

A vibrant rainbow arches across a pale, overcast sky. Below the rainbow, a landscape of bare, brown trees and shrubs is visible, with a small hill in the foreground. The scene is captured in a soft, slightly hazy light, suggesting a recent rain or early morning atmosphere.

The Villager

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

March 2024

editors@villagermag.online



Richard Murray



Liane Wheeler



Raph Arwas



Annabel Crapper



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March 2024

It has been very wet, warm and windy for the past month, but the daffodils and crocuses are beginning to show their heads, so spring cannot be far away. As we move out of winter, it is good to notice a number of fun events being planned for the next few months. There is an Easter Egg Hunt and two quizzes to start with, as well as plans for the annual Avening Church Fete and Art Show, with no doubt much more to come. Watch this space! Please let us know if you are planning any events or activities - and we also love to hear from you after an event; send us your photos; let us know how it went, how many people came, how much money was raised or anything else about it.

We are pleased to welcome a couple of new advertisers this year and we hope you find their services useful. Please remember to let someone know that you have contacted them because you saw the advert in the Villager, as it will encourage them to keep advertising. To keep your magazine running we need as many advertisers as we can get, so if you run a business and are looking for more clients, please consider advertising here. Our very reasonable rates can be found by contacting our advertising manager Gwyneth (see contact details below).

The Parish Council is still looking for at least one more person to join them on the council. Please give a thought as to whether you could help out your friends and neighbours in this very worthwhile and satisfying role.

And finally - don't forget the clocks go forward on the early morning of Sunday 1st April. (Definitely not an early April Fool's joke!)

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The Villager Magazine

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Deadline 18th of each month

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

Photographs in The Villager Magazine

Many thanks to **Michele Wheatley** for this gorgeous photo of a rainbow over Nags Head. Please keep sending us your photographs, especially since all the images will be in colour in the downloadable version of the Magazine.

editors@villagemag.online

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

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VILLAGE & AREA WEB SITES

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

Cherington Parish Council: cheringtonpc.org.uk.

Cherington Village: www.cheringtonvillage.co.uk

Cotswold District Council: www.cotswold.gov.uk

Facebook: Avening Instagram: #aveningvillage

Avening and Cherington Events

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

Date	Event	Location	Time
Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th March	Lenten meeting	See Church report page 8	6.30pm
Saturday 10th March	Cherington village and church clean-up	Cherington Village Hall	10.00am
Monday 11th March	Community Café AGM	Avening Social Club	7.00pm
Wednesday 13th March	Avening Parish Council Meeting	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Friday 15th March	Avening School Quiz Night	Avening Memorial Hall	7.30pm
Sunday 17th March	Avening Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt and Trail	School Garden / Memorial Hall	1.00 - 4.00pm
Sunday 31st March	CLOCKS GO FORWARD		2.00am
Friday 12th April	WI Quiz	Avening Social Club	7.30pm
Sunday 9th June	Avening Church Fete, Dog Show and Art Exhibition	Avening Church and Churchyard	tba

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Avening and Cherington Churches

Firstly, apologies to those who read my message last month. I mistook the date of the Lent Meetings, which are all on Tuesday evenings. We will be discussing a small gem of a book called Being Disciples by Rowan Williams, former Archbishop of Canterbury. He writes well, and it should be an interesting project before Easter. We have extra books for anyone who is interested, whether or not you can come to the meetings. Don't worry if you have never approached such a book before - we will all be finding our own way into the ideas we find. It would be good, too, if there were non-churchgoers who would like to join the discussion. The evenings are open to all.

The meetings will begin at 6:30 with a simple supper of soup and rolls. Cas will lead the evenings at 14 High Street, Avening, and we will alternate between Cas' house at 21 Nags Head and the Buchanans' on the High Street. All the meetings will be on a Tuesday evening at 6:30.

March 5th: High Street; March 12th: Nags Head; March 19th: High Street

It will be lovely to see you. If you can, please send an email to let us know you are coming- to any or all of the meetings! Or just come when you can (buchanan.el@gmail.com).

Mothering Sunday is halfway through the season of Lent, on March 10th this year. There will be a service in Avening church at 10am, with posies and Simnel Cake to celebrate our mothers.

On March 24th, Palm Sunday marks the beginning of the week before Easter, when Jesus was cheered through the streets of Jerusalem by the crowds.

During that week, there will be a 'Tenebrae Service' on Good Friday: a beautiful hour of readings and songs in an intimate setting in the church.

