

# The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington  
and Nags Head

February 2018

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

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# February 2018

This can be a depressing time of year and we have had our share of difficult weather over recent weeks, but hopefully you will find things of interest to cheer you in our first edition of the Villager 2018. You will see we have included a list of local charities. Previously, we had asked for your help in compiling this and we are grateful for all the information we have received to date - but please let us know if anything has been left out.

Readers will be sorry to hear that next month will feature the 50th and sadly, last edition of Marilyn Jones' Down to Earth, which has given such pleasure to so many in recent years. Marilyn feels that the time has come to give way to someone else who might take over the gardening slot. So just let us know if you would like to put down your spades and pick up your pens!

It is with great sadness that we have to report the death of Joyce Vincent who, with her husband, Riley, has proofread the Villager for many years. Riley himself has been in hospital. We send him our best wishes for a very speedy recovery, as well as our condolences on his tragic loss.

Joyce's funeral will take place in Avening Church at 11.00 am on 7th February.

*The Villager Editors*

## The Villager Magazine

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## Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Helen Haiselden** for our cover photo of the moon over Avening Park in the snow. If you have a photo of Avening or Cherington which you would like to share with us, please feel free to send it to us.

You never know, it might turn up on the front cover...!

**editors@acvillager.co.uk**



Pub ~ Dining ~ Rooms ~ Events

## OPEN

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

## LUNCH

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

## WORKERS' POT

Mon - Fri: 5pm - 6.30pm

## DINNER

Mon - Sat: 6.30pm - 9.30pm

**DOG  
FRIENDLY!**



## THE ROYAL OAK TETBURY

**Walkers, cyclists, explorers** - welcome to The Royal Oak in Tetbury, an 18th century inn with a classic saloon bar, courtyard, gardens and stylish lodgings. Upcycled furnishings, cosy booths, a deco piano and a dining room in the rafters offer dining as well as private dining for gatherings and celebrations.

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

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

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01666 500021 | [THEROYALOAKTETBURY.CO.UK](http://THEROYALOAKTETBURY.CO.UK)

# What's On In Avening and Cherington

Please let us know if we have forgotten any regular event or if there is something you would like to have included here.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday and Thursday	3.15 - 4.15pm	On road, opposite 65, Sunground	
Cherington PC	Tuesday	6.30pm	Village Hall	Beverley 01453 832100
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Steve 07807 700004
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 10.00pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening Art Club	Thursday	2.00 - 4.00pm	Various	Mick 01453 836318
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Maisie 01453 834679
Avening PC	3rd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Caroline 01285 380041
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.00pm	Various	Derrick 01453 835090

# Contacts for the Villages

Avening and Cherington Priest	Revd. Gerald South	01453 834884
Avening & Cherington Churches Reader	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening & Cherington Cricket Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752
Avening Angels	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Art Group	Mick Williamson	01453 836318
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Steve Uzzell	07807 700004
Avening Church Churchwardens	Stephanie Hamilton Stephen Uzzell	07796 981308 07807 700004
Avening Church Flower Team	Doreen Pierce Gill Adams	01453 835090 01453 833175
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Ann Brick	01453 834311
Avening Film Club	Kristiane Worsdell	01453 836515
Avening History Project	Jean Chatelain	01453 834713
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Sue Bryant	01452 770792
Avening Playgroup	Debbie Brown	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Social Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752

South Cotswold Community Connector	Aileen Bendall	07810 630156
Cherington Village Hall	Wendy Eldridge	01285 841327
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Beverley Rymer	01453 832100
Cherington Church Churchwarden	John Bate-Williams	01666 503544
Cherington Church Flower Team	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Lucie Hawkins	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Stroud Hospital	Reception	0300 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Gwyneth Simpson	01453 836556



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

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

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

**Cherington Parish Council: [cheringtonpc.org.uk](http://cheringtonpc.org.uk).**

**Cherington Village: [www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk](http://www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk)**

**Cotswold District Council: [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk)**

# Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



I am pleased to announce that we have two new councillors, who will bring the Parish Council back up to full strength:

Many of you will already know Christine Howell, as she has worked tirelessly for the village over many years, and is a previous recipient of Villager of the Year. Also joining is Craig Forster, who is relatively new to Avening, having moved here from Tetbury in 2015. Craig is keen to use his medical/clinical background and experience of fund raising for the benefit of the community.

I took on the role of Snow Warden when Jim passed away. Looking back at the two snow events in December, what did I learn:

- The grit spreader (located at the hall, and available to everyone) is by far the most effective and efficient way to clear our local roads.
- A lot of people got involved in helping to clear the snow!
- Using barrows and shovels wastes far too much grit – parts of Point Road resembled a beach for weeks after the snow had cleared!
- The grit is only for use on public roads and footpaths.
- Highways take too long to replenish stocks – this meant we had no grit for the Boxing Day covering (and still don't at the end of January).
- Dogs walking in the grit and ingesting it can become ill, or even die – always wash their paws if they have been exposed.
- the locking arrangements on the gritter shed caused some issues – this will be fixed.

Dates for your diary: The Village AGM/show will be on Sunday May 13th. More on that next month, including the search for the next 'Villagers of the Year'.

On Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November There will be a multi-media outdoor event for the WW1 Centenary celebrations, followed by an all-village show in the evening. The Avening Angels have kindly agreed to organise the show, and will be looking for acts to represent each decade since 1918 – this could be singing, dancing, music, a poem, or an act. Get your creative juices flowing, and watch out for updates in this magazine, the website, and our Facebook page.

*Stop Press:* The plans for the playing field are now on the website, and have gone to CDC for planning approval. We will be working hard over the coming weeks to get grant funding in place for the works.

