# The Villager

A Magazine for Avening, Cherington and Nags Head

# November 2021

PUMPK

editors@villagermag.online

### Serendipity, 1st October 2021



# 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 :** Please telephone Liz on **01453 833803** or e mail **lizknowles@hotmail.co.uk** 

# November 2021

Already November - how did that happen? The clocks have gone back, the evenings are dark, we've had the Haunted House event; it can only mean one thing. Christmas is just around the corner

Before you hit the shops - or the keyboard if you prefer virtual shopping - be sure to check out the FOAS and Playgroup joint Christmas Market on Saturday 27th November. There will be stalls selling a wonderful variety of gifts and Christmas novelties, as well entertainment for the children, some lovely festive food and Avening's own ski bar, topped off with some music and carol singing and, if we're lucky, a visit from Father Christmas. It sounds amazing!

Next month's Villager will be the bumper December and January edition, so be sure to send us information about any Christmas and New Year events you may be organising. And if you have a product or service that you would like to tell the world about, why not consider advertising in The Villager, either in the Christmas edition or ongoing. Contact Gwyneth for details on editors@villagermag.online. Rates are very reasonable and your ad will be seen in every household in Avening, Cherington and Nag's Head - plus you will be helping keep this important village amenity going. Win-win!

Don't forget to send us photos of all the fun things that happen in the Village at Christmas.

#### The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine							
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### **Photographs in The Villager Magazine**

Many thanks to **Tony Slater** for the photo on the front cover of this month's Villager of a little pumpkin getting ready for Halloween (aka Cody, Tony's grandson). Keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine.

### editors@villagermag.online

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### 5 Steps from Overwhelm to Clarity

in the brocally cots words

**Observe** Discovering your hidden operating system

**Accept** Getting to know and acknowledging all of you

> *Inquire* Choosing your life's intentions and standards of integrity

**Enact** Stepping into who you're willing to be

**Grow** Mapping out and taking charge of your life's adventure

# **Regular Activities in the Villages**

Items struck through are temporarily suspended. Would organisers please let us know when they restart.

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Community Café	Tuesday	9.30 - 11.30am	Social Club	Gill Adams 07826 291759
Churchyard tidy up	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Churchwardens
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday	10.30am - 12.30pm	Social Club car park	
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Zoom	Richard Smith
Bell Ringing	<del>Tuesday</del>	<del>7.30 -</del> <del>9.00pm</del>	<del>Church Bell</del> <del>Tower</del>	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth <del>Club</del>	<del>Every Tuesday in</del> <del>term time</del>	<del>6.00 -</del> <del>7.30pm</del>	Avening church	
<del>Over 60s Lunch</del> <del>Club</del>	<del>1st Wednesday</del> <del>each month</del>	<del>12.30pm</del>	Social Club	<del>Christine</del> <del>01453 833246</del>
Avening PC	3rd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Avening Cinema Club	<del>1st Thursday each</del> <del>month</del>	<del>7.30pm</del>	Memorial Hall	<del>Katy</del> <del>07806 614753</del>
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Social Club/ Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
Charity Quiz	Last Thursday each month	8.00pm	Queen Matilda	
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Angels Choir	Sunday	4.30pm	tba	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

# **Contacts for the Villages**

Avening & Cherington Churches Reader	Derrick Pierce	01453 835090
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	Gill Adams	01453 833175
Avening Church Organist	Colin Chambers	01666 880026
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Nicholas Winkfield	07885 139275
Avening Cinema Club	Katy Upton	07806 614753
Avening Community Cafe	Gill Adams	07826 291759
Avening Community Orchard	Phoebe Carter	pklc1@hotmail.com
Avening History Project	Jean Chatelain	01453 834713
Avening Memorial Hall		07583 073604
Avening Oil Coordinator	Frances Lindley	01453 835115
Avening Parish Council Clerk	Shani Baker	07415 039234
Avening Playgroup	Angie Heslop	01453 832695
Avening Primary School	Jane Rushton	01453 833191
Avening Silver Band	Jim Hill	01453 834438
Avening Social Club	Derrick Ind	01453 835752

Avening Youth Club	The Door	01453 756745
Cherington Village Hall	Camilla Trotter	07545 054160
Cherington Parish Council Clerk	Richard Smith	Cheringtonparishcouncil @yahoo.co.uk
Cherington Church Churchwardens	Helen Di Mauro Claudia Unger	07796 937268 07867 350122
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 Cafė 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 Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk. Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

# Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



A relatively quiet month with seemingly little to report, although there are a number of issues as mentioned in previous letters bubbling away in the background; such as the water levels in the stream and progress on repairing and updating the Memorial Hall. I will keep you updated on these as and when we have something new to report.

I will be making every effort to attend the Community Café each Tuesday morning, and use it as a form of Parish Surgery for anyone that wants to meet and discuss any parish issues in person.

### **Playing Field**

Always feels great to report good news – the Parish Councillors have unanimously supported the purchase of two more table benches to further enhance the experience of enjoying the playing field, whether it be for a picnic or watching your children play. These should be in place by the time this has been published as the two benches were delivered to my house yesterday.

