

The Villager

A magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head

February 2003

50p



*... what might not be visible on a summer stroll ...
... might be in full view on a brisk winter walk ...*

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All contributions to the Villager are welcome.

The Parish Letter

It may be weeks.....before we will know for certain, if our country is to go to war with Iraq. The consequences of such a war will be far reaching and possibly more horrendous than we have the experience to anticipate. In such a situation the temptation is to turn away and shrug our shoulders in resignation.....for what influence can we ever have at such times? Decisions are made behind closed doors and our consent is not sought. We feel ourselves to be helpless for what can we do? There is, however, something that is open to each one of us.....the most powerful and wonderful resource.....much underused and often overlooked. The power of prayer. Prayer, not used as a last resort, or with the attitude that it can do no harm, but in the belief that all prayer is an influence for good. In the time of war.....prayer is often dismissed with contempt, for why should an impartial and loving God heed the prayers of one side and not those of the other? Why indeed.....except that I do believe He hears the prayers of *all* who pray, irrespective of which side we are on, or in which tradition or creed we use. God hears our call for help when a situation is spiralling out of control.....our plea for calm, in the face of accelerating madness.....our prayer for tolerance and patience in the face of prejudice.

God works through the hearts and minds of His children, continually recreating and bringing good from the muddles we make and the mess in which we find ourselves. He will calm the fear that drives people into making hasty and wrong decisions.....He will open the eyes of people blinded by prejudice.....He will direct the minds of those who are bewildered by events and guide them into better judgements. When we pray with one mind for peace.....for an alternative way forward.....we pray according to His will and release into the world a power for good beyond any other. This power will, and can, influence events.

Please pray now, in your hearts.....in your homes.....or together in church on Sunday mornings. Pray for peace.....for time.....time for our politicians and world leaders to think again.....and again! There must be an alternative to war and our prayer is that the alternative will be found.

Rev Celia

THE ACTING EDITOR'S JOTTINGS

“Sadness and Joy.....”

A somewhat belated but nonetheless sincere ‘Happy New Year’ to all our readers! May 2003 prove to hold more for you than you would wish for yourself. Sadly, since the last ‘Villager’ was published, a number of villagers have returned to their Maker.

“Yet as Thou didst not lose them in giving, so we do not lose them by their return. What Thou givest Thou takest not away, for what is thine is ours also, if we are thine. And life is eternal and love is immortal, and death is only a horizon, and a horizon is nothing save the limit of our sight. Lift us up that we may see more clearly and draw us closer to Thee that we may know ourselves to be nearer to our loved ones who are with Thee.”

The addresses which start at page 7 are how our departed friends were warmly remembered at their funerals at Holy Cross Church over the past six weeks.

This is a bumper edition of the Villager – 36 pages in all. Make yourself a nice cup of coffee or tea and settle down for a good read! Subscriptions for the magazine for 2003 are due this month. Please pay £5 (that has to be wonderful value for 11 magazines!) to whoever delivers your magazine to your home. If you think your neighbours might be interested in ‘The Villager’, please show them this edition and encourage them to subscribe themselves.

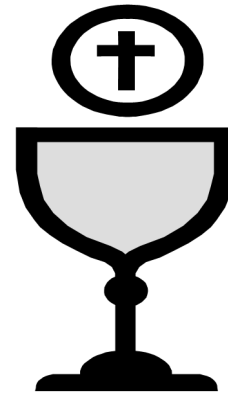
Happier memories of the festive season are recalled starting at page 16. Don’t miss the hilarious account of the Crib Service on pages 18 to 21. 400 people attended in 2002 and having read the article I’m sure you will want to be there too in 2003.

The remainder of the mag is the same eclectic mix as ever with something for everyone. Even the Parish Councillors have a double slot to cover their meetings in December and January!

Martin Abbott

Church Duties:

AVENING



Date	Sidespersons	Chalice Assistants
2nd February	J.Sanders/P.Brown	S.Uzzell
9th February	S.Hamilton/J.Pargetter	P.Lindesay
16th February	R.Evershed/M.Abbott	R.Coates
23rd February	J.Blackie/G.Buchanan	A.Evans
2nd March	M.Barton/S.Hamilton	J.Sanders

CHURCH FLOODLIGHTING

Holy Cross Church was floodlit in December 2002
and January 2003 on:

December 30th For Sidney on this his birthday – Jan

January 8th Requested by Julia Walkley in memory of her mother,
Sheila Linder

January 10th In memory of Patti & Norman Holbrow from Jean, John
Mary and families.

