

# The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,  
Cherington and Nags Head



**August 2025**

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# August 2025

Welcome to the August edition of the Villager. It has been a wonderful hot dry summer so far, and although all you gardeners and farmers out there are looking forward to some rain, let's hope it falls mostly at night so the children can enjoy the rest of the school summer holidays.

By the time you read this, Cherington Show will have come and gone and we're sure it will be as successful as it is every year. There will be lots of photos in the next issue of the Villager - but do send us any photos you have of that or any other summer event.

Whilst many regular meetings and activities paused this month it is worth mentioning that Avening Playgroup will be running Thursday morning Summer Stay and Play sessions for 0-5 year olds throughout August. And for older children there will be a Gloucestershire Play Rangers day on Friday 15th August, please see inside the magazine for further details of these activities. For adults, Fun and Summer Skittles will continue as usual.

Whether you are at home or away we wish all our readers a very happy summer.

***The Villager Editors***

## The Villager Magazine

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## Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Tina Boulton** for this month's cover photo of a peacock butterfly munching on the buddleia in her garden.

Please keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine.

**editors@villagermag.online**

*The Editors do not guarantee the accuracy of the information contained in this publication or accept responsibility for errors or omissions or their consequences. Opinions expressed by contributors to this publication are not necessarily those of the Editors.*

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## VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

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

**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)**

**Facebook: Avening    Instagram: #aveningvillage**

# Gilian's Poem of the Month

## Summertime

I always love the Summertime, when blackbirds sing from leafy trees,  
And roses blossom in the heat, and scent of hay drifts on the breeze,  
Beneath the blazing noon-day sun, from fragrant meadows newly-shorn.  
And scarlet poppies dot the fields, amongst the waving golden corn.

I love to see bright butterflies around my garden, fluttering by,  
And drowsy, pollen-laden bees, beneath the azure Summer sky.  
I love the honeysuckle's scent, and cottage gardens bright with flowers,  
And waking to the songs of birds in the pale dawn's early hours.....

*Gilian Bulmer-Davison*

New Term 'To Do' List

- Buy new uniform/work wear/shoes
- Pay for school trip
- New work diary
- New books!
- Arrange bus fares
- Laptop? > get necessary equipment!

**ACEEF!\***

\*The Avon Church of England Education Fund have the means to financially support the education of Avon residents up to age 25. To apply for a grant please contact 01453 833016 or email [buchanan.el@gmail.com](mailto:buchanan.el@gmail.com)

# Dates for your Diary

Come along and join in the fun at any of the events below - everyone is always welcome! Both the Memorial Hall & Social Club can also be hired for private functions

Date	Event	Location	Time
Friday 15th August	Play Gloucestershire Play Rangers day	Avening Playing Field	10am-4pm
Sunday 31st August	Backpack Blessing Service	Avening Playing Field	1pm
Wednesday 3rd September	First day of term parents event (see below)	Avening Church	8.30-10am
Sunday 14th September	Pig Face Day celebrations	Avening	11am onwards

## Tea and Tissues

**Wednesday, September 3rd 8:30 until 10am**

**The beginning of term in Avening.** When you drop off your children on that first day, do come up to the church to meet with other families from the school or playgroup. Free coffee and biscuits will be available, and there are tissues on every table for those recovering from an emotional start to the day. Toys and puzzles will be set out for younger siblings, and they will be very welcome.

## Puzzle Corner

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

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### 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 34**

# Avening and Cherington Churches



Dear friends,

August often feels like an in-between month. In our communities, we've just enjoyed the splendour of Cherington Show, a day when the whole village comes together and visitors flock from miles around. We're not quite at Pig Face Day yet – that uniquely Avening event that brings the community together to celebrate the completion of Holy Cross Church by recalling Queen Matilda's gift of a pig's head to the villagers. Schools are out, harvest (the next big event in the church's calendar) is still around the corner, and many people are heading off on their summer holidays. And in the church calendar we're in "ordinary time", between the celebrations of Easter, Ascension and Pentecost on one side and Harvest, Remembrance, and the buildup to Christmas on the other.

The Bible is full of in-between places. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness between Egypt and the Promised Land. Jesus spent forty quiet days in the desert before beginning his public ministry. Even the early Church waited between the resurrection and Pentecost, unsure of what would come next. These stretches of time, while not full of dramatic events, were still deeply formative. They were times to listen, to wait, and to prepare.

Sometimes, we overlook these quieter stretches of life. We mark our lives by milestones like weddings, births, retirements, achievements, or community events. But God often speaks most clearly in the spaces between such moments. In the stillness, the walking, the waiting.

