

# *The Villager*

*A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head*

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*September 2014*

*50p*



*Summer is over, back to school and work  
- but still plenty going on in Avening!*

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

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# Who's Who in the Parishes

<b>PARISH PRIEST</b>	Rev. Peter Quinnell	01453833251 quinnell708@btinternet.com
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<b>READER</b>	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
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## AVENING

<b>Churchwardens</b>	Stephanie Hamilton	01453 834910
	Stephen Uzzell	07807 700004
<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

## CHERINGTON

<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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# Parish Letter

I am delighted to be writing this month's *Villager*. As you will know, both Peter and I were licensed in March this year, and we thought it was about time I introduced myself ...

Very briefly ... I moved here with my family from South East London in August 2013. Before being ordained, I worked for the BBC for nearly 25 years as a producer for Radio 4, then in different roles including adviser to the BBC Trust. In 2006, I felt I was being called by God to the priesthood, and so started my training and then was in a parish in East Dulwich for three years. I am married to Garry and we have two children: Jack (23) and Nancy (19).

When I first came to Gloucestershire, I felt immediately at home. I was delighted to be appointed initially as priest-in-charge of the churches in Tetbury, Beverston, Long Newnton and Shipton Moyne, and then to become Rector of both these churches and the Benefice of Avening and Cherington, working with Peter as Associate Priest. Like Peter, I have been made so welcome, thank you!

Turning now to September – I always think this is a time of beginnings and endings. There are new beginnings, especially for our children and young people as they move into a new year in our schools and colleges. We hope and pray all will go well for them. And there is the end of the summer – and everything coming to fruition in our harvest time, with our usual suppers and services.

Over the past few weeks we have also, of course, faced the end of Bishop Michael's time as Bishop of Gloucester. He was due to retire in November, but stepped back from ministry in mid-August for personal reasons. There have been news reports since about a police investigation into certain allegations relating to the early 1980s. We feel so sad for everyone involved and affected by these reports, and we are holding them all very much in our prayers.

In fact, prayer has been much on my mind... As I write, I am aware of the terrible situations around the world, where people's lives are devastated by violence and war: Gaza, Syria, Iraq, Southern Sudan. In the face of such suffering, we can sometimes wonder if praying for justice and peace is a waste of time. After all, we are praying to the God of love, so he will hardly need convincing that these things are needed in our world.



But our prayers *are* needed: as God's children, we each have a part to play in making God's kingdom a reality here on earth. In our prayers, we join with the desire of God's own heart, for peace in our world.

So let's keep praying!

With love and my prayers for us all,

**Poppy**

The Revd Poppy Hughes  
Rector, the Benefices of Avening with Cherington, Tetbury, Beverston, Long  
Newnton and Shipton Moyne

## Home Fellowship Groups



Monday 29th September: Venue to be arranged  
Monday 27th October: Venue to be arranged  
Monday 24th November: At Avening Rectory

## Sandford Trust

As Chair of the Sandford Trust, a small charity for local young people going on to higher education or work based training, I would welcome applications for small grants from anyone living in the parish of Avening. The closing date is Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September, after which the annual distribution of funds will be made.

Applications should be made in writing, by the claimant, to:

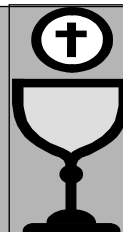
Mrs Kelly Wilkinson  
9 Pound Hill  
Avening  
Gloucestershire  
GL8 8LZ

# *Services in Avening & Cherington September*

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	DETAILS OF SERVICE
Sunday 7th September	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<i>Trinity 12</i>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion CW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion CW
Sunday 14th September	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<i>Holy Cross day</i>	09.30	Cherington	Matins BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion CW
Saturday 20th September	05.00pm	Cherington	Harvest evensong
<i>Sunday 21st September</i>	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion CW
Sunday 28th September	08.00	Avening	NO SERVICE
<i>Back to church Sunday</i>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion CW
<b>Trinity 15</b>	11.00	Avening	Family Holy Communion CW
Thursday 25th September	7.00pm	Avening	Compline BCP
Sunday 5th October	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<i>Trinity 16</i>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion CW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion CW

NOTE every Monday and Wednesday there will be a said service of morning prayer in Holy Cross Church at 8-00 am. (except weeks commencing 29th Sept and 5th October)

# Church Duties in Evening



Date	Sides persons	Chalice	Sacristan
Sept. 7th	Cas/Stephanie	Derrick	Ann
Sept. 14th	George/Irene	Stephen	Elizabeth
Sept. 21st	Piers/IMargaret	Hamish	Ann
Sept. 28th	Stephanie/Jeanie	Paul	Elizabeth
October 5th	Cas/George	Derrick	Ann

**Coffee will be served in Evening church after the morning services on September 7th and October 5th**



## 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*

**All requests for additional services (Weddings, Baptisms etc.) should be made to Rev. Peter Quinnell or, if he is not available, the Church Wardens  
Their contact details are on page 3**



# 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	1st Monday each month	7.30pm	The Bell	Kristiane 01453 836515
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
Tony's Music Quiz	1st Saturday each month	7.30pm	Social Club	In aid of the Cobalt unit
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4-30pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090

# The Villager Magazine for All!

Exciting news! From February next year, the Villager magazine will be distributed to all households in Avening, Nags Head and Cherington free of charge!

This excellent development is thanks to a grant from Avening Parish Council, and with the support of the Avening and Cherington Parochial Councils. It means that the magazine will be dropping through the letterboxes of every single home in the villages. There will still be additional magazines available to buy at the church and the pubs.

