

# **The Villager**

**A Magazine for Avening, Cherington  
and Nags Head**



**Avening Eclipsed!**

**April 2015**

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

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# April 2015

How many of you managed to watch the eclipse - and get photos of it, like the fantastic one on our front cover. Andrew Lelliott told us how he managed to snap it: *"I'm amazed I got this. I pointed my compact camera at the sun with one hand on auto and held the solar specs in front of the lens with the other and pressed the button. Job done."*

Don't forget that we are always on the lookout for interesting and topical photos of the villages - not just for the front cover, but to tell us about happenings in the area or exciting things in your lives. New babies, wedding announcements, graduations, sporting achievements or endeavours, interesting travels; tell us about them. There are lots of things to celebrate in all our lives.

Something we can all celebrate is our community, so don't forget the Cherington Parish Meeting, which is being held in the Village Hall at 10.30am on Saturday 18th April - so there is no excuse! Just pop along and have your say.

There is a new committee for Avening Memorial Hall, and they have a lot of plans for revamping it, but if any of you have ideas about what you would like to see done to the hall, just let the committee know.

***The Villager Editors***

## **The Villager Magazine**

<b>Editors</b>	editors@acvillager.co.uk Jane Archer, Frances Conway and Derrick Pierce 07812 137161 (Jane) 01453 832177 (Frances) 01453 835090 (Derrick)
<b>Advertising</b>	editors@acvillager.co.uk Gwyneth Simpson 01453 832881
<b>Deliveries</b>	01453 834834 Cas Boddam-Whetham
<b>Deadline</b>	<b>18th of each month</b>

# Contacts for the Villages

A and C Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Avening Angels	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Art Group	Mick Williamson	01453 836318
Avening Church Churchwardens	Stephanie Hamilton	01453 834910
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Peter Best	01453 835287
Avening History Project	Fred Venning	01285 850624
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Braidwood	01285 380041
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Sunday School / Messy	Peter Quinell	01453 833251
Avening Bell Tower Captain	David Govier	01453 882914
Avening Village Agent	Aileen Bendall	07810-630156
Avening Youth Club	Cassie Vickery	01453 834182
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Frances Ashfield	01453 767384
Cherington Village Hall	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248

Cherington Church Church-wardens	Roger Gegg John Bate-Williams	01453 834805 01666 503544
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
Cherington Church Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Friends of Avening School	Jo Missenden	01453 833688
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Parish Priest quinnell708@btinternet.com	Peter Quinnell	01453 833251
Reader, Avening and Cherington Churches	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Rector	Rev. Poppy Hughes	01666 502333
Stroud Hospital	Reception	3000 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Gwyneth Simpson	01453 836556

### **VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES**

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

**Avening Church [www.aveningchurch.info](http://www.aveningchurch.info)**

**Cherington Village [www.timeldridge.typepad.com](http://www.timeldridge.typepad.com)**

**Cotswold District Council WWW. [Cotswold.gov.uk](http://Cotswold.gov.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
Lent Discussion Group	Monday	7.30pm	The Rectory 5 Orchard Fields	Rev Peter 01453 833251
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	David 01453 882914
Line Dancing	Tuesday	7.45 - 10.30pm	Social Club	Mel 01453 833760
Yoga	Wednesday	7.30pm - 9.00pm	Memorial Hall	Elles 0781 555 2952
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Dial-a-Ride	Thursday	9.30am		Liz Truman 01666 502514
WI	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Maisie 01453 834679
Avening PC	3rd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Caroline 01285 380041
Avening Art and craft Group	Thursday	10.00am	Longmans Barn	Mick 01453 836318
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4-30pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090

## **Photographs in The Villager Magazine**

Many thanks to **Andrew Lelliott** 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**

### **We Need Your Help!**

Do you like the new look Villager and is it good to get it free each month?

If you would like this to continue then we need your help.

Advertisements help to offset the costs incurred but businesses will only continue to advertise where they can see an advantage. So if you use someone for the first time having seen their ad in the Villager, be sure to let them know - and if you find a tradesman who does a good job, suggest that they may like to advertise in the Villager too. It is not that expensive and can reap great rewards.

**To advertise contact [editors@acvillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@acvillager.co.uk) for full details**

### **Please Note:**

**Due to the extra time needed to prepare, print and distribute over 500 copies of the Villager, the deadline for contributions is now the 18th of each month.**

**Many thanks to all our regular contributors for their valuable input - it is much appreciated**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April**

**CHERINGTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Village Hall 10.30 a.m.**

This is the Annual Parish Council Meeting where we report on the years work and plans for the future but it is also an opportunity for you to have your say. As many of our residents are not around during the week we have decided to hold this this year at the weekend.

Refreshments provided.

# Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



I'm not a big fan of the word 'community' – it's a bit touchy-feely for me, but this single word sums up what all of the people who contribute to this magazine, and the associated groups and organisations in the village are helping to build. I didn't want to return to the subject of volunteering so soon, but recent events have made me worry about our 'community'.

At a meeting to discuss the feasibility of a new community shop (where the 'C' word was mentioned hundreds of times), it was pleasing to see some 40 interested people come along and listen. Out of that meeting, a steering committee was formed, and although only 5 volunteered, that's fine for this phase. Hopefully the interest will convert into a viable business plan over the coming months.

The second of two village hall meetings was less well attended – out of 1,000 people who live in Avening, precisely none turned up other than those directly involved!

In a previous article I highlighted a possible geographic divide, but there is also a more worrying age divide – at the risk of causing offence (a phrase I *really* dislike) to those that were there, almost everyone at the shop meeting was aged 50+; The Parish Council – similar demographic; Villager editors, ditto; school governors ... perhaps more of a mix?

As the school is the major user and leaseholder of the hall, it would have been great to have some young blood, and new ideas from parents, but sadly none could spare the time. There are many worthy causes vying for our attention, and I get that not everyone can or wants to be involved; in the March magazine alone I counted 10 requests for help, and of course there are a lot of demands on our time, but don't miss out on life enhancing experiences. When our children were very young, my wife was on the committee that built the current playgroup building, and involvement in that project gave us a group of close friends that have endured for almost 30 years.

