

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington
and Nags Head

December 2018
January 2019

editors@acvillager.co.uk

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December 2018 / January 2019

Anyone who came to the Remembrance Weekend events is unlikely to forget them in a hurry.

The Son et Lumière brought hundreds (literally) of people to watch and wonder at what they saw. The tragedy of the First World War was linked with stories of courage and sacrifice of some of those from Avening and Cherington, recounted by some of our young people. The party in the Memorial Hall was equally memorable with delicious food and entertainment, provided by so many talented people. As always, the Remembrance Service was full of feeling, concluding with the traditional laying of the wreaths outside. In this edition of the Villager you will find a poem, which Rev Gerald read out during the service, written by some of the children in the school. In it they captured the horror and futility of war. As he finished reading, a deep silence descended on the church. There was no more that could be said. The most remarkable thing of all was the weather. We were promised a rather dismal weekend, but a miracle occurred and the sun shone at all the right moments and the Son et Lumière was blessed by a clear and starry night.

We hope that you enjoy this Christmas edition of the Villager and that you will find things to participate in. With our good wishes for the festive season and thanks for your support during this past year.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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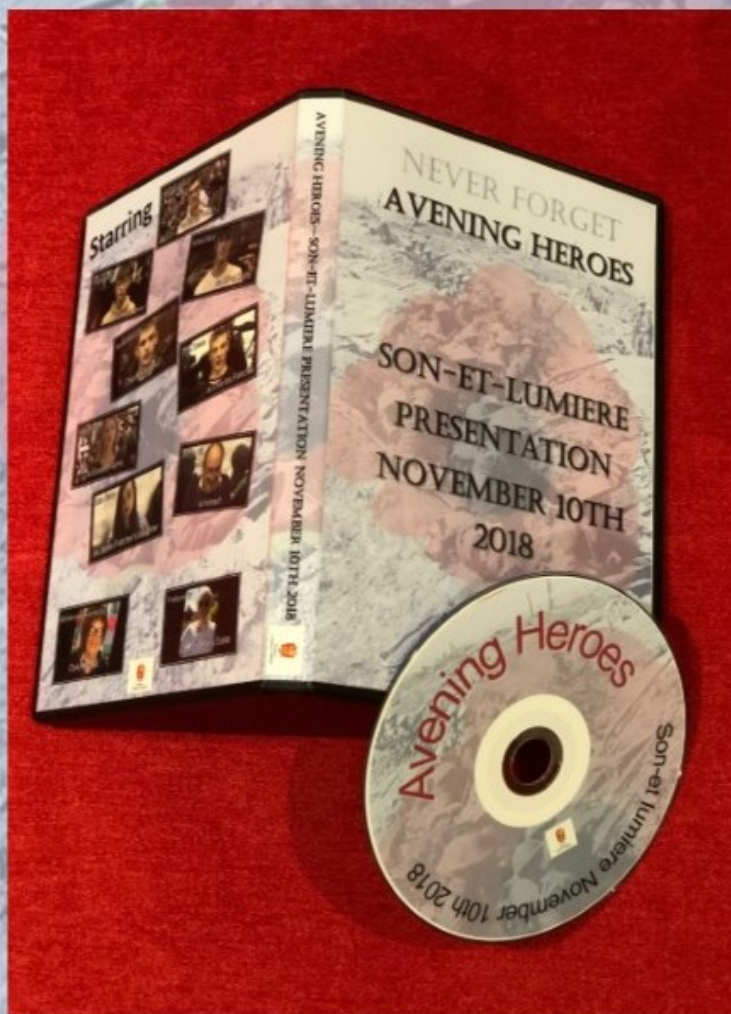
Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Nigel Bowsher** for this lovely photo of Avening Church

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

NEVER FORGET
AVENING HEROES
SON-ET-LUMIERE
PRESENTATION
NOVEMBER 10TH 2018



Due to popular demand, the WW1 commemorative presentation is now available on DVD or file download for just £10—an ideal stocking filler! All profits to the Memorial Hall roof fund.

**Contact Tony Slater
to place an order**

ars@talktalk.net
tel. 01453 832318

Poets at Avening School

In the days leading up to 11th November members of the Owls class gave much thought to the events of WW1 and, in groups, wrote poems to express some of their understanding.

The poem below was written by Ralph, Isaac, Lily, Archie and Amber. It was read at the Remembrance Service at Avening Church and at the Cherington Act of Remembrance: such was the impact that there were many requests for it to be printed in The Villager.

**Terrible trenches, vile stench
Memories of home life hanging
Heavy on their hearts.
You'll be home by Christmas, they said.**

Maybe not if you're dead.

**Cling! Clang! The guns went bang
Over the top the soldiers ran.
Bombs so loud you could die from the sound.
You'll be home by Christmas, they said.**

Maybe not if you're dead.

**Ruthless raving men
Cries for help are faint
Blood dripping down their face like paint
Lost souls sinking down.
You'll be home by Christmas, they said.**

Maybe not if you're dead.

