

A photograph of a forest path. The path is a narrow dirt trail that winds through a dense forest. The trees are tall and have thick trunks, with their branches and leaves forming a canopy overhead. The leaves are a vibrant green, and sunlight filters through the canopy, creating a dappled light effect on the path and the surrounding foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

The Villager

**A Magazine for Avening,
Cherington and Nags Head**

May 2021

editors@villagermag.online



Pub ~ Dining ~ Rooms ~ Events



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May 2021

It is extraordinary how exciting small changes seem to be in our hitherto very limited Lockdown lives. News has been made up of such things as the thrill of the first hair-cut in months. It is good to have some Community Café coffee mornings again too, even though some of them seem to have featured hot water bottles and rugs, as shown later in this edition of the Villager. In the true Dunkirk spirit, people determinedly braved the cold to enjoy each other's company outside.

Equally, the recent funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh seems to have produced a feeling of emotion and pride in what can be achieved, even in difficult circumstances. Few of us will ever forget the sight of the Fell ponies striding proudly up the hill at Windsor Castle, pulling their little carriage to pay a last tribute to their master and carrying his hat and gloves on the seat. The Duke's adapted Land Rover was so exactly right to carry his coffin and I am sure that most of us felt that this was a much more powerful occasion than any traditional State funeral could ever have been. Hopefully the Queen drew comfort in taking part in a service and ceremony wished for and planned so carefully by her late husband.

We hope that you will enjoy this edition of the Villager. There are events featured, which if Covid manages not to spoil things, can be enjoyed by all fairly soon.

Thank you, as always, for your contributions - keep them coming!

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Nigel Bowsher** for the beautiful photo on the front cover of this month's Villager.

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

editors@villagemag.online

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Avening Angels	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Baby & Toddler group	Katy Upton	07806 614753
Avening Bell Tower Captain	Andrew Lelliott	01453 835783
Avening Church Churchwardens	Elizabeth Buchanan Elizabeth Fuller	01453 833016 01453 835067
Avening Church Flower Team	Doreen Pierce	01453 835090
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Nicholas Winkfield	07885 139275
Avening Cinema Club	Katy Upton	07806 614753
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Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Shani Baker	07415 039234
Avening Playgroup	Angie Heslop	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Social Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752

Avening Youth Club	Revd. Gerald South The Door	01453 883456 01453 756745
Cherington Village Hall	Camilla Trotter	07545 054160
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Richard Smith	Cheringtonparishcouncil @yahoo.co.uk
Cherington Church Churchwardens	John Bate-Williams Helen di Mauro	01666 503544 07796 937268
Cherington Church Flower Team	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church Organist	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Secretary	Elizabeth Workman	01285 841294
Cherington Church PCC Treasurer	Paul Cable	cabes50@yahoo.co.uk
Community Café	Jennie South	01453 883456
Community Café Crop Swap	Chandy Rodgers	Chandra.rodgers65@ gmail.com 07734 971211
Cotswold District Councillor	Richard Morgan	
Friends of Avening School	Nicky Dill	01453 833191
Over 60s Lunch Club	Christine Howell	01453 833246
South Cotswold Community Wellbeing Agent		01452 528491
Stroud Hospital	Reception	0300 421 8080
Tetbury Hospital		01666 502336
Women's Institute	Liz Knowles	01453 833803

VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

Avening Parish Council: www.avening-pc.gov.uk

Avening Church: www.aveningchurch.info

Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

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Regular Activities in the Villages

Items struck through are temporarily suspended.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Line Dancing	Monday	7.30- 9.30pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Community Café	Tuesday	9.00- 11.30am	Social Club	Jenny South 01453 883456
Churchyard tidy up	Tuesday	6.00- 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Rev. Gerald 01453 883456
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Zoom	Richard Smith
Bell Ringing	Tuesday	7.30- 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00- 10.00pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	6.00- 7.30pm	Avening church	Rev. Gerald 01453 883456
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening Cinema Club	1st Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Katy 07806 614753
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
Avening PC	3rd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Zoom	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Summer Skittles	Friday	8.00pm	Social club	Derrick Ind 01453 835752
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.30pm	Avening Church	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



If all goes to plan this should be the final article that I write to you as chairman (although I might be permitted by the editors to sign off in the June edition). The AGM is on 5th May where a new leader will be elected – the meeting is open to everyone, as is the usual PC meeting that follows it. Both meetings will have an opportunity for public questions – agendas will be published on the website and notice boards, and will include a link into the Zoom virtual meeting. We anticipate this will be the final virtual meeting, but we await confirmation that we can start face to face meetings again from June.

Following the death of Prince Philip, I sent a card to our neighbour the Princess Royal to express our sympathy and condolences on behalf of the parish and the PC. On the Sunday after Prince Philip's death, and in the lead up to the funeral our church bells were rung by the Bell ringing teams.* The half-muffled ring struck a sombre tone but summed up a lot of the nation's feelings while remembering the Prince and his legacy. The funeral was very moving and highlighted the anguish so many families must have endured through the pandemic, in not being able to comfort loved ones or include everyone that would have attended a service under normal circumstances. This was also evidenced recently with the passing of Jim Townsend, but many people in the village were able to wish Jim well on his final journey by lining the High Street as he passed.

You will see details later in the magazine that we are entering the final push to secure funding for the replacement zip wire. The administration at CDC have imposed an over complicated process for parish councils wishing to apply for grant funding, so we have had to register for another crowd funding exercise. Please help us out by following the guide provided in John's article so that we can complete the installation ASAP.