Obviously, printing additional magazines will cost more, and even with the grant we will need some more adverts to help pay for it, so if anyone has a business which would benefit from being advertised to over 500 homes at a very reasonable cost, please let us know. And our fantastic distribution team, ably led by Cas Boddam-Whetham, would love to hear from anyone who could give up just an hour once a month to help deliver the magazine.

This is *YOUR* magazine, so tell us your stories. We would love to hear from the various clubs and groups who are not yet featured, and also welcome stories about your travels and adventures, the achievements of your nearest and dearest, your worries about planning or other developments, and anything else you want to tell us about. And please let us know if you have any ideas for columns or there is something missing that you would like included in the magazine. We really want to hear from you - our contact details are on page 3.

The Editors are thrilled that the magazine will be going to everyone in the villages, and would like to thank all the people who have helped to make this happen.

*Derrick, Frances and Jane*

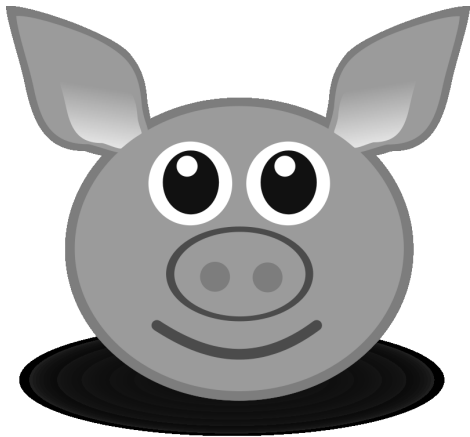
## Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Michele Wheatley** for our cover photo. If you have a photo of Avening 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)**

Everyone is invited to the

# **934th Birthday Celebration of Holy Cross Church, Avening**



on

**Holy Cross Day**

Sunday September 14th

**11am The Pig Face Service  
to celebrate the Consecration  
of HOLY CROSS CHURCH in  
the presence of their  
Majesties, King William and Queen Matilda of  
Normandy and their Court.**

**Noon: The Hog Roast Feast and Party (on the  
Glebe land by the Moat) Avening Musicians, Nine  
Pins, Apple Bobbing, Boot Throwing and more!  
Please bring your own mead requirements, and  
seats..... soft drinks will be available.**

**You are required to dress appropriately for such a  
service and banquet.....Your bracers, coifs,  
kirtles and jacks are all available from our local  
merciers, Cotswold Costumes (GL6 0BE. 01453  
833817), the hire of which is kindly sponsored by  
your Parish Council and your Church.**



# AVENING'S PIG FACE DAY



WILLIAM the CONQUEROR.

We are indebted to Queen Matilda, the wife of King William the Conqueror, for this celebration. Barely more than four foot tall, she was the smallest Queen of England; it was rumoured that she was involved in the commissioning of the Bayeux tapestry, which was quite possible as it was completed by English needlewomen, probably nuns, to celebrate William's success in ousting Harold at the Battle of Hastings in 1066. She was also responsible for the building of the Abbaye aux Dames in Caen, which is where her crypt and tomb can be found. And curiously she also had connections with Avening.

King William returned to France in 1067, a year after the Norman invasion, and he eventually died in a riding accident in 1086. However, Queen Matilda remained in England, and fell in love with Brictric, the Saxon lord of the Avening estate. Unfortunately for Brictric, he did not return her love, and Matilda was so devastated by his lack of interest in her that she had him thrown in a dungeon, where he subsequently died. However, when Queen Matilda eventually realised how badly she had behaved, she gave the village a church as a way of repentance, and so it was that the Church of the Holy Cross was built at Avening in 1080. A feast was organised in celebration of this event, which over the years has become formally known as the Avening Feast and Queen Matilda's Pageant. The feast usually takes place on the first Sunday after 14<sup>th</sup> September, and is currently celebrated every other year, usually after Evensong. As the head of a pig is taken into the church as part of the procession and adorns the top table, this is probably why it has become known as Pig Face Day.



Apparently, in 1685 the Rector George Bull was forced to suppress some abuses connected with this feast, but nowadays it is conducted with complete decorum; villagers dress up in the costumes of the day and play out the pageant, while spectators are treated to a sumptuous pig roast.

**Roger Lindley**



# Avening Primary School

## New Beginnings.

Before term ended in July, we enjoyed a fantastic Summer Fete which was challenged by the shockingly bad weather that day, but thanks to many positive volunteers and a bit of British resolve, we adapted the fete slightly to make it a more indoor event and it turned out to be a roaring success and a great deal of fun for everyone. A few days later we bid a very emotional farewell to our wonderful Mrs Redpath, as well as our year six pupils during our annual end of the school year leaver's assembly.

After a six week break we return to a slightly different looking school, mainly on the inside, and we also say a very warm welcome to the new pupils in our reception class as well as two new teachers; Ms Geller is our new Owls class teacher and Mrs Lucas will teach the Eagles for one day each week. We wish them both a smooth and enjoyable time settling into our school and look forward to the years of learning and experiences that lie ahead.

Although there have been many changes to the school building internally during the summer holidays, building work continues and once again, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their patience and understanding while work is completed and we look forward to letting you know all about it in next month's Villager.

*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)) which is updated often. In particular take a look at the interesting introduction to all our staff – with pictures courtesy of the children!*

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## Avening School on YouTube!!

