



# *The Villager*

*A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head*

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*December 2013/January 2014*

*50p*



*Happy Christmas to Everyone in  
Avening and Cherington!*

*[editors@acvillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@acvillager.co.uk)*

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<b>READER</b>	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
<b><u>AVENING</u></b>		
<b>Churchwardens</b>	George Buchanan	01453 833016
	Stephanie Hamilton	01453 834910
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Lynne Mowles	07909 870544
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Peter Best	01453 835287
<b>Organist</b>	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
<b>Flower Team</b>	Gill Adams	01453 833175
	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
<b><u>CHERINGTON</u></b>		
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Roger Gegg	01453 834805
	John Bate-Williams	01666 503544
<b>Sacristan</b>	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
<b>Organist</b>	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
<b>Flower Team</b>	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294

Visit Avening church web site at :- [www.aveningchurch.info](http://www.aveningchurch.info)

## **The Villager Magazine**

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# Christmas message

## A Christmas message from the Bishop of Gloucester, The Right Rev'd. Michael Perham:

### Blessed are the peace-makers



“O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie” is one of the most poignant of the Christmas carols, because the sad truth is that Bethlehem is anything but peaceful, caught up in the Israeli/Palestine conflict, a sign of injustice and oppression.

Praying for the peace of the Holy Land has always seemed to be an important part of Christmas and prayer for the ever smaller Christian minority in Palestine gradually being squeezed out. But in 2013 it is not just the land of Christ's birth that has been on our television screens, but the whole North African and Middle East region, where the promising

Arab spring has gone so wrong. No Happy Christmas in Syria or in Egypt this year.

It would be comforting to be able to forget all about such things at Christmas. A comfort, but a nonsense. For the birth of Jesus is God's good news for the oppressed. Jesus really is the Prince of Peace - ruler of a kingdom that begins in prayerful, peace-making human hearts like yours and mine, utterly unlike any

other kingdom, and which, if we will be its citizens, be a beacon of hope in a troubled world.

Commitment to that would be the perfect Christmas present we could give to God and to God's world in response to God's giving of his Son.

### **PLEASE NOTE**

**All requests for weddings, baptisms or funerals MUST be made through the church wardens, doing this will ensure that the church is available.**

**The relevant telephone numbers can be found on page 3**



Welcome to the special festive December edition of the Villager Magazine, delivered free to every household in the villages of Avening, Cherington and Nag's Head.

The Editors would like to take this opportunity to thank the many people who help make this magazine happen every month - the writers, contributors, proof readers, advertisers, distributors and many others, and also Avening Parish Council who sponsor this special all household edition.

Don't wait until next December to read this again - contact us if you would like to have The Villager delivered every month through your letterbox, for the bargain price of £5 a year.

And don't forget - this is YOUR magazine, so remember to tell us all your news, views and ideas.

**A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL**

[editors@acvillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@acvillager.co.uk)

# AVENING CHURCH CRIB SERVICE



**Come and join the shepherds and angels as we prepare for Christmas day by re-telling their story at the crib**

**The service is at 4-00pm on Christmas eve 24th December**



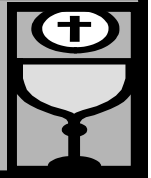
**Start your Christmas with us ,the shepherds and the angels**



**We will be re-telling the story by word, action and singing**

Many thanks to everyone who helped to raise nearly £500 at the coffee morning on November 23rd which was enjoyed by all who joined in.

# Church Duties in Evening



Date	Sides persons	Chalice	Sacristan
Dec 1 <sup>st</sup>	Irene/Cas	Stephen	Ann
Dec 8 <sup>th</sup>	Jeanie/Piers	Paul	Elizabeth
Dec 15 <sup>th</sup>	Stephanie/George	----	Ann
Dec 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Irene/Cas	Stephen	Elizabeth
Dec 24 <sup>th</sup> Crib Midnight	George/Elizabeth	Derrick	Doreen Ann
Dec 25 <sup>th</sup>	Stephanie/Doreen	Stephen	Elizabeth
Dec 29 <sup>th</sup>	Ann/Stephanie	Paul	Gill
Jan 5 <sup>th</sup>	Piers/Irene	Derrick	Ann
Jan 12 <sup>th</sup>	Cas/George	Stephen	Elizabeth
Jan 19 <sup>th</sup>	Jeanie/Stephanie	Paul	Ann
Jan 26 <sup>th</sup>	Piers/Cas	Derrick	Elizabeth
Feb 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Margaret/George	Stephen	Ann

**THERE WILL BE COFFEE AFTER THE SERVICE IN EVENING ON  
December 1<sup>st</sup> , January 5<sup>th</sup> and February 2<sup>nd</sup>**

## Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to a **Cherington contributor** for our cover photo. If you have a photo of Evening or Cherington which you would like to share with us, please feel free to send it to us. You never know, it might turn up on the front cover...!

**[editors@acvillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@acvillager.co.uk)**

## *Services in Avening & Cherington December & January*

<b>Day/Date/ Officiant at main service</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Service Details</b>
Sunday 1st December	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Sunday 8th December	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
	09.30	Cherington	Matins BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Sunday 15th December	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	7pm	Avening	Lessons and carols by candlelight
Sunday 22nd December	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
	5.00pm	Cherington	Lessons and carols
CHRISTMAS EVE	4 pm	Avening	Crib Service
	10.00pm	Cherington	Christmas Communion BCW
	11.30pm	Avening	Midnight Communion BCW
CHRISTMAS DAY	09.30	Cherington	Family Service
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW



## *Services in Avening & Cherington December & January*

<b>Day/Date/ Officiant at main service</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Church</b>	<b>Service Details</b>
Sunday 29th December	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Sunday 5th January	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Sunday 12th January	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
	09.30	Cherington	Matins BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Sunday 19th January	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Sunday 26th January	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW
Thursday 30th January	7.00pm	Avening	Compline BCP
Sunday 2nd February	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion BCW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW

# What's On In Avening and Cherington

Please let us know if we have forgotten any regular event or if there is something you would like to have included here.