Day/Date	Church	Time	Service
SUNDAY 2nd February	Avening	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	Cherington	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCW)
	Avening	11am	Holy Communion (BCW) & Sunday School
SUNDAY 9th February	Avening	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	Cherington	9.30am	Matins
	Avening	11am	Holy Communion (BCW) & Sunday School
SUNDAY 16th February	Avening	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	Cherington	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	Avening	11am	Holy Communion (BCW) & Sunday School
SUNDAY 23rd February	Avening	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	Cherington	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCW)
	Avening	11am	Holy Communion (BCW)
Friday 28th February	Avening	2.45pm	Pram & Toddler Service
SUNDAY 2nd March	Avening	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)
	Cherington	9.30am	Holy Communion (BCW)
	Avening	11am	Holy Communion (BCW)
Wednesday 5th March (Ash Wednesday)	Avening	7pm	Sung Eucharist

Weekly evening meetings will be held during Lent.
Details will be announced in the March edition of 'The Villager'.

Colonel Frankau M.C.

Many of us in this village did not know much of the life of John before he came to live in Avening. We knew him as a courageous and courteous gentleman with a wonderful sense of humour and a great affection for this part of the world.

A lasting memory for the village, which was sorely missed this year, was John's insistence that the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month should be marked by the firing of a rocket from the churchyard. He always waited until his car radio broadcast Big Ben (as he had little trust in the Church clock) on the hour, which turned out to be rarely in sync with the other parishes. "Ah!" he used to say as the explosions were heard in all directions, "We are, as usual, the only one on time!"

John did not originate from this part of the world. He was born in India, the only child of a mechanical engineer. His early years were spent in the central province of India where his father worked for the colonial government. At the age of six, he was sent to England to go to prep school. The shock of such a separation made him miserable, and homesick for India. On leaving prep school he went to Rugby where he did well and was much happier. He was carrying on a family tradition as both his grandfather and father had been to the school and was proud that both his son and granddaughter, Jenni, did the same, making it five generations at one school. John rose to be head of his house and then went up to Cambridge University. He read civil engineering and while there, met his future wife, Peggy, who was a 'Girton College girl'. They married in the dark days of 1940 and shortly afterwards, John went to serve with 5/71 Field Squadron Royal Engineers. He stayed with the squadron during the fighting in North Africa and was later to take part in the Allied Advance up though Italy. It was during this campaign that he was awarded the Military Cross. John went on to have a long and distinguished career with the Sappers serving in Germany, Thailand, Malaysia and Singapore and many other places. When he and Peggy celebrated their silver wedding anniversary they realised that they had moved house 25 times!

They felt it was time to put down roots. So when John's final posting was to the Ministry of Defence, they found their house in Avening, and decided to settle in the Cotswolds with their much adored little dogs.

Both John and Peggy joined in village life and were instrumental in starting the Avening Society for the Protection of the Village. He was a loyal and long serving member of the British Legion, for which he became Branch Secretary. He took endless trouble to support local members of the Legion in Avening, visiting them in hospital, and caring for their welfare. Peggy was unwell for several years and John took care of her and learnt to cook and keep house. Sadly in 1986 Peggy died. John characteristically set himself new projects. He expanded his culinary skills, kept meticulous diaries of his successes and disappointments as a gardener, maintained his interest in the village and drew up a family tree of all the families who shared the name Frankau in the United Kingdom stemming from the arrival of the family from Germany in the mid 19th Century. John had a lifelong passion for fly fishing and was frustrated when he became less active. When he was offered an operation to fix a painful ankle, the surgeon, when asked, replied that John would be unlikely to be able to wear waders again so he refused to have it. He was not prepared to take the risk of not being able to reach the best spots in the river to catch a fish!

John was a man of faith and a great lover of the Book of Common Prayer. It says much for his generosity of spirit that when the first women were ordained as priests in 1994, which must have been a difficult thing for him to accept, that he not only gave me his support but vehemently defended me over several problems that arose! He would join us at Matins but would be much put out, if, for any reason, a Communion Service was being celebrated. When I asked him why? He replied that he didn't feel that Communion should be taken more than once a year as it needed much preparation of the Soul. This was typical of his sincerity and integrity. He had a fascinating and clever brain and thought about things deeply, and often with another slant, which meant that you could never anticipate his

replies when in conversation. I was amused the last time I saw him in hospital two days before he died when I asked him if he would allow me to pray with him. "Certainly not" he replied, and was then slightly put out, when I had the courage to ask if I could pray for him in church. "All right" he said "that, at least, is more appropriate."

We will miss his dry humour, his kindness, and his friendship. Miss too, his erratic parking in the village street, when he went to the Corner Shop to buy his Capstan tobacco to fill that fearsome pipe! His patience and humility won him the admiration of many as he struggled to get about, in spite of his constant pain. During the last few years of his life he has been wonderfully looked after by Tony and Barbara Bond who he thought of as among his closest friends. Their last sight of him as they left the ward the night he died was a cheery wave and a shout "Good-bye."