At the end of last term, Avening School said goodbye to Mrs Redpath, who had taught at the school for 21 years, in a most unusual way; they starred in their own film, singing to Pharrell William's song 'Happy' - to make her laugh when she probably wanted to cry!



*A still from the video*

Take a look at it yourselves - it's wonderful, and really shows what an amazing place our school is! You can find it here:

**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PJj9tWfLL2o>**

Mrs Rushton, the Head Teacher, told us about how this came about and the fun they had making it.

“The filming of the short clip took a whole day of school time. The idea came from seeing one of the reception children bring the house down at our talent show at Easter. I then contacted SWR, as I knew they had done a lipdub in the past. Assistant head Kelly Hopson was really helpful and organised for two year 9 students - Nielson and Noah - to take this on as a project to extend their skills. They were fantastic - a real credit to SWR- and were accompanied by their teacher Donna Findlay. In order for the day to happen, I had to come up with the ideas for the shots, carefully timed for each section of the song. The children - and staff and governors - had great fun on the filming day! The SWR boys then took the footage back to school and spent over 3 days editing in order to come up with the 4 minute finished product! There was a slight hiccup, when they realised that some of the footage was corrupted, so Nielson had a further morning of filming and ably pulled it out of the bag just in time for the Leavers' Assembly. I think the Happy song not only reflects our cohesive school community, but was done with a great deal of love and respect for a wonderful teacher, Mrs Redpath.”



# 100 Years Ago

## Avening Village Cricket Team Match versus Eastcombe Saturday 25th July 1914

Those of you who read last month's Villager will recall the report in the Stroud Journal of the cricket match on this date, between Eastcombe and Avening. It is reprinted here. I thought it may be interesting to see what kind of war the players experienced, the match being played just ten days before the outbreak of World War One when the world became a different place.

We discovered that Lt. Colonel Bill Playne was severely injured at Gallipoli in 1915 and we have now done some research on Fred Shelton, Bill's fellow opening batsman.

Fred was one of the million or so volunteers to join up in the first couple of months of the War and, on completion of his training with the 10<sup>th</sup> Battalion of the Gloucestershire Regiment found himself in France on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1915. The first battle of the Somme started on the first of July 1915 during which Fred's battalion was decimated. It is unlikely that the battalion itself survived until a suitable number of replacements were received. It may even have been that Fred was injured in that battle.

If he had been injured, it would explain why he was taken from frontline fighting into a battalion of Labour Corps and given a completely new Service number. Labour Corps personnel did support work on railways and material distribution.

EASTCOMBE v. AVENING.	
Played at Eastcombe on Saturday, resulting in a victory for the homesters by 19 runs. A. Brown (6 wickets for 20 runs) and F. Roberts (4 for 20) bowled well for Eastcombe. Scores:	
Eastcombe.	
W. Nobes, b Dyer	0
F. Roberts, c Fletcher, b Dyer	2
A. Gardiner, b Dyer	2
W. Griffin, b Dyer	3
Rev. W. J. Clay, b Dyer	11
A. Brown, b Rudge	2
O. Ridler, not out	13
W. Davis, b Fletcher	1
E. Davis, b Dyer	6
H. Davis, b Fletcher	0
J. Fewster, c and b Dyer	6
Extras	14
Total	60
Avening.	
Lieut.-Colonel W. Playne, c H. Davis, b Brown	6
F. Shelton, b Roberts	8
H. Fletcher, b Roberts	1
W. Fowles, b Brown	0
P. Rudge, b Roberts	13
E. Ind, b Roberts	2
D. Ind, b Brown	3
F. Dyer, b Brown	3
R. Fowles, not out	0
G. Tanner, b Brown	4
H. Holbrow, lbw, b Brown	0
Extras	1
Total	41

He was discharged on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1919.

Born in New Inn Lane, Avening, the son of Joseph and Louisa Shelton, on the loss of Fred's mother, the family had moved to Pound Hill. By the 1911 census, Fred and his older brother had moved to their Uncle Joshua's house as lodgers in Hazel Wood. Both were Mill workers at Longfords and would have met Bill Playne there. Fred married Edith Osman in 1922 and we think they had a daughter Betty who was born in 1929, although not in Avening. Unfortunately, Fred died on the 22nd June 1936 and he left a small legacy to Edith. At the time, they were living in Old Hill, Avening. At his death, Fred was just 44 years of age and it may have been his experience on the Somme that shortened his life.

We may never know. But it underlines the fact that there were many more injuries in WW1 that are unpublicised.

*Fred Vening*

## **DOUBTY**



I am sure that many of you will grieve the death of Doubty (Doubtful), my Shetland pony, who joined in so many Church events over the years. You may remember how he and Charlie featured every Christmas Eve in the Crib Service to bring Mary to Bethlehem and then on Palm Sunday carrying Jesus triumphantly into Jerusalem. He doubled up as a reindeer at the Sunday School Christmas party, and gave rides at the fete. He also brought delight to children with complex needs at the Hop Skip and Jump Centres, where he would stand patiently with the children while they patted and hugged him, and the more able would have a ride. I always find it remarkable the way

horses and ponies react to children, sensing when they are vulnerable, and responding with gentleness.

He added something very special to our services and was a great character. You may remember when he gently munched the hay in the manger, where the Baby Jesus lay, during the Nativity scene, being so careful not to wake the real baby, while the mother looked on - just a tiny bit anxiously!

