



# **The Villager**

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

**December 2021/  
January 2022**

***[editors@villagemag.online](mailto:editors@villagemag.online)***

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# December 2021/January 2022

Another very strange year has come to an end with so many ups and downs in the world at large. Perhaps many of us feel lucky that we live in villages that have done their very best to keep going and to foster and develop an already strong community spirit.

Two of those who have contributed so much to that effort were Gerald and Jennie South. Gerald continued to serve as our parish priest for an extra year to see us through the worst of the pandemic. We are so grateful. As many of you will know, he has recently undergone major eye surgery. As usual, he has faced it with courage and humour. We wish him a speedy recovery and send our good wishes to both him and Jennie for much happiness in their retirement.

We are glad to report that it looks as if the Cinema Club will start again in the New Year, so watch the board outside the Memorial Hall, as well as this magazine, for announcements about forthcoming films. Similarly, readers may be interested to read the article about the relaunch of a history of Cherington, the result of much hard work by Liz Workman. Copies of this may be obtained by contacting her.

We sincerely hope that all our readers will have a 'proper' and happy Christmas this year and don't forget to send us photos of all the fun things that happen in the villages during the holidays. Finally, a plea for new adverts. If you, or someone you know, would like to help The Villager continue, as well as benefitting your business, please get in touch - our rates are really reasonable and our coverage extensive! Thank you all for your support in 2021. See you in February 2022!

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

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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
<del>Bell Ringing</del>	<del>Tuesday</del>	<del>7.30 - 9.00pm</del>	<del>Church Bell Tower</del>	<del>Andrew 01453 835783</del>
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
<del>Avening Youth Club</del>	<del>Every Tuesday in term time</del>	<del>6.00 - 7.30pm</del>	<del>Avening church</del>	
<del>Over 60s Lunch Club</del>	<del>1st Wednesday each month</del>	<del>12.30pm</del>	<del>Social Club</del>	<del>Christine 01453 833246</del>
Avening PC	3rd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
<del>Avening Cinema Club</del>	<del>1st Thursday each month</del>	<del>7.30pm</del>	<del>Memorial Hall</del>	<del>Katy 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		
Avening Church PCC Treasurer	Nicholas Winkfield	07885 139275
Avening Cinema Club	Katy Upton	07806 614753
Avening Community Café	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 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](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk)**

**Cherington Parish Council: [cheringtonpc.org.uk](http://cheringtonpc.org.uk).**

**Cherington Village: [www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk](http://www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk)**

**Cotswold District Council: [www.cotswold.gov.uk](http://www.cotswold.gov.uk)**



# Letter From Avening Parish Council Leader



As is quite usual at this time of year, a relatively quiet October has been followed by a seemingly quieter November as far as Parish affairs are concerned.

However, I must give my congratulations to all those villagers who were involved in organising the Remembrance Sunday Service. Not only was there an excellent attendance and service but this year it was further enhanced by the Tetbury Air Cadets being in attendance. It was a moving experience befitting the occasion, and paid due respect to the local individuals who have made the ultimate sacrifice in both World Wars and other fields of conflict.

I would refer you to the Parish Clerk's report for issues that were raised in the Parish Council Meeting but mention just one issue again – unfortunately it has to be the 'fouling' of the playing field. Please be conscientious if you are a dog walker and do the right thing. If you see anyone not following the guidelines, please report it – description of owner and dog – this can be done in confidence to any of the Parish Councillors: our contact numbers are on the Avening website.

I mentioned a few months ago that I wanted to use the Chairman's letter to raise the individual Parish Councillors profiles, and gain them recognition for the hard work they put in behind the scenes on your behalf. So, the first one up is Richard King:-



Richard has been an Avening Resident since 2016 having decided to settle here after a somewhat nomadic existence involving 8 countries and 26 (or was it 27?) house moves. He is perhaps better known to most villagers as either the husband of Clare Bebbington, or because of Ada their Golden Retriever. After a life-time working in the oil and gas industry, Richard is now part of the project to develop a fusion power plant, which if successful could be supplying almost unlimited carbon-free electricity in a few years. As some of you may be aware, Gloucester's Severn Edge is one of 5 potential sites for the

siting of the prototype fusion plant that under development. He says it is very exciting to be working on something that will not only make a significant contribution combatting climate change, but could also directly benefit the local area.

On the Parish Council Richard keeps a watchful eye on the proposed developments of The Old Quarries and Sunground – and is part of council's push to enhance the amenities at the Playing Fields on Rectory Lane. This leads nicely into an opportunity to provide an update on progress following the summer survey of village opinions and ideas.

The newly installed zip-wire has proved a great success, as have the additional park benches including those in the Community Orchard (many thanks to Phoebe Carter for organising those). We have also ordered a small slide and a carousel/whirly-bob both of which we are hoping to have installed before Christmas. We are also in discussions with

Western Power about getting a power supply to the playing fields and hope that will be possible in time for the spring.

The playing field sub-committee of Cllr Christine Howell, Cllr John Hetterley and Cllr Richard King have reviewed the numerous suggestions and ideas and have identified those which we can do quite quickly and easily, and those which are more complicated / expensive. We are getting prices for the ideas that we'd like to progress first such as a gate on the west entrance to the playing fields, outdoor gym equipment, a new basket-ball net, renovated football posts (if we can locate the key which unlocks the existing ones!) and an upgrade to the perimeter path. In the New Year we hope to be able give information about when we can implement them.

It just remains for me to wish everyone a Very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year for 2022

Keep safe and well

***Patrick (Tel 07713068436)***

***Patrick Mulligan***

***Chairman of Avening Parish Council***

***For Covid assistance contact Covid19@avening-pc.gov.uk or call 07415 039234***

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED THIS YEARS POPPY APPEAL**



I feel that now would be a good time to take a back seat regarding next years appeal.

