

An aerial photograph of a village, likely Avening, Cherington, and Nags Head, showing a dense cluster of buildings, roads, and green spaces. The village is surrounded by large green fields and trees. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image.

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington
and Nags Head

April 2018

editors@acvillager.co.uk

Google Earth



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Spring Events

19th April

-
An Audience with Blue Planet II Producer Mark Brownlow
The Zoological Society, Bristol

26th April

-
In the Company of Kamin Mohammadi and Diana Driscoll
Condé Nast College, London

3rd May

-
How to Save the World - The War on Plastics
The Royal Institution, London

23rd May

-
Around the World in 80 Frames with Photographer Jeff Wilson
The Kings Head Hotel, Cirencester

14th June

-
Cotswold Collectors Cars and Wine Tasting
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April 2018

Spring at last seems to be on its way. What a difficult few months it has been for many in the village, but how wonderful it is to see the first signs of green in the gardens.

In this edition readers will see letters from the Chairman and some villagers on the subject of re-development of the Recreation Field. Many of you may feel equally strongly on the subject and may wish to take part in the debate, by submitting your own views in the next issue. We warmly welcome such contributions. This is your magazine and it is important to use it as a vehicle for discussion on such an important subject.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Google Earth** for our cover photo of Avening, with the much-discussed playing field in the centre.

Apologies for last month's mistitling of the cover photo, described as the moon over Avening Park in the snow. It was, we believe, the stream at the bottom of West End Lane. 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



Pub ~ Dining ~ Rooms ~ Events

OPEN

Mon - Thur: 11am - 11pm
 Fri - Sat: 11am - 11.30pm
 Sunday: 12pm - 11pm

LUNCH

Mon - Sat: 12pm - 2.30pm
 Sunday: 12pm - 5pm

WORKERS' POT

Mon - Fri: 5pm - 6.30pm

DINNER

Mon - Sat: 6.30pm - 9.30pm

**DOG
 FRIENDLY!**



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Cask Marque excellence is awarded for the great selection of guest ales including Stroud brewery. The seasonal menus showcase organic meat from local farms, sustainably sourced fish specials and with monthly Meat Free Monday events and a standalone vegan menu the choice is excellent for all.

With **six lovely en suite rooms** including the sensational Oak Lodge, and three dog-friendly rooms, The Royal Oak is a fun and relaxed getaway from which to browse the chic boutiques of Tetbury or explore the beautiful Cotswolds.

1 CIRENCESTER RD. TETBURY GL8 8EY
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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 - 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Mobile Post Office	Monday and Thursday	2.00 to 3.00 pm	On road, opposite 65, Sunground	Post master J. Clutterbuck 01453 542754
Cherington PC	Tuesday	6.30pm	Village Hall	Beverley 01453 832100
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 10.00pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Rev. Gerald South 01453 834884
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening Art Club	Thursday	2.00 - 4.00pm	Various	Mick 01453 836318
Avening W.I.	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	4.00pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090

Contacts for the Villages

Avening and Cherington Priest	Revd. Gerald South	01453 834884
Avening & Cherington Churches Reader	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening & Cherington Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Avening Angels	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Art Group	Mick Williamson	01453 836318
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Stephanie Hamilton	07796 981308
Avening Church Flower Team	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Ann Brick	01453 834311
Avening Film Club	Kristiane Worsdell	01453 836515
Avening History Project	Jean Chatelain	01453 834713
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Sue Bryant	01452 770792
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Social Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752

Avening Youth Club	Revd. Gerald South The Door	834884 01453 756745
South Cotswold Community Connector	Aileen Bendall	07810 630156
Cherington Village Hall	Wendy Eldridge	01285 841327
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Beverley Rymer	01453 832100
Cherington Church Churchwarden	John Bate-Williams	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 PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Lucie Hawkins	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Stroud Hospital	Reception	0300 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Gwyneth Simpson	01453 836556



VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council: www.avening-pc.gov

Avening Church: www.aveningchurch.info

Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

Avening and Cherington Churches



Mothering Day posters designed by the children featured during the service at Cherington and at Avening we were treated to Simnel cakes. In both churches posies were given to mothers and fathers as we celebrated the depth of relationships that family life can offer.

Lent evenings gave many of us a chance to look at some famous paintings of the last days of Jesus' life, together with interpretations by some modern artists. Opinions about their depth of meaning differed widely and led to some interesting conversations – that is one of the purposes of art.

Sitting quietly in a cold church may not be everybody's idea of fun but those of us who came to the **Lent Quiet Times** found it to be a very moving experience, not least as we recalled the prayers of nine centuries that permeate the building.

Easter is the principle festival of the whole year as we celebrate the victory of good over evil and that God calls us to life in all its fullness. All are welcome at our services – 9.30 am at Cherington and 11.00 am at Avening.

The Avening Angels Choir will be at Avening Church for **Evensong** on 8th April. For the next few months at least there will be an 8.00 am service at Avening on the second Sunday of the month.

The **annual meetings** of the churches will take place in April – 10am on Saturday 14th at Cherington and 7.00pm on Wednesday 18th at Avening. All residents of a parish are entitled to attend the first part of these meetings when the churchwardens are appointed, and all those on the Electoral Roll of a church may also attend the second part of these meetings to consider the activities of the church and to appoint the members of the church council.

Discussions are now under way about creating some services suitable for **all the family** – if you have any thoughts about this or would be interested in knowing more please do get in touch with me.

Rogation Days have a long and varied history often involving walking the parish fields, the so called 'beating the bounds' – all will be welcome to join the Avening walk in the afternoon of 6th May with a picnic stop and some liquid refreshment at the end. Further details in next month's Villager.

