

# *The Villager*

*A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head*

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*November 2014*

*50p*



*[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
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	Stephen Uzzell	07807 700004
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<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Lynne Mowles	07909 870544
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<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Peter Best	01453 835287
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<b>Organist</b>	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
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<b>Flower Team</b>	Gill Adams	01453 833175
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	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
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## CHERINGTON

<b>Churchwardens</b>	Roger Gegg	01453 834805
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	John Bate-Williams	01666 503544
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<b>Sacristan</b>	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
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<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
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<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
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<b>Organist</b>	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
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	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
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<b>Flower Team</b>	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
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Visit Avening church web site at :- [www.aveningchurch.info](http://www.aveningchurch.info)

## The Villager Magazine

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# Parish Letter

A few days ago Jean and I went to the Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham to see Nicholas Wright's adaptation of the novel 'Regeneration' by Pat Barker. The play is based on the noted 'War Poets', Siegfried Sassoon and Wilfred Owen. In 1917 *The Times* published a letter written by Sassoon – *'I am making this statement as an act of wilful defiance of military authority, because I believe the war is being deliberately prolonged by those who have the power to end it.'* Soon afterwards, Sassoon was sent to Craiglockhart hospital to recover from a 'nervous breakdown.' There he met Wilfred Owen, another 'War Poet.' Following several weeks at the hospital, Owen went back to France and was killed by a German sniper on the 4<sup>th</sup> November 1918 – just a week before Armistice.

Wilfred Owen is possibly best remembered for his poem titled, 'Dulce et Decorum Est Pro Patria Mori' Latin for 'it is sweet and right to die for your country: it describes Owen's real experiences of war on the front line and trench warfare. The words he chose as the title and concluding line, were widely understood and often quoted at the start of the First World War. Many events have taken place across this country, Europe and more locally in Avening and Tetbury commemorating the centenary of the commencement of The First world War in August 1914. Millions of people will gather again at cenotaphs, war memorials, battlefields and in churches on Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of November to honour those who died in the conflict. The Roll of Honour with the names of the sons of Avening and Cherington will be recited followed by a line of poetry: not by Wilfred Owen, but the familiar words of Laurence Binyon: *They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old.....*

I invite these communities to join us as we honour our war heroes at Holy Cross Church at 10:45am, and at St Nicholas Church at 6:00pm on Remembrance Sunday. No doubt we shall be saddened as we stand in silence for two minutes as we reflect on the horrors of war and the price paid by so many. As I gaze at the names of the Fallen on war memorials, the headstones of the war graves in our churchyards, I am reminded that they are places of love and hope. And my prayers are for all people across the world that they may know God's love and live in his light and the peace wrought by our saviour Jesus Christ.

Within a few weeks we shall be preparing for Advent (which means, 'coming') and Christmas. For the commercial world, it seems that already Christmas is here! As part of the Church's preparation for the season of Advent there will be a Quiet Day at Holy Cross Church on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November focusing on prayer and spirituality – do come! At their Church Council meetings members supported the introduction of a Family Service for all at St Nicholas Cherington on the last Sunday every month at 11:00am: starting on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November. Bring all the family, you will be warmly welcomed.

***Peter (The parish priest for Avening and Cherington)***

## **Bumper Christmas All Avening and Cherington Villager**

It's hard to believe it's that time again, but the next edition of the Villager Magazine will be the bumper edition which, thanks to the generosity of the Avening Parish Council will be delivered free to every house in Avening, Cherington and Nag's Head.

So this is your chance for you to let us know the latest news, or to advertise your festive events - we'd love to hear from you!

And in February next year, we will be introducing the new look Villager Magazine, to be delivered free to every household.

If you want to send us new, views or comments; photos or poems, travelogues or stories, we are always to be found at [editors@acvillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@acvillager.co.uk)



### **Home Fellowship Groups**

Monday 24th November: At Avening Rectory

## **Photographs in The Villager Magazine**

Many thanks to **Tony Slater** 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)**

# *Services in Avening & Cherington*

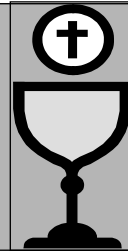
## *November*

DATE	TIME	CHURCH	DETAILS OF SERVICE
Sunday 2nd November	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
<i>ALL SAINTS</i>	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion CW
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion CW
Sunday 9th November	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
REMEMBRANCE	10.45	Avening	Remembrance service
SUNDAY	6.00 pm	Cherington	Remembrance Service
Sunday 16th November	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion CW
Sunday 23rd November	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion CW
	11.00	Avening	Family Holy Communion CW
Sunday 30th November	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCP
ADVENT	11.00	Cherington	Family Service (45mins)
	11.00	Avening	Advent day Service

NOTE every Monday and Wednesday there will be a said service of morning prayer in Holy Cross Church at 8-00 am.

**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**

# Church Duties in Evening



<b>Date</b>	<b>Sides persons</b>	<b>Chalice</b>	<b>Sacristan</b>
Nov. 2nd	George/Piers	Derrick	Ann
Nov. 9th	Irene/Cas	Stephen	Elizabeth
Nov. 16th	Margaret/Jeanie	Paul	Ann
Nov. 23rd	Stephanie/Piers	Hamish	Elizabeth
Nov, 30th	George/Irene	—	Ann
Dec. 7th	Margaret/Cas	Derrick	Elizabeth

**Coffee will be served in Evening church after the morning services on November 2nd**

PLEASE CONTACT STEPHANIE IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO DO YOUR SIDESPERSON DUTY

## NOTE

The 11-00 o'clock service in Holy Cross Church Evening on Advent Sunday 30th November will be a special service of the word. We are looking for volunteers to take part in this service it could be playing music, reading, singing, etc.  
More details phone Derrick on 01453 835090 or email [derrick.pierce@hotmail.com](mailto:derrick.pierce@hotmail.com)



## Church Floodlighting

This month the church was floodlit on:

24th October - In loving memory of John Pargeter from his family.

29th October - In memory of John Hopes from his wife and family

*If you would like to have the church floodlit in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special event, contact*

**Paul Brown on: 01453 835 983**

*The cost is £5.00 for 2 hours*

# 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
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4-30pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090



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# Jane Rymer

**05 August 1918 – 26 September 2014**

A long life ... Jane was born on 5<sup>th</sup> August 1918 and baptised in Norwich Cathedral, in which city her father was stationed towards the end of the First World War. He joined the family business which he ran until early retirement.