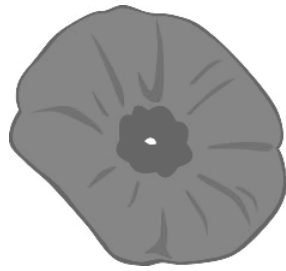
**Tony Slater, Chairman**



**Saturday 10th November**

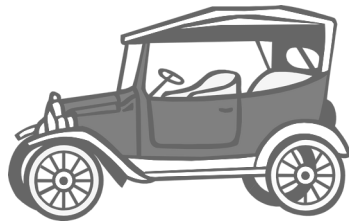
# **THE CENTENARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I**

**A multimedia event and party for all**



**We are looking for organisations, groups, individuals or groups of people in Avening and Cherington who would like to do something that represents one of the decades since 1918.**

**From**



**to**



**Song, dance, drama, art, poetry, bands, recitations - all suggestions welcome.**

**Volunteers to help organise the event are also sought.**

**Contact Jane with your ideas on 07812 137161 or  
jwhaley1@aol.com or  
tony.slater@avening-pc.gov.uk**

# Avening and Cherington Churches



## Looking Back



The 'Posada' figures of Mary and Joseph, so expertly knitted by Wendy Eldridge of Cherington, spent the three weeks of Advent travelling around our villages spending time in 20 homes as well as the playgroup and school. Their diary was full of entertaining comments and drawings contributed by their hosts: this was typical "We were very excited when Mary and Joseph arrived. We put them safely by our Nativity Scene. George sang Away in a Manger". The journey is symbolic of that made by Mary and Joseph and helps us make room

for Jesus in our hearts as we prepare for Christmas.

There were many celebrations leading up to Christmas: the Advent, Christingle and Carol services at Cherington; in Avening the Christmas Party, the Carol Service so much enhanced by the Avening Angels Choir, and the Crib service. The Christmas 'midnight' and morning services were also well attended in both our churches. The decoration of the churches was much admired. Many thanks go to all who worked behind the scenes for the success of all these. Some of the Christmas collections were for charities and £108 has been sent to Winston's Wish and £200 to The Children's Society – we thank those who made this possible.

## Looking Forward

(for service times please page 44)

On 4<sup>th</sup> February our churches will celebrate Candlemas, traditionally the day we recall how Jesus' parents first took him to the temple. We will also remember the time when we were brought to church to be Christened (or Baptised): if you have a Baptism Candle please bring it to church with you and we will light it to celebrate that occasion.

Lent starts on 14<sup>th</sup> February, Ash Wednesday, and the evening service then will enable us to prepare for the valuable few weeks which are to follow – they may not

Ash  
Wednesday



seem the most exciting to many people but do offer an opportunity to reflect on the breadth, depth, subtleties and experiences of being human.

One such opportunity is our Lent evenings: all are welcome to join in with these, they will use the work of artists – famous and not so – to lead us through ups and downs from the Last Supper to the Emmaus Supper: details are elsewhere in this magazine, please let me know if you would like to come.

Another feature of our Lent season will be 'quiet time' on Thursday evenings in Avening church starting at 7.00pm and concluding with the short ancient evening service of Compline – a chance to be together in the silence of our inspirational church whose walls are saturated with over 900 years of prayers. We will finish in time to get to any 7.30pm event in the village centre.

Further ahead will be Mothering Sunday (14<sup>th</sup> March), Holy Week and Easter Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> April): more details of these will be in the March Villager.

**Gerald South**

**Priest in Charge, Avening and Cherington  
(01453 834884 ; gp.south@btopenworld.com)**

## From the Church Registers

19th December: Funeral and burial of **Joan Newman** at Holy Cross Church, Avening

10th January: Funeral of **Edna Powell**, at Westerleigh Crematorium

Caravaggio, Rubens, El Greco, Dali and many more .....

### *Lent Evenings*

We will be looking at how artists have depicted some of the stories from the Last Supper to the Supper at Emmaus

All welcome

7.30 pm on 21<sup>st</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> February and 6<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> March

Please contact Gerald South for further details including venues  
gp.south@btopenworld.com or 01453 834884

## John William Catterall 1949 - 2017

Late last year I lost a good friend and Parish Council colleague – in fact it was John who encouraged me to join! He joined the PC soon after he and Jo moved to Avening, and he ensured the decisions we made always made good financial sense, and gave maximum benefit to the community. He played an active role helping to organise events and was always available to help local business and individuals develop their ideas. The eulogy below was presented at John's funeral; and later, friends, family and colleagues celebrated John's life at the Bell with a drink and a curry. As Jo said, John would have loved it!

*Tony Slater*

John William Catterall, Johnny Boy, Jonny, the pig, Piggy, Andan - however you addressed him he was a Big Man in every sense, who wore his heart on his sleeve. In whatever capacity you knew John, you would recognise him from these qualities: generous, patient, honest, thoughtful, loving, caring, loyal, confident, intelligent, reliable, funny - REALLY funny. A party animal, a dedicated educator, and a mentor to all he knew. He gave so much to so many, truly a man who was out for all he could give. And, most importantly, he was a rock to his wife, Jo.

John was born in Shropshire in 1949. The only child of his hard-working parents, his constant childhood companion was the first in a long line of four-legged friends. Given John's love of Rottweilers, Cliquot was, surprisingly, a poodle.

John loved all sports. He trialled for England at table tennis and when he grew too tall to be a contender at national level he qualified as a coach.

Never taking the most direct route, John apprenticed as a toolmaker on leaving school, before studying accountancy at Birmingham University. After graduating he was invited to help at Camp America, where he had an epiphany as he watched the sun rising over the Grand Canyon. This formed part of his life's philosophy... to **Always Think Big.**

Returning to the UK, John embarked on a successful career as an accountant at Austin Rover before adapting his skills to computers, becoming a key salesman for a huge software company. As he said "I don't have to know how to use it to sell it".

John and Jo, with their complementary skills, developed the company that is now Regional Foster Placements. John was incredibly proud of the team of people he worked with and the company they had built up together over the years. His passion and determination to provide loving homes and life-changing care for children is what drove him to succeed.

