

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington
and Nags Head

May 2015

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for Avening Duck Races**

editors@acvillager.co.uk

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May 2015

As you may well have noticed in the March edition of The Villager Wendy Jennings, who has been looking after our advertising in the magazine has decided to take a well-earned rest from the post. We would like to extend a very heartfelt thanks on behalf of the Villager team and the residents of Avening, Nag's Head and Cherington to Wendy We are really very grateful to her for all her hard work.



We are pleased to say that we have found a volunteer to take on the role of advertising manager so in this edition we extend a big welcome to the team to Gwyneth Simpson. Many of you, of course, will know Gwyneth as President of Avening Women's Institute.

Gwyneth can be reached at the usual email address editors@acvillager.co.uk. She'd love to hear from advertisers or potential advertisers, or from readers who have used advertisers.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council [WWW. avening-pc.gov](http://www.avening-pc.gov)

Avening Church www.aveningchurch.info

Cherington Village www.timeldridge.typepad.com

Cotswold District Council WWW. Cotswold.gov.uk

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Avening Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Braidwood	01285 380041
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695
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Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Steve Uzzell	07807 744444
Avening Village Agent	Aileen Bendall	07810-630156
Avening Youth Club	Cassie Vickery	01453 834182

Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Cherington Village Hall	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Frances Ashfield	01453 767384
Cherington Church Churchwardens	Roger Gegg John Bate-Williams	01453 834805 01666 503544
Cherington Church Flower Team	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church Sacristan	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
Cherington Church PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Friends of Avening School	Lucie Hawkins	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Stroud Hospital	Reception	3000 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Gwyneth Simpson	01453 836556

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Kieran Archer** 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

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.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 10.00pm	Social Club	Mel 01453 833760
Flamenco Dancing	Monday (excluding school and bank holidays)	7.00 - 8.00 pm	Memorial Hall	Lina Wirths 07417451815
Cherington PC	4th Tuesday Bi-monthly	6.30pm	Village Hall	Frances 01453767384
Youth Club	Tuesday	6.15 - 7.45pm	Memorial Hall	Cassie 01453 834182
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Steve 07807 744444
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 Art and craft Group	Thursday	10.00am	Longmans Barn	Mick 01453 836318
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4-30pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090



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Peter Best (peter@avening.eclipse.co.uk) 01453 835287

Kathryn and Sean will also be doing a workshop for the School on the afternoon of the concert which is being part funded by the Avening Church of England Education Fund.

ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING SATURDAY, 6 JUNE 2015 AT 10.30 AM AVENING MEMORIAL HALL

**Come and hear about our Projects for the coming year
and how the
Parish Council is supporting your community groups
as well as meeting the people involved**

COME AND JOIN US !!!

Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



After my personal observations lamenting the lack of new volunteers over the last few months, it is now appropriate to reflect on the great work people have been doing for the village – not just the high profile stuff, but all of those unsung heroes that are making the village a better place to live. We are looking for your nominations for ‘Villager of the year’.

This award has previously been restricted to people who give their time for unpaid work, so I asked the Parish Council to extend the award to recognise people who make a significant contribution to the village, but who may also receive a payment for doing so. This was agreed at the April meeting. The person we want to hear about could be a carer, someone who does great work for an organisation or club, or perhaps does something for the school or playgroup. Please send your nominations to the Parish Clerk (see contacts, or the PC section). But don’t delay - the closing date is 8th May. The winner will be announced at the annual village meeting on 6th June.

We chose the 6th June for the annual meeting this year, as we thought that by having it on the weekend of the village fete, everyone would be in a great frame of mind, and ready to chat to the exhibitors. This is not just about the Parish Council – we just organise the event, so do make a date in your diary to come and see what all of the village organisations are up to.

As we go to press it has been confirmed that we don’t have enough councillor nominations to require an election, and there will be a vacancy for an additional co-opted councillor – In recent editions of the Villager, there has been a series of articles about the various roles and responsibilities in the Parish Council. If you are interested in joining us, contact the clerk, or come along to the annual parish meeting and have a chat to us to find out more. In the interim, I urge everyone to vote at the general election to make sure your voice is heard.

Cllr Tony Slater
Chairman, Avening Parish Council

Letter From the Parish Priest



Over the past weeks, we have been sharing the joy of Easter in our churches. It begun of course on Easter Day – and lots of Alleluias!

I always remember a friend of mine – not a church goer – asking why Christians are so “crazy happy” at Easter. She could understand Christmas ... but not Easter. I explained it like this. All of us – at some time in our lives – will be like Mary Magdalen standing by Jesus’s grave before sunrise. We will all stand by the grave and weep. We will weep for people we have lost, for dreams and hopes that are shattered, and for relationships that seem broken beyond repair. But then Mary Magdalen turns, and finds Jesus is alive. And in that moment she knows – and we know – that fear, darkness and death will never “have the last word”. That – in Christ - love and life and light are unconquerable. That is at the heart of our joy and our Alleluias on Easter morning.

Over these weeks, however, this joy has been mixed with sadness as we said goodbye to the Revd Peter Quinnell, and his wife Jean. Peter was licensed as Associate Priest - and I as Rector - at the end of March last year. This marked a new phase of ministry in Avening and Cherington, following the retirement of the Revd Celia Carter. As so often happens, some have struggled to come to terms with this change. The challenges this caused, from the outset, led Peter to conclude eventually that his ministry here had been made untenable.

This is a sad moment for us all. Peter is an experienced and dedicated parish priest, and will be missed by many. We wish him the very best in his new post as Team Vicar in Cainscross. As we go forward, please be assured of my continuing commitment to effective and loving ministry in these parishes, and I am already working with the Church Wardens to plan for the coming months.