<b>Event</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 10.00pm	Social Club	Mel 01453 833760
Cherington PC	4th Tuesday Bi-monthly	6.30pm	Village Hall	Frances 01453767384
Book Club	First Monday	7.30pm	The Bell	Kristiana 01453 836515
Youth Club	Tuesday	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Memorial Hall	Cassie 01453 834182
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	David 01453 882914
Line Dancing	Tuesday	7.45 - 10.30pm	Social Club	Mel 01453 833760
Yoga	Wednesday	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Memorial Hall	Elles 0781 555 2952
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Dial-a-Ride	Thursday	9.30am		Liz Truman 01666 502514
WI	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Maisie 01453 834679
Avening PC	3rd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Caroline 01285 380041
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4-30pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090

# HOPE FOR TOMORROW

## 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year



The aim of this charity, set up by Christine Mills following the death of her husband, was to raise enough funds to provide a mobile chemotherapy unit for the county of Gloucestershire. Incredibly, by the end of the year unit number six will have been launched, in Berkshire. This unit was on display at the Badminton 10K run (and 5K walk) on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

I have never before entered any sponsored event, but when I received details of this event, to be held in the grounds of the Badminton estate, I decided to give it a go.

There was a strong cold wind but the threatened rain held off. For most of the walk the wind was behind me or I was sheltered by trees and I was well wrapped up, the walk was very enjoyable.

When I totalled up the amount of my sponsorship I was amazed to find a total of £266. So a very BIG thank you to all of my sponsors.

***Beryl Milsom***

*Apologies to Beryl for missing this article from the November edition - Eds*



Runners before the start of the cross country



Our first Messy Church was held on Sunday November 24th in Avening Church, following a time of worship when several of the youngsters led us in singing the hymn 'He's got the whole world in his hands', adults and children shared afternoon tea with messy chocolate cake, while making Christmas cards and doves.



Help is at hand with various craft projects

Next Messy church will be on Sunday January 26th at 3-30 pm when we will be looking forward to Candlemas (Could that involve making candles?)

Can't wait that long! Join us at the crib service on December 24th . We are currently looking for members of the cast, Angels, Shepherds, Mary, Joseph, Kings etc.

More Details from Elizabeth on 833016 or Doreen on 835090





***AVENING CHURCH***  
***Children's Christmas party***

*All children aged up to 11 years are invited to a  
Christmas party in Avening Church  
on Sunday December 8<sup>th</sup> , from 3pm to 5pm*

*We have already invited Father Christmas but he  
would like to know who is coming so that a gift for  
each child can be arranged.*

*To let us know telephone, Elizabeth on 833016,  
Doreen on 835090  
or email [derrick.pierce@hotmail.com](mailto:derrick.pierce@hotmail.com)*

*Please bring a plate of food to share*

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# Roll of Honour Update

## No. 26

### George Hill

#### Private: 2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, Seaforth Highlanders

Those of you with long memories, will recall that in the July 2010 edition of *The Villager*, I wrote about George Hill, who died in May 1918.

Typically, George had his share of small inconsistencies in his history. Always given the name George, even by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, his full name was actually George Hibbard Hill. Born around 1894, no mention of him is made in our church records although he may well have been brought up as a Baptist. His father, James, came from Bath and his mother Elizabeth was born at Wootton. The family settled in Star Lane in about 1877, but had moved to Mays Lane in time for the 1891 census. George was then seven by which time his mother had died. James remarried before the next census of 1901 and George was still living in the family home and was, by that time, working as a mattress maker at Oakham Mill, Nailsworth.

He married in the Spring of 1911 at Cricklewood, North London, with a daughter being born two years later.

We are unsure when he enlisted in the Seaforth Highlanders although he may well have been conscripted and posted to whatever unit most needed men. He found himself facing the German Army at the time of the enemy's last big push which started in March 1918. He was one of two men manning a Lewis Gun, he firing the weapon and his comrade being the ammunition carrier and loader. As the Germans advanced, George lost contact with his colleague and other members of his section but continued the fight on.

He was wounded and lay in the field being tended to by the advancing enemy troops. Whilst lying there, the British counter-attacked and three days later he was found and taken back to a field dressing station. It was too late to save him and he died on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May 1918.

Thanks to Ann Brick and her subscription to [www.findmypast.co.uk](http://www.findmypast.co.uk) it can now be confirmed that he was, as suspected, awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) and the citation reads:

“For conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty. As Lewis gunner he fought his gun in an exposed position. He poured drum after drum into the enemy, who

overwhelmed his team. After lying wounded, he escaped from the enemy in the dark”.

This is not quite consistent with press reports in Stroud which explained that he had lain on the battle field until the British counter-attack. The local newspapers also gave his medal award as the Military Medal (MM). The Seaforth Highlander's archives can find no record of the MM being awarded but confirmed a DCM to G H Hill of Cricklewood.

Confusion continued in Avening when it came to the War Memorial tablets in our church.

His entry can be seen as George M M Hill, although, as an excuse, he had been away from the village for ten years!! He carried Avening's highest award in the village for WW1.

Lest we forget.

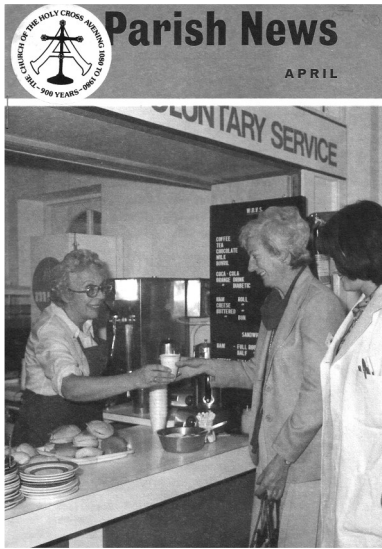
***Fred Vening.***



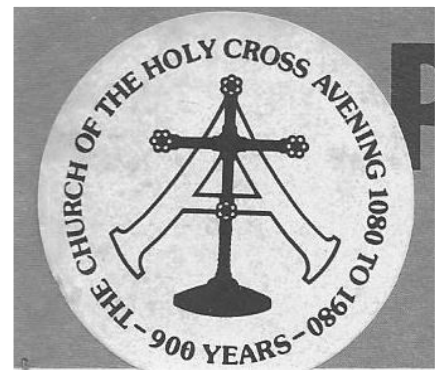
A Lewis Gun in action in France 1918.

# From the Archives

Hazel Redding recently came across a predecessor of the Villager magazine in a junk shop in Tetbury, where she now lives - the special 900 year anniversary of Holy Cross Church edition. She very kindly donated it to the Church archives.