I wonder what this August looks like for you. Maybe you're enjoying a much-needed rest. Maybe you're in the middle of something hard or uncertain. Maybe you're just ticking over quietly. Wherever you are, know that these in-between times are not wasted. They can be times of deep growth, if we let them be.

As a parish, we're in an in-between season, too – continuing to grow together as a benefice, learning each other's rhythms and traditions. I'm grateful for the quieter pace of August to reflect and pray – and to begin thinking about the seasons ahead.

So, whether you're away on holiday or staying put, I hope you find some space this month: to rest, to reflect, and to know that God is at work even – and especially – in the in-between.

With every blessing

*Revd. Natalie Jennings*



## Donations to Avening Church

Donations towards the upkeep and running of Avening Church can be made at any time either by using the QR code here or on the card machine just inside the church door

## Church Services

	Avening	Cherington
<b>Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> August</b>	10am Morning Prayer	10am Holy Communion
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10am Holy Communion	No service
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August</b>	9am Circus Service in the Big Top at Giffords' Circus, Minchinhampton Common	
	6pm Evening Prayer	No service
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> August</b>	10am Holy Communion	No service
<b>Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> August</b>	10am Benefice Service of Holy Communion at Minchinhampton	
	1pm Backpack Blessing at Avening Playing Field	No service
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> September</b>	10am Morning Prayer	10am Pet Service

## Church Floodlighting

The church was floodlit on:

**Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

In loving memory of **Angela Kerry** who passed away 3 years ago. A loving mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

Death leaves a heartache no one can heal, love leaves a memory no one can steal. We all miss you very much, but you are loved so very much still.

Kris, Rob, Kane, Eloise, Ralph and you dear sister Margaret.

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 **Piers Hansen on 07770 745642**. The cost is £10 for 2 hours.



## The Village Notice Board

The village notice board, on the side of the Memorial Hall, is a good way of publicising village events and items of local information. Posters, ideally size A4 or A5, can be put up for you on this board. They can be delivered to John and Sandra Hetterley, 2, Orchard Field or given to them directly. They will be taken down once they are out of date. Other posters may be removed and recycled once they are faded or to make space for others.

# District Councillor's Report



**Cotswold District Council (CDC):** has a new Chief Executive – Robert Weaver decided to step down from his role as chief executive officer, effective Monday, June 30, as he wanted to explore other opportunities and spend more time with his young family. At a special full council meeting on 26 June, following the recommendation of the appointment panel, Jane Portman was approved as the new CEO. Jane has almost 40-years of public service experience. She joins with particular and significant first-hand knowledge on leading councils through local government reorganisation, where she collaborated and led on programmes in Dorset and Somerset. This experience will be invaluable next year when CDC dissolves and becomes part of the proposed Gloucestershire Unitary Council.

**Overview & Scrutiny (O&S):** we will be treated to two O&S meetings on consecutive days in early July due to the cancellation of a previous meeting – I will report on these next time.

**Cirencester Fire Station Roundabout Improvement Works:** The roads will be closed overnight to allow for resurfacing and white lining from 7 to 18 July - 8pm to 6am. The works to improve the capacity of the roundabout and provide new pedestrian and cycle crossings on the Fire Station Roundabout are nearing completion. Traffic lights have been installed but will not be operational until completion. The foot and cycle crossing surfaces are being finalised, and the service access to the centre of the roundabout is nearing completion.

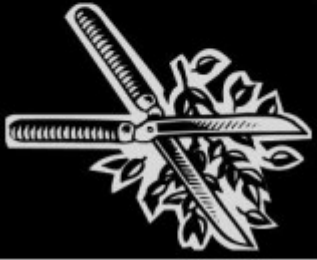
**A417 missing link:** Having passed the huge engineering project recently, it is obvious that good progress is being made. The focus is on the hill up to the old Air Balloon site – the steepness of the hill is being reduced to improve the traffic flow and reduce the number of lorries breaking down. If you would like to take a closer look, the Customer Hub, located at the crusher compound at Shab Hill, continues to open every Tuesday and Wednesday from 10am - 2pm. You can visit any time during these hours, without pre-booking an appointment. Members of the team will be on hand to and answer any questions that you may have. A417 Project Office, Birdlip, Gloucester, GL4 8JX.

***Councillor Tony Slater***

*Cotswold District Council, Representing Grumbolds Ash with Avening.  
email: [Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk](mailto:Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk) Tel: 07793669930*

Other updates and information for Parish Councils:

**UNSUNG HEROES:** The Unsung Heroes Awards is to acknowledge all the work being done across the district by volunteers who give up their time to help others. Residents and businesses have nominated people in their communities who they think have made a difference, from individuals who give up their time to help neighbours, to members of local groups who volunteer to deliver local projects. This is a rolling scheme with winners announced at every Full Council meeting going forward. Please nominate your Unsung Hero here: [www.cotswold.gov.uk/unsungheroes](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk/unsungheroes)



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# Letter from Chairman of Avening Parish Council



Just a reminder, should you for any reason be planning to attend the next monthly Avening Parish Meeting, the next meeting will be in September as we will have a Summer break for August. However individual Parish Councillors will still be available to provide assistance if required.