It's only April and our stream is already worryingly low. This hasn't been helped by the unusually dry weather, but with valuable water leaking from the new channel dug at Aston Farm I have written to our friends in Cherington PC to ask if they can help. They have previously indicated that they prefer a direct personal approach to resolve issues, so without any progress from the Environment Agency or CDC I am hoping they can help.

***Tony Slater – email: chair@avening-pc.gov.uk: Web: www.avening-pc.gov.uk
For Covid assistance contact Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk or call 07415 039234***

Many thanks from both villages to the bell-ringers of Avening and Cherington. Andrew Lelliott tolled the tenor bell 99 times on the first Saturday afternoon in Avening, while Steve Uzzell tolled the bell on the afternoon of the funeral. The bell was half muffled on both occasions. Christine Williams tolled the tenor bell at Cherington on both occasions. ***Eds***



Christian Aid Week 2021 May 10th – 16th

Sadly, no Christian Aid Brekkie again in Avening this year and no red envelopes distributed. Covid-19 is a global pandemic and Christian Aid continue to work hard to reduce its impact in some of the world's poorest countries, many not only disproportionately affected by Covid but also by the impact of climate change. Christian Aid works with these communities on simple projects such as building earth dams ensuring a supply of fresh water. While recognising that all charities, and indeed many of us, are effected financially by the pandemic, please do still think about donating to this worthy cause; you can do this easily by telephone, post or on line. See below for details:

Online cash donations: You can safely and securely make a one-off donation using the online form on the website: www.christianaid.org.uk

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

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

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

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

Donations are needed more than ever this year. **Thank you.**



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Avening and Cherington Churches



WOW



Wide Open Worship was a feature of our Easter Day celebrations: held in our churchyards, our services attracted large numbers of local people and visitors. Wide because our beautiful churchyards offer spaces to spread out, not only facilitating the Covid precautions but also enabling us to be more aware of the wider world around us – nature, birdsong, passing walkers, traffic and aircraft above: worship is not escapism from ordinary life but is an integral part of giving us a meaningful perspective on that life.

Open because we were able to welcome some people who may have found being inside

2 nd May	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
9 th May	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
13 th May	7.00 pm	Ascension Eucharist	Avening Church
16 th May	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church
23 rd May	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
30 th May	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Cherington Church
6 th June	10.00 am	Eucharist Service	Avening Church

the church building less appealing: there were several appreciative comments about the less formal feel that is possible out of doors, with families finding it particularly helpful.

This may not be seen by some as conventional ‘church’ but I found it a delightful aspect of the Easter celebration. As we now continue, weather permitting, to hold services in our churchyards please feel free to come along ‘just as you are’ – that is what God wants.

Sunday Services and Church Openings

The churchyard services planned for May are below: should there be any changes in the

Covid restrictions, the latest arrangements will be found on the websites below, where there will also be (technology permitting) recordings of our live services and other resources.

During May Cherington Church will be open from 9am to 5pm most days and Avening Church will be open from 9am to 5pm on Wednesdays and Sundays (services will be taking place on some Sundays between 10 and 11am).



Ascension Day, 13th May ... and other dates

This day marks the moment when the first Christians were aware of the immediate presence of Christ leaving them and so were beginning to feel that more emphasis was being put on them to continue his teaching and mission. We will celebrate with a Eucharist service at Avening Church at 7.00pm.

We are also planning a Pet Service at Cherington Church on Sunday 4th July at 3.00pm and a Lammas Day Service on farmland on Sunday 1st August at 3.00pm. Further details to follow.

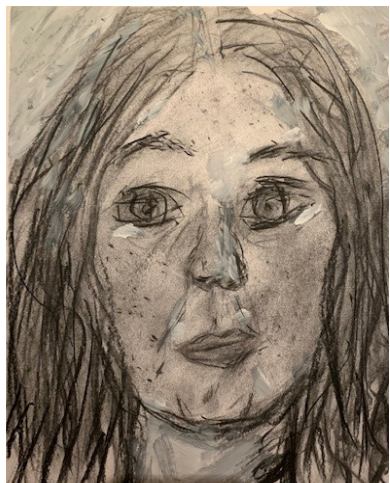
Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington
gp.south@btopenworld.com 01453 883456

The Great Exhibition!

A Great Exhibition of Artwork, Projects and Accomplishments achieved during the Pandemic — including self-portraits like those displayed here!

The three day exhibition will be held in Avening Church during the weekend of the Avening Church Fete (10th, 11th and 12th September).

For more information contact George Buchanan (01453 833016) or email: buchanan.pg@gmail.com



Jim Townsend

24/07/30 – 08/04/21



To Jim family always came first. He was a loving husband to Vi, Dad to Pete, Bomber and Mark. Father-in-Law to Tracey, Kate and Clare. Gramp to Carly, Chloe, Arron, Jayme, Beth and Amelie and Great-Gramp to Max, Lauren, Carter and Hallam. We were so proud to call him ours and to have had the experience of loving and being loved by someone who always embodied family first with strength, dignity and honour was truly an incredible privilege.

Jim and Vi's love story began in the Club at Nailsworth where they were both learning to dance. Jim was living in Rectory Lane and Vi was living in Harley Wood. They later got married in Nailsworth Parish Church on the 30th March 1957. They purchased their beloved home 30, High Street, Avening but they had to live in a caravan for a year whilst they waited for the previous owner to move out! Their first son Pete was born in September 1959. Bomber was born in March 1962 and finally they completed their family with the arrival of Mark in May 1969.

They lived a contented life, with their boys enjoying a happy childhood filled with love and laughter.

Later as the boys grew up Jim changed his job as often as he changed his car. They had their share of hard times but together they got through.

Jim was a very funny man – we laughed with him often. He had the ability to tell a story knowing we would laugh but not laugh himself.