Jane, the third of four siblings, lived first at Eversley Cross in Hampshire (from where her father commuted to London) and then at Uxmore House, near Henley ... a home we came to know well as boys. Her mother suffered ill health and Jane was in many respects brought up by her elder sister, Sally. The two of them remained very close.

Jane recalled idyllic days spent with her father fly-fishing on the River Test. She also fondly remembered long holidays in Salzburg and Brussels.

School was at St Mary's, Wantage, where she thought the quality of the teaching by nuns was questionable .... though there was less doubt about the behaviour of the girls. She was amused by a later generation pouring yellow paint over the head of King Alfred, whose statue stands in the market square.

Jane went on to Reading University, completing her course in August 1939 and, also that year, winning a prize at Portsmouth Show for butter making (butter and cheese making being an interest she had).

Her diploma qualified her to carry out work for the Ministry of Agriculture during the Second World War. She kept vivid descriptions of how rural Gloucestershire looked in those days and recalled the standards, sometimes



less favourably, of the dairy herds she inspected. She had her own car - one which, we were told, sometimes could only manage a steep hill in reverse gear. A second car, a Morris 8, went on to serve many years.

Her work took her to Cherington where she boarded at Tudor House ... and so she met Jack who was living with his parents at Westrip Farm.

They married in 1946 and lived at Culkerton and Colley Farm and then at Cherington from 1954 until they moved to Avening in 1979.

Life in Cherington was busy ... with three boys to bring up. Later, with Philip and Charles then working with Jack, it sometimes appeared impossible, she said, to feed everyone, especially at harvest time, such were the appetites.

There was an extensive family in Gloucestershire - to us boys, it seemed that everyone was either a farmer or married to a farmer.

The church, then as now, depended upon its helpers and Jane gave much of her time. Roy and Molly Sproule, the Rector and his wife, became friends and it was John, their son, who gave the address at Jack's funeral in this church two years ago.

Jack was introduced to dinghy sailing by his friend Ian, who was at Aston Farm, and Jack and Jane found it an absorbing pastime for them and for us children, all making good friends at South Cerney. Her vast teas were deployed with new purpose!

When they moved to Avening, Jack was still farming at the Glebe and was so until he retired when 75.

These were the years when the grandchildren were born. Jane was keenly interested in their lives and loved to see them.

James grew up in the village; Geoff, Annie and Nick visited from Dorset. As children, the visitors particularly enjoyed the home-made meringues and the 'art room' in the attic.

Jack and Jane visited Dorset in turn, seeing the immediate family but also the wider family there in which there was always great interest.

Jane kept up with her younger brother, Humphrey, who had settled in Australia, the two exchanging letters at one time on an extraordinarily frequent basis. Humphrey's son, John, wrote recently to say that he was looking forward to seeing Jane again when he visited the UK next year. For her part, Jane never forgot how entertaining he had been at the Tunnel House on his first visit here.

From her childhood, Jane enjoyed the countryside, birds (she was a member of RSPB), gardens and her cats. She was widely read and an avid reader of the daily paper. "An interest in the world and current affairs .... that's what keeps me going". Her mind remained thoroughly alert and was completely undimmed. In her house, there were cryptic crosswords completed on the days preceding her death.

She was in many respects a serious woman ... notably in her faith.

She thoroughly disliked the sentimental but particularly appreciated sincerity and kindness.

She was devoted to Jack and never was that more evident than when Jack had to live in a Home in Tetbury.

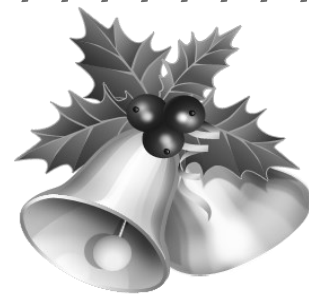
Latterly she was less able to go out, but still she lived independently ... and determinedly so. She would have hated to have been looked after ... though she was ever appreciative of having her sons around her; sons she loved and whom she had supported. She and Jack often said how very lucky they had been with their daughters-in-law.

She was disappointed not to attend Annie & Chris' recent wedding ... but was full of excitement about it.

The day before she injured herself, she was excited about arrangements to go and see Gill, a family friend from sailing days and who herself had lived for a time in Cherington.

Above all, Jane was impressive in her fortitude ... an inspiration.

It was a privilege for those around her that she should have lived so long.



## **THE ANNUAL CHURCH CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**All village children aged up to 11 years  
ON DECEMBER 7th from 3-00 to 5-00pm.**

**We are expecting a visit from Father Christmas  
And have booked an entertainer as last year.**

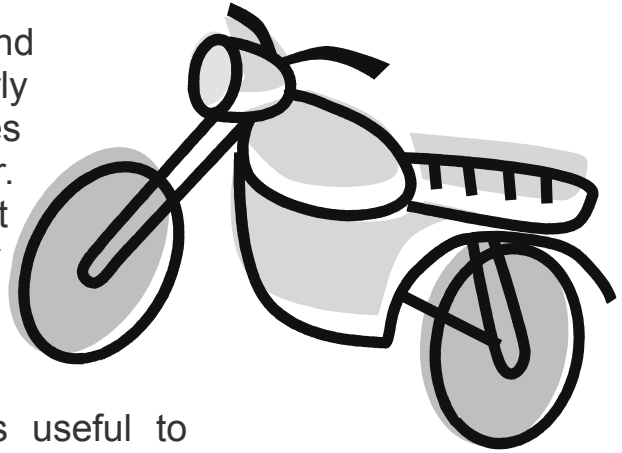
**If your children would like to come please email names and ages  
to [derrick.pierce@hotmail.com](mailto:derrick.pierce@hotmail.com) (please put PARTY in the subject  
line) we can then make sure that Father Christmas brings a gift for  
each child.**

**Please bring a plate of food to share**



## Bike Thieves About!

There have been quite a few thefts and attempted thefts recently, particularly from outside sheds, including 4 bikes from our shed early on 7 September. These were securely locked up, but it seems that the thieves were fairly determined. After lots of thinking, reading, talking to others, etc., it seems that the following few items may help deter them. I hope this is useful to anybody with an outside shed. We don't want to live in Fort Knox, but these are a few small things that one can do, and there is of course lots more on the web.



