



The Villager

A Magazine for Avening,
Cherington and Nags Head

February 2022

editors@villagermag.online

The Mark Townsend Charitable Trust

Avening Open Gardens

SUNDAY 15TH MAY 2022

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February 2022.

Happy New Year! Welcome to the first edition of the Villager in 2022, with our hopes that this year will really mean a return to something like normal. As we write, many of the rules are being relaxed, but obviously some of us will still be a little cautious about rushing around maskless etc!

Anyway, we hope that your Christmas and New Year were times of happiness with family and friends to share in the celebrations.

We also hope that you will enjoy this edition of the Villager. We should like to make special mention of the re-introduction of the Cinema Club. By the time you read this, the first film of the season will already have been shown, but you will see in this edition the advertisement for the February showing on Wednesday 23rd February of **No Time To Die**. We do hope that our readers will come along to support this venture which, like the Café, makes such a valuable contribution to our community life. A big thank you again to Sophie and Sue for volunteering to take on this task, which we hope that they will enjoy and find rewarding.

You will also see that there is to be an Open Gardens day on the 15th May in aid of the Mark Townsend Trust. Once the weather bucks its ideas up it should be fun to get out into the garden again to prepare for this. There is nothing better than sharing the pleasure of your garden with other people and for them a visit to a beautiful garden is a real treat.

Happy reading and don't forget how much we like to hear from you.

The Villager Editors

The Villager Magazine

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Read online at www.avening-pc.gov.uk

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to the late **Charles Rymer** for the photo of trees near Cherington Lake on the front cover of this month's Villager. Keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine.

editors@villagemag.online

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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	Tuesday	7.30 - 9.00pm	Church Bell Tower	Andrew 01453 835783
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	6.00 - 7.30pm	Avening church	
Over 60s Lunch Club	1st Wednesday each month	12.30pm	Social Club	Christine 01453 833246
Avening PC	3rd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Avening Cinema Club	Last Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	avening Cinemaclub@gmail.com
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Social Club/ Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
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	Sophie or Sue	aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com
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 WI	Liz Knowles	01453 833803

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

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



As the curtain rises on the New Year there seems to be a general air of optimism – Covid restrictions are about to be eased with the promise of life returning closer to the normality of the pre-pandemic period.

Looking back, the Christmas period was celebrated by a full congregation at the Carol Service and I would pass on our grateful thanks to the Gatcombe Estate for once again supplying a Christmas Tree for the benefit of the village.

This being the Queen's Jubilee year there is the opportunity to enjoy some community celebrations. Many of you may well be planning your own localised house or street parties – however the possibility of bringing the village together in some form of 'Avening celebration' is one not to be missed if at all possible. The Parish Council would like to hear from anyone who has ideas on how and what we might arrange – so please let us know your wishes and we'll see what we can do.

Whilst on the subject of the Queen's Jubilee, Avening has received two Oak 'whips' which we will be planting to mark the event. One of these has been kindly accepted by Jane Rushton to plant in the school garden; the other we plan to site in the playing field.

This year we will also celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Memorial Hall – so again any suggestions or offers of help will be welcomed by the Parish Council. Worth mentioning that it is in memory of some 48 local lives sacrificed in the two World Wars.

Top of the Parish Council agenda this month has been the 2022/23 Budget. Always a difficult balancing act between prioritising and achieving ambitions and keeping costs to a minimum. You may be aware that Cotswold District Council have decided that they will pass on the costs of local elections (not National Government Elections) to the individual parishes. The cost to Avening would be a charge of £2,700.00 p.a. with no corresponding reduction by C.D.C. in their Council Tax Charges – i.e. it is a way of raising more money without C.D.C. taking the blame/responsibility. C.D.C. also plan to pass the costs of servicing Dog waste bins to local parishes – again with no corresponding reduction in Council Tax Charges. Avening Parish Council have decided to strongly object; whereby we will be writing to the C.D.C. informing them that we do not wish to comply with this strategy and we will also be inviting all the other Parish Councils to adopt a similar stance.

Unfortunately, Ash die-back will cause a large impact in the Parish Budget for this year – we need to raise an additional £5000 as a minimum, to deal with a significant number of trees around the Playing Field which represent a possible danger to the public. Failure to act on the problem may well compromise our Playing Field public liability insurance so we find ourselves between a rock and a hard place.

2022 has arrived so let's try and make the most of the year ahead. I'm always available on the phone or at the Tuesday Café if you want to discuss any of the issues mentioned or have any others that need addressing.

Keep safe and well.

Patrick Mulligan (Mob: 07713 068436)

Chairman of Avening Parish Council

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

In the last edition of The Villager I started the monthly introduction of individual Parish Councillors, Richard King was first up; this month it's **Craig Forster**:

Myself and Julia are both originally from York but moved to the South West some time ago, finally settling in Avening in 2016. I undertook my academic and clinical training in Cambridge back in the early 80's and have since worked in a number of major teaching and acute hospitals over the years. I have been 'semi-retired' for just over a year having worked for the last 22 years at the Royal United Hospital in Bath as the Head of Radiology. I now work three days a week supporting the Medicine and Surgery specialities in introducing new and effective ways of service delivery in Radiology and both the Cardiology and Respiratory units.



Both Julia and I have spent the last 5 years renovating our small cottage in West End. I can occasionally be seen either driving around in a 1970 vintage convertible MGB (on sunny days) or soaring at 2,500 feet above the Cotswolds in a glider, ably assisted by an instructor who can defy all the Laws of Physics and somehow safely land the beast intact!

