

# The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,  
Cherington and Nags  
Head



May 2020

[editors@avillager.co.uk](mailto:editors@avillager.co.uk)





Pub ~ Dining ~ Rooms ~ Events



## OPEN

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

## LUNCH

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

## WORKERS' POT

Mon - Fri: 5pm - 6.30pm

## DINNER

Mon - Sat: 6.30pm - 9.30pm

**DOG  
FRIENDLY!**



## THE ROYAL OAK TETBURY

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

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

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

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# May 2020

However strange and stressful this past month has been, I am sure that I am not alone in thinking that in many ways it has been wonderful too. In the item from the Coronavirus Team mention is made of the many community groups that have been formed and the friendships which have developed from them. The many acts of kindness and support offered to those in vulnerable positions are heartening and the solidarity demonstrated each Thursday evening at 8.00pm, when so many turn out to show their appreciation for the work of the NHS, have been ha a source of happiness.

All these positive, generous impulses are epitomised by Jim Hill's wonderful trombone playing in his beautiful, colourful garden. Many of you will have heard him and the glorious picture on the front cover of this month's Villager must surely raise all our spirits with hope for the future. Jim says that he is hoping to play every Sunday morning at 11.00 and on Thursday evenings at 8.00pm. Listen out for him!

The Editors would like to thank the anonymous donor(s) who covered the cost for extra colour pages in the Villager so we could include lots of lovely colour photos of 'Life in Lockdown'. Many thanks for these and keep sending them in; we'll try to do the same next month. And a quick 'shout-out' for our printers Stroudprint and distribution team, who have enabled us to print the mag again this month.

Finally, don't forget to make your plans for the VE 75th Anniversary celebrations on 8th May - see poster in this month's Villager.

*The Villager Editors*

## **The Villager Magazine**

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<b>Deadline</b>	<b>18th of each month</b>

## **Photographs in The Villager Magazine**

Many thanks to **Marion Leach** for her photo of Jim Hill playing 'We Shall Overcome' and Easter hymns among the tulips in his beautiful garden on Easter Sunday morning; " a very moving and a wonderful example of the fellowship in Avening at this time".

Please keep sending us your photographs

**editors@acvillager.co.uk**

# *Our churches are now closed ...*



## **Avening and Cherington Churches**

are fit and well but regret that it has not been possible to hold services in church or to keep the churches open.

As soon as these restrictions are lifted we will resume our normal pattern.

To keep in touch with the latest situation and see online services with local voices and resources please see:

**[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/\\_for Avening](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/_for_Avening)  
[www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14319/ for Cherington](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14319/_for_Cherington)**

or contact Gerald South on 01453 883456 or  
[gp.south@btopenworld.com](mailto:gp.south@btopenworld.com)



**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 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: [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)**

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

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

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

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



# Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



As we adapt to the new 'normal' the situation forces us to look for new ways of doing things and new things to do. I suspect sock drawers have never been so tidy, cars have never been so clean (we washed ours ourselves for the first time in 20 odd years!), and gardens have never been so weed free – it's just a shame that we can't buy any new flowers to fill them! We are also adapting to using laptops, iPads, and smart phones to communicate and to see our loved ones – even my brother, who until a couple of weeks ago didn't even have a mobile phone is now adept at WhatsApp and video calls. While these are all great, they are no substitute for a real hug, especially when something goes wrong and there's nothing you can do to help.

Many people in the village may be isolated or unable to go out - this is where our network of fabulous volunteers can help. There is a lot of information published on our website and Facebook page, but please also look out for neighbours that might not be connected. We have coverage across the village for collection of prescriptions, shopping, and other general help – if you are in need contact your nearest coordinator or see contacts below.

Clare Bebbington produces an informative and entertaining weekly roundup of Covid related village news and useful contacts – this is available from the website or via your coordinator. I had intended to call out here some of the great work being done by special individuals, but the most recent newsletter covers this much more effectively.

As I write this we are in the midst of some fantastic spring weather – the last of the late daffodils are fading, the native bluebells in the woods are a carpet of pale blue, and primroses, cowslips and orchids decorate our verges. It is often said how lucky we are to live in such a beautiful area, able to exercise without fear by walking the fields and paths. I have never seen so many people walking, and wonder where all the dogs have suddenly come from. But sadly (you know what's coming next!!) I have reports that the church is suffering a deluge of dog dirt; a tsunami of \*\*\*\* – this quiet and respectful public place is not appropriate for dog walking, but it is used as a connecting footpath. It is completely unacceptable not to pick up – there is even a bin at the main gate. I have a similar complaint from a resident in Mays Lane – unbelievably people let their dogs go onto a private drive and garden, even though there are bins at either end of the hill. I have encouraged everyone impacted to report the offenders, as sadly it might be the only way to stop this offensive minority. Beware – there could be cameras appearing where you don't expect them.

Our first virtual PC meeting took place on 15<sup>th</sup> April via the videoconferencing app

Zoom. It was very successful, and we will continue to use this facility until the lockdown ends. Anyone can join for the whole meeting or just the public question time at the beginning, and we will publish the link via the agenda, website, and Facebook.

The end of March brought a special anniversary for Mandy and me – it was 30 years ago when we moved in to Avening with one toddler in tow and an almost ripe bump. Since then we have made many lifelong friends, and are almost considered to be locals. We don't intend moving on any time soon – but we are still looking forward to the time when we can do some travelling.

Stay safe.

***Tony Slater – email: [chair@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:chair@avening-pc.gov.uk)***

***Web: [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)***

***For assistance contact [Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk) or call 07415 039234***

## **New Zipwire for Avening Play Park**

In this period of lockdown it is good to be planning ahead to when children can enjoy playing together again with their friends in the park. The old zip wire which was recently removed had proved very popular with many children, allowing them to enjoy the exhilaration and excitement of speed in a safe environment. The Parish Council has prioritised its replacement under the next phase of the Playing Field Plan.

The Parish Council has applied for a grant of £5,000 towards the cost of the new zip wire from the Calor Rural Community Fund working with Crowdfunder Ltd. All applicants are required to set up a Crowdfunder project to enlist public support. Those projects with the most public support will make the finalist stage and then be judged by an independent panel against a set number of criteria.

We are taking the opportunity through this crowdfunding scheme to help raise funds towards the approximate zip wire cost of £8,000.

We would therefore like as many people as possible, along with families and friends around the country to “like”, “share” or pledge a donation during the “Supporting Period” which opens on 4 June and closes 18 June, to increase our chance of reaching the finalist stage. The project receives 1 point for every “like” or “share” and 10 points for each pledge. Details and updates can be found on the Avening Facebook page and those of you who would like to support our project will need to login to the Rural Community Fund Avening project page: (<https://communityfund.calor.co.uk/avening-playing-field>).

***Cllr John Hetterley***



# Avening and Cherington Churches



## Locked Down or Opened Up?

Fed up with being enclosed, wanting to do the 'normal' things in life, nervous even to go shopping? Lots of reasons to be less than content at the moment even for those who are not ill.

But perhaps there are opportunities as well as deprivations. During this extended celebration of the Easter story – it continues through May – we are reminded of the events of another lockdown. Shortly after the resurrection the close followers of Jesus were locking themselves in a room to avoid contact with the religious leaders who might recognise them and take hostile action against them. It is hard to know what they were feeling or quite what would happen next, or when: so some parallels to our current situation.