*Rev Celia*

# Musical Garden Party

On Sunday 24th August, Jeannie Pargeter hosted a wonderful musical picnic for the village in her lovely garden at Longmans Barn Farm. Lots of musicians came along and played, with ukuleles, guitars, banjos, fiddles and tin whistles all involved. They gave us a variety of folk and traditional songs as well as some more modern numbers, and the feet were all tapping to some jolly jigs and reels - though no one could be persuaded to stand up and dance, they were all too busy eating the lovely picnics they had brought with them. Despite a slightly dubious forecast and a cold start to the day, the weather was lovely, and everyone had a great time.

So well done and thank you, Jeannie, for organising this - and a particular note of congratulations for raising about £200 for Help for Heroes while giving us all such a lovely afternoon.





## **DON'T FORGET AVENING SOCIAL CLUB!**

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Line Dancing Monday & Tuesday evenings 7.30 to 10.00

Pool league Tuesday evenings

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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH

# Down To Earth



*Monarda didyma* (bergamot or bee balm)

When the Swedish botanist, Carl Linnaeus (1707 - 1708), simplified the naming of plants with a binomial, or two-word system, he was introducing a system of universally recognized, Latin names in which the first part indicates the genus, or group, and the second part, the descriptive word of the species. Thus the *magnolia grandiflora* is the magnolia with large flowers, the *magnolia stellata* has star-like flowers and the *magnolia denudata*

bears flowers before the leaves, in other words, on denuded, or bare, branches. Frequently, the descriptive term will refer to the nursery or plant hunter responsible for the plant's introduction. Thus, the *magnolia wilsonii* was named after the plant hunter Ernest Henry ('Chinese') Wilson, who collected a specimen in China in 1904.

E H Wilson was responsible for introducing around 1,200 trees and shrubs, although, as Jenny Uglow notes in 'A Little History of British Gardening', 'Wilson's wholesale looting sends a chill down the spine today'. Thus has the gratitude of generations of gardeners been overturned by the today's political correctness - perhaps, with some justification. Nevertheless, Chipping Campden, where Wilson was born in 1876, commemorates him with a delightful little garden, open to the public, through an archway just off the High Street at the northern end. Here is a selection of his introductions, including the  *davidia involucreta* or handkerchief tree.

A flower that performs well in late summer is the hardy perennial, *monarda didyma*. Otherwise known as bergamot or bee balm, it has structural interest, good upright posture (no sprawling or slouching) and it really does attract the bees. I raised mine from a packet of seeds.



*E. H Wilson garden, Chipping Campden*

I have some clump-forming irises to divide now. This is best done with two large forks used back to back. Gently prise apart sections from the outer clump, which will be younger and healthier. Replant these, watering in and firming the soil well. The central section could be discarded.

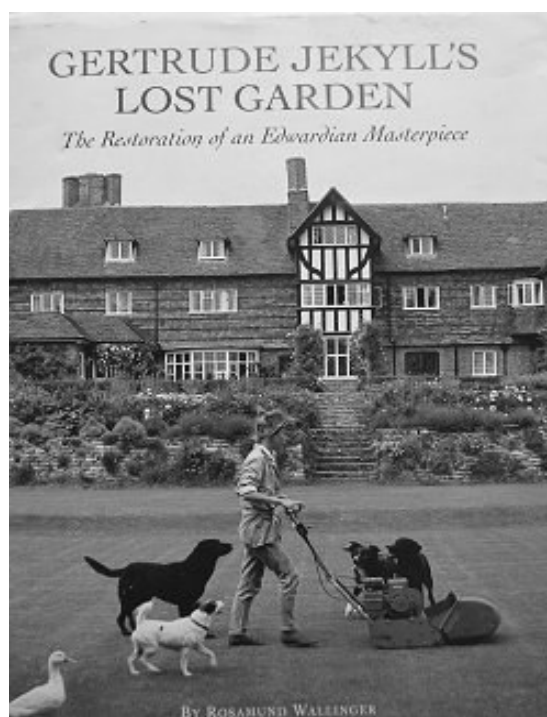
My brassicas turned into a sumptuous feast for caterpillars. Well, I said we must welcome back the butterflies so I can't grumble. I might investigate some form of cloche or fleece next year.

We have had a very sweet, prickly little visitor to our garden recently; in fact, he came once to clean up the biscuits in the cat food bowls. In my childhood we put out bread and milk for hedgehogs. We now know that this is utterly wrong and indeed harmful to them. Hedgehogs are insectivores who live on a diet of insects, beetles, a few worms and a small quantity of slugs and snails.

A rather more tragic visitor was the motionless and apparently lifeless adder I found entangled in the plastic netting of the pea frame, a grotesque and appalling sight from which I, coward, quickly moved to another part of the garden. Two days later I returned to find the eyes staring at me, the tongue flickering. With commendable courage and compassion my Assistant Gardener quickly found a forked stick with which to pin the head to the ground and meticulously cut away the netting in which the long body was still entrapped. Soon it was able to slither away to the undergrowth beyond our boundary. So: always check netting for any birds or small creatures which may become entangled.

Perhaps our most memorable garden visit of the summer was to The Manor House at Upton Grey, Hampshire. When Rosamund Wallinger and her husband bought the run down and overgrown property in 1984, they had no idea that what lay beneath the undergrowth were the bones of a garden laid out by Gertrude Jekyll in 1908. Using Jekyll's own planting plans, located at the University of California, they have achieved a meticulous restoration, in harmony with the house and setting. Anyone interested in Gertrude Jekyll's style should go and visit. The garden is closed now but will reopen on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2015.