With love and prayers,

Poppy

The Revd Poppy Hughes Rector. The Benefice of Avening with Cherington

JUNE JELLYMAN

1942-2015



We will all have our own memories of June and there will be an opportunity to share these with one another

I am grateful to both Sue, June's sister, and Maureen Stone for the information that I have about June, although Doreen and I got to know June fairly soon after moving into Avening about ten years ago and we have our own memories.

June was born on 21st January, 1942 in Tetbury, at the maternity hospital (now Kingsley House). She was the first daughter born to Ada and Arthur Jellyman who lived in

"rooms" rented from the Brown family in Point Road, Avening. While her father was away in India during the war, around 1946, her mother started renting 6 Pound Hill and this became the family home to June for 68 years until January 2014 when she was forced to leave there due to illness.

June was educated at Avening Primary and then at Sir William Romney's grammar school in Tetbury; she left school aged 16 to work at Prices Stores in Nailsworth. June worked there for several years before securing an office job at Avening Mill, which she loved. When the mill closed she was made redundant and had to find work elsewhere, working in the kitchens at Avening House when it was used by Gloucestershire County Council. Also in June's younger days she worked in the offices of Rines corn mills in Avening and then went on to run the accounts and wages departments of several local companies, and then doing various other office jobs in the district.

June always had a love for the countryside, horses and dogs, especially Springer spaniels which her father always had. In mid-life she took up playing the cornet and joined Avening band which she enjoyed. June was following her uncles who had played in the band before her.

We are not sure where June's love of horses came from, her mother was a little scared of them and said it stemmed from her childhood in The Forest of Dean watching the dray horses pulling coal carts and seeing the sparks fly off their steel shoes as they strained up the hill. June's love must have started when was

quite young because one day her mother found she had wandered off only to find her at the top of New Inn Lane with May's bread delivery horse having followed her Uncle Fred who was the driver. Having learnt to ride on Marshall May (the baker's) ponies in her twenties June managed to buy her own horse "Tom" who gave her great pleasure. In his prime he was the smartest pony in Avening, having his mane plaited, his hooves oiled and his coat gleaming when he was taken out for a ride.

He did give her one serious incident though when she thought she would jump him over a seat on Minchinhampton Common; now Tom was no show jumper and unfortunately his ungainly jump left June head first in the turf. Fortunately she only had torn ligaments in her neck and after a few weeks of treatment it got better but never left her completely.

She had Tom for about 25 years so he was an old pony when he passed away but in recent years thanks to Click and Celia she has been able to help look after first Charlie then Doughty which gave her an equine interest in life again.

But her love of animals made her many friends in and around Avening; she went to many horse shows and local markets and could always talk with great knowledge about farming and animals.

June always had time to stop and talk to anyone, and often on her travels around West End (her favourite part of Avening) she regularly called in to the Stone family for a cup of tea and a chat.

In her early years June had a motor bike, although she also always had a push bike as well, and that is where my memories of June really begin, as she was never seen in the village without that bike, often with two flat tyres. I think that it became for June a prop and a shopping trolley.

During the last twenty years June had found life quite difficult and in recent times she had suffered several serious illnesses but her determination always shone through. June was June, a true Villager, Countrywoman and last of the Jellyman branch of the Coates family who have lived in the village for at least 150 years.

June will be missed by not only her close circle of friends but also the many residents of Avening who saw her pushing that bike. As I said earlier she was a true villager and was very knowledgeable about the countryside in which she lived.

From the tribute to June given at her funeral in Holy Cross Church Avening on 26th March 2015.

JUNE JELLYMAN

June's family would like to thank all who attended June's funeral and contributed to the collection for Avening Silver Band.

We would also like to thank everyone who helped June over the years, we will not name any individual but neighbours, friends, all those who helped her with her horses or bicycle in recent years or in the past.

June was the last "Jellyman" to live in the Village and I know that branch of the family had been in or around Avening for the last 120 years, the Coates family longer than that so for me it is the end of an era.

June was a very difficult lady to turn when she was set on a certain direction but loved the Village, the countryside, horses and dogs. It had been a struggle for us all in the last year but we are grateful she passed away in the Village and for the help we received.

Thank you to you all.

Sue Russell
June's sister



TONY'S MUSIC QUIZ

SAT 23rd May
at Avening Social Club
8.00pm
£ 1.00 per player
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Avening W.I.

In last month's Villager I reported that we were hoping to do well in the W.I. County Quiz having entered four teams. Facing teams from Box, Woodchester and Nailsworth we were very pleased to come first, second and third! Our winning team was down a member so the results were even more commendable. We now move into the next round to be held in July.

At this month's meeting we had a craft session learning how to make flowers in paper, sugar paste, clay and knitting in preparation for the competitions which will be held as part of the Group Meeting we will be hosting in June. In recent years fewer entries have been received at this event so we are trying to encourage members to try new skills and get creative.

There are more centenary celebrations coming up in the next few months. We have members attending the Centennial Meeting at the Albert Hall, a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and more locally, a special County Picnic.

We will be organising a summer outing in August which will be open to anyone in the village. We have not yet decided where we are going but will include details in this report as soon as possible.

Gwyneth Simpson



AVENING ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION

SUNDAY 7th JUNE 2015

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PROUD SUPPORTERS OF AVENING PLAYGROUP



Avening School

Raising money for a worthy cause



Reception and KS1 pupils got a pleasant surprise when they arrived back in their classrooms after Easter break. Several old classroom tables, which were too big for many children and took up a lot of much needed classroom space, had been replaced by new innovatively designed tables allowing children to sit better in groups and giving some space back to the classrooms. These tables have

been paid for by funds raised by the 'Friends of Avening School' – FOAS, who were also recently able to fund new reading scheme books for the classrooms, something very much needed. Without money raised by FOAS the school would struggle to provide children with all the resources and equipment essential for their learning and development. FOAS fundraising is absolutely crucial in ensuring that our children have classrooms and resources which are modern, stimulating and educational. Next on the wish-list which FOAS need to find funding for are: reading books for KS2; new external School noticeboards; more classroom furniture and money to be spent renovating part of our learning garden which has so much potential and is a crucial outdoor learning space for our pupils.