One of my roles on the Parish Council is to oversee the village defibrillator located in the old red BT telephone box on Avening High Street. Regular weekly checks are undertaken to ensure its always ready for use in an emergency. The existing instructions for use are being revised and updated in order to help simplify how it should be used.

Working alongside the other Parish Councillors, I contribute, support and offer suggestions as to how issues raised by local residents may be addressed whilst working within the financial and practical constraints within the Parish.

Craig Forster

Poppy Appeal

Thank you to everyone who supported last year's Poppy Appeal

I feel that now would be a good time to take a back seat regarding the 2022 appeal.

If you feel that you could take on the ordering and distribution of the poppies and boxes for this 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 or tel. 07762702982



Avening and Cherington Churches

Happy New Year to us All! It has been a fulsome couple of months here. Our December was enriched with carols, mince pies, candles and glorious church services. The service of Lessons and Carols led by the Avening Angels, and the Nativity as presented by the children of Avening, were particularly wonderful. On Christmas Eve, Michael Irving made the middle-of-the-night journey from Painswick to Avening to lead us in a beautiful Midnight Mass, for which we are deeply grateful.



Tony Slater

Then, just as the Christmas trees were taken down, January brought the Twelfth Day of Christmas and the arrival of the Three Kings, to worship the new-born Babe during that ancient era of plots, intrigues and political jostling - which sounds rather like the world we live in today.



Stephanie Luff

Forty days after Christmas comes the feast of Candlemas on February 2nd, when we will take down the Nativity set in the church. It is a date associated with the American Groundhog Day, when a sunny day will send the groundhog scurrying back into his burrow, frightened by his shadow and forecasting another 6 weeks of winter. Funnily enough, I have discovered my farming friends here use the same predictions on Candlemas, based on the presence or not of sunshine but without the furry animals.

Certainly, it is period of change in the seasons as well as in the Church calendar as we move toward Lent and onto spring.

During this period when we are between priests, we are supported by priests from around the diocese. These wonderfully inspiring people have become our friends and we appreciate what they offer to us in the church services. In February we are fortunate that Howard Gilbert and Andrew Braddock will be joining us. Please do come along. We would love to see you.

Elizabeth and Liz, churchwardens.

Minchinhampton Church are relaunching their youth group, SYMBA, which serves the benefice. This is a discipleship group for young people 13+ from Minchinhampton, Box and Amberley. The emphasis is on exploring issues of faith and how that fits into the world we live in today. Any young person is welcome to join, regardless of whether they attend church. All that is required is an enquiring mind. So far we have discussed sexuality, gender fluidity, the 39 articles and the ministry of deliverance.

Contact Elizabeth Buchanan (01453 833016) for details.

Church Services

	Holy Cross, Avening	St. Nicholas, Cherington
6 th February 10.00am	Holy Communion	No Service
13 th February 10.00 am	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
20 th February 10.00 am	Holy Communion	No Service
27 th February 10.00 am	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
6 th March 10.00 am	Holy Communion	No service

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



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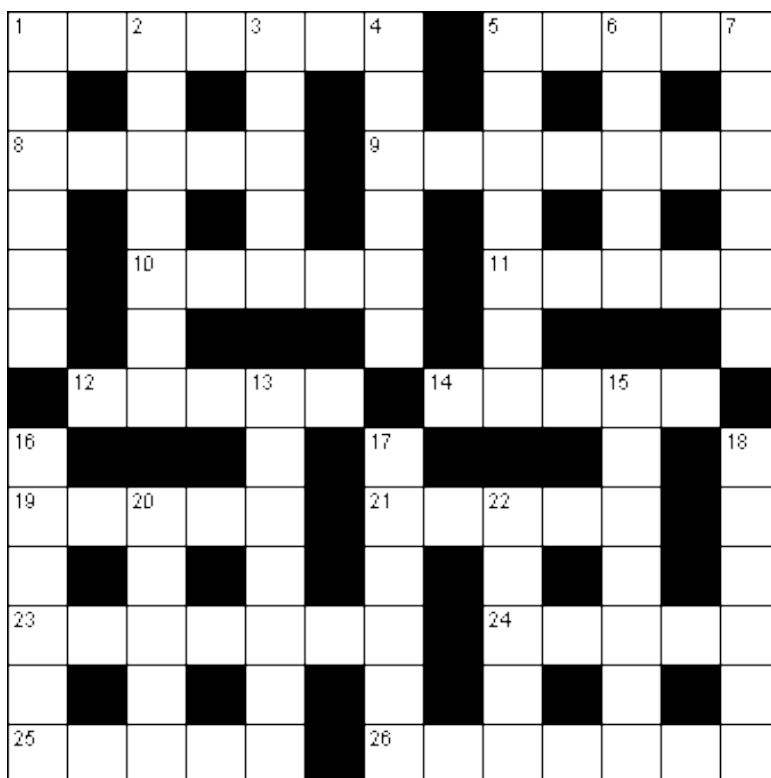
Sudoku

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. Major prize (7)
5. Sentinel (5)
8. Circus performer (5)
9. Skittish (7)
10. Synthetic fabric (5)
11. Relating to the moon (5)
12. Proficient (5)
14. Mild and pleasant (5)
19. A closed litter for one passenger (5)
21. One more time (5)
23. Copy (7)
24. Rabbit shelter (5)
25. Locations (5)
26. Assimilates (7)



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Down

- | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Nocturnal canine (6) | 7. Wilderness (6) | 18. Treasure (6) |
| 2. Enthroned (7) | 13. Writing implements (7) | 20. Terminus (5) |
| 3. Appointed committee (5) | 15. Leviathan (7) | 22. Dull pains (5) |
| 4. Lessee (6) | 16. Takes over without authority (6) | |
| 5. Large ape (7) | 17. Elongated fruit (6) | |
| 6. Fruit of the oak (5) | | |

Congratulations!



