

The Buzz



13th October 2020



Service with a smile: Wendy Jennings at a Tuesday Pop-up

Brew-up at the Pop-up: it's the way to go

POP-UP Cafes outside the Social Club; coffee mornings at The Bell; book clubs and baking; curry nights, litter picks and rambles. We may not be able to hold our Tuesday morning Cafes, but we're busier than ever.

'Now it's even more important to keep the Cafe alive,' says Cafe Committee Chair Jennie South. 'Something's been going on every Tuesday for a couple of months now and it's been lovely to see people

chatting, despite being two metres apart.' Over 30 people dropped in to the most recent pop-up - from Cafe regulars to newcomers to the village. And all ages, from two to ninety!

'The first Cafe Curry Night on October 6th was a great evening spent with old friends and new,' says Clare Bebbington who hosted the first table-for-six at The Bell.

See the Diary on page two for details of future events.

Welcome to the first edition of the Cafe's new newsletter

WE can't pretend that figuring out how to keep the Cafe going has been anything other than tricky. Garden Coffee Breaks filled the gap while the weather was good but now the thermometer is dropping, we've had to get more creative.

Which is where *The Buzz* comes in. Can we recapture the 'buzz' of a Tuesday morning Cafe on paper? Maybe... (bee puns already? Oh for goodness sake!). We're certainly going to give it our best shot.

If you have a story to tell, a triumph to celebrate, anything you might have shared over a cuppa...give Clare a buzz on 07403006106 or via ccbebbbs@gmail.com.

Thanks go to Amanda Sanders for contributing the first bee for our masthead. If you paint, sketch, doodle, embroider or photograph and would like to create a bee for our masthead, get in touch!



Diary

20th October

The Big Bake for Longfield. Order a box of home-baked treats from the Cafe bakers and raise money for Longfield. Contact Clare (details below) to order.

20th October

Pop-up Cafe outside at the Social Club, 10-11.30

27th October

The Bell opens its doors for coffee. 10-12

October Half-term

Clear up the Orchard. Details on Facebook. Pop-up Cafe, 10am at the Playing Field.

October 31st

Halloween Haunted House Hunt Raising funds for FOAS. Tickets £2 and must be booked in advance. Contact foasavening@gmail.com

November 3rd

Cafe Curry Night at The Bell. We take a table for six for Cafe friends and guests. Contact Clare on ccbetts@gmail.com

All month

Roadside Library, outside 6 Old Hill.



The Buzz is published online twice a month by Avening Community Cafe.

Editor: Clare Bebbington, 07403006106

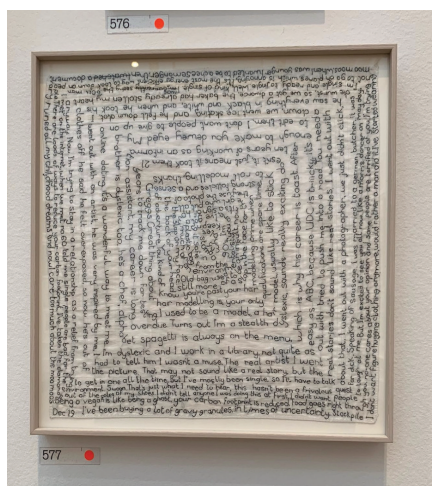
Contributing editor: Ellie Saunders

The Buzz is distributed online with hard copies available on request and at the pop-ups, The Bell and outside 6 Old Hill.

Lil's got the Summer Exhibition all sewn up

THE prestigious Hanging Committee of the Royal Academy of Arts selected Cafe crafting favourite Lil Adams' embroidery, *In Stitches*, for display in its Summer Exhibition.

Lil joins artists such as Tracey



In Stitches by Lil Adams

Emin, Anselm Kiefer and Ai Weiwei in having her work displayed this year - which is the first time the summer exhibition has been held in winter.

Lil, who is daughter of Cafe Committee member Gill Adams, has hosted four Cafe crafting sessions, from making soap sculptures to pom-poms and embellishing greeting cards.

In Stitches, is an embroidered handkerchief, stitched with jokes from a five-minute comedy set. Lil, who trained at Stroud College and Leeds University, started doing stand-up to conquer a fear of public speaking and would recommend it to anyone when there isn't a pandemic.

'It was thrilling to see it on the wall, I've been going to this exhibition and trying to get in for years,' says Lil.

Give yourself some 'me time' says Ellie

Ellie Sanders is passionate about well-being, so we invited her to write a regular column to help us look after our mental health.

IT'S often too easy to get lost in the stresses of modern life, forgetting to put time aside for arguably the most important thing: ourselves. 'Me' time should be considered as quality over quantity, slotting into everyday life, no matter how hectic it may seem. In such uncertain times, it is more important than ever to take care of ourselves without feeling guilty about it. Just half an hour of doing something you enjoy (walking, baking, craft...) gives your mind vital down-time, away from all the worries of the world we live in.

