

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington
and Nags Head

December 2019
January 2020

editors@acvillager.co.uk

Fieldfare Café at Thistledown Farm



We're now open Wednesday to Sunday!

Our café is set in 75 acres of beautiful meadow and woodland overlooking Woodchester Park. We serve lunch from our wood-fired clay oven & charcoal BBQ Weds to Sun and brunch Sat & Sun. Fine teas, coffees & delicious homemade cakes served 9am to 4:30pm daily. Come up for an autumn walk and enjoy a hot drink with stunning views beside our woodburner!

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December 2019 / January 2020

Welcome to the last Villager of 2019. We hope that you have enjoyed the content over the last eleven months. As usual the editors would like to thank the many people who make this publication possible every month – the writers, contributors, proof reader, advertisers, distributors, the printers and many others, including, of course, our Parish councils and churches, who generously sponsor the Villager every month.

Please don't forget that, without our advertisers, we could not survive as a free publication, so, when you make contact with one of them, make sure that you mention THE VILLAGER.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy Christmas and hope that the New Year brings you everything that you wish for. Don't forget to keep sending us your pictures and stories - these are what makes the Villager interesting to everyone.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

Editors	editors@acvillager.co.uk Jane Archer (07812 137161), Frances Conway (01453 832177) and Derrick Pierce (01453 835090).
Advertising	editors@acvillager.co.uk, Gwyneth Simpson 01453 836556
Deliveries	Cas Boddam-Whetham 01453 834834
Deadline	18th of each month

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Charles Rymer** for this lovely photo of Longman's Barn Farm in the snow, taken from Steps Lane.

If you have a photo of Avening or Cherington which you would like to share with us, please feel free to send it to us. You never know, it might turn up on the front cover...!

editors@acvillager.co.uk



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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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	Tuesday	9.45 - 11.30am	Social club car park	J. Clutterbuck 01453 542754
Community Cafe	Tuesday	9.00 - 11.30am	Social Club	Jenny South 01453 883456
Churchyard tidy up	Tuesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Rev. Gerald 01453 883456
Cherington PC	Tuesday	6.00pm	Village Hall	tba
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 883456
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening Cinema Club	1st Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Katy 07806 614753
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 883456
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 Baby & Toddler group	Katy Upton	07806 614753
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Elizabeth Buchanan Elizabeth Fuller	01453 833016 01453 835067
Avening Church Flower Team	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Ann Brick	01453 834311
Avening Cinema 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	Shani Baker	07415 039234
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	01453 883456

Cherington Village Hall	Wendy Eldridge	01285 841327
Cherington Parish Council Clerk		cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk.
Cherington Church Churchwardens	John Bate-Williams Helen di Mauro	01666 503544 07796 937268
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
Community Café	Jennie South	01453 883456
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Nicky Dill	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
South Cotswold Community Wellbeing Agent		01452 528491
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



Congratulations to the organisers, stallholders and volunteers who put on the Cherington Christmas Fair – it was a lovely event, in a super setting. We came away quite a few pounds lighter, but unfortunately it wasn't as a result of the pre-Christmas diet!

In November we also had the WI quiz, Brian's Bingo, and the school had a fantastic Kindness Week culminating in a 'Pudsey's Big Workout' for Children in Need. In December we can look forward to even more events:

- The 6th sees the FOAS/Playgroup Extravaganza, followed at 6.00pm by the Christmas tree switch-on with carols around the tree; then on to the club for a party – this year we have a children's entertainer and Father Christmas, as well as some free nibbles.
- On the 14th the Film Club and Café are putting on a matinee of the classic Lion King.
- Then we get to the main events – Rev. Gerald will lead Nine Lessons and Carols with Avening Angels in the Church on Sunday 15th; The pub sing along with Avening Angels is on Thursday 19th and finally Midnight Mass on Christmas Eve.

I've said it before, but we really are lucky to have so many awesome people who give their own time so freely to organise these fantastic events.

In the field, the fence and gates around the play equipment is complete, and we now have a new link path from the south east corner gate joining the main path behind the swings. This makes a safe area for children to play, and we will be hanging 'No Dogs' signs – please help us keep this area completely dog free. A couple of willing volunteers have taken down the damaged zip wire saving us around £600. It marks the end of the first phase of improvements, and we will now be applying for grant funds to replace the zip wire and add other planned new equipment. Barbara Pond came to our meeting and gave some really useful tips and funding sources.

The roads are generally not too bad currently, but drainage is still an issue at Crackstone, Gatcombe Water and the bottom of the village, with the problems exacerbated by all the recent rain – I have asked Highways to empty the affected drains more often to keep them functional. I've also received a promise from the CEO of Gigaclear that they will improve their communication as to where they will be digging or blocking roads – we'll be meeting with

senior representatives very soon.

Getting political just for a moment – you may be aware(!) there is an election on the 12th – it's probably one of the most important in a long time, so do make the most of your democratic right and cast your vote.

Stop press: New plans for 14 dwellings have just been received for the field opposite the Playgroup – please take a look at the CDC planning portal and make a comment. Ref 19/04221/FUL.

On behalf of the Parish Council I wish everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas, and a prosperous New Year. We hope to see you at a party or two over the festive season, and will hopefully be back next year!

Tony Slater

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Avening and Cherington



‘God Became Like Me’. That is the title of a recently published booklet designed to tell the Christmas story to children. Many of our local schools do ensure that their younger pupils understand it at a level appropriate for their age group. But what of older children and adults: what is the Christmas message for them? How can it best be expressed in terms for 21st century residents of Gloucestershire? Probably no single way but ‘God became like me’ offers a start. One image of God as that love which permeates creation (rather different from a man in the sky): then each of us is individually an expression of that love which reaches out into humanity and especially so in that baby born in Nazareth. May your Christmas be blessed an appreciation of that love, which links each of us to the depth of existence.