Then the unexpected happened. They became aware of the presence with them of Jesus – well, not the Jesus in the same form as they had previously known him, although transformed, undoubtedly him. The walls of the house were no barrier to this experience which opened their eyes to a new way of seeing themselves and the world around them: it was the first phase of their inspiration and motivation for devoting the rest of their lives to spreading the spirit of Love into an often difficult and sad world.

We might well ask ourselves whether, and how, our lockdown will change us. Perhaps there are thoughts, ideas, feelings, experiences that we are having during this time that are worth holding on to and developing in the future.

It was also during the disciples' lockdown that Thomas was elsewhere when the others first experienced the presence of Jesus. When he returned, he was reluctant to believe what they told him – perhaps not surprising. Elsewhere we read of Thomas being his own man and being open and honest with others about his thoughts and feelings.

When the experience of Jesus again comes to the locked room Thomas is there, probably expecting a telling off from Jesus for expressing his previous doubt. However, that is not what happens, instead Jesus invites Thomas to see the crucifixion wounds. Thomas does not need to, he is overcome by the presence and immediately convinced. So, it is at that moment, when Thomas is being most genuinely himself, that God comes to him. Perhaps our current situation is reminding us of the sort of people we really are, warts and all, doubts and all. Being open to that is an invitation for sacredness to make its mark on us.

Another story that we hear during this Easter period is that of the two travellers making their way home, meeting and chatting with an apparent stranger. They invite him into their home for a meal and it is only when he blesses the food set out in front of him that they realise his true significance – “didn’t our hearts burn as we talked with him” they say as they realise they had experienced the risen Christ. We might look back on some past experiences and appreciate within them a significance that was not apparent at the time. The divine comes to us unannounced and unrecognised at the most unlikely times and places.

***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.

### **Compline Service Wednesday evenings**

Derrick Pierce has started a ZOOM Compline–type service at 7.30 every Wednesday evening.

if you would like to join in you can you email him at  
derrickcompline@gmail.com.

This is a short service, lasting only about 15 to 20 minutes; If nothing else it is a chance for prayer and contemplation.

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



# Bertram (Bert) Hand 1934-2020



Bert passed away peacefully at Scarlet House on April 11<sup>th</sup> after nearly half his life spent as an Avening resident. Bert and I moved to Minchinhampton last year but we had lived in Avening for 42 years. We both lived in the same town in the Midlands and met at the church youth club and would have been married for 63 years on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

When Bert finished his National Service he had a choice of career; an offer of a job in a bank and another in insurance. He chose insurance and enjoyed a very successful career. He didn't retire until his late 70s. He attended night school and achieved his Associate and then Fellowship qualifications. His first promotion was accompanied

by a company car an Austin 35. His area was very rural and the car enabled him to visit farms and farmers markets to help advise the farmers. He then worked in Birmingham, followed by London. We moved to St.Albans for 10 years before arriving in Avening when he moved his company to Gloucester. After a number of years, the company was absorbed by a larger set up. During his career, Bert had a number of visits to many countries such as Norway, Japan, Bermuda, Germany and Belgium. After many years working in Gloucester, Bert was head-hunted to help the Chinese set up an insurance company in London to provide cover for the growing number of Chinese restaurants in the UK. He had to undertake a regular commute from Kemble to London, meaning long hours. It was hard work for Bert starting from scratch; creating all the business and even furnishing the office. The majority of staff were brought over from China and Hong Kong, with no knowledge of England or the language. Fortunately Bert's insurance expertise ensured the business thrived even though he was only ever able to communicate in English! We were taken to China twice for incredible business trips as well as for regular 'team-building' weekends all over Europe. This was a very happy time in Bert's career.

Though in his later years Bert became an expert 'armchair sportsman', in his youth he had been a keen footballer and his passion for Wolverhampton Wanderers and fishing were constants throughout his life. In the war he used to go with his dad on their push bikes to watch the match and loved fishing with his Uncle Arthur in the River Severn. He never forgot once opening the basket on the railway platform and releasing the large eel his uncle had caught for his supper! In the 70s he was a keen golfer as well as badminton player and Bert and I joined the new course at Minchinhampton on arrival in the village. Our time playing golf led to a number of

enduring friendships over the years. It was very early days as the club had just moved from the common, and members were expected to help by collecting stones off the fairways. Bert spent many happy hours enjoying the club facilities and fairways, even arranging several village skittle matches and village events at the clubhouse. Along with others, we started the Avening badminton club based at the Home Farm Trust as an initiative to increase links between residents and villagers – a great success. These Tuesday evening sessions led not only to long-lasting friendships with the residents who came to watch and chat but greater opportunities for village participation in the many HFT social events held in those days.

In 2000, with Bob and Wendy Jennings, Bert and I started the Avening Amblers. We walked on Sunday mornings, taking lunch at the pub, and enjoyed many fun walking holidays with the group over the years. Bert enjoyed the companionship, but was a more enthusiastic walker when following a little white ball!

Bert was a 'home bird', even more so after his career necessitated so much travelling. Along with his love of sport Bert spent much of his leisure time fundraising for others, whatever the weather. Bert gave financial support to the village football and cricket clubs over the years. A dedicated member of the Lions Club for over 50 years, he joined the Tetbury Lions on moving from St.Albans. He served as club Secretary for most of his time and was responsible for delivering the Tetbury Advertiser around the village and surrounding hamlets until only the last couple of years. The Lions Club involved lots of social as well as charitable events. Living at the top of a steep drive in Avening had its difficulties but friends learned to park on the road, particularly if likely to risk imbibing one of Bert's notoriously strong gin and tonics before the days of drink driving!

We have been blessed with a close and loving family. Our legendary family holiday get-togethers with our daughters Sue and Alison, their husbands, assorted offspring and dogs have given Bert much enjoyment over the years; particularly time spent with those family members who also enjoy golf, fishing and Wolves! Bert had a great sense of humour which the family were always happy to indulge. Bert was particularly fond of spending time with his great-granddaughter Elizabeth. Retirement allowed him the chance to participate more fully with his grandchildren, including helping with the Avening School run. Bert also had time to enjoy walks on the common with his beloved dog Bess. The loss of Bess in 2018 was very sad for Bert and curtailed his walking opportunities and thus sadly, became a contributory factor towards his increasing ill-health. Bert managed to stay in his home right till the last few weeks until his condition meant he needed the specialist care that Scarlet House can offer.

A quiet, unassuming yet hard-working and kind man, who was always willing to do his part for wider society; he will be sadly missed.

***Shirley Hand and family.***



# Avening W.I.

Our members are keeping in touch and getting used to staying at home in these difficult times. Many are enjoying their gardens, trying new recipes and completing other projects, as well as getting to grips with new technologies to keep in touch with families and friends.

As a group we have responded to an appeal by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Hospitals Fundraising Committee to make drawstring cloth bags for hospital staff to use for laundering their scrubs. As I write several members are busy at their sewing machines and I would also like to thank other villagers who have offered to help.

Shirley has been busy, not only sending members a fun quiz to test their memories of past WI events, but also updating an account of the history of Avening WI.

As we have no meetings to report at this time I thought it might be interesting to share some history of the early days of WI in Avening:

‘The first record of an Avening WI committee meeting is on October 4<sup>th</sup> 1930, at Brookside House, chaired by the first President, Mrs Stanley Clarke (her Christian name was Evelyn, but the use of her husband’s name is an indication of the formality of the time). Every decision had to be proposed, seconded and voted upon – for example the purchase of blue/grey crockery from Bon Marche in Gloucester in 1936, and the choice of teaspoons – either Woolworths at one shilling a dozen or Bon Marche at two shillings and sixpence; the latter was chosen as being more serviceable.