During his first marriage John became a father to his daughter Nikki, and her three half-sisters. Several years later, after finding love with his soulmate Jo, he was delighted to also gain a teenage son, Ben. Children have a habit of growing up and starting their own families, and John was a devoted grandfather to William, Emmy,

Poppy, Olivia and Iris. My own children, Euan and Ailish, also adopted him as their extra grandfather.

So that's a very brief summary of John's family and working life, but now I'd like to tell you a couple of the Adventures John instigated:

Jo would like to title one of her Adventure's with John as "The Lost Convoy". John's absolute joy was driving his Jaguar XJS. He had sold Jo on the promise of a tasting tour of the vineyards of the Champagne region. Dozens of Jaguars, all touring together on a pre-determined route, stopping frequently to sample the delights of each vineyard – good food, good wine, great company; what's not to like? John dismissed the suggestion of a touring map or sat-nav; after all, there would be so many other cars to follow in the convoy! What he hadn't factored was that every other driver had made the same assumption and on entering the inner city of Reims, with its tangle of pedestrian zones and 'entree interdite' signs there was a panicked classic Jag driver to be spotted at many a crossroads desperately trying to switch lanes to follow that JAG to yet another no through road and inevitable 12-point turn!

Ben's Adventures with John were extensive: this one is remembered as 'A Ballast of Balustrades'. John was an avid 'eBayer', expert at spotting bargain building supplies to complete his house renovation on budget, which led him to call in many favours with friends and family to 'help' him retrieve his purchases from all corners of the British Isles. On this occasion, John had purchased a job lot of concrete balustrades. Ben was volunteered into driving the small hire van to an obscure and far-flung Welsh village. While John stood and tried to re-negotiate the already-agreed price, it became blatantly obvious that he had bought a disproportionately large amount of balustrade, compared to the vehicle hired. But as the logistical part of the operation had been farmed out to Ben, John felt no need to be involved in the loading of the purchase, or interested in the legal laden weight of the hire van. Having filled the van to approximately 5 times the weight it was designed to carry, Ben refused to load any further, for fear of the Severn Bridge giving way on their crossing back - and to this day, there is still a small Welsh mountain of balustrade, awaiting collection.

A key component of any Adventure with John was his insistence on a photographic or video record. Weddings, holidays, special occasions, you name it, everything would be filmed. The pavements and flagstones of Madeira and Venice have never been so well or so accidentally documented, in fact my own wedding was "filmed" by John but he chose to never share the footage with myself or Cat.

So when you think of John, think of him with a rotti by his side, or more probably on his lap, sharing a packet of shortbread biscuits and a mug of proper Yorkshire tea whilst watching the Ashes on Television in front of a roaring open fire.

***Neil Boyle***

# Locally-Based Charities

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

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

Charity	Purpose	Further Information
Friends of Avening School (FOAS )	FOAS raises money to help with various projects and activities at the school.	01453 833191
Horsefall House	Provides nursing care for residents, a Day Centre 6 days a week Home Care and meals on Wheels in the local area.	01453 721327
Hop, Skip & Jump Foundation	Provide high quality respite care for children and young adults with disabilities and SEN	hoskipandjump.org.uk Claire Taverner 01453 836390 marcoms@hopskipandjump.org.uk
Mark Townsend Charitable Trust	Providing help for young people with mental health issues	themarktownsendcharitabletrust.com 01453 832799
Friends of Little Stars	Fundraising and support for Little Stars School for underprivileged children in Varanasi, India	Kieran Archer 01453 832992 littlestarsschool.org



## The Mark Townsend Charitable Trust

*“To understand the journey we must go back to the beginning*

In August of 2015 Brian Powell came to us after the first of his now annual Skittlethons and handed us a cheque for over £700.00, telling us to donate it wherever we felt was suitable. So the five of us (Kate, Bomber, Jayme, Arron and Laura) sat around the table, as we often do and started throwing around ideas, Winston’s Wish (for bereaved children), survivors of suicide and so on... But as it often is with these big charities, nothing quite fitted the bill of what we were looking for, nowhere seemed quite important enough to send the money that Brian and Jane had lovingly raised.

With a bit more thought (and a few more cups of tea) Kate said, Why don't we start our own charity? We could raise funds and give out grants to those who need them, for things like uniforms etc. After some research and the beginning of a lot of paperwork, The Mark Townsend Charitable Trust was born.

Initially the committee consisted of Mark's brothers, Bomber and Pete, Mark's sister-in-law Kate, Mark's nieces and nephew, Jayme, Laura and Arron ....then we added in some of Mark's favourite people like Brian Powell, Mike Stone, Shane Ludlow and Dan Sharpe – more recently we've added Sam to our team and two years later, we can safely say that we began as friends but we are now a family.

We give grants to help people in life, which can range from uniforms to trips to get well hampers, and from counselling to blenders or hospital costs. We will consider most things, although most of our grants are in the local area of Avening, Nailsworth, Minchinhampton and Stroud.

Our fundraising activities range from a 100 Club (see page 26) to Hoedowns to Bingo

For more information or to apply to the Trust you can:

- visit our website – [themarktownsendcharitabletrust.com](http://themarktownsendcharitabletrust.com).
- Our Facebook page: [themarktownsendcharitabletrust](https://www.facebook.com/themarktownsendcharitabletrust)
- Or speak to one of our Trustees

Recently we held a presentation at Sir William Romney's School and gave out our first batch of "Friends of the Mark Townsend Charitable Trust" awards. We have come up with this idea to show them that all of their time, effort, hard work and dedication to The Trust does not go unnoticed.

Our first Friends are Claire Davis, Karen Vickery, John Halliday, Sarah Jones, Tracy Ludlow, Jacqui Green, Jon Green, Emma Brookes, Shelley Smith, Minchinhampton Cotswold Club, Julian and Lizzie Cleeton, Julie Watford, Jim Townsend, Allie and JJ Green, Tony Webb and Jane Powell.