Avening School would like to thank every individual who has donated in any way to our fundraising over the years. It may not be possible to thank each of you in person but please know how much your support is appreciated by everyone involved with the school. It is thanks to you that we are able to provide our pupils with class outings, swimming lessons, theatre trips, Easter egg hunts, laptops, reading books and a happy, secure environment in which to learn and prosper. Thank you.

Two years ago, Avening School held a 'Promises Auction' which raised over £2,000. This amount helped to fund the much needed refurbishment of the front playground and outdoor area for our reception class which has been an invaluable addition to our School. On Friday May 15th FOAS will be hosting another Promises Auction in the Village Hall. If anyone has anything they are able to donate to our auction this year (it can be anything from offering to iron a basket of laundry to a week in a holiday cottage), FOAS would gratefully receive

your contributions. Please contact Avening School on 01453 833191 or email: admin@avening.gloucs.sch.uk Tickets for this event are also available from the school office using the details above. It already promises to be an amazing evening with some incredible lots for which to bid. The ticket price provides each individual with a paddle for bidding and a choice of curry or chilli to satisfy the hunger. There will also be a licensed bar on the night, all profits from which go towards the overall total raised on the night. If you have any queries at all about this event, please don't hesitate to contact us on the number or email address provided above. We look forward to seeing you all there in support of our wonderful School. FOAS is a registered charity.

If you are interested in finding out more about our school please take a regular look at our website (www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk) which is updated often.

Alex Adcock

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Letters to the Editors

As the Churchwardens of Holy Cross, Avening, and St. Nicholas Cherington, we would like to express our very sincere gratitude to Rev. Peter Quinnell for the ministry he has brought to our villages for the last year. We are extremely sorry to say farewell to Peter and Jean at this time, and wish them well for their ministry in Cainscross.

Peter's licensing will take place at 7.30pm on 6 May at St. Matthews, Cainscross, and we are hoping that members of our congregations and villages will join us in attending. Please contact any of us for details or for linking up for transport arrangements.

*Stephanie Hamilton
Stephen Uzzell
Roger Gegg
John Bate-Williams*

This topic is now closed and no further letters to the Villager will be published on the matter.

The Editors were very pleased to receive a card and generous donation towards Villager funds from David and Sarah Fenwick, who have recently moved from Avening. In the card they referred to their appreciation for the work that goes into the preparation of the magazine and which they describe as 'consistently jam-packed' (with information). They promise to pop back for 'the infamous Duck Race!!' We should like to wish them well in their new project and thank them once again for their encouragement and support.

The Editors are always happy to receive and print letters of concern or interest to the people of Avening and Cherington, but reserve the right not to publish if we consider they are inappropriate or offensive. We stress that letters represent the opinion of the writer and not necessarily that of the Editors or the Villager Magazine.



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100 Years Ago: Avening's War

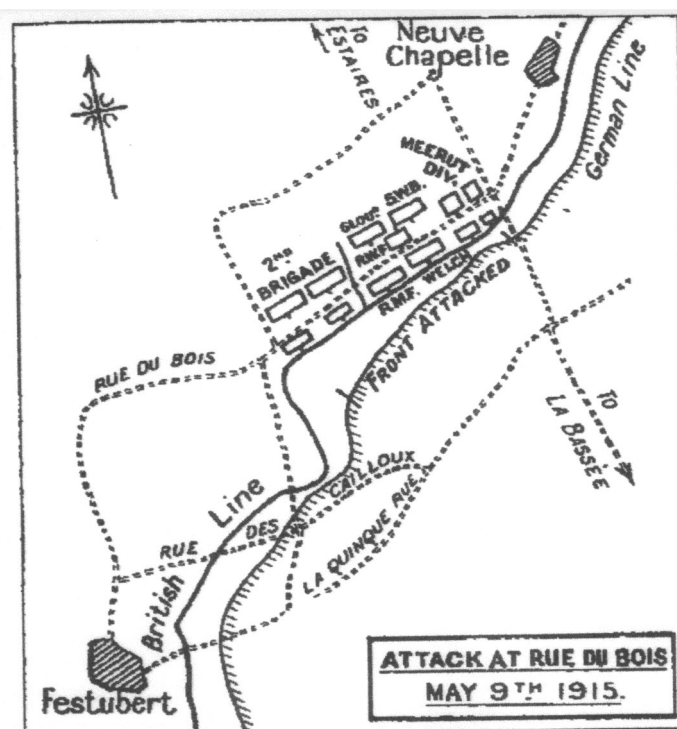
May 1915

John Bridgeman's birth was registered as Herbert John Bridgeman in the 2nd quarter of 1895 but he was always known as John. Following the death of his father, his mother married again, this time to William Neale and at the time of the 1901 census, the family were living on Tetbury Hill. At some time before 1911, they had moved to Nags Head and we have been able to identify the cottage in which the family lived. By then, John's occupation was described as "Help in Stables" aged 15. At some time early in 1913, he enlisted in the Gloucestershire Regiment and was posted to the 1st Battalion prior to a move to the British Expeditionary Force on the 11th of November 1914.

Martin Viner Pollock was born in Kensington on the 15th of May 1888. His father was Robert Pollock, an eminent lawyer and his mother was Mary Viner Playne who inherited Avening Court from her father on his death when she was only three. It wasn't until the mid-1880's that the family settled into the Avening home, although still spending much time in London. Martin went to boarding school in his earlier years, moving on to Eton College and Cambridge where he studied in Law to follow in his father's footsteps. At the outbreak of war, he was offered a commission with the South Wales Borderers (SWB) and following training was posted with his battalion to France on the 20th of February 1915.