Happy Harvesting!



*Rosamund Wallinger's book of the garden restoration at The Manor, Upton Grey*

**Marilyn Jones**

# Avening Playgroup



The children have all had a fabulous summer and are ready for a new term of fun and games. Whilst the playgroup remains popular with children in the village, it is a charity and needs to raise funds to survive. We have a new committee at Avening Playgroup and the committee welcomes new ideas and inspiration from anyone in the village who would like to help us. We have a new Facebook page called Avening Pre-School so please please please show your support by joining the group and sharing our events. We really do need everyones support to continue.

The first event the committee are running will be a children's nearly new sale at Avening Village Hall on Saturday, 20 September between 10-12.30. Families will be able to sell their good quality nearly new children's items. Bargains galore for everyone! Items on sale in the past have included pushchairs, nursery furniture, toys, books, clothes (Next, Boden, M & S) and much, much more.

Please do come along, and pick up some early bargains for Christmas or just come along for a nice cup of tea a bit of cake and a chat . If you would like to sell your stuff, please telephone Jo on 07900902264.

**Jo Rayner**

## DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

***Playgroup's Nearly  
New Sale*** will be held on  
Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> September.

Please contact Jo  
Rayner on 07900 902264  
for details.

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# Brookes Beauty

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# Cherington Show

**A Rich Harvest for Cherington Show – Again in 2014!**



All the marvellous contributions from our small band of Cheringtonians have once again produced a superb result, with cash, after expenses, well over £6,000 for the third year in a row.



Thank you so much for all your endeavours before and during Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July. It was a glorious day for all who came to our Show.

***Peter Workman,  
Chairman***





*Lots of prizes were won!*





## Midsummer in Transylvania



When did you last hear the cuckoo call? Picture meadows of hay scythed, dried on hayricks and carted home on horse-drawn wagons: horse-drawn plough furrowing, the shepherd tending his flock in open pasture on rolling hillsides below the forested upland: cows ambling home to be milked as the sun goes down and meadows filled with wildflowers..... the Saxon farmlands of Southern

Transylvania are where you can still see a way of life familiar in 18<sup>th</sup> century England. So many painting subjects and June's the perfect time to go.

Our inspiration? Patrick Leigh Fermor's 1930s account of walking 'Between the Woods and the Water'; tales from friends venturing there to paint – the Saxon houses, medieval churches, horse-drawn farm vehicles, farm animals and wildflowers. Then the Transylvania Festival took place in May at the Romanian Cultural Institute in London, supported by The Prince of Wales - who has restored village houses there in order to promote sustainable development. The Festival celebrated the remarkable cultural landscapes of Transylvania and the work that Fundatia ADEPT has accomplished over the last ten years, protecting the unique farmed landscapes, biodiversity and farming communities there. Coming from a farming family, this was something I wanted to support.

Four hours' drive north from the flat lands around Bucharest, over the southern Carpathians and - irresistible - a stop to take in 'Dracula's Castle' of Bran, we turned off the road from Brasov to Sighisoara on to our first pot-holed Romanian country road, which all too soon became a dirt-road. The signpost to Viscri was almost illegible but we soon found ourselves driving up the cobbled village street in late afternoon, greeted by 'the ladies' who look after the guest house when Mihai is away. Up an outside covered staircase tumbling with roses and poppies to a beautifully appointed room and a view over the red-tiled barn roofs and hills beyond.

Before supper in the lofty dining room, setting off to explore the village, we spotted storks nesting on the top of a chimney; other birds too popped in and out to their nests underneath. Half way down the cobbled road, the driver of a horse and cart stopped on his way home and took off the horse's bridle to give him a drink at the trough, hewn out of a massive tree trunk and

supplied with constant running water. A few people were sitting on benches outside the village store. A horse-drawn cart, piled high with hay was returning, a foal trotting alongside the mare, drawing in under the tall doorway to the tall barn at the back of the farmyard. On the seat under the pear tree sat two plump women, busily chatting whilst knitting thick woollen socks, hats and jumpers – colourfully displayed across the barn door and all for sale.

A village of perhaps 200-300 people, Viscri is typical of the many charming and orderly Saxon villages we saw as we drove around. The houses with hipped red-tiled roofs, are painted in a wondrous variety of pastel shades with the occasional flourish of baroque decoration and often the date of completion - some in a state of decay, some being restored. Built along each side of a stream, the cobbled street lined with pear trees sweeps down to the meadows. Each dwelling has an identical portion of land, traditionally, a courtyard, cattle sheds and pig pens, cobbled courtyard and huge barn seen through the arched doorway and behind, a vegetable plot. Flocks of ducks, and hens, turkeys and geese were scratching, pecking about in the grass by the stream that evening and I couldn't wait to get my sketchbook out!

Crowning the village is a magnificent fortified medieval church at the top of the hill, a UNESCO World Heritage Site – but that was for tomorrow.

For company that evening we had Florin, an ebullient Romanian photographer foodie engaged in writing a book on traditional Transylvanian cuisine: thus we began to reconsider the reputation of Romanian food. Typically a large bowl of soup arrives – creamy 'summer soup' with slurpy lettuce. Everything on the table is locally sourced from farm and garden: pork, chicken, occasional lamb or goat, wild mushrooms, sheep's cheese, delicious bread, home made cakes, walnuts, plenty of honey, home made jams and tea, an interesting infusion of herbs and flowers: 'tuica' – schnapps – water always on the table, and Romanian wines.