**Months later
Poppies grow, row by row
You'll be home by Christmas,
..... they said.**



*Very Happy Christmas from the people of
Avening and Cherington Churches*



Christmas Services

Avening Church

16th December, 7.00 pm Carol Service: takes the traditional form with readings and carols, some sung by Avening Angels.

24th December, 4.00 pm Nativity

Service: is for all and the youngsters are invited to be dressed for the part.

24th December, 11.30 pm 'Midnight'

Service: is a Eucharist (Holy Communion) with carols.

25th December, 11.00 am Christmas

Morning Service: Eucharist (Holy Communion) service for all. You are invited to bring one of your Christmas presents to show us

Cherington Church

8th December, 5.00 pm Christingle

Service: for all ages, we light our Christingles and then move out to the Christmas tree.

16th December, 5.00 pm Carol Service:

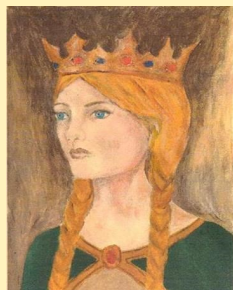
takes the traditional form with readings and carols.

24th December, 9.30 pm 'Midnight'

Service: is a Eucharist (Holy Communion) with carols.

25th December, 10.00 am Christmas

Morning Service: is for all and you are invited to bring one of your Christmas presents to show us.



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Regular Activities in Avening and Cherington

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

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Mobile Post Office	Monday and Thursday	12.00 to 1.00pm	opposite 65, Sunground	J. Clutterbuck 01453 542754
Churchyard tidy up	Tuesday fortnightly	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Rev. Gerald 01453 834884
Cherington PC	Tuesday	6.00pm	Village Hall	Beverley 01453 832100
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 10.00pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	6.00—7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Rev. Gerald 01453 834884
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
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
Summer Skittles	Friday	8.00pm	Social club	Derrick Ind 01453 835752
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.00pm	Various	Derrick Pierce 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	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Stephanie Hamilton Ann Brick	07796 981308
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	Katy Upton	07806 614753.
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	Angie Heslop	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Social Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752

Avening Youth Club	Revd. Gerald South The Door	834884 01453 756745
South Cotswold Community Wellbeing Agent		01452 528491
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	Mel Pegler	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
Stroud Hospital	Reception	0300 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Gwyneth Simpson	01453 836556



VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council: www.avening-pc.gov

Avening Church: www.aveningchurch.info

Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



I often reflect on the time individuals give up to make Avening a great place to live, but this month has been exceptional! I have to start with the WW1 events – what a great evening, and I've been blown away with all the positive feedback. There are too many people to thank individually, but a special mention must go to Click who came up with the concept of the projection, and who wrote the scripts for the young people, who read them on screen so well. For the evening show Andrea, Jane, Jenny, Pip and Mandy pulled off a hugely popular event, but this couldn't have happened without all the acts; MC Kieran (aka Elvis!); the entire supporting cast, including cake makers, catering, and Nick Winkfield who stopped the hall flooding by clearing a blocked drain in the middle of a storm!

If you would like a permanent souvenir of the presentation, DVDs are now on sale for £10 - an ideal stocking filler! All sales will go towards the hall roof appeal. There will also be another showing in the hall after Christmas for anyone who would like to see it again - watch out for details. To find out more about our 42 WW1 heroes, their stories are all now on the website – there's a link on the homepage.

The collection for the hall roof raised £225 at the WW1 event, and we are starting to get a good flow of tile adopters and stories. There will be a cash surplus for the roof fund from the event as we received a grant from CDC, and a generous donation from Mr & Mrs Richards before they left Avening Court. We have received details of a similar hall restoration project at Sapperton, and have set up meetings with our district councillor to progress a grant application – this work is our priority, and we are finishing off small projects to allow it our full attention.

Other people making a difference are the volunteers who have set up the community café – the launch event was very successful, and it promises to fill a daytime void enabling people to meet new friends in an informal atmosphere.

After 5 successful years, Clare and Krissie have handed over the reins of the Cinema Club to Katy Upton, and we already have two great films to look forward to – the Christmas classic 'It's a Wonderful Life' on 5th December, and the feel good singalong 'Mamma Mia Here We Go Again' on 2nd January.

We were very pleased to dedicate the Reading Room as the Jim Parsons room following the recent refurbishment, and Jim's son Keith came to the ceremony and said a few kind words.

Sadly, there are still too many scum-bags around, who think it's acceptable to trick their way into people's houses and steal their hard-earned savings. I sincerely hope the low-life's who committed such a crime on the day we were celebrating past heroes weren't local, but it is a good opportunity to remind everyone to keep all doors locked, and to carefully check the identities of all callers before letting them in – there will always be a phone number to call on valid ID cards to check their credentials, and genuine callers won't mind the delay. Better still; ask a friend or relative to be with you if someone wants to come in the house.

As this is the last edition until February, don't forget that we have a pull along gritter available by the hall in the event of snow – it's much easier, quicker, and more economical than using a shovel! Padlock code available from any councillor, or IM me via Facebook.