So we say farewell to a brilliant soldier, a caring and loving husband, an admiring father and a proud grandfather and a great character. A man of wisdom, with a great sense of fun and a loyal and steadfast friend.

Rev Celia

Edna Robins

This service today, is in a sense, a 'homecoming.' Edna has come back to be laid to rest in her home village; the village she loved and where she was brought up; went to school; was married and with her husband, Henry, brought up her son, Robin.

A 'homecoming' too in the sense that our lives have a direction and a destination. Jesus said "I am going to prepare place for you so that where I am you may be also." Our Christian faith tells us that life is a continuation; a life which includes death. Edna is now travelling to that place which is prepared for her. She witnessed to her Christian faith during her life by worshipping regularly in the Baptist Chapel, here, in Avening. She and her husband ran and taught the Sunday School for many years.

Edna, christened Georgina was the daughter of Wilfred and Agnes Ind. Agnes was born a Fletcher and her marriage to Wilfred Ind brought together two of the oldest families in the village. The family lived on Pound Hill and Edna, her sister Betty, and their two brothers all went to Avening school. Edna, with many other Avening girls, went from leaving school, straight to work at Longford's Mill and it was there that she learnt the art of spinning wool.

She married Henry Smith in May 1940 in the Avening Chapel. Henry was the son of William and Alice Smith who lived at Owl's House at West End. The newly married couple set up home in May's Lane and it was there that Robin, their only child, was born. While Robin was still small, Edna worked for the Home Help service, caring for some of the elderly in the village. This was when she came to work for Mrs Humphries of Gothic Villas who was the chapel organist. Later she was to return to her job at Longford's Mill until retiring, following the death of her husband. After Henry died, Edna found living in May's Lane both lonely and isolating so, after a few years, decided to move to a flat, in Sunground. While living here, she met and became friends with Frederick Robins. His health was not good and the time came when he was advised to move to a bungalow in St Mary's

Road, Tetbury but he refused to do so unless Edna went with him. Although reluctant to leave Avening, Edna married Frederick, and together they set up house in Tetbury. Sadly they were to be separated after all, as only ten days after their move, Fred had a heart attack and died. Edna never truly settled in Tetbury as she missed her friends and neighbours in Avening. However, she got to know her next door neighbour, Fred Lane, and in time they became very close friends. Eventually they decided to live in the same bungalow where they could help and support one another. Their affection brought them great happiness in the last few years and gave both of them an impetus to live, and enjoy life to the full. Our thoughts and prayers go out to Fred in his sadness.

This, as I said, is a homecoming for Edna. We believe, as she believed, that life continues in that place of everlasting glory. We lay her to rest with her husband, Henry, and among her old friends in the village where she will be remembered with respect and affection. May God bless her soul.

Rev Celia

Fred Stevens

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David Smart

David was born at Malmesbury in August 1947 the oldest of five children and was brought up in the village of Sherston. At 15, he left school to work at Westonbirt Arboretum and then moved on to other jobs including building and before joining Wiltshire County Council as a road worker. For many years, Dave was responsible for cutting the grass verges in Wiltshire and will have upset many local clubs and village fete organisers over the years through his dogged removal of temporary signs advertising local events. During the winter months, David was employed in loading the gritting lorries and in the early 1980s he was called out one cold night. The snow was so heavy that he was unable to get back home for 4 days and spent the nights sleeping at the council yard! A pub that is no longer in existence - The Eagle at Pinkney - played a large part in David's early life. He worked there evenings and weekends and made many friends. He also became a member of the pub's Tug-of-War team. They were so successful that they were banned from the local pub competitions as they always won, and were forced to seek tougher opponents. Even so, they were still regular winners and I have been told (although I find it hard to believe) that David performed cartwheels upon receiving his first victory medal.

In 1973, he married Marlene and Tina was born in 1974. For a while they lived in Tetbury and on the Chavenage estate before moving to Avening in 1978. I first met David in the summer of 1993. Tina invited me on a day trip with her family to the seaside in Dorset. I arrived at their house at about 5.30 in the morning and by 7am, David was soon tucking into his traditional Olympic breakfast at the Little Chef in Shaftesbury. We spent the day in Poole and Swanage (a place with strong family links for David) and it is now an area I take my family back to every year. The journey down also highlighted Dave's contempt for hump back bridges, something I'm sure anyone who has driven with Dave can sympathise with.

One of my most favourite memories of David was the day of the freezing rain about 7 years ago. It was so cold that as the rain landed one Saturday morning it turned instantly to ice. After the rain had ceased David decided to go along to the garages to get his car out.