All Souls Service, Sunday 3rd November at Avening Church

Many individuals and families came to remember and give thanks for those who are still missed. We remembered 37 people by name and their cards were placed on our tree of thanksgiving: candles were lit in their memory. It was good to have some younger family members with us for this occasion.

Remembrance Day Service, 10th November at Avening Church.

Thank you to all who contributed to this very moving service with the laying of wreathes, the honouring of the enormous sacrifices and prayers for the future peace of our world.

Tuesday Mornings, 9.45 am in Avening Church

There are now regular services of varying styles on most Tuesday mornings at this time – please see the table on the opposite page. These will last no longer than 30 minutes so just right for a visit to the Community Café afterwards. If you would like more details please contact me. All are welcome, tots included.

From the Church Registers

5th November: Funeral of Irene Viveash (Avening)
11th November: Funeral of John Bird (Avening)
9th November: Baptism of Wilbur Robertson (Cherington)
16th November: Interment of ashes of Don Hopes (Avening)
17th November: Baptism of Emma Marshall (Avening)

Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington
01453 883456 gp.south@btopenworld.com

Services and Events

	Holy Cross Avening	St Nicholas Cherington
	December	
1 st	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Advent Service
3 rd	9.45 am Prayers	
5 th	11.00 am Praying the Parish	
7 th		5.00 pm Christingle Service
8 th	8.00 am Said Eucharist 5.30 pm Evening Prayer	
10 th	9.45 am Prayers	
15 th	8.00 am Said Eucharist 7.00pm Carol Service	5.00pm Carol Service
17 th	9.45 am Eucharist (BCP)	
22 nd	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
24 th	4.00 pm Nativity Service 11.30 pm 'Midnight' Eucharist	10.00pm 'Midnight' Eucharist
25 th	11.00 am Christmas Service	10.00 am Christmas Service
29 th	11.00 am Service	
	January	
5 th	11.00 am Epiphany Eucharist	9.30 am Epiphany Eucharist
7 th	9.45 am Prayers	
9 th	11.00 am Praying the Parish	
12 th	8.00 am Said Eucharist 5.30 pm Evening Prayer	9.30 am Service – celebrating our Baptism
14 th	9.45 am Prayers	
19 th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Eucharist
21 st	9.45 am Eucharist (BCP)	
26 th	11.00 am Eucharist	9.30 am Morning Prayer
28 th	9.45 am Prayers	

Irene Viveash

1950—2019

Below is an abbreviated version of the tribute to Irene read at her funeral.



Irene was born Margaret Irene Winsor in Bath on 10th December 1950. She was always called Irene to avoid confusion with another Margaret in the household. At 4 years old she was sent to live with her aunt and uncle in Purton, in Wiltshire and she went on to attend schools there.

With her pocket money she put down a deposit on a bicycle and subsequently paid all the instalments on time. She used the bike to do a paper round. She left school at 16 and got a job at B.H.S. in Swindon,

commuting on the bus. She took up an evening class in country dancing, where she met Chris. Chris offered to give her a lift home. He had a green Morgan sports car and she got alarmed when he set off on a route she did not know but was relieved when it joined up with her bus route.

Nine months later Chris and Irene got engaged and were married at Purton and moved to Randwick.

When Irene won the raffle at the Stroud show - a weekend in Paris - she upgraded this to 4 days.

Vicky was born and a little later so was Joanne but she died at the age of 18 months. Later John and then Alan were born. The family had moved to Sandford Leaze and Irene got a job in Stroud as a sales assistant.

While bringing up her children Irene learnt to drive. She got a job at Waitrose Cirencester and got a small car for the commute, moving to Stroud Waitrose when it opened, and stayed there until she retired.

Irene and Chris moved to The Grove in order to take care of her aunt. She, together with Chris, found time to help with Meals on Wheels and to be an active member of Avening WI. In recent months she had greatly enjoyed

coming to the Avening Community Café and to church services here.

Irene looked after Chris after his operations and started to get a flat for Vicky. She had three dogs who she loved dearly.

In July last year she went to hospital when cancer was found. She did a course of chemo, but when further cancer was found, elected for palliative care only and died peacefully at home.

One Avening resident who knew her well made these comments: "Irene was an enthusiast. She joined in with a smile and took part in her community. We were glad of her company on any scheme, always with an intelligent contribution and a sense of approval, ready for fun or hard work. She loved science and enjoyed sharing what she knew. She would speak her mind, but she cared for others and was particularly kind to those in distress. Everyone responded to her smile and her greeting when meeting her out on a walk with her dog, and that smile spread through all our meetings with her. Irene was vibrant!"

She will be very greatly missed by family and friends.



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 Liz Knowles 01453 833803 or lizknowles@hotmail.co.uk

The Village Notice Board

The village notice board, on the side of the Memorial Hall, is a good way of publicising village events and items of local information. Posters, ideally size A4 or A5, can be put up for you on this board. Please continue to give them to Jennie South directly or leave in the church porch in the envelope provided. They will be taken down once they are out of date. Other posters may be removed and recycled once they are faded or to make space for others

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Avening W.I.

The Women's Institute in Avening was formed on 7th October 1930 and has been meeting on the second Thursday of the month ever since. To mark the start of our 90th year we have provided a planter for the village, sited near the telephone box. We will continue to maintain this and have already planted a selection of bulbs to bring some spring colour. Whilst the Christmas Tree is in situ the planter will be moved to a nearby garden.



Thank you to all who came and supported our recent Fun Quiz. A fantastic sixteen teams took part and fought a very close run contest. Shirley organised the evening with the help of her family and came up with another brilliant set of questions. A team of WI members did the marking, the raffle and set up the buffet. The event raised £230 pounds in aid of Longfield.