To see TMTCT go from a small idea formed in our hearts to an officially registered charity which has made over forty donations to date and something that you all can share with us as a way to remember and honour Mark's memory, as well as help some people along the way, is just incredible and has been one hundred percent imperative to the way we have healed (and will continue to do so) over the past three years.

To us, as a family, and the rest of our team this progression of TMTCT is enough to celebrate, but of course becoming a registered charity took a lot of hours and paperwork to complete – it's a huge milestone and not one, at the beginning of this, that we ever thought we would see!!

***Kate Townsend***

# Puzzle Corner

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

(Answers on page 38)

## Sudoku

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

© 2013 KrazyDad.com

## Across

1. Assortment (7)
5. Group of insects (5)
8. Large herbivorous mammal (5)
9. Pagan (7)
10. Unfeigned (7)
11. Ledge (5)
12. Lifted (6)
14. Appraise (6)
17. Notions (5)
19. Fruit (7)
21. Direction (7)
22. Taut or rigid (5)
24. Days of the month (5)

1		2		3		4		5		6		7
8						9						
10								11				
12		13					14	15				
						16						
17				18		19				20		
21								22				23
24						25						

www.puzzlechoice.com

## Down

- |                     |                           |                       |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Chart (3)        | 6. Attain (7)             | 16. Captured (6)      |
| 2. Inert gas (5)    | 7. Public declaration (9) | 18. Secret agents (5) |
| 3. Dissimilar (7)   | 10. Decorated food (9)    | 20. Invalidate (5)    |
| 4. Reverberated (6) | 13. Imprecise (7)         | 23. Conclusion (3)    |
| 5. Photos (5)       | 15. Abridge (7)           |                       |



# Mary Uzzle is 90!



Mary's daughter, Sue, and my sister Samantha organised a surprise 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party for Mary this December. The Uzzles have been at the core of Cherington life for as long as any of us can remember, which meant it was no surprise 90 family and friends came to celebrate this major milestone. There was an eclectic mix spread over many generations as Mary and Bob, her late husband, seemed to make friends whatever they did and wherever they went. So many people together at one time turned a single teatime into history of Cherington as well as a reminder of how much Mary has loved Cherington, and in return, how much Cherington has loved Mary.



*Teddy Tarlton*

# Down Memory Lane



Two photographs of Cherington Lake. The top one was taken in August 1930 shows a large number of people on the bank of Cherington Lake, towards Aston Farm. There are some cattle grazing in the foreground and possibly some cars parked in the background. According to my late father, Jack Rymer, visitors came from as far away as Bristol by coach, for an afternoon swim and picnic. The second photograph was taken in 1934 and shows the island with the old boathouse to the left. The boathouse had a room and balcony above it. It was built by the George family who owned Cherington Park at that time and was used for parties.

*Charles Rymer*

# Avening Playgroup

Happy belated New Year from everyone at Avening playgroup. We would like to thank everyone who supported our Christmas Bazaar, which raised about £1,000 for playgroup. Fundraising is necessary for us to be able to operate. We were disappointed not to be able to have the Father Christmas float this year due to the heavy fall of snow on that day, although the children were delighted to see the first real snow for many of our children in their lifetime. They had a lovely time helping to clear a pathway and making a snowman, before the snow froze over subsequent days and became too slippy to play on.

We would also like to thank Avening Angels for kindly donating the proceeds of their carol singing to us.

The children have been learning about fairy tales this term. At the time of writing this they have enjoyed the story of The Three Little Pigs and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. The children have enjoyed joining in with the stories and pretending to be one of the characters in the story.

We have recently bought a mobile white board which has been very useful in helping the older children to learn about letter formation, something they are really interested in at the moment.

If you would like to contact us, please phone us on 01453 832695 or email us at [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com)

*Debbie Brown*

## PETER JOY

Sales & Lettings

### Sales

01453 833747 [nailsworth@peterjoy.co.uk](mailto:nailsworth@peterjoy.co.uk)

### Lettings and Management

01453 833847 [lettings@peterjoy.co.uk](mailto:lettings@peterjoy.co.uk)

PROUD SUPPORTERS OF AVENING PLAYGROUP



## Minchinhampton Post Office

We bought the post office on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2010. This year we will start our eighth year and our eighth Christmas. Unfortunately, our income from the post office has been falling year after year. This is due to the changes being introduced by the Post Office. They have updated their technology and so have reduced the money we receive for each item we process. We have also seen government products withdrawn from us.

To keep the post office, people need to use us as much as possible. We do receive a small payment for every cash withdrawal and it is free for customers.

The shop is leased by us and is essential in keeping the post office open. All products in the shop are bought by us; nothing is supplied by the Post Office. So, by buying mail boxes, mail bags and Sellotape you will be helping to keep us open.

Our roles are: Eric does all the administration for the post office and I buy all the shop stock. I love choosing all the cards and try to get a wide range to suit all tastes. I am always trying to find things to sell that people would like us to stock. We have a dry-cleaning service and fit batteries into ordinary day watches (not high value).

We do have a core number of customers, who support us by buying from us regularly and we would like to thank them and let them know we appreciate their support.

As banks are closing we now do more banking services, cash and cheque deposits. We do mobile top-ups and gas card and electric key top-ups.

*Anne and Eric*

### TONY'S CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

AT

THE BELL, AVENING

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH



£1 A PLAYER

A MAXIMUM OF 4 PLAYERS PER TEAM  
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Many of you will already be familiar with the Fairtrade mark, and make a choice to seek it out and buy Fairtrade products when you can. Can I encourage you to continue to make your Fairtrade purchases, perhaps try something new and encourage others to do the same particularly during Fairtrade Fortnight 2018? A wide range of Fairtrade products is available in local supermarkets.

