

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,
Cherington and Nags Head

November 2025

editors@villagermag.online



Richard Murray



Liane Wheeler



Raph Arwas



Annabel Crapper



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November 2025

Welcome to the November edition of the Villager. Whilst the nights are drawing in the autumn colours are still going strong with a profusion of berries in our gardens and hedgerows to enjoy.

This month Avening Community Café celebrates its 7th birthday, (apologies for getting the date wrong in last month's issue!); all are welcome to join in the celebrations on Tuesday 18th November.

Avening's new little library has opened in the newly refurbished phone box at the junction of Point Road and the High Street. It is stocked with a range of both adult and children's fiction and non-fiction books. Please see page 25 for more details.

On the subject of books, Avening School has received a very special visit from two authors, one being the actor Hugh Bonneville. He has just written his first children's book and came to the school to talk about it and to sign copies for the pupils.

Just as we were going to press we heard the very sad news of the death of Glynn Hopkin, long-standing of The Bell. We offer our sincere condolences to his family and to his many friends.

Our next issue will be our combined December/January edition so be sure to tell us about events planned for each month.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Chris Turner** for our cover photo of a sunrise at Star Lane. Please keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine.

editors@villagermag.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.

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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

Facebook: Avening Instagram: #aveningvillage

Gilian's Poem of the Month

How often do we really notice the moonlight? Returning late one night after a vigorous game of squash at Westonbirt, it was to find the town of Tetbury in total darkness, due to a massive power-failure - but the moonlight was magical.....

Magical Moonlight.

Outside the quiet house the town lies sleeping
Beneath a star-strewn quilt of midnight-blue,
And out of the silent shadows of velvet hue
Rises the church's steeple, it's night watch keeping.

Inside the old stone house moonlight comes peeping,
Dropping soft pools of silver upon the stair,
Lighting with tender touch the still rooms where,
Over the windows stray ivy-strands are weeping.

Downstairs the grandfather clock's deep tick is filling
The sonorous silence of the tranquil night.
As, tip-toeing softly in, the pale moon's light,
Out of deep shadows, sweet peace and calm is spilling

Outside the chill is bitter for November,
But in this warm room is pure contentment weaving,
As moon floods in with beauty beyond believing,
Entrancing this night, that I know I will always remember.....

Gilian Bulmer-Davison

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Dates for your Diary

Come along and join in the fun at any of the events below - everyone is always welcome! Both the Memorial Hall & Social Club can also be hired for private functions

Date	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 5th November	Avening School open morning	Avening School	9am-12 noon
Friday 7th November	FOAS Children's Disco	Avening Memorial Hall	3.30pm
Friday 14th November	WI Quiz	Social Club	7 for 7.30pm
Tuesday 18th November	Community Café 7th Birthday	Social Club	9 - 11.30 am
Tuesday 25th November	Made in Avening—craft stalls for your Christmas gifts	Social Club	9 - 11.30 am
Tuesday 25th November	Christmas Wreath Making Workshop	Cherington Village Hall	7-9.30pm
Friday 5th December	FOAS & Playroup Christmas Fayre	Avening Memorial Hall	2.45-6pm

Puzzle Corner

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

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

Avening and Cherington Churches



As I write, I'm yawning after a late night of **Scottish dancing in Holy Cross Church in Avening**. The church came alive on a crisp October night – flickering torches lighting the churchyard, live music ringing through the nave, and the ancient stones echoing with laughter and dancing feet. It was one of those evenings when you could almost feel the history of the building come to life as the sacred space was filled with the sounds of life and community.

Now November arrives – a month that invites us to hold many things together. We begin with **All Souls**, that gentle, sacred time of remembrance when we speak aloud the names of those we love but see no longer. Candlelight softens the darkness; silence holds our gratitude and our grief. It is one of the most tender moments of the church year – a reminder that love endures, and that every life is gathered into the heart of God.

From that stillness, the month gradually brightens with creativity and anticipation. Later in November, **Amberley's Art4Life Exhibition** (21–23 November) will fill the church with colour and imagination – a celebration of local talent and the beauty of community. At the same time, **Stroud's Festival of Wonder** will be offering music, storytelling, and surprises across the town. I'll be there for part of the weekend as a chaplain, keeping an eye out for those moments when the sacred shimmers through the ordinary.