Without repeating last month's notes there is little to add that is new.

**Playing Field:** The zip wire has now been repaired and serviced, just in time for the school holidays. The repairs reflected the amount of use the zip wire has had since it was installed. We hope that it will continue to provide fun for the children (and Adults) for many more years.

**Parking on Pavements:** Worth mentioning a second time. Please be aware of the problems caused to pedestrians when parking on pavements. Please make sure that there is sufficient room on the pavement for a wheelchair or pram to pass by safely.

**Visit by our local MP:** MP Roz Savage will be visiting Avening Café on 29<sup>th</sup> July from 10am – 12 noon. She will give a resume of her first year in office and be available for questions.

**Memorial Hall:** By the time that you read this article, work will have commenced (at last!) on the reroofing of the hall. Scheduled to be completed by September, subject to any unforeseen delays.

**Old Quarries Development:** There have been one or two concerns raised over some disruptions to traffic caused by delivery and other construction vehicles accessing the Old Quarries site. Councillor Richard King and myself visited the site to find out first hand what stage the works have reached. We had a very cordial meeting with the site manager, Adrian Cordy. The project will be ongoing for approximately 2 years and the construction traffic will diminish as the project progresses. Adrian is very conscious of minimising any impact on Avening and villagers. He has offered his telephone number and email contact details so anyone with a concern can contact him direct. Contact details are: - Adrian Cordy, Tel: 07504 637917. Email: [Adrian.cordy@elmsleyhomes.com](mailto:Adrian.cordy@elmsleyhomes.com). A convenient way of accessing the site plans is via the Peter Joy Estate agent's online details.

***Patrick Mulligan Chairman, Avening Parish Council.***

*Tel: 07713 068436*

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**Claire: 01453 834153 Ros: 01285 760320 Email: [learn@coachhousetutors.co.uk](mailto:learn@coachhousetutors.co.uk)**

# PIG FACE DAY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER 2025



## Avening Church of the Holy Cross (1100)

Celebration of the Church's dedication service

## Procession from Church to Memorial Hall (1220)

Vaguely medieval fancy dress encouraged

The Avening Singers

Queen Matilda: The Play by Avening School

The Avening Silver Band

## Refreshments

**The Bell Inn** (from 1200)

(Drinks may be carried into the Hall)

## **Avening WI**

Coffee, tea and soft drinks

Pulled Pork and apple sauce baps, plus vegetarian option (only £2.50!)

## Outdoor Activities

Traditional Games by Avening Playgroup and the Social Club

Sweet Treats stall by Avening Playgroup

Dave's Ice Cream Van

**Everyone Welcome – Remember to bring Cash!**

# Avening Playgroup's Summer Stay & Play



Every Thursday during the  
summer holidays:

24<sup>th</sup> July

31<sup>st</sup> July

7<sup>th</sup> August

14<sup>th</sup> August

21<sup>st</sup> August

28<sup>th</sup> August

9:30am–11:00am

For ages 0–5 years

£3 per child & £1.50 for any additional  
children.

Drink and snack provided.

Hot drinks for adults available to purchase.

Avening Playgroup,

The Sunground,

Tetbury GL8 8NW

Join us at Avening Playgroup to  
connect with other parents and  
bring your little one for nursery  
rhymes, indoor & outdoor play,  
sensory play and more.



# Avening Community Café

Enjoy good company, crafts, delicious home-made cakes and a drink at your Community Café—Every Tuesday morning in the Social Club from 9 – 12 am.

Mobile Post Office on site from 9:30 – 11:30.

Congratulations and best wishes to Gilian, one of our founder members, on her 90th birthday at the end of June.

Many thanks to all those who supported our Saturday afternoon cream tea on a lovely sunny June afternoon with profits going to the Longfield Community Hospice. Recently we were pleased to welcome a number of cyclists to the café on a pit stop on their round trip from Wotton-under-Edge.



A new ragrug project has just been started depicting the Memorial Hall and a tribute to those villagers who gave their lives in the two world wars. Our aim is to finish and display this on Remembrance Sunday. Come along and have a go. If you have a favourite photo or picture which you would like to see transformed into a rag rug or cushion please have a word.