Congratulations to Avening resident Charles Sabine, who has been awarded an OBE (Most Excellent Order of the British Empire) by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in her New Year's Honours list for 2022. Charles, ex-war reporter and Huntington's disease advocate, has been awarded the honour for charitable and voluntary services in his mission to improve the lives of Huntington's families everywhere.

Charles said *"This is far from an honour awarded to me alone. It must be shared with the hundreds of*

thousands of courageous Huntington's disease patients and their carers whose brave struggles have, for generations, remained in the shadows of recognition beyond our community, because their plight has been so hidden."

Church Details

Until about 20 years ago, the church organ was situated under the tower, in the arch of the South Transept. Older men in the village would grin as they described how, as boys, they had raced down the footpath from Church Farm to the back door of the transept, in time to pump the organ for the organist on Sundays. When electricity was installed, the boys were redundant and, eventually, the pipe organ was replaced with a modern electric model.

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The walls of the transept have now been plastered, giving no hint of the grand Perpendicular window which had filled the East wall there, however the stone shaping can still be seen outside, near the stairway to the bell tower. The transept would have been luminous!

On the inner side of the archway of the South Transept there are a few streaks of dark red paint. They are the only surviving remnants of the coloured paintwork which would have decorated the church in its younger days.

Elizabeth Buchanan

80 Years of Continuous Service to the Community

Life was very different 80 years ago when a local branch of the national Citizens Advice set up in the Dyer Street, Cirencester. It was 1941 and the height of the Second World War. Concerns of clients were understandably often related to the war, with many queries about food rationing, damaged clothes and property. As the war ended, questions about help with repatriation and food parcels became more common.

In current times, our top enquiry areas are benefit entitlements, debt, housing, energy, employment and family problems. We work closely with the North Cotswold and Cirencester foodbanks and enquiries about Food Vouchers continue to be high. Advice given by well trained volunteers, backed up by a small number of staff, was as key then as it is today.

In 2013 we joined with Stroud Citizens Advice to become Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts. We are a small local charity which relies on support from our District Councils, town and parish councils and on donations from local organisations and individuals. We also receive grants for some of our project work. For many years our work in the Cotswolds has been supported by the Friends of Cotswold Citizens Advice (a separate registered charity). They raise funds, help with publicity and most recently they have provided help with funding to support advice at the Food Bank, and with computer costs.

The Friends recently helped raise funds with a street collection in Cirencester Market Place, coinciding with the Christmas Market on 5th December. They also wanted to ensure that the local community were aware of the 80 years of continuous service. Thanks to the sterling efforts of the Friends, with help from volunteer receptionists and advisers, a total of £227.31 was collected, which will be increased through Gift Aid.

If you would like to become involved in supporting Citizens Advice in our district, why not become a Friend? They can be contacted at FoCCAB@gmail.com, or by writing to: Friends of Cotswold Citizens Advice, C/O 2/3 The Mews, Cricklade Street, Cirencester, GL7 1HY..



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

Avening Cinema Club

Wednesday 23rd February

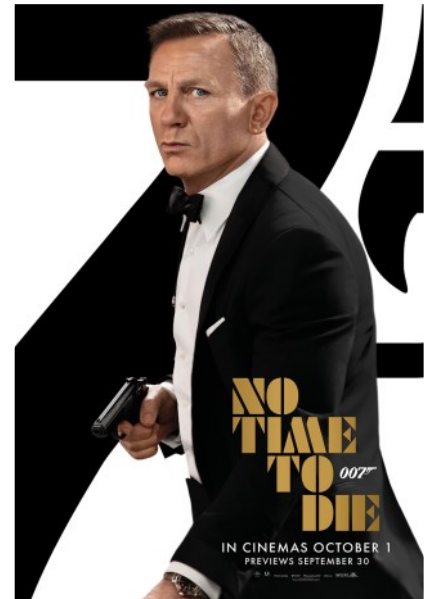
Doors open 7pm. Film starts 7.30pm

Avening Memorial Hall

Admission £5

No Time to Die

Bond has left active service and is enjoying a tranquil life in Jamaica. His peace is short-lived when his old friend Felix Leiter from the CIA turns up asking for help. The mission to rescue a kidnapped scientist turns out to be far more treacherous than expected, leading Bond onto the trail of a mysterious villain armed with dangerous new technology.



AVENINGCINEMA CLUB

The Cinema Club meets the last Wednesday of every month and all are welcome. The club is a not-for-profit community event. Any profit made after screening/ licence costs will be donated to local charities.