I'm also very pleased to report that the Parish Councillors have approved the purchase of two additional pieces of play equipment for the children's 'enclosure' - namely a Slide and a small Roundabout. I have just placed the order and with a lead time of about 8 weeks, it will be around the Christmas period when they are installed.

Both of these pieces of equipment will be suitable for younger children, from the age of 2 upwards. The Roundabout is known as a 'Low Rotator'; and the slide is a 'Mound Slide' which will be wide enough for an adult to accompany a younger child if necessary. It will effectively be floor mounted on a mound of earth so falling off sideways presents minimal danger. So, no excuses for grandparents – come and have a go.

### **Tree Planting**

As part of the Ash die-back replenishment we have asked for an allocation of 150 whips from Gloucestershire County Council

### **Cotswold District Council Budget Consultation**

There is an on-line consultation to help form decisions for the 2022/23 budget. I would ask everyone who is able to go online and register their views and gain an insight into the current financial restraints placed on the council.

The consultation is open until midnight on Friday  $19^{th}$  November 2021, and can be accessed via the Cotswold District Council website. There will also be a local 'Budget Consultation Engagement' visit on Friday  $5^{th}$  November in Tetbury, The Market Place, 11.00am – 2.00pm for anyone wishing to attend.

### Roads

There are always potholes and Highways are always looking into them (sounds like an old joke!) but we are on their case to get them sorted asap.

#### Thought for the Month?

I was reminded recently of one of my favourite sayings; which is that 'a parent can only be as happy as their unhappiest child'. I would hope that we can have a similar community ethos. Particularly as the days get shorter and the evenings draw in and seem to last forever; it's a good time to be aware of our neighbours who may be alone or semi isolated for whatever reason. The pandemic lockdown showed us all how much care and compassion exists in our village community; of which we should be rightly proud. Christmas (yes it's nearly here already!) is just around the corner so please be alert for anyone that might need help or social contact – might be as simple as saying hello.

Keep safe and well.

Patrick Mulligan Chairman of Avening Parish Council For Covid assistance contact Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk or call 07415 039234

### **Serendipity with Light and Music**

We had a great evening of light and music, as well as some dancing, at Avening Church on Friday 1st October. We were blessed with very fine weather, so a picnic was possible in the grounds in the early evening before the music began and later the church building looked beautiful in the floodlights. Inside, there were extra spectacular lights, which created a wonderful setting for a whole range of music performed by our local vocalists and musicians. Thank you so much to them and to the enthusiastic audience who made this a wonderful and memorable occasion..

Many thanks to Tony Slater for the photos on page 2 which sum up the evening very well.

Gill Adams



# **Avening and Cherington Churches**

October in Holy Cross church was bustling with events. We celebrated our Harvest Festival on a warm sunny morning, just hours before cold winds and rain made us aware of the changing of the seasons. It was an opportunity to thank God for all that is good in our lives. At that service, we also celebrated Gerald and Jennie South, who have led us forward in so many ways over the past 4 years. We will miss them and we wish them a happy retirement.







Gerald had a packed church for his final Sunday service in Avening

Gerald had been working with the Roman Catholic Church in Tetbury to organise a joint service in Avening. That service took place the next day and was appreciated by Roman Catholics and Anglicans alike. Later that week, Gerald celebrated an evening service of Compline as his last church service in the village.

And now we find ourselves in a 'vacancy' for a while, a period between priests. This does not mean we will be without priests to support us and guide us, and Rev. Canon Howard Gilbert from Minchinhampton has filled our Sundays with local priests to take our services. These will follow the same pattern that we have built up over the past couple of years, alternating with Cherington for a 10am Eucharist service.

Samuel Pepys used to travel round the churches of London to listen to the different sermons on a Sunday. We will have the opportunity to hear a variety of teaching over the next months, right on our doorsteps! Do drop in and join us.

### Elizabeth Buchanan and Liz Fuller, Churchwardens for Avening

# **Church Services**

	Holy Cross Avening	St. Nicholas Cherington
7 <sup>th</sup> November	10.00am Eucharist	No service
14 <sup>th</sup> November Remembrance Sunday	10.50am Service of Remembrance	No Service
21 <sup>st</sup> November Christ the King	10.00am Eucharist	No service
28 <sup>th</sup> November First Sunday of Advent	10.00am Morning prayer	10.00 am Eucharist
5 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am Eucharist	No Service
12 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am Morning Prayer	10.00am Eucharist
19 <sup>th</sup> December	7.00pm Service of Lessons and Carols	5.00pm 9 Lessons and Carols

# **Avening Church**

From 10th October there will be a short service of morning prayer with hymns on alternate Sundays. This service will be based on the Book of Common Prayer. See the Church page for further details.

The short evening prayer service on ZOOM continues at 7.30 on Thursday evenings and is a Celtic type service.

Details from Derrick on derrickcompline@gmail.com. Or 07762702982



# **Puzzle Corner**

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

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.