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# Avening Home-Workers Lunch



The widespread use of broadband internet and email have revolutionised the working patterns of many people. Unlike previous generations of workers who left home early to travel to a distant workplace and did not return until evening, contemporary workers of all types frequently base themselves from home and avoid commuting to distant offices or factories. Workers in Avening are no different, with the advent of high-speed broadband to the village allowing many of them to work from a home-base one or two days per week, or even more. This has created great benefits to work/life balance in time

saved from tedious commuting, as well as the savings in spending on expensive fuel and public transport.

It does have drawbacks however in the reduction of time spent with work colleagues and in the lack of social interaction which is available at employers' workplaces. This can be particularly felt at Christmas time when many people in traditional employment centres kick off their festive celebrations with works parties and lunches. It is not so easy for solitary workers based at home to socialise and network.

For that reason a group of home-based workers and sole traders in Avening has been coming together informally for the last few years to create a festive event with their like-minded neighbours. In December 2017 some 20 individuals combined their celebrations with an excellent Christmas lunch at the Queen Matilda Public House. Ladies and gentlemen working in diverse fields ranging from gardening and tree surgery, to house-cleaning, editing, printing and IT consultancy were able to enjoy a very pleasant few hours, meeting neighbours in similar situations, sharing experiences and exchanging business cards.

It is hoped that get-togethers and events aimed at home-based workers in Avening can be organised more frequently going forward. If you have any ideas for events or would just like to be included on circulation lists for forthcoming get-togethers, please send your details to the Editors who will pass them on to other interested parties.



# CHERINGTON VILLAGE LITTER PICK

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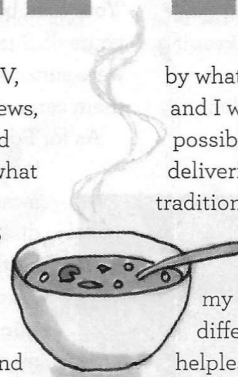


Clare (holding the book) with her neighbours, including Pip (second left) who illustrated the book, and Ross (third left), Henry's father. **BELOW RIGHT** Characters from the book

# *It takes a* VILLAGE

How well do you know your neighbours? Clare Steele knew hers pretty well, but even she was astounded at how they came together to bring a remarkable idea to life...

**T**urning on the TV, I watched the news, knowing I would be horrified at what I saw. It was the summer of 2016 when the refugee crisis was the big story. Every day there were more distressing images of refugees risking their lives to find a friendly country where they could make a fresh start. Who could forget the heartbreaking images of the little boy washed up on a Turkish beach? Although it was almost unbearable to watch, I couldn't turn away. I was haunted



by what was happening so close to home and I wondered what contribution I could possibly make. My work involves delivering secular funerals and also traditional storytelling, meaning I perform stories in my own style to an audience. I didn't think any of my skills could be used to make a difference to the refugees. I felt helpless in my safe, comfortable home, tucked away in a quaint Cotswolds village. I'd never been happier since moving to Avening 18 years before. Living in a small village may not be everyone's cup of tea but I moved around a lot when I was younger and felt truly at home bringing up



# Avening in the National Press!

Avening featured in the national press at the beginning of the year - and for a very good reason. The January edition of Good Housekeeping Magazine included an article by Avening resident Clare Steele, the first part of which is copied on the opposite page. It was about the children's book '**Ten Thousand Bowls of Soup**', written by Clare and fellow Avening resident Ross Frewin, illustrated by Avening resident Pip Morrison, featuring ex-Avening School pupil Henry and ultimately published and marketed by a team from Avening. The book was written to raise awareness of the plight of refugees and all proceeds go to Médecins Sans Frontières, everyone having given their time and expertise for free.

It was wonderful to read about this fantastic project, and to realise that people throughout the country (I was sent a copy of the article by a friend in East Sussex!) - and possibly beyond - were hearing about our beautiful village and the amazing community we have here; it made me very proud, and also made me realise how very many talented people live in our small village.

Congratulations to all involved, and if you haven't yet got your copy of the book, it is available in hard copy or as a CD on Amazon or from <http://www.tenthousandbowlssofsoap.com> - the website was created, of course, by an Avening resident.

*Jane Archer*



goodhousekeeping.co.uk

JANUARY 2018 GOOD HOUSEKEEPING 47

*One of Pip's excellent and entertaining illustrations.*



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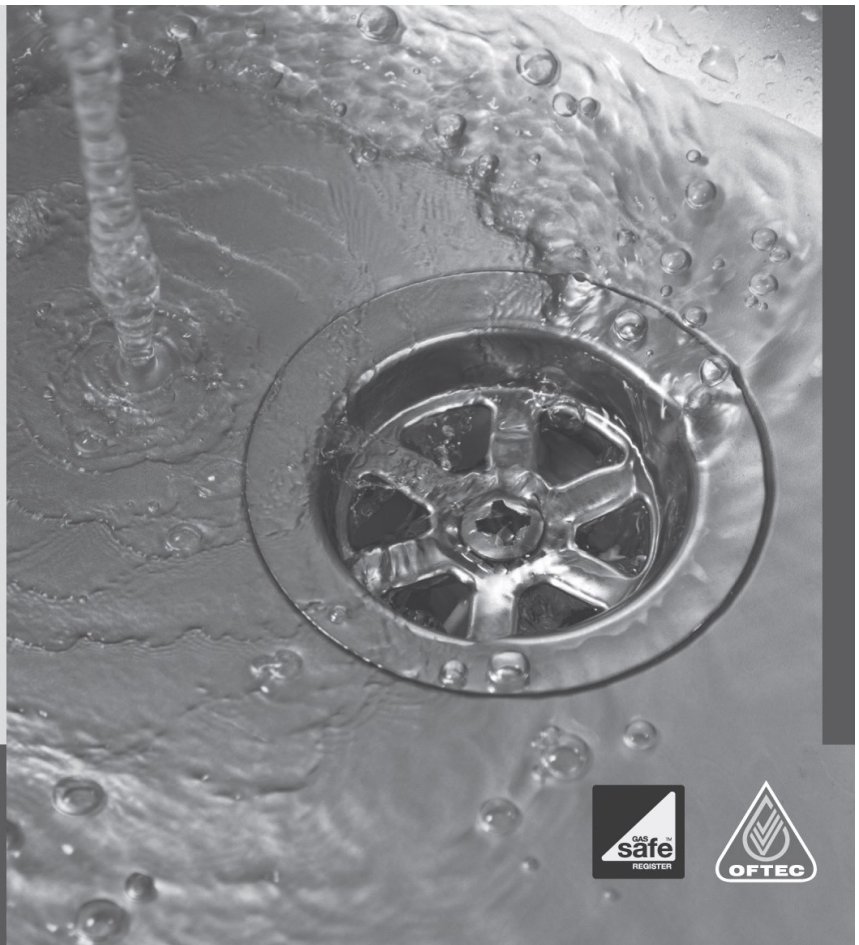
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# Avening School