If you feel that you could take on the ordering and distribution of the poppies and boxes for next year please get in touch, I am able to help but would like to know that the future of the Royal British Legion collections in Avening and Cherington will continue.

Derrick Pierce

I can be contacted either by email [derrick.pierce@hotmail.com](mailto:derrick.pierce@hotmail.com) or tel. 07762702982



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# Avening and Cherington Churches

Anyone driving down the Nailsworth Road in the past few weeks will feel that the sun is always shining in the world. Every tree is crowned with golden glory, even on a gloomy day.

Then comes the dark of winter and the winter preparations. Advent begins on November 28th this year and, just as we prepare to celebrate Christmas with family and friends, in the church we will be preparing to celebrate Christmas Day and the coming of the Redeemer. It really is a time for planning and for putting things right.



*Remembrance Day service*

Do join us for the Service of Lessons and Carols on December 19th in Avening church, which remembers the years of waiting in hope before the birth of the King. The following weekend, children of the village will present the story of His birth at the Crib Service on Christmas Eve (all children are warmly invited to play a role). We look forward to seeing you all at the Advent and Christmas Services.

And don't forget the tradition of eating a mince pie on each of the four Sundays of Advent!

In Avening, there will be a collection at the Sunday Services to help provide toys for families in the village who are finding it difficult at Christmas. Please give generously, either in the money box at church or online at [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com), Avening.

Warm wishes to you all for a Blessed and Happy Christmas.

***Elizabeth and Liz, churchwardens.***

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](mailto:derrickcompline@gmail.com). Or 07762702982

## 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.

## Church Services

	Holy Cross Avening	St. Nicholas Cherington
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER		5.00pm Christingle Service
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	7.30 pm. Lessons and Carols	5.00pm 9 Lessons and carols
24 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER	4.30pm NATIVITY SERVICE 11.30pm Midnight Eucharist	10.00pm Midnight Eucharist
25 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER	10.00am CHRISTMAS MORNING SERVICE	No Service
26 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER	10.00am joint service at Minchinhampton church	
2 <sup>nd</sup> JANUARY 2022	10.00am Eucharist	No Service
9 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	No Service	10.00am Eucharist
16 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	10.00am Eucharist	No Service
23 <sup>rd</sup> JANUARY	10.00am Morning Prayer	10.00am Eucharist
30 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY	10.00am Eucharist	No Service



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## Alan Vines: A Life

Alan was born on 9<sup>th</sup> January 1944 in Tetbury maternity hospital. He was premature and fairly poorly, but a healthy 5 pounds, reported his maternal grandmother writing to her eldest boy Jack. She delayed sending the news, she said, in case Alan did not make it. But he did, the first-born of his generation in his maternal family. As such he was much-loved.

He grew up, and spent almost the whole of his life, at Longtree Cottages (on the Tetbury Road), other than a few years at the old police station in Avening, purchased by our Uncle Jack so that Alan's mum Lucy could look after their ageing parents. Longtree is a set of barns and two tied cottages and belonged to Mr Laurie, the owner of Church Farm in Avening, for whom Alan's father, George, worked most of his life. The cottage has a large garden which was the pride and joy of Alan's parents, but its tending was mostly left to parents and brother Derek, as Alan did not inherit the gardening bug. Like most country people the Vines always had a dog and Alan took his share of walking these four-legged members of his household and loved them dearly.

Alan did well at junior school, passed the 11+ and moved on to Tetbury Grammar School. In more propitious times he could almost certainly have gone on to further education but he left at 16 to find employment. Home life was not always easy as his mother had a fiery temper and by his teenage years Alan could fight back. I well remember one Christmas at the police house when an altercation with Lucy led Alan to run away from home. He was missing for hours before he was eventually found.

A great skill, inherited from his father, was as an artist and he was able to draw pen and ink sketches of animals and portraits of people brilliantly. He was therefore advised to seek work as a technical draughtsman and was appointed to such a post at the long-established firm of Redlers in Stroud, where he remained until early retirement was forced on him as the firm struggled to maintain profitability.

Employment provided sufficient income for him to begin engaging in his interests and hobbies. First amongst those was motor cycling and he was immensely proud of his scarlet machine featured in the photo. He went to scrambling meets all over the country taking his camera with him to take action photographs of the riders, building up a huge legacy. He was as good a photographer as he was an artist.

Alan was an always cheerful, gentle, caring man who was particularly good with children, and was always an effective minder of small children where



his patience and humour would pacify and entertain them. He would have made a wonderful father.

Alan enjoyed country music and skiffle, but his greatest joy was the American singer Diane Solomon. Whenever she was in the UK or Ireland, Alan would ensure that he was at those concerts. Diane was kind enough to send a recorded message to be played at the funeral service.

Most of us cousins remember Alan best from our amazing sequence of Christmas parties, circulating family houses in a different order each year. Huge teas; a viewing of family slides, many taken by Alan, which enculturated us into our wider family histories, and then came the quizzes and the games! Pride of place was always given to 'Balloon Bash' to the despair of aunties who had to ensure valuable ornaments had been put away before play commenced.

Later in life, Alan settled into more sedate activities, so playing golf on the Minchinhampton course was a favorite, and he enjoyed watching international golf competitions on the TV. He also played skittles with one of the Avening teams. As his mother became increasingly infirm, and his father died, it was Alan who took on the domestic duties at home: shopping, cooking and caring for his mother. Sadly, after her demise his own health began to decline, ultimately refusing help when it was offered, but he was grateful to Tony for assisting him with computing and teaching him how to scan his many thousands of motor-cycling negatives – these continue to be published in Trial magazine.

So there we have it; an ordinary man living an unexceptional life, but a life that impacted on all of his wider family for the better. A cheerful, caring man even though, according to brother Derek, he could occasionally be 'a real occard bugger'!