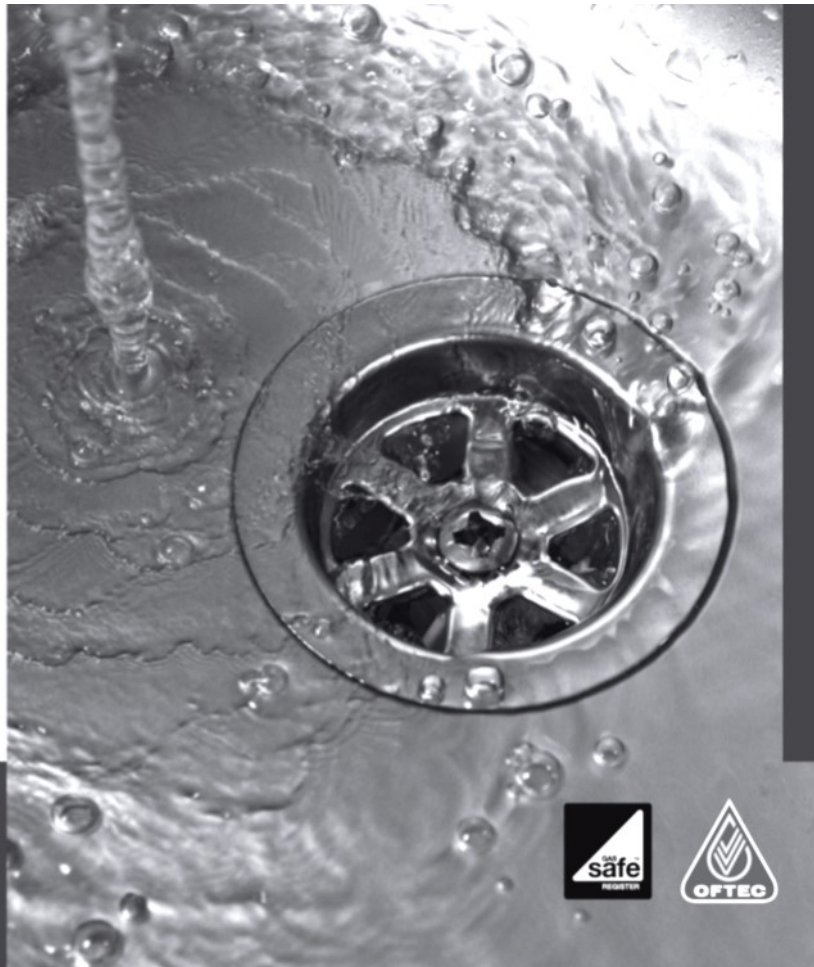
For further information contact Sophie or Sue at aveningcinemaclub@gmail.com



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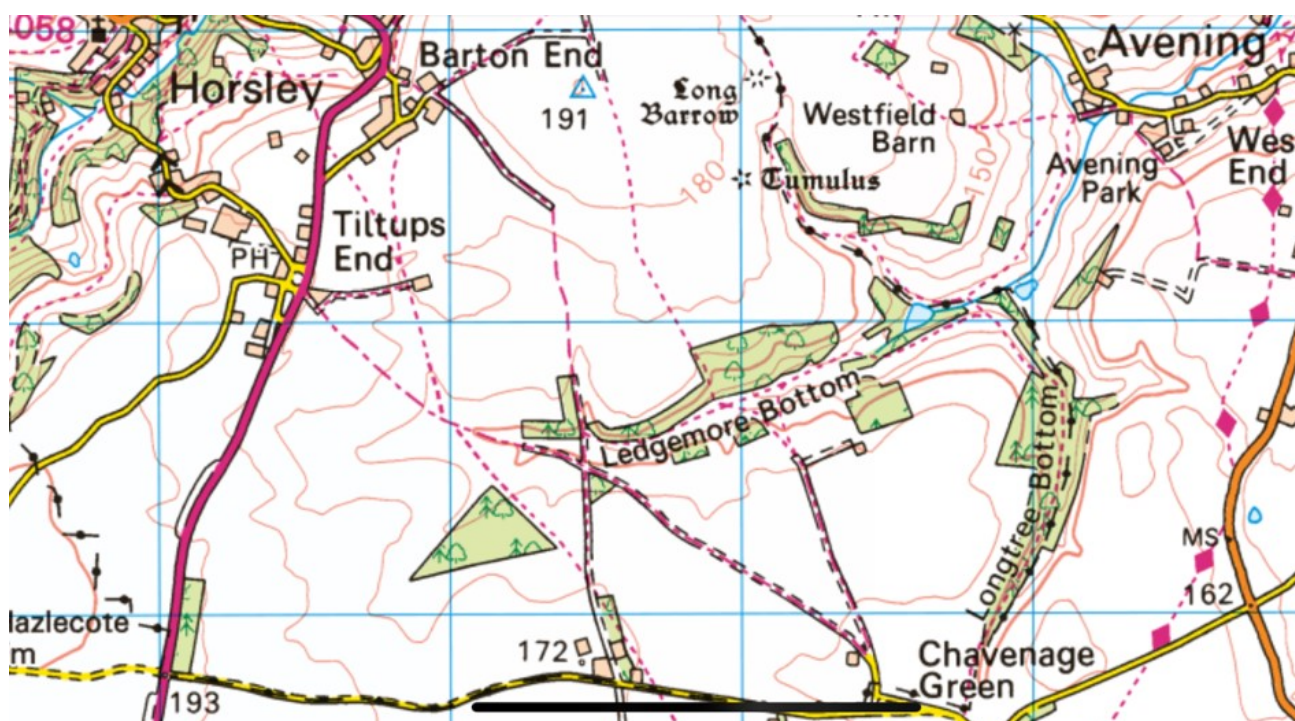
Down Memory Lane

I was lucky enough to recently be rootling through a few of Avening's historical records, as one does, and came across the following newspaper article entitled 'Tragedy of Ledgemore'. I have shortened it a bit so that it is easier to read and it seems a remarkable example of verbal tradition maintained for many centuries. Sometimes, embedded with such local traditions, might be grain of fact which could point to other interesting and sometimes important discoveries. Here goes:

Around the 1890's, a Tetbury solicitor was talking to an old farmer in Horsley, who had a strange story to tell. He said that in the valley now known as Ledgemore Bottom, situated half way between Chavenage Green and Barton End, there was once a village with a church and that one field had been a burial ground.