So far I've resisted the temptation to talk about rubbish and re-cycling – but here we go. Although I really do like polar bears, I am closer to the Jeremy Clarkson school of environmental policies than Natalie Bennett (Green party). The concept of re-cycling is fantastic, but in practice most houses aren't designed to accommodate ever accumulating piles of plastic, card, and glass etc. over a 2 week cycle. And then there's the fortnightly fight to get it all into a completely unsuitable assortment of nylon blue bags, boxes and slop



buckets. Our blue bag was useless when it was new, but now it's been in active service for a couple of years, it needs recycling! I'm asking CDC if they can review how card can be better packaged for collection, and I'll let you know their response.

What do you think – how can we make things better? Tell me via email [tony.slater@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:tony.slater@avening-pc.gov.uk)

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

### **The Avening Community Shop Steering Committee**

The inaugural meeting of the steering committee has been held and the main topic was the possible siting of a shop for Avening. Ideally it would be in the High Street to attract passing trade as well as local people on foot.

There are a few sites which may be possible but if any of the readers have some good ideas including unused rooms in their own houses please contact the Editors. We will keep you posted regarding progress via the pages of the Villager.

***Gwyneth Simpson***

## **AN APPEAL FOR GARDENS**

**Would you like to open your garden on  
24<sup>th</sup> May**

**as part of the Avening Open Gardens 2015, in aid of local  
charities?**

If so, please call  
Marilyn on 835820  
or Anthea on 835287



# Letter From the Parish Priest



“We are an Easter People and Alleluia is our song!” These words were spoken by Saint Augustine, way back in the fourth century, shortly after his Baptism on Easter Day in the year 387 AD. Another one of his well known quotations is: ‘To sing is to pray twice’.

The Christmas story is well known and all of us have been to a Nativity Play, perhaps as a participant, or supported our own children, or encouraged our hesitant grandchildren as they sang Away in a Manger at the crib. The story is a sequence of events beginning with the visitation of the Angel Gabriel to Mary and ending with the flight to Egypt by the Holy Family to avoid the wrath of Herod.

The Easter story, perhaps less well known than the Christmas story, is also a sequence of events, beginning with Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, and culminating with our Lord’s glorious resurrection on Easter Day – but that’s not the end, because, as Saint Augustine reminds us, we are the Easter with the living Christ today. The crowds hailed Jesus as their King shouting, ‘Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!’, but in the ensuing days their mood changed dramatically. As Jesus shared the Passover Meal with his disciples, he washed their feet as a sign of his love for them, and at the end of the meal he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and gave it to them, saying that it was his body, broken for them; and then took the cup of wine, saying it was his blood, shed for them: ‘do this in remembrance of me.’

During the night Jesus prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane before his arrest and trial before Pilate. The outcome was that Jesus was condemned to death and died on the cross. Afterwards his body was laid in the tomb, and as we know, God raised him to life again on the first Easter morning. Interestingly, it was Mary Magdalene who was the first person to greet the risen Christ. Through his death and glorious resurrection, Jesus has conquered death and sin and won for all people salvation, that is, eternal life. Christians across the world follow Jesus through the events of Holy Week and greet him with acclamations on Easter morning. Will you travel with Jesus? You will we receive a warm welcome at all of the services in our churches.

In the early Church it was the tradition for people to be Baptized on Easter day. They would use the season of Lent in preparation for their Baptism. Saint Augustine was baptized on Easter Day in the year 387 AD. This Easter at Holy

Cross, we shall welcome two new members to our parish Family, and the worldwide Christian Family. They will be Christened during the Parish Eucharist at 11:00am – please join us as we welcome them.

A message to our young Parish Family members – come and join the Easter Egg hunt following the service on Easter Day.

**I wish everyone a holy and joyous Easter – Alleluia! Jesus is risen!**

With my love and prayers

*Peter*



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# David Martin



## **The Address given at the Funeral of David Martin.**

*The words below feel very personal to Diane and Will but, because so many people at David's funeral were inspired and comforted by them, they are happy to share them in print.*

Sometimes the right way to understand a situation comes from the strangest of places. Early one morning, just over a week ago, I was watching an old episode of a programme called *The West Wing*. A character called Toby was angry; his brother had committed suicide. A friend of Toby's was listening to him, listening to him as he poured out his heart. And when he was finished he turned to Toby and said, 'your brother, he just ran out of fight.'

'He just ran out of fight.' I heard those words and I immediately thought of David. Diane has shared with many of you – either in conversation or in an email - the chain of events that led to David's death. I won't rehearse those here. But I wonder whether, of David, it could be said that he too ran out of fight. That, at a moment in his life when he was tired and the demands upon him were many, he looked within and couldn't see where the energy or

resilience was going to come from to get through the next few weeks, months and years.

I imagine that some of us here have been close to that point in our lives. And let's not forget, that even the greatest, strongest, most resilient of saints have, at times, run out of fight. Read the Bible carefully and you will see that Moses, Elijah and Jonah all considered bringing their lives to an end.

Now some people say that there is always strength to call on, from friends, family and God. God, especially, can be relied upon in moments of greatest despair. And for many people, that is true. God comes through, and his Spirit raises many men and women who can see no way out of their problems. But sometimes God doesn't come through, or, he tries, but we don't open the door to him. And, for whatever reason, nearly two weeks ago, David didn't feel able to open the door to God's rescuing spirit.

And that is why we are here today. And this means that that fine and respected man is no longer with us in the flesh; a man who was free from the vices of our age. Free from selfishness and greed. Free from self-promotion and ever present ego. Free from the plague of uncaring, unhelpfulness, and unloving that curses our society.