Tony Slater
Chairman

Cherington Takes Delivery of its Cardiac Defibrillator

In line with many other villages, Cherington now has its own defibrillator which has been positioned in the porch of the Village Hall. In addition to a grant from Cotswold District Council we are extremely grateful to Chris and Siobhan Fagan for providing the additional funding required to purchase it.



We are also grateful to Sarah Priday who has donated money to support the maintenance of the machine.

Our machine has been registered with South West Ambulance Trust so that if anyone dials 999 in our area, they will be directed to the village hall.

We are organising training to accompany this installation but in the meantime be reassured that it can be used without training as it gives clear spoken instructions and it will not deliver a shock unless necessary.

Obviously, we hope it will not be used very often, but we are very grateful to our donors.

Thank You

Avening and Cherington Churches



What's so special about Christmas?

It's a welcome break in the middle of the winter; it's a chance to get together with friends and family; parties and presents ... and so on. Yes, it is all of these but is there not something rather deeper going on too? The central character is a new born baby and the creation of a new life is joyful mystery that excites all: we may now know a great deal about genetics, DNA structure, cell division and so on, but none of these adequately explain the existence of our consciousness and self-awareness (or indeed the very matter of which we are made).

The baby of the Christmas story was not born in a modern hospital or into a warm comfortable home. For him it was a rough and humble start to life, born to very ordinary parents in the most unpromising of settings. That is a very appealing feature of the story and it symbolises the message that this baby was later to bring to those around him and to the world at large – that wealth, power and status are not the ways to 'measure' human worth: every individual, of whatever background, is loved by their creator and is invited to reflect that love back into the world around them in whatever ways they can. That love is embedded in the very fabric of creation and that is why one of the names for Jesus is 'Emmanuel' which translates to 'God with us' – that is at the heart of Christmas – may it be so for you.

All Souls' Service

This was held at Avening Church on the afternoon of Sunday 4th November. Many bereaved relatives came from near and far as we remembered those we have loved and see no more. Their names, 56 of them, were written on cards and hung on the 'thanksgiving tree' and candles lit in memory of them. It was good to share feelings over a cup of tea afterwards.

Remembrance Day Service

After the memorable events of Saturday evening the church was packed for this service on Sunday morning. We thank those who came. The British Legion have been sent over £280 collected at this service, a considerable increase on last year – thank you.

Forest Church

Our Forest Church on 10th November was at a farm near Tetbury and was attended people of a wide range of ages. We focussed on the beauty of the area, the sounds and the sights. We then looked at this Christian symbol and made it from the fallen branches and



leaves before lighting the fire and had a song, some prayers and refreshment. We look forward to another Forest Church in the new year.

Christmas Services: Please see details of these elsewhere in this magazine.

From the Church Registers

9th November: Marriage of Alexander Luker and Jemma Wixey

Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington

01453 834884 gp.south@btopenworld.com

Church Services and Events

Dec	Holy Cross Avening	St Nicholas Cherington
2 nd	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Advent Service
8 th		5.00 pm Christingle and tree lighting
9 th	8.30 am Said Eucharist 3.00 pm Children's Party	—
11 th	12.30-1.00 Praying the Parishes	at 21 Nags Head Lane
19 th	7.00 pm Compline at 70 Sandford Leaze	
16 th	7.00 pm Carol Service	5.00 pm Carol Service
23 rd	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
24 th	4.00 pm Nativity Service 11.30 pm Midnight Eucharist	10.00 pm Midnight Eucharist
25 th	11.00 am Christmas Service	10.00 am Christmas Service
30 th	11.00 am 'Café' Eucharist at Avening Church	
Jan 6 th	11.00 am Epiphany Eucharist	9.30 am Epiphany Eucharist
13 th	8.30 am Said Eucharist 5.30 pm Evening Prayer	9.30 am All Age Service
20 th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
27 th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Morning Prayer
Feb 3 rd	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist

CHERINGTON VILLAGE CHRISTMAS 2018



SATURDAY DECEMBER 8th

5 pm Christingle Service at St Nicholas Church

Followed by the lighting of the

Cherington Christmas Tree on the Green

(approximately 5.45 pm)



And afterdrinks and mince
pies in the Village Hall

Do join us to start our village
celebrations

We have made it early so our youngsters can
come before bedtime and the grown ups before
supper !

Avening Playgroup

By the time you read this article, the playgroup's main fundraising event of the year will have been and gone! It has been an exciting time working with members of FOAS to put the Christmas Extravaganza together and we thank them very much for their help and support. We hope you all had a lovely time!

During the past month the children have been busy learning about the autumn festivals of Halloween, Bonfire Night and Divali. They have been taking part in lots of activities to develop their creative skills:

Halloween

The children have been drawing scary faces on paper pumpkins and learning about the lifecycle of a pumpkin. We have been looking at spiders and drawing them step by step, as well as individually. They have also been colouring in Halloween pictures and learning Halloween songs.