From the church records:

16th March: Interment of ashes of Joyce Vincent

***Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington.
01453 834884 gp.south@btopenworld.com***

Holy Cross Church, Avening

The Annual Meeting of Avening Church will take place at 7.00pm on Wednesday April 18th in the church.

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO HAVE YOUR SAY & ELECT CHURCHWARDENS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Also to find out what goes on in Avening church behind the scenes.

EVERY RESIDENT IN AVENING IS ENTITLED TO ELECT THE CHURCHWARDENS

Members of the church electoral role are entitled to elect the church council



A Church for the Villages

The Church of England is unique in several ways (some good, maybe others less so!) and one of its distinctive characteristics is the parish system in which each parish church (building, priest and people) is there to serve all those who live in its area, whatever their faith or apparent lack of it. As well as offering the normal services, baptisms, weddings and funerals this includes support in times of difficulty, home visits, and conversations avoiding judgement and offering understanding. Please feel free to contact us.

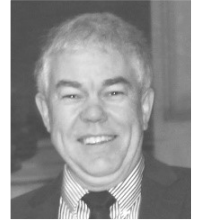
Gerald South

Primary Maths Challenge Answers

Three questions from the recent Challenges appeared in last month's Villager. The answers are:

1. 2p needs to be given away. [$6 \times £33.33 = £199.98$]
2. 535. [$2017+535 = 2552$]
3. 35 cm^2 . [tricky question! – one method is to join M to K giving two right angled triangles from which the whole area may be found, then to subtract the areas of the two unshaded triangles]

Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



Well, I've just about recovered from Thursday - Our usual dozen or so monthly gathering swelled to be perhaps the most attended PC meeting ever! It wasn't quite the 'angry mob' depicted in the picture - it was much more polite - but I did feel (and look?) like Homer at times. It was great that so many people turned out, but quite frustrating that fundamental queries were being raised at this late stage.



If you are reading this, you may well have seen one of the previous 8 references to the scheme in the Villager; or seen one of the Facebook posts; or viewed the plans on the website; or seen the displays at the last two AGM shows? It wasn't enough. During the last year, until today, not a single person has asked me directly about the plans, so from conversations that I and other members of the PC have had, we concluded we were on the right track. However, from the meeting I have learned that the passive cascade of information doesn't reach deep enough into people's minds to trigger an active response – positive or otherwise. So, as a group, the PC will take account of the views expressed on Thursday (as well as by other stakeholders previously), and build on the energy generated to ensure we reach out to the ENTIRE community before we put a spade in the soil.

During the debate, once everyone had got their views out, it was clear that there were a couple of elements causing most ire, but beyond those, the ideas around a better playing surface, better access, and an area for 'wheeled recreation' were broadly appreciated. It is evident we can't satisfy everyone, but having listened to the arguments put forward, we will immediately take the changing facilities out of the scope, and also the lighting for the woodland paths. We will carefully review other suggestions made in the debate, and present revised plans (with a lot of publicity!), hopefully in time for the **AGM on Sunday May 13th** from 2:00pm. The PC motto is 'Preserve, Conserve, Enhance'. This project sits firmly in the latter category, but cognisant of the first – we firmly believe that:

- Doing nothing is not an option! The field is very tired, shabby, and not a good advert for the village. Although Avening is officially classed as

‘unsustainable’ (you can ask CDC), we have the desire and energy to help ourselves. We have a duty to provide good facilities for our school.

- Doing nothing for a year while we prove we can keep the grass cut is not an option! We won’t kick this into the long grass.
- Doing nothing because there is a small risk of misuse is not an option! Where problems occasionally crop up, these can be effectively dealt with, as they are now.
- Turning up at the PC meeting every month, and not trying to make a difference is not an option! We are 100% committed to improving the facilities to provide an inspirational play area, and facilities that ALL the residents of Avening can use to improve health, fitness and wellbeing.

There isn’t room here to get into the fine details (although the editors have promised me a spread later in the year), but I commit to providing full details of each design element on the website, how any perceived risks will be mitigated, and how the various elements in the field will be maintained. I will also be happy to provide a paper copy to anyone who cannot access the site.

Away from the playing field, huge thanks to everyone who helped keep our roads moving during the snow – the gritter was well used; and especially to Pete Savage with his trusty snow plough. A white van owner was observed filling buckets of grit from our bins – please let me know if you can identify who this was.

We’re also still looking for nominations for Villager of the Year.

Tony Slater, Chairman

Save the date !

CHERINGTON SHOW 2018

Sunday 22nd July 2018

All the usual stalls for this traditional Village Show.

Watch this space for many more this year.

But for now put it in the diary !

Letters to the Editors

The views and comments expressed here are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editors, who reserve the right to edit or omit content.

Avening Playing Field: More is Less

It is clear, that for whatever reason many residents of Avening were not aware of the extent or nature of the changes intended by the Parish Council until very recently when a planning application was submitted to Cotswold District Council.

The plans are extensive and make use of nearly every part of the 1.60 hectare site (3.954 acres). Many of the proposed facilities are geared to organised team sports which would be good for older children and adults from Avening and surrounding settlements. They would also be of use to Avening School.

However, these planned changes would squeeze out unstructured play by local children, and activities shared with their parents, grand parents and carers. Unstructured ball games, learning to bike ride, kite flying, sledging, frisbee, mountain boarding, tree climbing and den making all come to mind. There are also village events that have occurred in the past which would become more difficult to find space for.

