

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head

February 2013

50p



editors@acvillager.co.uk

*“If Winter comes, can Spring
be far behind?”*

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01453 835 090

AVENING

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PCC Treasurer

Robert Riddington

Organist

Elizabeth Workman

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Flower Team

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The Villager Magazine

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The Parish Letter

Most priests have, at one time or other, been teasingly challenged with the story of Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana - and what a story it is - illustrating the glorious generosity of God reflected in His Son!

It was as though Jesus was unable to stop himself acting as He did, when He became aware of the host's distress that the wine was running out. Jesus was at first reluctant to respond to his mother.. reluctant to play the part of the magician, but when he saw that the family were to be agonisingly embarrassed by the shortage of wine - as such apparent lack of generous hospitality in a Jewish community is considered deeply shaming, Jesus could not help but respond. And what a response it was; not just a few discreet flagons of second rate supermarket plonk; but gallons and gallons of the most excellent vintage wine. I love the abandonment of all human reticence and caution that Jesus displays. There must have been enough for the entire village to "party" and this of course is what Jesus intended; to include everyone in the celebration. God gives with no restraint, but with all the freedom of creativity and infinite resources. He appears to delight in glorious generosity. We see it our own lives and we see it all around us and this is the generosity we should reflect as Christians; a generosity of self-giving, of time, energy and inclusiveness.

To reflect on the generosity within Creation: think of the sea with its seemingly limitless life; shoals of fish in their millions of every size and colour; numbers increasing inversely to size so that the tiniest of creatures are numberless. Think of the generous scattering of wild flowers on a hillside and a myriad of coloured leaves in the Autumn. In a month or two the fields around us will be glorious with an abundance of buttercups; a stunning yellow carpeting of the hillsides. There will be the hundreds and thousands of bluebells transforming the woodland floor and heralding the Spring. The sheer extravagance of God's Creation makes one laugh in delight. He creates and recreates for the sheer joy of a moment of great beauty.

We should look with shame of how we readily plunder the riches of God's Creation over-harvesting the land and the seas, careless of the needs of others. How we destroy the rainforests for quick profit heedless of the consequences. How we upset the fine balance of climate inviting Global calamity by refusing to moderate our way of life. I don't need to go on. You know it all - but we are beginning, at last, to be conscious of what is happening.

And yet we are made in the image of God. We are not naturally destructive or greedy. We should look to reflect in our lives the qualities that Jesus reflected in His. We, too, can be gloriously generous with our time and energy, with our loving and giving. We can experience with those at Cana 'the wedding feast of Heaven' living as generously as God intended us to do.

We bring nothing into this world and we take nothing out. What we have, is given to us, through grace, so let us willingly and lovingly share it during our time on Earth.

Rev. Celia

NEW CHURCH ELECTORAL ROLL

Under the Church Representation Rules a new Church Electoral Roll is to be prepared this year. This means that everyone who wishes to have their name entered on the new Roll, whether their name is entered on the present Roll or not, is asked to apply for enrolment.

A notice about this will be put up very soon in the Church porch. Application forms will be put at the back of the Church or alternatively they can be obtained from the Church Electoral Roll Officer:

FRANCES CONWAY Tel. 01453 832 177

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2012

Bob and Kim Pittam would like to send special thanks to John Green for all his help and a big thank-you to all collectors and collection points for their assistance in raising the magnificent sum of :

£1,070.46

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!

Please don't forget all wreaths need to be ordered in September

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Tony Slater** for this month's cover photo (and Percy Bysshe Shelley for the quote)

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

Services in Avening and Cherington February

Sunday 3rd February	08.00 09.30	Avening Cherington	Holy Communion BCP Holy Communion BCW
2nd Sunday Before Lent	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday
Sunday 10th February	08.00 09.30	Avening Cherington	NO SERVICE Matins
Sunday next before Lent	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday School
Ash Wednesday 13th February	7.0pm	Avening	Holy Communion - shared benefice Service - Avening and Cherington
Sunday 17th February	08.00 09.30	Avening Cherington	Holy Communion BCP Holy Communion BCP
1st Sunday in Lent	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sun- day
Friday 22nd Feb	3.30 pm	Avening	Evening prayer B C P
Sunday 24th February	08.00 09.30	Avening Cherington	NO SERVICE Holy Communion BCW
2nd Sunday in Lent	11.00	Avening	Holy Communion BCW & Sunday
FRIDAY 1st Mar	3.30 pm	Avening	Evening Prayer B C P
Sunday 3rd March	08.00 09.30 11.00	Avening Cherington Avening	Holy Communion BCP Holy Communion BCW Holy Communion BCW & Sunday

**ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAYS DURING LENT THERE WILL BE A
SERVICE OF EVENING PRAYER AT 3.30 pm.**

Feb. 22nd Mar. 1st, 8th & 22nd

**There will be coffee after the service in Avening on 3rd February and
3rd March**

HOLY WEEK

Tuesday 26th March	7.30pm	Cherington	Taize evening.-.music & prayer
Thursday 28th March	7.30pm	Avening	Agape Supper
Good Friday 29th March	12-1.0pm 2-3.0pm	Cherington Avening	Meditation on the Cross Sung Meditation - with choir
Easter Sunday 31st March	09.30 11.00	Cherington Avening	Holy Communion BCW Holy Communion BCW

EASTER SUNDAY

On Easter Day, following Rev. Celia's last services as Priest-in-charge, celebrating the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, EVERYONE is invited to 'party' on the Playing Fields with a 'bring and share' lunch, Hog Roast with bar, music and children's entertainer. Further information in the next issue of the Villager.