The first meeting of Avening WI was held in the Memorial Hall on Thursday November 6<sup>th</sup> 1930 when 40 members were enrolled. Following the formalities, games and dancing concluded an enjoyable evening. Most monthly meetings were held in the schoolroom until 1934, when the Parish Council approached the WI to use the Memorial Hall for a cost of £4 10s for ten evenings a year. The emphasis was on domestic skills in the early years, with talks on vegetable preservation, poultry keeping, how to cut paper patterns for dressmaking, bottling of fruits and even hat making. There was also a popular social half hour with plays, monologues, games and refreshments. Contrary to expectations cakes were purchased not homemade; in 1936 the decision was taken to purchase



locally from Mr May, rather than Mr Phillips of Tetbury. There were two competitions, judged by all the members – best darning, neatest buttonhole, garden on a soup plate, toy made from matchboxes and the annual homemade wine competition, which in 1936 featured beetroot wine in the red and parsnip wine in the white categories.'

Let us hope that we will all be back together at our meetings again soon, but meantime stay safe and well. The photo shows our village planter now that the tulips are out.

*Helen Haiselden*

## AVENING PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION



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

**THIS WILL BE A THREE DAY EVENT TO BE HELD IN AVENING CHURCH, ON AN AUTUMN WEEKEND TO BE CONFIRMED.**

### **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

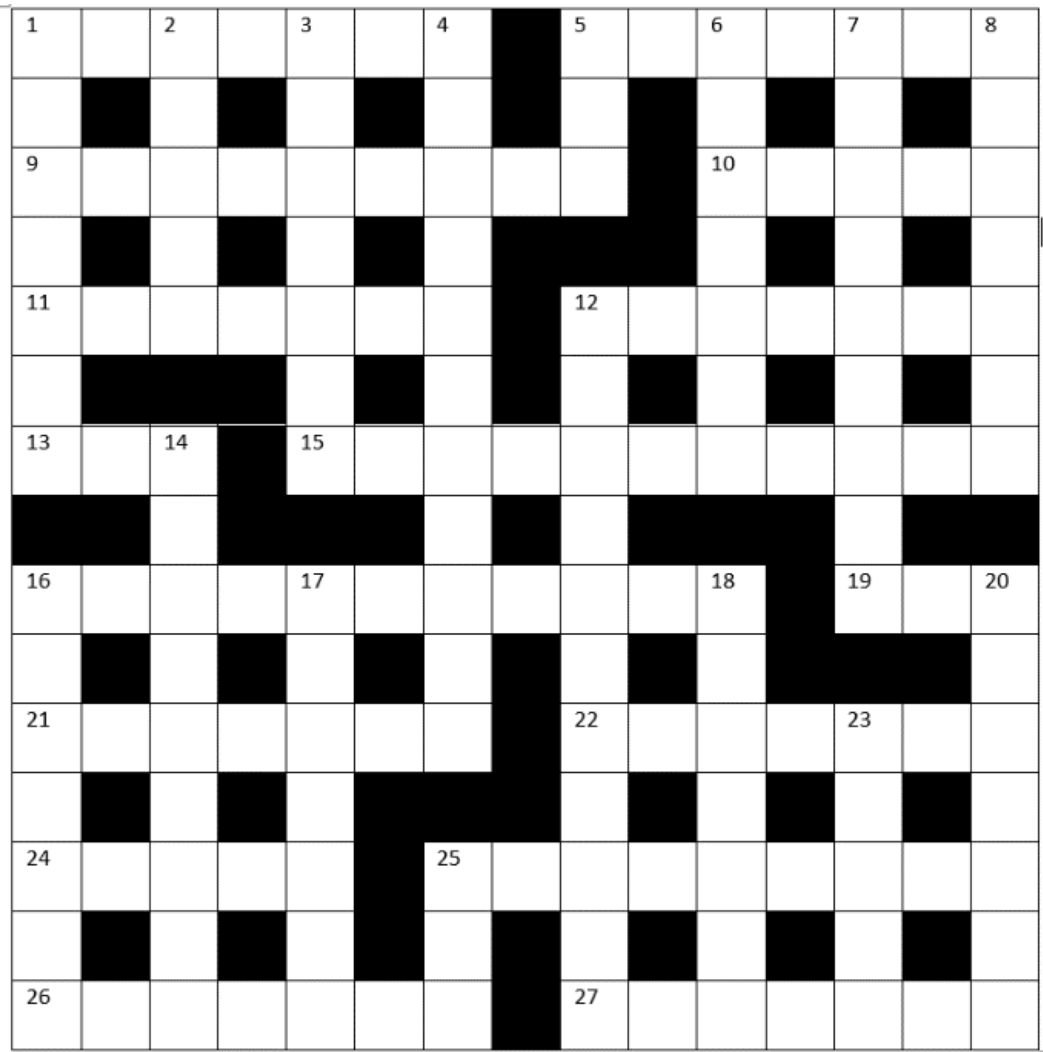
### **Prizes:**

Children - Overall Winner £30, Remaining Category Winners £10

Adults - Overall Winner £40, Remaining Category Winners £20

For rules and details contact George Buchanan 01453 833016 [buchanan.pg@gmail.com](mailto:buchanan.pg@gmail.com)

# Puzzle Corner



## 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.

*Answers on page 45*

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



This month we have a crossword specially written for us by Rev. Gerald. Below are cryptic clues for the grid on the facing page and on the following page are some normal clues for the same crossword, having the same answers. If you are not into cryptic crosswords but would like to know more about them you could solve the normal clues, then look at the cryptic clues to see if you can 'work backwards'. Answers in June edition

## Cryptic Clues

### Across

- 1 Village within a haven in Gloucestershire (7)
- 5 Is it rung for last orders here? (3,4)
- 9 Celia and time mixed within a secret agent produce something distinctive (9)
- 10 Excellent and rotund rotation – that's rum (5)
- 11 Order mild at a pub (7)
- 12 Lots of locks as lockdown prevents this (4,3)
- 13 Oddly deism is lacking illumination (3)
- 15 They are in charge of boats but are confused by streams and hips (11)
- 16 Sounds like a deceptive female, about organic compound on A419 (11)
- 19 Side is shortened for drink (3)
- 21 Losing a pound, Llamas in confusion become beasts (7)
- 22 Good effort by Cyril (4,3)
- 24 Adjacent to Woodstock Lane (5)
- 25 A cat Philo cooked for a meaty meal (9)
- 26 Local head apparently in a hurry and with a heavy load (7)
- 27 Become horizontal, naked and revealing all (3,4)

### Down

- 1 Taken for granted when seas mud is disturbed (7)
- 2 First lady and some biblical books create an occasion (5)
- 3 Twice in charge over the French, long and cold (7)
- 4 They get people into action with a metallic coat (11)
- 5 Initially that old yoyo is for playing with (3)
- 6 Steiner mixed up arrivals (7)
- 7 English the assorted nice tiff works well (9)
- 8 Sheds at an angle (4,3)
- 12 The Court is at the bottom of this, not the Court Palace though (7,4)
- 14 Male issue follows a short time, a bishop and myself – handy for shopping (9)
- 16 He takes a risk, changing hands at the end of an area of the church (7)
- 17 Earnest confusion is closest (7)
- 18 But the vicar doesn't live in this lane (7)
- 20 Mean hail and ire (7)
- 23 Old boy with a mother was President (5)
- 25 First half of a film festival is possible (3)