Halfway down Lawrence Road, a turning leads downhill. As Dave tried to cross the road, he slowly slid off down the hill. Five minutes later he reappeared heading back to the house, pulling himself up the hill on his hands and knees by holding on to a low fence. Another memory is when David was forced to turn shepherd. I was upstairs and Marlene and Tina were out shopping. Dave was downstairs reading 'The Sun.' I heard a commotion from the back and looked out to see six sheep making their way down the hill into the village. One then decided to jump down into the back garden and was quickly followed by the other five. A frantic half hour was spent by David attempting to stop the sheep trampling his favourite plants before the farmer arrived to collect them.

David's most favourite pastimes were DIY and gardening. He was an avid 'Ground Force' viewer. Never truly happy without a project to plan and do. I have been involved in many of his DIY adventures, including building a parking bay in the front garden, laying several patios, creating a garden water feature and rebuilding walls. The top of the garden where David had his sheds was no doubt on occasion better stocked than the council yard in Wootton Bassett. David and I played our own game of one-upmanship in our purchases. If one of us had something, from power tools to pool cues, the other one had to follow. Between us we had quite an impressive collection of big boys' toys.

David was a private person and very family orientated. I cannot recall seeing him happier than at my wedding to Tina (playing aeroplanes on the dance floor) or holding our son Adam for the first time on the day that he was born.

Simon Gale (son-in-law)

Harold Pitts

Harold was not strictly an Avening man in that he was not born here in the village, but in Upton St Leonards, where his father was serving as a soldier in the West Kent Regiment. He came to this district when in his late teens, and looking for work, found a job in building the new airfield at Babdown. While there, he lodged with Mabel Burton in Star Farm cottages.....the grand-mother of Stella, who later, was to become his wife. The Burtons were Avening people and when the work at Babdown was finished, Harold got a job as herdsman with Raymond Blackwell on Barton End Farm, working alongside Stella's brothers. He and Stella were given a tied cottage on the farm which meant, in the manner of the time, that Harold was on 24 hour call and had little time for anything else. He did, however, love his garden and kept his family supplied with fresh vegetables. While living on the farm Harold and Stella had their two sons who grew up here and who now bring their father to be buried alongside Stella and her family in Avening Churchyard. Harold lost Stella at a very early age when she was only 37 years old and never remarried. He had to take early retirement after an accident at work and moved to a bungalow where he lived alone for many years. When he was no longer well enough to look after himself he moved to Chesterton House in Cirencester and only moved from there into Cotswold House nursing home when Chesterton House was sold.

Harold was a very private man and as with many men of his generation, was not inclined to speak of matters such as faith or his belief in things eternal. We pray on his behalf in the faith of the church for the gift of eternal life and trust that Harold will be reunited with those he loves in that place of which Jesus spoke as he died on the cross:

"Today you will be with me in Paradise"

Rev Celia

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL

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(Please enclose a SAE)

Cheques to be made payable to "Spirituality Network for Gloucestershire"

Please make your own arrangements regarding car parking

Bishop John comes to Avening Church Part 2



The promised picture of Sophie, Ellie, Charles, Heidi and Adnrew with Bishop John after their confirmation service at Holy Cross Church on 15th November 2002.

Senior Citizens' Christmas Party...

I should like to formally thank Mrs. Jack Richards for her generous hospitality to the senior citizens of our two parishes. The Christmas Party, as ever, was hugely enjoyed – the food was delicious – and the house spectacularly decorated for Christmas. I should like to apologise for those of you who did not receive an invitation. Everyone who qualified as a senior citizen was asked – but somehow a whole batch of invitations went missing, in the post.

For Christmas 2003, please assume that you are asked, whether or not you receive an invitation, - because everyone is welcome!

Rev Celia



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PARTY



Was the food good; or was it really, really good?

CRIB SERVICE – CHRISTMAS 2002

(Or, four piglets, one goat, eleven Shepherds, two wise-men, three Marys and the candelabra!)

The preparations were very much in the usual Avening fashion --
- someone foolishly asked "I wonder who is arranging the



tableaux this year?" in an innocent aside when our ever-present vicar and attendant acolytes beamed forward. The poor questioner found herself the proud holder of the job --- bemused and armed with a few old scripts, assorted t-towels, fluorescent green rags, red braid, and orange polyester was all set to "make it happen". As someone says so aptly on the CD this year "it's hard to say no to Celia". Next comes the need to find assorted children for the various parts....some initial and

optimistic casting takes place but then the gaggle of children (is the collective noun for children a "gaggle, a hoard, a flock, or a regiment?") grows larger and larger. In the half hour before the service (never turn up too early at Avening, even with the improved heating it can still resemble the freezer department of Iceland) the

gaggle becomes slightly rowdy - -- there appear to be two Marys (and another one arriving later), and Joseph has already clunked one of the Wise men on the head, a star has





gone missing for the Prophet (“Why does the prophet need a star?”) and two angels are sulking because they have no wings. Parents are becoming fraught and the “blessed nativity” is beginning to look more like the “curse of the doomed”. I withdrew from the scene as a child looked ready to vomit the hastily eaten chocolate into the

Saxon font and another Shepherd arrived looking disconsolate that the only fancy dress left was from last year’s Panto.