LENT EVENINGS

7.30-9.30pm

With invited speakers – open to everyone, including members of the debating evenings, to come and challenge the speakers on their subject. There will be a light supper before the talks. Dates and venues shown below.

Thursday 28th February

Avening Park Farm
Hosted by Rev. Celia

Tuesday 5th March

Church Farm
Hosted by Frances and Dominic Conway

Tuesday 12th March

70 Sandford Leaze
Hosted by Doreen and Derrick Pierce

If you have any enquiries, call Rev. Celia on 01453 832 716

Church Duties in Evening



Date	Sides persons	Chalice	Sacristan
Feb 3 rd	Stephanie/Piers	Stephen	Ann
Feb 10 th	Margaret / Cas	Hamish	Elizabeth
Ash Wednesday			
Feb 13 th	Cas/ Jeanie	Derrick	Elizabeth
Feb 17 th	George/ / Jeanie	Paul	Marion
Feb 24 th	Frances / Stephanie	Derrick	Ann
March 3 rd	Margaret / Piers	Stephen	Elizabeth

**THERE WILL BE COFFE AFTER THE SERVICE IN AVENING ON
Feb 3rd & March 3rd**



Church Floodlighting

20th January

For my Dad - Maurice Wagstaff, who passed away on the 20th December 2012 after battling Cancer for 12 years.

Special Dad and Father-in-Law to Kim and Bob Pittam, Grandad to Darren and Becky, Great Grandad to Tamzin and Phoebe. Sadly missed.

7th February

In loving memory of Basil Fletcher.
Sylvia and family.

*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

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 - 9.00pm	Social Club	
Cherington PC	4th Monday each month	6.30pm	Village Hall	Sue 01666 503370
Youth Club	Tuesday	6.00pm - 8.00pm	Memorial Hall	Cassie 01453 834182
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
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
Folk Club	Thursday	8.15pm	Cross Inn	Chris 01453 450 010
Quiz Nights	1st /3rd Saturday each month	7.30pm	Cross Inn	Rob 08444 123 100
Almost Angels Choir	Sunday FROM FEB 3RD	12.15pm	Holy Cross Church	Derrick 01453 835090
Knit & Crochet group	Third Monday But see page 35 for Feb/Mar	8-00pm	Bell Inn	Elizabeth elizabethholiver540@btinternet.com

Avening Roll of Honour

No. 51

Robert A N Stevenson

Captain: 1st Battalion Parachute Regiment.

Bob Stevenson was born in Worcestershire in the latter part of 1920. He was the only child of Alan F N "Derrick" Stevenson and his wife, Barbara, nee Wyatt. Following a distinguished military career in WW1, Derrick married Barbara after the war ended and started farming in Surrey. Bob was attending Prep. School at Cranleigh, Surrey, when during 1930, Derrick acquired Woodhouse Farm, Avening and it was decided that Bob would remain at Cranleigh as a boarder for the remainder of his education. He entered senior school in 1934 and grew to be a fine, all-round sportsman, representing the school at rugby, hockey, shooting and boxing. He was also a House Prefect. It is not known whether Cranleigh had a Combined Cadet Force as part of its curriculum but in July 1938, Bob left the school and entered Sandhurst Military College.

He accepted a commission with the Gloucestershire Regiment but sometime later, probably through volunteering, he became attached to the 1st Battalion, the Parachute Regiment.



The next report we have of him is in the 1st Battalion's War Diaries in February 1943 when they were heavily engaged in fighting the Afrika Corps in the Bou Arada area of Tunisia. By this time, he had received promotion to Captain and it is thought that Bob was among a group of 9 officers and 144 other ranks who arrived as reinforcements on the 15th of February.

By 8am of that day, he had been tasked as 2nd in Command of "T" Company, under the command of Major Bull.

Over the coming weeks, the Company was involved in a number of different tasks, but by the 6th of March had arrived at Tamera. On Monday the 8th, the

Company moved forward to take up positions close to enemy lines and were shelled by the enemy for their troubles, causing some injuries. However, by 10am of that morning, the Company returned with approximately 100 prisoners and had also captured 3 infantry guns and a lot of equipment.