At present the playing field is a relatively safe spot for children and youths to find their own way to, and play unsupervised with out interference (benign or otherwise). There is little danger from traffic for any child making their way from homes north of the High Street and Hampton Hill. Children can be heard from across the valley and are highly visible at most points on the playing field. Together with the lack of cars and strangers in the vicinity this makes the playing field a safe area that unsuitable development would compromise. Any visitor to the site will see that the shelter and the benches along the north edge are well used, and that the wooded areas are criss-crossed by paths made by children playing amongst the trees.

Facilities proposed would have to involve inviting teams from outside Avening at peak times of use. All teams and the school would no doubt have to pay. The running costs would dictate this, and unstructured play would be excluded at these times. I very much doubt the income from what ever source will match the high cost of maintaining a facility costing in the region of £250,000.

A page from a document relating to the transfer of ownership of the playing field dating from 1943 seems to be a legally binding covenant and specifies all the land should be used for recreation by inhabitants of Avening, and that the only building should be a sports pavilion or shelter.

I see merit in improving the football pitch in the way proposed. I do not agree

with the provision of a car park that will attract extra traffic and use by people outside Avening. If there were no car park the football pitch could be moved closer to Rectory Lane and the need to level the ground and produce steep banks would be virtually eliminated.

Changing rooms and a toilet are un-necessary for local people. Trim trails, BMX pump tracks, mountain bike trails, workout stations and a forest school are in my mind likely not to be used and will be costly to maintain. Tree management and the trim trail together would deprive children their free play area amongst the trees.

I would rather see a well-designed halfpipe set into the ground for use with BMX bikes, scooters and skateboards – much more inclusive.

I ask that Avening Parish Council reconsider their well-intentioned plans in the light of the above and many other similar comments I have listened to over the last week. It is a thank less task making community decisions, but they do have to have local support, which is not always easy to gauge.

To that end I suggest suspending the planning application if that is possible, revising the proposed plans and then canvassing local opinion. I think now that there has been a public airing there will be more response.

Andrew Lelliott

Recreation Ground... Or Playing Field?

To be fair to the Parish Council, they have given plenty of publicity to their plans for the recreation ground; it's just that people don't bother to delve into the detail as they assume it is unlikely to make a lot of difference. But you would certainly sit up and notice if it was reported in *The Sun* rather than *The Villager*, for imagine the headlines: 'Recreation Ground to be bulldozed to make way for Sports Teams! Rectory Lane to be gridlocked!'

The plans drawn up for this £250k project are certainly ambitious, and controversial. There have already been 18 formal objections notified to the Cotswold Planning authority, not least from the owners of a neighbouring property, as the plan infringes into their garden. And over 30 villagers turned out to attend the Parish Council's March meeting in order to express their views. It was generally a good-natured affair, with only one individual storming out.

A major concern has been the proposal to invite sports teams as a training ground and to play matches: this has been challenged on the basis that teams from outside the village shouldn't be allowed to monopolise the space. Also, encouraging access to strangers could jeopardise the real benefit of children playing freely without the need for adult supervision, Avening being fortunate in that it is a village where children could be left safely to meet up and kick a

ball about.

Other objections were to the need for unsightly shipping containers planned for changing rooms, plus the proposal to level the ground, build a car park and install lighting. The resultant noise, together with inadequate parking for the increased traffic were also robustly challenged.

Essentially, objectors were concerned that the development of a formal football pitch and other facilities would be destructive to the rural character of the recreation ground, severely limiting the benefits of the only outdoor space available to all villagers.

At the meeting, questions were raised about how this project was to be funded and maintained, as it was pointed out that, even in its current state, the ground's pathways had been left to overgrow, and the children's play area had yet to be fenced in. The project has been partially responsible for an increase in the Parish Council precept, but annual maintenance of a venture of this nature would cost many thousands of pounds, with some of the facilities needing to be completely renewed after ten years or so. A proposal that the scheme should be put on hold, until it could be demonstrated that the recreation ground could be properly maintained in its current state, was met with enthusiastic applause.

It remains to be seen whether Cotswold Planning Department will permit this scheme to proceed in the face of so many objections, or whether the Parish Council will revise it having recognised that there are some valid concerns. One of the best things the Council has done has been to arrange for all households to receive a copy of *The Villager*, so with these lurid headlines everyone should be aware now of the significance of their plans. So if you also feel strongly about the impact of this scheme, you too could air your views at a Parish Council meeting; the next one is on Thursday 19th April.

Roger Lindley

Trustees of the former Avening Football Club

Reference is made to the meeting of the Avening Parish Council held on the 15th March 2018 when amongst other matters it is understood that detailed plans for the development of facilities at the village playing field were discussed.

Not being able to attend that meeting I would just like to advise that contrary to a comment that I understand was made during the discussion, the Trustees have not been involved, discussed or had any input to this proposed scheme. It is however confirmed that in August 2016 the Trustees, following an application from the Playing Field Committee, did make a contribution towards the renewal/repair of the children's playground equipment, works which it is understood have been carried out .

Derrick Ind (for The Trustees, Avening Football Club)

99% of dog owners do, but for the 1% who don't:

99% of all dog owners pick up their dog poo in the village whether in the playing field the pavements or road, but for the few who don't it is very harmful to children and adults, and is certainly not nice being tracked into the home, classroom or any other environment.

Are you aware that dog faeces left in farmers' fields isn't just unpleasant, the diseases they carry can also pose a serious risk to livestock and other dogs, costing the average herd £3000 a year?

Dogs walking on farmland can become infected with *Neospora* after eating the afterbirth of an infected cow, and the eggs shed in their faeces and left in fields are infectious for up to six months. Cattle can then consume these eggs in pasture land or in feed and water.