It is not quite the same as this magazine, as it is basically a generic nationwide church magazine with the typed bits for Avening stapled inside the front pages. The front cover, reproduced here, shows ladies from the WRVS handing out teas somewhere in London, but the sticker on the top is about Avening.



The first page has a rather brief Easter message to the Villages from the Rector, and then we discover that things haven't changed hugely in Avening and Cherington, with a very familiar list of church services and events - although a lot more tea seems to have been drunk. Whit Sunday (25th May 1980) saw a service for everyone baptised in the church during the preceding 25 years, followed by tea in the Rectory Garden.

AVENING and CHERINGTON  
April, 1980

'INTO ALL THE WORLD'

My dear Friends,

My wife and I send our Easter Greetings to all in these Parishes. A very Joyful Easter.

This Magazine has the full Avening '1980' Programme. Special Souvenir Copies of this Programme will be available in a week or two.

Yours sincerely  
Roy E Gleed Rector

The next editions of The Villager will have a few more highlights from this fascinating document.

We would very much like to thank Hazel for her interest and kindness in sending us this magazine



## CHERINGTON BELLS

On the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November, the bells were rung by two different groups.

On the Friday, Andrew Wood and his team, from the Cirencester area, came to practise a new method. They have done this for several years, preferring mistakes in the early stages to be made in Cherington, rather than Cirencester. They usually practise for up to one and half hours; the cut-off point being 9.0pm, when all ringing must cease.

On Saturday a group, led by Darren Ricks came from the Swindon area. This was their first visit to Cherington. Incredibly, they rang for two and a half hours, non-stop, using twelve different methods.

Our bells have never known such a weekend. The air was so clear and still that you could hear the bells at the top end of the village. It was a very rare, but welcome occurrence.

As our bells are not now rung on a weekly basis, we welcome visiting groups.

*Beryl Milsom*

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## *Cherington Village Christmas Events*



**Saturday 7th December 5.30pm** lighting of Christmas tree with Carols on the green, followed by drinks in the Village Hall

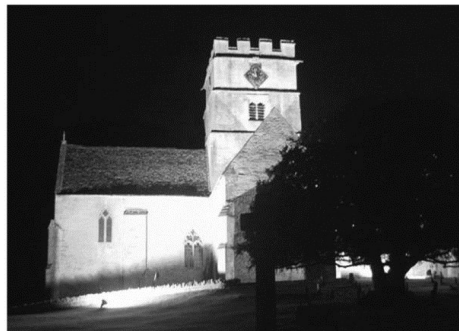
**Sunday 22nd December 5pm** Carol Service at the Church followed by drinks in the Village Hall

**Christmas Eve 10pm** Service at the Church

**Christmas Day 9.30am** short Family Service at the Church



## **Church Floodlighting**



*The Church looks lovely when it is lit up at night.  
If you would like to have this in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special event, contact*

**Paul Brown**

**01453 835 983**

*The cost is £5.00 for 2 hours*



[Avening-pc.gov.uk](http://Avening-pc.gov.uk)



# A new site For Avening

▶ Avening has a brand new website,  
packed with lots of new features and  
information:

2012 [September](#)

Walk 1 - 45 mins [Weel Cio and Avening Park](#)

2013  [September](#)

**1891 Census**  
1891 Census - The Maiden

 [Photo Gallery](#)

 [News & Events](#)

[Parish Council Details](#)

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[1891, 1901 Census + History](#)

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[News & Events](#)

[www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)



*Sneak preview....*



# CHRISTMAS BAZAAR RAFFLE PRIZES

Meal for 2 at the CROWN INN, Frampton Mansell

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£40 WEIGHBRIDGE voucher

£40 CHRISTMAS TREE

GO-KART for 8-11 year olds

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super SLEDGES

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GLIDING experience

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ACCUPUNCTURE session

£25 EGYPT MILL voucher

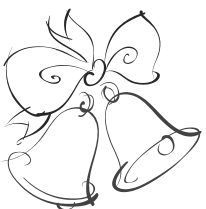
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*Tetbury Tailor* *Clobber* *Lilly Pola* *Concept East Coast*

*and loads more!!*

**RAFFLE TICKETS** are for sale **before** the CHRISTMAS BAZAAR this year at **The Cross** and **The Bell** and from any of Avening Playgroup's Committee members – Rachel, Estelle, Louise, Emma, Abi and Vanessa.



Join us for lots of festive fun at **Avening Village Hall** from 2pm on  
**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER.**

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## *Rural Cinema Comes to Avening in 2014!*

A short while ago, at a book club meeting, one of our members, Tessa, who lives in Chalford, told us about the rural cinema scheme. We all thought it would be lovely to include Avening on this circuit.

The Rural Cinema project has been devised to provide rural communities with the opportunity to access quality entertainment without having to travel to larger towns; it is also a fraction of the cost. Films are chosen in collaboration with all participating venues. As an example the last two films on the circuit were: *The Great Gatsby* and *Behind the Candelabra*. Any additional proceeds will go to charity. We hope that this will be a success, please spread the word. As with anything in a small village we need the support to keep it going.

The event will be held at Avening Social Club at 7.30 pm every month thanks to the generosity and community spirit of Derrick Ind. Admission will be £4.00. The dates are as follows:

Jan: Wed 15<sup>th</sup>; February: no showing; March: Fri 21<sup>st</sup>; April: Wed 16<sup>th</sup>; May: Wed 21<sup>st</sup>; June: Wed 18<sup>th</sup>; July: Wed 16<sup>th</sup>, August: no showing, Sept: Wed 17<sup>th</sup>; Oct: Fri 17<sup>th</sup>; Nov: Fri 21<sup>st</sup>; Dec: Wed 17<sup>th</sup>.