1. Lock up your bikes and other valuables to a secure ground bolt/anchor within the shed;
2. Use a seriously good chain and padlock to do so. Cables are too easily cut (ours were), locks snapped, ring bolts broken, etc.;
3. Lock your shed with a seriously good hasp and staple, make sure it all can't be unscrewed, etc. Check that the hinges are securely bolted right through the door, screws are no good;
4. Think about using a shed alarm - £6 on ebay for a cheapie with two remotes, goes up from there;
5. A good rule of thumb is to spend 10% of the cost of the valuables you are locking up on their security;
6. Record all your serial numbers, take photos, etc. of all your valuables;
7. Mark them with either Smartwater (not as expensive as one might first think, check their website) or a UV pen. 500,000 bikes are stolen in UK a year, you have a 1 - 4% chance of getting it back if not marked in some way, and a 10% or more chance if it is marked;
8. Make sure they are all insured correctly, higher value items specifically noted, etc.;

We thought our security was Ok but it seems not. Hopefully this will have inspired you to check out your own security.....

**Nicholas Winkfield**

PS yes, one of the bikes was the one that I rode on to Compiegne, (see *last month's Villager*) grrrr....

*(Thanks for the warning Nick – and sorry about the bikes! Eds)*

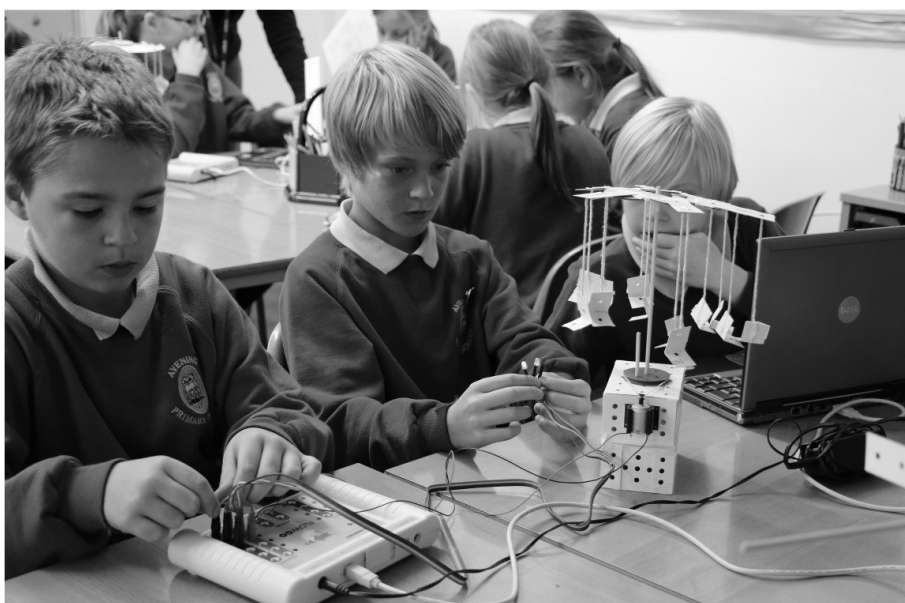


# Avening Primary School

## Help us make our new library fantastic

After months of patiently waiting, Avening School is delighted to announce the completion of its building renovations. With a fantastic new 'Nest' area for group activities, a brand new library area and a completely transformed office space upstairs, it has been very much worth the wait. Everything is ready just in time for the beginning of the second half of term. However, one area that we are striving to improve even further is our school library. We are hoping to fill the newly-fitted wooden shelves with new, interesting and exciting books; a mixture of fiction and non-fiction - to provide the children with a wealth of reading choice as well as resources for their class topic work. In order to do this the school has set up a 'sponsor-a-book' initiative which enables family & friends, past pupils from the school and members of the local community to purchase a book for the library. Each book will contain a bookplate with the name of the child/person who has sponsored the book, making that person a permanent part of the school library and helping to fill the shelves with a wide range of different and engaging books. If you are interested in sponsoring a book for Avening School Library please contact Alison Sollis in the school office for more information or enquire in the Tetbury branch of The Yellow Lighted Bookshop for more details. Thank you to everyone who has already sponsored a book.

Before half term, there was great excitement in all classes as they



concluded their class topic work. As part of their study of local history, Yr. 5 & 6 children were paid a visit from Stemwork's Mo Follis and trainee engineer Sam Brisland, who led the class in a day of science, technology, engineering and maths. The children

were given the task of designing a model with spinning parts using the old Mills around the Stroud and Nailsworth valleys as their inspiration. The children then learnt how to use a computer program called Flowol to make their model spin, add flashing lights and sound effects which delighted and

fascinated the entire class. One group from the class will be chosen to represent the School at Festomane – The Stroud Festival of Manufacturing and Engineering, which takes place later this month. The pupils in Yrs. 3 & 4 have been experimenting with pottery as part of their Stone Age project and each made their own clay pot. As part of their Science lessons they have been focusing on Volcanoes and learning what they are made of and what makes them erupt.

Year 1 & 2 children have been having a great time tie-dying t-shirts and felt-making, all part of their focus on the historical Mill industry and have produced some wonderful pieces of felt with the help of a volunteer from Dunkirk Mill – which was one of the Mills they visited (along with Giggs Mill) back in September.

With all this activity going on in the other classes, the reception children have been equally busy – settling in to their new routines and taking part in their first Harvest festival, where they courageously stood up in front of a large audience and the rest of the school and showed pictures of food that they had painted themselves. This year we supported Stroud Foodbank, and families donated tins and packets which the School Council proudly delivered.

The school was delighted to receive a letter from the Minister of State for the Department of Education last month, congratulating us on our excellent Y1 phonics results this summer - putting us into the top 2% of schools - a fantastic achievement for all of the KS1 team.

This month we look forward to starting new class projects, planning our Christmas KS1 & KS2 productions and our Christmas market, organised by FOAS, on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2.30 – 4.30pm in the Village Hall.

***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!***



## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY SERVICES**

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 9TH  
10-45 AM. IN HOLY CROSS CHURCH  
AVENING FOLLOWED BY WREATH  
LAYING AT THE MILLENIUM CROSS.  
6-00 PM IN ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH  
CHERINGTON.

# *100 Years Ago*

## **World War 1: Avening's War**

**October 1914.**

As we know, war was declared with Germany on the 4<sup>th</sup> of August 1914 and we were blessed in Avening by having no deaths amongst the few men of our village who were called to the front until our first two casualties (Fred Pollock and Fred Fletcher) who died in October 1914.