First aim is to sketch the village street scene, including the horse still hitched untethered to the cart, grazing his lunch. Then to the awe-inspiring subject of the medieval church. So tall are the red-tiled



towers against the blue sky that it would hardly fit into my sketchbook. I'm squashed against the path the pilgrims climb – they pause to look.

I am customarily in Cherington church once a week but that week in Transylvania we visited one or two churches every day – seven of which are World Heritage sites – each one memorably set against the forested hills above the orderly red-roofed village houses nestling in the wide valleys – they are bastions of defence and sustenance both spiritual and physical – built to endure. Many need restoration. The Viscri church central behind its high surrounding walls has welcoming wooden furniture, painted panels and an interesting museum of historic memorabilia. Within the walls in times of siege there was room for the villagers to take refuge, bring in their cattle, their grain, bacon and fruit. Each household would keep their ham, personally stamped, and fat bacon in a storeroom, cutting off sufficient for a week's supply. Illustrating the determination of the orderly Saxon society prospering in those days, there still exists in one or two churches a 'divorce room' where to test the resolve of a couple who threatened divorce they would be locked in a tower room for a couple of weeks, sharing just one of everything – it usually worked they say!

*(To be continued and concluded in next edition)*

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# *Avening Youth Club*

## **GREAT NEWS!!!**

**We are very pleased to inform you that the Avening Youth Club will recommence on Tuesday 9th September.**

**The venue is Avening Memorial Hall.**

**The time is 6.15 to 7.45 pm.**

The Youth Club will welcome both boys and girls between 10 and 14 inclusive. It is free for all children and is being funded by Avening Church of England Educational Fund and Avening Parish Council.

The Youth Leader will be Cassie and she will lead for the first 45 minutes a session of fun activities and learning.

The second 45 minutes will be run by the Nailsworth based Personal Best Studio, supported by Cassie and will involve a fun and fitness session to music lead by Simon Sveder-Cain. (<http://www.personalbeststudio.co.uk/>)

There will be 14 sessions during the Winter term, missing one week for half term. The final session of the term will be on Tuesday 16th December.

Additionally, it is planned to also have several sessions on theatre and drama, especially when Simon cannot attend.

Kids, come along on Tuesday and be thrilled and excited, as well as burning off some calories!



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# Avening Cinema Club

**Avening Film Club presents The Grand Budapest Hotel**

**17th September 2014**

**7.30pm at Avening Social Club**

**THE GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL (2014) –**

**Drama, Comedy** - Contains strong language, sex references and brief gory images

**Cert: 15 – Run time: 1 hr. 39 min.**

## **Cast & Crew**

Ralph Fiennes, F. Murray Abraham, Mathieu Amalric, Adrien Brody, Willem Dafoe, Jeff Goldblum, Harvey Keitel, Jude Law, Bill Murray, Edward Norton, Saoirse Ronan, Jason Schwartzman, Léa Seydoux, Tilda Swinton, Tom Wilkinson, Owen Wilson, Tony Revolori

**Director: Wes Anderson**

The Grand Budapest Hotel recounts the adventures of Gustave H, a legendary concierge at a famous European hotel between the wars, and Zero Moustafa, the lobby boy who becomes his most trusted friend. The story involves the theft and recovery of a priceless Renaissance painting and the battle for an enormous family fortune -- all against the back-drop of a suddenly and dramatically changing Continent.



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## **CARE IN THE HIGH STREET**

Many of you in both parishes have been so very generous in the past in supporting the work of Hop skip and Jump and now there is a new venture.

A few weeks ago Samantha Cameron launched, at No.10 Downing Street, 'Care in the High Street',.... our vision to offer mini Hop skip and Jump Care centers with a wet room, in every shopping mall, stadium and at large events. This will enable parents with a dependent with complex and special needs to leave them in specialist hands while giving the carer the freedom to shop. It is not always understood how imprisoned the parents can be by the total dependence of their child and young adult. To be able to take an hour or so for them-selves to go the hairdresser, the dentist or just to have a cup of coffee with a friend, can be priceless.

We plan to open our first 'Care in the High Street' mini Centre in the Brunel shopping Mall in Swindon by the end of September. We will have space for a charity shop on the premises, the proceeds of which will help fund the work we do, Should any of you have toys or children's clothes in good condition which your children now no longer need, please could you donate them to Hop skip and Jump. The Headquarters of the charity is at Avening Park (01453 836390) where you can leave your donation. It would be brilliant if you could help us in this way.

***Rev Celia and Clarissa Mitchell***

# 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,  
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## **AVENING COMMUNITY OIL GROUP**