### **Our first film in January will be:**

#### **BLUE JASMINE (2013)**

**Cert:** 12A – **Run time:** 1 hr. 38 min.

**Rotten Tomatoes audience rating: 83%**

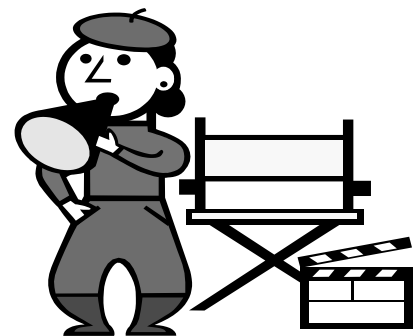
#### **Cast & Crew**

Alec Baldwin, Cate Blanchett, Louis C.K., Bobby Cannavale, Andrew Dice Clay, Sally Hawkins, Peter Sarsgaard, Michael Stuhlbarg

**Director:** *Woody Allen*

Jasmine French used to be on the top of the heap as a New York socialite, but now is returning to her estranged sister in San Francisco utterly ruined. As Jasmine struggles with her haunting memories of a privileged past bearing dark realities she ignored, she tries to recover in her present. Unfortunately, it all proves a losing battle as Jasmine's narcissistic hang-ups and their consequences begin to overwhelm her. In doing so, her old pretensions and new deceits begin to foul up everyone's lives, especially her own.

***Clare Williamson, Alex Walford & Kristiana Maseyk***



# Dying without a Will. Now that's a real tragedy.

No-one likes the thought of dying, so it's hardly surprising that almost 3 out of 5 UK adults don't have a valid Will (*source: www.unbiased.co.uk 2010*). Yet having one is one of the most important arrangements you can make during your lifetime.

My name is David Martin. I live in Nailsworth and I'm the local consultant for *Steele Rose & Co* - one of the UK's Premier Professional Home Visit Will Writers. After 22 years serving my country in the RAF, I have spent the last 28 years of my life professionally advising my clients on all personal financial matters and specialising in Wills.

Writing a Will is easier and cheaper than you think. It also ensures that your wishes are carried out simply and efficiently - causing the minimum of anguish for those you leave behind. If you would like to discuss your Will arrangements, redraft an existing Will, Lasting Powers of Attorney, or other associated legal services, at a mutually convenient time in the comfort and privacy of your own home, please contact me:



*David Martin*

David Martin, local consultant,  
Steele Rose & Co  
(Nailsworth & surrounding areas)  
01453 836699 (M) 07973 405997

Email: [dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk)  
[www.steelerose.co.uk](http://www.steelerose.co.uk)

Members of the Society of Will Writers

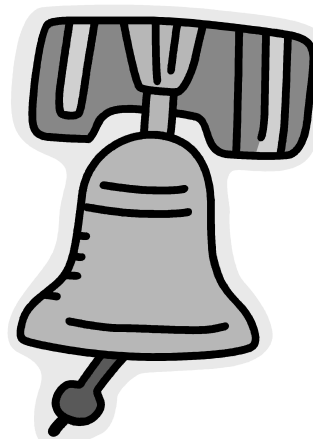


## Angels at the Bell

Avening Angels community choir will be singing Christmas carols and songs at the Bell Inn

During the evening of Wednesday  
December 18th

Do come and join us from about 7-30pm



# Down To Earth



*The Fountain Garden at Mapperton*

Horticultural happiness is a hot and steaming compost heap, a zillion glistening crimson brandling worms, wriggling as they work your garden waste into gardeners' gold.

I started my compost heap the week we moved in, layering brown cardboard packing boxes with the turf I was digging up for my vegetable plot, then adding kitchen waste and other organic material as I always had done at our previous

garden. Ignorant of the meaning of the term 'Cotswold brash' before coming here, I rapidly saw that compost would be even more important to render the stony scree into a more hospitable home for my plants. A compost heap should never smell; it should never contain ingredients which attract flies or vermin; be neither too wet nor too dry. 'The ideal mix', according to Monty Don, whose book, *The Complete Gardener*, is one of the more interesting and readable gardening manuals, 'is a high ratio of carbon to nitrogen'. Carbon is in paper, cardboard, straw and dried plant stems; nitrogen in grass cuttings and other green material. As long as the compost heap has contact with the soil, brandling worms appear and rapidly multiply, attracted by the temptations of a feast. In ideal conditions, compost may be ready in about six months: dry, crumbly and the colour of rich dark chocolate, smelling of the damp woodland floor.

When the leaves and debris have, mostly, been tidied away - always allowing the odd corner as a hibernating home for wildlife -, when the garden has been put to bed and it's too raw and damp to work outside, then it's good to have some winter foliage close to the house. Evergreens such as skimmias, euonymus fortunei, pieris japonica, variegated ivy and even cotoneaster horizontalis -with the herringbone habit- work well in large pots in a sheltered spot, planting three to an eighteen inch pot. Pieris, which are ericaceous, will need to be given an occasional tonic of Murphy's 'Sequestrene' or a feed of liquid seaweed and sequestered iron as they would not otherwise be able to take up iron from the soil and the leaves would turn yellow and chlorotic.

Garden visits this month took us south, to Mapperton in Dorset, and north, to Hergest Croft in Herefordshire, and prompted the reflection that it is rarely a



garden, in isolation, that you visit, but a terrain. From such a visit, you return to your little plot and its environs with a new perspective. Mapperton garden lies in a combe just 5 miles inland from Chesil beach and bears traces of a 17c garden beside the Edwardian Fountain Court. This was laid out in the 1920s by Mrs Ethel Labouchère under the influence of the Italianate garden designer, Harold Peto, whose own garden at Iford Manor near Bradford on Avon is also well worth a visit. There are some fine specimen trees in the arboretum. Hergest Croft, high upon the Welsh border, contains an exceptional collection of plants and trees



*Weeping beech (fagus pendula) and cut-leaved beech (fagus sylvatica Aspleniiifolia) at Hergest Croft*



*Winter foliage plants: pieris, cotoneaster and euonymus.*

built up by three generations of the Banks family, the first of whom, W. H. Banks, was much influenced in his laying out of the gardens by the late 19c garden writer, William Robinson, who advocated more naturalistic and less formal planting. We were blessed by a perfect autumn day for our visit, but it is truly a 'garden for all seasons' and we plan to return in the spring.

lands and bring in from the garden, not only holly and ivy, but also cotoneaster, sprigs of evergreens and dried seed pods for spraying silver or gold. When all is frosty- silver and snowy- white outside, perhaps we could think about becoming greener in our homes, our hearts and, lastingly, in our habits. Merry Christmas and a Happy Horticultural New Year!