Our speaker for November was John Putley from the Gloucester Archives who told us about the ways in which Christmas has been celebrated in Gloucestershire since records started. The festival was originally based around New Year's Day and was a time of feasting and merriment to brighten the darkest and coldest part of the year, and to celebrate the start of the days lengthening again. We learnt about various traditions that have evolved such as the giving of gifts to the poorer members of society, decorating with holly, ivy and mistletoe, the preparation of special Christmas foods and the development of the Father Christmas figure, carol singing, wassailing and mummers plays.

Avening WI will be celebrating the festive season in various ways – a Christmas shopping trip to Stratford upon Avon, 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!

Our speakers for January will be Jennie South and Clare Bebbington who will be telling us all about Dementia Friends. This will take place at 7.30pm on Thursday 9th January at the Memorial Hall. We welcome visitors and anyone who would like to find out what the WI is all about. We continue to thrive and provide fun, friendship, education and support for campaigns on important issues.

Helen Haiselden

Puzzle Corner

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

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Answers on page 36

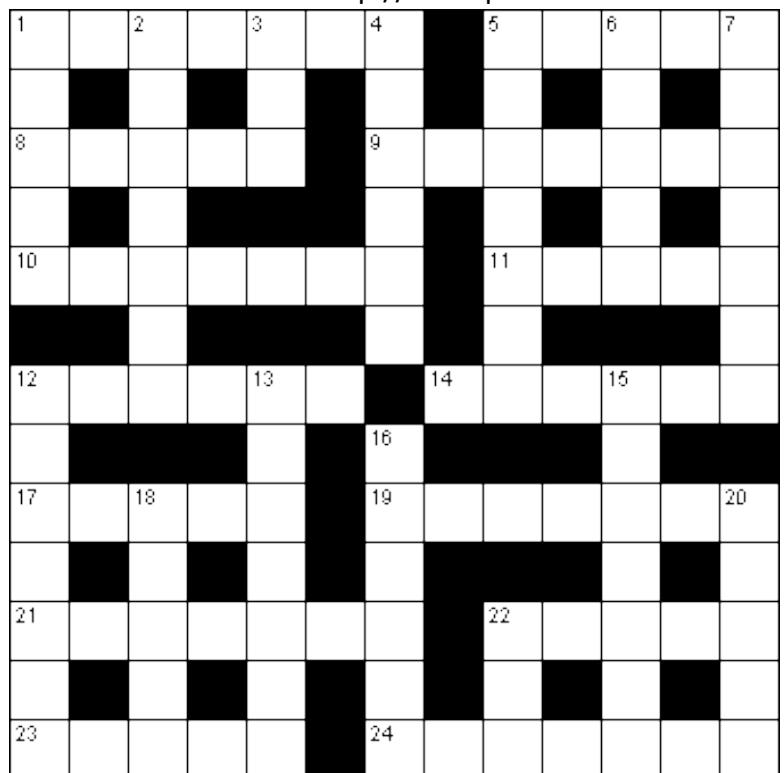
Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each 3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 - 9. If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

<http://www.puzzlechoice.com>

Across

1. Chronicle (7)
5. Proverb (5)
8. Graphic (5)
9. Cautionary advice (7)
10. Help grow and develop (7)
11. Free of impurities (5)
12. Neckband (6)
14. Systems of principles (6)
17. Hackneyed (5)
19. Facets (7)
21. Gullibility (7)
22. One of the senses (5)
23. Larceny (5)
24. Unprocessed or manufactured (7)



Down

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Oasis (5) | 4. Gaped (6) | 15. Tooth (7) |
| 2. More than two or three but not many (7) | 5. Fruit (7) | 16. Ravine formed by a river (6) |
| 3. Of long duration (3) | 6. Stage whisper (5) | 18. Racket (5) |
| | 7. Machines (7) | 20. Hex (5) |
| | 12. Piece of furniture (7) | 22. Toddler (3) |
| | 13. Complaint (7) | |

Avening Baby & Toddler Group

The group is open to everyone with preschool children, so if you're a parent, grandparent or carer of a little one aged 0-5 then do come along!

Please note the group runs during term time only,

Avening Baby & Toddler Group – Mondays during term time 1pm – 3pm.

At Avening Playgroup, The Sunground, GL8 8NW.

The cost is £2.50 for an adult and child, plus £1 for each additional adult/child over 6 months.

For more information contact Katy Upton: 07806 614753

katywingrove@hotmail.co.uk

General Election Hustings

Attempts to organise a hustings in Avening were unsuccessful as one of the candidates declined the invitation and did not respond to the suggestion of sending a representative. One of the other candidates pointed out that there is a hustings at the Baptist church in Wotton-Under-Edge on 4th December at 7.30pm.

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

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

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

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



David Martin

David Martin, local consultant,
Steele Rose & Co

(Nailsworth & surrounding areas)

01453 836699 (M) 07973 405997

Email: dcmartin@hotmail.co.uk

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Members of the Society of Will Writers





Avening Christmas Extravaganza

Friday 6th December
Avening Village Hall
2:30pm onwards

Santa's Grotto • Raffle • Toy Stall • Lucky Jars
Festive Photo Booth • Face & Glitter Painting
Tombola • Refreshments • Decoration Making
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All proceeds will be split between
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People For You has been providing a free volunteer befriending service for eleven years now. We cover Tetbury, Fairford, Lechlade and surrounding villages in the south Cotswolds. People For You tackles the issue of isolation and loneliness head on. We introduce you to a reliable, local volunteer who visits you regularly in the comfort and privacy of your own home, enabling a mutually rewarding relationship to develop and grow.

Our volunteer visitors are local people you can rely on. They offer companionship, a chance for a chat, or to share a laugh, and a listening ear – everything you need from a valued friend. We'll visit you before putting you in touch with a friend in your area, to make sure we match you with someone you'll get on with.

All our volunteer visitors are local, reliable people who can bring the community to you and have a genuine interest in meeting you. The visits can have a positive impact on health and well-being; research has shown that social contact makes us healthier as well as happier.

If you feel this service could be of interest, please do give Sue a call.

OR:

If you feel you have the empathy and commitment to be a volunteer, please get in touch. We provide training, ongoing support and also an opportunity to forge new friendships.

Remember: it only takes an hour a week to transform someone's life.

Contact Us: For more information please give Sue (Black) a call on 07810 630167 or email info@peopleforyou.co.uk.

Please also visit our website www.peopleforyou.co.uk.

People For You is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) pending registration.





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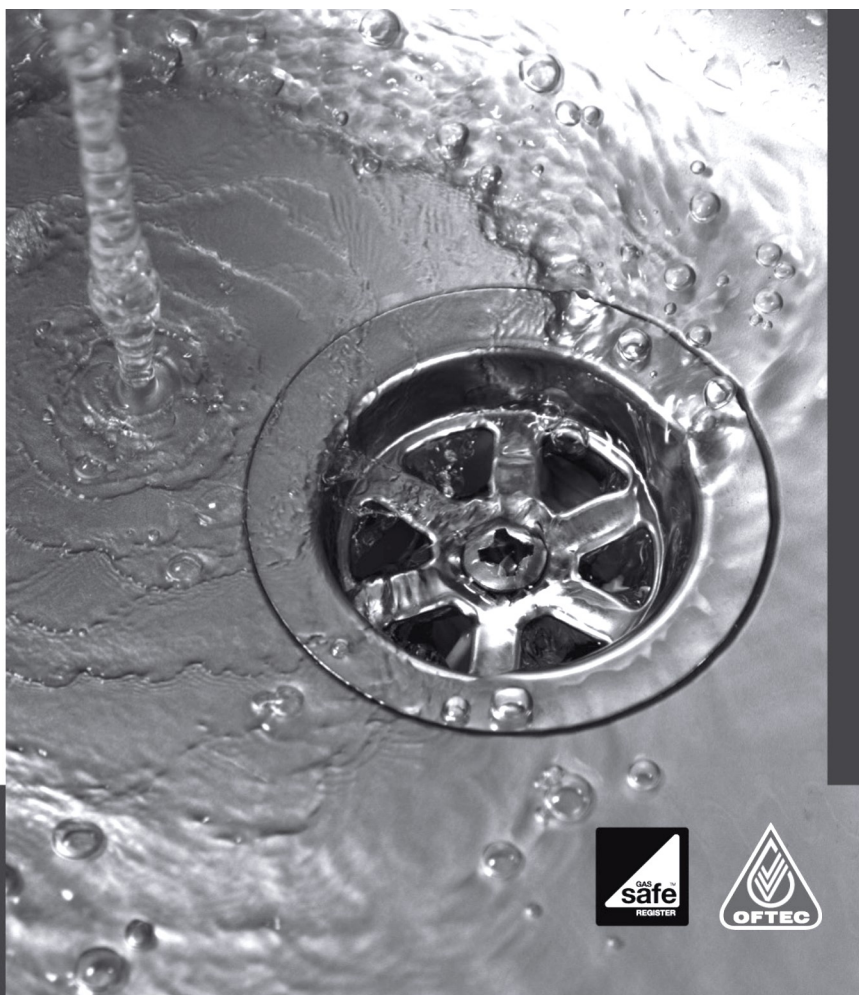
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Cherington Christmas Fair

The Cherington Fair was a great success raising monies for village projects. There were beautiful textiles, ceramics, silks, basketware, jewellery and much, much more, all exhibited and sold by local craftsmen as well as village stalls.

A thank you to everyone who helped, and of course those who bought.

A raffle was held in aid of Screw Cancer, a charity started by and in memory of William Yeoward, which raised over £800. The Screw Cancer App is designed to provide a single place on your phone where

you can store information specific to you and your cancer treatment and it is personal to each patient. For further information see:- <https://screwcancercharity.com>



Kate Gegg

CHERINGTON CHRISTMAS

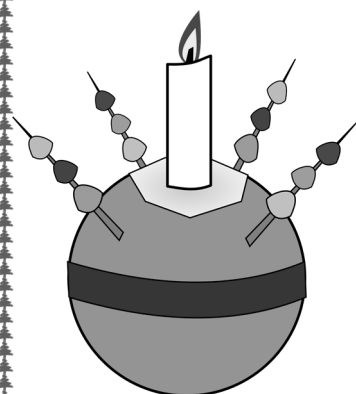
SATURDAY 7th
DECEMBER
5 PM

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Avening Community Café



There's only one way of celebrating a birthday – with bubbles! As the Café turned one year old on November 12th, we popped open the Prosecco and gave ourselves a moment to look back over the past year, helped by a wall of photos to jog our memories. There were photos of kids on deckchairs eating ice-creams; of the early days of borrowed crockery and tentative caffeine-fuelled adventures. There were eyes-down sweepstake form-studiers, litter-picking gangs, bacon sandwiches on a Saturday and our Valentine's Day love-in. Crop-swaps and book bonanzas; art classes and soap sculpting. New arrivals and those we have lost. Old friends met and new friends made.

(And, yes, we were told it wouldn't last!)



The numbers alone are impressive: around 3,500 'customer visits'; at least 250 cakes baked – not to mention the scones, cupcakes, and ice creams; at least 5,000 cups of coffee and tea brewed. Think of the washing up! No wonder that our photo of Suds Queen Jean Scotford, hard at work at the sink (and STILL managing to look cheerful) was our most popular post on Facebook this year.

We continue to try out new ideas at the Café, whether inventive bakes (vegan chocolate brownies anyone??) or new activities, which often tap into the village's own talents. Jam @ The Café was an invitation to anyone who plays an instrument to simply turn up and join in. Mark Kelland returned for his popular painting classes, which will now run every Tuesday until March. Wendy Jennings curated an impressive display of exquisite quilting skills in early November and we hope to continue to unlock our creative side when Lil Adams hosts a session of Christmas crafting on December 3rd.

There is a serious purpose to the Café too, with one of our aims being to tackle social isolation and the issues faced by the most vulnerable people in our community. Sometimes, this is simply providing a welcoming and friendly space. Sometimes it's by supporting those organisations who work with people facing difficult times in their lives. We are delighted that our customers have chosen not one, but two local organisations as our Café Charities for the next year: the Mark Townsend Trust and Stroud Women's Refuge. Sometimes we offer support directly, as with Jennie South and Clare Bebbington's first Dementia Friends session on November 5th.

December is another busy month with six Cafes planned, including our second mash-up with the Avening Cinema Club, set to be a wonderful afternoon featuring The Lion King, a 'Christmas Picnic' and – of course – popcorn and our own pick 'n' mix. We'll be open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve (both from 9.30). And if you're looking for present ideas, may we humbly suggest our Little Book of Baking, a selection of recipes of your favourite Café bakes which we launch on December 3rd.



Faye Hatcher's piece on the Café on BBC Radio Gloucester, broadcast on 2nd November, captured the buzz of the Café and the way it's given all of us somewhere to renew old friendships and make new ones. 'Such a good idea,' she said. We agree, Faye, we agree!

Clare Bebbington

Cas Boddam-Whetham. MCSP RCT
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Longfield Community Hospice



This year Longfield Community Hospice will once again be running their Christmas Tree Recycling Campaign.

Leave the effort of getting rid of your Christmas tree in the New Year to Longfield Community Hospice!

Longfield along with over 20 other hospices in the UK will collect real Christmas Trees from your home for a

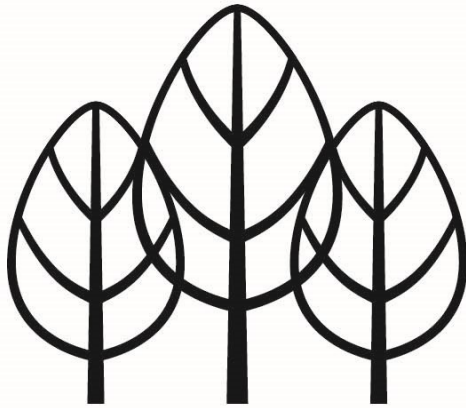
donation to their local hospice. This will be done over a five day period from Thursday 9th January until Monday 13th January 2020.

So while you're going to Midnight Mass, toasting the Queen, or tucking into your Christmas turkey, our nurses will be in people's homes, supporting them when they need it most.

Longfield provides this specialist support every day of the year, night and day, and it's provided completely free of charge - So please be generous in donating to Longfield Community Hospice this Christmas, because we're providing vital services in your community (as well as collecting your Christmas tree in the New Year!)

Register your tree for collection <http://tinyurl.com/RecycleYourTree> or contact Claire Ellis for more information on 01453 886868

Christmas Pub Singalong
Join Evening Angels on Thursday
19th December to sing some Christmas
songs and carols
8 pm: Queen Matilda
9 pm: The Bell



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Avening Playgroup

During the past month the children have been busy learning about the autumn festivals of Halloween, Bonfire Night and Diwali. 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. They have also been colouring in Halloween pictures and learning Halloween songs. We have been looking at spiders and the children have been drawing them in their mark-making books. We have also been talking about going Trick or Treating.

Bonfire Night

The children made some lovely glitter firework collages and toilet roll rockets. They also listened to the story behind Bonfire Night.

Diwali

We have been looking at books to see how Hindu families celebrate their New Year and have made Rangoli chalk drawings as well as Mehndi hand patterns.

We have also talked about the significance of poppies and Remembrance Day. The children used sponges to create paintings of poppies and have also coloured in some poppy pictures – everyone was pleased with the results!

We must say a big thank you to Sue from Usborne Books for coming along to read stories to the children and to display all the books available to purchase. Many orders were received which meant that we were able to buy new books for the playgroup with the commission.

Towards the beginning of December, we will be looking at the Christmas Story and be making lots of nice sparkly things for Christmas.

Dates for the Diary:

Friday 6th December 2019: Christmas Extravaganza from 2.30 in the Memorial Hall.

Saturday 14th December 2019: Movie Matinee and Christmas Picnic, 1.45pm in the Memorial Hall. All profits and donations will go to Avening Playgroup.

Friday 20th December 2019: Last day of the autumn term.

Tuesday 7th January 2020: first day of the spring term.

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



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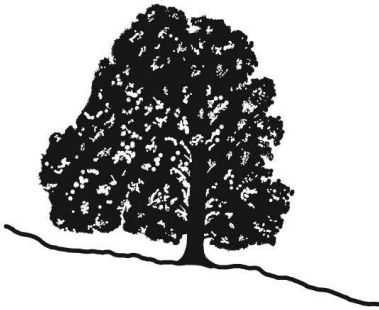
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Avening School

Christmas is coming and the tinsel is coming out.....

....and the costumes, props and staging as rehearsals get underway for our highly anticipated Christmas productions. The reception and KS1 children will be performing a modern re-telling of the Nativity entitled 'Everyone Loves a Baby', while up in KS2 the wigs and gowns are coming out for a toe-tapping, sing-the-roof off performance of 'Cinderella Rockafella'!

As well as embracing theatre inside the school, our reception and KS1 pupils will be sitting on the other side of the stage when they travel to the Wyvern Theatre in Swindon to watch a production of Sleeping Beauty at the beginning of December. Meanwhile, our KS2 children will have something to look forward to after Christmas, when they go to watch 'The Boy in the Dress' at the Royal Shakespeare Theatre in Stratford in January. If that wasn't enough, there is also our annual trip to Birmingham NEC for our Young Voices choir made up of children from y4, 5&6 coming up in January which staff, children and parents enjoy in equal measures. Returning this year as the special guest is Tony Hadley of Spandau Ballet fame.

There are another two trips taking before the end of term in KS1, with the Kestrels visiting the John Moore Museum in Tewkesbury as part of their learning about The Great Fire of London. Meanwhile, the Eagles will be putting on their wellies and waterproofs and going in search of the Gruffalo on the trail at Westonbirt.

In preparation for Christmas, school will be holding a Christmas jumper non-uniform day when staff and pupils can wear their Christmas jumpers and donate an item for the tombola at the FOAS/Playgroup Christmas Extravaganza which will take place in the village hall on Friday 6th December from 2.30pm. There will be festive treats, crafts and singing, not to mention a very special visitor! The annual Avening Christmas tree-light switch-on will take place afterwards.

FOAS are also running a lucky squares draw to raise funds for a new hub for the school. You could win a children's Orbea bike worth £269, kindly donated by The Ark Cycles in Stroud. Squares cost £5 each. The winner can top up to the correct size bike and model or change colour if required. For every lucky square sold you can also get an additional 10% of all full priced items at the shop until Christmas.

It is always difficult for us to say goodbye to members of staff, especially one

that has been with us for 19 years and counting. Mr Rymer is retiring at the end of this term, having worked as a midday supervisor and our lollipop man over the years, as well as volunteering on a weekly basis to listen to children read and completing ad hoc odd jobs around the school. His friendly smile and amazing patience will be greatly missed and we wish him all the very best for the future!

Thank you to everyone in the village and wider community who has supported our school during the past year whether it was to volunteer in some capacity or attend a FOAS event, your support is greatly appreciated. That just leaves me to say, on behalf of the school, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and see you in February!

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

Alex Adcock

Some quotes from the school log books:

25 May 1888: The school re-opened on Wednesday with a diminished attendance: and notwithstanding an urgent request from the master that every child should be sent, as many as nine children were kept away by their selfish and unprincipled parents.

June 1891 – Inspection of Avening National School: The results of the examination are pretty fair on the whole, but the want of proper organisation and supervision makes it increasingly difficult to recognise the school as efficient. Reading is poor in the first standard, and unintelligent in the fourth, sixth and seventh standards. Grammar is fair. Needlework is fair. Knitting is very good.

20 July 1891: The children assembled at 8.45am on Monday morning and repeated times tables simultaneously until 9 o'clock. This arrangement will be continued as an incentive to punctuality.

27 July 1891: Attendance is down due to an epidemic of measles. The master regrets to say that a lad in the third standard died of the measles on Monday.

Wild About Avening



Bats get a bad press but are really very misunderstood and brilliant mammals. We are lucky enough to have 18 species of bat in the UK, 17 that breed here. Over the last century bat populations have declined considerably due to loss of habitat, severing of their commuting routes (bat highways!) by road building, and loss of their roosts through development.

Contrary to belief, bats in the UK are not large, blood-sucking beasts. In fact our largest bat, the Noctule, is smaller than the palm of your hand. One of our most common species, the Common pipistrelle, is absolutely tiny, weighing only the same as a 20p piece. Despite its diminutive size this bat is capable of eating 3,000 midges and mosquitoes in an evening - natural pest control at its best!

Bats need different roosting conditions throughout the year and different species will roost in different locations. Some prefer roosting in trees, others prefer buildings. Unlike rodents bats will not nibble on wood, wires or anything else in buildings. You can provide special roosts for bats by putting up bat boxes on the sides of your house or on trees in your garden. These boxes are often readily occupied and the bats are contained entirely within the box and not your home, allowing you the chance to watch them on long summer evenings when they come out to feed.

In the village we are lucky to have several species of bat including pipistrelles, Brown long-eared bats and even the rare Greater Horseshoe bat forages around the edge of the village. At this time of year most of these bats have started to prepare for hibernation as their insect food supply is becoming harder to find. By December they should be hibernating either on their own or in small groups, in disused buildings, old trees or caves. Hibernation will go on until March/April when the bats will become active, needing to fatten up after a long period of inactivity.

It is worth noting that all bats and their roosts are legally protected by both domestic and international legislation. This means it is an offence to disturb a bat in its roost; to damage or destroy a place used by bats for roosting (even if they are not present at the time); and an offence to obstruct the entrance to a known bat roost. To avoid inadvertently doing any of these things you should ensure checks are made for bats before carrying out any works to your home or to large trees on your property. Having bats in your house/garden doesn't mean you can never carry out works, but it does mean that you will need the help of a licensed

bat ecologist to ensure the bats are protected and that you stay on the right side of the law. The Bat Conservation Trust (www.bats.org.uk) is a great source of help on all bat-related issues and there is even a National Bat Helpline 0345 1300 228 to call with your queries.

Nature Notes

This month I found a tiny hedgehog on Sandford Leaze in the middle of the afternoon, never a good sign for an animal that is usually nocturnal. I took it home and weighed it and found she was only 250g, less than half the weight she should have been if she was to survive the winter. She is now in a rescue centre for the winter (with a donation towards her care) and we will collect her in the spring and release her in the garden. The rescue centre had over 200 rescued hedgehogs in their care! They believe the late summer led to extra litters of hedgehogs being born later than normal meaning there just isn't enough time for them to get up to weight for hibernation. Keep your eyes peeled for any more tiny hedgehogs that may need help.

Phoebe Carter

The Posada Journey 2019 in Avening and Cherington

Posada was developed from a Mexican tradition. Posada is the Spanish word for 'inn'. Originally young people dressed up as Mary and Joseph and travelled from house to house in the weeks leading up to Christmas. They would be welcomed into local homes telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus.



Modern day Posada uses figures (expertly knitted by Wendy Eldridge) of Mary and Joseph that travel around from home to home. The journey is symbolic of the journey that Mary and Joseph took all those years ago and helps us to make room for Jesus in our hearts, homes and community this Christmas.

Last year this proved very popular with the children and adults of Avening and Cherington. This year the figures will set off on their journey from our churches after the service on Advent Sunday (9.30 at Cherington and 11.00 at Avening on 1st December) and will return at Christmas.

After their overnight visit each host delivers the figures to the next home on the journey. Mary and Joseph would love to visit you for a day this Advent. If you would like your home to be included in their journey please phone Gerald on 01453 883456 or email gp.south@btopenworld.com by 12th November with your name and address: if there are any dates that would be inconvenient for you please also mention them. You will then receive details of their route and the timings.



Avening Youth Club



December theme is Festive Fun

Thursday 5th December (note change of day) crafts, cards and decoration making

10th December – Christmas Dinner

17th December – No Youth Club - SCHOOL PLAY

Have a good Christmas and New Year – see you on **Tuesday 7th January**

Check out the Facebook Page: 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.

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 883456 or Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

Mindfulness/Meditation Group

This is for anyone who feels they would benefit from destressing and unwinding or as part of a wellbeing programme.

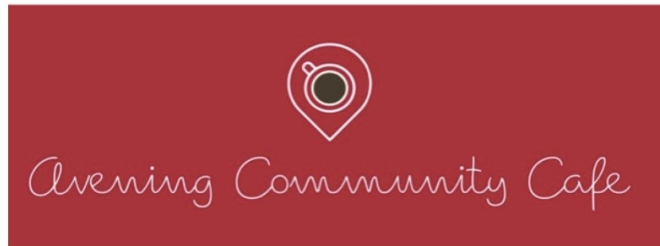
From December we will meet on Wednesdays at 5.30pm for half an hour in the `prayer corner` of the church.

For more information call 01453 834834

AVENINGCINEMA CLUB



AND THE



PRESENT A

MOVIE MATINEE & CHRISTMAS PICNIC!

(yes, there will still be popcorn!)



SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER

MEMORIAL HALL, DOORS OPEN 1.45PM

TICKETS £2.50 in advance from Avening Community Café or Cinema Club. £3 on the door. Children under 5 free.

All profits and donations will go to the film club's chosen charity: Avening Playgroup.
There will be a raffle of film club DVDs!

Puzzle Corner Answers

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

H	I	S	T	O	R	Y		A	D	A	G	E
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FOREVER YOUNG OVER 60s LUNCH

1ST Wednesday of each month 12.30 start

Avening Social Club

Phone Chris Howell on 01453 833246 to book your lunch

Main course, sweet and tea/coffee all for £6.00

A big thank you to all who have supported us in the past



Avening Cinema Club

Please note there will be no evening screening in December. We'll see you at the Movie Matinee & Christmas Picnic on Saturday 14th December instead, and will be back on Thursday 2nd January. Admission £5

The film club is a not for profit community event. Any profit made after screening/licence costs will be donated to local charities.

Please do check our Facebook page or contact Katy Upton for more information and for the chance to vote on films.

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

Information from Gloucester Police

Burglary campaign: We are currently delivering a communications campaign in relation to burglary where we are asking the public to install a 'WIDE' combination of security devices as minimum protection against burglary, which provides a home with 49 times more protection against burglary compared to having no devices installed. As well as the 'WIDE' combination we would like homeowners to consider installing CCTV or digital doorbells and to use forensic property marking liquids.

Events are being held across the county where the public can get advice from a local officer, pick up a free timer switch and purchase discounted forensic marking kits. Detailed information from our campaign can be found below:

<https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/campaigns/burglary/>

Discounts on forensic marking kits: <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/campaigns/burglary/#kits>

Events: <https://www.gloucestershire.police.uk/campaigns/burglary/#events>

Church Floodlighting



The church was floodlit on

21st November in memory of John Sanders from Peggy, Anne and Richard.

It will also be floodlit on

3rd December in memory of Joan Newman.

The church looks beautiful at night when floodlit. 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.

Remembrance Sunday in Avening and Cherington



Avening and Cherington, young and older came together to remember on 10th November.

The congregation accompanied by Avening silver band made an Act or Commitment. "Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men; that we may help, encourage and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations."

Gerald's sermon reminded us that, with an election approaching, Winston Churchill said "No one pretends that democracy is perfect or all-wise. Indeed it has been said that democracy is the worst form of Government except for all

those other forms". We have an obligation to use our vote carefully to reflect on how we can use democracy to help make the world a better place, and put the needs of others more needy than us before ourselves. It seemed appropriate when remembering those who gave the ultimate sacrifice to help ensure a peaceful, democratic Europe.



Elizabeth Buchanan



Christmas Tree Switch On

Join us on
Friday 6th December at 6pm
after the Christmas Extravaganza and at
the old High Street phone box

Meet at the Christmas Tree for ...

- Carols with Avening Angels
- Father Christmas
- Lantern walks to the Social Club
- **FREE** nibbles at the Social Club (limited availability)
- Children's entertainer and a bedtime story

BINGO

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SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER

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7.30PM

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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH



We can make Avening a more dementia friendly community!

Fifteen people came to the Dementia Awareness Session held at Holy Cross in September. It was an opportunity to raise awareness and learn something more about dementia and the small ways we can all help and support people to live well in the community with dementia. We shared experiences of some of the ways dementia, caused by diseases of the brain, can affect the lives of those with dementia and their families, friends and carers. We certainly don't want to add to their difficulties by making them feel more isolated and in fact there are many positive things we can do to help people live well with dementia while at the same time recognising that, as the disease progresses, some of the challenges and distress it presents can be overwhelming.

Thank you to those who came and if you or indeed anyone else would like a further chat about some of the suggestions that came up on the night, or anything you have been thinking about since please get in touch:
Cas: casbw@btinternet.com or Jennie jennie.south@btopenworld.com

Cas Boddam-Whetham and Jennie South



Avening Parish Council

Christmas Extravaganza

Don't forget the lights will be turned on at 6pm, 6th December. Father Christmas and Children's entertainment at 6.30 in the social club.

Flu Season is Upon Us

Don't forget to get your jab.

Foster Parenting

The County needs more Foster Parents. If you are interested contact the Children's Dept at County Hall.

Volunteers Needed!

Memorial Hall: Volunteers needed for work at the memorial Hall to help repointing the stonework and replacing the rotten door jams and paint.

Playing Field: Volunteers needed to help strengthen the structure of the shelter.

If you feel you have the skills and a few hours to spare, please contact us.

Crime

There were 4 crimes reported last month.; 3 violent crimes and 1 burglary. The three incidents of violence are concerning two verbal arguments, and a report of malicious text messages. The burglary was youths entering The Old Quarries.

Planning Applications

19/03940/FUL: Herons Mead, West End: Erection of single-storey extension, rear timber porch, replace windows, repoint external walls. **No objections.**

19/03687: Land Parcel, Woodstock Lane – Variation of conditions of permitted application 19/04211/FUL. **The PC strongly objected** to this inappropriate and visually detrimental development in an AONB.

19/04235/TCONR: 7 Pike Mews, High St: Re-pollard Willow tree to 4m above ground level. **Noted.**

19/04231/TCONR: 40 Sunground: Fell Ash Tree. **Noted.**

19/03968/TCONR: Sandford Barn, High St: Pollard Sycamores, Elm & Hawthorn, remove 3 limbs from Field Maple. **Noted.**

Urgent Works

Woodstock Lane: Sycamore large column of decay. **No objections.**

West Wing, Avening House: Beech Tree – Reduce height. **No objections.**

Decision Notices

19/03821/TCONR: The Old Bakery, Point Road – Reduce Height and Spread of

Holly Tree. **Permitted.**

19/03347/TPO: 13 Sandford Leaze: Fell Whitebeam . **Permitted**

19/03144/FUL: Longmans Barn: Conversion to dwelling. **Permitted**

19/01692/FUL: Old Quarries: Change of use of existing buildings to residential use. **Permitted.**

Remember you can comment on any application on the CDC portal. To view at www.avening-pc.gov.uk. The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

Next Meeting

The next meeting is 19th December 2019 in the Jim Parson's Reading Room, Avening Memorial Hall .

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Cherington Parish Council

Village Hall

Members of the Village Hall committee attended to discuss future management of the hall bookings. The Council offered support and it was agreed the committee should continue to operate. A list of tasks will be provided and alternative solutions discussed.

County Cllr's Report

County Cllr Hirst presented a report. The main points of local interest were improvements to Paternoster House in Cirencester and 8 other care homes, and current Highways work from Tetbury to Trouble House with further repairs due in the area. His full report is available on the Council's website.

Councillors commented on poor signage and communications from Highways and Complete Utilities, causing traffic chaos and damage to verges. County Cllr Hirst is collating comments from councils to forward to the County Council liaison officer. His report stated that work on blocked drains will take precedence given recent flooding. Further broadband work in Cherington is scheduled for February.

Councillors requested a second sign at the top of lake hill to stop lorries and a replacement light on the cottages at 1 Cherington. Westrip Hill residents are permitted to put up a sign to slow traffic down and have contacted Cotswold DC re the Restricted Byway sign, as vehicles use the track as a shortcut. Councillors are willing to mend potholes in pull-ins if the council provides materials, and are trimming trees that hide road signs and will check salt bins.

Infrastructure

The Council agreed to ask BT to maintain the electricity supply to the telephone box. Cllr Workman would investigate maintenance details. The question of its future use was raised - a book exchange being a possibility.

Next Parish Council Meeting

This will be held on **Tuesday 7th January at 6pm** at Toad Hall, Trull Farm. An agenda will be placed on the notice board and cheringtonpc.org.uk. The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email at cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk.



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15th December, 7.00 pm Carol Service

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24th December, 4.00 pm Nativity Service

for everyone and children 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

is for everyone and children are invited to bring one of their Christmas
presents to show us – a Eucharist (Holy Communion) service.

We also realise that Christmas is not such a happy time for everybody. If
you would like a chat or some support please contact Revd Gerald or our
Pastoral Assistants: Cas on 01453 834834 or Jennie on 01453 883456.

Dates For Your Diary

Friday 6th December	FOAS and Playgroup Fair	Avening Memorial Hall	2.30-5.30pm
Friday 6th December	Lighting of the Christmas Tree in Avening, candle light procession to Social Club and Party	Party at Social Club after Fair (see above)	6.00pm
Saturday 7th December	Christingle Service in Church followed by lighting of the Cherington Christmas Tree and refreshments	Cherington Church and Hall	5.00pm
Thursday 12th December	General Election	Chamberlain Room, Memorial Hall	All day until 10pm
Saturday 14th December	Movie Matinee and Christmas Picnic - Avening Cinema Club showing The Lion King	Avening Memorial Hall	1.45pm
Saturday 14th December	Mark Townsend Trust Christmas Bingo	Avening Social Club	7.30pm
Sunday 15th December	Service of Nine Lessons and Carols	Holy Cross Church	7.00pm
Thursday 19th December	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Jim Parsons Reading Room, Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Thursday 19th December	Christmas Singalong	Queen Matilda The Bell	8.00pm 9.00pm
Thursday 2nd January	Avening Cinema Club	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Tuesday 7th January	Cherington Parish Council Meeting	Toad Hall, Trull Farm	6.00pm

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