And then, before we know it, the scent of mince pies and the sound of carols will begin to appear on the horizon. I'll end the month with two **Christmas dinners in one week** – not quite *Vicar of Dibley*, but nearly! It's all part of that wonderful, slightly chaotic turning of the seasons, as we move from remembrance into joyful expectation.

November invites us not to rush, but to notice: the warmth of a shared meal, the glow of a candle, the steady rhythm of gratitude. In both memory and hope, God is with us – in laughter, in art, in quiet prayer, and even in a good reel danced beneath the ancient beams of Holy Cross.

With every blessing for a thoughtful and creative November,

Natalie



Donations to Avening Church

Donations towards the upkeep and running of Avening Church can be made at any time either by using the QR code here or on the card machine just inside the church door.

Church Services

	Avening	Cherington
Sunday 2nd November	10am – All Souls’ Service	10am – Holy Communion
	5.30pm – All Souls’ Service at Amberley <i>A quiet service to remember those we love who have died.</i>	
Sunday 9th November <i>Remembrance Sunday</i>	10:45am – Remembrance Service	
Sunday 16th November	6pm – Iona Evening Prayer	10am – Holy Communion
Sunday 23rd November	10am – Holy Communion	
Sunday 30th November	10am – Holy Communion	
	5.30pm – Advent Carol Service at Amberley	
Sunday 7th December	10am – Morning Prayer	10am – Holy Communion



Church Floodlighting

The church was floodlit on the following occasions recently:

Friday 24th October

In loving memory of **Tim David**.

Deeply loved and missed, forever in our hearts.

29th October

In loving memory of **John Hopes** from his wife and family.

31st October

In memory of our darling son Leon Cleaver-Toop.

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 **Nicholas Winkfield** on **07885 139275**

The cost is £10 for 2 hours.

AVENING CHURCH ALL SOULS SERVICE

SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 10 am.

A QUIET REFLECTIVE SERVICE IN WHICH WE REMEMBER
THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE LIGHTING A CANDLE IN
THEIR MEMORY



District Councillor's Report



Cotswold District Council (CDC): Not a great deal to share this month from the full council, but there is a developing story following a report submitted to the Audit and Governance Committee relating to procurement of contracts without following due process. If this escalates, I'll send an additional report.

I attended a meeting with the **Planning Enforcement** team, who appear to be going in the right direction to improve service delivery. I raised the issue that I've had no information on cases raised, which has contributed to unwanted developments being built because cases were not pursued. The team acknowledged this as an issue that needs improvement but noted that there are sometimes legal reasons why updates cannot be provided.

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) Gloucestershire's devolution process is estimated to cost £3.6 million for the period up to the submission of the county's preferred devolution plan in November 2025, which local councils are seeking government funding to cover. It has been reported that the devolution of Gloucestershire councils could eventually run to around £30m. The government believes the simpler unitary structure will be more cost effective to run and lead to better outcomes for residents and improved local accountability. However, from a district and parish council point of view, it will mean that contact and decision making is moved further away from residents.

The September **Overview and Scrutiny Committee** (O&S) asked that consideration be given to putting local social and/or archaeological artefacts on public display at the Council's offices, including artefacts related to the history of local government in the area. The Council's Leisure and Culture Manager will explore with the Museum operator, Freedom Leisure, opportunities to improve public access to the Museum's extensive collection.

Around the district: Congratulations to **Didmarton** on reaching 50 years of publishing their parish magazine, known as Dyddi Digest. This achievement was celebrated on the local BBC news, and I am grateful to the editors for including my small contributions. **Avening** have just successfully completed the re-roofing of their Memorial Hall – a mammoth and expensive project which will secure the hall for many years to come. Elsewhere, the outcome of the planning application to convert the Queen Matilda pub into a private residence will be announced soon. **Beverston** are closer than they have ever been to securing a realistic speed limit and traffic calming measures through the village, with all parties working together to move the scheme forward. Residents of **Leighterton** have been suffering at the hands of a developer who has strayed from agreed plans, and caused issues with uncontrolled dust. I have been liaising with the CDC Enforcement Team to ensure they are on the case. I have supported several parishes in registering recreational areas as dedicated 'Green Spaces', which will offer greater protection against speculative developments.