Meanwhile, his brother, Frederick (a professional soldier) had been in France since the outbreak of War and had been killed in October 1914. His mother had died in 1910 and his father on the 4th of January 1915, leaving Martin Squire of Avening.

John's battalion was rested after training on the 6th of May and were entertained with a regimental concert in the evening. The War Diaries tell us that on the 7th they moved billets around midnight and on the following day



marched again, this time to Windy Corner and occupied trenches at Rue Du Bois.

Martin's battalion arrived in adjoining trenches at the same time. Along with battalions from the Meerut (an Indian regiment), the Royal Munster Fusiliers and the Welch regiment, they made up the 1st and 2nd Brigades of the 1st Division. The Munsters, the Welch and the Meeruts occupied the front trenches whilst the Glosters and the SWB were in the rear three trenches in reserve.

After an evening of the British artillery bombarding the German lines, those in the front trenches went "over the top" in attack. The cessation of the artillery was the signal for the enemy's appearance from shelter and with rifle and machine gun fire had a devastating effect of the British attackers. Seeing this, those in the rear trenches were called forward to face any counter-attack, an act which didn't go unnoticed. The Germans switched their artillery fire to the rear trenches and Martin was a casualty during the transfer.

Having arrived in the front line, it was thought that a second attack during the afternoon of the 9th may prove to be more successful, following another artillery bombardment that was launched against the German lines. Again, after its cessation, out came the German machine guns and this second attack, which included John's Gloucesters was cut down by the enemy fire. This was made worse by the German artillery concentrating on No Man's Land. John was killed during the attack which was called off fairly quickly, the survivors retreating to their trenches. The Borderers lost 233 men (including Martin) and the Glosters, 263, of whom John was one. The gain was nil.

Martin was buried in the Cabernet-Rouge British Cemetery, Souchez but John has no known grave and is remembered, with Honour, on the Le Touret Memorial. Both received the triple medal awards ("Pip, Squeak and Wilfred"), John with the 1914 Star and Martin the 1915 Star, plus the Victory Medal and the British Medal. Their relatives would have received the medals in 1922.

I hope to be able to report shortly on the siting of another remembrance plaque.

What did they know of each other prior to the War? Was John working as a horse man at Avening Court, the closest source of that type of work to Nags Head? Was John joining the military encouraged by Martin's brother, Fred Pollock who died in October 1914? We will never know the answers to these questions, but, despite the social gap in their lives, together they fought and died for Avening, on the same day and during the same battle. Let us remember them on the 9th of May, a day after the end of WW2 in Europe.

Fred Vening



AVENING VI SUNDAY

This year the Art and Craft Exhibition will be open from 10:00am to 4:00pm. Table space will be available for entrants to exhibit and sell.

The ducks will be back along

Fun Dog Show, Ice Creams, Raffle, Classic Car Show. For further details please telephone 01223 311111





VILLAGE FETE

7TH JUNE

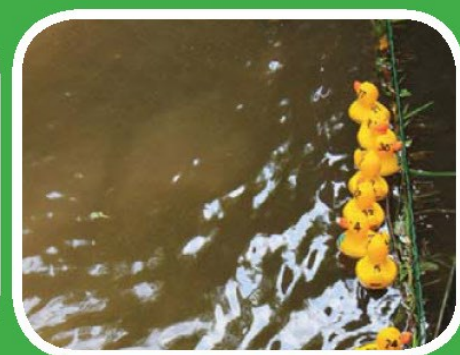
Exhibition in Holy Cross Church
to 5:00pm on Sunday June 7th

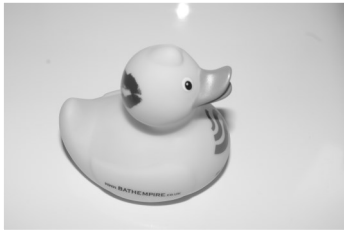
sell their own paintings, crafts, cards, sewing and jewellery.

along with the usual fun of the fete

stalls, Bottle Stall, Bouncy Castle,
raffles and Lots More...

Contact Stephanie on 07796 981308





Avening Duck Races at the Fete: Breaking News!

New Cloned, Thoroughbred Ducks for 2015 - Universal size and shape.

Duck for all Races 2015 - £20 - Special introductory offer - Own your Thoroughbred Duck for Life - Entry to all 2015 races and you keep your Duck for life. Limited availability

Loads of prizes including £100 cash prizes in Race 9 - The Avening Cup

Call Andrew or Nicky on 01453 886750 to book your Duck for Life. Call Immediately to avoid disappointment.

Sunday 7th June 2015 is not far away.

Fun Dog Show

at the Avening Fete on Sunday 7th June.

Remember to bring your canine friends along to join in the fun.

New classes and rosettes for 2015 as well as agility competition.

Venue: The Old Rectory (opposite Woodstock Lane).

Starts at 3pm.



PLEASE CAN YOU HELP...?

AVENING VILLAGE LITTER CLEAN UP

SATURDAY 9th MAY 2015

MEET AT THE MEMORIAL HALL

@ 10am



Avening Playgroup

It has been really lovely to welcome the children back to playgroup after the Easter break with such beautiful weather. The children have been playing outside now straight after the small group time session, when they take part in an adult led activity, based on their next steps in learning with their key worker.

Just before the holiday the children had great fun preparing our vegetable patch, weeding and digging in new compost. They then helped to plant seven different types of vegetable, which thanks to the sunshine have started to grow. Since we got back, the children have been watering the patch and pulling up some weed seedlings which have also popped up.