David Martin was a righteous man. There is not a man or women here today who would disagree with that judgement of his character. And so I ask you now to hear in your hearts the words of Solomon and which were read earlier for us by Terry: *that the righteous are in the hands of God where no torment shall ever touch them; that their reward is with the Lord, the most High takes care of them.*

Though David could not, in his last hours of life, open the door of his heart to God's rescuing spirit, our prayer must be now that he is being held in the loving, healing hands of that very same God, and that the torments and worries that drained him of fight will never touch him again. That is our prayer, and that is our hope. For David, there is no more sorrow, or pain or despair. He is safe now in the arms of Everlasting love, and the deep and eternal tenderness of those arms is wiping away every last tear from his eyes.

***Dr. Adam Dunning***

***Senior Chaplain, Cheltenham College***

# Avening W.I.

Seven members have just returned from the Annual Council Meeting of the Gloucestershire Federation of W.I.s. We learned that there are 4,000 W.I. members in Gloucestershire, so it was not surprising that the Cheltenham Town Hall was full to capacity.

We had a very inspiring talk by the vice chair of the National Federation, Diana Birch. She gave us an example of a typical week in her diary and it appears that being on the Board of the National Federation is a full time job and certainly not for the faint hearted.

The visiting speaker was Kate Bliss, the antiques expert and a familiar face on T.V. programmes like Bargain Hunt and Flog It. She gave a very interesting, illustrated, account of her life and work. She showed a few of her real "finds", which went on to be sold for vast sums of money. One was a gold and jewelled clock in an egg shaped case bought for £6,000, which later the same year, having been identified as a missing Faberge piece, was sold for £7 million.

During the meeting the centenary baton arrived, having been carried all the way from Gloucester by a runner from Sheepscombe W.I. The baton will be arriving in Avening in a few days, as reported in last month's Villager.

We had another good members' walk, this time around Woodchester and visited the site of the Roman Pavement. We saw wild deer in a garden by the school, quite unperturbed by our presence.

We have attended a return friendly skittles match with Sheepscombe and won! This has inspired us to do well in the County Skittles Tournament with the first match coming soon.

We have 4 teams entering the W.I. County Quiz. The first round is in early April and we are hoping to do well.

Our speaker this month was Tony Rance from Bristol, who spoke about his work as a toastmaster. He wore his formal dress, with a red tail coat. He officiates at many Indian weddings, which can be very grand affairs with as many as 2,000 guests. He had many tales of problems, mishaps and troublesome guests at various grand functions over the years.

***Gwyneth Simpson***



The W.I. Centenary Baton arrived in Avening by electric car from Brimscombe and Thrupp W.I.. From here it will travel to Tetbury W.I. by Ferrari and then onwards around the county.

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# Avening School

## Food tasting, sports matches and Science trips – an action packed Spring term!



This half term at Avening School, there has been a real emphasis on healthy living – both through healthy eating and also through keeping fit and active. Healthy Eating is something our School works very hard to promote and support, so we were absolutely thrilled to hear that we have been awarded Healthy School Status. Our School Council (which is pupil led) have played a big part in coming up with ways to improve

healthy eating in School and have not only suggested that more fruit be served at lunchtime (which has been fulfilled), they have also set up a healthy, tasty tuck shop for KS2 children. On offer for children to purchase at this School Council led tuck shop are a variety of dried fruit, seeds and unsalted popcorn. More on healthy eating is being learnt in the infant classes, who were recently paid a visit by Rachel Dyer from Tetbury Tesco's 'farm to fork' initiative. Children learnt the importance of a balanced diet and took part in some taste tests – which included dried fruit and delicious hot cross buns!

On a sporty note, our football teams have been playing against other local schools in a number of tournaments. All our footballers have made the School incredibly proud with their enthusiasm and fantastic performances. Our Cross Country squad have also been busy, taking part in the district races in Cirencester with many children beating their personal best. A huge well done must go to Keira from Y3 who brought home a bronze medal; a fantastic effort from all of our sports stars!

There has also been a focus on science at School recently, with two Science based outings. A few weeks ago, a group of super scientists visited the NEC in Birmingham for the Big Bang Science Event. The Big Bang is the largest celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths for young people in the UK. The exhibition is aimed at showing the career opportunities available in these areas and highlighting the qualifications needed to pursue them.



Another group of budding Scientists went to Westonbirt School for Making Waves – another science focused visit. Six of our Year 5 girls, along with Mrs Amos, had an inspiring day. Activities at the event included going inside a space dome and looking at stars, making kaleidoscopes, using Bunsen burners and testing chemicals and capturing hydrogen bubbles in jars of liquid. All came back to school full of enthusiasm and in no doubt at all that science is the most exciting subject to study!

We wish you all a very Happy Easter as we look forward to the Summer term.

**Alex Adcock**

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

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High Street, Avening

£5 Entry per person - Food included

If you are unable to make the event and would like to make a bid, please email [admin@avening.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@avening.gloucs.sch.uk) for an auction catalogue.

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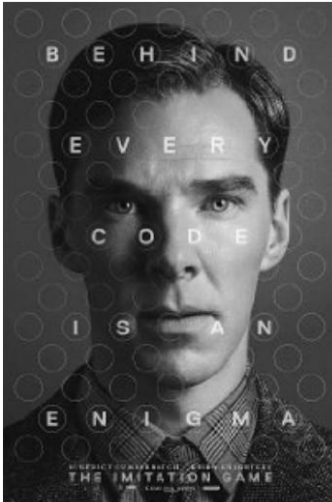
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All funds raised go towards new school books and furniture for the classrooms



# Avening Film Club

APRIL FILM SHOWING AT 7-30 on 15th  
in the Social Club

## THE IMITATION GAME



In 1939, newly created British intelligence agency MI6 recruits Cambridge mathematics alumnus Alan Turing (Benedict Cumberbatch) to crack Nazi codes, including Enigma -- which cryptanalysts had thought unbreakable. Turing's team, including Joan Clarke (Keira Knightley), analyze Enigma messages while he builds a machine to decipher them. Turing and team finally succeed and become heroes, but in 1952, the quiet genius encounters disgrace when authorities reveal he is gay and send him to prison.