*Canon Dr. Terence Slater*



## CHRISTMAS AT THE GOODS SHED

- Dec. 4/5 Christmas Craft Fair:** Two day Christmas Craft Fair at Tetbury Goods Shed - Open to the public 10.30am to 5.30pm
- Dec. 10 Johnny Coppin: All on a Winter's Night:** Johnny Coppin is back to presents his annual feast and rich mix of traditional carols and new songs, together with stories, folklore and superstitions. 7.30 Tickets online £17.00
- Dec. 17 Community Carols:** Come and join us for this magical start to Christmas. 6.30pm
- Dec. 30 Panto: Cinderella:** We welcome back Wonder Productions and their performance of the timeless story of rags to riches – Cinderella. 2pm. Tickets £10 adults, £8 under 14s

Details and booking on our website: [www.shed-arts.co.uk](http://www.shed-arts.co.uk)

# Puzzle Corner

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

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## Sudoku

Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each

3-by-3 block contain all of the digits 1 - 9.

If you use logic you can solve the puzzle without guesswork.

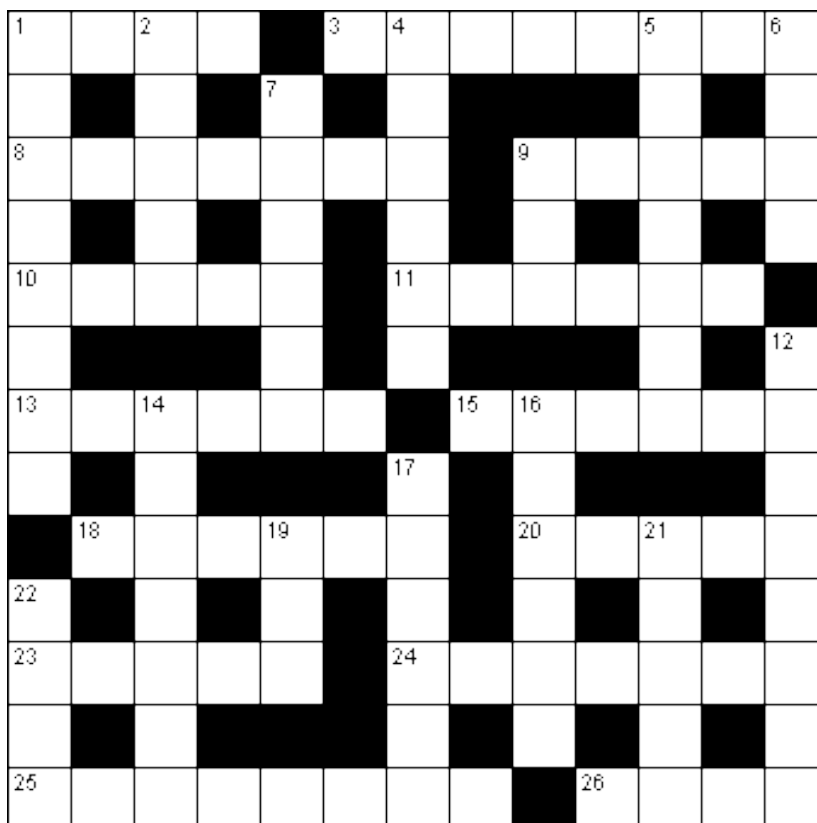
*Answers on page 30*

## Across

1. Block out (4)
3. Amaze (8)
8. Article of clothing (7)
9. Meaning of a word (5)
10. Board game (5)
11. An extreme attainment (6)
13. To the opposite side (6)
15. Upper deck of a ship (6)
18. Reptile (6)
20. Thick (5)
23. Nimble (5)
24. Look over carefully (7)
25. Got back (8)
26. Notable achievement (4)

## Down

- |                               |                                  |                             |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Prestidigitator (8)        | 7. Periodic population count (6) | 16. Pungent edible root (6) |
| 2. Tennis stroke (5)          | 9. Pouch (3)                     | 17. Look up to (6)          |
| 4. Planet (6)                 | 12. Vanquished (8)               | 19. Simian (3)              |
| 5. Disregarded (7)            | 14. Precipitating (7)            | 21. Female relative (5)     |
| 6. Pay close attention to (4) |                                  | 22. Impartial (4)           |



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# Avening Community Café

There were ghoulish goings on and half term horrors at the creepy Halloween café with spooky cupcakes plus free drinks for everyone in fancy dress.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday on Nov 9<sup>th</sup> was well attended with everyone receiving a free glass of bubbly!



The support of our café friends is much appreciated. We are especially proud that this year we have raised the fantastic sum of £800 from the café bring and buy “Plants on the Wall” in the High Street. This sum will be shared with local charities; the Mark Townsend Trust, Longfield and the Door. A big ‘Thank You’ to you all and we look forward to your continued support in the years to come.



## WHAT'S ON?

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

**Dec 11<sup>th</sup> “SATURDAY MORNING CAFÉ” from 10am - 12 noon:** Bacon Butties and all the café special bakes with hot and cold drinks. Plus, if you're feeling energetic, you can walk up to the Orchard to help with pruning and get a coffee refill at Clare's Carboot Café!

**Dec 14<sup>th</sup> “MEET A LOCAL AUTHOR”:** An opportunity to chat with published local author Stella Stonestreet (author of the Finally Fabulous series)

**Dec 21<sup>st</sup> “CAFÉ CHRISTMAS PARTY”:** A Prize for every child who dresses up in their Christmas party clothes

**Dec 28<sup>th</sup>:** Café is Closed

**Jan 4<sup>th</sup> “WELCOME IN THE NEW YEAR”:** Café re-opens from 10am – 12 noon

**Jan 18<sup>th</sup>:** “ART WITH MARK”: two hours from 9:30am (£3 per session, all materials included).

**Jan 25<sup>th</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. Mobile Post Office on site from 10:30. Also visit “Plants on the wall” High Street and “The Book Box” on Old Hill.