Bonfire Night

Hanging around the playgroup are some lovely bright and bold firework splatter paintings, for which the children used watered-down paints and then flicked the brushes over the paper.

Divali

We have been looking at books to see how Hindu families celebrate their New Year and have made Rangoli chalk drawings, Mehndi hand patterns as well as some milk-based truffles, which the children really enjoyed!

During the next week or so, we will be looking at the Christmas Story and be making lots of nice sparkly things for Christmas.

Everyone at Avening Playgroup wishes you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

If you would like to know more about our lovely playgroup or to reserve a place for your child, please contact us on 01453 832695 on weekday mornings or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com.

Angie Heslop

Do you know

... a youngster in Avening or Cherington who is unlikely to get a Christmas present this year?

If so, our churches may be able to help – please contact Gerald on 01453 834884.

Avening W.I.

Thank you to all who came and supported our Fun Quiz in aid of the Memorial Hall roof fund. A fantastic fifteen teams took part and fought a very close run contest. Shirley came up with another brilliant set of questions and organised the evening with her family. A team of other WI members did the marking, the raffle and set up the buffet. Hopefully quite a few roof tiles will be purchased with the proceeds.



Avening WI will be celebrating the festive season in various ways – a Christmas shopping trip to Cardiff, a celebration lunch at The Snooty Fox, a trip to the Gloucester Federation Christmas Concert, a wreath making workshop and a Christmas Party – something for everyone!

We are also having another busy time on the catering front. In November we plated up one hundred ploughman's suppers for the village WW1 Centenary Celebration and in December we will be catering for two full Christmas lunch events, one for the Stroud Macular Society and the other for a group of neighbours from The Beeches.

Our speaker for January will be Alison Hesketh with a humorous talk entitled 'Kith, Kin and Kenya'. This will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th January at the Memorial Hall. We welcome visitors and anyone who would like to find out what the WI is all about. We are a friendly group and our membership has recently risen to over 40 members.

Helen Haiselden

Carols in the Pubs

Join Avening Angels for the annual festive singalong of all your favourite carols

Thursday 20th December

8 pm Queen Matilda

8.45 pm The Bell



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Your Village Hall Needs



**1914
Roof**



**2018
Appeal**



After almost 100 years service, the **Memorial Hall** is in need of some structural repairs, including a partial new roof. Many of the tiles will be re-used, but we will need to buy some new, expensive Cotswold stone tiles.

In addition to seeking grant funding, we are offering the opportunity for everyone to **'buy a tile' and remember a hero**. For just £10 per tile, tell us your story of a fallen family member from any conflict, or who fought and returned, and we will preserve it in a commemorative book for future generations to see.

**Contact the Parish Clerk, or download a form from
www.avening-pc.gov.uk**



Preserve
Conserve, Enhance



Preserve
Conserve, Enhance



Avening School

It's Showtime!

We are into the final few weeks of term and its 'lights, camera, action' in every class as KS1 and KS2 get ready to sparkle and shine in this year's Christmas productions. The Eagles and Kestrels will be delighting audiences with their performance of 'The Noisy Nativity' whilst the Hawks and the Owls will be travelling back to the Victorian era in their festive retelling of 'A Christmas Carol', appropriately titled 'Bah Humbug'.

In between rehearsals and raiding the costume and props boxes, the whole school took part in 'respect week' to coincide with national anti-bullying week. As well as talking about different aspects of respect, children participated in activities including British Sign Language lessons, drumming workshops and were reminded about staying safe online.



Some wonderful smells filled the school corridors a few weeks ago as each class took part in the School Council's very first Great Avening School Bake-off to raise funds for Children in Need. Each class were given the task of baking cupcakes or biscuits and showcased their offerings to a judging panel at the end of the week followed by a bake sale at the end of the school day. In addition to this, the reception children have been learning to bake bread with some very delicious results and tastings going on in the Eagles classroom.

Our Avening sports stars have been flying the flag and making us proud at a tag rugby tournament at SWR School and football at Cirencester Primary.

As well as our own Christmas shows to look forward to, the children are gearing up for our annual theatre trips towards the end of term. This year KS1 and the Hawks will be seeing 'Aladdin' at the Wyvern Theatre, while the Owls are hoping to pick up some top tips when they travel to the Bristol Old Vic to see 'A Christmas Carol'.

We are delighted to announce that this year FOAS will be joining forces with Avening playgroup in a Christmas extravaganza which will combine firm favourites from both annual Christmas fayres with Santa's grotto, a festive photo booth and lots of fun activities for children of all ages on Friday 30th November.

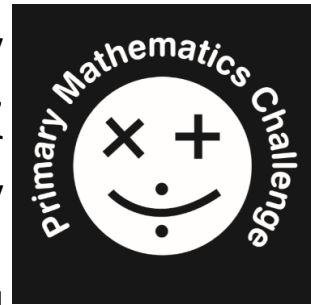
We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all at Avening School. See you next year!