A report by *FAI farms* has revealed that the disease is the most commonly diagnosed cause of abortion in cattle in the UK, with 17% of dairy cattle demonstrating exposure to the parasite in England and 90% of dairy herds in the south-west of England showing evidence of previous infection.

Neosporosis is also dangerous to dogs, causing illness in adult dogs and death in young puppies.

Reducing risk

Whilst no effective treatment or vaccine is currently available, dog walkers and farmers can reduce risks of disease in both dogs and livestock by following these steps:

1. Always collect and remove your dogs' faeces during walks.
2. Regularly worm your dog with a suitable treatment as recommended by your vet.
3. Be aware that feeding a bone and raw food (BARF) diet to your dog can present disease risks to both your dog and livestock. Discuss other dietary options with your vet and ensure that any meat and offal is thoroughly cooked before feeding it to your pets.
4. Do not allow dogs to eat fallen stock, after-birth or birth fluids from livestock.
5. Farmers should promptly and hygienically dispose of fallen stock and after-birth materials, and should keep livestock feed covered and locked away to prevent access by dogs, other pets and wildlife.

We now have two new dog poo bins, one in star lane and one in Woodstock lane, with another coming soon opposite the Nags Head/Cherington lane.

Thank you for taking the time to read this and I do hope that we can stop that 1% who let the 99% of responsible dog owners down.

Mandy Slater

Puzzle Corner

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

(Answers on page 34)

Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contains all of the digits 1 to 9.

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www.puzzlechoice.com

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8								9				
10		11						12				
13				14			15					16
18						17						
21						22				23		
24								25				

Down

1. Security device (7)
2. Bone (3)
3. Supple (5)
4. Plain (6)
5. Fortification (7)
6. Enlarges (9)
7. Astound (5)
11. Consortium (9)
14. Mode (7)
16. Irksome (7)
17. Wonder (6)
18. Repent (5)
20. Artery (5)
23. Unwell (3)

Across

1. Danger (5)
4. Percussion instrument (7)
8. Deliberated (7)
9. Molten rock (5)
10. Marine molluscs (7)
12. Similar (5)
13. Martial art (4,2)
15. Rigorous (6)
18. Assumed name (5)

19. Accumulated (7)
21. Similar to a giraffe (5)
22. Dizziness (7)
24. Perpetual (7)
25. Book of maps (5)



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Avening W.I.

Our March speaker, Celia Hargrave, gave an interesting account of the development of her garden at Sheepscombe. Having moved there 25 years ago, and starting with very little gardening knowledge, she has gradually made a stunning garden for all seasons, which is open under the National Gardens Scheme. Several of our members expressed an interest in visiting the garden at Trench Hill later this year.

Speaking of stunning gardens, for our summer coach trip this year we are planning to visit the Savill Gardens at Windsor on Thursday 27th June. This trip is open to all and will cost £25 a head to cover the coach and entry fees. If you are interested in reserving a place or for more details, please telephone Sue Osborne on 839327.



Nine members and five dogs enjoyed our first ramble of the year starting on the green in Frampton-on-Severn. We had a wander through the village looking at the interesting array of houses, then through the church field and back along the Gloucester and Sharpness Canal to The Bell, where we had an

enjoyable lunch.

Our next Fun Quiz will take place on Friday 27th April with a 7.30pm start at the Social Club. This is always a popular village event and everyone is welcome to come along. Teams of four people compete, and there are usually people who can make up a team on the night if required. The cost is £4 a head, which includes a ploughman's supper. All proceeds will go to Longfields.

Our speakers for April will be Virginia and David Adsett of 'Those Were the Days', with a presentation entitled 'The Fab 50s'. Please come along to the Memorial Hall at 7.30pm, on Thursday 12th April if you would like to hear the talk, or to find out what WI is all about.

Helen Haiselden

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PROUD SUPPORTERS OF AVENING PLAYGROUP

Elsie's FGR Experience

On the 10th of March my mum and I went to watch FGR play Notts County who are in the top 3 teams of League 2. So it was going to be a good game especially as ex FGR Captain Liam Noble now plays for Notts County.

In the beginning of the first half Notts County were looking strong but we were able to clear off any attacking shots that they put forward. FGR started a bit shaky but as soon as they got into it they began to have several runs into the attacking end and Reuban Reid managed to get FGR's first proper shot which unfortunately got saved by the Notts County goal keeper. After that, the game started to level out for a while we were looking like the stronger team. However, in the 35th minute everyone was getting a bit hectic inside of the box and after Bradley Collins accidentally took out one of Notts County's attackers, Liam Noble followed it up with a sharp shot that hit the corner of the net making it 1-0 to Notts County. Although, even if he didn't score it would have been a penalty anyway so there really was no way of escaping a goal being conceded. Unfortunately that's how the first half was left and FGR needed to work hard in the second half.

After half time FGR were looking like a different team and were going for it right away but nothing seemed to happen; it just kept going back and forth for a while. Although, 20 minutes into the second half, after being subbed on, Tahvon Campbell scored a brilliant goal for the Rovers levelling the game. FGR were looking really strong after that and were getting some good chances to score; I just wish one of them went in because in the 79th minute Notts County scored another goal, which to our displeasure, was the last goal of the game. Even with 7 minutes of extra time we just couldn't get a goal in before the final whistle.

Overall, it was a good watch and it really deserved to be a draw. Let's hope the Rovers can win their next one.

COME ON YOU ROVERS!!!!!!!