It has been great to go outside just putting on sunhats instead of the coats and wellies needed in the winter. However, our pre-school children have begun practising changing for P.E ready for when they start school. They change into a pair of shorts and tee-shirt, do a few exercises and then change back again, putting their clothes neatly on their chairs.

Thank you for your donations of Sainsbury's vouchers and old clothes and shoes. Our clothes bank has just been emptied for the second time generating some funds for playgroup.

If you have a young child and would like to visit playgroup with a view to them joining us in the future, please ring to arrange a visit any morning during term time on 01453 832695.

Debbie Brown

REMEMBER!!!!

**Sunday 26th July
CHERINGTON SHOW**

More news on this later but put it in your diary !

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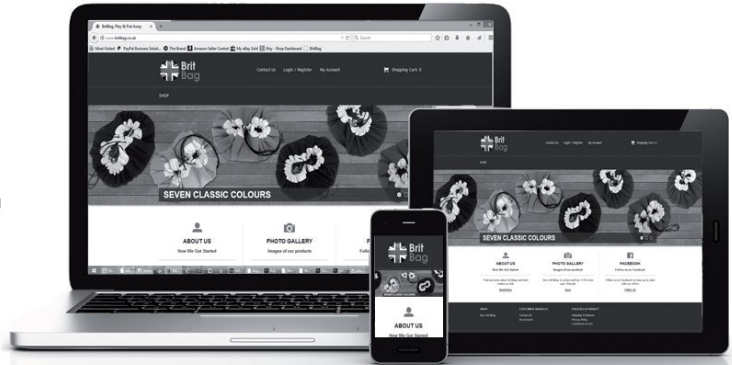


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Dying without a Will. Now that's a real tragedy.

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

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

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



David Martin

David Martin, local consultant,
Steele Rose & Co
(Nailsworth & surrounding areas)
01453 836699 (M) 07973 405997
Email: dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk
www.steelerose.co.uk
Members of the Society of Will Writers



Diary of a Self-Build

Part 5: Hands off our builder!

Anyone who has wandered past our site in Sandford Leaze (we have been expecting coachloads of tourists to gaze in awe at the scale of our foundations!), has been amazed that our builder, Shaun Vickery, has done everything on site practically single-handed. He has worked through all weathers (thankfully not too extreme this winter) to excavate well over 600



tons of material, pour the concrete, build retaining walls, and work co-operatively with the Avening Mill developers. He also orchestrates suppliers, and sorts out the best prices for materials. He has taken (nearly) all of the stress out from the build, and when we had some difficulties recently, he was able to call in help from Rob Henderson (extra-large digger), Steve Taylor (access from Avening Mill), and especially Pete Savage who spent a couple of days on site helping, plus removing and storing excavated material. They literally dug us out of a hole – thanks guys!

Our Villager diaries have given Shaun additional exposure, and (quite understandably) other people want him to do work for them. He'll do a great job for you, but we'll hopefully be keeping him busy for a few months yet!

On site, the foundations are at last complete. There weren't any major problems, but for various reasons they have cost us almost double to what we had budgeted. That's not an unusual scenario, but it puts great pressure on the finances (especially the cashflow), and means we will need some economies elsewhere to keep the final costs under control. On the plus side, most of the remaining elements are more controllable, and many items have already been sourced and prices agreed.

The detailed designs for the timber frame have finally been completed, and the frame ordered. It is being manufactured in Cambridgeshire, and should arrive on site in early May. We will get the opportunity to visit the factory and see our house fully assembled, before it is packed onto a truck and delivered to us. We haven't got the final arrangements yet, but there could be a little disruption to traffic in the street on delivery day – we will keep those neighbours affected informed once we know. It will also prompt a second visit by Charlie Luxton, which will probably cause more of a disruption – maybe we should sell tickets?

Tony and Mandy Slater

Avening Art Group

For a number of years now, our group has held regular meetings at a member's home on the edge of the village on Thursday mornings, 10.00-12.30. This year, we're wondering whether we might be able to widen our membership by meeting in the early evening too - especially over the next 6 months or so, when we have longer daylight hours.



In the first instance, we are considering meeting twice a week, Thursday's as before and Tuesday evenings, 6.30 - 9.00pm.

We only ask £1 to cover costs of tea/coffee and, often, quite delicious cake, provided by Jeannie Pargeter, who also opens her home and lovely garden to us. Currently, numbers vary between 5-12 and we'd really like to welcome some younger members, absolute beginners and others, who perhaps through work commitments, can't make our morning sessions. Our focus is on painting and drawing but many members also enjoy craft activities.