## Avening School Springs into the New Year!

The new term is already well underway at school with new term topics keeping everyone busy and lots of trips and events to look forward to. The Kestrels class (y1/2) will be on their feet a lot this term with their topic – ‘I like to move it’ where they will be focusing particularly on the story of ‘The Traction Man’. The Hawks (y3/4) are looking at rivers and will embark on an expedition following the Aven stream from Cherington until it reaches the River Severn at Upper Framilode at the end of January. Moving towards a warmer climate, are the Owls class (y5/6) in their project on Mexico which will include a special Mexican - themed day.

In the second week back at school, our Young Voices choir which comprises children from years 4, 5 and 6 headed to the Genting Arena at the Birmingham NEC to join 6,200 other school children for their annual Young Voices concert. It was another incredible performance and the children were a credit to Avening School with their impeccable behaviour, patience and enthusiasm as they sang songs that ranged in style from Stevie Wonder to current pop hits. We already can't wait for next year!



*Year 5 attended a woodworking class at SWR*

We have already been out and about this term with the Hawks class competing in a gym competition at Sir William Romney School in the first week back and the y5 children attending a Design and Technology lesson centred around woodwork where they designed and built key racks. The Owls class also had a visit from Gloucestershire storyteller Bill Church who read from his new book

‘Don't Look at Me Like That’ and talked with the children about developing their own story writing ideas. Another trip in the pipeline is a visit to the Nature in Art museum in Gloucester for the y1 and 2 children.

After many years of being exposed to every weather condition imaginable the exterior of the school is in desperate need of a makeover. In order to raise

enough money to facilitate this 'spruce up' operation we approached Tesco's in regards to their token charity scheme which we are delighted to have been accepted onto and we currently have a box at Tetbury Tesco for blue tokens which will run through January and February. We would greatly appreciate all support possible with this so please vote for us and spread the word.

We will be holding a FOAS meeting at the beginning of February where we will make our fundraising plans for the year ahead so watch this space for more on this in March's issue.

In the meantime, we have plenty to look forward to in the spring term; our annual World Book Day celebrations in March are currently being arranged; we have sports tournaments coming up at various local schools; multi-skills events for all years at SWR; our sports relief run where collectively we will attempt to run the distance between Avening and Cirencester without leaving the boundaries of our own park and very excitingly, our y5/6 residential this year at the earlier date of March at PGL outdoor activity centre in Surrey. What a jam-packed spring term we have ahead of us!

*For further information about our happy, busy place of learning, please see our school website; [www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk)*

**Alex Adcock**

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# Down to Earth



*Dead Albatross with stomach full of plastic*

A very Happy New Year's Gardening to everyone! As the gardening year has scarcely begun, there is still time for some resolutions and there is one very obvious one: to reduce our use of and reliance on plastic! For wildlife, our health and, last but not least – aesthetic reasons. Thank you Sir David! Who would have thought a year ago that the awareness of the pernicious side-effects of using and discarding plastic would be so universal.

Thanks to television – not a phrase I would naturally employ – and the Blue Planet 2 series, we have all been enlightened and horrified about the plastic in our oceans. Long may the horror last and drive us on to more earth and ocean-friendly habits!

If plastic does not biodegrade, you might think, why should it be harmful. Well, it is nearly a decade now since first reports were made public of the way plastic in food containers leached bisphenol A and phthalates – into our digestive systems! Bisphenol A and phthalates both contain an endocrine-disrupting chemical and this has been implicated in the rise of diseases including autoimmune diseases, cancer, neurological diseases and infertility.

But even if we give up plastic bottles and plastic food containers (not an easy one, I'll admit) there are other ways in which plastic harms us. Plastic microparticles are absorbed by lower organisms and perpetuate by bioaccumulation. We are at the top of the food chain and thus, by a process of biomagnification we ingest those very toxins.

What relevance does this have for gardening, you may well ask? The gardening industry is a massive consumer of plastic. Just go into the local garden centre and look around. It is not enough to say that the plastic can go into the recycling container; besides, China doesn't want our plastic for recycling any longer. Why should they take our rubbish – and then simply return it to us as more rubbish (but this time, 'rubbish' in a different sense of the word!)?

I recently visited Burford Garden Company. It was possible to stand in a

'department' (tools, for example) and see absolutely no plastic packaging. There were peat-free fibre pots (which I bought) and sheeps' wool made into biodegradable garden fleece. All very stylish, too. (If a little pricey!) Do visit if you haven't already. This is no ordinary garden centre.

Then there is the matter of tea bags. I have always composted tea-bags, but recently been a little surprised to find them in an identifiable state in the garden. Most of the major tea companies admit to using some polypropylene or silicone in the sealant of tea bags. Many years ago I toured a tea plantation in Ceylon (as it then was) and remember being told that the dust and sweepings were used in tea bags. How the tea companies must have rubbed their hands in glee when we went over the edge like lemmings into an era of mass tea bag use. Well, no more for me. I don't wish to drink boiled polypropylene or silicone, nor do I wish it to enter my compost! Leaf tea is still out there and much, much nicer!