## Crossword Normal Clues

### Across

- 1 Local village (7)
- 5 Local pub (3,4)
- 9 A particular skill (9)
- 10 Caribbean rum (5)
- 11 Queen ..... (7)
- 12 Barber's offer this (4,3)
- 13 Lacking illumination (3)
- 15 Seafaring captains (11)
- 16 Gloucestershire town (11)
- 19 An infusion (3)
- 21 Creatures (7)
- 22 A form of 'well done'(4,3)
- 24 Adjacent (5)
- 25 Small sausage (9)
- 26 Surname of Head of Avening School (7)
- 27 Show all (3,4)

### Down

- 1 Taken for granted (7)
- 2 An occasion (5)
- 3 A form of frozen water (7)
- 4 People who coat metal by electricity (11)
- 5 Something to play with (3)
- 6 Arrivals (7)
- 7 Working without wasting (9)
- 8 Sheds of a certain type (4,3)
- 12 The road to Minch (7,4)
- 14 Local supermarket (9)
- 16 Someone prepared to take a risk (7)
- 17 Closest (7)
- 18 ..... Lane in Avening(7)
- 20 Middling (7)
- 23 Ex US President (5)
- 25 Tin (3)

## Tetbury Foodbank Update

Although demand is significantly higher, the generosity of the local community has been outstanding and donations of both finance and foodstuffs have matched the increased demand. Local volunteers have also stepped up their involvement and there has been no disruption to the capability of the Foodbank to meet the requirements of its clients. In addition the Cirencester Foodbank, which is part of the nationwide network of foodbanks affiliated to the Trussell Trust, has access to large donations of foodstuffs from national corporate donors.

In Avening the Foodbank box which was previously in the Church has been moved to the garden of 14 High Street and all donations of non-perishable foodstuffs are very welcome there and will be transferred to the Foodbank warehouse for onward distribution. Please check out the Foodbank website [www.cirencester.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.cirencester.foodbank.org.uk) to see which items of non-perishable food and cleaning materials are most in demand and also to learn how to make financial donations.

For information or queries about the Foodbank in Cirencester, Tetbury and Fairford email [info@cirencester.foodbank.org.uk](mailto:info@cirencester.foodbank.org.uk) or telephone 07762 168297.

## The Non-London Marathon



George Hookham of Nags Head is 8 years old and is running a marathon, by covering 2.6 miles every day for 10 days, due to finish on Sunday 26th April. He says “My Mummy works at Longfield Hospice and due to the coronavirus they need help to raise money for their urgent appeal so they can continue to help people with life limiting illnesses and their families. As the London Marathon cannot take place this year I am going to run 26.1 miles for Longfield. I am going to do this by running 2.6 miles everyday for 10 days as part of my daily exercise with my Daddy.”

George signed up to help support Longfield Hospice because it is losing

around £270,000 a month due to their charity shops closed and many fundraising events cancelled. His challenge has made it to the Stroud News and Journal and he was featured on ITV West Country news as he finished on 26th.

George has already raised over £1,000 for Longfield but would love to raise more. If you want to donate, go to his just Giving page: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Georgehookham>.

## Cherington Show

The committee have sadly made the decision to cancel the Cherington Show , which was due to be held on Sunday 19th July.

It is hoped that an alternative fundraising community event can be held later in the year.



# The Avening Community Coronavirus Team



Every Saturday the Community Coronavirus Team publish a newsletter with information about resources and activities during the lockdown. This can be found on both the Avening council website and Avening Facebook page, as well as through the Neighbour Network. On this page we publish a summary of the latest publication and some of the most important information, but would advise people to take a look at the newsletter themselves if they have not already done so.

## Neighbourhood Network Newsletter #4

The postman, Rich, told us this week that he'd never seen so many people exercising. Maybe that's because everyone's daily walks have become about so much more than merely keeping fit. For a start, there's the way they absorb some of the excess energy of fractious children or frustrated golfers. In Avening you can pick up a jar of honey, a book, a tomato plant or two, some eggs (if you're lucky), something unexpected from the growing number of kerbside bric-a-brac stalls or beer from The Bell if your strolls are evening ones. You can do a bit of wildlife spotting and share your snaps on the Wild About Avening Facebook page - or take an imaginary safari (thank you FOAS!).

Best of all, you can chat (at an appropriate distance) with your fellow lockdownees, whether about gardening or listening to a complete stranger vent about dog poo or marvel at and/or secretly resent a triumphant neighbour telling you they've finally found flour (its flour for goodness sake, not the Lost Ark of the Covenant!). So if you're lucky enough to have a garden fronting a road, think about taking your morning cuppa, afternoon tea or sun-over-the-yardarm quencher somewhere where you can 'greet the street'. Because right now, there's nothing quite like a good old-fashioned gossip. And of course if you hear anything worth repeating in these newsletters do share!

## Essential Information

### 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](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk) for more details.

**Pubs: The Bell ( 01453 836453)** 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/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/14317/). If the matter is urgent, you can call Gerald South on 01453 883456.

**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

**The Mark Townsend Trust:** plays a big role in helping people in the village and those who are finding it difficult to fund essential items of food may apply to the Trust for food vouchers. Contact the Trust on 01453 832799. They also have a list of organisations for anyone placed in a vulnerable situation as a result of the lockdown. It can be accessed here:

<https://themarktownsendcharitabletrust.com/coronavirus/resources/helplines/>

**Food Bank:** See article on page 18

**Small Businesses:** A number of residents run their own **businesses** and are grappling with the implications for them of the lockdown and financial downturn. The government's website is the best initial port of call as much is changing for SMEs, and many of the arrangements are still evolving. <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/financial-support-for-businesses-during-coronavirus-covid-19>. The **Federation of Small Businesses** is particularly helpful, although accessing some services means you have to take out membership: <https://www.fsb.org.uk/campaign/covid19.html?anchor=free-webinars-from-fsb-first-voice>. And the **Confederation of British Industry** has developed a hub for information and analysis about the implications of coronavirus for industry: [https://www.cbi.org.uk/coronavirus-hub/?](https://www.cbi.org.uk/coronavirus-hub/?utm_source=cbi_org&utm_medium=website&utm_campaign=slider&utm_content=homepage_slide1)

[utm\\_source=cbi\\_org&utm\\_medium=website&utm\\_campaign=slider&utm\\_content=homepage\\_slide1](https://www.cbi.org.uk/coronavirus-hub/?utm_source=cbi_org&utm_medium=website&utm_campaign=slider&utm_content=homepage_slide1). The **British Business Bank**, a government-owned business development bank dedicated to making finance markets work better for smaller businesses has a hub for information about the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan scheme: <https://www.british-business-bank.co.uk/ourpartners/coronavirus-business-interruption-loan-scheme-cbils-2/for-businesses-and-advisors/>

### Trusted Online Sources

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

**Gloucester County Council** ([www.gloucetershire.gov.uk](http://www.gloucetershire.gov.uk)) 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](http://www.gloucestershire.police.uk)

**NHS:** [www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

**UK Government:** [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)

# CORONAVIRUS 2020

*(Reflections from an 85 year old in self-isolation)*

The world span on its busy, heedless way,  
As hordes from diverse nations thronged the land,  
The skies criss-crossed with air-polluting planes,  
Roads thick with traffic, city centres jammed.  
The people rushing by just did not care and  
Money their God and no time, so hurry, hurry!  
Pop out a child or two along the way,  
Others will rear and care for them, don't worry!  
Whilst in the countryside the trees were dying,  
Land poisoned; but see, the crops grew tall!  
The seas and rivers choked with toxic plastic ...  
Nature, aghast, waits for the axe to fall...  
People speak only into phones, not fact-to-face...  
Please, STOP THE WORLD, I want to leave this human race.