**John Hetterley**  
**For Avening Community Café**

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

# Gilian's Poem of the Month

It was at just this time of year that I found my forever house, here in Avening. I was lucky enough to spend almost a quarter of my life there and my four children spent a happy childhood growing up there, but, sadly, it was not to be my 'forever' home after all. But this old house saw us through many changing scenes of life and was always a haven and a refuge in trouble and in joy. All these years later, whenever I hear that beautiful word 'home', my thoughts instantly fly back to that old house, which will always be my 'forever home' in my heart....

## On Finding The Forever House.

The old house drowsed in the gentle winter sunshine,  
Bright stars of jasmine cloaking it's sun-kissed walls,  
As it stood above the tree-lined, sheltered valley,  
And I heard, in the frosty silence, a waterfall...  
I opened the door of heavy, ancient oakwood,  
And the house held wide it's warm and welcome arms,  
And I fell in love, as I entered that sunlit hallway,  
And felt myself wrapped in a timeless, peaceful calm....  
Oh! I'll fill it with cherished oak, and burnished copper,  
Place my grandfather clock, with his heartbeat deep and slow,  
Have great log fires ablaze on the open hearthstones,  
And bright silver and brasses to echo the rosy glow.  
I'll curtain the windows with chintz and rich, dark velvet,  
To frame these views of snow- filled, wintry skies;  
I'll scatter the floors with soft, deep rugs and carpets,  
And the house will resound with happy children's cries.  
I'll place bowls of flowers and berries, for pools of colour,  
Stand dressers of china bright, and shelves of books,  
Hang pictures upon the walls of well-loved paintings,  
Have dogs on the rugs and cats in the inglenooks!  
For this house will be our own forever house now,  
With it's crooked walls, and low, dark beams above,  
With a Christmas tree in the hall, and holly, and candles,  
And joyful carols, to fill its rooms with love.....

*Gilian Bulmer-Davison*



# Avening School

## **It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at Avening School!**

Last month, the whole school came together for an assembly of remembrance, followed by a moment of silence and reflection in Avening Churchyard. The 52 names of members of the Avening community who lost their lives in both World Wars were read out by pupils from Year 6 and crosses were placed around the Millennium Cross by members of the school council. We were incredibly proud of all of our pupils who behaved impeccably throughout.

Interschool sports events have always been an important part of our extra-curricular calendar at Avening School, but due to the restrictions and challenges of the past two years, they have not been possible. It is with great excitement, therefore, that we have two interschool football tournaments coming up this term; one at Sir William Romney's School in Tetbury and one in Cirencester. Looking ahead, we have several more sports events in the diary, including; tag rugby, a hi-5 netball event, Quad kids (athletics), a dance festival and cricket tournaments, all uniting us with schools in our local cluster. Enabling the children to get to and from these events, we are fortunate to have the use of the SWR school minibuses and are delighted to announce that our very own Mr Wilkinson, Mrs Amos and Mrs Carter have all recently passed their minibus driving tests. Go Team Avening!

Continuing on our sports theme, we must also give thanks to the group of young sports leaders from Sir William Romney's School who have been running sessions for our pupils in football and tag rugby. Gloucester Rugby Academy are also coming into school to run a rugby session and Forest Green Rovers Football Club are continuing their fantastic work with the whole school by currently running an after-school multi-skills sports club for our pupils in year three.

Our love of the dramatic has not been forgotten in the whirlwind of sporting activity, and we are so excited about our Christmas productions this year. The Reception and KS1 children will be performing a modern retelling of the nativity in their production of 'The Angel who nearly missed it all', while the KS2 children will be transporting their audiences to a magical forest in their performance of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream.'

Every class will also be embarking on a trip to the theatre before Christmas with the Eagles and Kestrels classes travelling to the Wyvern Theatre to watch Jack and the Beanstalk; the Hawks to Bristol Old Vic to see Robin Hood and the Owls will be watching Peter Pan at the Malvern Theatre.

The last week of term will be non-stop activity with the Christmas productions, School Christmas lunch, a carol service and class Christmas parties. Phew! That just leaves us to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and we look forward to reporting our plans for the spring term in the New Year.

*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](http://www.avening.gloucs.sch.uk)*

## GOVERNOR VACANCY

We are looking for a volunteer to join our governing body to help contribute to the success of the school. We are particularly interested in people with a background in data, education, finance or strategic decision making skills but are keen to hear from anyone interested in helping the school be the best it can be. Full training is available and governors are encouraged to attend regular training sessions. If you are interested please email [clerk@avening.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:clerk@avening.gloucs.sch.uk)

## Church Details

The churchyard in Avening is extensive, with gravestones dating through the centuries. The soft-coloured Cotswold stone lends a pleasing uniformity and it is interesting to see the style differences, from the simple but powerful stone slabs, laid flat, to the ornate table graves and the personal touches on the modern gravestones.

Churchyards are places of peace, tranquillity and reflection. They mark past lives and they are backdrops for important celebrations such as baptisms, weddings and national celebrations. They are important, not only to those whose loved ones might be buried there, but also in establishing the setting of the church. The Diocese of Gloucester ensures that the churchyards are maintained so their historical, architectural and ecological qualities are preserved. The regulations try to protect what is loved within our churchyards, and to keep beautiful the area surrounding the church. These rules affect all of us who use the churchyard.