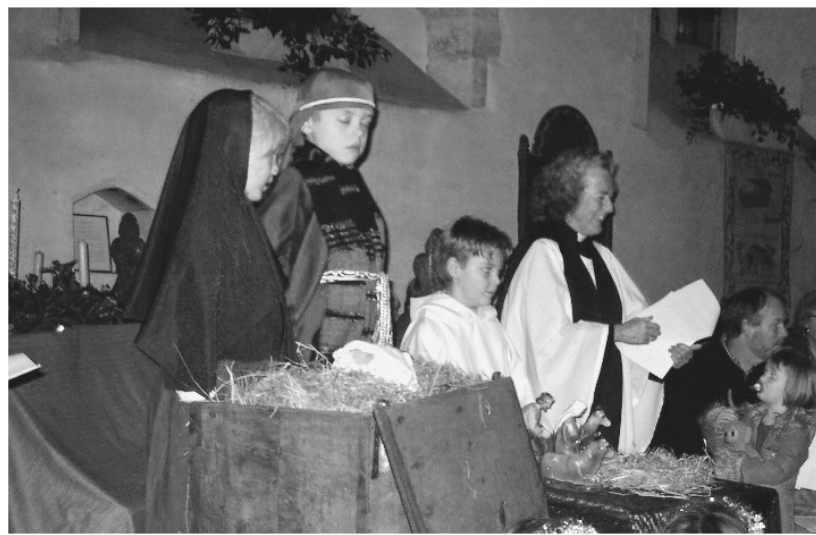
Ominously the church was filling rapidly. I am convinced that

Avening Crib Service has become a national event --- a sort of “must see, must do” along with stuffing the turkey, peeling the sprouts, losing the car keys, and forgetting to post the cards. I say ominously because there looks to be precious little room and two or three quite dangerous thugs are wandering around setting light to various parts of the Church. Well, they would claim to be lighting candles, but frankly the mixture of children, candles, costumes, and overcrowded stalls makes it little short of collective arson. To add to the pandemonium, and indeed to take up valuable space where at least four other families, two pushchairs and three grannies could be fitted, a rather odd “new” addition to the annual event appears. Initially it





seems to be just an iron cage with straw...then two people appear, lurch towards it and thrust four piglets and a goat into the melee. Squeals of delight from the pigs and children; groans of despair from the collective parents



attempting to keep order. Only one goat has arrived despite the promise of two and we are reliably told by our friendly village publican that the other goat is “known to play up”. Be warned! In the back of my mind I knew that trouble was coming in the form of the donkey that is a pony...and which of the three Marys would ride the thing...all of them, shifts? Some irreverent thoughts about a Mary bust-up thrust into my mind... Now there is a lethal mixture near the front of staging for the tableaux, cages for the animals, and an assortment of children lunging towards the straw, the candles, the Christmas lights, and the sweets. It is hard to see where the next crisis will develop...will it be the gangs developing near the altar, the parents squabbling over the last seat at the back, or the somewhat worrying number of Shepherds now emerging into the tableaux....the pigs are noisy, but reasonably contained (no, the pigs, not the children) the goat looks rather sulky, and the donkey peers round from the

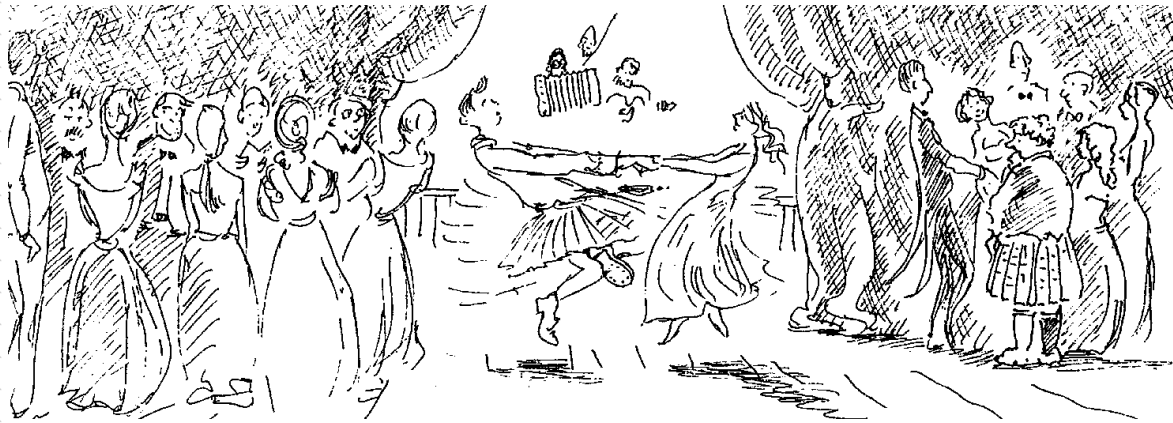
Vestry (no, the donkey, not the vicar)...but all is relatively in control. (Control being a relative term on a scale from mayhem to bedlam this was nearer to mayhem)