Alex Adcock

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

CHALLENGING MATHS AT AVENING PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eight pupils from our school took the national Primary Mathematics Challenge recently. Well done to Archie, Daniel, Elodie, Fleur, Joe, Lucy, Ned and Yasmine for their perseverance and excellent answers to some very challenging questions.



Below are three of the questions in the Challenge and correct answers were achieved by several of the pupils to these. Answers in the next Villager.

A.

In the Smellie household, Mum changes her socks every day, Dad every other day, Tammy every three days and Timmy every Wednesday. On 12th November they all changed their socks. When is the next date on which they all change their socks on the same day?

B.

The diagram shows the floor plan of a house. The areas of three of the rooms are shown. Both the bedroom and the living room are twice as long as they are wide. What is the area of the kitchen?

Kitchen	Bedroom 18 m ²
Living Room 32 m ²	Study 20 m ²

C.

At Abbie's birthday party eight of her friends are sitting round a circular table. Abbie has only three party-poppers, so she wants to give them to three of her friends, so that no two friends who are sitting next to each other both get a party-popper. How many ways are there in which she can do this?

Gerald South



**Gloucestershire
Constabulary**

Gloucestershire Constabulary will be actively policing the A417 between Crickley Hill and Cirencester using a highly visible vehicle equipped with a variety of equipment. The aim is to

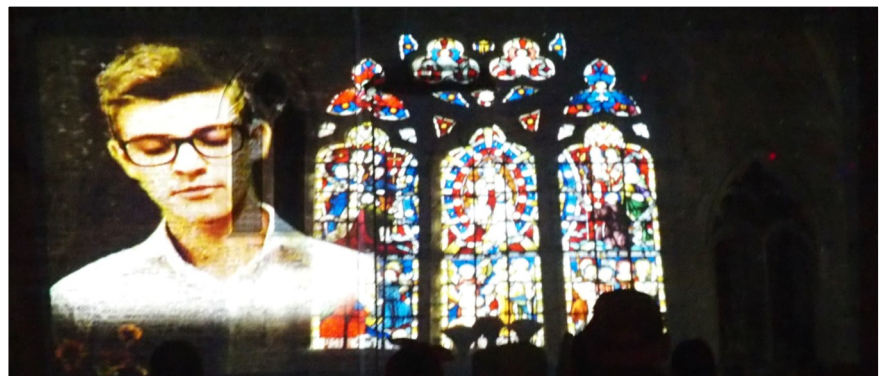
improve road safety and reduce crime. Officers will be stopping any vehicle they deem appropriate to do so whether it is because of poor standard of driving, the condition of a vehicle, criminal intelligence led enquiries or other intelligence like missing persons.

You can help make the A417 safer by keeping a safe distance from other drivers and being mindful of your speed.

Avening and Cherington



WWI Armistice Celebrations



A Village Boy Takes His First Steps to War

The year is 1941, my apprenticeship with the RAF is complete and I am now Airframe Fitter 1st Class serving at Moreton-in-Marsh. Like many of my colleagues I was anticipating an overseas posting. Several war zones were not “doing very well”, so a posting to one of these zones was not long in coming. A summons to the Orderly Room confirmed I was posted overseas.

After “Embarkation Leave”, goodbyes were said. Instructions demanded I report to R.A.F. Padgate, where we were issued with khaki battledress and tropical khaki drill uniform as well. This complete, after a daily roll-call we were permitted to pass the time away, so Uncle Tom’s Cabin, Blackpool, a few miles away, became our Headquarters.

Alas our numbers had now swelled and the ‘draft’ was assembled and we embarked on an overnight train trip to Scotland. After the usual ‘pep-talk’ we boarded a troop ship (an ex-P&O liner conversion). The usual issue of blankets and a hammock followed with a location to sling it in – our allocated number on deck ‘so and so’. Practice followed and eventually we achieved expertise in mounting and dismounting our hammocks.

The conditions became ghastly with no air-conditioning, so the air was heavily contaminated, but worse was to come. During the following night we felt a vibration through the ship: We were underway.

By morning we were headed for the seas around the north coast of Ireland and September lived up to its gales. I had never seen the height of such waves. We were confined to the lower decks and very few were not sea-sick. This situation lasted a few days but eased as we approached the Atlantic. I concluded the only ones who enjoyed the experience were the ‘Lascars’ (sailors from territories east of the Cape of Good Hope who were employed on European vessels), who crewed the ship. “Weather good; no submarines in such weather”, they chanted.

We were fed and watered and settled down to Navy Regulations, also to meet some of the troops on board, a mixed bunch of Army, Navy, Fleet Air and Royal Air Force. Some of the men had completed previous tours and were not a happy bunch, but we sailed on, zig-zagging against possible submarine attack. The further we sailed into the Atlantic the warmer it became and a number of us slept on deck, although this had its hazards. An early rise was essential, as the lascars armed with hoses would wake us washing decks with: “Wakey, wakey, George”. (Everybody on board was known as “George” to the Lascars!). Personal hygiene was almost impossible, but we made do, and it stood us in good stead for our next posting of sand and sun.