Jim was also well known for his one liners. If he brought a new car that was a brammer on the first night, by the second night – say when the car had no first gear... it was a pup.

If the boys would misbehave he would tell them he would chuck them out of the window!! Much to Violet's dismay.

If something would annoy him it would be... "Well, I go to Stroud".

There are few things we have realised about Jim over the last couple of weeks –

- How many people knew you (and loved you!!)
- How hard it was to keep a strong man down...
- How many cars, jobs and shoes can one man have??!

When Jim went to hospital just after Christmas it was the longest he had ever been away from Avening. Pete and Bomber would speak to him every day and it was very clear he just wanted to come home.

With the arrangements made Jim came home on 14th February. We had several incredible weeks catching up with him before he became too unwell.

Jim passed away peacefully at home on April 8th 2021 – fulfilling his last wish.

We all love and miss you Jim.

The Townsend family would like to say thank you to everybody that called, visited Jim or supported us through his last few months.



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Puzzle Corner

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

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 33

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Across

1. Ploy (6)
4. Requiring secret knowledge (6)
9. Disapproves (7)
10. Angry (5)
11. Land measure (4)
12. Perplexing (8)
14. Disney cartoon character (5)
16. Mournful poem (5)
20. Scorn (8)
21. Fencing sword (4)
24. Female relative (5)
25. Pills (7)
26. Unmarried (6)
27. Precious stones (6)

Down

- | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Worldwide (6) | 7. Come out into view (6) | 18. Catches sight of (5) |
| 2. US military officer (5) | 8. Ordinary (5) | 19. Creatures (6) |
| 3. Unit of length (4) | 13. Celestial (8) | 22. Fragment (5) |
| 5. Precipitation (8) | 15. Lamp (7) | 23. Woodwind instrument (4) |
| 6. Astounding (7) | 17. Parts of a play (6) | |

1		2		3			4	5		6		7
						8						
9								10				
11					12							
				13								
	14	15					16					
17						18						19
20								21	22			
								23				
24						25						
26								27				

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Gilian's Poem of the Month

As I Rode Out Through Ruggers Wood.

As I rode out through Ruggers Wood one bright May morn,
Through diamond dewdrops, sprinkled to greet the dawn,
Bright shafts of sunlight touched old trunks of beech,
Dappling young leaves and the bluebells pooled beneath .
Old Jasper tossed his head and rolled his eyes,
Prancing and snorting, shying in mock surprise !
His chestnut coat shone gold, his flaxen mane
Blew in the wind, and he was young again !
Beneath his hooves, crushed garlic's pungent smell
Mingled with sweetest scent of massed bluebells
Old Jasper arched his neck, up on his toes,
As a deer leapt up, and a noisy pheasant rose,
And a cuckoo tried a note, while through the trees
The distant church bells tolled upon the breeze . . .
The joys of nature all around made my heart sing
As I rode out through Ruggers Wood that day in Spring

Gilian Bulmer - Davison



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Avening Playgroup

The staff and committee are looking forward to opening again after the Easter holidays for a full summer term. We would like to say a big welcome to five new children and their families and hope they will all enjoy their time with us.

Two members of staff have, so far, had their first Covid-19 vaccination and all members of staff continue to self-test twice a week. All measures already put in place to reduce the risk of infection will remain in place and we continue to ask parents to wear a mask at the gate. Once again thank you to all the families for supporting us in adhering to the guidance.



Before the Easter break the children looked at simple sounds and making stories. We looked at the sounds their names begin with and played many Letters and Sounds activities – I Spy, Rhyming Pairs, Matching Instruments and Sounds, Drumming Inside and A Listening Moment, to name but a few. The children took it in turns to make up a sentence in a story and they also retold the stories of ‘The Three Billy Goats Gruff’ and ‘Goldilocks and The Three Bears’

using resources that Liz had brought in.

As it was Easter, we decorated cardboard eggs, made Easter cards, did lots of Easter colourings and took part in an Easter Egg Hunt, which the children thoroughly enjoyed.

Shannon brought in some water pearls, which were soaked overnight and placed in the water trough for the children to play with. Once again, they had lots of fun but did get quite wet.

Recently, money that was awarded to us by the Avening Church of England Education Fund (ACEEF) has enabled us to update our ICT resources. We have now taken delivery of two new tablets, a colour changing light panel and a switch and press fine motor board. We have also purchased a sensory den which the children love to sit in and play with the new light



up reaction game.

I must, on behalf of the playgroup, say a very big thank you to many kind members of the Avening community who, over the past few months, have given us some lovely books, colouring and playdough resources, a slide, dressing up items as well as Easter baskets, which the children particularly enjoyed filling with chocolate eggs. They are all very much appreciated.

If your child is due to turn 3 years of age between September 2021 and August 2022, and you would like them to attend Avening Playgroup, please call Angie on 01453 832695 or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com. We are open mornings during term time.

Angie Heslop

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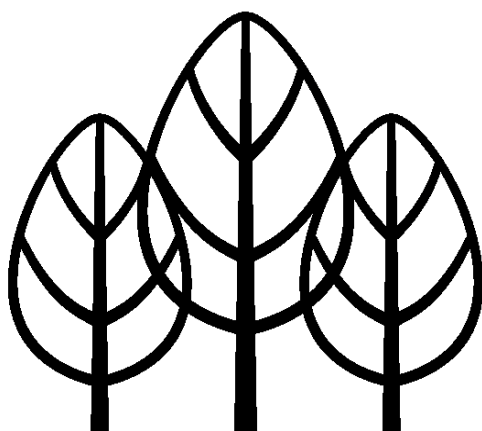
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Avening Church – Past, Present And Future

If you have been into the church recently when it has been open on Wednesdays you may have noticed it looking a little different. The recent use of the church as a film set required nearly all the usual furniture to be moved out of the way. After the filming we saw most of the areas of the church as empty spaces and this is now an encouragement to consider which items should be placed where,



A view of the church pre-1900

without assuming that their previous positions were necessarily the most appropriate ones for current times. This can be a matter of balancing aesthetic appearances, historical significance and practicalities of worship and church usage. The building is a community asset whose use has included talks, concerts and dances: there may well be other imaginative uses of the building in the future.