Councillor Tony Slater

Cotswold District Council, Representing Grumbolds Ash with Avening.
email: Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk Tel: 07793669930

TCHAIKOVSKY
Suite from The Nutcracker ballet

RICHARD STRAUSS
Four Last Songs
Soloist: Madeline Boreham

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV
Scheherazade

Soloist: Matthew Taylor

Saturday November 22nd 2025 7.30pm

Holy Trinity Church, Stroud, GL5 2HX

Conductor: Jonathan Trim

Leaders: John Ayre & Matthew Taylor

TICKETS: £15 • Children under 14 free
£1 reduction on tickets purchased prior to concert evening.
Tickets are available from orchestra members, OR
online from www.ticketsource.co.uk (+booking fee) OR
from Stroud Sub Rooms Box Office (+booking fee) tel 01453 796880



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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH

Letter from Chairman of Avening Parish Council



It looks and feels like winter is just around the corner, but we still have a few weeks left to enjoy nature's autumnal decorations still on the trees and those leaves already sprinkled around the village. On the news front, it has been a quiet period, Parish Council meetings have resumed after a brief summer break and its back to business as usual; the details of which are shown elsewhere in this magazine, so I won't duplicate them here.

The Memorial Hall: At last, we have got over the finishing line with the completion of the two roofs on the Memorial Hall. Both the main hall and the Chamberlain room are safe from the threat of rain dripping on our heads. The next priority will be to refurbish the Chamberlain room and kitchen, and to decorate both areas.

One future project that the Hall Trustees are looking into is the viability of installing solar panels on the south facing side of the main roof and possibly on the flat roof over the Chamberlain room and kitchen. We are in the process of obtaining several quotations and will look at all the factors involved before making a firm decision. In principle, it would propel a building which is over a hundred years old into the realms of technology which is both environmentally and economically prudent. The south side of the main roof is not visible from the High Street and therefore it avoids detracting from the intrinsic character of our village.

We would welcome comments from villagers who may have strong opinions either for or against the fitting of solar panels in this manner. In the first instance please direct them to the Avening Parish Clerk.

A few reminders of items I highlighted in last month's Villager: -

Playing Field: Signs will soon be in place to alert users that surveillance cameras are in situ. The aim is to ensure the field is a safe, clean and respected village amenity.

Applications for Grants: The Parish Council will start the budget process in November. If your organisation wishes to apply for a Parish Council grant, please submit an application form before 1st November. Application forms can be downloaded from the Parish Council website or by contacting the Clerk.

Hedge Cutting: Please make every effort to cut back any overgrown vegetation that is overhanging public footpaths or roads. It can be difficult to navigate paths safely when the vegetation is in the way; especially true as the daylight gets shorter and it darker evenings draw in.

Best wishes to everyone,

Patrick

***Patrick Mulligan, Chairman, Avening Parish Council
Tel 07713 068436***



Longfield Calls for Volunteers for Their Christmas Tree Campaign

Longfield Hospice is already talking about Christmas and calling for volunteers to help with their highly successful green 'Christmas Treecycling Campaign'.

The project, which is run in partnership with national organisation Just Helping, last year saw more than 4100 real trees recycled into chippings, raising £81,000 through donations from residents booking for their tree to be picked up.

This year the collections will take place between **10th and 13th January** and will be run with the help of more than 180 volunteers; all committed to helping Longfield raise much-needed funds and support the environment through this green campaign.

Households will be able to book their tree collection via the JustHelping website from November 14th: www.just-helping.org.uk/register-tree but before then **Longfield is encouraging volunteers to sign up by emailing: events@longfield.org.uk.**

The charity is also keen to hear from companies willing to sponsor a van and fuel or provide volunteers and vans.

All money raised helps to fund the hospice's vital work supporting patients, families and Longfield Community Hospice is based in Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire. As well as providing Hospice at Home care, Longfield also offers help and support to patients, families and carers through a range of Wellbeing and Bereavement Counselling services at the hospice and wellbeing centre in Minchinhampton.

For more information contact katy.easey@longfield.org.uk or media@longfield.org.uk Phone: [01453 886868](tel:01453886868) longfield.org.uk



Volunteers helping out with the Longfield Hospice Christmas Tree Collection in partnership with Just Helping last year

Avening 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.



Avening Playgroup

Over the last few weeks, we have been looking at:

Autumn – collecting lots of conkers, leaves and pine cones, and used these to make autumn soup, creatures, crowns and wreaths. The children have been busy making hedgehog and owl collages, which we have put on our display. They have been rolling conkers in paint, printing with apples and pears, counting leaves and conkers, then matching them to numbers.



Diwali – We have been talking about how Diwali is celebrated across the world. The children have made mehndi patterns on paper hands and rangoli drawings. They have also made some chocolate truffles to take home.