**Coordinator: Frances Lindley**

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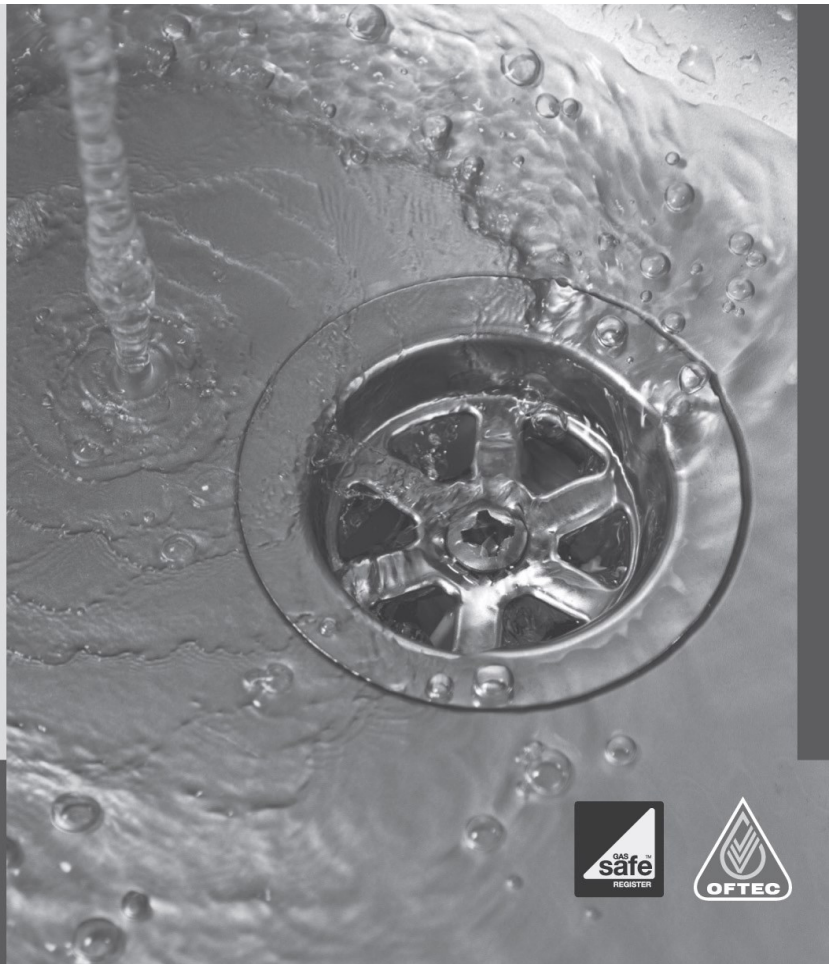
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The Avening W.I is taking its summer break at the moment but we have a full and interesting programme coming up. This week a number of members will be visiting the Highfield Nursery for lunch and plant shopping.

5 Avening members attended a County Federation organised event recently called Tea and Textiles at Stonehouse Court Hotel. The textiles were part of a national W.I. collection of dressmaking, embroidery, plain sewing (which is anything but plain), tapestry, smocking, lace making and Dorset buttons (handmade). It is sad that many of these skills, although not lost, are rarely practiced these days.



The first speaker after our break at the September meeting will be Fiona Warren who will talk about the Land Girls from wartime. Fiona has been our speaker before when she gave a talk about allotments which was an unlikely subject for humour but her talk was excellent and extremely funny.

If you would like to hear Fiona's talk please come along to our meeting on 11th September at 7.30 p.m. Visitors, men and women are most welcome to any of our meetings.

*Gwyneth Simpson*



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# Avening Book Club



## Bring up the Bodies

by Hilary Mantel

*Bring Up the Bodies* takes us back the where *Wolf Hall* left us. Henry VIII and Thomas Cromwell are staying with the Seymour family at Wolf Hall. Jane Seymour catches the King's eye and attention; he begins to share private moments with her and seems to be falling in love. There is only the tricky problem of the present queen, Anne Boleyn, who has failed to give him a male heir, standing in his way. Henry wants to be rid of her and conveniently, rumours of her infidelity are spreading around the castle and beyond. The man of the moment, who seems to be able to make the impossible possible, is the tireless and multi-faceted Thomas Cromwell.

Anne Boleyn and Thomas Cromwell, despite their distrust of one another, owe their golden status to each other. In their barely concealed acrimony, they become pitted against each other, as Cromwell relentlessly seeks to find a way to expel her from the court and the Henry's favour. The book ends with the death of Anne.

Hilary Mantel is a master story teller and the tensions, paranoia and Machiavellianism of court is truly palpable. We all enjoyed this novel immensely – some of us had read *Wolf Hall* and others were defeated by it. Mantel dispenses with the irritating, distracting and, from what I can gather, pointless device of referring to Cromwell as 'he' throughout *Wolf Hall* so you end up being unsure of which 'he' she is referring to. This makes the novel so much easier to read. It is also over a much shorter period of time than *Wolf Hall*. Cromwell is a remarkable and much maligned historical figure and Mantel gives him a fresh look with a distinctly less callous persona.

For anyone who enjoys historical fiction, this is definitely a cut above the rest. Whether Mantel was deserving of two Bookers for *Wolf Hall* and *Bringing up the Bodies* is debatable. We immersed ourselves in the Booker shortlist very recently and discovered (perhaps predictably) it is a random and often baffling bag.

*Kristiane Maseyk*

Next books: 7.30pm The Bell

**The Earth Hums in B Flat** by Mari Strachan

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September

**Americanah** by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October

**Asylum** by Patrick McGrath

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

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# Avening Parish Council

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Victim Support is a charity that provides free and confidential help to victims of crime, witnesses, their family, friends and indeed anyone else affected.

For forty years volunteers have been supporting people affected by crime to find the strength to carry on and face the future with hope. Victim Support delivers ground-breaking work for victims and witnesses of crime in every community across England and Wales contacting more than one million victims of crime every year and support over 200,000 people to give evidence in court, helping them to feel informed and supported to provide evidence confidently. The efforts of volunteers support people through challenging and traumatic times and help them to get their lives back on track.