The Mediterranean was closed due to severe enemy action so the long journey around the Cape of Good Hope was essential. This meant that we had to sail across the Atlantic and then take a reciprocal course to Freetown as refuelling was needed. That necessitated a stay of two to three days in intense heat.

On our way again, we crossed the Equator with the usual ceremony and headed for Cape Town, South Africa, for another refuelling. Conditions were now so bad that a strike was anticipated (“we would go no further”) so shore leave was hastily arranged and we enjoyed the courtesy of the South Africans who took us into their homes and allowed us to bath. What a relief! Then day after day we roamed the city and stayed with the family who were our guides. Eventually all good things came to an end and we sailed for Durban. How well I remember the ‘Woman in White’ as she was known, an opera star who sang each ship in to port and likewise sang them out again with ‘Land of Hope and Glory’.

Next stop was Aden to refuel again. This took longer as the ‘chain gang’ of natives refuelled us from four gallon tins. Away again up the Red Sea; what a relief that we were not detailed to sail on with the rest of the convoy. We parted company, with us sailing North whilst the others sailed East, only to land up in Japanese Prisoner-of-War camps in Singapore.

The last lap: we anchored off Port Tewfiq in Egypt and were taken ashore in ‘lighters’ (small boats) and thence to await our next posting.

We sailed from the UK on September 17th 1941 and docked at Tewfiz, mid-December.

Ah, Christmas!

The Royal Air Force contingent was housed in Transit Camp at Helwan to await the next posting, that being the Desert Air Force, where we were to remain for the rest of our four-year tour.

But that is another story!



*Airframe Fitter 1st Class
Vincent in 1941*

Riley Vincent

Avening Homeworkers Christmas Lunch

The 2018 Avening Homeworkers' Christmas Lunch will be held on
Tuesday 11 December.

Once again the Queen Matilda is opening its doors especially for anyone working from home without an office party to go to. Starts at 12.30, with the aim of serving food at 1:30. The menu is also available at <http://queenmatildatavern.co.uk/christmas-2018/>

In order to be included in the festivities, please get in touch with our host Lynne (either by emailing trulockes@hotmail.co.uk, or via the more enjoyable method of popping into the pub) to let her know you'll be there and to give her your food choices. She needs to know before **7th December** to be sure of ordering in enough supplies, so please don't spend too long thinking about it - just bite the bullet and say you'll be there. You know it makes sense!



All 'homeworkers' (however you want to define that) in Avening, Cherington and Nag's Head are invited to this event

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Are you facing challenges? Are you stuck, repeating the same old behaviour patterns? Would you like to see huge changes in your life either at work or at home?

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Avening Youth Club



It has been lovely to see so many of you coming to the Youth Club, which is clearly growing in popularity. Many thanks to the great leaders, Becky and Bev for their hard work. The Young Leaders are growing into their role and proving to be a real asset.

Just two sessions left this year! Here's the programme:

4th December

Christmas Dinner – Celebrating Christmas in true style!

11th December

Finishing the year with a Christmas party

Check out the Facebook Page for the date we come back in the New Year

Youth Club is for anyone aged 8 to 14, from Avening, Nags Head, or Cherington. We meet every Tuesday in term time from 6 to 7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall. **Once you're 13 we'll ask you to be a Young Leader and help out (don't worry, we'll give you training).**

Cost is just £1 a time to include a healthy snack. Just come along and see what's what if you haven't been before. We'll make you welcome.

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

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

Santa Needs a New Sleigh!



Father Christmas will be in the village on Sunday 9th December and needs a sleigh to journey round to see all of the children. We are extremely thankful for the many years that Lisa and Simon Harwood have provided the truck and sound system for this magical event, but it is time for us to find a new willing volunteer to help out Father Christmas. If you know anyone who might be able to help, please contact Helen Hatt at hatthelen@gmail.com.



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A Bite to Eat?



Arranging a Group Lunch, Christening other social event ?

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

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

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Avening's Community Café opens - and there's a Christmas treat for customers in December



The doors of Avening's Community Café opened on Tuesday 13th November and the place was soon buzzing with friends and neighbours who welcomed this new opportunity for a chat and a cuppa on their doorstep.

'Dangerously tempting cakes', 'a friendly atmosphere' and 'a great crowd' were the early verdicts from some of the 70 customers

who came along to the Café's first morning. 'I thought the café was absolutely brilliant,' said one. 'I have no doubt it will be a great asset for Avening.'

The Café, which opens every Tuesday morning between 9 and 11.30, relies on volunteers – from the village's brilliant bakers to the sterling service of servers, washer-uppers, rota-organisers and others behind the scenes who worked so hard over recent weeks to get the project up and running. Suggestions from customers are incredibly important to make sure we are truly a café *for* the community, run *by* the community....so keep those ideas coming!

Fund-raising continues, with donations from Avening Parish Council, Tetbury Lions, South Cotswold Rotary and several individuals helping to get the café off the ground financially. Morrisons in Nailsworth chipped in with a £20 voucher – and Tesco's local community liaison officer pitched in to help during the opening morning.