A final thought, as Christmas approaches: perhaps we should resist the temptations of too many imported baubles from far-flung

**Marilyn Jones**

*Note to eds.: Propriety prevented mention of the perfect compost activator: gentlemen, it's all up to you!*

# *Father Christmas is coming to Avening*



**On Sunday 15th December  
From 5PM**

**Look out your windows, open your doors Father  
Christmas could be outside your house....**

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# Avening Primary School

## BUSY BUILD UP TO CHRISTMAS

As this issue of The Villager is delivered, the children at Avening School are busy putting the finishing touches to their Christmas show performances – for the younger Key Stage 1 children that is 'It's a Baby!' and for the older children (Years 3 to 6) that is a slightly different take on Cinderella. (If we tell you that Prince Charming is now called 'Rocky', that might give you some idea of how untraditional this show will be!)

In addition our school is looking forward to the usual traditions of pantomime visits, parties and the Christingle service in the last weeks of term.



Thanks to Ian Peters for this photo

Back in November we were very proud of our children during a Remembrance Service at the memorial cross outside the Church. The school children and staff were joined by local historical expert, Fred Venning and Derrick Pierce from the church. The Hawks had written the names of the 52 men who were from Avening and who had died in action onto

Remembrance crosses. After a moving service, the children stood in silence around the War Memorial. After the Last Post and silence, the Hawks read the names of the men, while the School Council laid crosses around the War Memorial. Derrick led prayers/ blessings. The children, from the youngest to the smallest, showed great respect as they stood outside.

Also in November children here in the UK and abroad were very much in our minds on Children in Need day. Whilst we usually have a dress up or down day just for the Children in Need charity, this year the children decided they also wanted to help those affected by Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. So the £402 we raised (by making a donation to dress down and through our mammoth and very busy cake sale) was split between these two very good causes.

Over recent weeks we have gone a bit sport mad as well! We have played in tag rugby, athletics and football tournaments (bringing home the SWR trophy



for the latter – see this photo), and one of our own sports ‘stars’, Mrs Amos, has taken part in a hockey training course with the aim of introducing this as a new sport for children to try at Avening School from next year.

**We would like to wish all children, parents, governors, friends and Villager readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

***If you are interested in finding out more about our school please take a regular look at our website [www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk) or follow us on Twitter @AveningPrimary.***

*I would like to add my thanks to the whole school, Staff and pupils, for the way that the children in particular behaved at the Remembrance Service. You were a credit to the Village and School.*

*Derrick Pierce*



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[Info@crossinnavening.co.uk](mailto:Info@crossinnavening.co.uk)

Check our notice boards for more info

\*\* restrictions apply



# **AUTUMN**

The Autumn is coming  
Silently creeping in  
The Summer is putting up a fight  
But the Autumn will always win

Stand here in the garden  
hear the sweet birdsong  
See the leaves just falling  
After a lifetime of hanging on

The trees shed their festival colours  
And put their funeral suits on  
they sway their branches desperately  
And scream' where has the Summer gone?'

A grim seriousness parts the animals  
From the Summers last shining care  
But the stream is still flowing  
like a princesses golden hair

You can feel a cool, smooth raindrop  
Reflecting the suns bright face  
And watch the Autumn dawning  
With everlasting grace

The Autumn is coming  
Silently creeping in  
The Summer is putting up a fight  
But the Autumn will always win

by

**RUBY MAIDMENT**

Aged 10

A STUDENT AT AVENING SCHOOL



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Shifts include evenings, weekends and some sleeping nights.

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The Avening W.I. started off November with a brisk walk through Gatcombe Park, along the lane past the two golf courses and returning via Cherington Lake. We were blessed with fine weather after a lot of rain earlier in the day. The walk ended at Wendy Jennings' house and she provided the walkers with a lovely lunch.

Later the same week Shirley Hand excelled again by organizing our regular Fun Quiz including providing a plentiful ploughman's supper. There was the best turnout ever with fifteen teams taking part. We made nearly £200 to pay for the mailing of 35 Christmas boxes for underprivileged children abroad via the Charity Samaritan's Purse. I am sure that due to demand another quiz will be arranged in the Spring.

At this month's meeting our speaker was Virginia Adsett from Cheltenham. She and her friend brought along a large number of items which dated from the 1940s. Many of the items were related to World War 2 such as gas masks, ration books and clothes made from parachute silk and most of the items were familiar in the homes of some of our older members who remembered them well. Virginia gave us a very interesting account of what it was like to be living in the 40s. Throughout the decade there were great shortages and clearly there was a huge emphasis on thrift.

We also held our AGM this month and our President, Secretary and Treasurer reported on another successful year.

Since our meeting we have been on our Christmas shopping trip. We arrived in Cardiff in a torrential downpour but minutes later the sun shone and it kept fine for us all day. We had a nearly full coach and everyone had a good day. By the number of shopping bags on the return journey plenty of retail therapy had been achieved. Thank you to Sue Osborne for arranging the day.

The next events in our calendar are our Christmas meal and later our party. Some members will be attending the County W.I. Christmas Concert which is always a popular event.

***Gwyneth Simpson***

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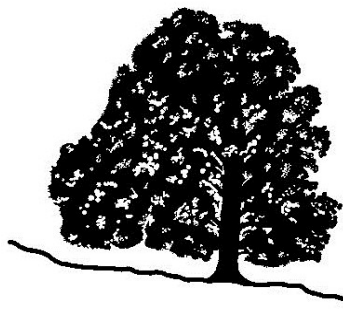
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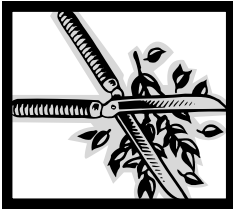


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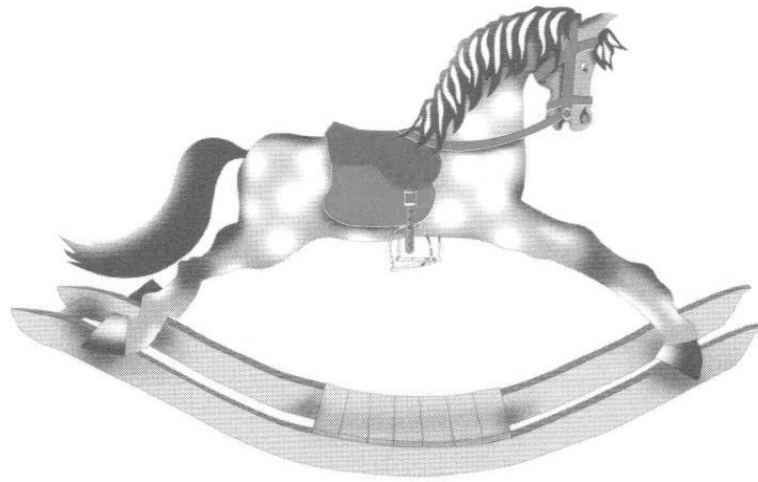
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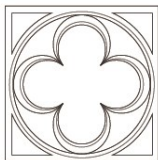
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  - *Tone the muscles of your tummy and back*
    - *Exercise your heart and lungs*
      - *Keep looking young*
  - *Make and meet new friends and have fun.*