Art with Mark will be continuing in August with many more subjects using different mediums e.g. poster paints and pastels of Painswick church. There will be a craft table for children throughout the school holidays along with free drinks and biscuits, a warm welcome awaits everyone.

We try to include themed days based on national events and it was great to see some lovely hats at the café to celebrate Royal Ascot week. On 19th August our theme is World Elephant day so please bring along your favourite 'Ellie' to celebrate these amazing animals. We are also holding a Book Swop morning on 12 August and would welcome any spare books.

**Plants & Produce:** If you wish to donate any surplus plants or produce, then please bring along to the Café and place on the "Plant Swop" table. If you are unable to make a Tuesday then plants are also available at "Plants on a Wall" at 14 High Street. All donations received go to Café supported Charities.

## August Dates

**5th** Art with Mark (£3 each, all materials supplied)

**12th** Avening Book Swop Day

**19th** World Elephant Day theme + Art with Mark (£3 each, all materials supplied).

**26th** Celebrate the Bank Holiday

*John Hetterley  
For Avening Community Café*



# Friends of Avening School

A marvellous end to the school year...



The beginning of July brought us a spectacular Sports Morning, as the sun beamed down on another impeccably well organised event. The children really gave it their all, with such fantastic efforts from everyone. Congratulations to Jupiter for winning the trophy! Incredibly close scores, but Mars were just pipped at the post.

On Friday 11th July we all had great fun at the Summer Celebration. With as many gazebos as we could muster, we enjoyed games, face painting, hair braiding, football, hot dogs, Pimm's and a classic tombola. Everyone loved it, and together we raised over £1,800 – superb!

As the school year has drawn to a close, we've looked back on this year's fundraising efforts, and we're delighted to have raised a record breaking £16,009. Something we can all be very proud of.

These funds have helped make improvements to the Eagles outdoor play area, they've taken children to the Cheltenham Science Festival, and they've created Calm Corners in every classroom to help support children with their mental health.

To everyone who donated, volunteered and attended FOAS events this year, thank you so much. We look forward to returning in September and continuing to work towards our £7,000 target for new outdoor playground equipment.

Wishing everyone a wonderful summer, from everyone at FOAS.





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**Coffees That Count for Cancer:** Host a coffee morning and help raise funds for local  
cancer patients. To get started, email Emily at [emily.janes@cobalthhealth.co.uk](mailto:emily.janes@cobalthhealth.co.uk) for a  
fundraising pack.

**Gloucestershire Vintage & Country Extravaganza – 1–3 August,** visit our website for full  
details.

- *Lunch at Prithvi* – 12 September (2-course fundraising lunch)
- *Coffee Morning at Cobalt* – 27 September at Linton House, Cheltenham

**Find out more:** [www.cobalthhealth.co.uk](http://www.cobalthhealth.co.uk) [fundraising@cobalthhealth.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@cobalthhealth.co.uk) 01242 535922

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Rev Natalie and Holy Cross Church invite you to a



# BACKPACK BLESSING SERVICE



Children (and their grown-ups) are invited to bring their school bags for a special blessing as we pray that the year ahead will be filled with learning, friendship, and new adventures.

there'll be a short, child-friendly outdoor service with songs, a story, and a prayer of encouragement for pupils, parents, and teachers.



**SUNDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST**  
**1PM**  
**AVENING PLAYING FIELD**



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# PLAY GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S PLAY RANGERS

**Avening Playing Field,  
Avening GL8 8NN**

(Closest postcode)

**10am - 4pm**

**Tues 29<sup>th</sup> July & Fri 15<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

what3words

**///flies.gossiping.boasted**

With thanks to Avening Church of England Education Fund  
for funding these sessions



Our Play Ranger activities take place outdoors in all weathers and are open access. This means there is no registration, children are free to come & go as they please.

Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by an adult.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional support to enjoy Play Rangers.  
We welcome disabled children & their families.