Then, on the last day of March, we will celebrate Easter Sunday at 10am ((Of course there will be chocolate eggs)! This is also the day when the clocks Spring Ahead, so remember to prepare by adjusting your clocks.

We look forward to celebrating together with you.

Elizabeth and Stephanie, Church Wardens

Donations to Avening Church



We have set up a QR code which if scanned with your smart phone will enable you to make a donation to Avening Church of any amount that you are able to. You then just feed into your phone your card details and the money will be transferred to our bank account. If you are an income tax payer you will also be given the opportunity to gift aid your donation.

Church Services

Date	Holy Cross, Avening	St. Nicholas, Cherington
3 rd March 10.00am	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
10 th March 10.00am	Holy Communion Mothering Sunday	Holy Communion Mothering Sunday
17 th MARCH 10.00am	Celtic Morning Prayer	Holy Communion
24 th March 10.00am	Holy Communion Palm Sunday	NO SERVICE
29 th March GOOD FRIDAY 2.00 pm	Tenebrae service	Good Friday service
31 st March EASTER SUNDAY 10.00am	EASTER Holy Communion	EASTER Holy Communion
7 th April 10.00am	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion

CHERINGTON CLEAN UP – HELPING HANDS NEEDED!



Saturday 9th March
10 am onwards



Please join us for the Annual Litter Pick and Church Spring Clean.

Are you a picker or a polisher? You decide!

Stop by the Village Hall on Saturday morning from 10 am, and we will provide the equipment & products you need to get stuck in. Stay as long or as little as your schedule permits but do please get involved!

Refreshments will be provided as well as plenty of Cherington Community cheer!



Letter from Chairman of Avening Parish Council



Memorial Hall: I am really pleased to announce that we are in a position (financially) to progress with some improvements to the Memorial Hall. We are optimistic that we will achieve the refurbishment of the toilets and entrance lobby starting in about two months from now. This will include putting on a new roof to replace the existing one which has been leaking for some considerable time. The leaking water from the roof combined with patches of rising damp means that we will have to re-plaster the interior to a great extent. The roof will probably need completely new timbers and roof tiles. In the interim we have installed a new water heater and new taps on the hand basins. These are of a push top variety which should make it easier for the children to use and avoid taps being left running.

We are also looking at the fine detail of a quotation for the installation of 'radiated heat', which would be mounted high up towards the ceiling. From the information supplied to us it seems to be a much better system than the current elderly wall heaters. The last Parish Council Meeting held in the main hall was a very cold event and I know that various users of the hall have quite rightly been vocal about being cold, especially when sitting through films or talks.

Talks with the Athelstan Trust over the fine tuning of the school's lease for the use of the hall continue to be under review; we hope that a mutually agreeable lease can be formulated soon.

Defibrillator: We are expecting delivery of a new defibrillator in the next week or so, which will be installed within a couple of weeks after delivery, subject to the appropriate trades people being available. The defibrillator will be located on the exterior of the Memorial Hall adjacent to the main entrance; easily visible from the road.

The Queen Matilda: At the time of writing the application for change of use has not been decided by Cotswold District Council. At the Parish Meeting a number of residents came along to express their views; all of the attendees were strongly in favour of The Matilda continuing as a village pub. Unfortunately, planning is a frustrating issue for the Parish Council due to the fact that some twelve months ago, Cotswold District Council, as a matter of policy, stated they will no longer take into account the views of any Parish Council in relation to any planning application. In effect this means that a County Councillor from miles away, who has never been to Avening can decide what's best for our village. Disgraceful, in my humble opinion. If you feel strongly about their decision; please write to the Liberal Democratic leader of the council Mr Joe Harris. As a parish council we continue to fly in the face of such restrictions and always continue to express the opinions of the village on such matters; albeit in the faint hope that CDC councillors will read them.

Playing Field: We are chasing contractors to come up with quotations for improving and

extending the paths. At the same time, we will be able to fill in the 'pot holes' in the goal mouths. We'll never nurture budding goal keepers if they have to start out by standing in six inches of water. (or should I say 15 centimetres)

New Parish Councillor needed: A huge shortage of volunteers! 'Press ganging' is tempting as an option, but unfortunately not lawful in these modern times. However – beware every time you meet one of the councillors, as we are all on a mission to recruit, and you may be subject to a bit of verbal press ganging. Just say 'Yes'- your village needs you.

