police.uk

Neighbourhood Policing Team: PC Chris Pritchard; PCSO Edmund Maina

Parish Council Grants

If your organisation would like to apply for a Parish Grant please ensure your application form is submitted before 1st April 2023. Application forms can be downloaded from the Parish Council website.

Playing Fields Update

There has been some vandalism to the new gates. Someone has removed the catches. New catches will need to be installed.

There have been positive comments regarding the new equipment.

Planning Applications & Tree Works

New Planning Applications

23/00145/FUL/FUL: Rodways Place Point Road Avening Replacement and extension of existing freestanding perimeter fence. No Comment

23/00076/CLEUD: Oldfield Wood West End Avening Certificate of Lawful Existing Use or Development under Section 191 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the erection of an ancillary forestry building. Object to the erection of ancillary buildings.

23/00167/LBC25: Point Road Avening Installation of air source heat pump to front elevation. No Objection.

Decision Notices

23/00018/TCONR: 15 Tetbury Hill. (1) 4 overgrown Beech stems at the end of the Beech hedge. Fell to near ground level. (2) Laurel group behind. Reduce down to fence height. (5) Whitebeam on the lawn. Reduce all over by up to 4.0m. No Objection

Potholes

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

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th March 2023 at 7.30pm 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

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Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event	Location	Time
Tuesday 7 th March	Avening Community Café AGM	The Bell	7.30pm
Saturday 18 th March	Cherington Annual Clean-up	Village Hall	10am onwards
Wednesday 22 nd March	Avening Film Club	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 25 th March	Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt	Avening School Garden/Memorial Hall	1.00 — 4.00pm
Sunday 26 th March	Clocks Spring forward 1 hour	UK	2.00am
Thursday May 4 th	Local Elections	Memorial Hall	
Saturday 6 th May	Coronation Day – events tbc		
Sunday 11 June	Art Show and Tombola	Avening Church	tbc

Church Floodlighting

Holy Cross church was floodlit on:

9th February

In loving memory of Joan Newman on her birthday from Brian, Mary, Molly and family.

February 19th

In loving memory of Michael Powell. From Thelma, Kevin and Columba

17th February

Miss Gay Powell; a year has passed and we all miss her very much

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.





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