The tableaux begins --- and the first flock of shepherds arrive, then a second set. With still more to come, the next flock appear alongside the three wise-man (who I think have become just two since Melchior went off in a huff)- the Prophet never found the best of the stars and the Arch-Angel looked decidedly shifty leading in a troop of fairy queens....Pigs and Goats were there, the donkey easing its way forward....stumbling children gathered in the now crowded stage areas and the five-candle candelabra topples forward towards the straw and the pigs...I envisage a delicate serving of roast pork and later years the advert will run "Avening Crib Service and Pork Roast" but some ever vigilant parent saves the day, the pigs, the children and the candles. Finally the scene is set --- Bethlehem of 2000 years ago safely enacted again. Grins of anticipation from the children, squeals and grunts of delight from the piglets, and beads of perspiration on the poor hapless fool who said "I wonder who is arranging the tableaux this year". Come again -- very soon. It's magic! I would not miss it for the world.

Stuart Walkley



AVENING COURT BALL



In November, a Scottish Dancing party was held to raise money for Holy Cross Church. Jack and Karen Richards were our wonderful hosts at Avening Court and Scottish Dancers from all over the county came to dance to the Buchanan Band and the Jim Hill Traditional Jazz Band.

It was a magical evening and by the end of the night, £1894 had been raised for our church. A very special 'thank you' goes to Jack and Karen, who welcomed us to their home and made it all possible.

Elizabeth Buchanan

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Our new President, Marlene Ash, gave a warm welcome to all members who had braved freezing temperatures for the first meeting of the New Year.

The first round of the County Quiz takes place, amongst teams from our group, on Feb 19th in Cherington Village Hall. Two teams are entered from Avening WI, those taking part will be swatting up on things past and present to see if we can make it into the next round. First rounds of the County Skittles Tournament are also being organised; we are just waiting to see where the first match will be held.

Tony Chesterman was our speaker for the evening. Tony is the Farm Manager at Coxes Farm in Cherington and gave us a very humorous as well as informative talk on farming today, and all the rules and regulations that go with it, as well as how he started as the first apprentice for farming at the age of 16 and then later to star in 'a day in the life of a farmer.' A very enjoyable evening was had by all.

The Christmas party was held on the meeting night in December. This was a great deal of fun and games, also a draw was organised for any member who wished to put their name forward for the bursary to Denman College and the value being £150 in vouchers. This was won by Yvonne Crewe; congratulations to her. We also had a meal out at the Priory Inn in Tetbury which proved to be an excellent evening.

If all of this inspires any lady who thinks they might like to join us, please come as a visitor, you will be made very welcome. Next month, meetings always held on the 2nd Thursday, Mo Smith is our speaker. Her topic is 'A bee in my bonnet' and the competition is a round of shortbread.

Wendy Eldridge



FRIENDS OF AVENING SCHOOL (FOAS)

Did you know that FOAS runs a '70 Club'? It consists of 70 members who pay £1 per month to enter the monthly draw. First prize is £20 and second £10. A 'special' draw takes place at Christmas.

There are a few vacancies in the membership at present. If you are interested in joining, all you need to do is send a cheque (£6/6 months or £12/year), together with your name, address and telephone number to Kate Townsend, Strada View, High Street, Avening GL8 8NF or call her on 01453 832799.

Avening Primary School needs your help

'Free Books for Schools'

Once again the School is participating in the 'Free Books for Schools' promotion from Walkers Crisps, The Sun and The News of the World newspapers. We would be very grateful for your help in collecting the tokens - *the more we collect, the more free books we are able to claim.*

Tokens can be delivered either to the School or to Kate in the Post Office at the Corner Shop.

Many thanks in advance for your help.



KEEPING HOLY CROSS CHURCH OPEN

We consider that it is important to keep the church open during daylight hours but this requires a team of volunteers to unlock it each morning and lock it again at dusk. If you feel able to help with this and could join the team, the Churchwardens would be pleased to hear from you. Please contact Peter Lindesay or Martin Abbott if you think you could help.



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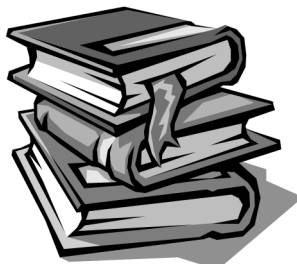
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own and can be seen nowhere else! We should be in Avening several times in 2003. So come along and see for yourself. Our dance season is from May to September, but we practice every Wednesday. You are welcome to come Bussage Village Hall at 8 pm on any Wednesday to watch and try your hand/foot if you want - women and men. Please call first in case we may be out dancing – 01453 883995 or 01666 502293

P.S. We also welcome musicians, skilled or aspiring and clog dancers, for 'Incognito'.