I send you all my best wishes

Patrick Mulligan (Mob: 07713 068436)
Chairman of Avening Parish Council



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District Councillor's Report



CDC: We reviewed the administration's budget proposals at Overview and Scrutiny (O&S), and it was refreshing to note that the spending was realistic, although reserves are forecast to further reduce in the coming 1-3 years. There was good news from the government that an additional £118k will be received by CDC, but it is still difficult to budget properly without a multi-year settlement.

Elsewhere at O&S and full council, the updated Local Plan was reviewed – this is now available for public consultation via the CDC portal. We also reviewed the Corporate Plan, which is effectively the manifesto and priorities for the administration.

The **Public Conveniences Review Group's** recommendations were largely accepted by the Cabinet, but any changes to entry fees will be delayed until more data is available from the newly installed card readers at some sites. There will be a tendering process for the ongoing cleaning and maintenance contract, and a budget for initial refurbishments will be allocated later in the year. Where sites have been identified to be closed, consultation will take place with Town councils, and any contractual considerations will be followed up by officers.

Visit to Javelin Park Incinerator: Following my visit to the recycling plant last year I was invited by Avening WI to join them on a visit to the Javelin Park Incinerator near Gloucester. The household residual waste; that is, waste left over after kerbside recycling, is managed by a Spanish company called Urbaser on behalf of Gloucestershire County Council. The 'Energy from Waste Facility', significantly reduces the county's dependence on landfill, whilst recovering value from waste in the form of electricity, recyclable metals, and aggregates.



(for more details, see WI report, page 26.)

Visit to Zero Avia – Here is another high-tech firm on our doorstep based at Cotswold Airport. It is a world leader in developing aeroplanes powered by hydrogen – not burned in the engine, but powering electric fuel cells. The 200+ employees at ZeroAvia have developed high performance, high efficiency systems from scratch in pursuit of zero-emission flight. The technology has already been proven, with their Dornier 228 aircraft making history last year with a milestone first



flight. The next challenge is a test flight from Kemble to an airport in Hampshire, on their mission to get CAA certification by the close of this year, and to power zero-emission commercial aircraft by 2025.

Roads – After travelling elsewhere in the country, it is obvious when you are back in Gloucestershire – exit any junction from any motorway in the county and you are immediately bouncing along pothole-riven roads. Following my petition to our two local MPs, they have both written to the Transport Minister to ask for a review of the Highways Act 1980, which gives councils a ‘get out of jail’ card to refuse claims for damaged wheels if they meet certain criteria – mainly an annual inspection of the road. They have also written to the Chief Executive at GCC to ask what they are doing about the state of our roads. Meanwhile, I am about to start legal proceedings against GCC in support of my own claim.

***Tony Slater, CDC District Councillor,
representing Grumbold’s Ash with Avening***
email: Tony.slater@cotswold.gov.uk Tel: 07793669930

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



TONY’S CHARITY QUIZ NIGHTS

THE BELL, AVENING

1ST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

£2 A PLAYER: A MAXIMUM OF 4 PLAYERS PER TEAM

ALL PROCEEDS TO THE COBALT APPEAL, CHELTENHAM

Puzzle Corner

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

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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 35

Friends Of Avening School

Tickets £5 per person
Max 6 people per team
 If you do not already have a team then we will make up a team on the night



Light Bites
Available to pre-order
 Charcuterie Meats, Cheese Board, Vegan Sharing Platters and Loaded Nachos

QUIZ NIGHT

Friday 15th March 2024

Bar opens 7pm – Quiz Starts 7.30pm

Grab your friends, family & colleague's for a fun night of trivia, drinks, food and frolics!!

Venue: Avening Memorial Hall, High Street, Avening GL8 8NL

For more information and to book tickets visit: www.pta-events.co.uk/aveningfoas

Gilian's Poem of the Month

The Mad March Wind

At first it's just a gentle breeze, stirring the tree-tops high,
It whispers through the feathery grass, puffs small clouds in the sky.
But soon it tires of childish games and longs to show its might,
It huffs and puffs with growing force and puts the clouds to flight!

Then, as it gathers strength and speed, it whistles down the hill,
Shaking long catkins in the hedge, flattening frail daffodil.
Small birds are tossed before the gale, storm-clouds race o'er the sky,
Cattle seek shelter by the hedge, spooked horses prance and shy!

It thunders through the ancient wood, rips branches from the trees,
It tears the loose tile off the roof, bowls bins over with ease!
It screams with glee around the house, rattling the window-pane,
It shrieks down chimneys, bangs on doors, then skitters off again.....