Who it's against!	Date!	Time!	Home or Away!
Colchester	2 nd April	3:00pm	H
Barnet	7 th April	3:00pm	A
Cheltenham Town	14 th April	3:00pm	A
Chesterfield	21 st April	3:00pm	H
Luton	28 th April	3:00pm	A

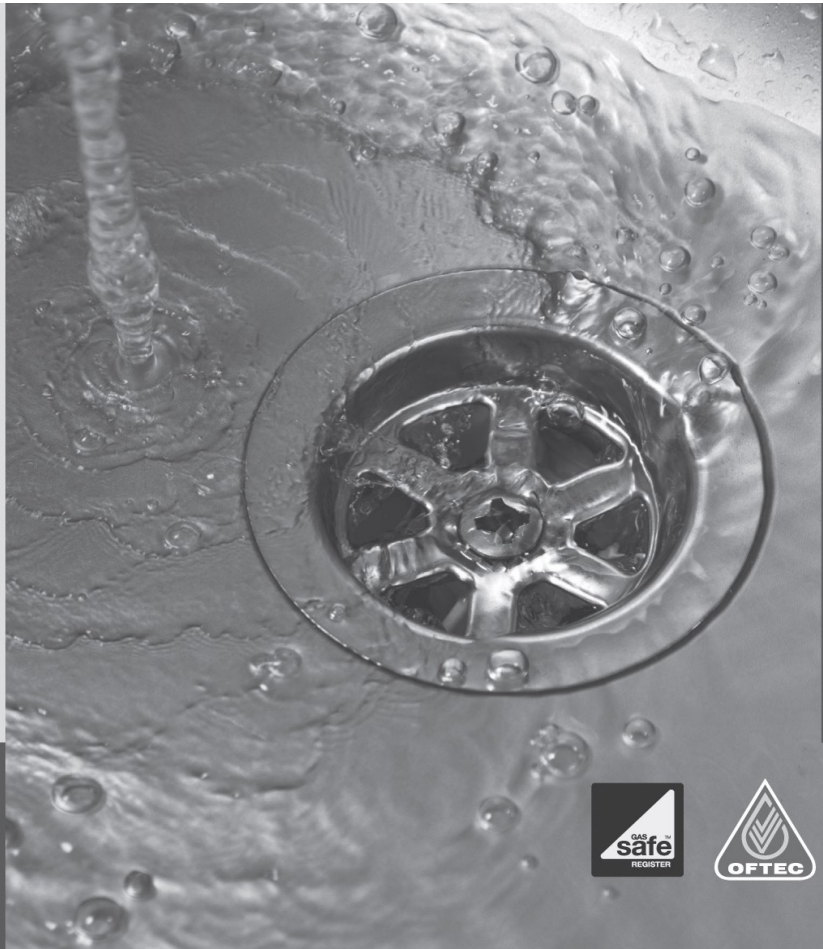
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THE BAYEUX TAPESTRY – COMING TO AVENING?

Emmanuel Macron, the French President, has promised us that the Bayeux tapestry will come to England, apparently as a show of solidarity following Brexit. As it depicts King Harold getting an arrow in his eye and his army being thrashed at the Battle of Hastings, perhaps we should reciprocate with a painting of the Battle of Waterloo...

The tapestry will not be available for transportation until at least 2020, and won't come at all if the residents of Normandy have anything to do with it, who understandably are concerned at its fragility, as well as unemployment in the museum where it is currently displayed. But if it does arrive, it appears that no decision has yet been reached on the venue.

Curiously, as no mention of the tapestry could be found until 300 years after the 1066 battle, there is little to go on as to its provenance. Scholars have pronounced that the tapestry was most likely to have been completed by English needlewomen, probably nuns (and that Harold's arrow was a cruel joke added many years later – indeed, the story that he was cut to pieces by four Norman knights is the more likely).

Now, it was rumoured that Queen Matilda, the wife of King William the Conqueror, commissioned the Bayeux tapestry in order to celebrate her husband's success in ousting Harold. And as we know, Matilda had strong connections with Avening, because when William returned to France a year after the Norman invasion, she remained here, fancied Brictric, the Saxon lord of the Avening estate, and had him thrown in a dungeon, where he died, in a case of unrequited love. However, Queen Matilda soon realised how badly she had behaved, and gave Avening our church as a way of repentance.

So with such strong connections with the Queen who commissioned the tapestry, where better to display the Bayeux tapestry than Avening? It should just about fit around the Memorial Hall.

All right, this is a bit fanciful, and who wants tourists here anyway? With a certain actor having moved into the village, we could soon have cult followers of Withnail and I to contend with. A knock on the head, and he's all over the Daily Telegraph as soon as he exits Stroud A&E, poor chap; the price of fame. Sorry, where was I?

Yes, this article was really just to raise expectations for Pig Face Day, formally known as the Avening Feast and Queen Matilda's Pageant, which after a break of four years will take place this September. Now it's not called Pig Face Day because Britvic didn't fancy Queen Matilda; it's because the arrival of the church was celebrated with a pig roast, and the head of a pig is taken into the church as part of the procession and adorns the top table. Nowadays, villagers dress up in the costumes of the day and play out the pageant, and everyone is treated to the



sumptuous pig roast. Well done the Parish Council for getting this function up and running again, something unique to Avening that has been celebrated for eight hundred years, so we shouldn't let it slip or we will be known for just the place that has the Duck Race.

So we owe a debt of gratitude to Queen Matilda, who was also responsible for the building of the Abbaye aux Dames in Caen, which is where her crypt and tomb can be found. You should visit: Caen is a fascinating city, and Brittany Ferries sail directly there. William the Conqueror's birthplace at Falaise

is not far away either, with that iconic statue of him on horseback, surrounded by the former Kings of Normandy.