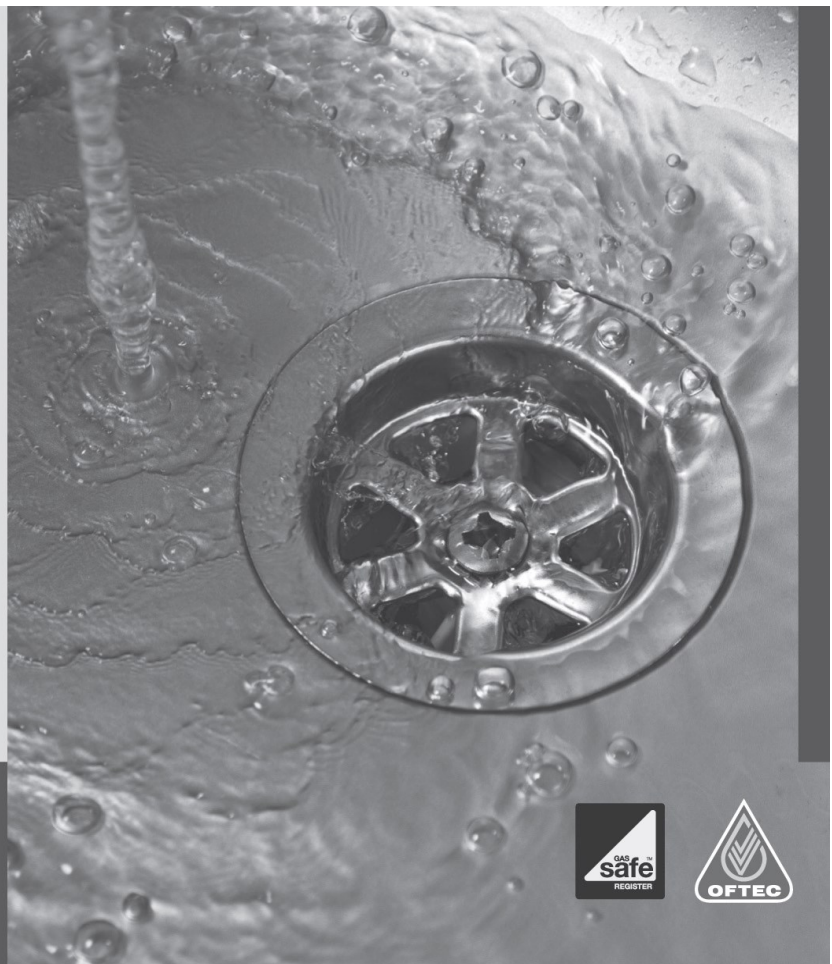
To find out more, please contact Mick Williamson on 01453 836318 or send an email to mick@mickwilliamson.co.uk



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Down to Earth



Pulsatilla

Sometimes the purchase of a new plant can take you on a journey – a six mile walk in this case. When I bought a *pulsatilla vulgaris*, or Pasque flower, from a nursery in Oxfordshire a few weeks ago, I was told it thrived on chalk downland. Curious, I looked it up. Richard Mabey, in 'Flora Britannia' wrote that it was 'a nationally scarce plant.' (It is, in fact, on the 'red list.')

'Its largest colony is on the steep banks of Barnsley Warren in the Cotswolds.' Barnsley Warren, I discovered, is an SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) with open public access, and only 10 miles from here. It stretches north-westwards from Barnsley village towards the Stow road, (the A429) and comprises 'unimproved limestone grassland' which hosts a number of rare wildflower and butterfly species. So, on the Saturday of Easter week-end, we undertook a circuit walk of the site and discovered a magical land, alive with bunnies (Easter?) where time seemed to have stopped; far, far from the madding crowds and the demented turmoil of the twenty-first century. Alas, we saw no Pasque flowers, so-called because they bloom around Easter-time. It was probably slightly too early.

Last autumn, inspired to try something new, I ordered some *erythronium* bulbs. Did I ignore my own advice and leave them too long in their bag so they developed mould? Tut, tut! Nothing daunted, I planted them in the ground. Within days, I saw the tell-tale signs of small rodent activity around them. Groan. One last chance, then. I dug them up (no sign of rodent tooth marks; had the mould not been to their taste, I wondered?), potted them in pampering, proprietary compost and left them in the green-house for the winter. When, in spring, a few shoots appeared, I plunged them into the ground, and, reader, they rewarded me, negligent and undeserving gardener that I am, with a



Erythronium 'Pagoda'

modest display of flowers. *Erythronium* 'Pagoda' was the most spectacular, with its tiered, waxy yellow bells; the *erythronium dens canis* has some exceptionally beautiful marbled leaves. Another beautiful spring flower is that of the *brunnera*. The cultivar, *b. macrophylla* 'Jack Frost', so-called on account of its silver, green-veined leaves, has flowered abundantly with an intense sky-blue colour (even after I had chopped it in half to make another plant. Ah! Forgiveness or defiance?).

At this time of year it is all too easy to end a full day in the garden without even crossing off the first job on the list. Planting and sowing possibilities are exhilarating but sometimes overwhelming. For this reason it is important to consider carefully placed seating where the weary gardener can rest and admire what they have achieved. However glum one might feel about one's own horticultural inadequacies, there will always be a bud, shoot or flower that will catch the eye and say: 'Look at me - and cheer up!' Place some large containers around the seating, with, for example, pelargoniums in the middle, in scarlet, white or pastel shades, and spilly, trailing plants such as *helichrysum*, *lobelia* or *glechoma hederacea* 'Variegata' (a form of ground ivy, often sold as *nepeta*!) around the outside. There is great choice; you can design your own colour scheme. (Add wine as appropriate.) You must, of course, be prepared to bring tender plants under cover if any late frosts are forecast.

I really do hope that as many of you as possible will embark on the trail of the Evening Open Gardens on May 24th. We all garden in our own particular style and our gardens can be extensions of our own personality. Yet there should



still be room for a communality of gardening spirit, an exchange of ideas, experiences, plants, even seeds and seedlings, from which we can all benefit. Just as we all like our hard work to be acknowledged, so it is equally important that we acknowledge the efforts made by others, working with different ideas and inspiring results. See you there!

The hard-working gardener's well-earned repose

Marilyn Jones

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY
ON SUNDAY JULY 12th from 12-00 noon onwards

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR MUSIC AND A PICNIC IN THE GARDEN OF
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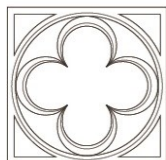
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Avening Youth Club

The Youth Club meets every Tuesday evening

Avening Memorial Hall

6.15 to 7.45 pm

The curtain came down on Avening Youth Club Spring term in fine style with a gala awards night. During the term, all the youngsters have been awarded merit stars for a host of different tasks and endeavours and these were totalled up prior to the last evening of the term. Everyone won a prize but the special winners went to Bobby, Joseph, Jake, Alex and Kieran!