**Cert:** 12A – **Run time:** 1 hr. 54 min. **Director:** Morten Tyldum

**May film - Wed 20th - THE THEORY OF EVERYTHING**

## AVENING VILLAGE FETE

Sunday 7th June 2pm



**Toys & Games**

**Bouncy Castle**

**Bottle**

**Tombola**

**Homemade Cakes & Produce**

**Raffle**

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**DVDs**

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**Plant Stall**

**Bric-a-Brac**

**Art Exhibition in the Church**

**Teas & Ice Creams**

**Fun Dog**

**Show**



**Display of Classic Cars at the Old Rectory**

**..... AND AVENING'S FAMOUS DUCK RACE**

# Avening History Project



Those of you who had received the Villager last December, will recall that wonderful photograph of children bathing in the stream close to Old Hill. Purportedly taken in and around 1946, it illustrates the joy of simple activities during times of mass austerity, with rationing of food, clothing et al. We did receive some reaction to our request for identification of those pictured but, unfortunately, this hasn't been followed through. So, can we start again and with our increased circulation, and hope that we get a really positive response. I can supply a copy of the photograph with "identification numbers" if this would help.

Secondly, we now have in the "History", copies of five Marriage Licenses, given to couples who were married under the Licenses in the past.

The marriages were between:

- Walter William BRAMICH and Emily ROBINS married 26th March 1932
- Trevor CARE and Margery Phyllis Grace HEWER, married 19th September 1942
- Ian Rae PITTOCK and Kathleen Bleasdale Whiting, married 3rd February 1943
- Harry GODDARD and Dulcie Phyllis Ayres, married 16th December 1943
- Robert Alfred PARKER and Patricia Ella LUKER married 11th March 1944

I am happy to give a copy to any proven descendants.

*Fred Vening*

# PETER JOY

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# Letters to the Editors

## **Rev Celia - former Priest in Charge**

I was so saddened to read the Bishop of Tewksbury's letter in the March edition of The Villager where we all read that Rev Celia has lost her Permission/Licence to Officiate. I have known Rev Celia for many years and could hardly believe what I was reading, so I decided to find out the facts from various upstanding persons within the village, members of the PCC, members of the Parish Council, numerous friends, Rev Celia herself, etc. I will not go into these facts here, suffice to say that I now believe the accusations towards such an upstanding pillar of our society as Rev Celia seem to be unfounded. Rev Celia has certainly made our family's time in the village so much richer, both as a very good friend and an excellent community leader, and I am confident that I speak for a large proportion of the village. The very least we can do for her is stand up for her when she is in trouble.

So where are we now? I would personally like to see an acknowledgement of the facts and an apology by the Bishop of Tewksbury to Rev Celia written in this magazine (as this was the format chosen to advertise the removal of Rev Celia's Licence), the immediate reinstatement of her Licence, the village generally coming together and helping each other as one community once again. I would love to give every support to the new Priest in Charge (as they of course have very big boots to fill and need all the help they can get), but NOT at the expense of Rev Celia.

***Nicholas Winkfield***

I was so heartened to see Rima Jones' response to the Chairman's letter as it exactly reflected my own reaction. My family and I moved to Avening (and lately Nags Head) twelve years ago and have enjoyed living in what I have always considered to be a relatively diverse community. Certainly we have come to know people from all over the parish and have given and attended numerous events over the years which could in no way be aligned with the notion of a 'distinct community' - quite the reverse and all the better for it. As for 'just living here', not everyone is at a place in their lives where they are available (or wish!) to seek office or commit to regular activities, but they are most definitely not 'just living here' - whatever that means. They are running businesses (perhaps locally!), looking after elderly relations, returning to study, caring for grandchildren, rearing livestock, renovating a home, and yes, when they can, perhaps they are eating at the local pubs, going to village

cinema, visiting a neighbour, looking after someone else's house, pets or horses, supporting the fete, volunteering in the wider community, doing ballet classes in the village hall, picking up litter by the lake, using the services of the numerous excellent tradespeople and practitioners who live in the village...The many ways in which people contribute to their communities do not always require them to stand in the limelight, but they matter and each plays his part, however quietly. The original sentiments were doubtless well meant and I admire blunt speaking, but I think the underlying assumption of social division was unfortunate and perhaps simplistic. Social cohesion is made up of many small actions. My daughter suggested that a more positive response to any (perceived) issue might have been to foreground the absence of councillors from particular parts of the village and suggest residents might like to come forward.

Yours, wherever you live as I probably haven't noticed,

***Sarah Croome, Nags Head Lane (the middle bit) Avening***

*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.*

## AVENING ART AND CRAFT EXHIBITION



SUNDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2015

SPACES ARE BEING OFFERED IN THE CHURCH FOR YOU TO  
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Bring your own table - spaces available at £10 each

Setting up will be on Saturday afternoon from 2-00pm

More details contact Doreen on 01453 835090 or Barry on 01666 503926

# Avening Playgroup

This term is always a fun one with lots of Festivals for the children to learn about.

Whilst learning about the Chinese New Year the children had the opportunity to practice using chop-sticks, which is always a challenge, and they played with dried rice moving it around using the toy diggers which is always a popular activity. This year is the Year of the Sheep. The children made lovely 3D sheep and decorated a box to make a dragons head. We then added fabric and danced underneath it to Chinese music. This is something which we do every year and which the children really enjoy doing.

The children came to playgroup dressed as Super Hero's and Princesses on Red Nose Day to raise money for Comic Relief. They really enjoyed decorating (and eating!) red nose face biscuits too.

The children have made heart collages for Valentine's Day and made some lovely cards for their mums for Mother's Day. By the time you are reading this they will also have made Easter Cards and taken part in our annual Easter Egg Hunt. Chocolate eggs are hidden around our outside area. The children find them and then they are all shared out when it is time to go home.