You could also call in at the Bayeux Museum, just in case we don't get the tapestry.

Roger Lindley

Cherington Litter Pick

Thanks to all who helped at the Litter pick last month. The children had a great time, their best finds being a rusty bucket with no bottom and a large holey fleece!



Avening Playgroup

Owing to the flu bug there is no playgroup report this month. The editors hope that Debbie and the rest of the playgroup staff are fully recovered by next month.

If you have a child that you would like to join playgroup do phone us any morning on 01453 832695 or email us at aveningplaygroup@gmail.com

Debbie Brown

BAKE OFF

**SUNDAY 13TH
MAY AT THE
VILLAGE AGM
SHOW**

**Calling all budding cake makers:
Mums, Dads, Grannies, Grandads
and Children!**

Children

Ages 4-10 and 10-16

6 Fairy Cakes, baked and decorated

Adults

**Bake and decorate a 20cm (8 inch) Sponge,
Fruit Cake or Lemon Drizzle**

**Come on join in show us what you can do! Plenty
of time to practice!!**

**Bring cakes to Village Hall to be judged by 12 noon on the
day.**

Enquiries to councillor Christine Howell 01453 833246

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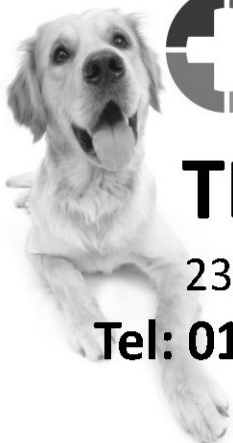


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Avening Youth Club

Fun for anyone aged 8 to 14 from Avening, Nags Head, and Cherington every Tuesday in term time from 6 to 7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall. The Cost is just £1 a time to include a healthy snack. Good to see new faces for the last few session. Just come along and see what's what if you haven't been before. We'll make you welcome.

3rd & 10th April: Easter Holidays – no Youth Club

17th April – Team Night: An evening based around teamwork. There will be games, craft activities and challenges.

24th April – Stress Busters!: FGun running-around type games.

We'll let you know in the next Villager what's on in May. Find us on Facebook – Avening Youth Club – for the programme and pictures of our activities.

For parents or carers: The Youth Club is run by The Door (find their website at www.thedoor.org.uk). They provide a qualified and experienced Youth Worker. You just need to leave an emergency contact number when you drop your young person off. If they come on their own, we need them to give us a number to contact.

Want more information? Contact Rev. Gerald South on 834884 or The Door on 01453 756745.

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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH

THE GREAT AVENING...

VILLAGE SPILLAGE



Sunday 20th May

10am-1pm

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Buy and Talk**

Village fun! Have a stall outside your house for £5. Be on the map!

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SEE OUR FACEBOOK PAGE TO FIND OUT MORE...



Avening School

The Owls have enjoyed a fantastic residential at Marchants Hill where they had the opportunity to learn new skills while developing their ability to show courage and perseverance.

After arriving, they met their PGL leader, Conor, who showed them around and played games on the field. Once they had eaten lunch, they took part in orienteering and abseiling. Orienteering around the woods taught everyone some



important map reading skills, which they were able to use in a competition to get as many stamps as possible. A lot of energy was used in getting between the points! Abseiling presented a different set of challenges. After clambering into the harnesses, there was a climb of four flights of stairs to get to the top of the tower. First of all, everyone had to learn the skills and techniques required to abseil safely. Then a huge amount of courage was required to stand on the edge and lean back into thin air! There were some wobbly legs at the top but pupils were able to overcome their fears and take a risk. They were really

proud of themselves when they reached the bottom and took confidence from their success. Several pupils took it a step further and even though they did not complete the abseil on their first attempt they persevered, showed even more courage and completed the challenge on their second go. This was a fantastic achievement.

A delicious meal was followed by a campfire in the woods. Everyone dressed in their warm clothes and trekked deep within the woods, where they gathered around the campfire. The leaders taught them lots of new songs, played games and told stories to keep everyone entertained until they were ready for bed.

After a good nights sleep, day two presented the challenge of archery, fencing, trapeze and climbing. Archery and fencing gave everyone chance to learn new skills and develop on ones they had learnt in school. Climbing allowed everyone to learn belay skills (knuckles, pocket, reach around, lock it) as well as take on the climbing wall. Everyone had to trust their belay team while finding the best route up the wall and getting as high as they could. It was really pleasing to see so many pupils reaching their personal best on their second go. The trapeze was a real test of courage. First you had to climb to the top of a wobbly pole. Then there was the leap into the air to reach the target which made everyone overcome their nerves!

After lunch there was the challenge of getting a water bomb from the top of a tower to the ground safely. There were many collaboration skills on show as the pupils worked in groups to create a design. Motivation was increased when Conor promised any group that accomplished the challenge could pelt him with the water bombs! There were some very creative designs on show as they thought about solving the problem. Their creations were then put to the test as Conor threw them from the top of the tower with a variety of results. Some water bombs did not make it but two groups were successful, much to Conor's annoyance!

On the final day Jacob's Ladder allowed everyone to apply their belay skills in a new task, working together to get their group as high as possible. Lots of problem skills were required as well as a healthy dose of perseverance, especially after a sudden downpour including hail! The weather only increased the challenge of the Challenge Course which was full of mud and puddles. Everyone enjoyed overcoming the obstacles and it was really pleasing to see pupils support each other to get the whole team around the course. Nobody finished the course without becoming covered in mud from head to toe! A warm shower was a welcome end to the events and there was definitely a sound of snoring on the coach journey home!