Then God looked down upon his wayward children,  
"You would not listen, you would not change", He cried,  
"I need to halt your greed, your self-destruction.  
This is not why my son was crucified".  
So God commanded STOP! "You all must listen,  
Cease your frantic rush, take time for life,  
Hear songs of birds, see stars shine in the darkness,  
Feel sun and rain, give up this restless strife!  
Make time for loved-ones, care for one another,  
Learn the true values of this life I give.  
Take heart from all the beauty that surrounds you.  
Look to the simple things and start to live!  
For now is the time to re-invent the human race.  
Enjoy this break, reflect, slow down your pace".

So I will slow my hurried footsteps now,  
Enjoy the breathless hush that heralds dawn,  
Hear the sweet blackbird, and the thrush's songs,  
See rosy skies at evening, gold each morn.  
Take time for music, read, or just be still,  
Time to create, to paint, to sew, to write;  
Be kind to loved-ones, talk and share with friends,  
Walk with my dog, and then sleep sound at night.  
Watch Spring arrive, with lambs, and flowers, and buds.  
See Summer sun, blue skies, hear wild birds call;  
Note blazing Autumn colours flood the woods;  
Breathe Winter's breath as silent snowflakes fall.  
So God has stopped the world with sickness, gave us time,  
But will man heed and save the earth 's decline?

# Life in Lockdown

Many thanks for all these photos - keep them coming!

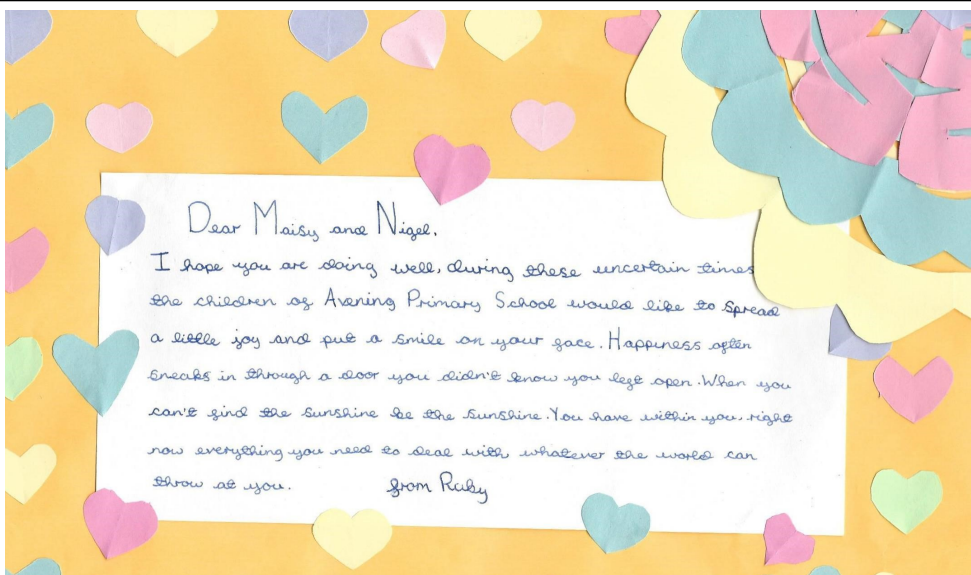


*Jim Hill and his trombone in his garden.*



*A front gate on Point Road lit up in NHS blue for the Thursday clap for key workers. "It's great to hear everyone right across the valley taking part each week" .*

*Cup Cakes for school and a plant swap - just some of the Community Café's many activities*



*Examples of the beautiful cards sent by children at Avening School to older residents at the start of the lockdown, to "bring them joy".*





*Imogen, Leonora, Olivia and Angus all enjoyed searching for eggs during the Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Day in West End.*



*Arthur is making cheese scones, using the recipe in the Community Café's Little Book of Baking, while another younger resident is making an amazing dinosaur.*



*Chris Redpath playing 'Somewhere Over the Rainbow' to the residents of Sandford Lease during the Thursday evening NHS celebrations*







*Elsie and Joe made their own protective face mask and Elsie made a draw string bag and cushion. They used the sewing machine and Elsie also did some hand stitching to make the cushion. Super sewing and a great activity to learn about machines and creativity. They are both very proud of their work. They also had a 'giveaway to cheer up peoples spirits!*



*Benjamin is in reception class where the topic is mini beasts and activities are based on the hungry caterpillar. We have been hunting for bugs, creating caterpillar models and making caterpillar patterns with Duplo.*

*A family WhatsApp competition to build tallest construction not using bricks, sellotaping or string. "It filled some time and I managed not to fall off the shed roof!*



*The Slater family having fun with Zoom. Amazing what lockdown does to you!*



*Some of the many windows adorned with rainbows*



# VE Day 75th Anniversary Celebrations

## *Stay at Home Street Party*

*Fri 8th May 1-3pm*



**VE DAY**  
75<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

Decorate your house red, white & blue and enjoy a picnic in your front garden alongside (but not with!) your neighbours.

Don't let "lockdown" spoil the fun - Join our community in commemorating the end of WW2 by celebrating in a safe way!

*Contact [music\\_mel@yahoo.com](mailto:music_mel@yahoo.com) if you would like a free CD\* for you & your neighbours to enjoy.*

*\*wartime faves, standards and swing classics*



*My name is Beatrice and I'm nine. At first isolation was odd but now I'm used to it.*

*I'm really missing my friends, school and my hobbies like seeing the horses at the stables. I started to make bracelets for friends and family and thought it would be nice to make some for my community too and put them outside for anyone to take. At first lots were taken but after a week less were taken so I started making bookmarks. When they got taken I felt very happy. Some lovely people even gave me a few gifts in return, which I wasn't expecting.*



# Letter to the Editors

A recent casual remark 'this virus epidemic is God's punishment to us for all the evil we do in the World' both shocked and angered me. That does not sound like the action of the God that I believe in.

By contrast, I wanted to share with your readers my experience of what I see as God's presence in this village in the thousand acts of kindness and generosity being shown in this dark time. People are reaching out to those living alone, locked in, often frightened, bewildered, lonely. They have left letters, cooked meals, groceries, flowers and so much more, showing that people are not forgotten. In the wider world, the amazing doctors, carers and nurses go on putting their own lives at risk, to care for others.

I wonder how many of you saw Catherine Jenkins on 'Songs of Praise' recently, singing the comforting, uplifting song 'You'll never walk alone'. How true I feel this has been recently in this village and all over the country, where people have been drawn together to make sure that all can 'walk on, with hope' in their hearts.

On a personal note I wanted to send my heartfelt thanks for all the kindness and thoughtfulness of my neighbours towards me and others.

*Celia Carter*

## Avening Walks

DID YOU KNOW that you can download 8 walks around Avening and a map from our website [www.avening-pc.gov.uk/avening%20walks.htm](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk/avening%20walks.htm); The walks range from a simple stroll around the village to a strenuous 3-hour trek via Minchinhampton and Gatcombe - what better way to explore our beautiful area during the lockdown.

We haven't published any new walks for quite a few years, so why don't you let us know your favourite walk by noting down the route, highlight any interesting features on the way, and tell us why it is your favourite. Email the details, or write to the clerk ([parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)) - there might even be a small prize for the best one!