Youth Club dates and activities are:

May 5rd Simon

May 12th Simon

May 19th Simon

May 26th Half Term

June 2nd Young Glos

June 9th Simon

June 16th Simon

June 23rd Simon

June 30th Young Glos

July 7th Simon

July 14th Simon

Everyone welcome!

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Cherington Parish Council

ELECTIONS - Don't forget to vote on Thursday May 7th

Its the General Election, District Council Election and the Parish Council Election on the 7th May. We have received notification of all the candidates for the three elections and details can be seen on the parish council notice board by the village hall.

As there haven't been any applications for potential new candidates for the Parish Council election, it means that all five current Parish Councillors are uncontested and will automatically be re-selected on May 7th.

The formal acceptance of their positions will take place at the Annual Parish Council meeting on Tuesday 12th May.

PLANNING

Lockstone Bottom (BOAT) Definitive map modification to reclassify
bridleway NCH12 to a Byway Open to All Traffic

No objection – County)

15/007/FUL 5

Aston Farm Cottages

Replace existing detached house with new dwelling

Permit

15/00313/FUL

Westside House, Cherington –

Erecting single storey house

Permit

NATIONAL PLANT MONITORING SURVEY – your chance to take part

Launched in March 2015, this partnership scheme, which includes Plantlife and the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland, is asking for volunteers to visit a square kilometre of land local to them and to record the plants they find there. The scheme explores how plants in different habitats are responding to changes in the environment.

For further information, registration and to get a survey pack visit www.npms.org.uk

VOTE FOR YOUR FAVOURITE WILDFLOWER

Did you know that the daffodil is the flower of Gloucestershire?

As part of celebrations for its 25th anniversary, Plantlife has launched a poll to find the *nations' favourite wild flower* (also the favourites in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland). Will it be the common Poppy, Cowslip, more elusive Ragged Robin or that woodland favourite, the Bluebell? Voters have **until 5 June** to vote online for their favourite and the results will be announced soon after - **www.plantlife.org.uk**

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be Tuesday May 12th at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be the Annual Council Meeting.

Dates of future meetings:

Tuesday 7th July at 6.30pm

Tuesday 1st September at 6.30pm

Tuesday 3rd November at 6.30pm

All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend parish meetings. There are 15 minutes of public time at the start of each meeting where you can bring up any issues.

If you have any concerns, issues, queries or comments you would like to make relating to the Parish then please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk – Frances Ashfield on 01453 767384 or via email at cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

CHERINGTON CHURCHYARD

Will visitors to graves and memorials please note that there is a green bin in the churchyard. When disposing of dead flowers and wreaths etc. please use this and not just leave them on the ground for someone else to pick up.

THANK YOU

S. Watkins

Avening Parish Council



PLANNING

New Planning Applications

15/00828/FUL and 15/00829/LBC

Westfield Barn West End Avening Gloucestershire

Conversion of barn to accommodation to be used in connection with Brandhouse Farm with internal and external alterations, extension and outdoor swimming pool

For the full list of planning applications and decision see CDC's website:

www.cotswold.gov.uk

FREE TRAINING FOR PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY VOLUNTEERS

Gloucestershire Highways is organising a **FREE** training day on **Friday 29th May** to enable volunteers to work safely, and give them the knowledge and support they need to enjoy the time they donate to this service and their community.

If you are interested contact : Michael.Barton@amey.co.uk

DO YOU HAVE ANY SKILLS AS A GRAPHIC ARTIST ?

The Parish Council is developing a Village map for Visitors and is looking for help from anyone who can help with the graphics. If this is you please contact Tom Beardsell on 832977 or the Parish Clerk.

VACANCY ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

We have a vacancy on the Parish Council and looking for someone to co-opt as a Councillor. ***IT ISN'T ALL MEETINGS !!!*** There are plenty of opportunities to get involved and support your community with the backing of the Council behind you. ***For more information contact the Parish Clerk or any Councillor ASAP !***

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the **ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** on **Thursday, 21 May 2015 at 7.30 pm** in the **MEMORIAL HALL**.

The first item on the Agenda will be the election of Chairman.

COME AND JOIN US !

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

Tel: 01285 380041 Email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Chairman

Sorry readers, but it's me again! As part of the series highlighting who does what in the Parish Council, this month it falls to me to describe the role of the chairman – I use the title chairman, but it definitely doesn't have to be a man.

The chairman has all of the responsibilities of other councillors, but is elected by the councillors at the annual meeting to undertake some additional roles and accountabilities – in common with all organisations the PC needs a leader/focal point to ensure there is always someone the public and officials know who to contact. If done well, it can be used to engage the community, and generate interest in what the wider council is trying to achieve. There are no fixed rules or right way to do this, and it's up to the individual to use the role to best effect. I try to use different mediums to communicate to as many people as possible; via the Villager magazine, website, Facebook, and at village events. Other people will have different interests and approaches. The most important thing is to listen, treat everyone equally, and take action wherever you can make a difference.

The chairman must run the monthly meeting in a balanced way, and facilitate the decision-making processes on planning; spending the precept; initiating projects; or managing various issues. Members of the public can attend the meetings, and can ask questions in a designated slot – for this reason, there is a degree of formality, and there are also a number of official procedures that need to be completed. As there are nine councillors, no one person can exert undue influence – not even the chairman!

This is a voluntary position, but it requires additional commitment on top of that required for a councillor. Other specific responsibilities include:

- Being a point of contact for members of the public

- Staffing – adhering to regulations; sorting out any staffing issues; appraisals.

- Budgets and precept – set each year, helped by a sub-committee

- Agreeing the agenda and signing the minutes.

- Helping other councillors and agreeing training.

- Being the 'compere' at the annual village meeting.

- Managing and motivating the team of councillors.