It was not until February 1915 that we had further tragic news.

Following on from Fred Fletcher's death, we have discovered a photograph, included here, of Grenadier Guardsmen, recalled from Reserve, queuing to take their medical examination on arrival at Wellington Barracks in London.

We have speculation as to why Fred became a Grenadier. As we know, Fred Pollock was a professional soldier in the Coldstream Guards and that he became "of age" in October 1906 when a big celebration took place at Avening Court to which the whole village was invited. He would no doubt have worn his uniform to Church services in Avening and may well have even worn it for his birthday party, but one wonders if Fred Fletcher may have had a conversation with him concerning the advantages of entering military service.

These enquiries may have been encouraged by his domestic arrangements which cannot have been very comfortable, the 1901 census telling that he was with a family of eight, including his parents, living in a three-roomed cottage on the High Street. However, we find Fred Fletcher signing on with the Grenadier Guards in 1907, committing himself to three years service followed by 9 years on the Reserve. He completed his 3 years in 1910 and a year later, the 1911 census tells that his mother had unfortunately died and that his father, together with five sons and one daughter, were living in a cottage in the back yard of the Bell Inn. The daughter, Daisy, was the family's housekeeper.

The day war was declared Fred would have received a telegram instructing him to report to Wellington Barracks to fulfil his Reserved status.

He may well be in the queue in the photograph. Close study of the picture reveals a lot about that generation. Everyone wears a hat of some description, with one "boater" shown, two trilbys and the vast majority in





caps. Everyone wears a three-piece suit – jacket, trousers and waistcoat – but only one gentleman boasts a Guards Tie, he being immediately to the left of the

signboard. That man has really clean shoes!!

This would have been a reunion party for these men, having met together again after a number of years. Then one must ask, where did Avening villagers buy their clothing? The census returns of the day may give us an answer – bearing in mind that large multiple retailers did not exist in those days. In 1901, Noah Coates was living with his wife at Pike House, and was described as a tailor, as were Paul Fowles and his nephew Frank Fowles living at Leonards Brook. John Fowles of Nagshead was another carrying on that trade. All were carrying on their trade in 1911.

Returning to the photograph, all that clothing was woollen. How was that cleaned prior to Dry Cleaning which still had yet to be developed? From the creases we can assume with great difficulty!! The men would have welcomed a return to Army discipline to sort that out.

One wonders what happened to those men in the photograph.

**Fred Vening**

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# Avening Playgroup



We have had a busy and exciting term so far, covering various topics, such as:

Ourselves - we have been painting pictures of ourselves, making paper plate faces and painting hand prints, as well as measuring ourselves.

Shapes - we have made collages out of shapes, made shape puzzles and played shape games

Autumn - unfortunately our autumn walk had to be postponed because of the very wet weather but we have had lots of fun singing songs to do with the autumn time and listening to lots of autumnal stories. As we couldn't collect any leaves from the autumn walk, the children have been bringing in leaves, conkers and cones that they have found. Thanks to a very kind Gran of one of our children, they have had some wonderful leaves with which to decorate their hedgehogs. We have also been printing with apples.

Divali - which is when all the Hindu people around the world celebrate the New Year. We have made 3D card Divas, which are the lights used during the celebrations. We have also been drawing Mehndi patterns on hands, using chalk to create Rangoli drawings and making celebratory treats.

We also enjoyed a lovely walk to Avening School to watch the Harvest Festival Assembly (which was fantastic) and then we had to climb all the way up the hill to get back to playgroup. It was on this day that we had an OFSTED inspection, so the inspector came with us, Hope she enjoyed it!

You may be thinking it's a bit early to start thinking about Christmas but our hardworking committee are busy planning our fabulous Christmas bazaar. We would love any donations - please check your cupboards for bottles, toys, books, home produce etc. We will be dropping off a leaflet letting you know when we can collect your kind donations on the weekend of 24 November. If that doesn't suit you, you can bring your donations to the Village hall on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 7pm or Saturday 29 November from 10am or you can of course give your donation to Estel, Pip, Abi, Ness, at the school gates or call Jo on 07900902264.

This year not only will Santa be making his usual journey to the memorial hall but he will be joined in a special Frozen grotto by Queen Elsa on

Saturday 29 November between 2 and 4 pm. This year there will be a chance to win spectacular raffle prizes kindly donated by our sponsors including complimentary tickets to Cheltenham Race Course, 10 popular children's toys donated by Mattel and lots and lots of days out, free meals, and fab prizes for everyone. There will also be a chance to win a nice bottle of something at the bottle tombola and you can try some delicious hot chocolate and mulled wine whilst the kids enjoy some Christmas face painting and tattoos, new games, walking pet balloons and lots more. Whether you are Team Santa or Team Elsa there should be something for everyone at the Christmas Bazaar. So please come on down and kick the festive period off in style.

***Jo Rayner, Chair***

If you would like more information about our playgroup or to reserve a place for your child, please call 01453 832695 on weekday mornings

## **NAILSWORTH ACCOUNTANCY**

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## Down To Earth



*Abelia x grandiflora*

'As I write, the ground is saturated. Spiders' webs are delineated in raindrops and sparkle. Only, 'let it not freeze, please' - is the gardener's prayer. More damage is caused to plants by wet cold than dry cold. Frost-tender plants, sited against a south facing wall where minimal rainfall penetrates, may survive the bitterest of winters, while the

plants most likely to perish are

those that are condemned to pass the winter with their feet in a saturated, frozen bed. (Well, how would you feel?)

Drainage matters! On heavy soil it is good practice to sling a handful of grit into the planting hole, as I mentioned last month in respect of bulbs. This helps drainage and prevents saturated land turning into a quagmire. Most plants are emphatically not bog-lovers. I struggled to persuade my various *eryngiums* to settle in their new home until I was reminded that without good drainage, in other words, handfuls of grit, they are liable to sulk and expire. I am happy to report that they are now reasonably cheerful but only one flowered this year. My pair of terracotta cats' head pots beside the front door have, for years, sported a cheerful head of *campanula poscharskyana* (trailing bellflower). Then, pooling water indicated that the drainage hole of the one was blocked. 'Must attend to that,' I instructed myself, each time I passed by. Too late. Suddenly the campanula was not flowering but drowning. Deceased. Next Year's New Resolution: Act At Once to Avert Disasters!