The situation remained fluid and "S" Company was sent forward but by 16.35hrs came under concentrated fire and reported that they had been over-run, with their CO wounded and two other officers killed. A counter-attack was ordered and "T" Company was sent in at 17.00hrs. The position was retaken without much loss of time but Bob Stevenson was killed during this action.

In a letter from the Battalion CO, he reports on the fact that, although Bob had only been with them a short time, he had become very popular and well-respected. He had been killed instantly leading his men into action and had been buried where he fell.

His body was later re-interred at the Tabarka Ras Rajel War cemetery. He was unmarried and is remembered with honour on the Cranleigh School Memorial and on our Church Memorial.

The Germans were finally defeated in North Africa on the 8th of May 1943.

Fred Vening

PHOTOGRAPHS

The editors are looking for any photographs that you may have taken over the last 20 to 30 years which include the Reverend Celia especially local family events.

Photos can be emailed to editors@acvillager.co.uk
Hard copies can be dropped off at Elizabeth Buchannan's, 14 High Street, or Derrick Pierce, 70 Sandford Leaze

IT would be helpful if hard copy photos were in an envelope with your name and address on the outside we can then make sure that you get them back.

In the last edition of the Villager we printed the first part of the address given by John Sproules at the funeral of Jack Rymer. The second part follows here

Jack (Edgar John) Rymer

16th February 1919 - 31st October 2012.

PART 2

From an early age Jack enjoyed competitive sport and in his youth he was a keen hockey and football player. Jack's new found hobby of sailing and competing in races was one of Jack's favourite pastimes. He was one of the founder members of South Cerney sailing club and helped to develop a very

Jack driving a Massey 780 combine harvester



friendly and welcoming club. The whole family would escape Cherington on a Saturday afternoon to compete for the fastest helmsman round the course, followed by tea in the clubhouse and later some well earned rest and relaxation in the evening at the George Inn South Cerney. Jack's father was not wholly in approval of dinghy sailing but agreed to

put Steve in charge of the pigs and calves on Saturday afternoons while Jack and his family went out. On one occasion I had the task of feeding the calves. I shall never forget misunderstanding Philips's instructions when I fed the calves a week's ration of milk powder in one feed. I had an early morning visit at the Rectory from Philip wondering what I had been up to! Anyway none died and after a spate of the runs all the calves recovered. I have many happy memories of life on the farm, especially at harvest time when I would join the whole family carting sacks of corn, bale bumping and building hay ricks.

Another happy memory I have was being taken by Jack and Jane to the Three Counties Show every June. For Charles and me it meant a day off school and for Cecil and Norman a day off work. All six of us would manage to squeeze into Jack's Standard Vanguard for the journey to Malvern. They were happy times and I couldn't wait for my holidays from school so I could go down to the farm. I have to admit I probably spent more time and ate more meals with Jack and Jane than I did with my own parents at the Rectory. You could not have found a more welcoming family where laughter and fun encompassed everything.

Like his father before him, Jack was a strong man and apart from occasional back problems he remained physically well until the end of his life. I've been told he was still driving Jane to Tetbury aged ninety. Jack enjoyed the good things in life; good food, a pint or two in his local and an occasional whisky.

Even in his old age he kept his strength and good sense of humour and, after an unfortunate fall down the stairs, his only complaint was the bumpy ride he had to endure in the back of the ambulance. Jack loved a good party and the opportunity to be with friends. Market day in Tetbury was a special highlight of the week with the chance to meet fellow farmers in the Royal Oak and Talbot Inn.

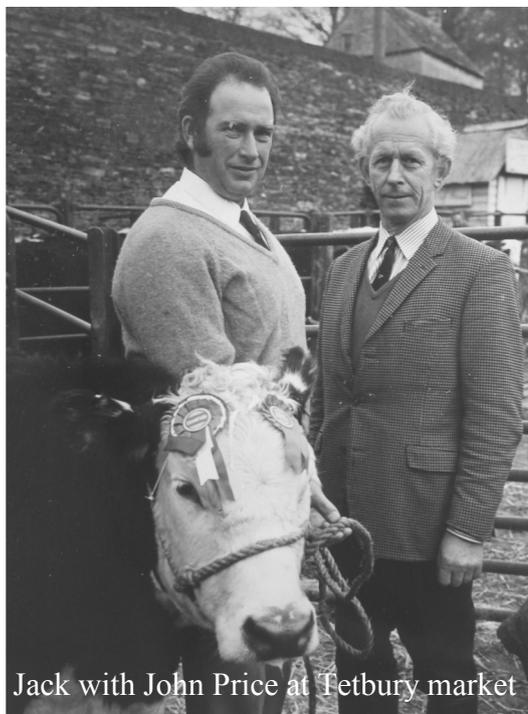
After two generations spent working Westrip farm, Jack and Jane began a new chapter in their lives. They left Cherington in 1974, first moving to Shipton Moyne, and then to Northfield, Tetbury, and finally to Springfield Cottage, Avening which Jack, helped by Jane and Charles refurbished and enlarged. Jack and Charles continued to farm the Glebe land for the next twenty one years till Jack finally retired aged seventy-five in 1994.