Oh, who will come out with me now in March, to dance to the wild wind's beat,
To laugh at its mad exuberance, as it bustles down the street?
It whips our hair about our heads, and conjures salty tears,
It reddens rosy cheeks and lips, and nips uncovered ears!

Oh wild wind, west wind, mad March wind, chase dark clouds from the sky,
Allow the sun to shine again—pick up your skirts and fly!
And so it's crazy dance dies down, with weakening gusts of rain,
It tucks its tail between its legs, and sneaks off down the lane....

Gilian Bulmer-Davison

“Hugo is a godsend...”

As a 60-year-old with limited IT experience, I now have on-tap support. He is punctual, stays on point with careful easy focus to the task, and has a gift for explaining. He is a natural facilitator so that the learner takes control for themselves with simple steps. **Any laptop, computer, iPad or iPhone issue**, and synchronising of them, is a breeze for him. He can work face-to-face or remotely. Both are extremely effective. I cannot recommend him highly enough. Reliable, approachable, talented, and user-friendly.” – *Deborah from Box*

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Farm Life



As you read this, we will have just about started calving for 2024. Our breeding herd is made up of our Pedigree herd of 'Avening' Gloucesters and our Hereford cows. For some of the heifers (young female cows that haven't had a calf yet) this will be their first calving. For them we always try to make this as smooth as possible by bringing them into the maternity ward along with the more experienced cows. Any heifer we have, we put in calf to an Aberdeen Angus bull (via AI) due to the size of calf being naturally much smaller and theoretically easier to calve. Angus calves also have a natural vigour which means that they have a good drive to get up and start looking for milk straight after birth; this teamed with a first-time mum makes for a hopefully successful birthing story.



Calving is very much my favourite part of the farming year and something that has been a "baptism of fire" since starting the breeding herd five years ago. When I was small, Archie, my grandfather, did have a breeding herd of his own and kept them until 2005 when he decided to buy in young stock, rather than rear his own due to added workload and stress that comes with it. Since then, it's always been a dream of mine to once again have breeding stock on the farm and I'm very pleased to be calving more cows this year than ever before.

It's fair to say that the rare-breed Gloucester and the more commercial Herefords are distinctly different when it comes to getting them in-calf. The commercial Herefords are relatively fertile and conception rates are good; Gloucester cows on the other hand do struggle when it comes to this.

When I talk to other farmers about our Gloucester cows and the effort that goes into the breeding side of things, they often give me a very odd look. This is because it is well known how hard Gloucester cows are to breed - that being one of a handful of reasons that there are only 27 herds left in the world.

Gloucester cows struggle with fertility, whether that be by a bull or using Artificial Insemination (AI). Here at Court Farm, we have tried both methods and the outcome remains very much the same. For us, using AI is a much more viable option as the cost associated with keeping a bull is gone and the health and safety risk too. From a breed perspective AI offers our 'Avening' herd a much wider gene pool than one single bull which is very important for the breed longevity.

Farming a rare breed is not an easy game. Gloucester cows are my passion, but when you see the finances that go on behind it, it does often make them very hard to justify. Why keep them then? Well, this is for the love of farming, and the feeling of contributing to a cattle breed that is so at risk magnifies the reward when we have a

Gloucester born. The direct sales of our Gloucester beef is the way we can justify the herd and we are very fortunate to have local customers that are also invested in our ethos and goals for keeping this rare-breed. Make sure to follow our Facebook and Instagram pages (@flpowellandsons) for news of calving in the next few weeks.

All that's left for me to do as I write this in late February, is to muck out and pressure wash the livestock shed. After this I can disinfect it and build calving pens for the mum and baby to bond before they go back into the main group. I also need to make sure we have a good number of ear tags ordered as these need to be put in shortly after birth and some replacement colostrum (the mum's first milk containing antibodies) should she not be able to feed her calf.

Wish us luck!

Sam Powell

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter!

Also subscribe to our YouTube Channel for farm diary videos: @flpowellandsons



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**SUNDAY
9th JUNE**

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FETE**

**All the fun of the day,
including:**

Art Exhibition

Dog Show

Games

Teas

Cakes

Duck Races

And Much More!



Join us for Avening Playgroup's Easter Egg Hunt and Trail



On Sunday 17th March
In the School Garden
and Memorial Hall
1.00 until 4.00pm

2 trails to choose from or have a go at both!
£3 per map (cash only)

Those wanting to do the BIG* trail should arrive nearer the start to allow time to complete

*Light refreshments with lovely cakes
served in the Hall*

Tombola

Books/Toys

Chocolate prizes to be won!!!