On visiting the site, the solicitor was unable to find any visual evidence of this story. However, he did visit the Records Office in London, where he discovered several documents written in medieval Latin, revealing that there had indeed been a village there. This village then disappeared after its inhabitants had been wiped out by Black Death (bubonic plague) in 1349.

I have subsequently had a wander around Ledgemore Bottom and could not find anything to back up the old farmer's story. But I did think of that village and how it might possibly have been rather a good spot back in its day.....



Nicholas Winkfield

We'd love to hear from anyone who has more information about this. Contact us at editors@aveningvillagermag.online. Eds

Gilian's Poem of the Month

I wrote this in 1977 , but its message is still relevant today.



The Robin.

When Winter afternoons draw to a close
And tattered rain clouds scatter to expose
The sinking sun, veiled in mists of rose.
Then flown seems Nature's beauty of expression,
As sinister shadows wait upon day's regression,
To wrap us in morbid shades of black depression.
Then sings the robin, high in my apple tree,
Flinging cascades of joyous ecstasy
To cast off Winter's bonds , and set us free!
With sweet delight he flirts bright eyes and sings,
His red breast throbbing the message that he brings,
"Take courage, for I am the promise of coming Spring!"

Gilian Bulmer-Davison



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Avening School

As we embrace a new calendar year, we have plenty to look forward to in school with both our learning and recreational activities. Each class has embarked on a new term topic with a mixture of history, geography and transport being explored. The Eagles (reception) class are learning all about vehicles in their term topic 'things that move', while in the Kestrels class (y1/2), their focus is on the geography and history of the UK as they learn about 'Saints, Dragons and a Castle'. The Hawks class (y3/4) topic takes them on a journey of geographical and scientific discovery as they investigate 'Rivers and Mountains', while the Owls class (y5/6) delve into Mexican history in their exploration of Mayan civilisation in their topic 'Hola Mexico'.

As there has been a significant rise in Covid cases nationally and locally recently, the pupils are back in their class bubbles, with staggered start and finish times and separate lunch sittings in an attempt to limit the flow of the virus in our school community. We would like to reiterate our heartfelt thanks to staff and parents for their continued support and understanding during these turbulent times.

We are delighted to welcome Miss Smith back to school from maternity leave. She is providing catch-up tutoring for the Owls class to help fill any gaps in their learning from the past two years of disrupted learning. We would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Miss Smith on her wedding, which took place in January.

This month, the ExplorerDome will be coming into school to teach each class about space, forces and sound. Huge thank you to FOAS who have funded this fantastic resource.

An enormous thank you and appreciation must also go to our local charities who have supported our families during the Christmas period by providing families in need with gifts and vouchers. Thank you to The Mark Townsend Trust, The Lee of Fareham Trust and the Avening Church Education fund. Your help is invaluable during these extraordinary times.

We have plenty to look forward to in the term ahead with our annual World Book Day celebrations coming up in March and, hopefully, some sports tournaments and trips in the not too distant future.

Fledglings sessions have resumed on Friday afternoons for pre-school children and parents, 2-3pm. Contact the school for any further information on this.

Alex Adcock

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



Cherington Village Show

Save the Date!

Sunday 24 July
2022

Do You play Bridge ?

Do you fancy playing Gentle
Bridge on these cold winter
nights in Cherington Village
Hall?

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evening on Wednesdays 7pm
to 9 pm

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desi@desidillingham.co.uk





Avening Playgroup

The children are settling back into the playgroup routine after the Christmas holidays and we have been talking about what we did during the break, animals and their babies, as well as looking at ourselves and talking about feelings.

This included the following activities:

- Talking about the Christmas holidays and drawing pictures of our favourite things:
- Looking at animals, learning their names and what their babies are called:
- Thinking about where the animals live and what they eat:
- Talking about ourselves and our body parts - colour of eyes/hair, how many ears, hands etc we have, counting fingers and toes:
- Looking in mirrors and describing what we can see:
- Drawing/painting a picture of ourselves step by step:
- Singing songs such as "Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes":



Families of the children due to start school in September 2022 will now have sent in their applications for a school place. They will find out which schools their children will be attending on Tuesday 19th April. There are lots of things we can do to ensure the children are ready for school and the Early Years Team at Gloucestershire County Council have put a leaflet together which asks the following questions:

- Do they enjoy playing and learning?
- Do they know when they need to go to the toilet and can they do so independently?
- Are they able to tell an adult what they need by talking, pointing or signing?
- Can they dress themselves?
- Can they eat meals sitting at the table?
- Do they have a clear bedtime routine so that they are not tired for school?
- Can they use their hands and fingers to draw, colour, paint, stick,



mould dough and cut out?