Thank you to those of you who have donated your Sainsbury's vouchers to us. We are still collecting them.

We are currently running a lunch club on a Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday so playgroup will be open from 9.15 to 1.15 on these days.

Playgroup is open every morning during term time. Please call us on 01453 832695 if you would like your child to join us or you would like to add your child's name to our waiting list.

Happy Easter!

*Debbie Brown*

## **Raising Funds for Playgroup**

We have a recycling bin at playgroup for old clothes and shoes. If you have any that you want to get rid of, please bring them along in a plastic bag any week day morning during term time when we are open. Please do not leave them outside playgroup.

We are also collecting vouchers from Sainsburys. These can be posted into our post box at any time.

Thank you very much for your support.



# Minchinhampton Old Course

Minchinhampton Old Golf Course on the Common is likened to an inland links course and offers opportunities and challenges for all golfers whether new to the game or experienced players. It is proud of its long history of offering good value golfing opportunities to the local community in a spectacular setting.



There are competitions, matches and rollups for Men, Seniors and Ladies and there is a thriving Junior section for both boys and girls. Weekly coaching groups take place every week with Professional Peter Dangerfield. Visitors, Societies and New Members are always welcome so do come along and find out more as you can be assured of a warm welcome.

The golfing season began in early March with the Captains' Drive in and competition for all sections of the club which is always an enjoyable social occasion and epitomises the friendly ethos of the club.

On April 12<sup>th</sup> between 9.30 and 1pm there is an Open House for beginners and returners to have a go and learn more about what The Old Course can offer you.

Please contact the club to learn more about a local amenity on 01453 882642 or [alan@mgcold.co.uk](mailto:alan@mgcold.co.uk)

Minchinhampton Old Course WWW [.old.minchinhamptongolfclub.co.uk](http://old.minchinhamptongolfclub.co.uk)

*Anthea Beszant, who lives in Avening, agrees that Minchinhampton old course is a great place for beginners to start golf..."I was picking up my grandsons after a junior competition last September when they persuaded me to have a go at golf. We saw a poster in the club house for a block booking of classes with Peter Dangerfield - this, they assured me, would be a perfect way to get going. They were so right. I didn't need any equipment as the club have lots to lend till you are sure it's for you. Everyone was very friendly and helpful and with Peter's help and tuition it wasn't long before I was joining the ladies for group lessons on Wednesday mornings. Needless to say Christmas presents were golf themed as by then everyone realised I had caught the golf 'BUG'. I have battled round the course in weather I wouldn't even have gone out in normally and am now looking forward to enjoying golf on the common in the sunshine this year and getting my handicap. If I can do it ..you can do it , so have a go."*

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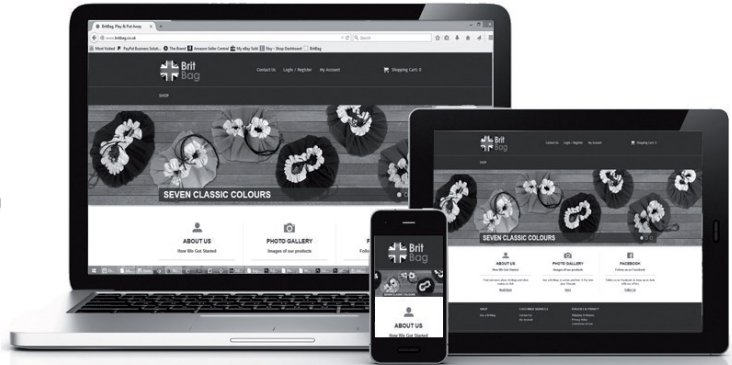


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## Dying without a Will. Now that's a real tragedy.

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](http://www.unbiased.co.uk) 2010*). Yet having one is one of the most important arrangements you can make during your lifetime.

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

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



*David Martin*

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



# Diary of a Self-Build

## Part 4

We have a mortgage! Just in time to prevent the trucking firm sending in the heavies (in reality they were very amenable). It's still going to be tight, and there are a couple of big hurdles we need to clear to ensure funding is in place to complete the project, but we do now have the main finance in place. A quick review of costs for the excavations and foundations, put us about £5,000 above our estimates, but that's not as bad as it could have been, and we do have the side walls partially built as well.



Progress has been steady this month while we have been waiting for the architect to finish the detailed designs. So Shaun has been completing the retaining walls, and setting out the brickwork ready to receive the timber frame. The boundary between us and the mill development has also been set out.

We are now very close to the frame being started, and that will trigger a flurry of activity towards the end of April (some 6 weeks behind where we should be). It will also herald another visit from the TV crew and Charlie – are you ready ladies? The window designs have been finalised, and they will be ordered as soon as the frame is underway – this will (should!) minimise the time taken to get watertight.

As there isn't a lot of exciting stuff happening on site at the moment, it is an opportunity to have a look at the people behind the build – this month is John, our architect:

We found John at the National Self build and Renovation Centre in Swindon (if you are considering a new build or significant renovation, it's well worth a visit – a huge resource with many exhibits, and it's free!) during a free 'ask the architect' event. We talked about our vision, and we were soon on the same wavelength - the only