The fashion of the age is for herbaceous perennials and grasses. Great. There are some fantastic herbaceous borders around. But I would like to see the spotlight turned once more on choice shrubs. A shrubbery has, now, such gloomy connotations: an area of oppressively overgrown *aucuba* (spotted laurels) and rhododendrons (if the soil supports them. Not here.) Yet there are some delightful shrubs, with subtle leaf colour and delicate texturing. The *abelia x grandiflora* is one of my favourites. The flowers come late (mine is still in flower as I write). They are like blush pink bells in darker calyces. Another favourite is the *enkianthus campanulatus*. This also has small bell-like flowers, but is ericaceous, in other words, detests lime. So

you need to dig a large hole and fill with ericaceous soil (a little home-made compost is fine, though I also use proprietary ericaceous compost) and water with Murphy's Sequestrene (or Seaweed and Iron solution) from time to time. So far, mine is happy.

At Kenilworth Castle in 1575, Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, created for his paramour (desired or actual),

Elizabeth I, a fabulous garden. We can now view this, too, thanks to a recent recreation (opened in 2009) based on evidence in a letter written by one Robert Langham, a contemporary, who stole into the garden one day and wrote a lengthy and detailed description of all he beheld: *'the fruit-trees, the plants, the herbs, the flowers, the change in colours, the birds fluttering, the fountain streaming, the fish swimming, all in such delectable variety, order, and dignity'*. Eight square knot-gardens are arranged with central obelisks,

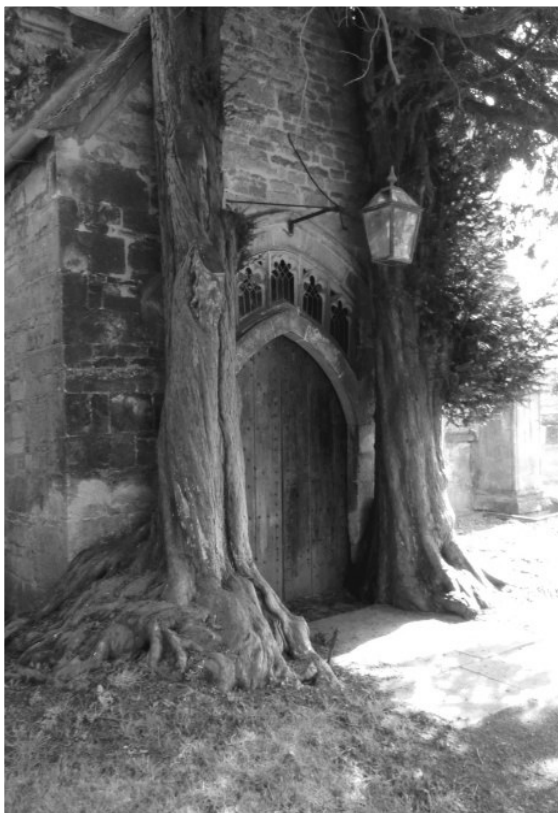


*Garden for Queen Elizabeth I, Kenilworth*

around a fountain of Carrara marble, with a viewing terrace and, opposite, an aviary for exotic birds. Whatever your thoughts about the logicity (or illogicality - how does one freeze in time a garden that is constantly growing and dying; what precise moment does one chose as the model for restoration?) this is a fascinating exercise - and achievement. Worth a visit.

Trees grow on you - and on buildings, too. Passing through Stow-on-the-Wold on your way to Kenilworth, stop and look at the north porch of St Edward's Church, where two old yew trees appear to have grown into the building, supporting and framing the doorway.

Gloucestershire is like a garden, full of diversity and unexpected discoveries!



*Yew trees flanking the north door of St Edward's church, Stow-on-the-Wold*

**Marilyn Jones**

# *Avening Primary School Christmas Market*

*Friday 28 November  
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## FIGS FOR BREAKFAST

It's 5.15 in the morning. It's Bristol Airport and there are an awful lot of very sleepy-looking people (including myself) who would much rather be tucked up in bed instead of standing in line at the check-in desks ...

But, an hour and a half later, that was soon forgotten as I stepped off the plane at Bergerac Airport and saw my friends standing in the warm, morning sunshine ready to whisk me off to their house in the delightful French small town of Monflanquin just over an hour away.

France is a huge country and one of the beauties of its size is – certainly away from large urban areas – the lack of traffic on most of the roads. We drove gently through forested areas, alongside rivers, past cornfields long since harvested and acres of walnut orchards with their branches hanging down under the weight of the nuts all about to be gathered. It's a great area for walnuts and fields of sunflowers – the sadness being, in the case of the sunflowers, their happy, yellow, smiling faces had of course all died off so the golden heads although full of ripened seeds hung rather forlornly waiting to be harvested.

Monflanquin is situated in the Lot and Garonne district and as we approached it the sun grew stronger and the sky even bluer which made it stand out proudly against the background. It was founded in 1256 and was built as a military bastide perched up high and therefore having a good vantage point for many miles around. It was a pretty impressive history – The Black Prince stayed there during the Hundred Years War and one of the most stunning houses in the main square is indeed The Black Prince's house. What stories those narrow, paved streets could tell as indeed could the little town houses with their tiny windows and painted doors. One's eyes are immediately drawn upwards to the vibrant colours of the window-boxes and hanging baskets that seem to be a feature of so many French towns and villages. They are a wonder in themselves and are obviously the pride and joy of their owners who must spend hours tending the contents and keeping them well-watered which, in the height of summer, must be a full-time job.

From chateaux to rivers to markets to restaurants – we did a good cross-section of the surrounding area but I think the one outstanding visit we made was to The Hanging Garden of Marquessac. This is a private estate in the neighbouring province of Aquitaine with an exceptional panoramic view of the Dordogne valley and is one magnificently-laid out topiary garden. To say it's impressive would be an understatement. One could spend days there just walking the six kilometres of paths criss-crossing through the maze-like walkways amongst the breathtaking topiary work. Round every corner there's yet another piece of box beautifully moulded into artwork. No wonder it rates as one of the most

popular attractions in the area. The chateau that houses this garden was built in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and as chateaux go it's not particularly large but it does have an amazing roof (which is in the middle of being repaired) and which has tiles all made from the local limestone and which weigh 300 tons. As we wandered back, we were accompanied by a family of peacocks – mother, father and 4 babies who took us straight in the direction of the very attractive awning-covered restaurant where we were very happy to find a table and have lunch. Needless to say, the peacocks sat at our feet. I wonder why!