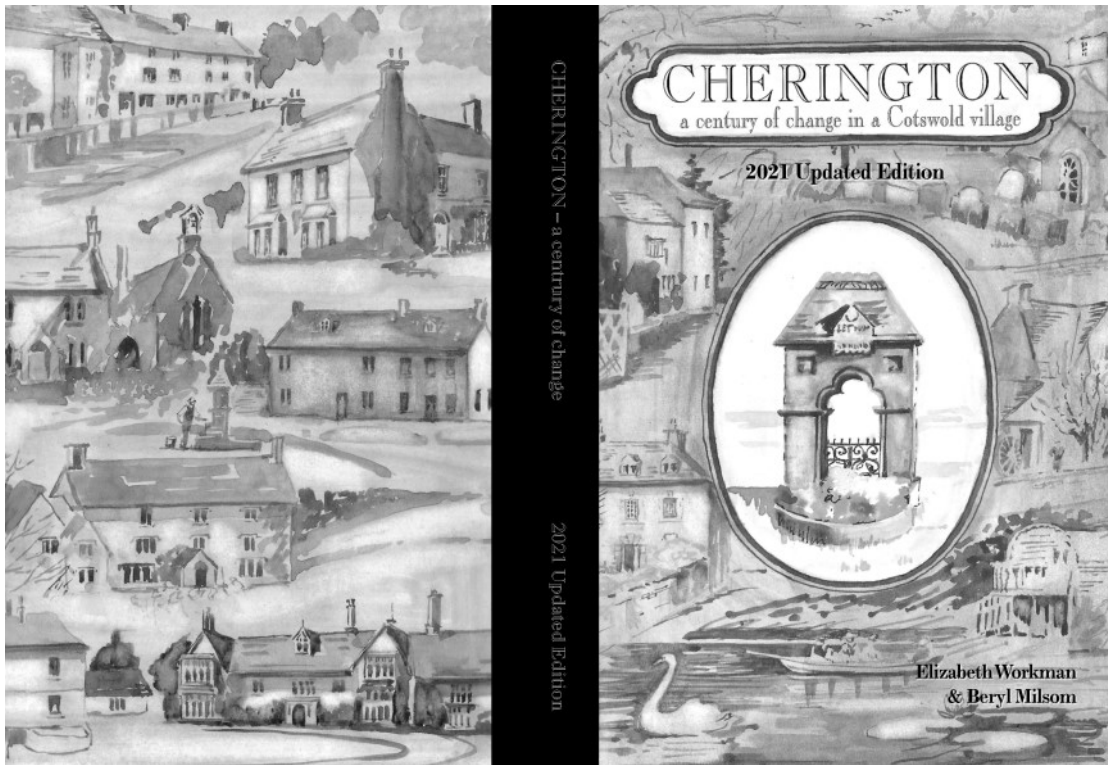


1. Wreaths and cut flowers may be placed in removable containers or laid on a grave. (Artificial flowers are not allowed except for Remembrance Day poppies and traditional Christmas wreaths).
2. The PCC may remove wreaths and flowers if they have deteriorated.
3. Bulbs or small annual plants may be planted in the soil of a grave but not in any container. (Trees or shrubs may not be planted).
4. In order to make it possible to mow the churchyard safely, please do not put kerb stones, gravel or stone chippings on the graves.

In the COVID situation of the past couple of years, some of these rules were ignored - we could not even get to the shops to *buy* flowers, for a start! Now it's time to remember the rules and to tweak things to make the churchyard more eco-friendly and more beautiful.

***Elizabeth Buchanan***

# Cherington – a Century of Change in a Cotswold Village



First Published in 2000 as part of Cherington's Millennium Project  
**Liz Workman and Beryl Milsom.**

## ***Liz, what gave you the idea of writing this book and when did you start?***

In 1994 Beryl Milsom and I were talking outside my front door – she was telling me what it was like living in the village when she first came in 1957. Water and electricity were then soon to be laid on. The marvel of electric light, of water being piped into your cottage, (not having to fetch buckets of water from the fountain on the Green), flush lavatories, mains drainage, street lighting all in turn revolutionised the lives of those who lived in villages in rural England. I came from such a village and vividly remembered the life-changing difference these modern conveniences made for the cottagers in my home village. With a book in mind, we decided to collect reminiscences, from older residents whilst they were still with us and record them. We collected tape recordings, (a glass of sherry often made memories flow) and written accounts from all those happy to contribute. There were farmworkers and their families living in the village with forebears still about and the Milsom and Keylock families in particular were invaluable sources.

From 1995-1998, however, I was otherwise engaged with organizing the music for the International Festival of the Sea in Bristol (1996) – Peter was Managing Director, also with the Matthew Project, and there were several trips to Newfoundland, so for me the Cherington Book had to be put on the back burner.

### ***How did you go about planning the chapters?***

Firstly we decided that since there was little recorded history of general interest between the entry in the Domesday Book and ensuing couple of centuries until John George's purchase of Aston in 1804, the book would be confined to the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The Gloucester Records office was an invaluable source of information. The chapters evolved from a list of the most important aspects of a village life: Cherington Park and its inhabitants, the church, the school, farming, the lake and fountain and the regular activities undertaken and enjoyed by all in the village.

### ***What were the greatest challenges?***

We were at pains to include and consult as many people as possible whilst hoping not to offend or upset anybody!

We then had to acquire grants and funding to cover the printing costs of a book.

### ***What were the most exciting bits/find/stories?***

There were unexpected stories: Malcolm Tarlton falling down the well in the hallway of Cherington Park when only 11 and there were too one or two fanciful stories. But it is the great collection of old photographs we assembled, so many from the Milsom family but also the Tarltons and Rymers which have contributed so much to the narrative as the reader journeys through the book: Cherington Park as it was, Miss Gertrude George, the school photographs down the years, the picture of the boat house and boating on the lake c. 1900: the charabanc outing – all bring the history of Cherington to life. Such a treasure trove of photographs which before returning to their owners we had photographed professionally and made into a fine leather bound album for posterity.

### ***So why update the book now?***

The book was gratefully accepted at a Parish meeting as the village's Millennium Project (though I don't think there were many other ideas!) 750 copies of the original book were printed and sold. There are now many new residents in the village who would like to own a copy of 'A Century of Change in a Cotswold Village'.