All of the pupils should be very proud of their achievements on the residential. Everyone overcame their fears and showed courage to take risks which gave them more confidence in their own ability to achieve things they did not think were possible. They worked really well to collaborate in competing the tasks and supporting each other to overcome their fears. A real team effort! They also learnt many skills in becoming more independent as they had to organise their rooms and make sure they kept all of their belongings together. Organisation and preparation were needed to make sure they had everything they needed for the different activities giving them independent learning skills they will be able to transfer back to the classroom. Their behaviour was excellent, a credit to the school, and they all developed their ability to respect each other and their instructors. Well done Owls!

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

Alison Solis

A Beekeepers Tale

With Spring approaching, as a beekeeper, I thought I would share with you the reason why honeybees swarm and what you can do should you come across one.

Honeybees swarm so as to make new colonies. By leaving their old nest they can also leave behind any diseases that they may have. The main swarming month is May, as this gives the bees the most time to establish a new nesting site and build up in size to give them the best chance of overwintering successfully, but bees will still swarm in June and July. The first swarm to issue is known as the prime swarm. This will consist of about half of the colony's flying bees and the reigning Queen. A prime swarm can number up to 30,000



A typical swarm hanging in a tree

bees. The prime swarm will not leave without first making sure that replacement Queens are in the making. These Queens will still be in their cells and will emerge about 7 to 8 days after the prime swarm left. Each virgin queen may also swarm, taking with them each time half of the remaining nest. These secondary swarms are known as 'after swarms' or casts. It's doubtful if many of these after swarms will be strong enough to establish a nest site and reach an adequate overwintering size, unless they can be caught by a beekeeper, who can give them some help.

Several days before a swarm leaves, scout bees will have been out looking for new suitable nesting sites, hollow trees, capped off chimneys and roof voids being ideal spaces (from a bees point of view), at least a kilometre away from the parent colony so that the new nest site isn't in competition with the old.

On leaving the swarm will initially hang up not too far from the parent colony, usually from a branch or fence post (see photo), typically in a rugby ball shape, whilst the bees gather themselves together before departing to their new home. They may hang there for a few minutes to several hours. This is the ideal time for a beekeeper to collect them.

A swarm in flight can be a frightening thing to witness, a large cloud of bees making a loud droning sound travelling at a brisk walking pace. A swarm by its nature is not aggressive, as it has no brood nest to defend, but any eye witnesses would be advised to keep at a distance or go indoors taking young

children and pets with them as bees which get entangled in hair or clothing will be liable to sting.

If you find a swarm and need a beekeeper to come and collect it, a list of swarm collectors for your area is kept on The British Beekeeping Association website. County Councils also may have contact details.

Please bear in mind many beekeepers are amateurs with day jobs and so may only be able to help at evenings and weekends. We are also not pest controllers. Also, once a swarm has found a new nesting site it is no longer a swarm and retrieval of it will usually be beyond our scope.

Ian Macdonald



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Locally-Based Charities

This table gives information about charities which are based in and around Avening and Cherington. Periodically, we will give a more detailed outline of what each organisation does.

Please let us know if any information is incorrect and also if you know of any other charities which should be included - we know there are plenty for this list.

Charity	Purpose	Further Information
Friends of Avening School (FOAS)	FOAS raises money to help with various projects and activities at the school.	01453 833191
Horsfall House	Provides nursing care for residents, a Day Centre 6 days a week Home Care and meals on Wheels in the local area.	01453 731227
Hop, Skip & Jump Foundation	Provide high quality respite care for children and young adults with disabilities and SEN	hoskipandjump.org.uk 01453 836390 marcoms@hopskipandjump.org.uk
Mark Townsend Charitable Trust	Providing help for young people with mental health issues	themarktownsend-charitabletrust.com 01453 832799
Friends of Little Stars	Fundraising and support for Little Stars School for underprivileged children in Varanasi, India	Kieran Archer 01453 832992 littlestarsschool.org
Avening Church of England Educational Fund	To support and promote the education of those under the age of 25 resident in the parish of Avening.	Stephanie Hamilton, 07796 981308
Longfields	Supporting any adult affected by life-limiting illness to live well; to die well; and to care well.	01453886868 day.services@longfield.org.uk

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

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Puzzle Answers

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

P	E	R	I	L		M	A	R	I	M	B	A		
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A Bite to Eat?

Arranging a Group Lunch, Christening other social event ?



Avening WI 'Bite to Eat' scheme may be able to assist with your catering needs. We can provide and serve a selection of freshly prepared sandwiches, scones, cakes etc; a fork or finger buffet; or a two course meal.

For prices and any further details phone 01453 835752 or e-mail eileenind@gmail.com



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Cherington Parish Council

New Planning Applications

2 February 2018, 18/00429/LBC: Alterations and extension to dwelling. The Studio Westrip Farmhouse.

Status: Awaiting decision. Permission renewal. PC had no objection.

8 February 2018, 18/00517/FUL: Proposed erection of a stable block and yard. Westrip Farmhouse.

Status: Pending Consideration. Permission renewal. PC had no objection.

7 February 2018 18/00493/TCONR: T1 - Norway spruce - fell; T2 - Cypress - fell; G1 - Cypress x 2 - reduce in height by 4 metres. 5 Aston Farm Cottages.

Status: Decided, No objection.

27 January 2018 18/00319/LBC: Repair and reconstruction works to lean-to shed roof and walls, Coxes Farm.

Status: Awaiting decision. PC had no objection.

18 January 2018 18/00214/FUL: Erection of single storey rear extension (Retrospective) Westside House.

Status: Awaiting decision. Variation between approved and built. PC had no objection.