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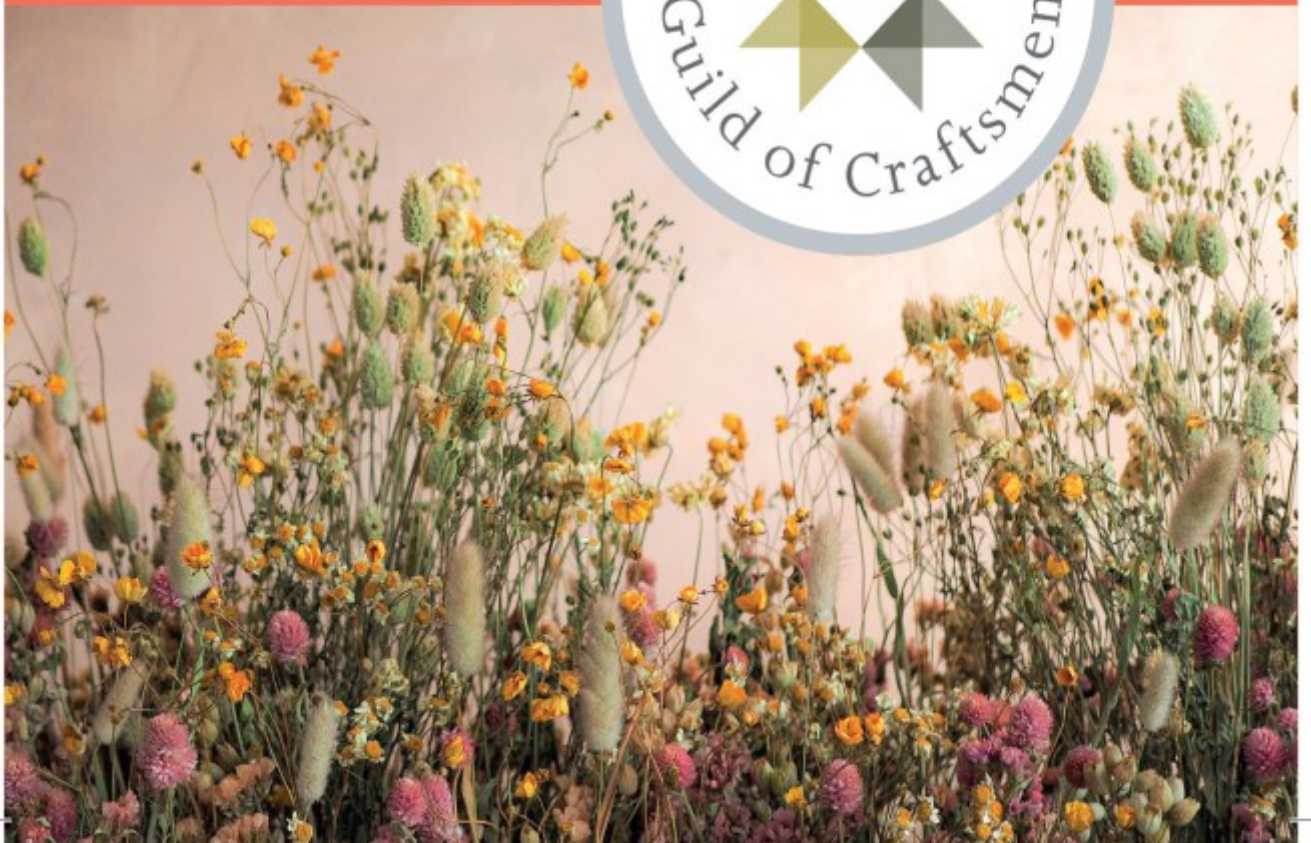
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# Avening Playgroup



A huge thank you to everyone who attended our AGM on Wednesday 9th July. There was so much energy and enthusiasm from all who attended and so much to discuss. We looked at what had been done this past year which included increasing staff numbers, increasing fundraising and reducing overall monthly costs. Although, numbers are low for September we really want the playgroup to grow, so we will be using this time for training, updating processes and working on marketing the playgroup. We had to unfortunately say goodbye to our Treasurer Rhiannon, who has worked tirelessly to secure grants and donations – thank you so much for all you have done for the playgroup, we will miss you! This meant that we had to vote in a new member of the committee and we welcome Charlie Keen who has taken on the role of Secretary. Lydia is staying on as Chair and Kate also is staying on and has taken the role of Treasurer. Thank you to all of you. The playgroup is always looking for more members, so if you are interested, please contact us.

We have decided to increase the length of our sessions from September so will now be open 9 am – 3 pm, with a focus on each day:

Musical Mondays 9am – 3pm

Adventure Tuesdays 9am – 3pm

Wise Owl Wednesdays 9am – 3pm

During the summer holidays we will be running a Stay & Play session on Thursdays between 9.30 and 11.00 am. The cost is £3 per child and £1.50 for an additional child. The children will be provided with a drink and a snack, and there will be hot drinks available for adults to purchase. If this is popular, we will continue it during term time. Hope to see you there!

Over the last few weeks, we have been looking at the life cycles of frogs and butterflies, been practising running races for the playgroup race at the Avening Primary School sports day and we have looked at summer and what we associate with it. The children have had lots of outside play both in the playground and in the covered area when the sun has been really hot! They had picnics by the climbing frame, looked after their babies in the wooded area and made dinner in the mud kitchen!