*Biodegradable fibre pots*

An alternative to plastic pots is a very difficult challenge for a nursery. I spoke to the owner of Fibrex Nursery, an independent nursery near Stratford on Avon. For mail order they use fibre pots, but plastic pots are still used for plants 'on the shelves'. But, I was told, they wash plastic pots and reuse them. (Very impressive.) Also, they collect up newspapers and cardboard from the village to use in packaging and for customers to take their purchases away in; they are sourcing paper bags rather than plastic for this year's garden shows.



To eliminate plastic absolutely in the garden is an ideal that is neither realistic nor realisable, but we can take measures to REDUCE it.

You may have read about Aberporth, on the Welsh coast, and Modbury in Devon where villagers have taken collective action to reduce their use of plastic. What can we do in our village? Suggestions, please!

***Marilyn Jones***

## Avening W.I.



Our members enjoyed a full programme of festive events including a coach trip to the Christmas Market in Worcester on a crisp, bright, winters day and an excellent lunch at the Snooty Fox in Tetbury. We also catered for two local groups, producing full Christmas lunch menus for the Stroud Macular Society and the residents of The Beeches, which were very well received.

Now we have started the New Year and we have a full and varied programme planned. Our January speaker was Alison Hesketh who gave a very humorous account of the trials and tribulations of life as the young wife of a clergyman, entitled 'Wed to the Cloth'.

On February 12<sup>th</sup> we are running a craft workshop to make some bunting and decorations for an event later in the year. If anyone has any scraps of material, cotton or similar, plain or patterned and including the colours green and white, we would be very glad to receive them.

Our monthly meetings take place at 7.30 pm on the second Thursday of each month in the Memorial Hall. In addition we also organise and take part in various activities including walks, coach outings, skittles, quizzes and, a new venture for this year, walking netball. We also offer a catering service for local groups or parties.

If your New Year resolution is to get 'out and about' and meet other people, we are a very friendly group and welcome new members. Visitors are also welcome at our meetings if you would like to hear a particular speaker or to find out what WI is all about. Our speaker for February will be Jan Ryder of Longfield Hospice.



# 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*

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# Elsie's FGR Experience

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of January my family and I went to watch the Rovers play against Port Vale who were just above us on the League table at the time, so it was going to be a close match. Mark Cooper had made quite a few new signings as well since a couple of players went back to their original clubs from being on loan. The new signings include:

- Reuban Reid
- Dayle Grubb
- Alex Whittle
- Farrend Rawson
- Gavin Gunning

In the first half of the game it started fairly even, although Reuban Reid was very close to scoring only 2 minutes into the match! Unfortunately, it wasn't meant to be. As the game went on FGR were creating more and more opportunities and midway through the first half Reuban Reid sent another great cross into the box but it couldn't find Christian Doidge's head and the ball was given back to Port Vale.

On to the second half, FGR were beginning to dominate and Reece Brown nearly scored straight away but it just skimmed over the crossbar. However, FGR did manage to score the first and only goal of the game in the 61<sup>st</sup> minute with Reuban Reid scoring an amazing goal in the top left corner which flew straight past the keeper's hands. Afterwards, FGR kept on going for goal but the final whistle blew at 1-0 which meant it was a well-deserved win for the Rovers. The 3 points we picked up against Port Vale pulled us out of the relegation zone and hopefully can give Forest Green some more confidence to keep on winning!

Who It's Against	Date	Time	Home or Away
<b>Coventry</b>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	3:00pm	H
<b>Newport County</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	3:00pm	A
<b>Stevenage</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> Feb	7:45pm	H
<b>Morecombe</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> Feb	3:00pm	A
<b>Crawley Town</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> Feb	3:00pm	H

COME ON YOU ROVERS!!!!!!

*Elsie Heslop*

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# Avening Youth Club

Runs every Tuesday during Term Time at the Memorial Hall from 6.00 to 7.30, welcoming young people aged between 8 and 14. It is run by a qualified Youth Leader employed by The Door Youth Project based in Stroud, who also run Youth Clubs in other towns and villages nearby.

## LOCAL ADULT VOLUNTEERS ARE **URGENTLY** NEEDED

to support the Youth Leader. If you can offer a regular commitment on Tuesday evenings at the above time, or if you can offer just one or two evenings a term to join a rota, we would be really pleased to hear from you.

Please either telephone John Williams, Community Youthwork Co-ordinator at The Door on 01453 756745 or Pat Gardiner, Administrator for the Avening Church of England Educational Fund, on 01453 833783 for more information.

*(The Youth Club is supported by the Avening Church of England Educational Fund and Avening Parish Council)*

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# Avening Cinema Club

The Film to be shown on February 7th 2018 at 7.30pm in the Avening Memorial Hall will be

## HAMPSTEAD

An American widow finds unexpected love with a man living wild on Hampstead Heath when they take on the developers who want to destroy his home.

**Director:** Joel Hopkins

**Writer:** Robert Festinger

**Stars:** James Norton, Brendan Gleeson, Diane Keaton



Cinema club will meet in the Memorial Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm.

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*Kristiane Maseyk*

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# Puzzle Answers

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

M	I	X	T	U	R	E		S	W	A	R	M
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P	A	N	D	A		H	E	A	T	H	E	N
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R	A	I	S	E	D			A	S	S	E	S
N		N				C		H				T
I	D	E	A	S				A	V	O	C	A
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E		C		E				H		E		U
D	A	T	E	S				T	A	N	G	L

## A Bite to Eat?

Arranging a Group Lunch, Christening other social event ?



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

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# Cherington Parish Council

## **Planning**

31 October 2017, 17/04508/FUL: Erection of stables and barn. Woodlands House, Cherington

Status: Awaiting decision. The council had no objection.