Halloween—We got very messy digging the seeds out the pumpkin and printed pumpkins using some apples. The children also drew pumpkin faces, spiders and made pumpkin collages. They enjoyed decorating biscuits in a Halloween theme and learnt some Halloween songs.

Committee

Avening Playgroup is a charity and as such it needs to have a committee of volunteers to run it. A full committee, including three officers - Chair, Secretary and Treasurer as well as a certain percentage of parents, is vital for the setting to remain open. Without a full committee we are not permitted to open. Our current committee is committed to moving the playgroup forward and ensuring it stays open. The committee meet each half term at the playgroup to discuss fundraising, health and safety, safeguarding, staff training and maintenance issues. We do currently need additional committee members to support the work that our officers do. You can be a committee member if you are a parent of a child at the playgroup or if you are a member of the local community. If you are interested in joining the committee and supporting the playgroup's position within Avening, please let Lydia or Angie know by calling or emailing the playgroup on the contact information below.

Fundraising

The committee are currently preparing for the Christmas Fayre which is due to be held on Friday 5th December from 2.45pm. As usual, we are working with FOAS to provide a variety of stalls, entertainment, food and drink as well as a kid's zone. Of course, there will be the usual Playgroup Raffle, Tombola and Santa's Grotto. Our volunteers will be

making door to door collections in late November/early December. Alternatively, you could drop any items off at the playgroup during the week before the Christmas Fayre. We are looking for donations of bottles, chocolates, biscuits and raffle prizes. Unfortunately, we are not able to accept any bric-a-brac again this year.

Angie Heslop

If you are looking for a playgroup space for your child, now or in the future, you are very welcome to come in and have a look around our lovely setting with its great outdoor area. Our current opening hours are Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9.00-3.00 with our Stay & Play session between 9.30 and 11.00 am on Thursdays. Just call us on 01453 832695 or email at aveningplaygroup@gmail.com to make an appointment. You can also go to our website www.aveningplaygroup.co.uk or Facebook page for more information.

Charity Registration Number 900618



Friends of Avening School

An exciting season ahead...

Thank you very much to everyone who joined us at the FOAS AGM in early October, and special thanks to Mrs Wilkinson and Mrs Carter for providing some much-appreciated childcare for all the attendees! It was great to review the fundraising efforts from the past year, and to reflect on everything that FOAS has achieved in twelve months – parents, carers, teachers, children, residents and businesses included.

With Christmas preparations well underway, from wreath making workshops and Secret Santa gifts to a festive fayre and a children's bunting project, there's lots to look forward to over the next couple of months.

We'd love to see you at our next events...

CHRISTMAS WREATH MAKING WORKSHOP

Tuesday, 25th November, 7pm – 9.30pm, Cherington Village Hall, Tetbury (GL8 8SP)
Tickets available online at www.foas.org.uk

AVENING VILLAGE CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Friday, 5th December, 2.45pm – 6pm, Avening Memorial Hall, In support of Avening Primary School and Avening Playgroup

Join us for a festive afternoon filled with Christmas shopping, festive refreshments, children's crafts and games, Santa's grotto, raffle, tombola, face painting, hair braiding and plenty of singing and music.

Email us at foasavening@gmail.com | www.foas.org.uk

Avening WI

October proved to be a busy month, especially for our Bite to Eat team who catered for several wakes and a supper for the Bowl's Club annual awards evening.

Our monthly walk was an enjoyable stroll starting from Nailsworth with 9 members and 3 dogs. We set off from the bus station and walked up to the Horsley Road and then on to a footpath through the woods. We emerged right by Ruskin Mill with its old waterwheel and then entered the picturesque grounds. We passed attractive borders, still with plenty of flowers in bloom, interesting sculptures and water features alongside the stream and ponds on a very accessible path. The site is in a wooded valley where the trees were starting to show their autumn colours. We headed back for an enjoyable lunch at Egypt Mill. The grounds are well worth a visit and a permissive path runs through the entire estate.