At the time of writing most of the wooden chairs have been placed in the chancel and nave with some remaining in the Brydges Chapel: this may avoid the need to have stacked chairs at various points around the church. The choir pews which were in the chancel are now at the back of the nave and Brydges Chapel.

Further experimental moves will be made over the next few weeks. As in many older buildings, items are acquired over the years, once serving a good purpose and later ceasing to do so as practices and viewpoints change. If they are retained then it is reasonable to ask questions such as: do they inhibit the appearance and use of the building?; what 'message' about church life do they convey?; what is the value of keeping them? It may well be that this applies to some of the items in the church. The permanent removal of any significant item requires consultation and permission from the Diocesan authorities, so there are safeguards against random disappearances!

Your observations about this would be welcome even if you are not a regular member of the congregation. If you have any thoughts then the Churchwardens or myself would be very pleased to hear from you.

Gerald South, Parish Priest for Avening and Cherington
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**Covid regulations permitting it is hoped to
hold Avening Church fete on
12 September 2021
More details later**



Getting Creative in Lockdown!

Avening WI members kept themselves busy in lockdown completing old projects, learning new techniques and making things for friends, family and the wider community. Here is a small selection of the impressive results.



Becca's quilt



Teddy



Pincushion



Toadstools



Scrubs



Girl's dress



Lucy's quilt



Dragon wallhanging



Face Masks



Gwyn's Christmas jumpers



Pat's penguin jumper



Veg basket

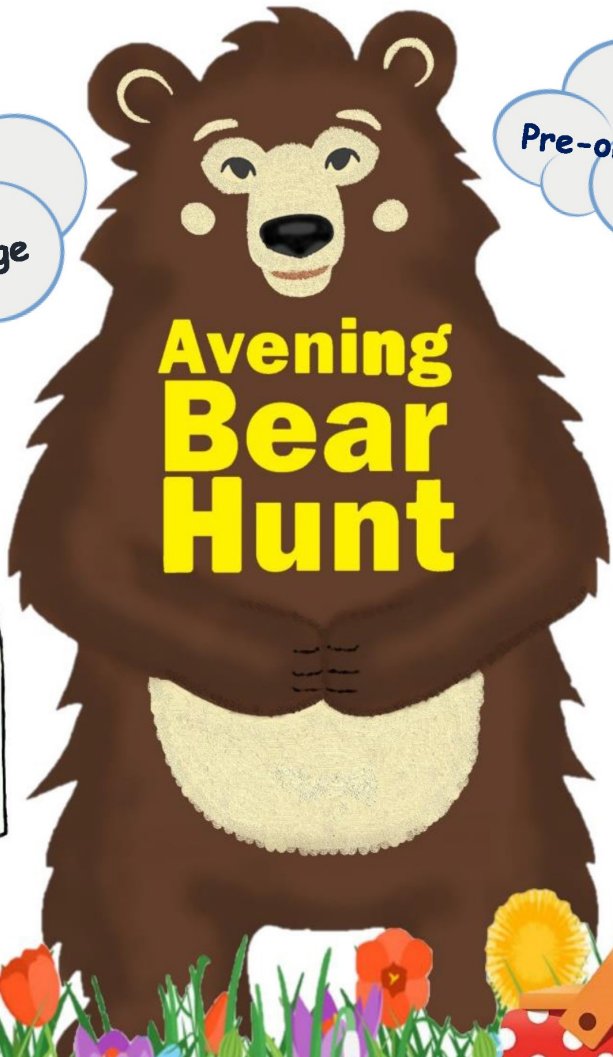


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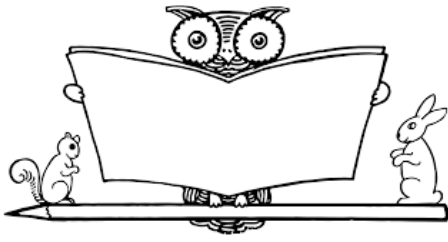


Saturday 15th May
&
Sunday 16th May
10am to 2pm



Join us on an adventure around Avening to spot some AMAZING Bears!!
Pre-Booked Ticketed event ONLY to ensure social distancing
For more information and to Pre-book your tickets and Picnic go to:
www.pta-events.co.uk/aveningfoas

Avening Church of England Education Fund (ACEEF)



The trustees of ACEEF have limited funds available to assist Avening residents under 25 with their education. These grants are intended to help ensure that young people in the village are not deprived of the opportunity to receive good education suiting their aptitudes and abilities.

Although we normally advertise the availability of our grants during the summer, grants are available at any time during the year, and we recognise that young people and their families may need extra support with their education during these challenging times.

If you, or your children, are in need of such support, please request an application form by phoning Gerald South on 01453 883456 or emailing gp.south@btopenworld.com.