- Dealing with anything else that doesn't need to go to full council for approval.

With central expenditure being gradually reduced, more responsibilities are being absorbed locally; for example we look after our own verges, and can contribute to some capital work to 'speed it up'. This means more work for the PC, but also makes it more rewarding when we can directly see the results of our efforts.

If you would like to find out more, drop me or the clerk a note – details in this magazine or on the website - or come to a meeting.

Tony Slater

Church Services in Avening & Cherington in May

Date	Time	Church	Service Details
3rd May	09.30	Cherington	Family Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
10th May	9.30	Cherington	Matins (BCP)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
14th May Ascension	7.00pm	St Mary's Tetbury	Ascension day service
17th May	9.30	Cherington	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
24th May	9.30	Cherington	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
31st May	9.30	Cherington	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Family Praise

COFFEE WILL BE SERVED IN AVENING CHURCH AFTER THE SERVICE ON THE FIRST & LAST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

NEW BISHOP OF GLOUCESTER

Her Majesty the Queen has appointed the Venerable Rachel Treweek, Archdeacon of Hackney in the Diocese of London, as the next Bishop of Gloucester.

Rachel Treweek will be the first female Diocesan Bishop in the Church of England following legislation passed last year enabling women as Bishops.

The bishop designate comes to the diocese having served previously in a number of other ministries. She is the current Archdeacon of Hackney, a role she has held since 2011.



The Avening Church Council have received several complaints about dog faeces in the Churchyard.

To avoid the necessity of banning dogs altogether from the church yard please ensure that you clean up after your dog AND keep it on a lead at all times.



Church Floodlighting

The church was floodlit on:

7th April - In memory of Nicola Vickery, from all the family.

8th April - In memory of Jack and Vera Perry.

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

Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 7th May	National and Local Elections	Memorial Hall	All day
Saturday 9th May	Avening Clean-Up	Meet at Memorial Hall	10am
Tuesday 12th May	Cherington Annual Parish Meeting	Village Hall	6.30pm
Friday 15th May	The BIG Avening School Promises Auction	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 20th May	Film Club: The Theory of Everything	Social Club	7.30pm
Thursday 21st May	Avening Annual Parish Meeting	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 23rd May	Tony's Music Quiz	Social Club	8.00pm
Sunday 24th May	Avening Open Gardens	Around village	tba
Saturday 6th June	Avening Annual Village Meeting	Memorial Hall	10.30am
Sunday 7th June	Avening Fete with Art & Craft Show	Around village	Afternoon
Thursday 11th June	Kathryn Robert & Sean Lakeman Concert	Holy Cross Avening	7.30pm
Sunday 14th June	Ceilidh Night	Memorial Hall	6.30pm
Sunday 12th July	Music and Picnic	Longmans Barn	12 noon
Sunday 26th July	Cherington Show	Around village	tba

**The Mobile Police Station
Non-emergency phone 101**

THE MOBILE POLICE STATION WILL BE VISITING ON

Tuesday May 26th

**in Avening from 09.00 to 10.00 and
Cherington 10.15 to 11.15**

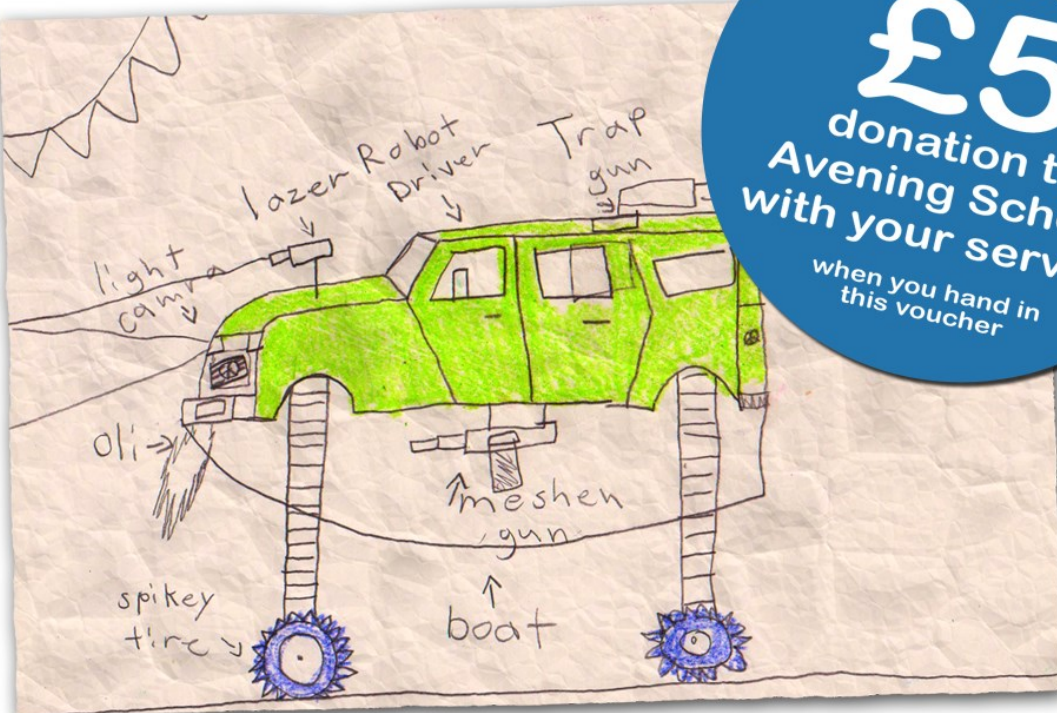


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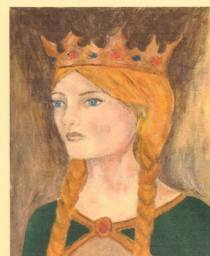
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