My stay in France was coming to an end – it had been idyllic in all senses. To be with life-long friends, to soak up not only sunny days when we sat outside at tiny restaurants alongside the river but to visit those wonderful outdoor markets where one longs to scoop up the freshest of fruit and vegetables, the delicious-looking cheeses, the fish, the jars of local honey ... and so on.

One of my lasting memories will be breakfasts – outside on the terrace every morning in the leafy garden alongside a walnut orchard. But, for me, forget the fresh croissants, the baguettes, the jars of homemade preserves. The stars of the show were the freshly-picked figs just slightly warmed by the morning sun. A simple memory but rather a delicious one.

Ann Tarlton

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Same format :- Tables of 8 £10 per person Bring your own picnics All monies raised to go to the Church

Last year with late bookings we nearly had to send people away so this year we are letting you know well in advance so it gets in your diaries.

Why not reserve a table now and think about your guests later. If you do not wish to host a table but still want to join in we keep back a couple of tables for that purpose so do please come.

**DATE:- SATURDAY 1<sup>st</sup> NOVEMBER**

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The speakers at our October meeting were Sacha Ward, Crew Manager and David Smith, Station Manager from Tetbury Fire Station. As the station is a retained unit, it is not permanently staffed, so all the fireman have other occupations and carry pagers with them and so have to rush to the station when they get a call. Despite this, the response times to call outs are very impressive. The area covered is very large, stretching to Dunkirk and into Wiltshire. The station also supplies paramedic first responders who attend 999 calls for the ambulance service. Sacha was pleased to report that the calls to fires have reduced significantly mainly due to the installation of smoke alarms in people's homes and modern electrical equipment, which is much less likely to burst into flames than it used to be. People are also getting the message about not overloading electrical sockets.

We are holding a quiz night on 24<sup>th</sup> October at the Social Club in aid of the Vine Project. This year we will be sending gifts, clothing, and spectacles to the villages in South Africa supported by the Vine Project. The money raised will help pay for transporting the gifts.

Unfortunately we were beaten in the last round of the County Skittles but we will be having a friendly match with Sheepscombe W.I this month to keep our hand in.

Last week ten members spent a very enjoyable day learning to weave willow. The results, either a piglet or a cockerel, were very good considering nine of us had never done it before. We were so delighted with the day that we have booked our tutor, Nora, for next year, so we can make more masterpieces!

Our Christmas shopping trip this year will be to Worcester on 27<sup>th</sup> November. This will be the first day of the Victorian Christmas Fair there. Of course Worcester has other attractions besides shopping, like the cathedral and the porcelain factory, so everyone should find something to interest them. The cost will be £10 and the coach will be leaving near the Memorial Hall at 9.15 a.m. Please contact me on 01453 836556, if you wish to join us.

The speaker at our next meeting at 7.30. p.m. on November 13<sup>th</sup> will be Cas Boddam-Whetham, who is a physiotherapist. Visitors are always welcome.

***Elizabeth Knowles***

UPDATE: There are a few spaces left on the coach to Worcester and it would be great if we can get more people from the village to come along.

# Autumn concert

## Trim

Beneath the Angel Strain

## Chopin

Piano Concerto No. 2

Soloist: Poom Prommachart

## Shostakovich

Symphony No. 5

Conductor: Jonathan Trim Leader: John Woodward

Saturday November 22nd 2014, 7.30pm

Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Road,  
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- Tickets £11 (concessions £9) • Children under 14 free
  - £1 reduction on tickets purchased prior to concert evening
- Tickets from Stroud Tourist Information 01453 760960

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## RIDE AND STRIDE

As promised I would like to let you know that all the sponsor money is now in and banked. The total for this year is £830. Thank you so very much to all who sponsored me, I am so thrilled with the result as our church in Cherington will be receiving half of the money back, and also thanks to Chris and Jenny Cuss who kept me company on my visits to the churches.

Alison (Wendy) Eldridge.



# Avening Youth Club



**Avening Youth Club meets on Tuesday evenings.**

**Avening Memorial Hall**

**6.15 to 7.45 pm.**

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# Avening Cinema Club



## NEXT FILM

**FRIDAY 21st November**  
**at 7-30pm in Avening Social Club.**

**BELLE (2014) – Drama - brief sexual assault, discrimination theme**

**Cert: 12A – Run time: 1 hr. 42 min.**

### Cast & Crew

Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Tom Wilkinson, Emily Watson, Sarah Gordon, Tom Felton, Matthew Goode, Miranda Richardson, Alex Jennings, Penelope Wilton

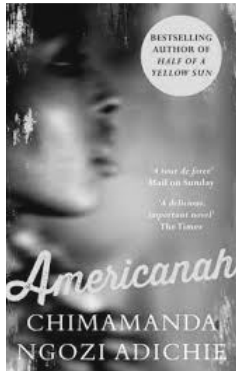
**Director:** Amma Asante

BELLE is inspired by the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle (Gugu Mbatha-Raw), the illegitimate mixed race daughter of Admiral Sir John Lindsay (Matthew Goode). Raised by her aristocratic great-uncle Lord Mansfield (Tom Wilkinson) and his wife (Emily Watson), Belle's lineage affords her certain privileges, yet her status prevents her from the traditions of noble social standing. While her cousin Elizabeth (Sarah Gadon) chases suitors for marriage, Belle is left on the sidelines wondering if she will ever find love. After meeting an idealistic young vicar's son bent on changing society, he and Belle help shape Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery in England

Kristiane Maseyk



# Avening Book Club



## Americanah

by Chimamanda Ngozi Adiche

This book is by a Nigerian author whose previous works have been long listed for the Booker Prize and awarded an Orange prize for fiction. Indeed this novel enjoyed great reviews too.

It explores Africans living and working in America and the UK and primarily centres around Ifemelu and her first boyfriend Obinze. We read about their daily lives ranging from experiences at the hairdressers to getting caught up in the rise of Barack Obama and how exciting that was for Black Africans and Americans.

Ultimately not plot driven, some of the book group were disappointed with this story but were interested in hearing about the characters escaping to the US and UK from Nigeria driven by their dreams and how they survived.