As we recall with interest the many facets of Jack's life, what is even more noteworthy and worth remembering, are Jack's inner qualities. Jack was a man of great integrity and moral strength. He was honest to a degree beyond what is generally accepted; in fact I have been told he was criticised by one person as being too honest in his business dealings. He showed no malice or prejudice to anyone and in conversations I had with Jack I observed that he would see good in everyone. He respected and supported other people's views and opinions.

Jack remained a devoted family man with strong Christian beliefs. Jack and Jane enjoyed many family holidays, included sailing at Newquay, Wales, Scotland, Yorkshire and Brittany. Jack enjoyed visiting Philip's family in Dorset and John and Julia in London. Jack was immensely proud of all his family and their achievements. Living close by in Avening, Charles and Beverly have always been on hand to help Jack and Jane and continue today to support Jane with regular visits from John, Philip and Rosemary.

We can remember Jack for many reasons but most of all we should support his family and give thanks today for the life he led, and for his example of kindness, generosity and integrity.

*Written by John Sproule of Slad;
son of a previous rector of Cherington*



Jack with John Price at Tetbury market

**IN NEXT MONTH'S EDITION WE PLAN TO PRINT THE THANKSGIVING
SERVICE ADDRESS FOR ROBERT SILLARS**

Over 60s Lunch Club



Seventeen people enjoyed a Christmas lunch, complete with crackers and wine, at Avening Social Club shortly before Christmas. Christine Howell has now been generously giving up her day off to cook the lunch for eight years now and we are very grateful, as it's always a beautiful meal.



We meet on the first Wednesday of every month and anyone over 60 is very welcome - and it only costs £6.

Christine and her assistant Jean received gift vouchers and also a painting by local artist Doreen Pierce.

Thank you very much,
Christine!

Maureen Stone

Changes at Village Store and Post Office

Hopefully some of you have already noticed improvements that have been made to your Village Shop and Post Office. For those of you who haven't heard about or seen the changes, we invite you to come and take a look for yourselves; we're sure you will be pleasantly surprised.

We thank Claire for her hard work and dedication to the local community over the past few years and wish her well as she prepares to move on to her next opportunity.

The challenge for the new management team is to build on the foundations and create a village store that you can be proud of; one that delivers real convenience to the parish of Avening and Cherington.

As a start we have increased the floor space and shelving capacity to allow us to stock more of your favourite brands, and we know we can't make a "price promise" like one of the big five, we do however promise a friendly welcome and know that "every penny counts". We are keeping our prices as competitive as we possibly can and will always pass on any of the great deals our suppliers often have.

So, if you do run out of those everyday essentials then please give us a thought before jumping in the car. It's only with your support that the shop and post office will survive. Here's some interesting food for thought; did you know that most estate agents agree that house prices are generally 5% higher in a village with a shop.

We're open from 7am to 6pm weekdays, 8am to 5pm on Saturdays and from 8am to 12 noon on Sundays. As much as we'd like to stay open longer it's just not viable at this time, however we are hoping to open later once the clocks go forward. In the meantime if you have a few spare hours and would like to volunteer for a couple of hours one evening, that really would be wonderful!

It's your shop so if there's anything we can improve on, we're listening, pop in for a chat or email us at shop@crossinnavening.co.uk.

We hope to see you soon,

Karen, Jo & Graham

Letter from the Bishop of Gloucester

Bishop John Went

Many of you will know that Bishop John is soon give up his episcopal ministry and move to a house for duty post in Buckinghamshire. He and Rosemary have been at the heart of the life of the Diocese of Gloucester for 17 years and there are many, many people who have reason to be grateful for their ministry.

I am writing to invite you to their Farewell Eucharist in Gloucester Cathedral on **Saturday 2 March at 4.30 pm**. I attach a formal invitation and it would be helpful if you were able to reply, since it will give us some clue about numbers. But I emphasise that the invitation is to everyone and no reply is necessary in order to be present. So I would be glad if you would share this invitation far and wide.

I am sure there will many parishes and individuals who would like to contribute to a farewell gift. Please send any donations, marked clearly on the envelope "Bishop John's Farewell Gift" to Kerry Gardiner at The Bishops Office, 2 College Green, Gloucester, GL1 2LR by Monday 25 February. Cheques should be made out to the Gloucester Diocesan Board of Finance.