'A big thank you goes to everyone who helped to make this happen,' says Jennie South, the current café coordinator. 'We've been greatly encouraged by the response and it was lovely to meet so many customers as we opened the cafe door for the first time. We're looking forward to the café going from strength to strength in the coming months!'

To give you a taste of things to come, there will be a diet-destroying free mince pie with every hot drink on 18th December. To keep in touch with offers and special events, please follow us on Facebook (Avening Community Café).

In the meantime, see you next Tuesday!



Collecting your Christmas tree – for charity !

Have your tree collected and recycled, just after Twelfth Night, and help a highly valued local charity.

Longfield will collect the tree from your home between January 10th and 14th and recycle it for you, in return for a donation. All you need to do is register before 6.00.pm on Sunday January 6th and make your donation, online or by phone.

The money raised will help to pay for Longfield's Hospice at Home nurses. They provide specialist support, day and night, on every day of the year (including Christmas Day !) and the service is completely free of charge. So please be generous in donating to Longfield this Christmas and support people in your community, when they need it most.

For more information or to register go to <https://www.longfield.org.uk/event/christmas-tree-recycling> or ring 01453 886868 (option 1).

100 Mile Walk



In January, 15 intrepid walkers, including our own **Stephen Uzzell**, will set off from Tetbury to walk **100 miles to raise £100,000 for refugees**. Donna Crowther, former Avening resident who has her 50th birthday in January wanted to do something enjoyable and memorable to celebrate, whilst at the same time benefitting others less fortunate than herself. She

came up with a walk calling in at all the churches which have had some significance in her life. The walk will take 9 days to complete and 14 other friends will be joining her. Bell ringing is another passion of Donna's and at the church at the end of each day's walk the bells will be rung.

We hope that you will sponsor the walk so that £100,000 can be raised for refugees. Christian Aid, through community partnerships, can match fund anything raised 6 to 1 so with your help we are confident that we will reach or even exceed the target. Do come to Christchurch Tetbury to see them off at 8.00 am on Saturday 12th January or come at 7.30 for a big breakfast.

To sponsor the walk online visit <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/hundred-mile-walk> and then type in 100 mile walk. For further information contact walk co-ordinator Alison at: alison.hesketh1@btinternet.com

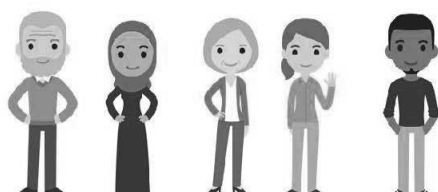


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Locally-Based Charities

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

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

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

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

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

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

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David Martin

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Avening Cinema Club

Our next film will be:

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

(1946) Dir: Frank Capra. Cast: James Stewart, Donna Reed.

Wednesday 5th December - 7.30pm

Avening Memorial Hall - Admission £5

There will be mince pies available!

Cinema-goers are encouraged to buy their drinks from the local pub both before the film and during the interval.



Avening Film Club is now run by Katy Upton:

“Hello! I moved to the village just over a year ago with my husband and young son. I studied Film & Literature at university and work in the television industry, so as an avid film lover I jumped at the chance to step in and ensure the Film Club keeps running. I’m sure you’ll all join me in saying thank you very much to Krissie and Clare for all their hard work and dedication running the club to date. I hope you’ll continue to support and enjoy the club – please do get in touch with any comments, suggestions and offers of help! Hope to see you all there soon.”

The Film Club will continue to run on the first Wednesday of every month, at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Please do check our Facebook page or contact me for more information.

Phone: 07806 614753. Email: katywingrove@hotmail.co.uk

We’ll be kicking off the new year with:

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MAMMA MIA! HERE WE GO AGAIN



MAMMA MIA! HERE WE GO AGAIN

(2018) Dir: Ol Parker. Cast: Meryl Streep, Amanda Seyfried, Lily James, Colin Firth, Dominic Cooper, Julie Walters, Pierce Brosnan, Cher.

Wednesday 2nd January - 7.30pm

Avening Memorial Hall – Admission £5

AVENING CHURCH INVITATION

to a Children's Christmas Party

All children aged up to 11 years are invited to a Christmas party in
Avening Church

on **Sunday December 9th**, from 3pm to 5pm

We have already invited Father Christmas but he would like to know who is coming so that a gift for each child can arranged.

**To let us know telephone Elizabeth Buchanan on 833016
or email buchanan.el@gmail.com**

please bring a plate of food to share



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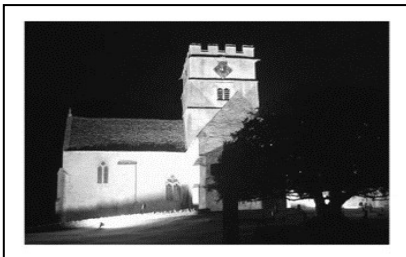
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22nd December

Remembering Eric Roberts,

born 22.12.1918.