I write this article in our final week of term and we have been saying goodbye to all our leavers. This week we had the leavers lunch and were joined by their parents at the end of session to see them presented with their medal, certificate, Learning Journey and gifts.



This year we have nine children who will be leaving us to go to school. They returned from their move through days excited and raring to go. Most of them cannot wait to start school in September. We wish them all the best for their new adventure!

Hope you all have a lovely summer and look forward to welcoming the children at playgroup on Wednesday 3rd September.

We have spaces left for the autumn term, so if you would like more information about the playgroup or to place your child on our waiting list, please call us on 01453 832695 (term time only) or email [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com).

*Angie Heslop*

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# Avening School

## Looking forward to the academic year ahead

The last week of term was a busy one. As well as swimming lessons in the Hawks class, there was a leavers' tea party hosted by our y6 pupils, giving them the opportunity to thank their families and members of staff for the support they have been given throughout their Avening journey.

The next day, there was a whole school well-being walk followed by the Y6 treat after school.

Then it was time to say goodbye in the annual leavers' assembly. We're not only saying farewell to our fabulous y6 pupils but also to two of our longstanding members of staff - Julie Woodman who has been midday and after school supervisor for 27 years and



Alison Sollis who has run the school office for 25 years. They have both given so much to the school over the years and they will be greatly missed.

We look forward to welcoming our new reception children in September, who will begin their educational journey in the Eagles class and also look forward to returning to a freshly painted school as the interior will be painted during the summer holidays.

Thank you to everyone who has supported us throughout the last year. We look forward to the welcoming everyone back after the summer break.

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

*Alex Adcock*

### **AVENING SCHOOL has a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor/Play Team Member**

Exact hours/days are negotiable – ideally one or two hours a week.

Start date: September 2025

**We are looking for someone fit and enthusiastic, with a positive outlook, a willingness to be flexible and part of the school team! Could this be you?**

For more information please contact the school. An enhanced DBS check will be required.

**Tel: 01453 833191**

**Email: [admin@avening.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:admin@avening.gloucs.sch.uk)**





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**Spaces available from September 2025!**

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## Wild about Avening – Biodiversity Blitz

We had a tiny handful of people take part in the Biodiversity Blitz but between them we recorded 79 different species of bird, invertebrate, mammal, and plant, including exciting finds such a glow worm, a dipper in the stream (despite the lack of water) and hedgehogs. Thanks to all who took part.



With the dry weather so many species are struggling to find water so can we ask people to put out shallow dishes of water to help support garden wildlife.

*wildaboutavening@gmail.com*

### AVENINGCINEMA CLUB

**There will no film showing in August.**

The Cinema Club returns on Wednesday 24th September when the film will be  
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**August 16 As You Like It - Festival Players Open Air Shakespeare:** Probably the bard's most entrancing performance of mistaken identity and romance in the forest is ideal for a summer evening. Tickets £17 in advance. 7pm

**August 31 Off The Rails:** Our popular summer festival day for all the family with music, story-telling, impromptu entertainers, street food and a beer tent....all we need is you!

Tickets £8.50 in advance, under 18s free. 11am-6pm.

**Check our website for further details of films, Wednesday afternoon concerts, exhibitions, workshops and talks and to book tickets**

**[www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk](http://www.tetburygoodsshed.co.uk)**

# Avening WI

There has been a lot going on in AWI over the summer.



On the 23rd June our Cotswold Way Walkers made it to Bath! Liz, one of the group wrote 'After two years (a long time but we are only fair weather walkers) we completed our final walk, stage 17, at the Abbey in Bath and had a great welcome from husbands and fellow WI members carrying a banner and balloons. There were also lots of tourists who were wondering what on earth was happening!!

Little did we realise when we started in April 2023 in

Chipping Campden, what a challenging but wonderful journey we were about to undertake. We walked through towns and villages; up steep stony, uneven paths and down even steeper, uneven paths; across golf courses and Commons; up very steep hills (Coopers to name one) and through dense woods. A lot of the time we were very high up and had incredible views across to the Malverns, Welsh mountains and River Severn. We saw some beautiful houses and gardens, walked through some very manicured parkland but also some very old drovers ways. The Cotswold Way itself was very well signposted and the only time we really went wrong was going through Bath! It was all made so easy by Helen (and Adrian) and their meticulous planning, maps for every stage, numbers of cars at the start and finish of every walk which had to be suitable for transporting dogs too. We had at least one four legged friend on each walk. We are all sorry our adventure has come to an end and are already investigating the next walking challenge.'

On a lovely June afternoon, Liz Richards warmly welcomed members of the Gardening Group to her beautiful home and garden. We all enjoyed learning about the way she had planned the beds, planting scheme and pathways, on the very steep site. The secret of the well-kept lawn was revealed when the robot mower appeared, quietly moving around any obstacles...including Liz. We enjoyed afternoon tea while relaxing on the patio.