With Every Good Wish and Blessing † Michael

Yours sincerely

If you would like to share transport to Gloucester for this service then please contact either Rev. Celia 01453 832716 or Derrick 01453 835090 email derrick.pierce@hotmail.com



**Did Spiderman
really visit the
Crib?**

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

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

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

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



David Martin

David Martin, local consultant,
Steele Rose & Co

(Nailsworth & surrounding areas)

01453 836699 (M) 07973 405997

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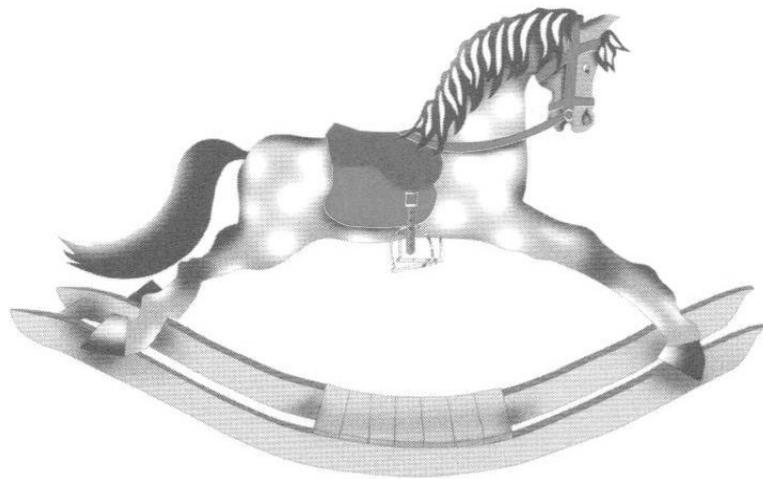
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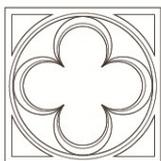
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You are invited to an

Auction of Promises



Friday 8th March, 8pm

At Avening Social Club

Friends of Avening School (reg. charity no. 1055040)

with Avening Social Club

In aid of Avening Primary School

£5 per person/ £8 per couple (light buffet included)

Auction lots include:

- Personal brain training
- Home cooked meal
- Meals out
- Greyhound racing
- Gardening hours
- Driving lessons

Auctioneer – Mr Edward Bagnall

Taylor & Fletcher

The Big Freeze!

The Parish Council would like to thank the few selfless people who have kept the side roads clear during the snow.

They would also like to remind everyone that the grit in the freestanding bins is only for use on the roads and pavements, and not on private drives. It is an offence to use it for private use, and is considered theft. (*didn't know that!* - Ed.)



Christmas and New Year in Avening and Cherington

(don't forget to keep on sending us your photos!)



Carol Singing at the Bell before Christmas



THE CRIB SERVICE
The Church was filled with an amazing array of animals and humans!



'Almost Angels' sung at the Service of Nine Lessons and Carols

Ringling in the New Year in the church bell tower



Flood in Old Hill



A stranger in town?



Megan Wheatley took this photo through the 'magic window' in Mays Lane



Avening Primary School

BUSY JANUARY!

January was an exciting month for the children with a range of exciting learning events and snow as an extra bonus!

WATCH THE BIRDIE

The younger children loved taking part in the RSPB's Big School Birdwatch, helped by binoculars, bird hides and the extra support of our Eco Council which meant that all pupils got involved in some way. As well as all of the 'twitching', our fortnight culminated in a dressing up day, organised by the Eco-Council. The children (and staff) came dressed as bird-watchers and birds!

The younger children loved building snowmen in the school garden



ALL ABOUT KENYA

The Owls' study of Kenya this term has included a range of study aids including our very own teaching assistant, Mrs Amos who gave a fascinating presentation about her visit to the East African country.

STEP BACK IN TIME



The Hawks class have been studying the Victorian era – on 18th January they experienced a Victorian day at school with teachers, teaching assistants and pupils dressed in very realistic Victorian dress. The classroom was laid out in Victorian style, the 'dunce's hat' was out and the girls even had their hands checked for cleanliness

before they were allowed in! A highlight was their Victorian cooking lesson with Mrs Wilkinson, in which they made a Victorian sponge!

The staff as you haven't seen them before – Victorian style!



ON THE LEARNING 'FLIGHTPATH'

If you read our weekly newsletter, Hoot, or have looked at our website recently, you will have seen that our new school mission is REACH:

- Respect
- Engage
- Aspire
- Collaborate
- Hope

We value working in partnership with parents at Avening Primary School and believe in ensuring that parents as fully as possible in their child's. January saw our new 'Flight path Learning Targets' introduced across the school and shared with parents. These detail the next steps in the children's writing and maths learning. We are looking forward to supporting children as they 'learn to fly' in these areas!

On 24 January the infant staff hosted a Phonics Workshop for parents. We were able to find out about what happens in our daily phonic sessions, then alongside their children on a variety of phonic games and activities set up in the classrooms. Great fun and lots of learning was had by all.

If you are interested in finding out more about our school please take a regular look at our website which is updated often. In particular take a look at the interesting introduction to all our staff – with pictures courtesy of the children!

***Take a look at our website: www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk
In term time please contact 01453 833191***

Avening Playgroup



Happy new year to everyone from Avening Playgroup!