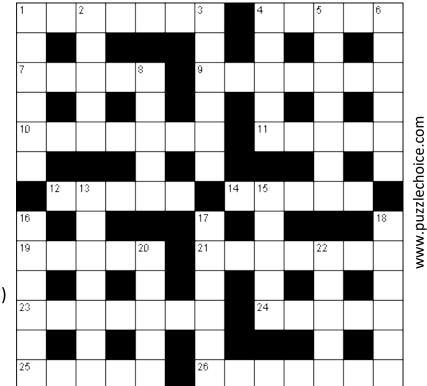
Answers on page 30

#### Across

- 1. Mode (7)
- Pole tossed in the Highlands
  (5)
- 7. Relating to the moon (5)
- 9. Diplomatic (7)
- 10. Aromatic herb (7)
- 11. Cove (5)
- 12. Main artery (5)
- 14. Sturdy (5)
- 19. Relinquish (5)
- 21. Burrowing rodent (7)
- 23. Four-sided parallelogram (7)
- 24. Stories (5)
- 25. Abated (5)
- 26. Despised (7)

### Down

- 1. Bird of prey (6)
- 2. Meaning (5)
- 3. Country (6)
- 4. Desert plants (5)
- 5. Perplexed (7)



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- 17. Dissertation (6) 18. Rubbed out (6)
- 20. Flowed back (5)
- 22. Claw (5)

6. Connect (6)

8. Respond (5)

15. Let in (5)

16. Veer (6)

13. Forbidding (7)

# **The Truth About Brictric**

There is a legend that our church in Avening was founded by Queen Matilda, wife of William the Conqueror, as an act of penance.

Before her marriage, Matilda was a princess in Flanders (one of her ancestors had married the daughter of Alfred the Great, from whom our present Queen is also descended).

To Flanders came an ambassador who the Thane (Anglo Saxon gentry) called Brictric (though Domesday Book spells it as Beorhtric). Matilda fell for him and proposed marriage, but he did not reciprocate.

Years later, when she had married William of Normandy and become Queen of England, she



took her revenge. She appears to have persuaded her husband to dispossess Brictric of all his lands, including those in Avening, and caused him to be sent to prison, where he is said to have died.

What are the known facts about Brictric? They are few but these are the sources.

The first is Domesday Book, which says that in the time of King Edward the Confessor Brictric held the Manor of Avening though 'now' (in the time of King William when the Domesday Book was completed) it belonged to the King. In addition, Brictric held land at Thornbury, Old Sodbury, Fairford and, most importantly, Tewkesbury. He also held several other small places, all of which now belonged to the King. Brictric had been the wealthiest Thane below the rank of Earl and also owned estates in Worcestershire and elsewhere.

Before the Norman Conquest some of the English nobility had defected to Canute. It appears that Brictric was among those, because he continued to witness royal Charters well into the reign of Canute. His reasons for transferring his allegiance will never be known. It seems that support for Aethelred the Unready and even for Edward the Confessor was wavering and some people genuinely thought (and probably rightly) that Canute would make a better King. However, it may also have meant that they would remain in a position of power, as indeed they did.

In the 1040s and 50s Brictric was still holding a position in the witness list, which was an indication of great importance in the royal court. In one Charter he retained some sort of ownership of the estates his father had bequeathed to Tewkesbury Abbey until 1065 at the latest.

It was not until after the next conquest under William the Norman that Brictric's career came to an abrupt end, as told in the legend, and the stage was set for Matilda's Act of Penance.



# **Avening School**

### It's all happening at Avening School!

There is so much activity happening in school at the moment and it doesn't stop at the end of the school day. The variety of weekly after school clubs taking place this term include; football, tag rugby, cross country and art. FGR also run a multi skills club after school each week. There is also plenty of singing to be heard at the moment with our Young Voices choir learning the songs for the concert in January held at the Birmingham NEC.

Before half term, school will hold its annual harvest festival with children bringing in donations for Cirencester Foodbank. The y1-y6 pupils will also be paying visits in their classes to the community orchard in Avening where they will take part in seasonal workshops.

On Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November, the school council are asking the whole school to wear anything with strips, spots or patterns on to raise money for Children in Need. We also have 'kindness week' coming up this month with the whole school working on anti-bullying themes.

The village hall was transformed by our wonderful FOAS team into a Hawaaian beach before half term, ready for the long awaited, much anticipated school disco. The children were so excited beforehand and a huge thanks must go to FOAS and also to Mel and Richard Young who ran the disco. As well as being a wonderful event for the children, the disco also raised much-needed funds for the school.

We are looking forward to welcoming children's author Hannah Shaw into school this term when she comes to talk to the children about writing and illustrating stories and will read from her hugely successful 'Unipiggle' books,

Last month, we bid farewell to our wonderful Reverend Gerald who came in and gave his last assembly before his retirement. We are incredibly grateful for everything that Reverend Gerald has done for our school community over the past few years and wish him all the very best for the future.

A team of y5/6 pupils participated in our first interschool event since before Covid, when they took part in a Quick Sticks Hockey tournament at Deer Park School. We were so impressed with the teamwork displayed by our players who won both matches they played, as well as learning hockey skills.

We were so delighted to welcome visitors back into our school again at our annual open morning last month. Visitors were given a tour of our school by members of the school council and then treated to resident baker Mrs Wilkinson's delicious cake.