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Email [derrick.pierce@hotmail.com](mailto:derrick.pierce@hotmail.com)



# Avening Playgroup



We have been delighted to welcome more new children into playgroup in November. They have all been settling in really well.

The children have enjoyed learning about the autumn festivals of Bonfire night and Divali, and they have taken part in lots of activities to develop their creative skills.

At the time you are reading this we will be starting to make lots of lovely things for Christmas. Some of our children are already wearing Christmas outfits in November!

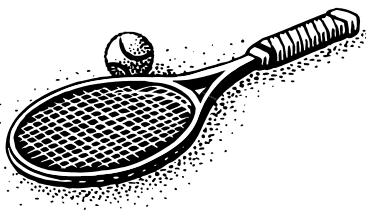
Please help support our biggest fund raising event, the Christmas Bazaar, in the village hall at 2pm on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December.

Look out for Father Christmas in his float who will be riding around the village on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 5pm. We will be collecting money on behalf of playgroup and the British Heart Foundation.

Everyone at Avening playgroup wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a happy 2014.

Debbie Brown

## **TENNIS AT AVENING PARK**



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## **Tetbury Dial-a-Ride Community Bus.**

Well, we're at the end of another year and as always, it's a surprise!

As we look forward to the next twelve months, we would like to wish all our passengers and volunteers A Merry Christmas and A Happy New Year!

The Tetbury Dial-a-Ride service will break for Christmas and New Year between 23<sup>rd</sup> December & 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

### **Regular Dial-a-Ride Schedule**

**TUESDAY MORNINGS:** 9.30am. Tetbury Town (including appointments)

**THURSDAY MORNINGS:** 9.30am. Nailsworth & Avening  
with, Sainsbury's, Stroud, Thursday, 9am 19<sup>th</sup> December.

**THURSDAY AFTERNOONS:** 2.30pm. Tetbury Tesco.

**FRIDAYS:** 10.30am. trips: **Yate, 6<sup>th</sup> December**

**Cirencester, 13<sup>th</sup> December**

**Library Club, 20<sup>th</sup> December**

Please ring or call in to talk to us about volunteering, trips and membership,

we look forward to meeting you.

Liz Truman and Seiglinde Bannister

**Tel: 01666 502514 (Tues/Wed/Thurs, 9-1pm).**

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**The Old Court House, Long Street, Tetbury.**

# CHERINGTON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE



**SATURDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

We will turn on the lights of the village tree at 5.30 with carols on the village green.

Following this the Parish Council invite all family and friends to drinks in the Village Hall.

**This is the start of the Cherington Christmas so do join us**

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## Avening Book Club

We loved this rich, complex, theme laden novel; our second Man Booker short-listed title. We have dislocation, dispossession, bi-culturalism, tsunami, death, memory, truth and consequence, conscience, the second world war, a kamikaze pilot, the reader-writer relationship, depression, suicide, a 105-year-old anarcho-feminist nun, quantum mechanics and Schrödinger's cat...oh, and time.

The Japanese-American novelist Ruth lives who lives on an island in British Columbia stumbles on a barnacle encrusted parcel that reveals a Hello Kitty lunchbox. The lunchbox contains are some old letters and the diary of Nao Yasutani, whose wonderfully authentic voice takes us on a journey through her deeply troubled sixteen year old life. Her voice is chatty, quizzical, warm and funny despite the truly horrible time she's having. Nao is looking for a reader of her words and Ruth is the recipient.

Nao is also Japanese-American, she has returned to Japan from Silicon Valley where she was happy and thriving. She easily gelled with America yet when her family returns home after her father loses his job, Nao finds herself an outsider in Japan. Ruth has sacrificed New York for her (sometimes rather irritating) husband's need to be on the isolated, claustrophobic island. Both writer and reader are displaced.

The narrative switches from Nao to Ruth episodically and while Nao's story is more engaging than Ruth's, almost to the point where I wanted to sometimes skip over Ruth's, the reader sometimes needs the quieter, more sedate life of Ruth to anchor them after Nao's story gets increasingly more desperate.

Nao's life is burdened by her suicidal father who returns to Japan unemployed and becomes ever more depressed. Nao's mother is strangely absent as a character and both parents oblivious to the horrifically sadistic bullying Nao is experiencing by her classmates and her teacher.

A wonderful character in this novel is Old Jiko, Nao's 105 year old, deeply wise, texting great-grandmother. Jiko manages to calm and center Nao in her mountain temple where life is simple and full of Zen wisdom. Nao sets out, in her diary, to tell the story of Jiko and tantalizes the reader with information about her anarcho/feminist politics and truly exceptional personality but ultimately fails to live up to her challenge. Old Jiko's kamikaze pilot son whose letters are also in the lunchbox are translated for Ruth by Frenchman, Benoit. These reveal an interesting and very moving set of parallels.

***Kristiane Maseyk***

Next meeting: 02.12.13 The Bell 7.30pm ***We Need New Names*** by No Violet Bulawayo

# Cherington Parish Council

## Planning Applications

### *New applications:*

13/04336/AGFO Grove Park, Cherington Tetbury

Proposal: Agricultural tracks

13/04697/TCONR Cherington Park, Cherington, Tetbury

Proposal: Two sycamore – prune back branches overhanging parking area

### *Decided applications:*

13/03496/FUL Grove Farm, Cherington, Tetbury

Proposal: Formation of revised driveway entrance and gate

Decision: Application permit

13/04412/TCONR Cherington Park, Cherington, Tetbury

Proposal: T1 – avenue of limes – minor crown lift, T2 Sycamore – fell, T3 Norway Maple – fell

Decision – No objection (county)

For further information and details of planning applications please visit [planning@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:planning@cotswold.gov.uk)

## Winter weather - highways arrangements

It was agreed at the last Parish Council meeting in October that, should there be snow, then Cllr Henry Arden would be responsible for gritting pavements and Cllr Mike Mitchell would be responsible for snow clearing with the snow plough.