For Monday 1st December the book is **Tess of the D'urbervilles** by Thomas Hardy at The Bell 7.30pm

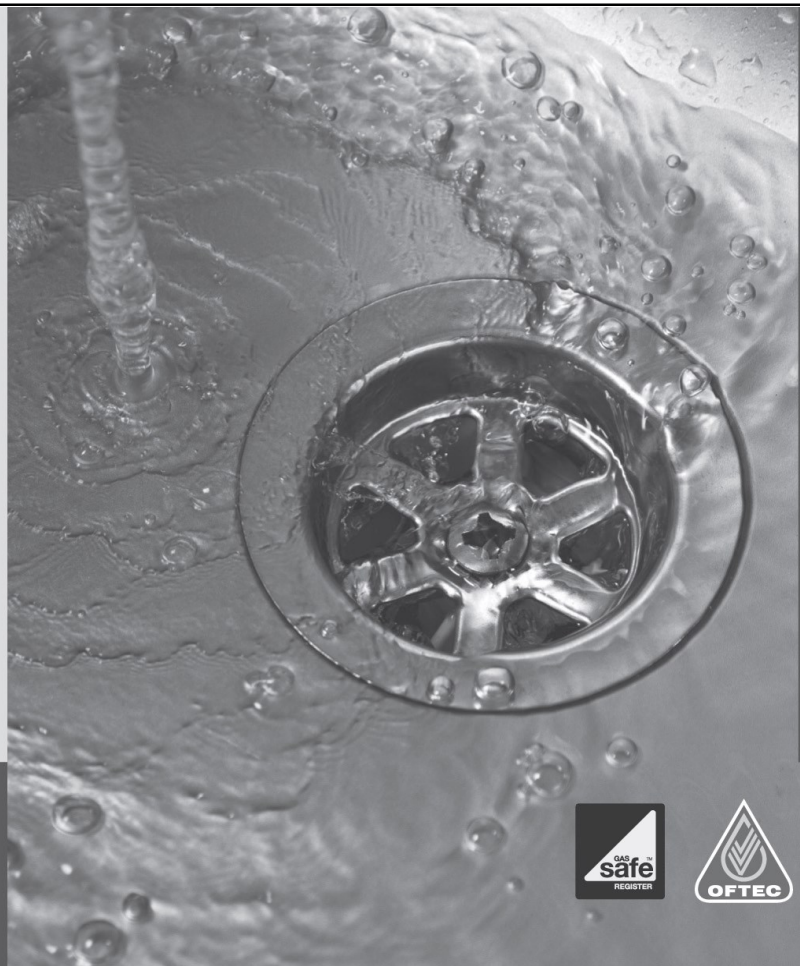
*Clare Williamson*



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

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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*

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**Community makes for Economy**



Avening Playgroup's

# Christmas Bazaar

on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2 - 4 pm

Visit Frozen's Elsa in her Grotto  
balloons Visit Santa in his grotto

Walking pet

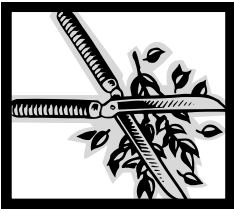
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Mulled wine, hot chocolate and delicious cakes  
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Raffle tickets are available to buy BEFORE the Bazaar this year from  
The Bell and any of Playgroup's Committee members - Pip, Ness, Sasha, Abi and Estel.

We would love any donations - please check your cupboards for bottles, toys, books, home produce etc. and

bring them to the Village hall on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 7pm or Saturday 29 November from 10am



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# Cherington Parish Council

## **Memorial bench for the village**

It was agreed at a Parish Council meeting some months ago that it would be fitting to have a bench in the village to commemorate those who died during the First World War. Cherington Parish Council recently applied for and received a grant for £100 from District Cllr Jim Parson's WW1 Commemoration funding pot which will go towards purchasing a bench. The Parish Council has agreed to donate £50.00 but, as it will cost upwards of £350 plus the cost of a commemorative plaque, the Parish Council would like to request donations of any amount from those living in the parish to help towards the purchase of the memorial bench.

The PC would also like to hear ideas of where would be the most appropriate place to put such a bench and would also like someone to gather names of those who died in WW1 in the parish.

If you would like to make a donation then please make a cheque out to 'Cherington Parish Council' and pass it to Cllr Kate Gegg, Carter's Barn, Cherington. Similarly if you have any thoughts on the siting of the bench or can help with names of those who lost their lives in WW1 please contact Kate or any of the other Parish Councillors (Henry Arden, Mike Mitchell, Alison Sharpe and Peter Workman).

## **Village Plan**

Cllr Kate Gegg is currently drawing up an action plan based on everyone's comments gathered via the survey.

## **The Villager**

The Parish Council met with the editors of The Villager at October's PC meeting to discuss content, layout and funding of the magazine. There were lots of suggestions and ideas for new articles such as interviewing local people and writing a regular farming column. Watch this space!

## **Date for your diary**

Don't forget to come along to the annual turning on of the Christmas Tree Lights event on **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm on the village green**. Light refreshments in the village hall too. Look out for more info nearer the time!

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

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

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

Date of next Parish Council meeting is *Tuesday December 2nd* at 6.30pm at the Village Hall. Meetings are open to the public and there is public time of 15 minutes at the start of each meeting for any questions, so please turn up if there's anything you'd like to talk about.

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# *Avening Chairman's View*

You may have noticed that our two main bus shelters have had a bit of TLC recently. The large metal shelter opposite the hall has had a lick of paint (a more subtle and in keeping colour than before), while the Mays Lane shelter has been repaired, and had a good oiling.

Our next community event will be around the commissioning of the defibrillator in the High St phone booth. John, our project assistant will be organising a training event in the hall – we hope you will be able to come, but never need to use it!

I came across an interesting use for the now redundant tax disc holder in our cars – to hold contact and medical details in case of an emergency. There's a link to a template on the website, in the community news section.

In the last few years the memorial hall has been given a secure future with a formal lease arrangement with the school. The management committees have given the hall a major facelift, and it now works efficiently as an ongoing and profitable enterprise. Having worked hard to get to this position, the current committee feels the time is right for them to move on, so we are starting the search for the next group to take the hall forward. It only take an hour or two per month to keep it running, but we would be interested to hear from anyone who is interested in making the hall an even better village hub – there are lots of ideas for developments, from improvements to the acoustics, to a potential site for a new village shop. The hall was built in memory of those killed in the first world war – how good would it be to be able to inject new energy in this 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. If you would like to be involved, please contact the clerk in the first instance, or any of the current committee.