17 January 2018 18/00215/LBC: Erection of single storey rear extension (Retrospective) Westside House.

Status: Awaiting decision. Variation between approved and built. PC had no objection.

For further information please visit www.cotswold.gov.uk and search on the Planning pages.

County and District Cllr Reports

County Cllr Hirst's report on the GCC budget is now on our website. Responsibility for road repairs will be split under new contracts and highways inspectors will be GCC employees. District Cllr Richard Morgan reported that the CDC has frozen council tax, green bin charge and car parking fees for the next FY, extended free car parking after 3pm to all its car parks and reserved £15m for decked parking in Waterloo. Recycling rates are still rising and CDC is ranked 13th out of 350 authorities. Tetbury Town Council is seeking a new recycling site.

Broadband

Residents may wish to check information at <http://www.fastershire.com/> for the latest plans.

Annual Parish Meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on **Saturday 7th April 2018 at 10am at the Village Hall**. The public are encouraged to attend; public participation, Councillor and Village Hall reports, car parking and a defibrillator are currently planned agenda items. A full agenda will be placed on the village notice board and on our website: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

The Parish Clerk can be contacted on 01453 832100 or via email at cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk.

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Avening Cinema Club

THERE WILL BE NO FILM IN APRIL

Next film Wednesday May 2nd

Avening Parish Council



Playing Field Planning Application

A considerable number of residents came to the meeting to debate the proposals for the playing field. Details of the discussion will be outlined in the minutes but the outcome is that although the Parish Council have decided to let the planning application process continue, they will work with planners to understand what additional considerations need to be taken into account before a decision is made. There will be no works carried out until the plans have been amended to take into account comments already made, and when further consultation with residents has taken place.

It was agreed to then display the amended plans at the AGM on Sunday 13 May 2018 and to also publish them in the May or June edition of the Villager.

Fencing of Play Equipment Area

It was suggested that the area of the Playing Field where the children's play equipment is sited should be fenced. Councillors will be discussing this.

New Dog Waste Bin

We will be ordering an additional dog waste bin for Minchinhampton Road, opposite the turning for Nags Head/Cherington.

There was a lot of comment made at the meeting about dog mess. **PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU PICK IT UP!!** – Thank you.

Planning Applications

Ref. No: 18/00394/FUL: Levelling of land and construction of recreational facilities - Playing Field Rectory Lane Avening Gloucestershire.

See above comments

Ref. 18/00327/FUL: Full Application for Construction of a 40m x 25m sand school, and demolition of existing kennels building and part of a modern existing barn at Longmans Barn Farm Avening Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8NH.

No objections were raised.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 19 April 2018** 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Agendas will be displayed on the village notice boards. Minutes of our meetings are available to view at www.avening-pc.gov.uk

The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk or by phone: 01452 770792 07866 297098 (mobile).

Small Ads

Looking for a reliable person to collect my 2 boys ages 9 and 7 From Avening Primary School, preferably Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at 3.15, take them home, in The village of Avening and give them tea.

Approximately 6 hours a week.

Please contact: Ali; 07779765299

TONY'S CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

AT

THE BELL, AVENING

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH



£1 A PLAYER

A MAXIMUM OF 4 PLAYERS PER TEAM

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE COBALT APPEAL,

CHELTENHAM



Church Floodlighting

The church was floodlit on:

9th February In memory of **Joan Newman** on her birthday, from all the family and on:

7th February In loving memory of **Basil Fletcher**.
Sylvia and all the family.

The church will be floodlit on:

10th March on the first anniversary of the death of **Dennis Howell**, who is sorely missed and forever in our thoughts. Love from Joyce, Nick, Lisa and families

22nd March To mark the 50th anniversary of the death of **Sidney Tanner**.
Always remembered by Maureen, Roy, Martin, Michael and Sarah.

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 £10 for 2 hours

Church Services

April	Holy Cross Avening	St Nicholas Cherington
1 st	11.00 am Easter Eucharist	9.30 am Easter Eucharist
8 th	8.00 am Said Eucharist 5.00 pm Evensong	Welcome at Avening
14 th		Annual Church Meeting 10.00am in the Village Hall
15 th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
18 th	Annual Church meeting 7.00pm	
22 nd	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am
29 th	08.00 am Said Eucharist 11.00 am Café Church	Welcome at Avening
May		
6 th	11.00 am Rogation Eucharist Followed by a walk and picnic	9.30 am Rogation Eucharist
13 th	8.00 am Said Eucharist 5.30 pm Evensong	Welcome at Avening

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Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 18th April	Avening Church Annual meeting	Avening Church	7.00pm
Friday 27th April	WI Fun Quiz	Social Club	7.30pm
Sunday 13th May	Avening AGM and Show	Avening Memorial Hall and around the village	tbc
Friday 18th May	FOAS family Cinema club	Avening Memorial Hall	
Saturday 19th May	Big Brekkie!	Avening Memorial Hall	8.30 - 10.30 am
Sunday 20th May	Village Spillage Best for Ben Fundraiser	Avening	10.00 am - 1.00 pm
Saturday 19th - Sunday 27th May	Nailsworth Festival	All around the town	Details on Festival Website
Sunday June 10th	Avening Church Fete	Church, School & Memorial Hall	2.00pm onwards
Sunday 24th June	FOAS Bear hunt	Around the Village	Afternoon
Friday 13th July	School Summer Fete	School garden	tbc
Sunday 22 nd July	Cherington Show	All around the village	
Saturday 15th September	Pig Face Day	tbc	tbc
Saturday 10th November	End of WWI Centenary Celebration	Memorial Hall and around the Church	tbc

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