New children have joined our wonderful playgroup, and have been welcomed with open arms by the other children. Before Christmas break the children mostly took part in lots of Christmas themed activities, such as dancing and singing to Christmas songs and making Christmas decorations. We would like to say a HUGE thank you to all those in the community who supported our Christmas Bazaar and Santa float. The bazaar is our biggest fund raising event and this year our amazing raffle proved extremely popular helping raise lots of money to support our playgroup. The Santa float was also a huge success with donations going to both the playgroup and the British Heart Foundation.

We are very excited to announce some of our forthcoming events for 2013. Easter is only a few months away and this year we are glad to inform you that we are holding an Easter egg hunt within the village. Often local residents have to travel some way to access this fun activity for their children, so this year such fun can be had on their doorstep here in Avening! Also we will be holding a sponsored bike ride hopefully in the month of May so look out for further details in forthcoming articles here in the villager.

If you would like to put your child's name down on our waiting list please phone Debbie any weekday morning from 9.15am-12.15pm on 01453 832695.

Emma Silvey-Ratcliffe

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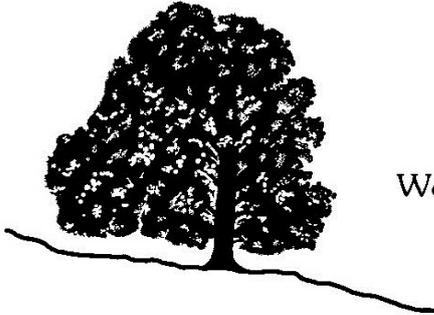
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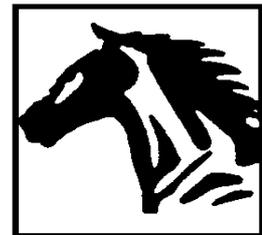
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To complete an interesting and successful year in the Avening W.I. we had our Christmas shopping trip to Winchester. We had a full coach and the weather was kind, the day before having torrential rain all day. The guided tour of the cathedral was most interesting and the rest of the day was spent looking around the beautiful Christmas market and attractive town. Many people wish to return to Winchester in the summer for their flower festival so we might be able to arrange this.

In December we had three excellent events, firstly the Christmas Carol Concert in Cheltenham Town Hall with guest singer Lesley Garrett. The concert was thoroughly enjoyable and as ever the hall was completely full. The following day we enjoyed our Christmas meal with husbands and partners at the Close Hotel in Tetbury. Our final Christmas event was our party with fun and games devised by Shirley Hand. As ever the bring and share supper was excellent and the whole evening very enjoyable.

At our first meeting of the year the speaker was Hereward Corbett who owns and runs the Yellow Lighted Bookshop in Tetbury and Nailsworth. He gave an account of how he chooses books to sell and how different the tastes are between the customers in Tetbury and Nailsworth. He brought along a number of books which sell very well and some of them had very unusual subjects. The members were interested to know how his business had been affected by Kindles and large internet stores such as Amazon. He said that in some respects they improved his business as people were interested in getting more books and that they welcome the more personal service he offers.

The W.I. County Quiz will start its early rounds shortly and Avening is particularly keen and has entered four teams of four. We are hoping that our quiz queen Chris will be back in time to take part in the first round. Poor thing, she and her husband have spent the whole winter in Barbados! She has been keeping her hand in and entering quizzes out there in the Caribbean.

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Avening Book Club

The Casual Vacancy J.K. Rowling

It has been almost impossible to ignore reviews on this change of genre from Rowling - we've been swamped by bad reviews and negativity surrounding this book. It is quite hard to read it with an open mind, initially at least.

To begin with we all seemed to find it quite hard to get into and the characters and their relationship to each other a bit confusing. When we had got a bit further, however, it became really quite compelling. Some parts of it are so convincingly written that it was quite uncomfortable reading. Rowling is very adept at depicting different types of teenagers and drawing characters that elicit mixed responses from the reader. I looked quite carefully for the 'badly written' bits but found myself so involved in the story that the only one I came up with was her describing two characters within a couple of pages of having 'cold, tight smiles'. Yes, she could have come up with a variation in that particular instance but it didn't send me into

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a frenzy that some reviewers suggest. Barry Fairbrother, who dies at the beginning of the novel, was a character who was a thoroughly decent human being. He brought joy and hope to those around him who have little joy in their lives and this does show us the difference that people can make to an individual and to a community. It shows us how community can be fractured or cared for. It scrutinises the ugliness in people and our society and the issues it deals with are very bleak but it is not without hope and definitely not without heroes. The book group found this a worth while book to read and would certainly recommend it.