For more information, please contact the school office and for more information about this busy place of learning, please see our school website: www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk

# Gilian's Poem of the Month

### **Stormy Day**

Oh! There is so much beauty in this wild November day! I lift my head, feel rain beat on my face, And run, exultant, with the gusting wind, Whilst overhead great, billowing storm-clouds chase. Beneath my restless feet old bracken flows In tawny drifts, clothing the wind-swept hill, And mist veils distant fields, and shrouded woods, All wreathed with cloaks of Autumn, somber, still. I hear the gusting rush of driving rain Scream round gaunt skeletons of wintry trees, Pungent with scent of wet November woods, Where wind whirls floods of rusty, fallen leaves. The jigsaw of the skies, black, purple, grey, Is rent apart, as lightening cleaves the skies, And thunder echoes round from hill to hill, Then fades into the distance as it dies .... White, wheeling seagulls shriek with eerie cry, Tossed skylarks, Summer's relics, tumble, fall, The last leaves of Autumn pirouette in death, As all of Nature answers this wild call!

Raw Nature's great exuberance unleashed With mad abandon, roars across the land! Such force! Such majesty! Such power! .... I stand, awe-struck, by God 's almighty hand.

**Gilian Bulmer-Davison** 

# **Avening Memorial Hall...**

.... is now open for business and taking bookings.

Contact Bob Scurfield (07498 952564) for further details

# **Avening Community Orchard**

By the time you read this the children at the primary school will have had a fun workshop in the orchard learning all about orchards and fruit trees. The course was led by Trust Juice and funded through the Gloucestershire Thriving Communities Fund. We have also delivered a talk to the Avening WI and our speakers fee is going into the orchard fund to help with providing tree tags.



In September we had a great morning in the orchard clearing bramble and trying to get it onto shape. Thank you to everyone who attended, and it was so lovely to see some new faces too. Please do get involved. For a small space, there is a lot of management to do in these early years. Look out for dates for management days in here, on our Facebook page and on our website:

www.aveningcommunityorchard.co.uk.

Our information board is nearly ready and I'm told our benches and tables (ordered months ago!) are nearly ready for delivery. Everything crossed that by spring the orchard will be ready to enjoy.

**SAVE THE DATE:** On December 11<sup>th</sup> there will be a pruning workshop for anyone who wants to attend. Come along and learn how to prune fruit trees, a great skill for your own gardens and for helping us look after the orchard in the future! The workshop will focus on the older fruit trees in the orchard as well as all how to look after our younger trees. The course will be led by Trust Juice and I am hoping to arrange a little cider tasting of hand crafted cider with Bushel and Peck too.

Please do get involved. The orchard is for everyone.

### Phoebe Carter

# Avening and Cherington Cricket Club A Celebration of All Seasons

A chance for all ex-players, tea ladies and supporters to come together for a final get together.

Friday 5th November at 7.30pm at Minchinhampton Golf Club

£5 per ticket

Please contact Sarah Smith for further information

### sarahsmith777@hotmail.com

# **Knitting and Crochet Needed:**

If you knit or crochet, can you make something for our *Knit for Peace* Parcel ?

*Knit For Peace* is a London based charity that collects knitted/ crocheted items and sends them where they are needed. At the moment they need:



Blankets - all sizes Adult sized sweaters and cardigans Knitted toys

We have started the ball rolling with some knitted teddies, and knitted or crocheted squares for blankets.

Come and join the knit and natter table at Avening Community Café, Tuesdays 9.30 - 11.30. We have spare knitting needles and plenty of yarn, donations of acrylic yarn very welcome See the *Knit for Peace* website to learn about the charity and find free patterns <u>knitforpeace.org.uk</u>

**Community Café Knit and Natter** 



townes 10wnes 01453827474



Wouldn't you pay a wee bit more to see much less of us ? (Even if we are lovely!)

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# **Avening Community Café**

On 12th October we had an update from Clare Bebbington on the Community Orchard. This is already a very special part of the village, with a rich diversity of trees, plant life, insects and birds. The aim of the Orchard project is to protect and enhance this area, as well as provide a sanctuary and breathing space for people and wildlife. You can find out more about the Orchard and how you can help on their



Facebook page.

The same morning at the cafe we had a surprise visit from a man dressed as a daffodil! We had quite a few laughs, took some photos (some people tried on the daffodil hat!) and bought some daffodil bulbs which will be lovely in our gardens. However, there was a serious point to the visit, which was to highlight the work of the organisation 'Young Minds'.

We look forward to seeing you this month at the café, do come along and help us to celebrate our third birthday on Tuesday 9th November - a very important date on our

calendar. With your help and support we have achieved a great deal over the last three years, as well as keeping going in very difficult circumstances and we would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone involved.

#### WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

"KNIT & NATTER" – here every week. Bring your own craft to share.

Nov 9<sup>th</sup> "CAFÉ BIRTHDAY PARTY" – Now we are 3! Raise a glass with us to mark this special date with memories of all that has happened since Nov 2018.

Nov 16<sup>th</sup> "ART WITH MARK" – two hours from 9:30am (£3 per session, all materials included).