Happy walking (but stay safe).





# Top 5 Tips for Dealing with Uncertainty and Fear

*Received from Cas Boddam-Whetham:*

Just to say I'm on the end of the phone to give advice on sprains, aches and pains of all sorts and to give advice on management of symptoms possibly brought on by stress and anxiety. Of course there is no charge. My web site: [www.casbw.co.uk](http://www.casbw.co.uk).

Meanwhile here are my five tips

**1) Acknowledge and express how we're feeling** - it's ok to feel frustrated, angry, unsettled etc many people skip over these emotions and instead want to stay strong and carry on. Safely expressing these emotions allows them to be recognised and processed, journaling is a great way you could do this.

**2) Focus on what you can control** - so much is outside of our control right now. Notice where your focus is for the majority of the day, if it's on things outside of your control it will make you feel helpless and disempowered. Write a list of what's inside of your control and purposefully focus on those throughout your day.

**3) Stay in the moment** - Fear only exists in the future or in the past, you are either projecting what could/may happen or thinking that something from the past will happen again. Mindfulness is a lovely way to help you to practise staying in the present. Even short periods of time in the present can do wonders for calming your nervous system.

**4) Find something purposeful/meaningful** - The purpose or meaning in your day may have changed since this pandemic started. Losing, or changes within our purpose, can feel unsettling so it's important to readdress them. Reconnect to something which brings you meaning, find something useful or meaningful about your day.

**5) Have fun, play** - Joy, smiling and laughter release happy hormones and yet people often forget to let go and enjoy during more challenging times. You can release joy through music, dance and enjoyable hobbies so make extra time for these and give yourself permission to feel enjoyment as you do them.

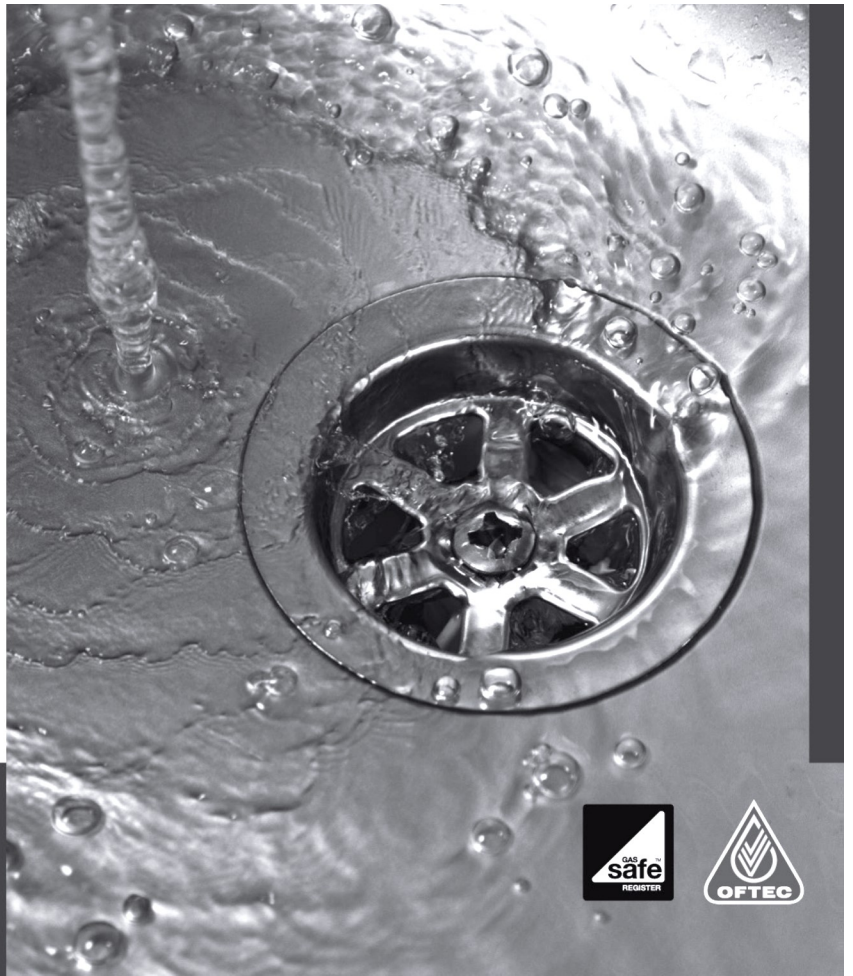
If you are feeling increased fear, it's ok, we are all living with the reality of uncertainty right now. We hope these tips provide a reminder to check in with how you're feeling and give you some helpful inspiration.



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# Avening Community Cafe

It would have been too easy to fold up the tablecloths, pack away the mugs and locked the cupboards for the duration. But it hasn't quite turned out like that: the Café's gone digital; found new ways of taking some of its best-loved features out into the community; our Café 'cake bank' bakers are baking for the School; and our volunteers joined the army of volunteers supporting the village in these strange days. During lockdown, we've made a commitment to our customers that we'll be there for you – and as our first 'Café Zooms' demonstrated, you are there for us!



*Café Zoom*

As The Villager went to press, we've held two successful Café Zooms using the Zoom conferencing software. We 'open' at 9.30 on Tuesday and stay live until 11.15. There's lots of 'I can see you, but I can't hear you' but everyone who's tried and succeeded in getting online has enjoyed the chance to chat and we love seeing new faces joining in! If you are interested in dropping in, please contact Clare Bebbington on [cbebbbs@gmail.com](mailto:cbebbbs@gmail.com), we'll pass on the dial-in details and even have a little practice if you're new to Zoom.

One of our team leads, Elizabeth Buchanan, with generous contributions from other gardeners including Marilyn Jones and Chandy Rodgers, continues to champion our 'crop swaps' with the seed and plant stall outside 14 High Street. It has already raised over £70 for the Café's charities, the Mark Townsend Trust and Stroud Women's Refuge. Clare and Sheelagh O'Kelly have book swaps outside 6 Old Hill and 44 High St respectively, which are proving increasingly popular as the lockdown continues. Atlanta Rayner has put together monthly 'writing for fun' challenges, and Mel Young has shared music quizzes. We hope to have a Café Craft Zoom soon – keep up to date via our Facebook page.

We also used Zoom to discuss Jean Rhys's *Wide Sargasso Sea*, the Cafe Book Club's book for May. The choice for May is local author Rachel Joyce's delightful book *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry*. As ever, it's lovely if you read the book but your don't have to, so if you'd like to join in just to share your favourite books about journeys, or walking - or other good books for lockdown reading,



*Café Book Swap*



then please let us know.

We've also stuck to the spirit of our Green Cafes. Committee member Peter Barton started his 'five a day' litter pick, which can be part of anyone's permitted daily exercise. We're supporting the Big Avening Wildlife Watch, led by Phoebe Carter which will take place during the late May Bank Holiday weekend. We also hope to start looking for our 2020 Environmental Hero at the end of April.



We can't wait to get back together again. But in the meantime we're also enjoying grappling with technology and finding new ways of keeping our Café Community together. Tough times, but together we'll get through it.