As part of our Clean Rivers for People and Wildlife resolution, we took samples from the Avening Stream for the Autumn Great UK Water Blitz testing. The water level was low but very clear and the Nitrate and Phosphate levels were moderate (lower than last time). We also sent a sample to Imperial College for pollution testing and did a survey online for the Big River Watch. The results across the country can be viewed at freshwaterwatch.org

We celebrated our 95th birthday with a very enjoyable social evening. Our wonderful committee produced a harvest supper of soup, crusty bread, apple cake and cider accompanied by a food related quiz with some



Speaking of quizzes, we are hoping that lots of Villagers will join us for another of Shirley's amazing general knowledge

quizzes on Friday 14th November 7 for 7.30 pm at the Social Club. Teams of 4 can compete, £5 per person to include a light ploughman's supper. All proceeds in aid of Longfield Hospice. We now have a card machine so should be able to accept card or cash on the evening. There will be a raffle and the bar will be open. No need to book in advance, just come along on the evening.

Our November meeting will be on Thursday November 13th 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall. The speaker will be Sara Gray with a talk entitled 'The history of pantomime in England'. Oh yes it will! Visitors and prospective members are welcome to join us on the evening.

For more information email aveningwi@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page at Avening WI.

Helen Haiselden

Basil's Baptism

I wrote this little piece for Kitty Arden to read at her nephew Basil's Baptism in Cherington Church last month.

Dear Little Basil,

This is your special day and that's why you're sitting in church in Cherington with Mummy, Daddy and sister Lilly. You're probably wondering what all this is about and why you're not out in the garden with Hector the dog.



But, Basil, all the world really is a stage and you've already started to play your part on that special stage set out for you for your life ahead. Nobody, least of all yourself, knows what part you will play. You're entering a big, ever-changing world and, like us all, from the

very beginning you will have lots of happy, successful and wonderful times but also moments when life can and does throw all sorts of horrid things at you which you will deal with. The sun will come out again and there will be happy days once more and life will be filled with the love and laughter that we all need.

How lucky you are to have been born into such a happy family with loving parents and little sister Lilly who will, I've no doubt as she gets older, keep you in order. Already she's driving you around the lawn in her extremely smart little car - even, from time to time, letting you take the wheel! Who knows, in years to come, you might both be competitors on the Le Mans circuit.

So, little Basil, your journey through life has started. Life's stage is ready for you to play whatever part is destined for you and those of us who know and love you will wish you a long, happy and fulfilled life. Don't give up on anything and may all the dreams you have come true. Be kind to others and be kind to yourself.

We pray you will always feel God's love shining down on you and may he look after you throughout the adventure you've already started to take.

Ann Tarlton

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Christmas Wreath Making

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WORKSHOP

In aid of Friends of Avening School

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NOVEMBER**

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‘Remembering...’ Art Exhibition to be Held in Memory of Two Local Artists

Art from three local artists will be brought together in an exhibition in Stroud for a week between November 30th – December 6th, 2025, in the Yard Gallery in Stroud and with over 25% of proceeds going to Longfield Community Hospice.

Held in memory of both Rachel Stevens (a local artist and Alexander Technique practitioner), and Chris Binding (a Bristol based contemporary fine artist), this exhibition will combine a mixture of fine art prints, original artworks, and practical and decorative ceramic pieces. The work of ceramicist, Chris White, (Hookshouse Pottery, Tetbury) will also be on show.

John Brough the organiser was originally moved to organise this exhibition to celebrate the life and works of his late wife, Rachel, who had been busy creating when she became ill with cancer a few years ago. *"Two Years ago, Longfield provided wonderful care for my wife Rachel Stevens in the last months of her life here at home. Prior to her illness, Rachel had been building up to an exhibition of her paintings, but this was never possible. I would now like to make the exhibition happen but combining it with fundraising for Longfield."* – John Brough

Sadly, whilst organising this exhibition, John’s closest friend Chris Binding (who was already signed up to be part of this exhibition), also suffered a short illness and passed away.

‘Remembering’... refers to both the viewing friends and family of the artists remembering the artists and the memories evoked in the artwork shown and passed on through the works.



**Remembering... The Yard Gallery, Stroud, November 30th – December 6th 2025,
10.00 am – 4.00pm**



Avening School

A Very Special Visit

Acting Royalty came to Avening last month when the fabulous Hugh Bonneville paid the Hawk Class (y3/) a visit to talk about his debut children's book, *Rory Sparkes and the Elephant in the Room*. Accompanied by author Joanna Nadin, writer of the *Disaster Diaries* children's book series, Hugh read extracts from his book and answered children's questions (mostly about *Paddington!*). Both authors signed copies of their books, which will also be available to borrow from the school library.