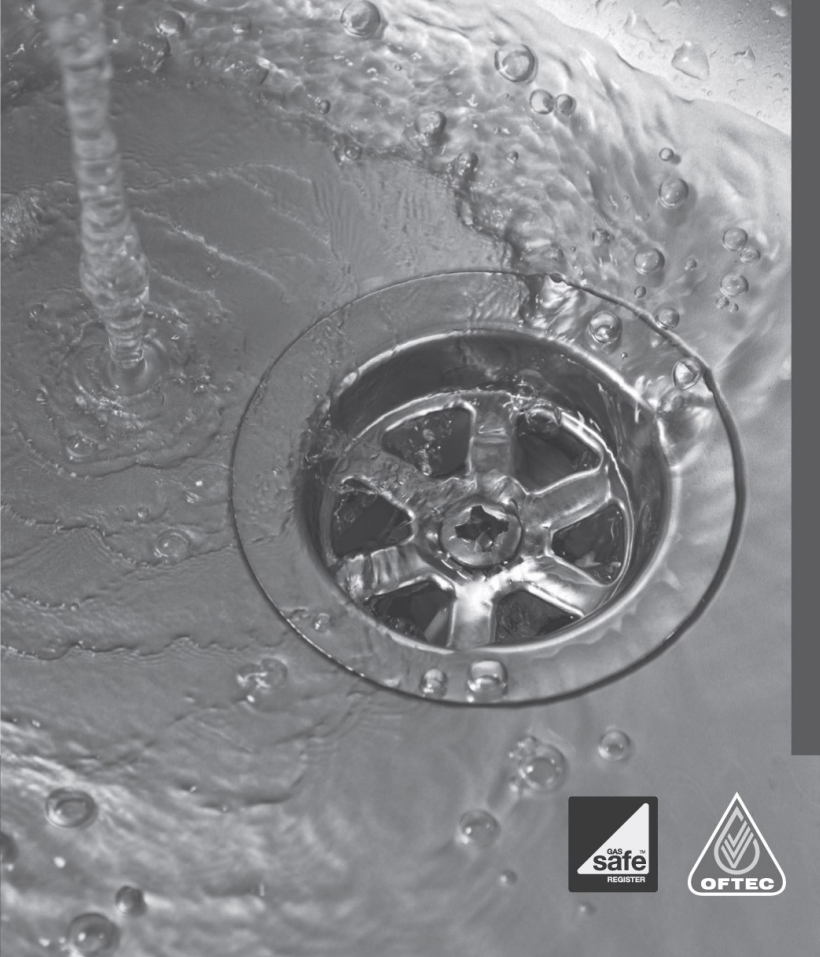


down side, is that he is London based, so quick site visits and not practical. We tried a local practice, but they didn't respond until much too late. John is very thorough (this can be a hindrance as well as a benefit), and he introduces many elements, design touches, and products that we wouldn't have considered. only issue is timing – this is partly down to our inexperience, but it has taken far too long for us to get to this stage, and regular readers will know that delays in signing producing the detailed designs for the timber frame have put us about 4 weeks behind schedule.

John provided a very clear table of costs, based on the RIBA 'small projects schedule'. This has some fixed price elements, and some based on estimated build cost – Initially it was based on £1,500 per square metre, but we negotiated this down to £1,100. Like John, this can be a bit inflexible, but it does provide a very clear menu of deliverables.

Overall, we are satisfied with John's work and personal service, but we might consider a larger practice next time as they are more likely to be able to flex to deliver faster when the pressure is on.



***Tony and Mandy Slater***



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# Down to Earth

So: who spotted the not-so-deliberate mistake in my article last month? A mistake that slipped slyly past proof-readers, kind friends and family alike. Were they too kind to tell me that I had got my species in a twist?

The sap is rising, as the countrymen will tell you, but at this stage plants are far more vulnerable to frosts than when they were dormant. So fleeces and bubble-wrap need to be ready if they are not to perish in the inevitable late



*Camellia house at Chiswick House*

cold snap. Flower buds can be vulnerable to frost damage, too. I have just repositioned my potted camellia so that it faces west. If the buds become frozen, the rapid warming of the rising sun from the east can finish them off altogether. Better to allow them gently to thaw, away from direct sunlight. When first introduced to this country, in the early eighteenth century, camellias were

thought to be frost tender and were grown in camellia houses. At Claremont in Surrey (National Trust), camellias still flower profusely on the site of the camellia house, which was demolished in 1959, robustly proclaiming their frost resilience. There is a section of the South Circular in London, between Kew and Mortlake, where almost every front garden sports a splendid, floriferous specimen. The camellia is, of course, ericaceous so if you wish to grow one in this part of the country, ericaceous compost is a prerequisite. Just at the other end of the M4, the camellia house at Chiswick House (free entry) has a wonderful collection, in flower now.

We need to talk about ... Kew. Since its beginnings in 1759, when Princess Augusta, mother of George III, planted a garden around Kew Palace, the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew have become, to quote from a recent guidebook: 'an internationally respected centre of scientific excellence, identifying and classifying plants; researching



*The palm house at Kew*

their structure, chemistry and genetics, collecting and conserving endangered species, maintaining reference collections and sharing this knowledge with others.' (Our daughter worked for Kew on two islands in the Caribbean, researching native endangered species, including the rare Montserrat orchid and the devastated Caicos pine. Priority was placed on education and the local economy.) The history of Kew by Wilfrid Blunt, entitled *In For A*



*Montserrat orchid, researched by my daughter, flowering this year at Kew*

*Penny*, reminds us that at the time of publication, 1978, entry was still *one penny*. Now Kew is being squeezed by severe cuts in government funding. Closure during the winter months seems likely and fifty top scientific posts have been axed. Meanwhile, there are plans to build a garden bridge across the Thames, at a cost of £175 million. Really? Flower beds, trees, on a bridge? Is this sustainable – or lunatic? I am not the first to shout about this. Once, I might have been fascinated by the idea. Now, considering the cuts to Kew, it just doesn't make sense.

I was late coming to the use of grit. It seemed so harsh when the romantic in me thought that all my plants needed was good, home-made compost. How dare they not be grateful? Grit is vital, especially in areas of clay and heavy soil, for maintaining good drainage and aeration of the soil. A layer on top also keeps moisture in and prevents weeds from germinating. Sown seeds do seem to manage to push their way up through it, though I don't, personally, cover seeds with it. But I do, now, throw grit into a pot or planting hole with liberal abandon.

It is not too late to enter your garden in the Evening Open Gardens 2015. Anthea says: 'If you've opened before, that would be brilliant; if you haven't and you're new to it, it will be a wonderful experience.' And I would add that, 'from vegetable growing to herbaceous borders, landscaped gardens to cottage and organic, from the grandeur of a country house garden to the imaginative use of a pocket-handkerchief-sized plot, there is something to see, learn and enjoy in everything.' All for good, local causes. So, gardeners and show-offs, please come out of your hiding places!