More information on preparing your child for school can be found by visiting:

www.pacey.org.uk/parents/toolkit/

www.home-start.org.uk/Pages/Category/big-hopes-big-future

<https://small-talk.org.uk>

At Avening Playgroup we are also planning for the next school year, so if you have a child who will become 3 years of age between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023, and you would like them to attend our playgroup, please email Angie on aveningplaygroup@gmail.com or phone us on 01453 832695. Please note we are open mornings only during term time.

Angie Heslop



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Farm Life



I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and a Happy New Year. It was a quiet Christmas for us here at Court Farm with the cattle settled into their winter grazing and the field work on hold until the land dries up.

Just before Christmas we started to turn our attention to getting our original herd of Gloucesters into calf using Artificial Insemination (AI). The remaining Gloucesters in the herd were already in-calf when we bought them from the Bathurst Estate.



As we are going back to using AI on our Gloucesters instead of buying another bull, we had the vet call in to scan the cows to determine if they are fertile and capable of conception. It was very interesting for us to see this on a hand-held ultrasound scanner with the vet explaining what he was looking for. A number of factors can contribute to how fertile the cow is, such as how well the last calving went and most importantly their body condition. We have to ensure that the cows are kept in a condition where they will be at their optimum to be fertile. The phrase 'fit not fat' is used where the cows' diet is chosen, to ensure that they

maintain body condition without laying extra fat down. This is in contrast to the cattle that we are finishing on grass and herbal ley where the opposite is true.

Ensuring that the cow is maintained in this condition in the run up to AI starts a long time before the service date. We do this by feeding them on hay made from old grass on the pastures which contain a low nutritional value. This diet can also comprise of straw, being the by-product of arable farming. The idea is to not restrict the cow's intake of fodder, but reduce the nutritional value of the food she takes in. This way she always has a full stomach to allow rumination (being particularly important to create body heat and keep them warm in the winter). Farmers use the term 'fill-belly' for this type of feeding. Another key part of ensuring the cow is at optimum for AI is to ensure that she has ample availability to take on essential vitamins and minerals. We do this by providing them with 'lick' mineral buckets and rock salt.

We were fortunate that all of the girls that need to be AI'd were in the correct condition to do so. We even had a surprise when one of our cows on inspection by the vet was found to be in-calf! Despite showing absolutely no sign of being pregnant the vet informed us that she was nearly full term and to expect a calf very soon! This would be an offspring from our previous bull.

We are continuing to push on with our direct sales of beef boxes straight from the farm. Retail is a completely new side of farming for us but I think it's fair to say that we are all really enjoying getting to know new people, most of whom have been living in the village for years! We have decided to sell our beef in individual cuts for January and February alongside our beef boxes, so be sure to check out our social media pages to see what's available, or send us an email at: flpowellandsons@outlook.com and I'll happily let you know what is currently in stock.

Sam Powell

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



Are you an Owner or a Custodian?

That's the question I pose: do you think you own your house, piece of land or are you just a Custodian for future generations to come. The real answer is you are just a Custodian as humans have not yet found the key to immortality; when you're gone, the house, land etc will still be there.

So let's deal with the Custodian aspect as there are duties that you owe to the area, and by that I mean not just land ownership. For the people who have moved into the area over recent years remember why you came. Was it just that there are good schools, or that the area is a place of outstanding beauty, and/or, all the local traditions that go along with the area which enhance its appeal.

I have lived all my life in Avening and over the 68 years I have seen and enjoyed all that the area can offer. The "Toffs", as we called them in years gone by, also played their part by allowing and supporting functions and sports events on their land, and some in their generosity even gave land to be used by the community. I refer to our playing field, and the now gone Avening Football Field. And don't forget our magnificent Church to which we owe the yearly "Pigs Face Day" celebrations to remember the completion of the building of the Church.

Sadly, the present Custodian of the land in Cherington has decided that permission to use the land where for decades the sound of leather on willow could be heard, watched, and enjoyed by many, has been removed.

When I was small in the 1950's and growing up food rationing still existed; not that I knew much about that, but looking back I remember all the gardens tended with love and pride, not just out of necessity, but out of personal pride and the love of good home grown food. I remember too all the great orchards around the area which as kids we plundered throughout the growing seasons. Strawberry patches, gooseberries and later on in the year, apple scrooping. I think we also enjoyed being chased by the gardeners when they realised what we were up to.

The point I am making is that the former Villagers made the best use of what they had and also enjoyed all the rivalries and traditions that existed between the local football and cricket teams, darts and skittle teams etc. The WI, the Good Companions, our own Brass Band, Bell ringers and Pubs etc all formed part of the village community.

Now I am going to move onto present day and point out some of the good and bad Custodianship that I see around the area.

Firstly, let's give credit to some of the good Custodians who work hard to preserve and improve the area. Let's start with Gatcombe: prior to the present Custodian the estate was falling into rack and ruin, but it has now been brought back up to scratch as a working farm, with walls tracks and fields properly maintained. Avening Court, steeped in local history, is also being maintained and enhanced by the new Custodians, just to name a few.

The Golf club is well run, tidy and an asset and the Parish Councils of both Avening and Cherington are heroic in their efforts to maintain the fabric of the Villages. The local farmers: as an example, take a walk or ride up Star Lane and follow it through to Tetbury

or Cherington, and see all the hedges neatly clipped, the fields maintained and planted. Sadly I move onto some areas where I feel the present Custodians are letting the side down.

Firstly it is not just your civic duty but backed up in law, so please keep all your hedges, walls and trees where they encroach onto the highways or local tracks clear, I notice that there are some that don't.