Nov 23<sup>rd</sup> "CREATIVE WRITING" – with Atlanta Rayner in the quiet room from 9:30am (£2.50 for one hour session).

All welcome for coffee, homemade cakes and a chat every Tuesday morning in the Social Club from 9:30 - 11:30. Also visit "Plants on the wall" High Street and "The Book Box" on Old Hill.

......Follow us on Facebook for one-off events and other news.

John Hetterley For Avening Community Café

# **Avening Cinema Club**

### **Avening Cinema Club Needs You!!!**

Now that the Memorial Hall are taking bookings again, and the Rural Cinema Project is back up and running, we are finally in a position to potentially restart screenings!

However, I am currently expecting baby number 3 and with that imminent arrival I think the time has come for me to hand over the Avening Cinema Club reins to someone with a little bit more time on their hands! I can do a full handover with any willing volunteers, and be on hand to help out at screenings (baby arrival permitting!). This would also suit a couple or handful of people wanting to join forces to run the club.

Please spread the word and contact Katy Upton for more information:

Phone: 07806 614753. Email: katywingrove@hotmail.co.uk

The film club is a not for profit community event. Any profit made after screening/ licence costs will be donated to local charities.

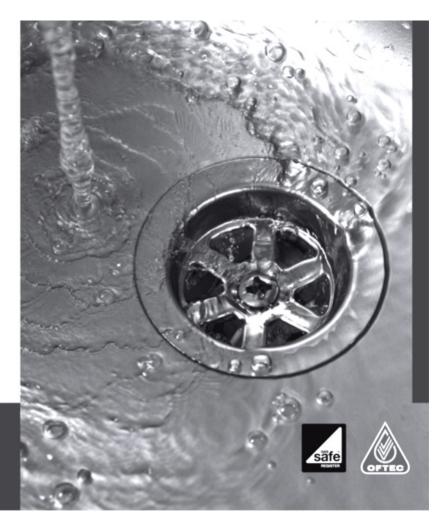
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# **Avening Playgroup**

We are now able to introduce our fourth member of staff, Estelle Boyde. Estelle and her family moved to Avening from Birmingham in 2019. She has a son and daughter, both at primary school. Although this is a new venture for Estelle, she has had experience of supporting others with disabilities and additional needs. We look forward to working with her. Estelle now completes our team of playgroup staff, which is:

Angie Heslop – Early Years Manager

Liz Blick – Deputy Early Years Manager

Shannon Wood – Early Years Assistant

Estelle Boyde - Playgroup Assistant

The committee and staff are busy preparing for the Christmas Market on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2021. Once again we are joining forces with FOAS to provide a variety of



stalls, entertainment, food and drink as well as a kid's zone. Of course, Santa will be making an appearance, so don't forget to book your time slot.

Our little elves will be making door to door collections between 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November. Alternatively you could drop any items off at the playgroup or at the Memorial Hall on the morning of the Christmas Market. We are looking for donations of bottles, chocolates and raffle prizes. Unfortunately, we will not be able to accept any bric-a-brac or toys this

year.

During the past month the children have been learning about:

Height, length and size - we have measured ourselves and recorded how tall we are on the height chart. The children have put themselves in order from smallest to tallest and



found items that are tall or short.

**Colours** – the children have been sorting different coloured Duplo blocks, following patterns threading beads and on the peg boards, drawing rainbows and looking at the colours in their immediate environment.

**Cutting and mark-making** – there has been lots of tracing over different lines and names, as well as cutting along lines and around shapes. Autumn – we have walked around the playground and talked about what is changing. The children have made paper plate hedgehogs, collages and handprint leaves, all of which are now displayed on our wall. They have played matching games with cards and items collected from their walks.

If you have a child who will be turning 3 years old during the coming school years and you would like them to join our



playgroup, please call us on 01453 832695 or email <u>aveningplaygroup@gmail.com</u>. We are open week day mornings during term time.

If you would like any more information about our playgroup or to reserve a place for your child, please email <u>aveningplaygroup@gmail.com</u>

Angie Heslop



### What is a Real Advent Calendar?



The Real Advent Calendar was created in 2013 in response to surveys which revealed that 36% of 5-7 year olds did not know whose birthday was celebrated at Christmas.

To help spread the Christmas story the Real Advent Calendar has a line of the Christmas story behind each of the 25 doors and a corresponding page in the Christmas story-activity book which expands the story.

Kids love the Fairtrade chocolate and they love the book. Parents enjoy

reading it with their kids and leaning more about the Christmas story and traditions.

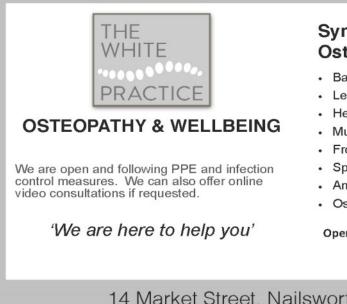
Other features of the calendar include a £300 children's prize competition in the book, a charitable donation from sales to a mother and baby clinic in Kenya, recyclable box and tray and the calendar comes packed in a hygienic wrap.