Services in Gloucestershire are delivered by a team of fully trained volunteers. Each volunteer is equipped to provide the emotional support, practical help and information needed to overcome the distressing and often devastating impact of crime. In order to continue and grow our impact we are recruiting more volunteers, both for our Victims Service and our Witness Service. If you are interested to hear more we would like to welcome you to our Recruitment Day on:

Please note that **training will be held in Devizes, Wiltshire on October 17, 18, 24 and 25**, and if selected you would need to be available on all four days. Besides the satisfaction of supporting people in need, volunteers develop essential skills through ongoing training, support and supervision. They can learn more about crime, criminal justice, the legal system, and it's a great opportunity to meet new people. Victim Support pay expenses so it doesn't cost anything to join our team of volunteers.

**Please respond to** [adminglos@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:adminglos@victimsupport.org.uk) or for more information you can contact Victim Support Gloucester on 01452 317450 or email [adminglos@victimsupport.org.uk](mailto:adminglos@victimsupport.org.uk)

The next meeting of **Avening Parish Council** will be held on **Thursday, 18 September 2014 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)*

# Message From the Parish Council Chairman

Planning is a difficult subject – by its very nature it evokes highly personal responses, and that is why the council planning process is in place, to give a dispassionate and independent decision. I greatly enjoy reviewing the applications that come before us, be they big or small, and while the PC do not comment on adherence to rules and regulations (there are very experienced professionals at CDC for that), we have always played a vital part by providing commentary on any local considerations, and helping both CDC and applicants shape their applications for the best possible outcome for all involved.

We are increasingly frustrated with the changes in the planning regulations, and the confusion that has ensued. For example, the proposed Sunground development has raised a number of serious concerns around access to the site, both during and after construction. Some of the statutory consultees only have a remit covering rules for the actual development, and so didn't take into account the problems along Lawrence Road (this was originally built to accommodate 20 houses, but will now service well over 100!). It has taken a lot of effort from the residents and councillors to raise the profile, such that it has been escalated to the GCC Commissioning Director, Communities and Infrastructure for a formal review. I'll keep you posted on developments.

With no PC meeting in August, it gives us a chance to take time out from regular council business, and take a look at what we can do to improve the village in the year to come. In an informal meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> August, we took the ideas given to us at the annual village meeting in May, and with the combined thoughts of the councillors we have a number of projects to follow through:

- Community shop – this is on hold for the moment, giving the new owners of the Cross a chance to settle in, and to see if a shop is part of their plans. If not, we would welcome a proposal from the community for us to consider.
- Buses – we will be speaking to the operators to see if they need any help in publicising their community routes.
- Defibrillator – this is installed in the old telephone box and we will be arranging an awareness event soon.

- Signage – we will be seeing if we can produce a village map with all of our Housing. We want our social housing to go to local people wherever possible, and have started working with the housing authorities to see how we can help to facilitate this.
- Playing field – we will be working with the playing field committee to help improve the facilities.
- Village pumps – all the missing parts will be duplicated and fully restored – check out the pumps that have already been painted.
- Additional parking around Sunground

With all of these projects, we really do need some help, and are still looking for a projects assistant. So, if you would like 2-3 hours interesting work per week, get in touch with the Parish Clerk ASAP.

*Cllr Tony Slater, Chairman*

## *Cherington Parish Council*

### **Contacts for the Parish Council:**

**Parish Clerk – Frances Ashfield - 01453 767384**

**Chairman of Parish Council – Mike Mitchell – 01285 841413**

## **Message from the Editors**

**Don't forget, this is YOUR magazine!**

**Tell us your stories!**

**Send us your pictures!**

**Something to celebrate?**

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

# 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
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
Avening Group Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley FIndly4@aol.com	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	Kristiane Maseyk	01453 836515

# Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 2nd September	Start of Autumn Term	Avening School	8.45am (note new time!)
Tuesday 9th September	Youth Club	Memorial Hall	6.15-7.45pm
Sunday 14th September	Pig Face Day Service in Church followed by feast	Holy Cross Church Avening	11.00am
Wednesday 17th September	Film Club	Avening Social Club	7.30pm
Thursday 18th September	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 20th September	Playgroup Nearly New Sale	Memorial Hall	10am-12.30pm
Saturday 4th October	Family History Day	Holy Cross Church	tba

## The Mobile Police Station



Non-emergency phone 101  
**THE MOBILE POLICE STATION WILL  
 BE VISITING ON**  
**September 17th**  
 in Avening from 15.00 to 15.45 and  
 Cherington 16.00 to 16.45

# Horse Box and trailer Servicing

FROM  
only  
**£70**  
+vat

## INCLUDES:

- Check operation and lubricate steadies if fitted
- Check condition of chassis and attachment to body
- Check tyres and tyre pressures including the spare wheel
- Check bearings and brake shoes, clean and adjust
- Check operation of all ramps (& groom's door if relevant)
- Check security of all catches & handles
- Check coupling head
- Check breakaway cable
- Lubricate overrun piston
- Check handbrake operation
- Check and lubricate jockey wheel  
Brake rods, cables and supports
- Torque wheel nuts / bolts
- Check suspension assemblies
- Check condition of trailer floor
- Check road lights
- Check all 12v plugs & cables
- Check exterior body panels



for free, friendly, local advice  
give us a call

**01453 832871**

info@auto-bodytech.co.uk  
www.auto-bodytech.co.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

Opening times:

Mon & Tues: 5.30pm - 11pm

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

Sun: 12 noon - 10.30pm

<b>SOME OF OUR MENU ITEMS...</b>	
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

Food served from Tuesday evening to Sunday lunchtime

Call us on: **01453 836422**

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



**Queen Matilda returns!**

**Pig Face Feast: Sunday 14th  
September**

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