*Avening Community Cafe*

**Clare Bebbington**

## **Christian Aid Week 2020 May 10<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>**

Sadly, no Christian Aid Brekkie in Avening this year and no red envelopes distributed. Covid-19 is a global pandemic and Christian Aid are working hard to reduce its impact in some of the world's poorest countries. So while recognising that all charities, and indeed many of us, are effected financially by this please do still think about donating to this worthy cause; you can do this easily by telephone, post or on line. See below for details:

**Online cash donations:** You can safely and securely make a one-off donation using the online form on the website. Website address: [www.christianaid.org.uk](http://www.christianaid.org.uk)

**CAF card donations:** If you have a Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) card you can donate online through the CAF website.

**Telephone and postal donations:** Call 020 7523 2493 to donate by telephone.

**Cheques, Postal Orders, charity vouchers and direct debit forms:** can be sent to: Christian Aid, 35-41 Lower Marsh, London SE1 7RL

**Paying directly into the Christian Aid bank account:** For details on how to pay money directly into their bank account, please call 020 7523 2226

So whether or not you have enjoyed a Christian Aid Brekkie in previous years and enabled Avening to support their work, donations are needed more than ever this year.



Thank you.

**Avening Christian Aid Group**





# Avening Playgroup

What an unusual month it has been! Unfortunately, since writing April's article, the playgroup has been closed. Before Easter I contacted our families by phone on a weekly basis to ensure they were safe and well. Everyone I spoke to seemed to be in good spirits and those I couldn't speak to I left a message and contact details. In addition to the phone calls I am sending weekly emails as well as sharing links to websites and ideas of different activities they can do together. Just a handful of these ideas are:

- Looking at items that rhyme or start with the same sound
- Counting things as they move around the house or garden
- Reading lots of stories and acting them out
- Making rainbows to put in the window
- Making Easter decorations to hang up out of anything they can find around the house, such as, cardboard, wrappers and twigs.



I have also asked parents to share their photos of the children engaged in different activities and of anything they have made.

In light of the coronavirus, staff have been unable to attend the training courses mentioned in last month's Villager but we have had confirmation that they will all take place at a later date to be confirmed.

Before we closed the children were very excited by a visitor we had behind playgroup. On a few occasions we were all able to see a deer peering through the windows at playgroup and on another occasion there were three! Clare managed to photograph one whilst in the

kitchen.

On behalf of Avening Playgroup I would like thank everyone who is working hard during this very difficult time – all the NHS and delivery workers, carers, teaching staff as well as the technicians working to keep both emergency, delivery and key workers' vehicles on the road. Thank you all.

Avening playgroup will remain closed until further notice. For further information please email [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com)

*Angie Heslop*

**Playgroup is now closed until further notice. Please call us on 01453 832695 or email [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com) for further information.**



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# Avening School

## Keeping Calm and Carrying On

While the nation remains in lockdown, Avening School has continued to open its doors each day to the children of key worker parents and those from vulnerable families. Staff have been working at school on a rota basis in order to minimise contact as much as possible and in addition to caring for the children still at school, they have been delivering free school meals, food parcels, nappies, Easter eggs and organising food vouchers for families in need of support. Each teacher is also producing two-week work packs for the children at home and are keeping in contact with their pupils via email and weekly phone calls during term time. School is also maintaining contacts with its parents and pupils via the weekly newsletter *The Hoot*, which is available to view as usual on the school website.

For those still attending school, each day begins by taking part in the Joe Wicks daily workout. We were bursting with pride to receive a retweet from Joe Wicks after one of our Avening Sports stars produced their own workout for the nation! In addition, the workout has enabled a focus on world geography as children and adults from all around the world take part each day. This is PE on a global scale!

Children have also written positive messages to the local police to say thank you for working hard to keep them and everyone else safe, which have been shared with the chief constable and the officers in Gloucestershire. They included some wonderfully colourful and creative images and include jokes, messages of support and some brilliant drawings of officers and other key workers, including their own parents. The spark for the idea came from Avening residents Sam and



*Cakes from the Community Cafe*

Katy Upton - Sam works for the Met Police in London and has been helping to do the same thing in the capital. The images are on Facebook in order to say thank you to the children and inspire others in the county to follow suit.

The children have been enjoying English lessons, particularly inspired by Pie Corbett's radioblogging.net, where one of our children had a shout out for super sentences.

The school garden continues to provide an alternative and inspiring learning space and is being well utilised with pupils taking part in Forest School challenges being set by Mrs Carter who has also produced daily Forest school challenges for children at home. The children in school have planted vegetables and flowers and over Easter took part in an Eggstraordinary egg hunt!

We would like to say a big thank you to all of the support that we have received from the community, from the kind words over the school garden wall, to the cakes delivered to us each week from the Community Café and the Easter eggs donated by Waitrose and the National Trust. This has really helped with staff and pupil morale in these very difficult and stressful times.

A huge thank you must also go to all of the staff at Avening School who have endeavoured to maintain an almost impossible sense of normality for all children, both those at school each day and those working from home. Their dedication to the wellbeing of their pupils and their absolute determination to keep the children feeling safe and happy above everything else is testament to their profession and we feel so proud to have such teaching staff in our village school.

We long for the school gates to be open fully again. Until then, keep safe and well.

**Alex Adcock**

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



**NAILSWORTH**

George Street

**Tel: 01453 705560**



**TETBURY CLINIC**

23 Church Street

**Tel: 01666 503531**

[www.georgevetgroup.co.uk](http://www.georgevetgroup.co.uk)

**Hospital : 01666 823165**

**Equine : 01666 826456**



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# Wild About Avening

Thank goodness for nature! I don't know about you but being able to get out and hear the birds, see the bluebells and other wildflowers emerge, and watch the early butterflies on the wing has been a real boost to every day.



*Green Woodpecker*

We are so lucky to live in a place with such a wide range of stunning wildlife on our doorsteps. Dave and Pat Gardiner have sent in some lovely wildlife sightings and photographs including flocks of Golden plover; Skylarks; Brown hare and an unusual sighting of Eels on the golf course! I have set up a Facebook page called Wild about

Avening where I am sharing wildlife pictures and facts - give it a follow and share any of your interesting wildlife photographs or stories.

All of these wildlife records gave me the idea for the **Big Avening Wildlife Watch**. The aim is to get as many people as possible involved in recording what wildlife we have in the village. Please do join in this event on the Bank holiday weekend of **23<sup>rd</sup> May**. It's a great thing to do to get the kids engaged with nature and a lovely thing for anyone to do to pass some time. Let's find out how wild Avening is.



*Small Tortoiseshell butterfly*

## How to take part in the Big Avening Wildlife Watch

1. Grab a piece of paper and a pencil
2. Over the long weekend 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> May note down all the wildlife you see in the garden or on your walks round the village. We want as many records as possible so note down everything you see from birds and bugs to mammals and reptiles. If you're not sure what things are take a look at the links below:
  - (i) RSPB: [www.rspb.org.uk](http://www.rspb.org.uk)
  - (ii) BugLife: <https://www.buglife.org.uk/>
  - (iii) Butterfly Conservation: [www.butterfly-conservation.org](http://www.butterfly-conservation.org)
  - (iv) Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Trust: [www.arc-trust.org/](http://www.arc-trust.org/)
  - (v) The Mammal Society: [www.mammal.org.uk](http://www.mammal.org.uk)

You can spend as much or as little time as you want on this as the idea of this is to get a good inventory of the wildlife in Avening.

3. Write your sightings (with your name and address if you are happy to do so) on a piece of paper and drop at 56 Sandford Leaze (I will leave a box out) or email them to me at [pklc1@hotmail.com](mailto:pklc1@hotmail.com). If you know there are other animals that visit your garden but that you didn't see over the recording weekend, then make a separate note of them too.
4. I will then compile a list of the all the wonderful things you record and let everyone know the results.