We were delighted to welcome prospective new pupils and their families to our school last month when we opened the doors for the first of our two open mornings this term. Visitors were guided around the school by our school councillors and treated to refreshments at the end of their tour. Our second open morning will take place on Wednesday 5th November. Drop in anytime between 9am and 12pm to experience our wonderful school in action.

It has been a busy first half of the autumn term, concluding in the last week with a netball tournament at Kingshill School in Cirencester, a y4 Maths challenge, joined by y4 pupils from Leighterton School and our Harvest festival where families brought in donations for a local foodbank. The School Council also organised a bake sale to raise funds towards new play equipment for both playgrounds.

In the first week back, FOAS are holding a Halloween disco for all pupils giving them another opportunity to dress up in their Halloween costumes and showcase their spooky dance moves.

Looking ahead to the run up to Christmas, the whole school will commemorate Remembrance Day with a service, followed by a minute silence in the churchyard and the laying of crosses to remember the fallen. Rehearsals will begin for the Christmas school productions and the whole school will visit the theatre with a trip to Bristol Old Vic for the Hawks, the Wyvern in Swindon for KS1 and Stratford Upon Avon for the Owls.

Alex Adcock

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

Avening's New Little Library

Avening has a new Little Library housed in the Phone Box on Point Road. You'll be able to borrow, lend (or simply take) fiction, non-fiction and children's books thanks to the efforts of the Parish Council, which refurbished and kitted out the phone box in early October.

It is also the new home for the Book Boxes, which have sat outside 6 Old Hill for the past five years. Moving the Little Library to the phone box means a greater choice is on offer, books will stay dry and browsing will be safer.

Lessons have been learned from other phone box libraries (eg please don't put books on the floor!) and from careful study of residents' reading habits.

Chiefly:

Anyone who wants to read Dan Brown has read Dan Brown!

Want a cheap weekend out? Get your child to donate a book on a Saturday, return on a Sunday - and watch it explode with delight as it chooses the exact same book to read again.

Nobody wants to read a book that looks as though it's been found on the body of a corpse dredged from a river. Or cookbooks.

Only one person ever reads a sporting autobiography. If that. And possibly not even the author!

Recently-published fiction is popular and we've had some wonderful donations of books in superb condition. Children's books are particularly welcome and disappear quickly to young readers.

Thank you to everyone who's contributed books – or just stopped for a chat while browsing.

Clare Bebbington and Helen Haiselden will keep an eye on Library and try to make sure the selection stays as fresh and varied as possible. Surplus books in good condition are donated to the Cotswold Canal Trust bookshop in Brimscombe or recycled if they are in poor condition. There is limited space so if you are having a clear-out, please contact Clare on ccbebbbs@gmail.com if you have a larger donation.

Happy reading!



Clare Bebbington



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Avening Community Café

Enjoy good company, crafts, delicious home-made cakes and a drink at your Community Café—Every Tuesday morning in the Social Club from 9 – 12 am.

Mobile Post Office on site from 9:30 – 11:30.

This month we celebrate the Café 7th birthday on 18th November and look forward to welcoming both old and new friends. The Café has become a vital Village asset, providing somewhere for people to meet up in the daytime for a chat and not forgetting our popular Art group.

Thanks to everyone who recently attended our MacMillan coffee morning – through your generosity we raised £127 for this charity.

In the build up to Christmas, the committee has decided to re-introduce the “bring-a-friend” and claim a free drink idea to encourage new members to the Café. Why not ask your neighbour to accompany you for a free coffee!

A date for your diary – 9 December - join us for Christmas wreath making.

Plants & Produce: Many thanks to all those who brought in their surplus fruits and veg. Donations received go to Café charities.

November Dates

4th Art with Mark (£3 each, all materials supplied), this week's theme – Bonfire Night

11th Remembrance Day

18th Café 7th Birthday – help us celebrate with a glass of bubbly! + Art with Mark (£3 each, all materials supplied).