Our wonderful HCA/Ophthalmic Technician, Jadie, is running the Shepperdine Marathon on Sunday 25th April in aid of Tetbury

Hospital. She is hoping to raise £600 to fund new medical equipment for our procedure room. Please help Jadie get off to a flying start and support her fundraising challenge, by going to her JustGiving page :

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/jadiecotterell?utm_term=N7XnWG6q

or using the donate button on our website: www.friendsoftetburyhospital.co.uk



Jadie says: "At the cost of lazy Sunday mornings in with my girls and every stolen moment besides, I have increased training to set myself up for this challenge, creating my opportunity to raise funds. I hope that you see this as a worthy challenge for a very worthy cause, funding equipment to enhance our patients' experiences."

Tetbury Hospital is an independent charity delivering NHS and private patient care across Gloucestershire and . And because we are an independent charity we cannot apply for funds from the NHS Charities Together Fund and so we have to rely on our own fundraising to purchase new and vital medical equipment.

Lian Franklin,

Fundraising, Marketing and GP Liaison Manager



Avening School

Music and Nature

As the school garden bursts into life with colour and activity, the whole school will be using it to support their learning on the natural world. This term, the KS1 Eagles (R/y1) and Kestrels (y1/2) will be delving into nature in their topic 'Dens and Dandelions'. The Hawks (y3/4), will also be exploring living things and their natural habitats, while the Owls class (y5/6) will be focusing on the environment in their term topic 'We are the future'.

There will be two very different sets of visitors to the classrooms this term with the Kestrels, Hawks and Owls receiving a special delivery of caterpillars, while the Eagles will host several eggs and an incubator in their classroom. The caterpillars will be observed by the classes as they watch them grow and develop as they turn into butterflies. Similarly, the Eagles will observe the eggs and, hopefully, witness the magic of the chicks hatching.



As always, the school garden continues to play a vital part in our daily learning and thanks to an incredibly generous donation, we are able to have the bridge across the stream replaced, ensuring the safety of all who use it. Another improvement that happened during the holidays was the re-painting of the Owls Classroom, which meant the Owls returned to a sparkling, fresh classroom after the Easter break.

With day trips being permitted again, we have dates in the diary for outings in the local area and depending on national

guidance, a residential trip to Copsegrove Farm for the Owls class later on in the term.

The school will be alive with the sound of music during the next few weeks as the Owls class embark on viola lessons. They will also be joined by the Hawks class for a brass demonstration session organised by Brass Bands England. With clubs being allowed again, our school brass band club can also resume practice.

Our incredible FOAS team have recently held their AGM and are currently organising a COVID-safe Bear Hunt around Avening for the weekend of 15 May. For more information, visit their official Facebook page and see page 22. Their donations have enabled us to order a new climbing frame and climbing wall, which are due to be installed later in the summer. Thank you FOAS!

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

Alex Adcock

The Bell Inn, Avening

In recent editions of The Villager there have been some articles about pubs in the village which prompted me to look at old paperwork that had belonged to my late Father Sidney Tanner. He became landlord of the Bell Inn in 1953. At that time, The Bell was only a beer and cider house, it stayed that way until another pub closed in the village, (I believe The New Inn), only then did The Bell become fully licensed and able to sell spirits too.



The agreement paperwork with Stroud Brewery shows that the rent was £30 per annum with an additional £6 per annum for the orchard, now known as Orchard Field. This area of land was 27 perches in size and in those days the orchard was known as The Brassingtons. We had no use for the orchard but customers did and they used it for grazing horses, goats and my Mother, Nellie Tanner kept some chickens. In those days my Father was church warden and in later years a section of the orchard was bought to extend the burial ground at the Holy Cross church.

My Mother played an active part in village life, she was a member of the church choir, Mothers Union and the highlight being a trip to the Royal Albert Hall to carry the Royal British Legion standard at The Service of Remembrance.

The Bell played a crucial part in village life during the 1950's and 60's, it was more than a place just to have a drink, it offered a number of services to the villagers. A large jar stood on the shelf behind the bar, it was in this jar that customers placed their football coupons, and payments. These were collected every Saturday morning by the local Littlewoods Pools agent.

A reporter called in every Monday morning from the Stroud News to collect details left by customers of anything they wanted to be printed in the paper. In those days there used to be 2 local Stroud papers, The Stroud News and The Stroud Journal, they amalgamated in 1957 to become The Stroud News and Journal.

On Wednesdays, the laundry van arrived to collect and return customers items. We also had deliveries from Hillier's twice a week, they delivered pork pies which were sold over the bar and sausages or ham which customers could order to take home. A butcher also delivered meats and a fishmonger delivered every Friday. My Mum used to keep these deliveries cool in the cellar until customers collected them.

So, while many of us still enjoy a trip to The Bell, you can see that it has been a central hub in the village for many, many years.

Maureen Stone

Avening Community Café



What a joy it is to be meeting up once more, albeit in small groups, to enjoy company and conversation over coffee and cake. “Our friendship will keep us warm” was the response from one of our guests when I expressed concern about the cold weather. How right she was!

On April 6th, despite the mercury hovering stubbornly in single figures, the garden cafés went ahead helped enormously I must say, by the provision of blankets and hot water bottles.

In the photo above we have the youngest guest to an outdoor café - Tracy Allen’s son Luke who was 7 weeks old. I think that’s a record!

When the photographs of the Arctic Circle coffee breaks were published on Facebook “Avening will find a way” was one of the comments about the post. It certainly looks that way. The following week was positively tropical, not a hot water bottle in sight!

Now that the temperature is climbing you may feel inclined to host a coffee break in your garden. If you are tempted but need inspiration for your baking look no further than the cafes ‘Little Book of Baking’ which is full of customers favourites catering for all tastes including savoury scones and gluten free cake. It’s still available from any of the Café committee for £5 with proceeds going to charity. However, if you would just like to



be invited to one of the gardens then please let Jennie South know at jennie.south@btopenworld.com. Your table is waiting !