But it's not just for the residents of Cherington, it is a record of a village life and its changes over the years. As in most villages the past twenty years or so have thrown up even more rapid changes and so these have been incorporated in an updated chapter 2000-2021. It is complete with contributions and photographs from current inhabitants preceding a reprint of the original (unexpurgated) book.

### ***So when will it be available?***

It is currently with the printers and if anyone wishes to pre-order a copy or copies then they can email me on [liz@theworkmans.co.uk](mailto:liz@theworkmans.co.uk). The book will be £10, proceeds to village causes.

(Liz has been working really hard collecting photos and contributions for this new updated version, and we wait with excitement for the launch. Thank you Liz for all your hard work.)

***Liz was talking to Kate Gegg***



# Avening Playgroup

The committee and staff have put together an action plan for 2021-2022 and the main focus apart from staff training will be to develop the outside area and create more fun activities for the children. Liz and Shannon have already started by rearranging the sand pit and mud kitchen. We would also like to make a messy area with lots of sticks, stones and mud at the bottom of the playground and repaint the playground as it is slowly fading.

During the past month the children have been busy learning about Halloween, Diwali, bonfire night and also Remembrance Day. They have been taking part in lots of activities to develop their creative skills and this will continue over the next few weeks with lots of Christmas activities.

The children have been drawing scary faces on paper pumpkins and learning about the lifecycle of a pumpkin. We have been looking at spiders and the children have been drawing them in their mark-making books



We talked about the story behind Bonfire Night and made firework pictures using toilet rolls, which were cut at the ends and brightly coloured paint.

We have been looking at books to see how Hindu families celebrate their New Year and have made Rangoli chalk drawings as well as Mehndi hand patterns. The children also had fun decorating biscuits as food is very important in the Diwali celebrations.

We have also talked about the significance of poppies and Remembrance Day. The children have been colouring in some poppy pictures which we then displayed in the window.

Our other weekly focuses have been colour and the numbers 1-10. The children have been tracing over numbers, been given lots of opportunities to count

The home corner remains a firm favourite with the children, especially now that it has been turned into a café. They enjoy using the till and money, as well as taking orders on the note pads.

Dates for the diary:

- Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 – Last day of the autumn term.
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2020 – first day of the spring term.



– W/C 21<sup>st</sup> February – Half term week

The staff, committee, children and the families at Avening Playgroup wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

If you would like to know more about the playgroup or to reserve a place for your child, please contact us on 01453 832695 on weekday mornings or email [aveningplaygroup@gmail.com](mailto:aveningplaygroup@gmail.com).

*Angie Heslop*

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## **Avening Homeworkers Christmas Lunch**

### **Greetings Avening Homeworkers/self employed!**

This year the Avening homeworkers lunch is up and running once again!

The date is Wednesday 15 December at the Queen Matilda.

Lynne will be opening at 12.00 midday for drinks, and food will be served at 1.00 pm.

If you are able to come please contact Lynne directly for menu

You can email [trulockes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:trulockes@hotmail.co.uk)

or phone 01453 350305

or just pop into the pub in person

Please give a couple of weeks notice if possible so that there is plenty of time to order the food

Please feel free to invite other homeworkers who might not be aware of the event.



## **Avening Cinema Club**

**AVENINGCINEMA CLUB**



Avening Cinema Club will return at the start of 2022! Keep a look out for details of the upcoming showings. We look forward to welcoming you back in the New Year!

For further information contact Sophie or Sue at [aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com](mailto:aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com)

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

## Cherington Show 2021



We recently held a Village Meeting to say thank you to everyone to who had supported the Cherington Show. Everyone in the Village plays a part over the weekend and we could not manage without all that help. It was interesting holding the Show in September rather than our usual July, but in no way did it make it less successful - but next year it will be back in July.

The date of the next Show is **Sunday July 24<sup>th</sup>**. Block your calendar now!



Thanks to all the sterling efforts over the last two years, across the Show, the Summer Plant sale and the Apple Juice bottling, we now have an extremely healthy bank balance which means we can support our Church and Village Hall but also to look at other community projects to benefit the village.

Well done Cherington. Each and every contribution has helped that to happen, whether it was running a stall, selling raffle tickets, making cakes, jams and chutneys, serving teas, helping logistics, or any activity which draws more people here and gives our customers and friends a great afternoon out.

**Kate Gegg**



# Farm Life



Recently, I met with Lord Bathurst at Cirencester Park to negotiate buying some of his rare-breed pedigree Gloucester heifers to join our herd. His herd was founded in the early 1990s with help from breed advocate Joe Henson (Adam Henson's father). His cows freely roam the grounds of the Bathurst Estate and after being shown around, we managed to pick out five in-calf heifers that would fit in well with our existing girls. For the first week we kept them in the shed so they could adjust to their new surroundings and we could check for any issues that may arise from the move. As livestock farmers we are advised to isolate any incoming stock for a few days to reduce any potential risk of disease being contracted by the other animals in our herd.



After this isolation period was over we let them out into a field adjoining the farmyard, home to our Gloucester's. First came a land speed record attempt by the new girls to see who could explore the field boundaries the quickest and second came the customary pushing and shoving by the older cows, which is normal to establish hierarchy within the herd. Dad has an expression when we let cattle out into a new field - "get their heads down!" By

this he means stopping them from frantically running around the field in blind excitement, when they are likely to break straight through any fences. To do this we either take a bale of hay or some cow pellets to re-direct their focus onto eating. This usually works and by the time they have finished they have calmed down and have returned to plodding around the field. Two weeks later and the new girls have found their place in the herd and act like they have always been there.

We've really started to get into our winter feed this year and the weather is not particularly bad yet. To try our best to stretch out the food we have, we find any grass on the farm that remains ungrazed from the summer months. This means using the strip-grazing method to again make the most use of the grass we have.