#### Where to Buy

The calendar is no longer available in supermarkets so please order from:

Christine Williams (01285 841337), Liz Fuller (01453 835067) Derrick Pierce (01453 835090) or Elizabeth Buchanan (01453 833016).

They are available from November 14th at £4.50 each.



#### Symptoms suitable for Osteopathic treatment

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### **Churches Together**

During the Pandemic of 2020/2021, Avening's Community Café continued its life with groups of six people meeting in gardens, scattered throughout the village. The Rev Gerald South and Fr Philip Thomas from St. Michael's, Tetbury's Catholic Church, met at one such meeting and began to discuss how our parishes might draw closer together in prayer.

Since Gerald was due to retire in October 2021, Fr Philip planned a ceremony to mark this, through a service of Evensong and Antiphons celebrating the feast of St Francis of Assisi on 4th October with hymns set to the words of St Francis. Everyone who attended had an Order of Service allowing them to be fully involved and to join in throughout



The service began with The Canticle of the Creatures. We sang unaccompanied led enthusiastically by Fr Philip. Both priests alternated in the prayers and psalms, with the congregation providing the Readings were responses. given from the Old and New Testaments.

The traditional format of Evensong continued with The Lord's Prayer, Collects, the Creed and Intercessions

including those for the Queen and Her People. The final hymn was a prayer attributed to St Francis commencing with the words 'Make me a Channel of your Peace'. The last sounds of the voices and music died away. We were filled with quiet contentment, enjoying the beauty of soft lighting, showing the church in all its wonder.

The silence gradually ended and the church resounded with voices, filled with greetings for and to friends. Refreshments were offered, introductions for strangers made. There were proud explanations of the design and wonder of the church, replicated many years later in the design of Durham Cathedral. Above all, we wondered at the warmth generated by our prayers in this most beautiful of Churches, set in a quiet Cotswold village. We thank our two priests for the demonstration of unity in prayer and may God's blessings be upon us all.

#### **Dominic Conway**

# **Farm Life**





As we turn our thoughts towards winter, we can take time to reflect on the summer months now behind us. I am really pleased with how this summer has panned out, from establishing new herbal ley fields to making enough silage and hay to last over the coming winter and watching the first of the new offspring on the farm become part of the herd. The past couple of months have been taken up mainly by establishing another 60 acres of herbal ley which again moves the farm closer towards our regenerative agriculture aim. The next few weeks will be taken up with ensuring that the farm is set up for the colder months ahead that will bring with it an increased demand in livestock chores from us as farmers. We 'out winter' all of our cattle, except our young stock and as a result need to start designating pastures that are capable of

withstanding cattle grazing on them all winter. We tend to stop grazing such fields in September allowing tussocky grass to form creating a thick 'carpet' capable of withstanding hoofs without being churned up. Cattle will soon be moved from their summer grazing to these fields by either walking them through the lanes, very reminiscent of a bygone era, or with our livestock box to fields a bit further away.

This year we will be trialing a new method of overwintering cattle called 'standing hay'. The difference with these fields as opposed to our winter pasture is that they have not been grazed at all through the summer, creating a thick tall sward of grass that goes to seed and dries off and dies in the stalk creating the term 'standing hay.' The nutritional value of this is low; however, in the bottom of the grass there is an abundance of clover providing high protein value. We have also dotted bales out within these paddocks to provide the grazing cattle with a diverse and complete diet to aid in their growth and development. This is known as 'buffer feeding'. The benefits to this concept are that the cattle are able to overwinter on fields not usually suitable, less machinery input has been used to make the hay and cattle are able to graze in the form most natural to



them in the wild.

As with most concepts I'm sure we will come across some teething problems but having the native breeds of cattle that we do, they will be able to adapt to any change quickly.

Our new business venture of selling our own native breed beef straight to the consumer from the farm has started really well, the support from the village has been remarkable and we are currently working with our butcher to ensure there is plentiful supply for November and the Christmas period. It installs faith in us as small scale farmers that the public are prepared to buy local and support British agriculture.



If you are interested in our beef boxes for now or

the Christmas period, please contact us on our social media pages or email us at: *flpowellandsons@outlook.com* 

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### **Smart Meters**

**Picture A** is a Smart Prepayment Meter (SPPM). **Picture B** is the In-House Display unit (IHD) which displays all the information being collected by the smart meter.



Traditional prepayment meters (PPM) are notorious for giving little information to the user yet the tariff that most PPMs use are above average in cost. Most energy suppliers provide PPM tariffs that are very similar so there is little to be gained from switching suppliers. However, PPMs are popular since they avoid the user getting into debt but have the complication of requiring a key, computer or mobile phone to be used to load the money onto the PPM.

Recently, Citizens Advice was contacted by a client (client B) who had an traditional PPM but had applied for and got a Smart Prepayment Meter installed. With an app on his mobile phone, client B successfully loaded money onto the SPPM. Then the IHD provided him with an enormous amount of information which he used to hunt throughout his house for ways of reducing his electricity and gas usage.