The area I notice that desperately needs some attention is the road from Avening through Nagshead to Cherington. Trees and hedges encroach onto the highway, woodlands are not being sufficiently maintained, walls are in disrepair and the fields on the right hand side of the road leading out of Nagshead to Cherington are an absolute disgrace.

Going from Nagshead up to Cherington the woods and walls seem to be devoid of attention. However, I'm glad to see that the adjacent Custodians of Aston Farm have taken to clearing a lot of brash and maintaining their woodlands.

We have heard the question of why the water flow through the village has fallen. I can tell you one reason; the fields outside Nagshead on the Cherington side have been left to their own devices and have now become a swamp which is soaking up a lot of water. I remember that as being useful land with a good trout stream running through it.

I hope that posing some of these questions will lead you to consider...

Are you the Owner, or just the Custodian for future generations to come?

Ian Hamilton

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Avening Community Café

Tuesday mornings in the Social Club from 9:00 – 11:30 (COVID measures apply)



December was an especially busy and exciting time for the Café. On the 11th we had a successful Saturday café. It was lovely on this very special morning to meet our youngest customer, baby Olive. Also, we were very pleased to see several friends who are not normally able to come along to our Tuesday cafés and to welcome Kelly Kellerman, who came to enjoy a coffee and one of Chris Howell's delicious bacon butties, just before he set off on his move to the

north country. An order of bacon butties was rushed up to the Orchard workshop, thanks to Bob Jennings.

We had a great Christmas celebration on 21st with music provided by Mel. A big thank you to Derrick Ind at the Social Club, for his continued good humour, support and advice in all our endeavours to keep going and to all our volunteer teams, who have carried on with energy and enthusiasm through everything.

What's on in February:

Knit and Natter – Every week. Bring your own craft to share.

Feb 1st: Chinese New Year – Celebrate the Year of the Tiger.

Feb 8th: Creative Writing – with Atlanta from 10 to 11am, £2.50 per session.

Feb 15th: Art with Mark– 9:30 to 11:30am, £3 per session, all materials provided. Also 'Spread The Love' - Bring a Friend - Buy 1 Get 1 Free Drink offer.

Feb 22nd: 22/2/22 – Lets celebrate the 'Power of Numbers'.

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.

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



John Hetterley
For Avening Community Café

Don't forget to claim your State Pension!



In years past you would have received your State Retirement Pension automatically. You may not be aware but this is no longer the case, so you will have to claim it to receive it! At Citizens Advice we have been contacted by an increasing number of people who did not realise this.

You should get a letter from **the Pension Service** no later than 2 months before your 66th birthday (which is the current State Pension Age) telling you what to do to claim your pension. If you do not receive this letter you can still make a claim in the 4 months up to reaching your state pension age.

It is important to claim your State Pension as soon as you can, as there may be delays in payment if you leave claiming it too close to your 66th birthday, which could lead to financial difficulties for some people.

How to claim - The quickest way to get your State Pension is to apply online at www.gov.uk/get-state-pension but if you don't have access to the internet you can request a form by calling **the Pension Service on 0800 731 7898**.

You can check your State Pension age online at www.gov.uk/state-pension-age Get a forecast of how much money you might get at www.gov.uk/check-state-pension

Further information on the State Pension is at www.gov.uk/new-state-pension or see our website – www.citizensadvice.org.uk.

Some of our clients have experienced delays after claiming which has caused them financial hardship. If you need any help to claim your State Pension or experience problems with claiming, contact one of our friendly advisers at **Stroud and Cotswold Citizens Advice**.

Please call 0808 800 0510 or 0808 800 0511 Monday to Friday 10am to 4pm (calls are free from landlines and most mobiles) or use our online email page at www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk/stroud-cab-email-advice.php

If you know anyone who might need help on this or any other issue, particularly those who do not have access to the internet, please pass on our contact details above.

We recognise there is a need for face to face advice, for people whose problem cannot be dealt with on the phone or by email. We intend to resume this part of our service, which we have not been able to offer due to Covid, in the coming months. We also plan to gradually re-open our outreach sessions this year.

Avening WI

We have begun the New Year optimistically with a new programme and the hope that we can return to all our usual activities.



We were transported back to the Swinging 60s at our first meeting of 2022 when Virginia and David Adsett came to speak to us. They brought a huge array of memorabilia, household objects, toys, clothes and souvenirs from the 1960s which brought back many memories for our members. Virginia reminded us of several events from that era including the moon landing, winning the World Cup, decimalisation, the assassination of President Kennedy, the funeral of Winston Churchill, the Investiture of the Prince of Wales and Sandie Shaw winning the Eurovision song contest!

Our monthly walks and lunches continue and in January we took advantage of the Westonbirt Arboretum offer for members to bring a friend for free on Tuesdays at this time of year. Twelve members and four dogs enjoyed a rather misty walk in Silkwood across the Treetop Walkway and ending up at the café for lunch.

We have had the good news that, all being well, the Gloucester Federation Quiz and Skittles competitions should be able to go ahead this year and so we are finalising teams for these events and also starting a new venture for us, a Book Club.

Our speaker for February will be Mark Cummings from BBC Radio Gloucestershire. This promises to be an entertaining evening and will take place on Thursday February 10th 7.30 pm at the Memorial Hall.