The Avening garden centre is now open on the wall outside 14 and 18 High Street. In the cold weather of the past couple of weeks, garden work has sometimes been a bit bleak. Plants which have been given a kindly start have been hugely popular on The Wall, and seeds have been selling, too. Right now, The Wall has a minimalist look, with only bay leaves and lavender (all looking wonderful). If you are splitting or culling in your garden, we would love the results. Help yourself to plant pots from the pile by the recycle box . Please swap or take and donate to our charities.

Café Art Sessions

At the time of writing (April17th) Mark Kelland has been provisionally booked for four art sessions on Tuesdays from 10.00 till 12.00 on May 18th, 25th and June 1st and

8th. Current COVID rules will of course apply. All four sessions must be booked and cost will be confirmed later. If you are interested please contact Jennie South for details.

Litter Pick

Keep Britain Tidy have a campaign at the moment and we have all no doubt seen the press coverage of the



dreadful littering in parks around the country. Thank you to all the volunteers who turned up for our own litter pick on March 30th. Having so many helpers made the task of clearing the village so much easier and it is very much appreciated.

Monday May 3rd 7.30pm May Music

There will be a zoom music session on May 3rd 7.30pm so if you feel like taking part please contact Tom Fryer (tom@sparkspublishing.com) or if just listening in is more up your street then contact ccbebbbs@gmail.com or the Zoom link.

Finally I must pay tribute to Jim Townsend who died last month. One of our regular café customers and older residents Jim was a great character and will be sorely missed. He could always be found at the same table.

Peter Barton

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TOWN HALL NAILSWORTH

Avening W.I.



We do have some amazing villagers in Avening! Having read about the 90th birthday of Avening WI in The Villager, Michael Metcalfe decided to make us a present during Lockdown. The result is a wonderful multi-coloured rag rug which he worked on for hours in his specially adapted shed. He enlisted the help of Rima Jones to set out the lettering and even found a 1930s penny to sew into the rug. The wonderful result can be seen in

the photo and it was received by special motorbike delivery! We are hoping that he will come in person to a meeting, once we are able to resume our normal meetings, and show us all his tips and techniques for making a good rug.

Our members have also been busy throughout the year finishing old projects and starting new ones and we wanted to share just a glimpse of some of the sewing, knitting, baking and growing that has been achieved during lockdown – please see colour photos on centre pages.

We recently had the sad loss of one of our members, Gail Dawson. Gail was a long term resident of Avening and a stalwart member of our WI quiz teams, especially knowledgeable on all things historical.

Our Zoom meetings and Coffee Mornings continue and we have also started organising walks, in groups of six, of varying terrain and length to suit all members. On a lovely sunny day one group walked up the Macmillan Way to enjoy a coffee at the Wild Carrot, and the next week a group had a walk along the Stroudwater canal from St Cyr's church.

We had a very interesting and informative talk about the wonderful work done by the Stroud Women's Refuge, which is the only one in Gloucestershire. We are planning to support them by fundraising and providing other items when necessary.

On May 13th we will be having a facial pampering session on Zoom by Aimee of Neals Yard Remedies. Each member will receive a small pack of Neal's Yard natural and organic products in advance, and be guided through the best techniques in their use. Hopefully we will all look radiant and ready to face the world!

If you would like to join us please contact our secretary, Soo, on aveningwi@gmail.com. New members always welcome.



Helen Haiselden

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As the months move on, the date our rare-breed Gloucester cows are due to calf becomes closer. After pregnancy scanning, we were able to age the unborn calf to determine which artificial insemination bull or our own bull 'Jimmy' is the calves sire. This procedure is now so high-tech both Dad and I were able to see an ultrasound scan of the fetus! This is not something that would usually be carried out so much in a commercial herd, but due to the rare-breed status, the provenance of each bull is important to the breed as a whole. We were very pleased to find out that one of the Gloucesters is carrying a calf sired by an AI bull which was alive in the 1970s! This means that the calf produced will be of significant value to the breed as it will increase the gene pool and could provide an option for other Gloucester cattle farmers to use on their herds if it is a male calf.

As we haven't had any breeding cows on the farm for a long time, I have recently refreshed my knowledge on caring for cows during pregnancy. Fortunately, through my father and grandfather's knowledge of the land, I became aware that our farm is deficient in the trace element 'selenium'. Selenium deficiency can have an impact on an unborn calf and has the potential to cause a number of problems; most commonly the calf is born extremely weak with very stiff muscles and the inability to stand. Selenium is a chemical element found naturally in the soil and where the quantity is low, plants such as grass can also suffer from a low concentration. This deficiency can be passed to the unborn calf if its mother does not absorb a sufficient amount in her diet through grazing or hay. As the cow reaches her later stages of pregnancy, as with our Gloucesters, they will start to build up a supply of nutrients to the calf in the form of her first milk called 'colostrum'. It's here, along with other minerals and vitamins, that selenium is concentrated into the milk, and as such is important to include extra selenium into the cows diet in the run up to calving on farms known to be deficient. For us, the most practical way of doing this is in the form of mineral buckets that also provide a number of other trace elements, vitamins and minerals that will aid in the development of the un-born calf.



During the winter, the Gloucesters were fed just hay; this was so that the cow didn't increase her body fat cover. The more fat cover, the harder it is for them to give birth without human intervention. Now that they are in the later stages of pregnancy, a higher quality feed called haylage will be fed as it has a higher nutritional value. This again has the same objective in ensuring the cow can provide its calf with the correct nutrients it needs to develop and also for her to produce enough of the all important colostrum when the calf is born.