Fourteen members enjoyed an exclusive visit to Woodchester Park House Garden under the NGS Open Gardens scheme. We ventured down a long drive off Tinkley Lane and reached a hidden gem. An impressive house in the French Gothic style, that was considerably enlarged in 1862 by the architect Benjamin Bucknall, it was used to accommodate William Leigh and family during the building of Woodchester Mansion. The garden has been developed by the current owners, Robin and Veronica Bidwell, over the

last 30 years and is a riot of colourful herbaceous borders, including some unusual specimens, surrounded by mature trees. There was also a beautiful walled vegetable garden, a rose walk and an attractive wildlife pond. Robin and Veronica were on hand to answer our many questions and joined us for a welcome afternoon tea on the lawn afterwards.

The visit to Highclere Castle on a very hot day was most enjoyable. The Theatre Group thoroughly enjoyed 'Educating Rita' at the Barn Theatre reporting that the fast dialogue between the two characters was very funny and at times quite moving. The Book Group discussed 'Leonard and Hungry Paul' by Ronan Hession, which tells the story of two quiet friends who see the world differently; the majority of the readers really enjoyed this refreshingly gentle read.

The Skittles Group are out of the WI County Competition, having lost their match against Stone WI. However, they drew the friendly match against Stonehouse WI, and further friendly games will be arranged.

As you can see, we are a very active, and friendly, group and we welcome visitors and prospective new members. There is no regular meeting in August but we will re-start in September on the second Thursday of each month, 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. For further information contact Helen, our secretary, on [aveningwi@gmail.com](mailto:aveningwi@gmail.com) or 01453 835484, or check out our Facebook page –Avening WI.



*Bridget Seward*

## **A Bite to Eat?**

### **Arranging a Group Lunch, Afternoon Tea, Christening Party or other social event ?**

Avening WI 'Bite to Eat' scheme may be able to assist with your catering needs.

We can provide and serve a selection of freshly prepared sandwiches, scones and cakes; a fork or finger buffet; or a two course meal.

#### **For prices and any further details :**

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# Puzzle Answers

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

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# Matilda, Duchess of Normandy's Diary

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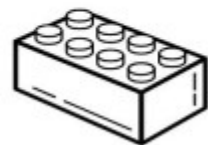
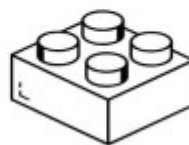
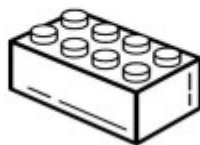
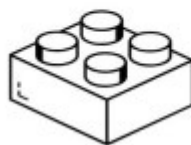
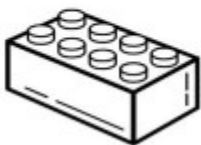
Yorkshire! I specifically said I didn't want to live in the North of England. It's wet and cold, and also while my English is pretty good I can't understand a word they say around here. Well, we've had to stay in England for the Coronation, but I think both of us would prefer to be back in France. All anyone can talk about is the weather, and the food is simply appalling. Who on earth invented Yorkshire pudding? I've finally had my revenge on that Saxon wretch Brihtric, who had the nerve to ignore my advances years ago when he was the English ambassador to Flanders. How dare he, I was a very attractive eighteen year old and of noble heritage! So I've confiscated all his lands, which covered most of the south west of the country, and had him flung into prison.

I wonder if he was responsible for spreading the rumour that I was only four feet tall and had a face like a pig... which is quite untrue as I'm actually a foot taller than that, and still good looking, even after having produced ten children. Well William obviously thought I was a good catch as he was not deterred when I turned him down; the cheek of it, him low born compared to me and sending an equerry on his behalf to ask for my hand! I suppose I shouldn't have reminded him that he was illegitimate and called him a bastard, as he got so angry he rode over to Flanders and dragged me from my horse by my hair and rolled me in the mud when I was on my way to church. Well if he was that keen I just had to marry him.

It was only on our honeymoon that we heard that the Pope had banned the marriage because we were distant cousins. What a nonsense, everyone is related one way or another these days! Anyway, we carried on as normal and once there was a change of Pope we got the ban annulled, although we had to have two churches built as a penance. What with all these castles and churches William is creating in England, I told him they will be calling him Bill the Builder soon instead of William the Conqueror... he was not amused.

*Roger Lindley*

## WANTED



Do you have any building bricks (e.g. LEGO, DUPLO) that you no longer need? If so, I'd love to take them off your hands!