REPORT FROM NAMIBIA

Unfortunately the Namibian Duck Racing Team has been assigned to the list of rejected applications. I was allowed to observe their strict training regime and it was clear that the speed and fowl play demonstrated was due to some internal propellant. At the end of every session the ducks were returned to the 'Duck Rehabilitation And Know-how Establishment' (DRAKE).

Ron Major

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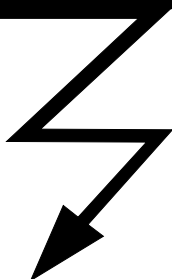
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**AVENING PARISH COUNCIL
DECEMBER 2002 and JANUARY 2003 MEETINGS**

The following items were discussed at the December 2002 and January 2003 Parish Council Meetings. Should you wish to see any current planning applications, please see the Parish Council Notice Boards. I am available prior to the monthly Parish Council Meeting at 7.00pm to 7.30pm, should you wish to discuss or to see any planning applications or discuss any other parish issue.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED AT DECEMBER MEETING

NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CT 3530/G Point House 2 Point Road AVENING

Revision of planning permission CT 3530/E to provide additional single storey rear extension. Members had no objections.

CT 4167/H 7 High Street AVENING

Application for erection of garden shed within the residential curtilage of the existing building. Members had no objection,

CT 0835/D 10 High Street AVENING

Application for erection of single storey garden store. Members had no objections.

CT 1101/D Ansford Cottage 5 Woodstock Lane AVENING

Application for erection of a Conservatory. Members had no objection.

CT 2590/P Pike House Garage High Street AVENING

WITHDRAWN

Outline Planning Application for Residential Development. Members had no objections to the application but the Parish Council would expect District Council to apply the relevant policy to accommodate affordable housing within any future development on this site.

AMENDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CT 6043/C Hillside Cottage Nags Head AVENING

Planning Application for enlargement of lean-to extension including replacement of existing corrugated roof sheeting. Members had no objections.

DECISION NOTICES

CT 4718/E 52 High Street AVENING CDC Permitted 8th Nov 02

Planning application to open up existing window voids on first floor and insert two new sash windows to match existing on house.

Members had no objections

CT 2767/F 11 High Street AVENING CDC Permitted 3rd Dec 02

Application to replacement of existing windows. Members had no objections.

TREE WORKS

CT Contr 1336 Glebe House New Inn Lane AVENING

Notification of intention to undertake Tree Work – to coppice three seedlings (Ash/Sycamore)

CT Contr 48 Rectory Lane AVENING

Notification of intention to undertake treework to fell seven trees

AMENDED PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CT 7859/F Longfords Mills/Iron Mills

Amendment for demolition of structures within a conservation area and building to convert to Class B1 (Business Use) ; works to water culverts.

Members agreed to reiterate their original objection and to write to CPRE to register the Council's concern at the **proposed installation of traffic lights** into a picturesque Cotswold valley. To advise Minchinhampton Parish Council of the traffic implications which could affect their Parish. To register concern with Stroud District Council Planning Department.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS CONSIDERED AT JANUARY MEETING

NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CT.0020/C Mullions 51 High Street AVENING

Application to replace 10 windows and install 4 new windows and enlarge ground floor with doorway between kitchen and dining room and retrospective application for 2 velux roof windows.

Members had no objections.

CT.0020/C Mullions 51 High Street AVENING

Application for creation of doorway through chimney stack to link two rooms at first floor.

Members had no objections.

CT2590/P Pike House Garage AVENING

Planning application for outline residential development.

Members had no objections .

CT 2348/1/F 62 Sandford Leaze AVENING

Planning Application for alterations and two storey extension.

Members had no objections

CT 6043/C Hillside Cottage Nags Head AVENING

Planning Application for enlargement of lean-to extension including replacement of existing corrugated roof sheeting. Members had no objections.

DECISION NOTICES

CT 1101/D Ansford Cottage 5 Woodstock Lane AVENING

CDC Permitted 6th Jan 03

Erection of conservatory

CT 4167/H 7 High Street AVENING CDC Permitted 24th Dec 02

Erection of garden shed within residential curtilage of existing dwelling

TREE DECISIONS

CT Contr 1352 Rectory Cottage 48 Rectory Lane AVENING

Notification of consent to undertake tree works

Ct Contr 1336 Glebe House New Inn Lane AVENING

Notification of consent to undertake tree works

Application for erection of single storey garden store. Members had no objections.

CO-OPTION OF PARISH COUNCILLIOR

At the December meeting the remaining vacancy on the Parish Council was filled by Mr John Catterall. The Lair, Pound Hill AVENING who subsequently attended the January meeting.