*Off-road footpath trail. Approx 2miles.
Not suitable for buggies/prams.



Avening School

Writing, Well-Being and World Book Day Wizardry



The second half of the spring term is already well underway with so much happening in school. Last month, all pupils took part in Children's Mental Health Week. To tie-in with the national theme of 'Your Voice Matters', the children thought about things in the world, near and far, which makes us happier and produced a whole school display to share their voices.

Our 'mini' police' (pupil representatives) have been working with Police Officers to explore road safety and help support positive parking

outside of school. Later this term they are going to be learning more on the important topic of keeping safe online. They are also doing a wonderful job at lunchtimes, ensuring that everyone is safe and happy.

We are taking part in the Gloucestershire 'Look Who's Talking' Oracy competition once again this year. Every child has the opportunity to speak for two minutes on a topic of their choosing, with winners from each class going forward to represent the school in the next stage of the competition, which will be held later this term.



One of the big highlights in our school calendar is World Book Day, which takes place every year in March. This year, we will celebrate '**The Wonderful World of Magical Stories**' from Harry Potter to The Worst Witch with the whole school transforming into Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry for the day. Activities throughout the day will include potion making and games of Quidditch as well as storytelling and a book swap.

If you have a little person (or people) at home who would enjoy playing outdoors, our Fledglings pre-school sessions take place every Friday afternoon in the school garden from 2-3pm for pre-school children and their grown-ups. Contact the school office for more information. Please note the session will take place at the slightly later time of 2.15pm on Friday 8th March.

We pride ourselves on being able to offer our pupils enrichment opportunities throughout the school year, from theatre visits to school trips. As transport costs and ticket prices continue to rise, funds raised by events put on by our fabulous FOAS fundraising team are essential to enabling these activities to happen. The next big fundraising event is a FOAS Quiz Night in the Village Hall on Friday 15th March at 7.30pm. For tickets and more information, take a look at the FOAS Facebook page, see the ad on page 14 or contact the school office.

TETBURY GOODS SHED

ARTS CENTRE

MARCH

HIGHLIGHTS

AT TETBURY GOODS SHED

- March 2** **Ninebarrow:** Multi award winning folk duo Jon Whitley and Jay LaBouchardiere return to The Shed with their music which is rooted in the English landscape. Tickets £16.50 in advance. 7.30
- March 9** **Flotsam and Jetsam:** Lempen Puppet Theatre introduce us to two charming puppets from different worlds learning to work together. Children from 4 plus Tickets £8. 1130-1230
- Alder and Middleton:** Soprano Louise Alder and pianist Joseph Middleton are squeezing in a special concert before their Wigmore Hall appearance! Tickets £22 in advance. 7.30
- March 16** **Comedy Club:** This month we feature Susan Murray, Eva Bindeman and Mike Cox in a hilarious combination. Tickets:£13.50 in advance. 8pm
- March 23** **The Pirates of Penzance:** Set sail with Cardiff Opera on their Tetbury debut with this Gilbert and Sullivan classic. Tickets £ 12.50 in advance. 7.30

For more details of our other events including film, talks, exhibitions, and afternoon tea concerts and to book tickets visit our website: www.shed-arts.co.uk



CELTIC MORNING PRAYER

Holy Cross church Avening

As a change from our regular fortnightly service of Morning Prayer (from The Book of Common Prayer), after discussion with the congregation, for a trial period on the third Sunday of each month there will be a Celtic type service of Morning Prayer when we can give thanks for the things that we have, in line with the Celtic tradition. You are invited to come and join us at 10.00am on Sunday 17th March. The service will last for about 30 minutes and will include prayer, songs, a Bible reading and reflection as well as time for meditation.



Avening Playgroup

I can't believe it is half term already! Staff are using this time to catch up with some training, reading policies and familiarising themselves with some updated documents: Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation, Ofsted Early Years Inspection Handbook and Working Together to Safeguard Children.

The children have been taking part in various crafts - painting, mark-making, cutting, model making and completing collages. We have also looked at Chinese New Year - the Year of the Dragon. They have been watching some Chinese dragon dancing and making 3D dragons out of egg boxes. The children really persevered when having to fold and turn their paper to make Chinese fans. They also made lantern collages and coloured in different Chinese themed pictures. They were most excited about tasting the different foods: egg fried rice, noodles, prawn crackers and fortune cookies - and were not happy when they were all gone, especially the noodles.



On Wednesday 7th February we invited parents, grandparents and carers for a 'Stay and Play' session. The children loved having their family with them and enjoyed showing them what we do.