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*Revd. Natalie Jennings,  
Associate Priest of Amberley, Avening and Cherington*

# Avening Parish Council



## **Parish Council Meeting**

There will be no Parish Council Meeting in August. Work will continue behind the scenes. The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.

## **Playing Field Trees**

Another act of vandalism at the playing field.

If you know the person who spray painted obscenities on the trees, please let a member of the Parish Council know or report them to the police. You can do this anonymously.

## **Planning Applications & Tree Works Since the Last Issue and Parish Councils Decision**

### *New Planning Applications*

25/01840/COMPLY: Old Quarries. Partial compliance with Conditions 3 (Sample materials), 4 (Sample panel walling), 5 (Sample panel - boundary walling), 8 (Design details 1), 11 (Design details 4) and full compliance with Condition 26 (CMS) of permission 22/03666/FUL- Change of use of existing buildings from residential institution (C2 use) to residential (C3 use) to form a total of 11 no. dwellings, through demolition of modern extensions, internal alterations and extensions, demolition of modern institutional buildings and replacement with new dwellings, associated garaging, landscaping, construction of new wall in alignment of historic walled garden and associated works. – Support

25/01812/COMPLY: Old Quarries. Compliance with conditions 5 (Stonework sample panel), 10 (Infilling of doorways) and 15 (Rainwater goods) of consent 22/03637/LBC - Change of use of existing buildings from residential institution (C2 use) to residential (C3 use) including demolition of modern extensions, internal alterations and extensions, rebuilding of boundary wall. – Support

25/01913/TCONR: The Old Coach House Hampton Hill. Cut back Poplar to boundary. – Support

### *Cotswold District Council Planning Decisions*

24/03624/FUL: Boat House Gatcombe Water. Repair, refurbishment and extension to Boathouse to form a self-build dwelling and the erection of external garage and maintenance hut – Permitted.

25/00916/COMPLY: Old Quarries Rectory Lane. Partial compliance with conditions 3 (Sample materials), (4 Sample panel walling), 7 (Timber boarding) and 25 (Artificial roosting nesting) of permission 22/03666/FUL in respect of the East Gate Dwellings and Lodge - Change of use of existing buildings from residential institution (C2 use) to residential (C3 use) to form a total of 11 no. dwellings, through demolition of modern extensions, internal alterations and extensions, demolition of modern institutional buildings and replacement with new dwellings, associated garaging, landscaping, construction of new wall in alignment of historic walled garden and associated works - Part compliance of conditions

25/01404/TPO: Coach House Avening House Lime (T1). Fell due to significant and extensive decay in the trunk of the tree and its bias towards the property – Permitted.

25/01762/NONMAT: 28 Sandford Leaze. Non-Material Amendment (design details) to permission 24/01846/FUL- Insertion of front and rear dormer windows – Refused

### **Roads and Footpaths**

If you see a fault on the footpaths or the roads, please report it on Fix My Street.

<https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk>

### **Dog Fouling**

If you witness dog fouling not being picked up by the owner, please report by following the link below.

<https://www.cotswold.gov.uk/environment/litter-street-cleaning-and-dog-fouling/>

### **Neighbourhood Policing Team**

Police Sergeant Garrett Gloyn

PC Morley - Blackwell

PCSO Edmund Maina

[101@gloucestershire.police.uk](mailto:101@gloucestershire.police.uk)

*The Agenda and minutes can be viewed at [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)*

*The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)*



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**Together, we can help families feel heard, supported, and stronger.**

# Regular Activities in the Villages

Would organisers please let us know if there are any changes or additions to these events

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Avening Silver Band	Monday	7.00-9.00pm	Memorial Hall	<a href="mailto:aveningsilverband@gmail.com">aveningsilverband@gmail.com</a>
Avening Church bell ringing	Monday	8.00-9.00pm	Church bell tower	Andrew Lelliott 07726 345516
Community Café	Tuesday	9.00am - noon	Social Club	Gill Adams 07826 291759
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday	9.30-11.30am	Social Club car park	
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Cherington Village hall	Babs Malony 07958116794
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Churchyard tidy up	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Churchwardens
Avening PC	2nd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Avening Cinema Club	Last Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	avening cinemaclub@gmail.com
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Social Club/ Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
Fledglings for pre-schoolers	Fridays during term time	2.00 - 3.00pm	School Garden	Avening School
Beginners+ Adult Ballet Classes	Fridays up to 18th July	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Jennifer Sibbald 07818 293999
Fun Skittles	Last Saturday each month	7.30	Social Club	
KNEAD Mobile Bakery	Last Saturday each month	9.45 - 10.30am	Memorial Hall	
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Singers	Sunday	4.00pm	tba	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

# Get Set for Summer



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