Friends round Friday raises Macmillan funds

'I LOVE the idea of a huge Macmillan Coffee Morning,' says Elizabeth Buchanan, 'but this year, the parties have been harder to organise and fundraising for the charity has dipped as a result. So I couldn't *not* host a party!'

'Luckily for me, I bumped into Jade Withington-Hunt, whom I met at the very first Cafe, loading her children into her car. She rounded up four friends to come for one of the smallest ever Macmillan Coffee Mornings. We had everything we needed: coffee and tea; scones and cake, bring and buy and a raffle. It was pure fun and, with the help of these generous friends we raised over £60.'



Pete Barton

I HEARD you used to be a morris dancer...how did that happen?

When we moved to the village in 1986 it was one of the few options open to me as a way of being involved in village life. I didn't go to church or play golf and I don't qualify for the WI.

Is there any skill involved?

It was naturally a requirement to keep in time to the music. But as my friend Kelly, one of the few other remaining original members, will attest, I just smiled and tried to look as if I knew what I was doing. Something I fall back on in most situations. When it came to the stick dance, it did focus the mind a tad and we soon learned to duck and dive. Another useful life skill!

Not just an excuse to drink at a country pub then?

I don't think I would have done it for

the dancing alone, if that answers your question.

Were you ever allowed out of Gloucestershire?

Yes - we had a trip to Berlin where one of our gigs was at a nudist camp.

Sorry?? A nudist camp?

As you can imagine it did put us off our stroke. For some reason I was more out of step than usual. Drinking Steiners of beer amongst people in the buff has scarred me for life.

Can I make a joke about your jingling bells?

There are more jingling, dangling bell related jokes than you can shake a stick at, so feel free!

Ever fancy starting again?

Tempting - but I was always told it's a form of madness to make the same mistake and expect a different result. I'll do the public a favour and leave my bells hung up well out of reach!



Green light for our green space

WORK is beginning at the community orchard, brainchild of ecologist Phoebe Carter, pictured here surveying existing trees with community orchard expert Martin Hayes from Trust Juice. A grant from Gloucestershire County Council's

Thriving Community Fund means new trees, seating and information boards are now included in plans.

You can get involved with the half-term bramble clearing (the Cafe will have a pop-up stall). Details on the Orchard Facebook page.

People

Happy Birthday Tony Slater!

It was the Big 6-Oh! for Tony on 8th October. Despite his landmark it was his grandson Ethan who, as ever, stole the show on Tony's big day.

Susie's Poldark pick

It wasn't hard for Susie Scurfield to pick a life-changing book at the recent Cafe Book Club: *Poldark* by Winston Graham. Her fan letter to the author brought about a memorable meeting with him at his home in Sussex. Susie says he was charming - and thinks he would have preferred 1970s Robin Ellis to the Millenium's Aidan Turner in the title role. We agree. Susie, we agree!

Beverley picks up the pieces

It's that time of year, when the nights draw in and the 1000-piecer takes over the dining table. To keep the village's puzzlers happy, Beverley Rymer is setting up a jigsaw library. Please call her on 01453 832100 (evenings) if you'd like to lend or borrow.

Liz and Barry reunited!

Barry, a long-haired blue persian, returned home to Liz Knowles, discovered hungry but defiant after 18 days on the prowl. But young Bazza still has some way to go to beat the Avening record, held by Katy Upton's cat Albert, who went missing for ten months before being found carousing in the fleshpots of Cirencester.

John's picture perfect

John Hetterley invested wisely when he joined the weekly art classes: he's already sold one of his paintings!



JUST over 70 days left to Christmas (start boiling those sprouts now), so if you're thinking about buying cards and pressies already, look no further than these striking designs from Amanda Sanders (top left) and Katy Upton (bottom left and right). You can buy Amanda's cards from her by email (mandamaydesigns@gmail.com), and Katy's from her Etsy site, Letters & Lino. Stuck for a stocking filler? What about Paul Sanders (paul@sanderscreative.plus.com) cycling mugs (top right)? The perfect gift for the MAMIL who has everything.

Buzz Food

Maisie's Chilli Jam

Avening is lucky in having some fabulous cooks - none more so than Maisie Stanton, who's agreed to share the secrets of her much-loved chilli jam in our first regular cookery column - a recipe which she inherited from The Porters of Powis Lane. Enjoy!

Ingredients

4oz fresh red chillies, deseeded and chopped

1oz onions, chopped

2 inch piece of root ginger, peeled and chopped

4fl oz white wine vinegar

1lb sugar

Method

Put chillies, onion, ginger and vinegar into a food processor and whizz until finely chopped

Put the chilli mix into a saucepan and add the sugar. Bring to the boil and simmer for 10 minutes

Leave to cool and bottle.