The girls will be moved onto their summer grazing down in the valley for a few weeks before coming back up to the farm for calving.

Sam Powell

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!: @flpowellandsons



Avening Youth Club



Avening Youth Club, run by The Door, is cancelled for the moment.

Full details of how to access all of The Door's services can be found at www.thedoor.org.uk and on Social Media @TheDoorStroud.

Want more information about Avening's Youth Club? Contact Rev Gerald South on 883456 or Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

However, funds are urgently needed so The Door can keep up its good work, so you may be interested in the following:

THE DOOR NEEDS YOU -

#100kinMay Challenge returns for 2021

Have you got what it takes to walk, jog, run or cycle your way to 100km this May? Local charity, The Door Youth Project is looking for you!

First launched during lockdown in 2020, the #100KinMay challenge invites participants to walk, jog, run or cycle 100km in the month of May all to raise funds for local youth charity The Door Youth Project.

The Door provides vital mental health support to young people and their families across the district by providing positive role models and safe spaces such as youth clubs, mentoring and telephone support.

Community Fundraiser Anne Townsend says "We're really excited about this year's challenge. Last year's raised over £10,000 to help us #KeepTheDoorOpen and we hope this year will be just as good.

Whether walking, running or cycling, going out each day is an amazing way to explore our beautiful district and all it has to offer, especially in the spring sunshine! 100km sounds a lot but it actually works out at around 3km a day which takes most people 30 minutes to walk. So it's really achievable and great for staying active.

It's really accessible too – entry is free and you can do the challenge alone or in groups. It doesn't matter how you get to 100km so you can take it at your own pace.

Some people that did the challenge in 2020 are aiming higher for 2021, our CEO is aiming for 150km and one of our trustees is doing a 300km triathlon (100km of each walking, running and cycling). I'll be sticking to 100km for my walking though!"

Find out more about the challenge and sign up today at thedoor.org.uk or find us on Facebook or Instagram @TheDoorStroud You can also call Anne on 01453 756745 if you have any questions or email fundraising@thedoor.org.uk

A Brief History of Lawn Bowls and the Link to the Stroud Area

Join your local club ..NAILSWORTH MILLS BOWLS CLUB FOUNDED IN 1900

Bowls is a popular British pastime with a long and colourful history. From humble beginnings, it survived a royal ban to become a sport played in over 50 countries around the world.

Historians have traced the sport of bowls all the way back to the 13th century. Several manuscripts of the period were found to include drawings of people playing bowls, or at least a rudimentary version of it. The world's oldest surviving Bowling Green is the Southampton Old Bowling Green, which was first played on in 1299.

Both the British Royal Family and Parliament became concerned that the growing popularity of bowls would stop people practising archery, which was an important skill for battle. It was forbidden in the reigns of Edward III, Richard II and other monarchs. The prohibition even continued after the invention of gunpowder and firearms.

Bowling alleys had first been established in London in 1455 and were regular spots for the dissolute and criminals.

King Henry VIII was a lawn bowler but he also banned the game in 1511 for labourers, servants and people of a similar social standing, although they could still play on Christmas Day. The word 'bowls' was actually used for the first time in this statute. The ban was lifted following his death in 1547.

The invention of the lawn mower by Edwin Budding of Thrupp, near Stroud, in 1830 is strongly believed to have sparked the creation of bowling greens, even though the mower was originally invented for the cutting of the 'nap' on the woollen cloth, (as can be seen in the Stroud Museum). This in turn led to the codification and the rules of lawn bowls, as well as other sports such as football and lawn tennis.

In 1864 William Wallace Mitchell published a Manual Of Bowls and this became the basis of the rules of the modern game.

NAILSWORTH MILLS BOWLING CLUB

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

New members welcome.

Come for a "Roll Up" on our regular Friday evening club nights and open days starting at 6.30pm.

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



Nailsworth Mills Bowling Club was founded in 1900 and is now based within the Nailsworth Mills Industrial Estate

New members are welcome to this friendly and social bowling club and regular mixed friendly and league games are played during the week and weekends.

Taster sessions, open days and the popular Friday evening club nights are open to visitors and prospective new members during the bowls season starting in Mid-April.

The full details including directions, contact numbers can all be seen on the Nailsworth Mills Bowling Club website www.nailsworthmbc.weebly.com — or just turn up at our Friday evening Club nights which start at 6.30 pm



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Puzzle Answers

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

G	A	M	B	I	T		A	R	C	A	N	E
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C	O	N	T	E	M	P	T		E	P	E	E
E		T		R		O		O		I		A
N	I	E	C	E		T	A	B	L	E	T	S
E		R		A		S		O		C		T
S	I	N	G	L	E		J	E	W	E	L	S

Avening Zip Wire Project

Following last years successful crowdfunder and several local grants (see 'backers' on project page, details below), we have now raised a fantastic £8,000. However, we have re-set our target to £10,500 to take account of actual prices and to purchase a steel zip wire instead of timber.

What's next?: We have applied for Cotswold District Council Community funding through 'Crowdfund Cotswold' – CDC have linked their funding this year to a crowdfunder in order to raise a projects profile and harness local support. To be in with a chance of a grant we have therefore launched a new crowdfunder campaign! We had huge support last year (186 supporters) which should be taken into account. However, we still need to demonstrate ongoing local support so would ask you to open the project page below and 'like' us or ,if you wish to make a pledge, 'back' us – the more likes/backers we have, the more likely CDC are to pledge something and hopefully we can install the zip wire this year.