There have been one or two isolated improvements to our local roads recently, most notably the re-surfacing of Old Hill, but others remain in a poor state. We have given our Highways team a nudge, to see if they can complete the more urgent works before the bad weather makes things even worse. If you spot a dangerous pothole, do call Highways to report it – details on the website.

Finally, you may not be aware of a controversial planning application for a bio waste digester at Chavenage Farm. Avening is not a direct consultee, but we became involved because of the potential traffic issues along the very narrow Chavenage Lane and other surrounding lanes. The debate has also moved to the suitability of the development in an AONB. You can see details on the planning page of [www.avening\\_pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening_pc.gov.uk) and if you have any comments please tell Stroud DC as soon as possible – there is a review on 11<sup>th</sup> November.

***Tony Slater, Chairman, Avening Parish Council***



# Avening Parish Council

## Planning

There have been no new Planning Applications to consider this month.  
**For more information or to view planning documents go to: <http://www.cotswold.gov.uk>**

## Want to be a Gloucestershire RECORD BAKER?

On Friday **14<sup>th</sup> November 2014**, BBC Radio Gloucestershire will be trying to break the World Record for the **Longest Line of Cakes** and it's all in aid of Children In Need. The current record stands at 607 metres and we are hoping with the help of the Gloucestershire community we can break that. We need to bake more than 14,500 cupcakes! We'll be attempting the record at Gloucestershire Airport on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November. **The cupcakes need to be baked to a set recipe and we'll be running collection points all around the county on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November, so you can bake your cupcakes and then take them to your nearest collection point.**

You can find out more <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radiogloucestershire>. Alternatively we can post you the details if you send a stamped addressed envelope to BBC Gloucestershire, London Road, Gloucester, GL1 1SW. We'd love to know if you'd like to take part so please email us at [radio.gloucestershire@bbc.co.uk](mailto:radio.gloucestershire@bbc.co.uk) and let us know how many batches of cupcakes you'll be able to bake.

## *Would you like to know how to use our defibrillator ?*



Many of you will be aware that the Defibrillator has been installed in the telephone kiosk on High Street and we are now in the process of commissioning it. The next stage is to find out how to use it! If you would like to

know more – attend a free short training session or just ask some questions, please contact John Collinson, our Projects Manager on 01453 882532

**PLEASE NOTE: Attending the training course will not carry any commitment to use the defibrillator but the more people who know about it then the more likely that lives can be saved.**

## **Donations made at the October Meeting**

The Parish Council agreed to pay for the Youth Club's use of the Memorial Hall and to donate a further £1,125 (making a total of £1,250) towards Churchyard Maintenance.

## **Budget Planning**

The Parish Council will soon begin planning the budget for 2015 – 2016. If your organisation will be looking for funding next year then contact the Parish Council **NOW** so we can ensure that funds will be available.

## **Next Parish Council Meeting**

Will be held on **Thursday, 20 November 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.**

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

## **The Parish Council address is:**

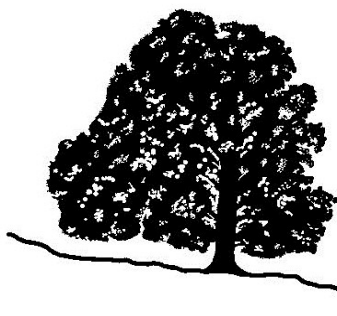
*Caroline Braidwood, Parish Clerk, 77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1BQ*

*Tel: 01285 380041      Email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)*

The 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)*

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## **SUPPORT WORKERS/ RELIEF SUPPORT WORKERS AVENING & FROCESTER**

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We are a leading provider of services for adults with learning disabilities and are looking for staff to deliver both personal care and practical support.

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**Interested?** For more information, please call us on 01453 832201 or email [recruitment.glos@hft.org.uk](mailto:recruitment.glos@hft.org.uk)

To find out more about Hft, visit our website

**[www.hft.org.uk](http://www.hft.org.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<br>Elizabeth Buchanan     | 01453 835090<br>01453 833016 |
| Avening Tower Captain                | David Govier                            | 01453 882914                 |
| Avening Primary School               | Jane Rushton                            | 01453 833191                 |
| Avening Playgroup                    | Debbie Brown                            | 01453 832695                 |
| 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<br>FIndly4@aol.com      | 01453 835115                 |
| Tetbury Hospital                     |                                         | 01666 502336                 |
| Avening History Project              | Fred Vening<br>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

|                        |                                   |                             |                                           |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Saturday 1st November  | Cherington Quiz                   | The Book Room<br>Cherington | Details from<br>Kate Gegg<br>01453 834805 |
| Sunday 9th November    | Remembrance Sunday                | Avening<br>Cherington       | 10.45am<br>6.00pm                         |
| Thursday 20th November | Avening Parish Council            | Memorial Hall               | 7.30pm                                    |
| Friday 21st November   | Avening Film Club<br>(Belle)      | Avening Social Club         | 7.30pm                                    |
| Thursday 27th November | WI Shopping Trip<br>(Worcester)   | Outside<br>Memorial Hall    | 9.15am                                    |
| Friday 28th November   | FOAS Christmas Bazaar             | Memorial Hall               | 2.30-4.30pm                               |
| Saturday 29th November | Playgroup Christmas Fayre         | Memorial Hall               | 2-4pm                                     |
| Tuesday 2nd December   | Cherington Parish Council Meeting | Village Hall                | 6.30pm                                    |
| Saturday 6th December  | Cherington Christmas Tree Lights  | Cherington Village Green    | 5.00pm                                    |
| Sunday 7th December    | Children's Christmas Party        | Memorial Hall               | 3-5pm                                     |

## The Mobile Police Station



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- Check breakaway cable
- Lubricate overrun piston
- Check handbrake operation
- Check and lubricate jockey wheel  
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- Torque wheel nuts / bolts
- Check suspension assemblies
- Check condition of trailer floor
- Check road lights
- Check all 12v plugs & cables
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| BANGERS & MASH                                       | 8.95  |
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| THAI CHICKEN CURRY WITH RICE                         | 9.95  |
| SCAMPI AND CHIPS                                     | 9.95  |
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