### **A Weed or a Wonder?**

Just a quick note of support for the humble Dandelion. Such bright buttons of joy from spring through summer these wonderful plants are far more than weeds. In the UK there are actually over 235 different variations (microspecies) of the Dandelion. Its medicinal properties as a diuretic led to it being called the 'Piss-en-lit' (translated politely as Wet-the-bed!). However, it is much more than a medicinal aid.



*Yellowhammer (male), near Aston Farm*

A quick call to the amazingly knowledgeable wildlife folk of Twitter led to the discovery that the dandelion is used by the larval stages of over 50 different invertebrate species. If you then add on the adult butterflies; bees (over 150 bee species are thought to rely on the dandelion); hoverflies etc that use Dandelions as a source of nectar; and then include the birds such as Sparrows, Goldfinches and Bullfinches that feed on their seeds, you begin to see that this is indeed a Wonder and not just a Weed. So, if you can, do save yourselves the time of removing these little yellow wonders and instead marvel at their brilliance as a life support system for so many creatures.

### **Community Orchard**

The Community Orchard is still very much in my thoughts but as with many things will likely be a little delayed due to the impact of Covid19. If you are interested in sponsoring any element of the orchard or willing to help get it up and running and caring for it as it develops, then please do email me on [pklc1@hotmail.com](mailto:pklc1@hotmail.com).

***Phoebe Carter***

## Some Features of Avening Church

The Church of the Holy Cross is one of the most interesting and best preserved of the ancient churches in the Cotswolds. Dating from 1080 it retains some of its original features of the Norman period.

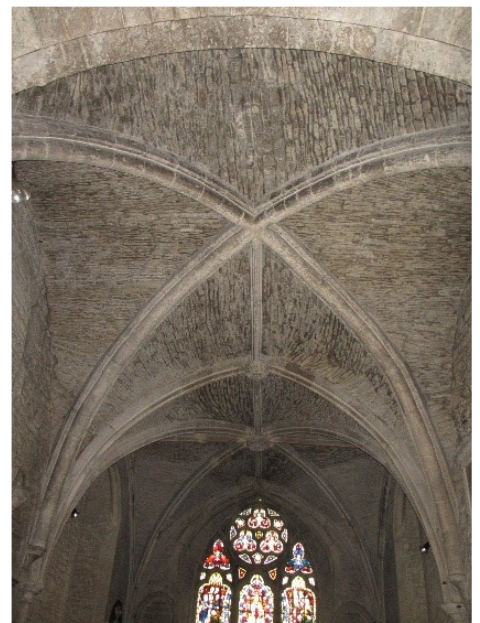


By the main porch is a handsome Norman doorway with characteristic dog-tooth moulding similar to the contemporary arches in Gloucester Cathedral. This arch is supported by two twisted pillars of unusual Norman design, but similar to those in Durham Cathedral. A perpendicular doorway has been skilfully blended with this Norman work.

In the chancel is the fine groined stone roof. The vaulting at the far end was skilfully made to harmonise with the earlier Norman vault when the church was extended eastward. The ribs carry two fine carved bosses.



The present font is modern and replaced an earlier one in the bottom right of the picture.



Built into the wall by the main door are two fragments considered to be part of the original Norman font.



The smaller fragment may be Adam and Eve, often associated with original sin and baptism.

The other shown in the picture has six figures possibly representing the Apostles, as these were commonly used for decoration at this time.

*Rev. Gerald*



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## *A Message from The Door:*

### **Youth charity *The Door* calls on supporters to #keepthedooropen by taking on its 100km challenge**

The Door, which helps run Avening Youth Club wants supporters to run, walk or cycle 100km during May as part of its 100K In May initiative. Money raised will ensure the charity is able to continue to provide vital mental health support during the lockdown.

Registrations for the challenge opened on Wednesday, April 22, with people from across the county being urged to #KeepTheDoorOpen.

Anne Townsend, operations and events coordinator at The Door, is leading the campaign and is one of eight staff members who have already signed up to do the 100km challenge. She said: "By joining The Door's 100K In May challenge you'll be making an amazing difference to the lives of the families we support. You'll also be ensuring you stay fit and health, too, so it's good for you and it's good for the people in society who need The Door's support the most."

The Door is seeing demand for its services grow during lockdown but is losing £500 every working day in income, with its youth centres and charity shop physically shut.

Tom Howard, chair of trustees of The Door, added: "I'd urge everyone, from seasoned marathon runners to those who have never done a physical challenge before, to visit the Facebook group we've set up and find out more.

"Each penny that's raised will help us carry on our work with vulnerable young people and their families during this particularly challenging period. It is so important to reduce the effects of social isolation by connecting and supporting individuals and families using various online platforms."

You can register to take part by visiting the Facebook page that The Door has set up: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/TheDoor100KinMay/>. More information about 100K in May is available at: <https://www.thedoor.org.uk/100kinmay/>



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# Cherington Parish Council

The **April** meeting at Cherington Village Hall was cancelled.

The Clerk to the Cherington Parish Council can be contacted via email: [cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cheringtonparishcouncil@yahoo.co.uk)



## Avening Cinema Club

**UNFORTUNATELY ALL SCREENINGS HAVE BEEN  
CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

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](mailto:katywingrove@hotmail.co.uk)

## Church Floodlighting



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

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# Avening Parish Council



Preserve  
Conserve, Enhance

As the lock down persists and we continue keeping to the self-distancing rules, work continues behind the scenes to ensure things run smoothly.

It was decided to run a Parish Council Meeting via Zoom on the 15<sup>th</sup> April 2020.

The meeting was open to all residents of the Parish.

## **Community Support**

Again, the community has rallied!

The community support group continues to work well. Keeping contact to ensure everyone has the support network in place should they need any help.

If you need support and don't have details of your local contact, please contact me on 07415039234 or email me on [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk), or [covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk)

Think of others! Please be considerate when lighting bonfires or playing music.

## **Dog Mess again!**

It has been noticed that the Church Yard is becoming the latest dog toilet. If you witness the offenders, please report it to the environmental officer at CDC. Fines will be issued.

Please clean it up!

## **Planning Applications & Tree Works**

20/00887/FUL & 20/00888/LBC Brook House Hampton Hill: Alterations to 4 existing windows and doors, internal alterations and repairs to garden wall. No objections to the internal works or wall repairs, but we have raised concerns over expanding the gateway off Old Hill.

20/00539/FUL Hill House 7 - 9 Tetbury Hill: Removal of windows & brickwork replace with French doors. No objections

20/01127/FUL & 20/01128/LBC Herons Mead, West End: erection of a single-storey side extension and a rear porch, the replacement of existing windows and repointing of existing external walls. No objections

20/01173/TCONR The Old Rectory High Street Avening: Pollard Lime tree. No objections

## **Decision Notices**

20/01267/TCONR Bannut Tree New Inn Lane, Yew tree – remove - Permitted

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 or via their website.



# Puzzle Answers

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

Gerald's crossword puzzle answers will be in the June edition of the Villager



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# Dates for your Diary

Friday 8th May	VE 75th Anniversary Stay at Home-Street Party	for details see poster on Page 28	1-3pm
Sat 23 - Monday 25th May	Big Avening Wildlife Watch	Everywhere!	
tbc	Avening Photographic Exhibition-tbc	Avening Church	
Sunday 13th September tbc	Avening Church Fete tbc	School and Church	2.00pm.

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