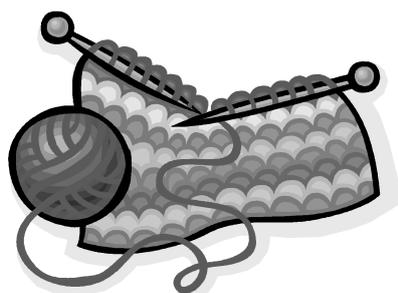
Mon Feb 4th - The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet - David Mitchell

Mon Mar 4th - To the End of the Land - David Grossman

Mon Apr 1st - Jitterbug Perfume - Tom Robbins

All book club gatherings at The Bell at 7.30.
All welcome

Knit & Crochet Group at the Bell



Bring your knitting or crochet to the Bell on the third Monday each month. **Everybody welcome**

8pm Monday 18th February,
8pm Monday 18th March
Then third Monday every month





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Avening Parish Council

Planning

If you have a computer, planning applications can be found on Cotswold District Council's website at www.cotswold.gov.uk Go to weekly planning list. You are also able to sign up for Planning Alerts so that the emails can come straight to your in box.

New Planning Applications:

None

Planning Applications Responded to:

12/04565/FUL

Land Parcel: Ruggers Green Wood and Oldfield Wood, West End, Avening, Gloucestershire,

Retention of existing residential mobile home and touring caravan and associated four car parking spaces. Erection of five timber sheds for storage and animal housing

Response by: 16 December 2012

Avening Parish Council strongly objects to this application for the following reasons:

The Council has commented on the unsuitability of the mobile home on this site in the past and is still of the same opinion.

The mobile home and the large red box trailer are inappropriate, unsympathetic and a detriment to the character and appearance of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and conflicts with CDC's Policy 19 and 42, GCC's Structure Plan Second Review Policy NHE4 and national government's PPS1 and PPS7.

The site is outside of the development boundary.

Forestry or agricultural accommodation on the site is only permitted if proven to be essential to the day to day requirements of the business which has been disproved and stated in CDC's Enforcement Notice dated 9 February 2011.

The location of the mobile home also contravenes CDC's Local Plan Policy 19, GCC's Structure Plan Second Review Policies S4, S5, T1, H4 and national government's PPS7.

The site is unlikely to support the number of animals shown in the business plan

and with this number of animals there would not be enough room for a septic tank.

The use of agricultural machinery together with servicing and garaging will lead to contamination from oil and cleansing agents.

There have been a significant number of objections from local residents.

The Applicant has blocked the PROW by padlocking the gate on the perimeter of the site.

12/04942/LBC

25 Point Road , Avening , Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8NA

Installation of solar panels to south-east roof slope and associated internal works

Despite the applicant's claims that the building is in an area that has been upgraded and modernised in recent years, it is still grade II listed and in a Conservation Area, Avening Parish Council is mindful of residents' wish to use renewable energy but is also concerned that the visual impact of these panels will not significantly harm the character or the appearance of the building or the area (CDC Policy 2:Renewable Energy).

12/05117/TCONR

Carrigoona, New Inn Lane, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8NB

- 1) remove centre tree of 3 Beech. ,
- 2) Right hand tree looking from house - remove smaller of two trunks,
- 3) Left hand tree - crown raise by removing lower four limbs

No objections

Decision Notices Received:

12/04764/FUL

Old Nags Head, Nags Head Lane, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8NZ

Erection of single storey rear extension and porch

Permitted 26 December 2012

12/04765/LBC

Old Nags Head, Nags Head Lane, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8NZ

Erection of single storey rear extension and porch

Permitted 26 December 2012

Community Speed Watch

Are you concerned about the speed of traffic through the village and would you like to help to do something about it ?

The County Council Road Safety team in partnership with Gloucestershire Constabulary and Cotswold District Council have launched schemes to support trained volunteers in monitoring traffic speed using Speed Indicator Devices. The information gained is passed on to the Safety Team for action and in the case of persistent offenders, for police enforcement. If you would like to be involved, please contact the Parish Clerk for details.

The next meeting of Avening Parish Council will be held on Thursday 21 February 2013, at 7.30pm, in the Memorial Hall. Parish Council meetings are usually held on the third Thursday of the month. All Are Welcome. Please note the PO Box has closed. The Parish Council address is below.

PLEASE NOTE: the Parish Council address has now changed to:
77 Pheasant Way, Cirencester, Gloucestershire GL7 1BQ.

The Locum Clerk, Caroline Braidwood, can be contacted on 01285 380041 or 07870 170823. The email address remains the same:

parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

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Cherington Parish Council

New Parish Clerk:-

We are delighted to welcome Samantha Penney as our new Parish Clerk. She took up her position in January 2013. Sam lives in Cirencester and works for Cotswold District Council. Her contact details are :

77B Golden Farm Road, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1BZ

e-mail:- Email: cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Phone:- Tel: 01285 885334

Annual Litter Pick

The Litter Pick is going to take place on Saturday 9th March. All welcome and we will meet at the Village Hall at 10 am. All equipment will be provided. For those kind people who cannot make it on the day but still wish to do a litter pick before, please can you let us know where you intend to pick on 01453 834805 so we do not miss anything. With thanks in advance.