**Dates for Parish Council meetings for 2014** will be available in the next edition of The Villager. All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend parish meetings. If you have any concerns, issues, queries or comments you would like to make relating to the Parish then please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk – Frances Ashfield on 01453 767384 or via email at [cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk).

**The parish clerk, Frances Ashfield can be contacted either by Telephone on 01453 767384 or by e-mail at [cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)**



Preserve  
Conserve, Enhance

# Avening Parish Council

## Planning

If you have a computer, planning applications can be found on Cotswold District Council's website at [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) Go to weekly planning list. You are also able to sign up for Planning Alerts so that the emails can come straight to your In Box.

There have been no new planning applications or decisions.

## Christmas and New Year Waste Collections

**Collection schedule will return to normal on the week beginning Monday 13 Jan 2014**

Mon 23 Dec	No change	
Tues 24 Dec	No change	
Weds 25 Dec	Public Holiday. Will move to Friday 27 Dec	
Thurs 26 Dec	Public Holiday. Will move to Sat 28 Dec	
Friday 27 Dec	Will move to Mon 30 Dec	
Mon 30 Dec	Will move to Tues 31 Dec	
Tues 31 Dec	Will move to Thurs 2 Jan 2014	
Weds 1 Jan 2014	Public Holiday. Will move to Friday 3 Jan	
Thurs 2 Jan	Will move to Sat 4 Jan	
Friday 3 Jan	Will move to Mon 6 Jan	
Mon 6 Jan	Will move to Tues 7 Jan	
Tues 7 Jan	Will move to Weds 8 Jan	
Weds 8 Jan	Will move to Thurs 9 Jan	
Thurs 9 Jan	Will move to Friday 10 Jan	
Friday 10 Jan	Will move to Sat 11 Jan	

## **Gas Supply in High Street**

If you are interested in supporting the possibility of extending the mains gas supply to the north end of the High Street, please contact Tom Mowles on 07545 562984 or email [tom.mowles@mowlesfarms.co.uk](mailto:tom.mowles@mowlesfarms.co.uk)

## **Budget 2014 – 2015**

The Parish Council is preparing its budget for the coming year and would like to hear from any local organisation that is looking for support and would like to make a grant application. Please contact the Parish Clerk –details below.

Cotswold District Council is also updating its financial plans for the next four years and its spending plans for 2014/15, and is inviting residents to have their say. Residents or local businesses who wish to comment on the budget strategy can fill in a survey on the CDC website [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) Alternatively, you can email your views to [BudgetConsultation@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:BudgetConsultation@cotswold.gov.uk)

The next meeting of **Avening Parish Council** will be held on **Thursday 19 December 2013 at 7.30 pm in the Memorial Hall**. Parish Council meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month. **All Are Welcome.**

The Parish Council address is:

***Caroline Braidwood, Parish Clerk, 77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester,  
Gloucestershire GL7 1BQ***

***Tel: 01285 380041***

***Email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)***

## **The Mobile Police Station**



**Non-emergency phone 101  
THERE WILL BE NO VISIT  
DURING DECEMBER back to  
normal in January**

# PEOPLE FOR YOU

**People For You** is expanding. Thanks to part funding from the Big Lottery, the People For You volunteer befriending scheme, which supports older, lonely and isolated people in the community, has expanded to cover not only Tetbury but now all surrounding villages.

This is wonderful news as the impact and consequences of loneliness and isolation are devastating. It's a sad fact that with an increasing population and family scattered, many older people are living alone with no regular company.

**Our mission is to reduce loneliness and isolation** – which is the scourge of our modern society. A recent BBC News report stated, “Social isolation is associated with a higher risk of death in older people regardless of whether they consider themselves lonely”. Many researchers have suggested that this is possibly due to the emotional effects of isolation - simply put, feeling lonely is bad for your health.

We urgently need volunteers to come forward. Just an hour a week can transform someone's life. We provide full training and support - It's a wonderful way to meet new people and to positively engage with your community.

And we also want to hear from people who feel the scheme might be of interest to them or to a friend/family member.

**I am delighted to announce that People For You will be coming along to the Dolphin Hall on Monday, 9 December – 10am to 12 noon to talk about the scheme and also to introduce representatives from other support organisations available in the community. Its an ideal opportunity to learn more about the scheme and also to meet the other organisations that will be there. Refreshments provided so please do come along.**

People For You works in partnership with two other befriending services covering the Cotswolds so please do contact Sue Black for more information on 07810 630167 or email [suebpeopleforyou@gmail.com](mailto:suebpeopleforyou@gmail.com).