We are trying to encourage the children to become more independent in their toileting, dressing and responding positively to instructions, in order to better prepare those children who will be starting school in September. We have also started to look at some sounds, as part of this. Before half term we looked at 's'. The children traced over the letters and had a go at trying to write the letter on the white board. They have also been colouring in pictures of items that begin with 's'. After half term we will be looking at the sound 'a'.

The children have their own plastic wallet with their name written on, which they are encouraged to find independently and trace over with white board pens.

On Sunday 17th March we will holding the Playgroup Easter Egg Hunt in the hall between 1 and 4 pm. Please come and join us to win a chocolate prize!

If you are looking for a playgroup place for your child for the 2024/25 school year and would like to have a look around, please call 01453 832695 (term time only) or email aveningplaygroup@gmail.com

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Avening Youth Club



**AVENING YOUTH CLUB
NEEDS VOLUNTEERS!**



CONTACT [INFO@THEDOOR.ORG.UK](mailto:info@thedor.org.uk) TO FIND OUT MORE

The Youth Club is held every Tuesday in term time **6.30-8pm** in the Memorial Hall.

All children aged 8 to 14 are welcome and there is **NO CHARGE!**

Avening WI

The long awaited visit to Javelin Park, the Gloucestershire Waste to Energy Facility at Haresfield, did not disappoint. Twenty-two members were taken on a comprehensive and informative tour of the site. Our guide Melanie gave us a brief history of the site and explained that it was named Javelin Park as it stood on the original RAF Moreton Valance site where Javelins, Meteors and Typhoon aircraft were once tested. In fact the old runway now runs underneath the actual M5. We watched as a bin lorry tipped household waste into a vast bunker area. A huge crane lifted and deposited the waste into the feed chute where it then travelled along the combustion grate burning at 850° C. This process heats water-filled pipes within the boiler to produce steam. The high-pressure steam is fed into the turbine which drives a generator producing electricity; the electricity passes through the sub station and is exported to the Western Power Grid. The bottom ash from the combustion grate is processed to recover ferrous and non-ferrous metals which are sold; the remainder is used as construction aggregates. The flue gases are neutralized, filtered and emitted via the stack; we were assured that what you see coming from the tall chimney is mostly steam and that emissions are closely monitored by the Environment Agency. The facility can combust up to 190,000 tonnes of residual waste annually and produce electricity to power 25,000 homes. When you consider that this waste would previously have gone to landfill, leaching nasty substances into groundwater and producing harmful landfill gas, you realise what an amazing benefit this facility is to Gloucestershire.

Our February walk, led by one of our members, was to Eastington. We started at Pike lock on the Stroudwater Canal and walked westward along the towpath. After a short distance we reached the section of the canal known as 'the missing mile' where the canal bed has been filled in. Restoration work on this section is being carried out by the Cotswold Canal Trust. As the towpath stops there, we headed along a footpath towards Eastington. We entered the Community Orchard through a lovely timber frame, oak archway and walked down to the Church of St. Michael and the Angels. We followed the road for a while, passing the village school, a lovely garden with a carpet of aconites and snowdrops, and the large Old Mill building. We followed another footpath through the fields which brought us out right next to The Badger pub, where we enjoyed a delicious lunch.

We are lucky to have a busy, thriving WI with 42 members; the photograph, taken at our February meeting shows 29 of them. The speaker was Sue Davies who gave an inspiring talk about achieving her bucket-list ambition to visit the Antarctic huts of Scott and Shackleton. The speaker at our March meeting will be William Reddaway, his talk entitled 'A ride around England – one man, one horse, 2700 miles and 30 cathedrals'. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome to attend our meetings, which are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7.30 in the Memorial Hall.

Our popular Village Quiz will be held on Friday 12th April in the Social Club. Please



come along for an enjoyable eveningas well as Shirley's interesting questions, there is a bar, light ploughman's supper and raffle. The profits from our quizzes are always donated to a local charity or good cause.

For further information please contact our

secretary Helen at aveningwi@gmail.com or president Liz on 01453 833803.

Bridget Seward

Longfield Hospice Calls for More Volunteers

A spare three hours a week is all it takes to develop a new social circle and spend time doing something fun while developing new skills - while making a huge difference across Gloucestershire.



We are urgently seeking volunteers to help across all areas of the hospice in Minchinhampton, out and about in the community or in our charity shops.

We have a wide range of volunteering roles, there is something for everyone;

- