

The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington
and Nags Head

April 2020

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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April 2020

What a strange month this has turned out to be, with the news about Coronavirus changing not only each day, but almost hourly, as the severity of the threat becomes ever more obvious. In this edition of the Villager there is, of course, plenty of news from our various village groups about their activities and confirmation of the situation in the coming months. Sadly, much has had to be cancelled or put on hold.

However, it is also heartening to see how much is being done by so many to make sure that anyone who needs help can access it easily. For example, the creation of WhatsApps groups and the messages sent on these is already giving pleasure to many. The feeling of belonging, in some way, is vital to all of us. In this edition you will find further information from the Village Coronavirus Group in the centre pages. Hopefully, this will enable people to contact somebody if help is needed, or perhaps to join a group offering support to combat feelings of isolation and loneliness. Nobody should be left feeling isolated, so please do contact if you need help, or you know of someone who does.

With increasing restrictions, it is very likely that the May edition of the Villager will be online only, so please look for it on the Avening website (www.avening-pc.gov) if it does not come through your letter box.

Finally, on a hopeful note, the Editors would like to wish all of our readers a Happy Easter, with plenty of bright spring weather to raise the spirits.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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Deadline	18th of each month

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Jane Whaley** for this spring-like photo of sheep near
Ledgemoor Pond.

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 - but it needs to be portrait orientation if possible...!

editors@acvillager.co.uk

Our churches are now closed ...



Following the announcement from the Government on Monday 23rd March, churches are now closed until further notice.

If necessary please phone Revd Gerald South on
01453 883456

(or email to gp.south@btopenworld.com)

To keep up to date with the current situation and to see the resources and links, including readings, prayers etc for each Sunday, please see:

Avening: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/
Cherington: www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14319/



The Bell is offering both food and drink to takeaway, Tuesday to Sunday 5.30 to 9.30, including draught beers, lagers and ciders if the customer brings a container with them. They will also be doing deliveries with last orders at 9pm (**01453 836453**)

Regular Activities in the Villages

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30 - 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
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	Richard Smith
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	Liz 01453 833803
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 Community Orchard	Pheobe Carter	pklc1@hotmail.com
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 The Door	01453 883456 01453 756745
Cherington Village Hall	Camilla Trotter	07545 054160
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Richard Smith	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
Community Café Crop Swap	Chandy Rodgers	Chandra.rodgers65@ gmail.com 07734 971211
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	Liz Knowles	01453 833803

VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council:

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



What a crazy few weeks this has been! I had been planning to write my final piece as chairman and hand over the reins to the new incumbent of the role. In reality it's been all hands to the pumps to make sure we have a plan in place to help everyone that needs it in these worrying times. I was away starting my retirement when it was all kicking off so could only offer remote support, but Patrick, Richard and especially Clare led the way to create the Avening Community Coronavirus Team help network, and the associated information leaflet – thanks to all of the people from all corners of the community who made this happen.

But that's just the start – now the hard work begins in making sure those in isolation or who are ill receive all the support they need. I know there are many people who have already signed up to help, but as the virus progresses we will need to keep up with increasing demand so do make yourself known to your local network coordinator (details are available from the Parish clerk (Shani, 07415 039234 if you don't know who yours is).

Another consequence of the pandemic is that the Parish Council meetings and AGM have been cancelled. The PC will continue essential business via email, with a small sub-group meeting up where needed. Without a public AGM we can't elect a new leader, so I'm afraid you will have to put up with me for a little while longer!

With all that has happened our hedge laying weekend at the playing field seems an age away, but despite the weather (which was relatively kind compared to the forecast), we had a fantastic turn out on both days (*Many thanks to James Rymer for the photos - Eds*). We made good use of the café on Saturday with a bacon butty run, and we also kept losing workers who went down for a cuppa! Mandy provided the butties on Sunday to keep us all going. The result is a very tidy living barrier along the whole length of the field – we will have to add the final





‘featherings’ next winter, but even now it’s a huge improvement on the overgrown unruly jungle that it was before. Patrick persisted with the bonfire, and once it (eventually) got going we were able to consume every last scrap of waste material – very satisfying! Next year we are going to turn our attention to the upper wooded area, and will have some

lessons in coppicing.

Still in the playing field, in last month’s Villager we reported what we thought was the illegal felling of a large tree. This wasn’t the case, as planning permission had been granted, but because permission had been applied to the household and not the field, the connection wasn’t made. It is very important to engage the PC first in similar circumstances, not only to ensure we are agreeable, but also to ensure a plan is in place to remove the debris. However we apologise to the householder for getting the police involved – the ‘crime’ has been struck from the record.

Our projects will inevitably suffer delays as the funding infrastructure in local councils and large organisations will be on hold for some time, so please bear with us.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and do reach out to your nearest team of helpers if you are struggling.

Tony Slater chair@avening-pc.gov.uk

Bridging the Gap

Every hand that we don’t shake must become a phone call that we place
Every embrace that we avoid must become a verbal expression of
warmth and concern
Every inch and every foot that we place between ourselves and another
must become a thought as to how we might be of help to that other
should the need arise.

Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky

**Mobile Post Office
Closed until further notice**

Avening and Cherington Churches



Your church in unprecedented times

At the time of writing there has just been a closing of all churches which must include our own village churches. However the church remains active and eager to maintain prayer and service.

This is an appropriate time to remind ourselves that prayer, and the Christian life in general, are not dependent on any particular building or specific to the day of the week. Many members of our churches, and others, are actively supporting neighbours and friends in a variety of ways, not least just to maintain human contact, albeit often by phone rather than in person.

Copies of the intended Mothering Day service were widely distributed even though we could not hold the service in the normal way and there was encouragement to put a lighted candle in front windows at 7pm on the day, a symbol of hope as suggested by the Archbishops.

We would have had services on Maundy Thursday evening (7pm), on Good Friday, the much-valued Tenebrae service (2pm), and on Easter Sunday morning (9.30 at Cherington, 11am at Avening). If you would like to receive copies of these services by email (possibly to follow them at the appropriate time) please do let me know.

Here are some other resources that may be helpful:

www.sacredspace.ie/ is a website that offers, each day, a sequence of brief prayers aimed at deepening the relationship between the user and God.

<https://www.churchofengland.org/> is the website of the Church of England with a great deal of material: the 'Prayer and Worship' tag leads to various resources including the wording of services being used across the cathedrals and churches of the land each morning and evening.

Easter stands as the supreme example of hope, of the conviction that there is a spirit of love that ultimately overcomes. Our villages will tap into that spirit over the coming challenging weeks.

Indeed, much mutual support is already evident with friends and neighbours being prepared to think for each other and to be aware of each other's needs – how encouraging. Thank you to those who have contacted me to say that they are willing to help others who are in significant difficulty. If you are in great need and are not sure where to turn please don't hesitate to contact me

and I would hope to be able to put you in touch with some appropriate support.

***Gerald South, Parish Priest. 01453 883456
gp.south@btopenworld.com***

Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy.
Sustain and support the anxious,
be with those who care for the sick,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may find comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us from your love
in Christ Jesus our Lord.

MEMBERS OF THE SOUTH COTSWOLD TEAM MINISTRY HAVE SENT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO ANYONE WHO MAY FIND IT HELPFUL.

There may be other religious services available over the course of time.

Each Sunday (and on other days such as Good Friday) we are making available a 'full' service including hymns as an audio file that anyone can listen to at home. This will be accompanied by an Order of Service that people can follow and join in with the hymns and responses if they wish to.

This initiative has the support of Revd Canon John Swanton, our Team Rector, Archdeacon Phil and the Diocesan Comms Team. Although it will be hosted on the Coln, Hatherop and Quenington churches website it is very much a Team endeavour.

The services may be accessed at: **<https://www.chqchurches.net/worship-at-home.html>**

The facility has been proved to work for Windows 10, iPhone, iPad and Android phones.

MAY VILLAGER MAGAZINE

Due to the fast moving situation we cannot guarantee that we will be able to print and distribute May's Villager Magazine.

If you have not received a copy in early may, it will as usual be available to read and down load from the Avening website:

<https://www.avening-pc.gov.uk/villager%20archive%20-%202020.htm>

Is Faith Relevant?

We, the nation and the world are faced with a situation totally outside known human experience – a situation that is bringing dreadful consequences for the lives and wellbeing of large numbers, and essential changes and challenges for us all.

What, if anything, does the Christian faith have to say about this? What it certainly does **not** say is that it is God's way of punishing those who have misbehaved! But here are some of the things it can say:

Life is a gift, we have done nothing to earn or deserve it, it has been given freely to each of us in a way that is way beyond ourselves. When we are prepared to allow that feeling to sink into the depths of our being, attitudes to so many things are transformed, not least each moment of consciousness, each emotion, each relationship – and our approach to misfortunes, such as the present one.

The Christian faith focusses on relationships; not only the relationship between God and each one of us but also between people. We don't have to look far into the gospels to see Jesus constantly seeking to improve the relationships between people and especially the capacity for these relationships to bring enrichment and fulfilment to lives. The Christian comes to see that when, as is happening in our villages at the moment, we seek to bring people together to share their needs, feelings, joys and sorrows we are engaged in that very activity which our creator is so wanting to see. In coming together as a caring community, we are being the people we are created to be. This is surely a time to reflect on what is really important in life underneath the veneer of all the luxuries and assumptions of the modern way of life.

Loss of life, especially of those who have experienced too little of it, is a tragedy and it is quite understandable that we want to ask 'why'. However no life is ever a wasted life: every life has the capacity to be treasured by others and every life is treasured by its ultimate creator who holds it in being outside of time.

Of course, we may ask why such things as viruses exist in a universe formed by a loving creator. Leaving aside that some viruses have beneficial effects, this really boils down to why creation wasn't made to be different and perfect, according to our judgment. Perhaps it is somewhat presumptuous to ask such a question: Job tried it in the Old Testament and you may like to read the responses he received. A Christian response adds that from the moment of the 'big bang' the universe has been given the freedom to explore its countless possibilities through an interplay between consistent physical laws and unpredictable random events. This leads to a world which is bursting to produce life in a wide variety of forms and it is this extraordinary process that has enabled you and I to come into being, blessed as we are with consciousness and free will.

We are about to celebrate the Easter story again, albeit in a somewhat different way from usual. We will recall how a rather mixed selection of people (the disciples,

followers of Jesus) from varied backgrounds often with limited education and resources were distraught by the apparent elimination of their expectations at the time of the crucifixion: there seemed little hope, all that they had worked for over recent years was gone - or so it seemed. But not so, the story of Easter morning brings renewed hope, encouragement and much more. That is at the heart of the Christian faith we celebrate, this and every, day.

Gerald South

Cas Boddam-Whetham sent this which readers might like to ponder on:

Lockdown

Yes there is fear: Yes there is isolation: Yes there is panic buying.

Yes there is sickness: Yes there is even death.

But,

They say that in Wuhan after so many years of noise - You can hear the birds again.

They say that after just a few weeks of quiet

The sky is no longer thick with fumes, but blue and grey and clear.

They say that in the streets of Assisi , People are singing to each other
across the empty squares, keeping their windows open, so that those who are alone,
may hear the sounds of family around them.

They say that a hotel in the West of Ireland is offering free meals and delivery to the
housebound.

Today a young woman I know is busy spreading fliers with her number
through the neighbourhood, so that the elders may have someone to call on.

Today Churches, Synagogues, Mosques and Temples are preparing to welcome and
shelter the homeless, the sick, the weary

All over the world people are slowing down and reflecting

All over the world people are looking at their neighbours in a new way

All over the world people are waking up to a new reality

To how big we really are: To how little control we really have: To what really matters:

To Love.

So we pray and we remember that:

Yes there is fear - But there does not have to be hate.

Yes there is isolation - But there does not have to be loneliness.

Yes there is panic buying - But there does not have to be meanness.

Yes there is sickness - But there does not have to be disease of the soul

Yes there is even death - But there can always be a rebirth of love.

Wake to the choices you make as to how to live now.

Today, breathe.

Listen, behind the factory noises of your panic, the birds are singing again
The sky is clearing; Spring is coming; and we are always encompassed by Love.

Open the windows of your soul; And though you may not be able
to touch across the empty square;

Sing.

Br. Richard Hendrick, OFM

Puzzle Corner

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

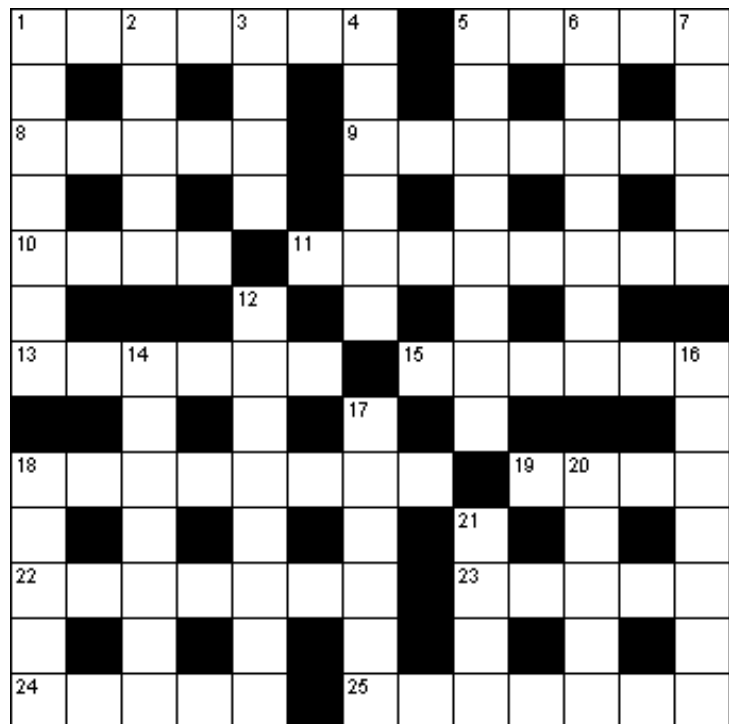
Answers on page 38

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.

Across

1. Fate (7)
5. Animal with two feet (5)
8. Musical instrument (5)
9. Aerial (7)
10. Professional cook (4)
11. Delight (8)
13. Mass leaving (6)
15. Transparent gem (6)
18. Entertainer (8)
19. Cab (4)
22. Planet nearest to the sun (7)
23. Similar (5)
24. Fishing basket (5)
25. Ruminant (7)



<http://www.puzzlechoice.com>

Down

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Fiasco (7) | 6. Flightless bird (7) | prongs (7) |
| 2. Meaning (5) | 7. Curtain (5) | 17. Attorney (6) |
| 3. Metallic element (4) | 12. On time (8) | 18. Ape (5) |
| 4. Annually (6) | 14. See (7) | 20. Nimble (5) |
| 5. Treachery (8) | 16. Spear with three | 21. Young whale (4) |

Avening W.I.

How wonderful to know that we live in such a caring community! With a large proportion of our members in the most vulnerable groups who should avoid catching the COVID-19 virus, it is reassuring to know that local people and businesses are offering support in various ways. Thank you to everyone who has offered help at this difficult time. Our forthcoming meetings and social events have all been cancelled for the foreseeable future and we are finding various ways of spending the time. No excuse now to put off those jobs and hobbies at home that we don't normally have time to complete!

Our March meeting was well attended and we had an interesting presentation and talk by John and Francesca Caton entitled The Baroque Lady. Francesca is a skilled needlewoman and has made some amazing costumes for them both, based on authentic designs from the 1700s. John acted as the lady's maid and dressed



Francesca in the various layers making up the formal dress of a rich lady of the time. The arrangement of corset, petticoat, hooped cage, elaborate dress, stomacher and train all took a long while to assemble, and led to very limited movement and an upright posture. John and Francesca attend various Baroque events all over Britain and Europe including a spectacular festival at Versailles.

Sadly we have recently lost another long standing member. Di Wall was a fount of all local history knowledge of the area and a brilliant quizzer. She supported various charities including the Pied Piper Appeal for sick and disabled children in Gloucestershire. She organised the collection of used postage stamps for that cause, which we intend to carry on in her memory. She will be much missed by the various groups to which she belonged.

We hope that everyone in the villages remains in good health and look forward to the time when we can all get back to normal and mix freely again.

Helen Haiselden

AVENING CHURCH FETE
It is now planned to hold this on Sunday
September 13th 2020

Avening Community Café Annual General Meeting



The number of you who came to the first Avening Community Café AGM was certainly a ringing endorsement of all that has happened in the past year – we packed in to the social club, welcomed everyone with drinks and nibbles and managed the business meeting efficiently, with good humour and lots of thank yous!

Sandra Hetterley, who has been a tower of strength as a committee member and a marvellous organiser of the cake bank, was stepping down but will still be very much involved with her team serving behind the counter, coming up with her own imaginative and yummy bakes and generally lending a hand. Thank you Sandra. Peter Barton was elected to fill the vacancy and we are looking forward to harnessing his enthusiasm for almost everything but particularly all things ‘green’. Jennie South and Bob Jennings continue as Chair and Treasurer respectively and so do the other members of this hard working (in cafe laid-back style!) team; Gill Adams, Clare Bebbington and Wendy Jennings.

We invited three contributions giving different perspectives on the café.

Tony Slater on behalf of the Parish Council described how the café had filled a gap especially since the shop had failed and that the café offers opportunities that a shop could not. He also welcomed the café initiatives such as the litter pick and green events.

Katy Upton who runs the Avening Cinema described how last June, discussions led to collaboration between the café and the movie club resulting in a movie matinee, featuring *The Greatest Showman*, in August. Following its success another was held in December showing *The Lion King*. She thanked the many volunteers for their hard work. They were anxious to keep prices as low as possible and both sold out and met the costs. The surplus funds enabled donations to be made to Avening Playgroup, to go towards outdoor play equipment and roof repairs and to the café’s annual charities, The Mark Townsend Trust and Stroud Women’s Refuge.

Clare Bebbington described the two green cafes last year, a theme that touches everyone in this beautiful part of world. She noted our use of locally produced milk, the recycling boxes, the two litter picks and working with school eco-

council who had given a presentation to the café on the avoidance of palm oil. The café had also featured on BBC Gloucestershire radio. At least one other café has been encouraged to follow our lead. Phoebe Carter our café environmental champion had contributed to the green cafés and she described her new community orchard initiative at the playing field with aims including boosting wildlife and providing heritage trees.

The focus then moved on to lively discussion in small groups collecting ideas and suggestions for making the café even better and then, what was better still, we had offers from people who wanted to help to make them happen. Huge thanks to all of you and although things will be on the back burner for a while we will be ready to hit the ground running when we open our doors again – and as you will read elsewhere, the café is going to be ‘out and about’ in little ways to brighten your days in the coming weeks.

Jennie South
Avening Community Café Chair



SAVE THE DATE!
CHERINGTON SHOW
Sunday 19 July 2020

Don't forget to put this year's Cherington Show in your diaries.

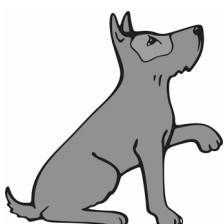
This hugely popular local event has a mix of traditional competitions and attractions. These include

horticultural, cookery and many other competitions, lots of activities for children including games and a 'find the teddy' competition, a wide range of stalls from clothes, local produce and books, to cakes and ice cream, a tea tent, music and morris dancers, not forgetting the ever popular dog show!



There will once again be a display from the Cherington Forge following their success last year, and some newcomers joining the animals on the village green.

Do come along with your friends and family to join the fun.



Letter to the Editors

My name is Roger Kellerman but I am widely known as Kelly. I live in Sandford Leaze alongside the ginnel or snicket depending on your preference. During the recent strong winds a fence panel took off and broke. I organised a replacement which was duly delivered. Imagine my surprise and delight when two lovely chaps turned up and said 'We are going to fit your new fence panel'. This they did and I was, and still am, a very happy man. Guess what? In the next storm the same thing happened to the fence on Lea path. The same lovely chaps came again and my fence was fixed. This story is not exciting, but shows that there are delightful people in this great village. I thank those chaps wholeheartedly for their great kindness. We are part of a great community.

Thank you



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<p>Quote 'Villager' for a 50% discount on a full New Patient Examination with x-rays for just £39.50. Telephone us on 01453 827474</p>	

Barbara Bennett, 1926 - 2020

I would like to commemorate the passing of Barbara Bennett, nee Jones, with a few words regarding our friendship over the years since the 1930s.

Barbara, her mother and sister Doreen, came to Avening in the 1930s, I was about 8 years old, and Barbara was the same age, we became friends and stayed friends until recently when sadly Barbara died.

When the family came to Avening they first lived in a little cottage in Mays Lane next door to Mr and Mrs Green. Mr Green was the village postman and also the village green Keeper, or Roadman, as he was called. He kept the whole village tidy and beautiful – was always cheerful, and with always a kind word, also when he wore his Postman's cap. We had two deliveries a day and even a morning delivery on Christmas Day, those were the days!

I spent many happy hours with Mrs Jones and Barbara in the cottage in Mays Lane; she was a small quietly spoken woman who made me welcome. Barbara got me interested in reading - being a tomboy I didn't settle down with a book but Barbara changed that, she lent me books by Richmal Crompton (Just William) and Little Women by Louisa May Alcott, and I never looked back.

Then things changed. Mrs Jones and her daughters moved to the Old Police House on Hampton Hill, where sadly Mrs Jones died. Then sadly, years later Doreen died leaving Barbara.

The war came, Barbara went to Newman Hender as a secretary and I went to Vickers Armstrong in Aston Down, then on to the A.T.A. also as a secretary. We did not meet up for a while, then later resumed our friendship. By this time we had both married and had children, later grandchildren. All the while our friendship blossomed until recently.

Now, just prior to her 94th Birthday (7th June) my friend died. "Goodbye old friend, rest in peace"

Sylvia Fletcher

NAILSWORTH MILLS BOWLING CLUB

Your local friendly lawn bowls club located on the Nailsworth Mills Industrial Estate.

New members welcome.

Come for a "Roll Up" on our regular Friday evening club nights and open days starting 4.30pm.

Club open in mid-April, see details on our website: nailsworthmbc.weebly.com



MEETINGS CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

The Avening Community Coronavirus Team



INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS

A lot of this information is listed elsewhere in the magazine but we thought it useful to have it all compiled in one page.

Neighbour Networks

There are neighbour networks for many roads and streets around the village, including Sandford Leaze, Old Hill, Rectory Lane, West End, Powis Lane, Point Road and Pound Hill, Tetbury Hill, Pike Mews and others. Avening Parish Council has an up-to-date list. If you do not have one set up, or want to check if one is planned among your neighbours, please contact parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk for more details.

Pubs

The Queen Matilda (01453 350305)

The Queen Matilda is no longer offering a take-away service

The Bell (01453 836453)

The Bell is offering a takeaway service.

Avening Church

The Church building is no longer open. The best online resource for the church is www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/. If the matter is urgent, you can call Gerald South on 01453 883456.

Foodbank Arrangements

The box remains in the church porch for donations to Tetbury foodbank. Items particularly needed are:

tinned soup, long-life milk, tinned vegetables, biscuits, instant mash/tinned potatoes, rice pudding, long-life sponge pudding, long-life juice, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, teabags.

The Tetbury centre is currently only open on Tuesday mornings.

Avening Primary School

The school is closed to most pupils. However it is providing childcare for children of key health workers and certain other pupils, and continues to provide school meals for qualifying pupils. They are being supported by the **Friends of Avening School**.

Mobile Post Office

Closed until further notice

Avening Community Café

Books are outside 6 Old Hill (10-2pm daily), a plant and produce swap outside 14 High Street and is regularly updating its Facebook page with quizzes, recipes and news.

Trusted Online Sources

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

Gloucester County Council: www.gloucetershire.gov.uk. GCC are running a 'Community Help Hub' for volunteers, and for those who are vulnerable or needing help and support.

Gloucester Police: www.gloucestershire.police.uk

NHS: www.nhs.uk

UK Government: www.gov.uk

Avening Community Cafe



Avening Community Cafe



Anyone who doesn't start an article about early March without saying 'it seems a long way away now' hasn't been paying attention. Or is better at avoiding clichés. Our Leap Year Saturday Pop-Up Café is a case in point: the Café was buzzing, there were many new faces (and, of course, many new friends), and we loved sharing Chris Howell's, ehem, 16th birthday with her. It feels as though we're describing a land far, far away.

We shut our doors on 17th March after two lovely Cafes earlier in the month. Lil Adams held another of her absorbing and entertaining craft sessions, embellishing cards from the collection of the Royal Institute of British Architects where she works. We held our second Café Book Club, which was another wonderfully thoughtful

discussion, this time about home and belonging, which continued over lunch at the Woolpack in Slad. And our garden swapping season opened....briefly.

Our last Café for a while was a sober, self-service affair, although we were very happy to be able to host a meeting of all the main community organisations and the Parish Council to help develop plans to support residents during the Covid-19 outbreak. We're coming up with other ways to help too: the Community Café Library is open for business outside 6 Old Hill; we're swapping and sharing Panic-Buying-Defying recipes via our Facebook page. There's even talk of a quiz.



In the meantime, please stay safe and at 10am on a Tuesday, make yourself a brew, phone a friend, treat yourself to a cake and join in our Avening Community Virtual Café!

Clare Bebbington

AVENING PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION



DO YOU TAKE PHOTOGRAPHS ? Why don't you enter the exhibition?

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Age Groups

Children Up to 14 years of age – Categories

1. My Family and Other Animals
2. Sport
3. Landscape

Adults from 14 years of age - Categories

1. Humour
2. Something Unusual
3. Capturing A Moment
4. A Portrait of a Person or Place

Prizes:

Children - Overall Winner £30 Remaining Category Winners £10

Adults - Overall Winner £40 Remaining Category Winners £20

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For rules and details contact George Buchanan on 01453 833016 buchanan.pg@gmail.com

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Avening Playgroup



Since the last article the children and staff have been looking carefully at what is happening to the trees and flowers in the playground. We have been watching the daffodils and leaves on the trees start to grow and get bigger. The children have been drawing and painting daffodils as well as painting their hands to make blossom handprints, all of which have been put on our tree display.

The children have also had fun taking part in 'Funky Fingers' activities. These help the children to build up their upper body and finger/hand strength in order to prepare them for writing. They have been threading

beads onto string and spindles, placing small pegs in peg boards. We have also been doing activities from the 'Let's Move' program which is aimed at developing and strengthening the children's balance and co-ordination. They particularly enjoyed the 'wet dog' warm up activity.

5th March was World Book Day and some of the children, especially those who have siblings at Avening Primary School, arrived at playgroup dressed up as witches, cats, princesses, the Gruffalo, Spiderman and characters from the book 'The Smeds and The Smoos', which we read at story time. All week we focused on stories and the children enjoyed listening to some more traditional ones, such as, The Ugly Duckling, Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Puss in Boots, The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man and Jack and the Beanstalk, to name but a few.



Staff have been busy attending training courses, most recently:

- Introduction to Makaton
- Embedding phonics in the EYFS
- Total Communication

Future courses include: Level 3 Paediatric First Aid, Anna Ephgrave's In The Moment Planning, Makaton - Level 1 and Level 2 Food Safety, as well as Gloucestershire Early Outcomes Understanding Trauma training.



Our new website is now up and running, so please go online to check it out. A big thank you to Naomi, our committee chair, for taking the time to sort it all out.

If you would like any information about our lovely playgroup or you would like to put your child's name down on our waiting list, please call us on 01453 832695 or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com . We are open weekday mornings during term time.

Playgroup is now closed until further notice. Please call us on 01453 832695 or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com for further information.

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Avening School

A school inspection, a visit from a snake and a sensational quiz night – all in a month's work at Avening School!

In light of the unprecedented situation we currently find ourselves in, we would like to focus on the joyful events of the past month.

Firstly, we are delighted to announce that our recent Ofsted inspection resulted in very positive feedback and re-affirmation of our grading as a 'good' school. If you are interested in reading the report in full, please refer to our website www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk/

Our annual World Book celebrations are one of many highlights of the Avening school calendar and this year was no exception. Each year we choose one book, which the whole school celebrates through a programme of activities throughout the day, but this year we decided to choose the author – Julia Donaldson - and focus on a number of her books. Our secret 'World Book Day' decorators came in under the cover of darkness...well perhaps not quite...but after school hours!!! With incredible creativity this band of Merry Mums, a TA and a couple of former pupils transformed the main school corridor into a homage to Julia Donaldson. There was a Whale and a Snail; Charlie Cook with his favourite book; a witch on her broom; a monkey in a jungle and a Smartest Giants shoe, belt and tie. During the day itself, we were overrun with Stick people, Gruffalos, Highway Rats, witches to name just a few of the amazing characters that children dressed up as. Starting the day with a special assembly, children were then divided into their school houses for the day's programme of activities which included stick man making in the school garden; story time with hot chocolate; a singing session; kindness activities and designing a shell. We also had a very special visitor who visited us 3 years ago during our Harry Potter day – Jonathan's Jungle Roadshow. Jonathan allowed children to hold and learn about his amazing array of beautiful creatures, from stick insects to a snake, all found in Julia Donaldson's books. It was a magical day and made even more special by the enthusiasm of the staff and the imagination of our parents and pupils.

Our Eco Council won a bronze Eco-Schools award for the amazing environmental work they have done both in school and in the wider community, visiting the community café and encouraging members of the village to use recycling points there each week.

FOAS held their annual Quiz night on Friday 13th March and this year it was a Quiz night with a difference. In addition to the quiz, which had questions on everything from astronomy to opera, there was additional entertainment in the form of live music during the interval and, after the quiz, singing and a disco from

the fabulous Mel Young. There was also food and drink, prepared, sold and served by members of FOAS and all profits from the night will go towards a much needed outdoor learning pod for the school to enable children to work separately in a calm and uninterrupted space.

Now we are left, supporting one another, in these unique and uncertain times. Stay safe all of our Avening friends. We look forward to reporting again soon.

Alex Adcock

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



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Wild About Avening

As I opened the blinds the other morning I was greeted with the sight of one of my favourite birds, the Bullfinch. Each year at this time I see several pairs in the hedgerow at the top of the garden which is always a real delight. However, this one was only a few feet away from me gathering tiny seeds from the dried seed heads of some buttercups which we had left uncut in the lawn. So intent was he on his meal that I was able to watch him for a several minutes before he finally flew off.

Bullfinches are usually shy and secretive birds making them hard to spot. The males have a black cap, stubby black bill, grey back, black and white wings and a bright rose coloured chest. The females are similar but have a greyish-brown chest. They are incredibly rotund and front-heavy and it is thought this large bull-headed shape gave them their name.

Feeding on buds and fruit in woodlands they were once considered a pest of orchards with Henry VIII condemning their attacks on fruit trees to be 'criminal' and offering a penny for every bird killed. It is rather incredible to think that they could ever have been in such large numbers as today they are Amber listed birds of conservation concern due to significant declines in their populations.



Due to their beautiful looks and remarkable ability to learn and imitate new songs and whistles, they were prized as ornamental cagebirds, imported in vast numbers from Germany by the Victorians. The natural song of the Bullfinch is a little mournful but they are quick to learn new songs so people would whistle at them until they copied the tune. In Thomas Hardy's *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*, it was one of Tess's daily chores to whistle to the bullfinches as she works at the house of Mrs d'Urberville.

Bullfinches like to nest in thick hedges so if you can why not leave some areas of your hedgerow thicker and less manicured and leave a few 'weeds' such as dandelion, buttercup and nettles for them to take the seeds from. The reward of seeing them in your garden will make up for a little 'untidiness'.

Wildlife Spotting

Over the next weeks and months many of us will be forced to stay at home more as the country deals with the Corona virus. This is an uncomfortable and worrying

prospect for everyone. While we go through this unsettling time and may be more restricted to our gardens and homes why not start recording what wildlife we see from our windows, in our gardens or out on a walk. If you spot anything you want to share then drop me an email to pk1c1@hotmail.com and I'll report on it in the next issue. This could be a good way to find out just how 'Wild' Avening really is.

Phoebe Carter

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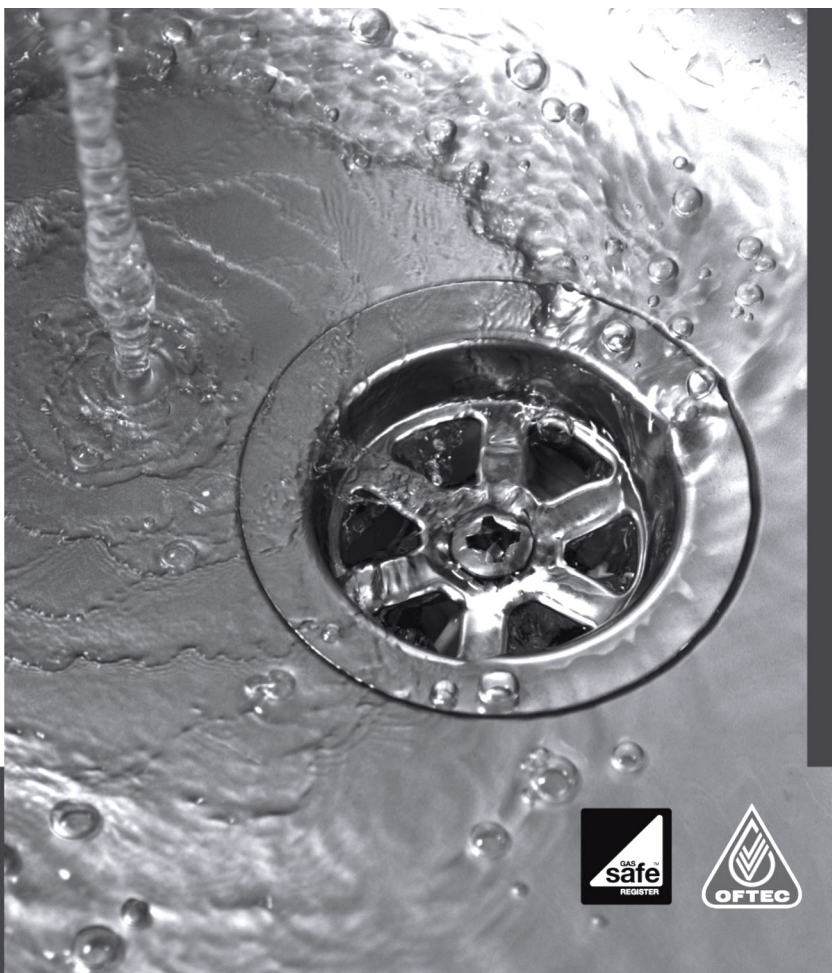
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Avening Youth Club



April sessions are, unfortunately, unable to run, suffering along with most other group activities, from the effects of coronavirus.

Over the past couple of months we have welcomed Willow from The Door to Avening. Activities have included mini olympics and painting; the latter shown in the photos; great fun! About 20 young people come to each

session; it is lovely to walk into a lively, loud, happy club with a great atmosphere.

Our thanks to the team at The Door, and good wishes to all of you who use the club and your families. We'll update the Facebook page when we know more.

Youth Club is run by The Door (social media www.thedoor.org.uk or @TheDoorStroud and facebook).



Want more information? Contact Rev Gerald South on 883456 or Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

A Message from The Door:

In these extraordinary times, be assured that The Door are committed to continue to serve the young people and families in our community. We are excited to be launching our new online youth work support to provide remote support to young people who may need it and to continue to connect those who may struggle with the isolation of being away from their friends. Do check our website for regular updates as our plans evolve over the coming days. From now we are still very much open for business providing:

1. Mentoring for young people: This continues to be open for referrals and applications for young people aged 11-25 and their families that live or go to school in the Stroud District. Meetings are done via phone or video link. (Updated referral guidelines are available on our website)

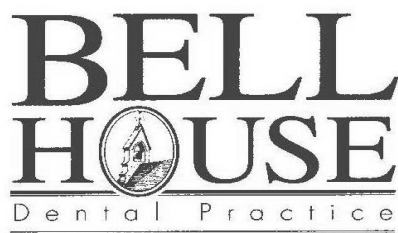
2. Virtual Youthwork: Our youthwork team are hard at work developing a suite of resources to share with young people to help them cope with being at home for a long period of time and any struggles this may bring. They will also be publishing short clips through the week, challenging young people to take on #StayAtHome

challenges, giving out essential tips and hints as well as lots of silly stuff too – search for #OnlyAtTheDoor

3. Call a youth worker: We are launching a new telephone chat service for young people to book a call with their local youth workers to keep in touch and get support.

4. A daily reflection/prayer for young people to help them centre themselves spiritually in these difficult times. Available on Facebook and Instagram @illuminateStroud

For up to date information make sure to find us on Facebook and Instagram - @TheDoorStroud, call 01453 756745 or visit our website thedor.org.uk



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Tetbury and District U3A

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

In line with the latest Government guidance the AGM (15 April) is postponed, also the monthly meetings until June 2020

More information can be found on our website
<https://tetburyu3a.org.uk/groups>

Cherington Parish Council

The March meeting of the Parish Council of Cherington took place at the home of Councillor Peter Workman, to whom I am personally very grateful. My agenda reflected a meeting at Trull; the posted notes and the Council website reflected a meeting at the Village Hall, so amid the small amount of confusion caused it was splendid to have a warm location for the meeting.

Wider Council issues

County Councillor Hirst presented the finished budget report from the Cotswold District Council, and it is good to see suitable increases in key areas such as provision for both the elderly and the youth of the area, this year. The report materials on the CDC website are an excellent resource and I commend you to look at the details there.

Village Items:

Councillors discussed and debated several issues, once again including Cherington Village Hall, the telephone box and forthcoming events. Sadly, it's been deemed a sensible precaution for the VE Day celebrations to be put on hold while the Coronavirus plagues us. The parish council meeting (which is the public forum one) on April 4th has also been postponed. Please keep an eye on the CPC website or get in touch with me via the email address if you'd like to keep up to date on when it will be rescheduled – in the meantime we will be continuing council business online.

The Cherington Village Litter Pick was very successful, and it was a credit to the village to see so many turn out to support this incentive. It was, as usual, a good opportunity for a spring clean and to meet the neighbours and socialise; let's hope that it won't be too long before similar opportunities arise again. In the meantime, of course, do protect your own health and that of those around you – and if you're aware of someone who needs a helping hand, please highlight it if you can't help them yourself. It's time we all pulled together.

Next Parish Council Meeting:

The **April** meeting at Cherington Village Hall has been cancelled, but I'll be placing an agenda on the notice board anyway and I'll be very happy to get communications and questions about it via email, as usual. I can be contacted via cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk

Richard Smith, Clerk to Cherington Parish Council





Avening Cinema Club

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

CORONAVIRUS (COVID 19) UPDATE

**UNFORTUNATELY ALL SCREENINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL
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The church was floodlit on:
6th March and 31st March
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and on

10th March

In memory of **Mr. Dennis Howell.**
From Joyce, Nicky, Lisa and families.

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 835983. The cost is £10 for 2 hours

Avening Parish Council



In these exceptional times and following Government advice it has been decided to cancel all future PC meetings until further notice. The Parish Council will deal with all necessary issues remotely using the technology available.

Community Support

Last week a committee was set up to help coordinate community support groups. Its aim is to encourage neighbours to form networks of around 15-20 households, with a coordinator assigned from each. The Council is tracking the support networks to ensure everyone is covered, and act as a focal point for the coordinators. The purpose is to help support each other with every day practical tasks and share information quickly.

If you have not yet been contacted and would like to be please ring either the clerk (07415 039234) or a member of the Parish Council and we will put you in touch with a coordinator. The latest updates and information are published on the website and the village Facebook page.

In the meantime, please follow Government advice; wash your hands regularly and adhere to social distance guidelines. If you are in the vulnerable group, self-isolate. It is the only way to stop this virus.

On a Brighter Note!

Whilst schools are closed, Audible have opened its children's listening book library. All stories are free to stream on your desktop, laptop, phone or tablet. There are also great classics available for the adults too! <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Hedge Laying Workshop

The hedge-laying workshop was well attended and although the weather wasn't great everyone had a good time and learnt a new skill.

Planning Applications & Tree Works

No new Planning Applications Received.

Decision Notices

18/04043/FUL: Barn at Owl House, West End. Conversion of barn to dwelling and installation of pitched roof. Approved.

20/00201/TPO: 40 Sandford Leaze. Reduce Maple. Approved.

You can comment on any application on the CDC portal.

Potholes

Please remember that you can report potholes directly to Highways on 08000 514 514.

The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

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

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E		E		R		E		E		E		R
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