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

Helen Haiselden



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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J	A	C	K	P	O	T		G	U	A	R	D
A		R		A		E		O		C		E
C	L	O	W	N		N	E	R	V	O	U	S
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A		N	Y	L	O	N		L	U	N	A	R
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4	3	9	8	6	2	1	5	7
7	2	6	5	1	4	3	9	8
5	1	8	7	3	9	4	2	6
8	6	1	9	4	7	5	3	2
3	9	5	1	2	6	8	7	4
2	7	4	3	5	8	9	6	1
6	5	3	4	7	1	2	8	9
9	4	7	2	8	5	6	1	3
1	8	2	6	9	3	7	4	5

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Longfield Hospice's Ale Amble:

The perfect day out for beer and rugby fans

Longfield Community Hospice is organising the perfect day out for beer and rugby fans to look forward to, with its new Ale Amble event taking place at Stroud Brewery on 26 February 2022 from 11 am-3 pm.

Starting and finishing at Stroud's iconic brewery, the Amble will follow a scenic four-mile circular walk, with pit stops for a tippie and warm welcome at two pubs along the way. The route takes in the majestic hills of the Heavens surrounding the parishes of Thrupp and Lypiatt. It's the perfect opportunity to boost your physical and mental wellbeing with some fresh air and exercise. Get outside, blow away the cobwebs and enjoy some quality time with your family and friends!

If you decide to take part, you'll arrive back at the brewery to a hero's welcome with a free pint (or soft drink for under 18s) on offer and the chance to catch a Six Nations rugby match on the big screen.

Boasting an airy entertaining space, exterior balcony and a spacious outside seating area with direct canal access, Stroud Brewery is the perfect venue for a Covid-friendly event, with room to enjoy drinks outside.

Vicki Hayward, Longfield's Community and Events Manager, is organising the event. She said: "We're delighted to be holding this new event; it's been a challenging couple of years and it's great to have something to look forward to in February. Fresh air, beer and rugby – we think it offers something for everybody. Please register and encourage family and friends to join in too! Your donations or sponsorship will really make a difference to our care for patients with life-limiting conditions and their families across Gloucestershire."

To sign up for the event, visit www.longfield.org.uk/event/ale-amble. Registration is £15 for an adult or £10 for a child or sign up to raise sponsorship. You will also receive a Longfield t-shirt to wear proudly on the day!

Longfield is a Community Hospice based in Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire. As well as providing Hospice at Home care, Longfield also offers help and support to patients, families and carers through a range of Wellbeing services at the hospice in Minchinhampton. For media enquiries, please contact Jo Fairburn, Media and Communications Officer at jo.fairburn@longfield.org.uk or call 07876 598441.

The Village Notice Board

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

Avening Parish Council



On the advice of NALC (National Association of Councils) the Parish Council meeting in December was cancelled. All business was dealt with at the January meeting.

Parish Precept

Due to the necessary removal of diseased Ash trees, CDC plans to impose charges to cover the cost of elections and the proposal to charge parishes to empty dog waste bins, the Parish Council need to increase the precept. Please see the Chairman's report for a fuller explanation.

Playing Field

Over the coming weeks, Western Power will be installing electrical cables beneath the field. The Parish Council have negotiated that they will install an electrical power point. This will make the field a more usable place for village events.

We are looking forward to the installation of a new slide and low rotator. This will give the smaller people in the community safe play equipment. **Please be aware that dogs are forbidden in the fenced children's play area.**

Planning Applications and Tree Works Since the Last Issue

New Planning Applications

21/04556/FUL: 1 Powis Lane – Proposed Side Extension. No Objections

22/00056/TPO: The Coach House, High Street – Reduce Beech Tree, Reduce Horse Chestnut. No Objections.

20/03727/FUL: Alterations to outbuilding to provide ancillary accommodation to existing private dwelling house. No Objections

Decision Notices

21/04146/TCONR: 1 Pike House Mews, High Street – T1 Willow, reduce to 10m to maintain health of tree. T2 Laurel Bush – Cut back. Permitted

21/03628/COMPLY: Brook House Hampton Hill. Compliance of condition 2 (window detail) re: permissions 20/00887/FUL and 20/00888/LBC - Alteration to existing window/door openings, internal alterations, and repairs to garden walls (part retrospective). Permitted. Compliance of condition 2 (design and details of windows and doors) of planning permissions 20/00887/FUL & 20/00888/LBC - Alteration to existing window/door openings and repairs to garden walls (part retrospective). Permitted

21/03535/FUL: Barn to the East of Owl House – 19 West End - Change of use from agricultural land to residential and erection of carport. Application Refused.

Police Report

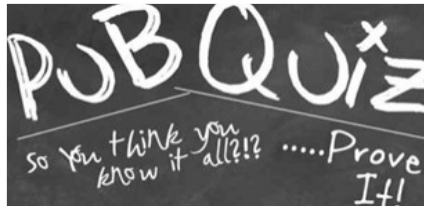
Unavailable this month.

Potholes

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

The next meeting will be on 16th February 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



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Dates For Your Diary

Date	Event	Location	Time
Wednesday 16th February	Avening Parish Council	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Wednesday 23rd February	Cinema Club Showing No Time To Die	Avening Memorial Hall	7.00 for 7.30pm
Sunday 15th May	Avening Open Gardens		tba
Sunday 24th July	Cherington Show		

Church Floodlighting



The church was floodlit on:

22nd December

“Remembering **Eric Roberts** especially on this day, his birthday, Ivy, Lynne, Tom and Mantha”

And will be floodlit on

9th February

“Happy Birthday, Joan, from Brian, Mary, Molly and families with love.”

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.



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