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Thursday 7th March at 6.30 pm at Carters Barn. All Welcome

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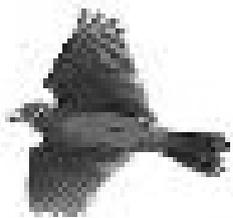
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Both visits on **25th February**

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Thursday Closed
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Saturday 10am - 1pm

Useful Telephone Numbers

Avening Parish Council Clerk	Caroline Braidwood	01285 380041
Cherington Parish Council	Sue Russell	01666 503370
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 836596
Avening Sunday School	Debbie Brown	01453 835983
Avening Tower Captain	David Govier	01453 882914
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695 Home 835983
Avening Village Agent	Aileen Bendall	07810-630156
Avening Youth Club	Cassie Chesterman	01453 834182
A and C Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Friends of Avening School	Jo Missenden	01453 833688
Cherington Village Hall	Beryl Milsom	01285 841248
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Tennis @ Avening Park	Roger Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Group Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Avening History Project	Fred Vening fred@fvening.fsnet.co.uk	01285 850624
Stroud Hospital		01453 562200
Women's Institute	Maisie Stanton	01453 834679
The Cross Village Shop	Claire and Glyn	01453 833240
Avening Book Club	Kristiana Maseyk	01453 836515

Dates for your Diary

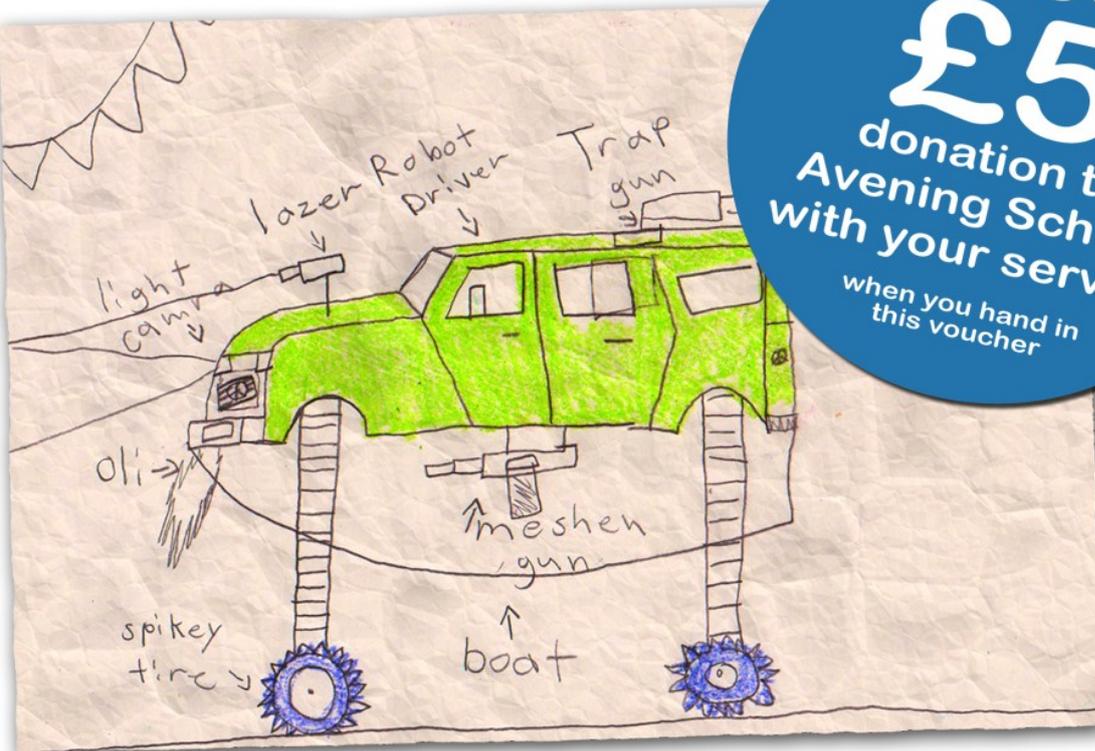
Monday 11th February	Start of half term break	Avening Primary School	
Monday 18th February	Return to School	Avening Primary School	
Thursday 21st February	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Thursday 28th February Tuesday 5th & 12th March	Lent Evening Meetings	Venues various. See earlier entry in Villager	7.30-9.30pm
Thursday 7th March	Cherington Parish Council Meeting	Carters Barn	6.30pm
Friday 8th March	Promises Auction in aid of Avening Primary School	Avening Social Club	8.00pm
Saturday 9th March	Cherington Litter Pick	Cherington Village Hall	10.00am
Friday 22nd March	End of Spring Term	Avening Primary School	
Saturday 23rd March	Quiz Night	Cherington Village Hall	7.30pm
Easter Sunday 31st March	Party celebrating Rev Celia's ministry in Avening	Playing Fields	From 12.30pm (following 11.00am service)
Friday 8th April	Return to school	Avening Primary School	

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