Our 'standing hay' concept is working well on the ex-arable land, which means that at least the herd over there is not eating the valuable hay in the shed (which is a big relief for us!).

As this edition of The Villager covers the Christmas period I thought I would touch on how the farm operates over the festive period, which is pretty much the same as every other day. For the big day itself, we always try our best to do as many jobs as possible on Christmas Eve, so that only the routine jobs such as feeding the cows are left for both Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Fortunately for us, we always have willing family

members who come and help on both mornings to get the jobs done and dusted, leaving the rest of the day to enjoy.

It always sticks in my mind that my grandfather told me that he never got to see his children open their presents on Christmas morning, as by the time he was back from milking the cows and sorting the milk out for delivery it was nearly lunch time. I think that encapsulates the hard work of farmers around the country, particularly at this time of year, and the passion and love that goes into producing good food.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year here at F L Powell & Sons. Our meat box business has started off really well and we are very lucky to have a wonderful customer base here in Avening. We are also so pleased to hear the very kind comments about this little article over the past year.

**Sam Powell**

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## Cherington Harvest Barn Dance



Cherington came together in October to celebrate harvest and also to celebrate the ministry of Gerald South who retired as our parish priest this month. In good Cherington tradition we celebrated with Dancing and Feasting! Combining resources and talents for a memorable evening.

Kate and Roger Gegg generously lent us the use of their fields and tents supplied by John Bate Williams which were in use for more dancing and

partying the night before. Ann, Sarah Jane, Helen and Isabel all made batches of couscous and chilli and garlic bread served on long trestle tables with flower arrangements from the Cherington gardens and hedgerows. We also made good use of left over ice creams from the Cherington Flower Show, which came in handy after all the whirling and reeling on the dance floor! George Buchanan and his Ceilidh Collective of musicians provided wonderful live music for a series of traditional barn dance numbers.

Local artist and parishioner Liz Workman had been commissioned by the PCC to paint a wonderful painting of St Nicolas Cherington which we presented to Gerald and Jennie that evening along with a book of photographs taken during his tenure with us, many of which were from the wonderful outdoor services he took for us during the pandemic.

Thank you Gerald and Jennie for your guidance, positivity and support.



*Helen DiMauro*

## Avening Memorial Hall...

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

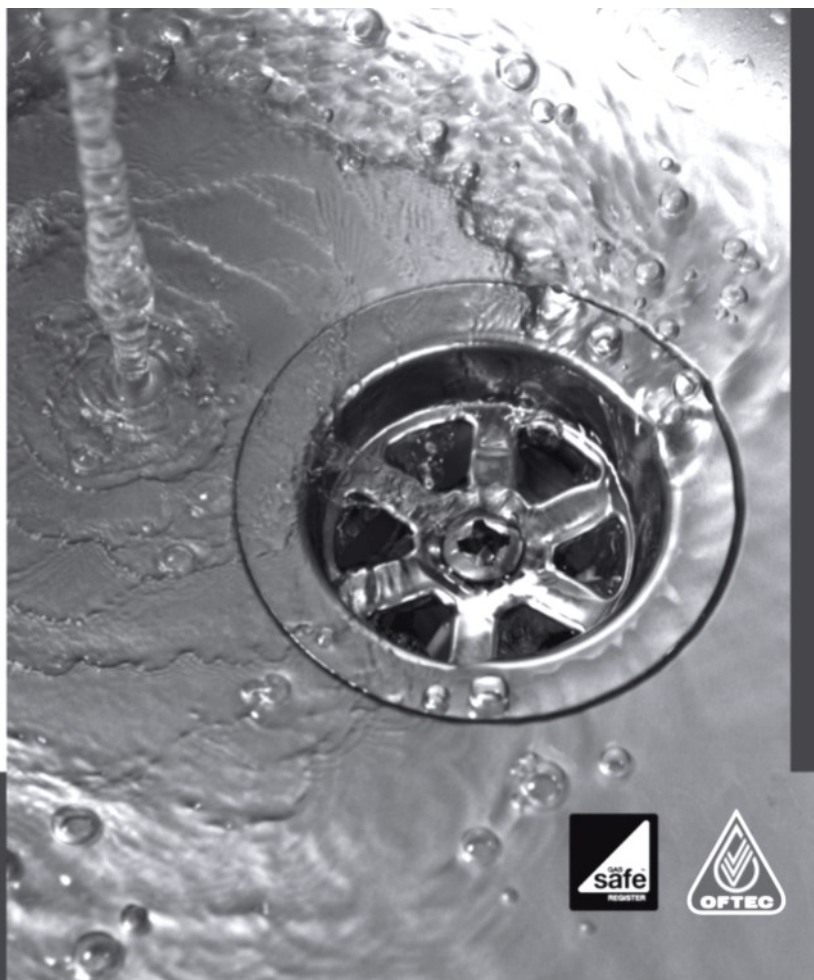
Contact Bob Scurfield (07498 952564) for further details



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## A Bite to Eat?

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

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

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

**For prices and any further details :**  
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## **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](http://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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A		E		C		A				G		E
G	A	R	M	E	N	T		S	E	N	S	E
I		V		N		U		A		O		D
C	H	E	S	S		R	E	C	O	R	D	
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3	6	4	7	8	9	1	5	2
9	5	8	1	3	2	6	7	4
2	7	1	4	6	5	9	3	8
1	9	3	2	7	8	4	6	5
7	8	6	5	9	4	2	1	3
4	2	5	6	1	3	8	9	7
6	3	9	8	2	7	5	4	1
8	4	7	9	5	1	3	2	6
5	1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9

## Letter to the Editors: A Mystery Solved!

I finally got around to reading the September issue and noted you wanted explanations about the dinosaur on the cover!