Love you always and especially on your birthday,
from all the family.

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.

Avening Parish Council



The minutes of the **Avening Parish Council Meeting on 15 November 2018** meetings will be published shortly but some of the issues raised at the meeting are listed below:

The Jim Parsons Reading Room

The Reading Room was officially re-named by Jim's son Keith, prior to the Parish Council meeting.

WWI Centenary Event

The event proved to be well attended, very successful and also very moving. Huge thanks were expressed to all those involved in helping to organise it.

Avening Youth Club

It was reported that a grant has been approved to set up a Youth Club for 12 – 16 year olds in addition to the existing club for 12 – 16 year olds. The views of what young people would like from the club would be welcomed.

Future Events

A reminder that the Christmas Tree lighting will be happening this year on Saturday 1 December at 5pm.

Memorial Hall Roof

As you are probably aware the hall roof is in need of attention and the suggestion for villagers to buy a tile of £10 in memory of someone important to them has proved popular and is still ongoing. For further information follow the link on the Parish Council website.

Proposed Planning Application for Old Quarries

A planning consultant attended the meeting and presented the proposals to Councillors. These proposals included restoration of the main house and gallery; demolishing inappropriate modern buildings, and creating a total of 11 dwellings. The detailed designs of the proposed buildings were not yet available but Councillors were concerned about an increase in traffic and unsuitable access to the site – suggestions were made to remediate the risks, but these will be fully considered when the application is formally submitted to CDC.

Planning Applications

Ref. No: 18/02649/FUL

Installation of replacement windows and door and insertion of side facing window - Flat 2 Simon House 4 High Street Avening Gloucestershire GL8 8LU.
No objections raised.

Ref. No: 18/04043/FUL

Conversion and works to barn to create one dwelling with parking. Barn at Owl House West End Avening Gloucestershire.

A number of concerns were raised including;

- Possibility of contamination to nearby stream from building works and water disposal, as no details were available for foul water disposal.
- Access to the adjacent bridleway needs to be maintained.
- Over development of a largely unspoilt area of outstanding natural beauty.
- Possibility of flooding.
- Visitor parking

Part of site was originally designated as agricultural use so change of use application was required

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 20 December 2018** 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Agendas will be displayed on the village notice boards. Minutes of our meetings are available to view at www.avening-pc.gov.uk

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

Cherington Parish Council

The next meeting of Cherington Parish Council is currently planned for **Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 6pm but please check the notice board for location and confirmation.** The public are encouraged to attend. An agenda will be placed on the notice board and cheringtonpc.org.uk. The Parish Clerk can be contacted on 01453 832100 or via email at cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk.

Thank you

I would like to thank all the villagers who got together to make good all the money that was stolen from my home. This was most unexpected and very generous – thank you everyone.

Gaye Powell

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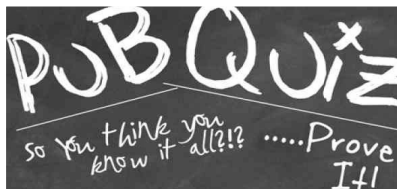
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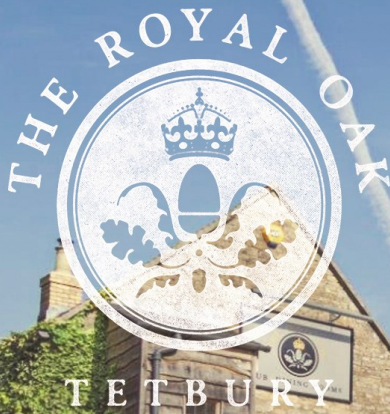
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Dates For Your Diary

Saturday 1st December	Avening Christmas Tree Lighting with carols	Bakery Green (by telephone box) And afterwards in the social club	5.00 pm
Sunday 2nd December	Gloucester Cathedral Carol Service	Coach leaving Avening	tbc
Wednesday 5th December	Avening Film Club ('It's A Wonderful Life')	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Saturday 8th December	Christingle Service, followed by lighting of Christmas Tree	St Nicholas Church Cherington and Village Green	5.00 pm
Sunday 9th December	Santa comes to Avening!	Whole Village	tbc
Sunday 9th December	Children's Christmas Party	Holy Cross, Avening	3.00- 5.00pm
Tuesday 11th December	Avening Homeworkers Lunch	Queen Matilda	12.30 pm
Sunday 16th December	Avening Carol Service	Holy Cross Church Avening	7.00 pm
Thursday 20 December	Carol Singalong in the Pubs	Queen Matilda The Bell	8.00 pm 8.45 pm
Thursday 20th December	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 2nd January	Avening Film Club ('Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again')	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 8th January	Cherington Parish Council Meeting	tbc	6.00pm
Friday 18th January	Deadline for entries for February Villager!		

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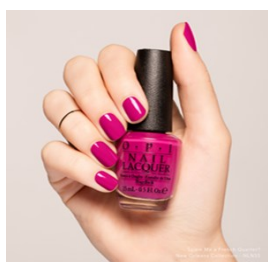
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