25th “Made in Avening” craft stalls for your Christmas gifts

John Hetterley

For Avening Community Café

See page 32 for the Rag Ruggers latest wall hanging

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Please note, not all stalls can accept card and phone payments
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www.aveningplaygroup.co.uk | Playgroup Charity Number 900618



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- November 1** **Fretwork Viol Consort:** One of the world's leading viol consorts, tonight's programme features work by Byrd, Purcell and Orlando Gibbons. Tickets in advance £24. 7.30
- November 7** **The Guilty Men:** 10cc drummer, Paul Burgess, and members of Barclay James Harvest join friends for an evening of Americana, country, rock, pop and psychedelia. Tickets in advance £18.7.30
- November 12** **Lino Cut Card Workshop:** Design, carve and print your own festive images and leave with up to 20 printed cards and a selection of gift tags. All materials included in the price. Tickets £37.50 6pm
- November 15** **Julian Bliss Quintet:** Julian is one of the world's finest classical clarinetists, but his Quintet is known for its exuberant jazz-fuelled shows. Tickets in advance £24. 7.30
- November 21** **Talk – We Came By Sea:** Lord Alfred Dubbs, who came to Britain in 1939 on the Kindertransport, talks to author Horatio Clare about his new book on the small boats' crisis. In association with GARAS and the Yellow Lighted Bookshop. Tickets in advance £12.50. 7pm
- November 27** **National Theatre Live – "The Fifth Step":** Jack Lowden and Martin Freeman star in a story about how an Alcoholics Anonymous friendship brings out dangerous truths. Tickets in advance £15. 7pm

For more details of our other events including film, talks, exhibitions, and afternoon tea concerts and to book tickets visit our website:
www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk

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Letter from Roz Savage MP



Looking Ahead Together

As the evenings draw in and the countryside takes on its autumn colours, there's a sense of rhythm and renewal across the South Cotswolds. Fields are being turned, wood burners are lit, and communities are coming together for harvest suppers and bonfire nights, and Christmas fairs are on the horizon. It's one of my favourite times of year – a reminder of how deeply connected we are to the changing seasons and to one another.

This first year as your MP has been full of energy and purpose. I've travelled the length and breadth of our constituency, meeting farmers, small business owners, parish councillors, and volunteers – all working hard to keep their communities thriving. Those conversations have been both inspiring and grounding, giving me a clear picture of the hopes, challenges, and priorities that shape everyday life here.

Many of those priorities come back to the same themes: supporting our local food and farming sector, ensuring people can access reliable healthcare close to home, improving flood resilience, and strengthening transport and digital connections so no village feels left behind. These are the issues I'm continuing to champion in Westminster, making sure rural voices are heard where decisions are made.

Through our Stronger South Cotswolds initiative, we've also begun celebrating the remarkable individuals and organisations that bring so much life to our area. Our Local Legends project highlights people who quietly make a difference – whether that's leading a village hall committee, restoring wildlife habitats, or running community cafés that help tackle loneliness. Their commitment and creativity are what keep our communities strong.

Looking to the months ahead, I'm keen to build on that spirit of collaboration. Across the Cotswolds, there's growing interest in community energy projects – local solutions that can help lower bills and reduce carbon emissions. Likewise, the work being done to restore rivers, hedgerows, and meadows shows what's possible when farmers, landowners, and residents pull together for nature. These practical, place-based efforts give me real hope for the future.

As winter approaches, many of us will be spending more time indoors, catching up with neighbours, and reflecting on the year that's passed. For me, it's also a time to listen – to hear your views on what's working well and where we need to push harder. Whether I'm at a coffee morning, a community meeting, or chatting on a high street, your ideas continue to shape the direction of my work.

Thank you for your ongoing support, and for the warm welcome I've received wherever I go. Together, we're building a stronger, more connected South Cotswolds – one that looks after its people, its countryside, and its future.

Roz

Roz Savage MP, South Cotswolds

Email: roz.savage.mp@parliament.uk | Call: 01285 300555

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.

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Avening Cafe rag ruggers unveil their latest wall hanging, depicting the Memorial Hall and commemorating those lost in the two World Wars. It is hoped to display the wall hanging in Avening Church in time for the Remembrance Service on Sunday 9th November.

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

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Allsorts launches first-ever Santa Dash at Tinkley Gate



Allsorts is a Stroud charity that helps disabled children and their families access everyday experiences that others take for granted, supporting their physical and mental health through opportunities to stay active, have fun, and connect with one another. See allsortsglos.org.uk/based

Allsorts, in partnership with Stroud & District Athletics Club, is inviting the community to pull on their santa suits and take part in the first ever Allsorts Santa Dash on Sunday 7th December 2025. The festive event will see up to 250 santas run, walk or wheel their way around the beautiful National Trust setting of Tinkley Gate, Woodchester Park. With 2.5km and 5km routes available, the event is open to all ages and abilities, from seasoned runners to families, children and even festive pooches (on leads!). Highlights include carol singers, a medal for every finisher and post-dash refreshments at the on-site café. Santa suits are available to purchase during registration and chip timing will be provided for those who'd like to track their pace.