21 November 2017, 17/04809/FUL: Proposed garage with residential annexe over. Aston Farm Cottages, Cherington.

Status: Awaiting decision. The council had no objection.

For further information please visit [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk) and search on the Planning pages.

## **County and District Councillor Reports**

County Cllr. Hirst reported that the Lengthsman scheme, a mobile two-man Highways crew, is being revived and that there will be funds available for local works.

District Cllr. Richard Morgan was welcomed on his first attendance. He reported that the Cotswold District Council has made a posthumous award to District Cllr. Parsons as an honorary alderman. The council was encouraged to hold and support local events to commemorate the centenary of the conclusion of World War I; there will be further details in due course.

## **Parking**

The council will obtain an A-frame sign for use outside the village hall to improve access for events.

## **Litter Pick**

The annual litter pick will take place on Saturday 10th March, starting at 10am from the Village Hall.

## **Parish Council Meetings**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th March 2018 at 6pm at the Village Hall. An agenda will be placed on the village notice board and on our website: [cheringtonpc.org.uk](http://cheringtonpc.org.uk).

All residents of the Parish are welcome to attend meetings; the agenda includes public participation time. The Parish Clerk can be contacted on 01453 832100 or via email at [cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk).



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# Avening Parish Council



## **New Parish Councillors**

Two new Councillors, Christine Howell and Craig Forster, have been appointed, and we look forward to working with them.

## **Playing Field Improvements**

The master plan for the proposed improvements was discussed and it is still hoped that a formal planning application will be submitted in January 2018. Details will be on the website.

## **The Jim Parsons Reading Room**

The room has now been painted and new furniture is planned, so future Parish Council meetings can be held there. A dedication will be arranged in due course.

## **Photo Exhibition**

There are plans for an exhibition of old photographs of Avening to be displayed around rooms within the Memorial Hall.

## **Traffic Issues – Lawrence Road**

It was reported that there are still ongoing problems caused by the narrow junction to Lawrence Road and also speeding traffic. Councillors have already explored a number of options to improve the situation, sadly to no avail, but will now bring the matters to the attention of Cllr. Stephen Hirst and continue to work towards finding a solution.

## **Budget**

The budget for 2018/19 was agreed and the precept set. This will feed into the overall CDC budgets currently being agreed.

## **Planning Applications**

Ref. No: 17/00216/FUL: Erection of a detached live/work unit together with off-road parking and other ancillary development (alternative to previously approved scheme). - 11A High Street Avening Tetbury Gloucestershire GL8 8LU

A number of objections were raised regarding the safety of the neighbouring property and the ineffective splay which would be dangerous for cars reversing onto the highway. However, Councillors felt that they could not comment concisely on the development as it appears the property has been built in the wrong position.

## Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 15 February 2018** 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Agendas will be displayed on the village notice boards. Minutes of our meetings are available to view at [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)

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

## Avening Mobile Post Office

The mobile Post Office service operates on the road opposite

**65, Sunground, Avening, Tetbury, Gloucestershire GL8 8NW**

**Opening times: Every Monday and Thursday, 14.15 - 15.15**

Note from the Editors: This branch has been running for nearly a year and is not very well used. We realise that the location may not be very obvious, but if we do not use it, then Post Office Ltd will not see any reason to keep it running. There is a wide range of services available, including personal banking. Full details are available at [www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder](http://www.postoffice.co.uk/branch-finder). There are currently no seasonal opening times to be displayed for this branch.

## Church Floodlighting



The church was floodlit on

**21st December**

In memory of **Malvina Dodd**, nee Barrett,  
**Sylvia Ramsey**, nee Barrett,  
**Ethel and Charles Barrett**

**And on 14th January**

In memory of **Peggy Ashcroft**: born 14th  
January 1919; died 14th June 2017

If you would like to have this in memory of a loved one, or to celebrate a special event, contact

**Paul Brown 01453 835 983.**

The cost is £10 for 2 hours

# Church Services

February	Holy Cross, Avening	St Nicholas, Cherington
4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Candlemas Eucharist	9.30am Candlemas Eucharist
11 <sup>th</sup>	8.00am Eucharist 5.00pm Evensong	Welcome at Avening
14 <sup>th</sup>	7.00pm Ash Wednesday Service	Welcome at Avening
15 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm Quiet Time & Compline	Welcome at Avening
18 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Eucharist	9.30am Morning Prayer
22 <sup>nd</sup>	7.00 pm Quiet Time & Compline	Welcome at Avening
25 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Eucharist	9.30am Eucharist
<b>March</b>		
1 <sup>st</sup>	7.00 pm Quiet Time & Compline	Welcome at Avening
4 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Eucharist	9.30am Eucharist
8 <sup>th</sup>	7.00 pm Quiet Time & Compline	Welcome at Avening
11 <sup>th</sup>	11.00am Mothering Day Service	9.30am Mothering Day Service

## A Church for the Villages



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

***Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington.***

***01453 834884***



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# Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 7th February	Avening Cinema Club showing Hampstead	Memorial Hall Avening	7.30pm
Thursday 15th February	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall Avening	7.30pm
Monday 12th February - Friday 16th February	Half term		
Tuesday 6th March	Cherington Parish Council Meeting	Cherington Village Hall	6.00pm
Saturday 10th March	Cherington Litter Pick	Meet at Village Hall	10.00am
Wednesday 7th March	Avening Cinema Club	Memorial Hall Avening	7.30pm
Saturday 10th November	End of WWI Centenary Celebration	Memorial Hall and around the Church	tbc

## *Avening Angels*

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*Contact Derrick on 01453 835090 or  
derrick.pierce@hotmail.com for more details*

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## Did you know?

As winter temperatures drop below 7°C, driving becomes more perilous. Wet roads, cold temperatures, snow and ice can all contribute to potentially dangerous slip ups such as loss of grip, aquaplaning and longer stopping distances. With the prospect of such hazardous conditions it's critical that your tyres are properly maintained and fit for the winter ahead.

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