HIGHWAY ISSUES.

Traffic Calming

The Parish Council is continuing to work with the County Highways to agree a sympathetic traffic calming measures to the village and submitted a provisional drawing similar to the entrances on Minchinhampton Common.

A quote is being sought for new village entrance signs that will incorporate the village coat of arms.c

Bus Shelter- Mays Lane

Quotations for a replacement bus shelter are still being sought in wooden structure.

DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN 2002 – 2012

The Clerk advised that the Local Plan 2002-2012 was now available for comments and extracts concerning the Parish would be circulated. Cllr Wilkinson offered to look at the whole document and

comments would be made at the next meeting in time for submission to the District Council.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY STRUCTURE PLAN (3RD Alteration)

Copies of the December Newsletter were circulated to Members and the Deposit Draft would be available by the end of January 2003 for six weeks.

STROUD VALLEYS CYCLE CAMPAIGN

A new leaflet is available from the group for the pedestrian/cycle trail from Eastington to Nailsworth as part of the Cycle Route 45. The leaflet is 75p from Stroud Valleys Cycle Campaign 45 Bisley Old Road STROUD, Glos GL5 1LU 01453 762233.

The group have been actively campaigning for several years for a cycle route along or near to the Canal from Ebley to Chalford and at last through the intervention of the British Waterways this seems likely. If you would like for more information and a copy of their November issue of the Newsletter, please contact the above address.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000

The Parish Council adopted the model Publication Scheme for Local Councils (Core Classes only) in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000. This is a new act which assures that all Parish Council make available information within the core classes available by appointment and at a charge if copies required. This includes copies of Minutes of Meetings, Agenda's, Planning Applications, Financial information, which are already available.

IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

This is a new publication by the County Council and has a listing of all the A-Z Services the County provides.

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Fire & Rescue	01452 - 512041

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Social Services 01452 - 426868
Trading Standards 01452 - 426200

GLOUCESTERSHIRE CONSTABULARY SOUTH COTSWOLDS NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Two incidents of crime

1st November – lady selling poppies had water tipped over her, damaging the poppies

Overnight 30th November/1st December – Workshop in a back garden was broken into. Nothing stolen.

NHSCOTSWOLD AND VALE PRIMARY CARE TRUST

A copy of the Health and Commissioning Strategy ‘ Modernisation – the Five Year View’ is a brief summary of our outline plans for the next five years. The priority areas are: improving local health, improving health services and developing effective partnerships.

If you would like to see a full copy of the Strategy please see the website at www.cotsvalepct.org.uk or contact Karen Williams at PCT Headquarters, Cirencester Hospital, Tetbury Road, CIRENCESTER Glos GL7 1UX. Tel 01285 884694

DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING OF AVENING PARISH COUNCIL
Wednesday 12th FEBRUARY 2003 commencing at
7.30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Clerk – Virginia S Griffin

120 Longtree Close TETBURY Glos GL8 8LW Tel 01666 500173

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Shrove Tuesday	4th March
Easter Bank Holiday	21st April
Avening Village Fete	1st June

If you wish to publicise local events, please contact the editor on
01453 834402

Deadline for the next Villager is February 20th

FIVE VALLEYS MOBILE LIBRARY

The mobile Library operates in this area on alternate
Fridays. The dates in February are:

Friday 7th Feb. 21st
at the following times:

The Green, Cherington	1.50 - 2.00
Sandford Leaze, Avening	2.10 - 2.20
Lawrence Road, Avening	2.30 - 3.00
Beeches Park, Hampton Fields	3.05 - 3.15



USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Avening Parish Council Clerk:	V. Griffin	01666 500173
Cherington Parish Council Clerk:	S. Mitchell	01285 841204
Cotswold District Councillor	Jim Parsons	01453 832308
Avening Sunday School	E.Buchanan	01453 833016
Avening Church Tower Captain	A. Lelliott	01453 832652
Avening Primary School	D.Boulton	01453 833191
Avening Playgroup	M.Stanton	01453 832695 Home 834679
Avening Toddler Group	Tina Boulton	01453 832666
Avening Players	Julie Sharpe	01453 835565
Avening & Cherington Cricket Club	D.Ind	01453 835752
Avening Silver Band	J.Hill	01453 834438
Cherington Art Group	J.Hooper	01453 872381
Cherington Reading Room	G. Davies	01285 841318
Good Companions	G.Edmunds	01453 833177
Memorial Hall	J.Green	01453 833048
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
The Post Office		01453 832008
The Royal British Legion	R. Sillars (temporary)	01453 832305
The Village Singers	L.Workman	01285 841294
The Women's Institute	Marlene Ash	01666 502873 Pat Taylor 01453 833408
The Corner Shop		01453 836931

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