How do you support the project? Please visit our crowdfunder project page at: www.spacehive.com/avening-zip-wire

Spacehive is the company running the crowdfunder. The project page allows you to 'like' or 'Back this Project' (within Sport and Play category). You will be asked to open a Spacehive account with your name, email and a password to enable you to do this. Backers will also be required to set up a one-off direct debit which will only be drawn down if we meet our target in June. This is what they call an "All or Nothing" campaign – if we fail to secure the extra £2,500 all pledges will be cancelled. GoCardless will process any donations.

Thank you for your support

John Hetterley for Avening Parish Council



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Avening Parish Council



The Parish Council is holding its **AGM on May 5th at 7pm** via Zoom, which will be followed by the regular Parish Council Meeting. Due to the statutory timescales and the local elections, it was decided to merge the April and May Parish Council Meetings. The next regular meeting will be on 16th June.

The agendas will be published shortly. The meeting is open to all residents of the Parish - Please use the Zoom link below to join.

Community Support

Support can still be accessed via the Parish Council website or you can email covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk, or phone The Buzz on 07403006106

Grant Applications

Grant applications need to be submitted before the 4th May for consideration at the Parish Council meeting on the 5th. The Parish Council will not be able to consider grants outside of this meeting.

Planning Applications and Tree Works

New Applications – Planning

21/01384/TCONR :1 Spinners Cottages. Longford Mill. Pollard Weeping Willow.

Decision Notices

21/00510/FUL: 11A High Street. Change of use of commercial floor space at livework unit to residential use – Application permit.

Potholes

Report the potholes directly to Highways on 08000 514514 or at the GCC Report It website.

The next meeting will be on 5th May after the AGM - via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81814238845?pwd=Unc4VEpFWEZoVUc1OUhxeVg0bzNZdz09>

Meeting ID: 818 1423 8845 Passcode: 429172

Agendas and minutes can be viewed at www.avening-pc.gov.uk. The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

Cherington Parish Council

The Parish Council Web Site is <https://cheringtonpc.org.uk/> and along with meeting, financial and council business news you may use it to address comments both to council members and to the clerk.

Avening Community Café AGM

The Avening Community Café AGM will be held by Zoom on Monday 7th June at 7.30pm – this is just within the allowed timescale since our last action packed full house AGM held last March. What a year it has been!

We know Zoom is not a favourite with many but it will allow us to complete the necessary formalities and share ideas and answer any questions. We hope that you will want to show your support for all the café stands for and means to you and that you will put this date in your diary now and join us on that evening. The café as you know is open to the whole community – no ‘membership’ or ‘joining’ needed – we just want you to feel it is for you! Further details next month.

Jennie South



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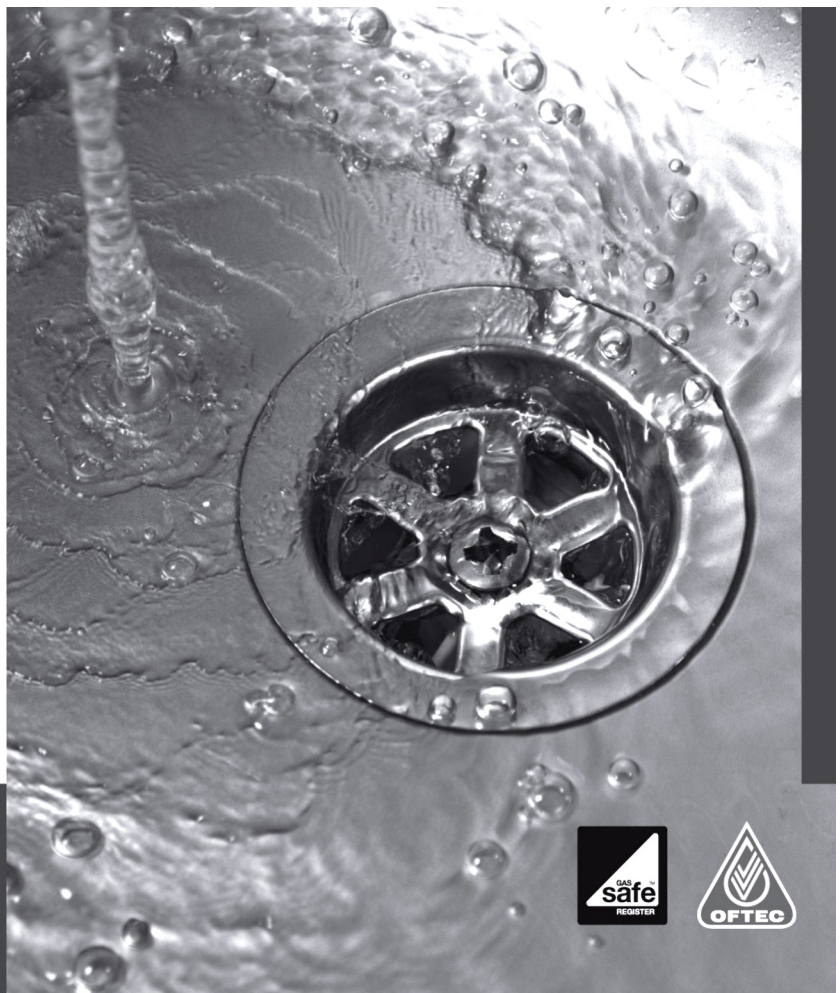
Monday 3rd May	May Music Evening	Zoom	7.30 pm
Wednesday 5th May	Avening Parish Council AGM	Zoom	tba
Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th May	FOAS Bear Hunt	Throughout Avening	10 am — 2 pm
Monday 7th June	Avening Community Café AGM	Zoom	7.30 pm
Sunday 12th September	Avening Church Fete	School and Church	
10th, 11th, 12th September	The Great Exhibition	Avening Church	



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