**Marilyn Jones**

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## **MARY'S COFFEE MORNING**

I would like to thank everyone who supported my Coffee  
Morning in any way.

We raised a magnificent amount of £315

Thank you all

MARY

## **STROUD AND DISTRICT CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU**

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# **Avening Youth Club**

**The Youth Club meets every Tuesday evening**

**Avening Memorial Hall**

**6.15 to 7.45 pm**

Avening Youth Club has had an AWESOME term! Numbers are up to 27!!!

The children are working up to an award night at Easter where parents will be invited to watch children receive awards for fitness efforts, artistic skills kindness, etc and maybe the parents will be challenged to game of dodge ball!



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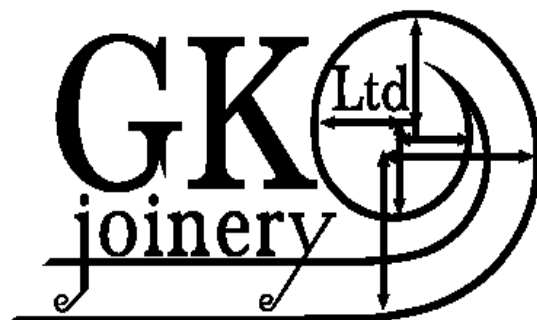
# Down Memory Lane



Charles Rymer sent in this photo of children on Cherington Green. He suggests that the photograph was obviously taken before the village had mains water, as someone is drawing water from the pump, either late 1940's or early 50's. Another clue as to the date is that there are pavements in place - they were probably put there after the 2nd World War.

Can you recognise anyone here, or shed any further light on the photo? Contact the Editors if you have any information.

Fred Vening received an email from an Avening villager who will be visiting Gallipoli in April and asking about possible Villagers who served there during Winston Churchill's disastrous event in 1915. Hubert Ind was killed there on the 11th of August 1915 and he is remembered on the Helles Memorial there as he has no known grave. Unfortunately, Fred deleted her message before getting the details, so perhaps the lady would contact him again on 01285 850624.



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**Wednesday 7.30 – 9  
Avening Memorial Hall**

**Over 60s Yoga:  
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# Cherington Parish Council

All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend parish meetings. If you have any concerns, issues, queries or comments you would like to make relating to the Parish then please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Clerk .

## PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

As you no doubt know its the general Election on May 7<sup>th</sup> but did you know it's the Parish Council Election date too?

Cherington has 5 seats on its Parish Council and although the current 5 Councillors have the option of being nominated for a further four years, anyone in the Parish who is registered to vote in the ward can also be nominated.

The basic responsibility of the Parish Council is to make the lives of the local community more comfortable by representing the whole electorate within the Parish, co-ordinating services to meet local needs and striving to improve quality of life in the Parish.

If you think this is something you'd like to get involved with for the next four years then you will need to get nomination papers from Cotswold District Council Electoral Services and get a proposer and seconder, who are also registered in the parish, to sign your paperwork and return it, *by hand*, to the council office by **4pm on April 9<sup>th</sup>**.

If there are more than 5 nominations then an election will take place on the 7<sup>th</sup> May.

*To request a nomination pack contact Electoral Services on 01285 623229*

## ANNUAL LITTER PICK

Many thanks to all those who took part in the annual litter pick on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March. Another great effort resulting in a large collection of interesting items being cleared from the village, as can be seen in the photo taken by Henry Arden.





**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April - Village Hall 10.30am - Noon**

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – Come along and have your say!**

As many of our residents are not around during the week we have decided to hold this event at the weekend which offers an *informal* opportunity to meet up and discuss plans for the future.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting also reports back on the year's work and current issues affecting the parish.

Come along and find out about what's happening with the Village Plan that you all enthusiastically contributed to last year. Discuss some of the interesting outcomes, look at how you can get more involved in your village and develop some potential activities. Refreshments provided.

***We look forward to seeing you on the 18<sup>th</sup>!***

**PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS FOR 2015**

The date of the next Parish Council meeting will be *Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am* in the Village Hall.

Dates of future meetings:

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May at 6.30pm – Annual Council Meeting

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July at 6.30pm

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September at 6.30pm

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**

**REMEMBER!!!!**

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July**

**CHERINGTON SHOW**

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

# Avening Parish Council



## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

### *New Planning Applications*

15/00619/FUL

Wingfield, 11 Hampton Hill, Avening, Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8NS  
Erection of dwelling with separate garage

**No Objections**

### *Planning Applications Responded to Since Last Meeting*

15/00247/OUT

The Homestead 2 Lawrence Road Avening Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8NP  
Erection of attached dwelling

**No Objections**

### *Decision Notices Received*

15/00476/TELEC

Arqiva Avening Transmitting Station Off Tetbury Hill, Avening,  
Gloucestershire GL8 8LZ

The direct replacement of 3 no. existing antennas with 3 no. modern replacement antenna units and the installation of 3 no. additional antennas, support 'yoke' bracketry, feeder cables, cable gantry support and ancillary development thereto

**Prior approval not required (TELEC)**

All Planning Applications are available on CDC's website: [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk)

## BUS SERVICE CONSULTATION

GCC are currently consulting on bus services. If you have any comments to make, please go to: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/bus\\_survey\\_GCC](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/bus_survey_GCC)

## GREAT NEWS FOR AVENING MEMORIAL HALL !!

The Parish Council is supporting the Committee by providing a booking service. Our Project Manager, John Collinson has taken over this responsibility and can be contacted on the usual Memorial Hall mobile: 07583 073604. The Committee also now has someone in place to carry out day to day maintenance, leaving the Committee free to look at the bigger picture. Projects to be developed include: acoustics, installation of wifi, replacement of blinds, review of heating and much more ! If you would like

to be involved with these exciting developments or have a skill that could help improve this vital community facility please contact Simon Wheatley (833838), John Collinson, any Parish Councilor or the Parish Clerk.