Firstly, the IHD provided `real time` information on his actual usage. So taking electricity as the example, Client B switched off all his electrical appliances so that there was no electricity being used. This revealed that there was a faulty electrical socket in which the electricity was arcing between the wires and using 88 watts (annual cost £100+ ). Switching off all the plugs in this socket stopped the wastage and reduced the usage to zero.

Client B then switched on, one by one, each of the electrical appliances that he needed to run his home thereby seeing how much electricity each used and assessed what he could do to save electricity. The client used two approaches (1) was to use gas rather than electricity whenever possible because the former is 80% cheaper by, for example, boiling water in a saucepan rather than an electric kettle. And (2) switching off appliances not required. For example client B found that there was a fan for drawing air into the house to reduce dampness which was totally unnecessary in periods of dry weather - so it was switched off in these periods. The client's actions reduced the electricity by half without loss of any necessary appliances while maintaining a home which was kept warm, safe and healthy.

The lesson from this case study is that a Smart Prepayment Meter could give valuable information to consumers which, if used, could save money. Smart meters on their own do not save money, it is the actions taken by the consumer based on the smart meter information which could save money.

# (Note that eligibility may vary to the details shown in this article and savings require consumer action )

(Not all our clients have such a positive experience with their Smart Meters, if you are in need of help with your energy supplier, contact Stroud/Cotswold Citizens Advice, Freephone 0808 800 0510 / 0808 800 0511 )

# Letters to the Editors

#### Dear Editors

Nigel and I would like to pass on a huge thank you for all the help and good wishes we have received from friends and acquaintances in Avening since I suffered my stroke. I am back home now and receiving daily physiotherapy and I hope to be much more mobile soon. Nigel and I will be moving on 1<sup>st</sup> October to Longhope where we have found a bungalow very close to our son Jeremy. We will miss all our lovely friends in Avening but are looking forward to looking after our new manageable garden.

#### Maisie Stanton

Dear Editors,

May we use your pages to express our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the people of Avening and Cherington. The many good wishes and enormous generosity of the gifts we received as we left the parishes was overwhelming. Thank you to all who contributed in any way to our four years here and to the memorable 'send offs' you arranged for us.

We have greatly enjoyed our time with you, have made many friends and received much support and encouragement, often from those of you who are not regular churchgoers: all this is much appreciated.

We leave you with our love and prayers for the future flourishing of Cherington and Avening and for the role of the churches within your communities.

#### Gerald and Jennie South





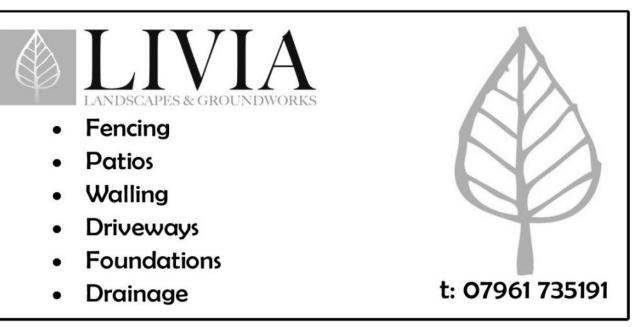
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# Avening Youth Club



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 Isak at The Door on 01453 756745.

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# **Puzzle Answers**

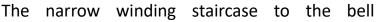
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6	7	8	4	1	5	3	9	2
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### **Church Details**

When our church bells are rung the sound travels along the valley, bouncing off the hills and surrounding the whole village. It is a cacophony to lift the heart.

The oldest 2 bells in the church tower date from 1628, and 2 others were added in about 1756. It wasn't until 1903 that the ring of six bells was completed with the addition of two more bells.



chamber is too narrow for any of the bells, so they are raised into position through a round trap door in the ceiling under the tower.



Getting ready to ring in the bell tower



As part of our Millennium project, the bells were lowered and taken to be re-tuned at the foundry, then raised into position on a newly constructed frame.

Avening names going back centuries are inscribed onto the walls of the tower, commemorating some of those who have pulled the bells for us.

Elizabeth Buchanan

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# **Avening WI**

We were very pleased to be able to hold our 91<sup>st</sup> anniversary meeting in October at our traditional venue of the Memorial Hall. We are also very grateful to the Avening Social Club for hosting us in September and for two recent daytime events.

At the meeting we had a very interesting presentation about the Avening Community Orchard project by Dr Phoebe Carter. This is a great idea to use a rather neglected piece of ground adjoining the playing field and was the brainchild of Phoebe during lockdown. Existing fruit trees were cleared of undergrowth and additional ones planted, thanks to funding from various sources. Many villagers have been involved so far, including some WI members, and the space will be a great asset to the village and wildlife. information its For more on the project visit www.aveningcommunityorchard.co.uk

At the meeting we welcomed several new members and visitors and celebrated our birthday with drinks and nibbles.





When we held our special meeting at Gatcombe Park earlier this year we had decorated the barn with our homemade bunting, which was much admired by The Princess Royal. We therefore decided to hold a bunting workshop to make some more as a gift for HRH. Having collected material in suitable colours, eleven members enjoyed a day of cutting, sewing and ironing (and lots of chatting!) along with a tasty bring and share lunch. Over 200 bunting produced. Other flags were members have been knitting some additional poppies to enhance our display at the Memorial Hall for Remembrance Day this year.