All profits raised will support Allsorts, a local charity working to create inclusive opportunities for children and young people with additional needs and their families across Gloucestershire.

Entry: Adults £14–£16, Juniors £11–£14 (discounts applied at checkout)

Registration: <https://bit.ly/46dDX1l>

Help make a difference for cancer patients across Gloucestershire!

Want to host your own coffee morning? Email emily.janes@cobalthhealth.co.uk for a fundraising pack.

Don't miss the Reindeer Run on 7th December at National Star College – a fun 5k walk, run or jog for all ages! Early Bird tickets now on sale: £5 child | £8 adult | £25 family.

Also coming up:

- Christmas Fair at Linton House with live Randwick Reindeer 27th November 5 -7pm

Visit cobalthhealth.co.uk or call 01242 535922 for more information!



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Avening Parish Council



Grant Applications: the Parish Council will start the budget process in November. If your organisation wishes to apply for a Parish Council grant please submit an application form before November 1st. Application forms can be downloaded from the Parish Council website or by contacting the Clerk.

Hedge Cutting: Following a glorious summer, the weather is now changing, and nights are getting darker. Please cut back any overgrown vegetation that is overhanging public footpaths. It is difficult to navigate the paths when the vegetation is in the way. Nobody wants to get hit in the face by wet vegetation in the dark.

Planning Applications & Tree Works Since the Last Issue and Parish Councils Decision

New Planning Applications

25/02579/COMPLY: Land Southwest Of 12A Star Lane - Support. Compliance of conditions 4 (Sample materials), 7 (Window and door finishes), 11 (Landscaping scheme), 13 (Details), 18 (LEMP), 19 (External lighting), 23 (CMP), of permission 24/01031/FUL - Erection of a residential dwelling - Variation of condition 2 (Approved plans) of planning permission 21/03751/FUL

25/02373/FUL: Brandhouse Farm West End - Support. Erection of single storey extension to NW elevation, open loggia to SE elevation and balustrade to rear wing

25/02195/FUL: 5 Orchard Field - Support. Removal of existing oil tank and base and forming new base max 300 high with new tank in new location. Removal of side ground floor window and changing to new door. Removing side hedge and replacing with new timber fence

Cotswold District Council Planning Decisions

25/01259/FUL: 12 Star Lane, Erection of detached dwelling with associated works – Refused

25/01812/COMPLY: Old Quarries Compliance with conditions 5 (Stonework sample panel), 10 (Infilling of doorways) and 15 (Rainwater goods) of consent 22/03637/LBC - Change of use of existing buildings from residential institution (C2 use) to residential (C3 use) including demolition of modern extensions, internal alterations and extensions, rebuilding of boundary wall. - Permitted

25/01913/TCONR: The Old Coach House Hampton Hill Cut back Poplar to boundary. - Permitted

Roads and Footpaths: If you see a fault on the footpaths or the roads, please report it on Fix My Street. <https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk>

Dog Fouling: If you witness dog fouling not being picked up by the owner, please report by following the link below. <https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/environment/litter-street-cleaning-and-dog-fouling/>

Neighbourhood Policing Team: Police Sergeant Garrett Gloyn ; PC Morley - Blackwell; PCSO Edmund Maina 101@gloucestershire.police.uk

The Agenda and minutes of the last parish council meeting 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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Regular Activities in the Villages

Would organisers please let us know if there are any changes or additions to these events

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Avening Silver Band	Monday	7.00-9.00pm	Memorial Hall	aveningsilverband@gmail.com
Avening Church bell ringing	Monday	8.00-9.00pm	Church bell tower	Andrew Lelliott 07726 345516
Community Café	Tuesday	9.00am - noon	Social Club	Gill Adams 07826 291759
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday	9.30-11.30am	Social Club car park	
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Cherington Village hall	Babs Malony 07958116794
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Churchyard tidy up	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Churchwardens
Avening PC	2nd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Avening Cinema Club	Last Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Social Club/ Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
Fledglings for pre-schoolers	Fridays during term time	2.00 - 3.00pm	School Garden	Avening School
Fun Skittles	Last Saturday each month	7.30	Social Club	
KNEAD Mobile Bakery	Last Saturday each month	9.45 - 10.30am	Memorial Hall	
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Singers	Sunday	4.00pm	tba	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

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