He turned up in our stream in the garden on the corner of Woodstock Lane and we put him in pride of place where you took the photo in the hopes that someone might recognise him and take him back home.

After quite a while of him not being claimed we had a 3-year-old little boy visit us who adores dinosaurs and couldn't have been prouder to take him home - so the Dino has now made his way to the Welsh borders in loving hands.

*Agnes Davis*



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# Avening WI

We have been so pleased that our activities and meetings are gradually able to return to a more normal format although remaining within the current guidelines. We are also keeping in touch with those members who have not been able to join us so far.



We are continuing with our monthly walks and have now added the option of lunch at the end for walkers and other members who may be able to join us. In November Bob Jennings led us on a very interesting walk along the cycle track from Nailsworth to Dunkirk Mill and then upwards to Watledge. We had some amazing views over Nailsworth and passed lots of interesting buildings including the former home of the poet W H Davies. We really enjoyed the time to 'stand and stare' and the autumn colours were

beautiful. This was followed by a very enjoyable lunch at Egypt Mill.

Mark Cummings was sadly unable to speak at our November meeting due to ill health, but we were lucky that John Peters stepped in at the last minute with an illustrated talk entitled 'A Boy in Tetbury 1905 – 1950'. The talk was an amusing account of Tetbury life in a very different era when the streets were full of horses ( and dung!) and motor vehicles were in their infancy.

At the time of writing we are planning our Christmas activities with a Christmas lunch, cooked by the Committee, a wreath-making workshop and a party with games, organised by our amazing member Shirley Hand. All our members have been very generous donating gifts for the residents of Stroud Women's Refuge to brighten their Christmas.

Our January meeting will take place at the Memorial Hall on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 when we will have Virginia and David Adsett showing us a collection on memorabilia from 'The Swinging 60s'



On behalf of Avening WI, I would like to wish everyone in the village a Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

For further information please contact our secretary, Soo, at [aveningwi@gmail.com](mailto:aveningwi@gmail.com) or our President, Liz, on 01453 833803, or check our website [www.aveningwi.wordpress.com](http://www.aveningwi.wordpress.com)

***Helen Haiselden***

# Church Floodlighting



The church will be floodlit on:

## Friday 3rd December

In loving memory of Joan Newman who passed away on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2017. From all her family.

## Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December

In loving memory of Rick Hewitt, loving husband to Pam, Dad to Angie and Kirstie, Father-in-law to James and Matt, Papa to Tom, Elsie, Bo, Nina, Frankie and Layla.

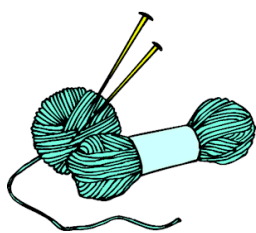
## Thursday 16th December

remembering Dick (Richard) Chapman on his birthday from Old Pal Dave T., Angela, Kris and family

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.

## 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**

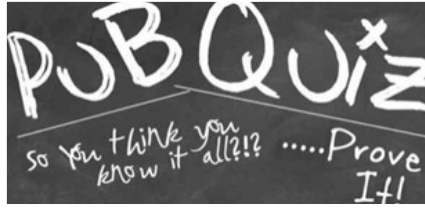
**Knitted toys**

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 [knitforpeace.org.uk](http://knitforpeace.org.uk)

**Community Café Knit and Natter**



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# Avening Parish Council



The new benches have been installed. The Parish Council have ordered more equipment and hope to have an installation date soon.

Due to Ash Dieback trees will need to be removed over the coming months.

**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.**

## **Fuel Poverty**

Western Power have opened the £500,000 fuel poverty scheme. The link below will direct individuals to organisations that can help with the rising costs of energy this winter.: <http://www.westernpower.co.uk/community-matters-fund>

## **Drop in for a Covid-19 Vaccine**

Boosters and vaccinations are available for 12–15-year-olds and first and second doses. The public are being urged to act now and protect themselves and their loved ones this winter. There are lots of drop-in clinics coming up, which you can find on the NHS Covid portal.

Continue to rapid test to help stop the spread of COVID-19. About 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms but can still infect others. Rapid testing is available to everyone, even if you do not have Covid symptoms. Rapid testing regularly will help detect cases of the virus that otherwise may not be known about.

## **Parking**

The Parish Council have received reports of visibility being compromised because of vehicles parked too close to a junction. Please take care when parking.

## **Overhanging Vegetation**

If you live in a property where the vegetation has overgrown a public footpath, please cut it back.

## **Planning Applications and Tree Works Since the Last Issue**

### **New Planning Applications**

21/04146/TCONR – 1 Pike House Mews, High Street Reduce T1 Willow to 10 m to maintain health. Cut back T2 Laurel bush. - Agreed

### **Decision Notices**

21/03695/FUL 5 Lawrence Road. – Proposed parking bay – Permitted

## **Police Report**

Unavailable this month.

### **Potholes**

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

**The next meeting will be on 15<sup>th</sup> December in the Memorial Hall**

*Agendas and minutes can be viewed at [www.avening-pc.gov.uk](http://www.avening-pc.gov.uk). The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email: [parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk)*

## **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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# Dates For Your Diary

Saturday 11th December	Pruning Workshop	Avening Community Orchard	?
Saturday 11th December	Saturday Community Cafe	Avening Social Club	10am-midday
Wednesday 15th December	Homeworkers Lunch	Queen Matilda	Midday for 1.00pm
Friday 17th December	Avening Primary School End of term		
Sunday 19th December	Service of 9 Lessons and Carols	Cherington Church Avening Church	17.00pm 19.30pm
Tuesday 4th January	Avening Primary School start of new term		

## Cherington Christmas Services 2021

04.12.2021    5pm    Christingle  
 12.12.2021    10am    Eucharist  
 19.12.2021    5pm    9 Lessons and Carols  
 24.12.2021    10pm    Midnight Mass





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