We recently bade a fond farewell to Maisie Stanton who has moved to the Forest of Dean with her husband Nigel. Maisie has been a fundamental part of our WI and the wider village for many years,

including having served as President. Her Gloucester tarts, sunflower seed biscuits, jams, chutneys and bread are legendry and she will be greatly missed.

Our next monthly meeting will be on Thursday November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Memorial Hall starting at 7.30pm, when we will be having an entertaining talk from Mark Cummings of BBC Radio Gloucestershire. Visitors and potential new members are always welcome to join our friendly group.

For further information please contact our secretary, Soo, at <u>aveningwi@gmail.com</u> or our President, Liz, on 01453 833803, or check our website <u>www.aveningwi.wordpress.com</u>

Helen Haiselden

### **Nailsworth Mills Bowls Club Wins!**

The end of season event for Nailsworth Mills Bowls Club was held in the club, with a splendid feast provided by the WI. The pictures show cups being presented by the club chairman Paul Stephens – those receiving were:



- Bob Jennings as men's team captain for achieving 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 2<sup>nd</sup> division of the south Cotswold league. It should be noted that seven members of the team were from Avening. Bob also received several cups for individual competition wins.

– Jane Beardsell received the cup as captain for winning the G.B. Britton Challenge competition, details of which were in last month's Villager

 Tom Beardsell received a special award for his work on boosting the club membership, with many new members coming from Avening.

The season has now finished, but anyone interested in having a try at a genuinely friendly and welcoming club next year (from around mid-April) should contact Bob or Tom for more details.

**Tony Slater** 

# **Church Floodlighting**

The church was floodlit on:

### Monday October 18th



Thinking of all Doctors, Nurses and Carers on the feast of St Luke, evangelist and physician.

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 Editors would like to apologise for the error in last month's Villager when the entry for 29th October should have read 'in memory of John Hopes from his wife and Family,

# **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.

Mike Mitchell Chairman Cherington Parish Council





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# **Avening Parish Council**



#### **Playing Field**

Two new benches have been delivered and will be installed soon. The slide and roundabout have also been ordered.

Please be aware that dogs are forbidden in the fenced children's play area. If you witness dog fouling and are unable or unwilling to report to Cotswold District Council, please inform the Parish Council in confidence.

#### **District Council Budget 2022**

Cotswold District Council has launched its budget consultation to gather views from as many residents and businesses as possible to help inform budget plans for the 2022 to 2023 financial year. The consultation is open until midnight on Friday 19 November. All findings will be shared with councillors before they make decisions on the budget at a meeting of the Council in February 2022.

For more information about the budget proposals go to <u>https://</u><u>www.cotswold.gov.uk/budget</u>

#### Planning Applications & Tree Works

#### New Planning Applications

21/03386/LBC: Brook House, Hampton Hill – Alterations to existing access. PC Oppose

21/03367/FUL: Brook House, Hampton Hill – Erection of four bay detached garage block, alterations to existing access & entrance gates. PC Oppose

21/03751/FUL: Court Farm Star Lane - Erection of a residential dwelling . PC Oppose

21/03535/FUL: Barn to East of Owl House, 19 West End. – Change of use of land from agriculture to residential and erection of carport. Statutory notice – No response required.

21/03695/FUL: 5 Lawrence Road. – Proposed parking bay. PC Support

21/035504/TCONR: 29A High Street. Willow - remove 4 stems and pollard, Sycamore – reduce crown to 3 meters above ground level, 2 x Leylandii & Elder – Fell, Cherry Plum – reduce crown. PC Support

#### **Decision Notices**

**2**1/02403/FUL: 20 Sandford Leaze – Insertion of front dormer window & erection of porch. Approved.

21/03044/FUL: 18, Star Lane - Proposed extension of existing garage to form double garage and ancillary accommodation. Refused

21/03047/TCONR: Bannut Tree, New Inn. Spruce & Holly – Fell, Yew – Reduce to 4 meters, Yew - reduce to 8 meters. No Objection.

#### **Police Report**

Only one crime reported in Avening for the period  $1^{st} - 31^{st}$  September. This was an incident of violence. No further information is available.

If a crime is in progress or you think a crime is in progress dial 999 or for less urgent problems dial 101. You can also report non-urgent crimes online.

#### Potholes

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

### The next meeting will be on 17<sup>th</sup> November in the Memorial Hall

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

# The Village Notice Board Update

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.



# **Dates For Your Diary**

Friday 5th November	Avening and Cherington Cricket Club Celebration	Minchinhampton Golf Club	19.30
Tuesday 8th November	Café 3rd Birthday Party	Avening Social Club	9.30 -11.30
Wednesday 17th November	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Memorial Hall	19.30
Saturday 27th November	FOAS/Playgroup Christmas Market	School and gardens	14.00 - 18.00
Saturday 27th November	Avening Village Christmas Tree lighting	Outside the Old Bakery	17.00
Saturday 19th December	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols	Cherington Church Avening Church	17.00 19.30
Saturday 11th December	Pruning Workshop	Avening Community Orchard	



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