### **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.

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

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

### **LOCAL ELECTIONS – THURSDAY, 7 MAY 2015**

As well as the General Election, elections for the District Council and the Parish Council will also be held on 7 May.

Nominations for the Parish Council must be delivered by hand to the Returning Officer at Cotswold District Council between 24 March and 4 pm on 9 April. If you are interested in standing for your Parish Council nominations forms are available on CDC's website: [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk), or contact the Parish Clerk.



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TETBURY  
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**For Bookings and prices please contact :**

**Fi Mitchell**

**[fimitchell06@btinternet.com](mailto:fimitchell06@btinternet.com)**

**01285 841229      07885 094393**

# Church Services in Avening & Cherington March

Date	Time	Church	Service Details
Tuesday 31st March	7.00pm	Avening	Stations of the cross with Holy Communion
Wednesday 1st April	7.00pm	Cherington	Taize service for Holy week
Thursday 2nd April	7.00pm	St Mary's Tetbury	Maundy Thursday Liturgy
Friday 3rd April	2.00pm	Avening	Tenebrae service of music and meditation
Sunday 5th April	8.00am	Avening	Holy Communion (BCP)
EASTER DAY	9.30am.	Cherington	Holy Communion (BCW)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (BCW)
12th April	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion (BCP)
	09.30	Cherington	Matins (BCP)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
19th April	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion (BCP)
	09.30	Cherington	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
26th April	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)
	11.00	Cherington	Family Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Family Praise
3rd May	08.00	Avening	Holy Communion (BCP)
	11.00	Cherington	Family Communion (CW)
	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion (CW)

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

***PLEASE CAN YOU HELP...?***

## **AVENING VILLAGE LITTER CLEAN UP**



**SATURDAY 9<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015**  
**MEET AT THE MEMORIAL HALL**  
**@ 10am**

## **PARLIAMENTARY AND LOCAL ELECTIONS**

**will be taking place on 7 May.**

**To enable you to vote you MUST be included  
on the Electoral Register by  
20 April 2015**



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 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

Wednesday 15th April	Film Club: The Imitation Game	Social Club	7.30pm
Saturday 18th April	Cherington Annual Meeting	Village Hall	10.30am
Thursday 7th May	National and Local Elections	Memorial Hall	All day
Saturday 9th May	Avening Village Clean Up	Meet a 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
Friday 15th May	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 20th May	Film Club: The Theory of Everything	Social Club	7.30pm
Sunday 24th May	Avening Open Gardens	Around village	tba
Sunday 7th June	Avening Fete and Art Show	Around village	Afternoon
Sunday 12th July	Music and Picnic	Longmans Barn	From 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 April 24th**

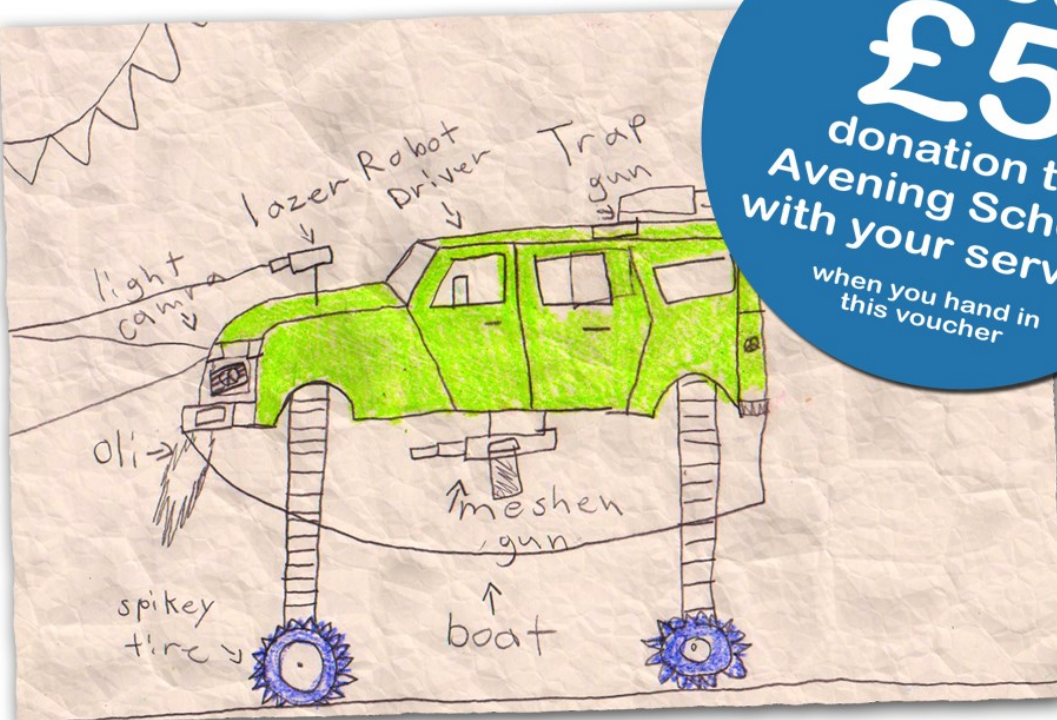
**in Avening from 09.00 to 10.00 and**  
**Cherington 10.15 to 11.15**

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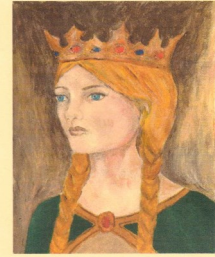
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info@service-tech.org.uk  
www.service-tech.org.uk



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Queen Matilda

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Telephone 01453 350305 Website: [queenmatildatavern.co.uk](http://queenmatildatavern.co.uk)

Email: [trulockes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trulockes@hotmail.co.uk)

# The Bell at Avening

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



New Menu from 8th January 2015

Food served from Tuesday evening  
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**SAT & SUN: ALL DAY FROM 12 NOON**

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