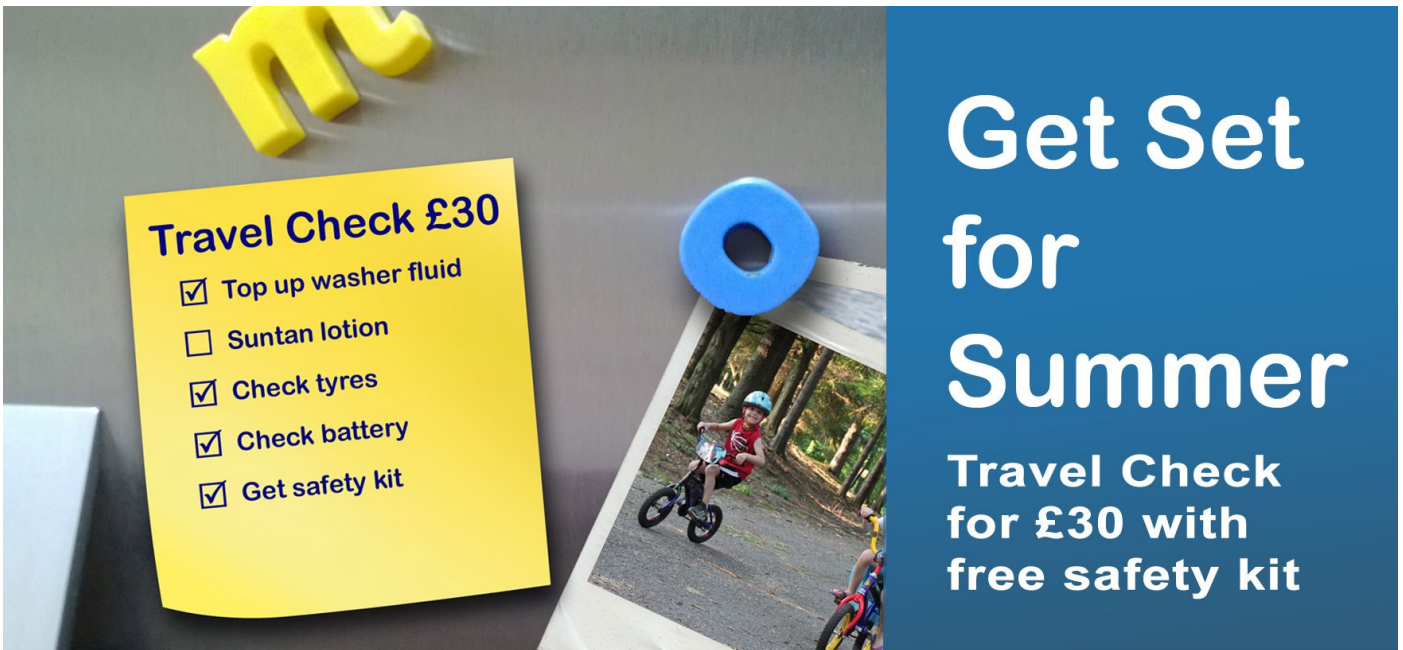


# Useful Telephone Numbers

Avening Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Braidwood	01285 380041
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Frances Ashfield	01453 767384
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Avening Sunday School / Messy church	Doreen Pierce Elizabeth Buchanan	01453 835090 01453 833016
Avening Tower Captain	David Govier	01453 882914
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695 Home 835983
Avening Village Agent	Aileen Bendall	07810-630156
Avening Youth Club	Cassie Vickery	01453 834182
A and C Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Friends of Avening School	Jo Missenden	01453 833688
Cherington Village Hall	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Tennis @ Avening Park	Roger Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Group Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Avening History Project	Fred Vening fred@fvening.fsnet.co.uk	01285 850624
Stroud Hospital	Reception	3000 421 8080
Women's Institute	Maisie Stanton	01453 834679
Avening Book Club	Kristiana Maseyk	01453 836515

## *Dates for your Diary*

Monday 2nd December	Book Club	Bell Inn	7-30pm
Saturday 7th December	Playgroup Bazaar	Village Hall	2.00-4pm
Saturday 7th	Christmas Tree Lights and Entertainment	Cherington Green	5.30pm
Sunday 8th December	Church children's Christmas party	Avening Church	3.00-5.00 pm
Monday 9th December	People for You	Dolphin Hall	10am-12.00pm
Sunday 15th December	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	Avening Church	7.00 pm.
Sunday 15th December	Father Christmas comes to Avening	All around the Village	From 5.00pm
Thursday 19th December	Avening Parish Council	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Friday 20th December	End of term	Avening School	
Tuesday 24th December	Crib Service	Avening Church	4.00pm
Boxing Day	Graham's Big Boxing Day Quiz in aid of the Playgroup	Cross Inn	5.30pm
Wednesday 1st January	Start of new term	Avening School	
Wednesday 15th January	Rural Cinema (showing Blue Jasmine)	Avening Social Club	7.30pm



## Be sure before you go

As the weather gets warmer and the days longer, what journeys are on your mind? A holiday, a trip, a visit to distant friends or relatives? Then add 'get the car checked' to your to-do list. The winter weather has been pretty demanding on your car. You certainly don't want to end up stuck somewhere with a flat battery. And the little things like correct tyre pressure can make a big difference to fuel economy.

## £30 buys you peace of mind

For just £30 our trained technicians will give your car a Travel Check, so you can set out knowing your car is in the best possible condition.

## What will we check?

We'll visually check tyres, lights and brakes

We'll make sure your oil and washer fluids are at the right levels

We'll check the battery and alternator.

As well as giving your car a thorough check, you will receive a travel safety kit to give you even more peace of mind on your journey.



**for free, friendly, local advice, pop in or give us a call.**

**01453 832871**

[info@service-tech.org.uk](mailto:info@service-tech.org.uk)

[www.service-tech.org.uk](http://www.service-tech.org.uk)



Inchbrook Trading Estate, (A46) Bath Road, Nailsworth, Stroud, GL5 5EY

# The Bell at Avening

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



Saturday Nights  
2 main courses & a bottle of wine £25

SOME OF OUR MENU ITEMS...	
DEEP FRIED BRIE WITH CRANBERRY SAUCE	4.95
PRAWN COCKTAIL	5.95
PATE WITH REDCURRANT JELLY AND WARM TOAST	4.45
TODAY'S HOMEMADE SOUP	3.95
*****	
HAM, EGG AND CHIPS	8.95
MUSHROOM STROGANOFF WITH RICE	8.95
BANGERS & MASH	8.95
TAGLIATELLE WITH ROASTED VEGETABLES AND TOMATO SAUCE	8.95
THAI CHICKEN CURRY WITH RICE	9.95
SCAMPI AND CHIPS	9.95
RUMP STEAK WITH PEPPER SAUCE	11.95

Opening times:

Mon & Tues: 5.30pm - 11pm

Wed - Sat: 12 noon - 2pm & 5.30pm - 11pm

Sun: 12 noon - 10.30pm

Food served from Tuesday evening to Sunday lunchtime

Call us on: **01453 836422**

[www.thebellinnavening.co.uk](http://www.thebellinnavening.co.uk)

## Welcome to The Cross Inn

Lunch served

Fri - Sat, 12 - 2

Evening meals served

Tues - Sat, 6 - 9

Sunday Roast 12 - 4

*please call*

**01453 569756**

*or e-mail*

[info@crossinnavening.co.uk](mailto:info@crossinnavening.co.uk)

Please check our website for  
up & coming events and menus

[www.crossinnavening.co.uk](http://www.crossinnavening.co.uk)



*...always a great choice of food, wine & real ales...*

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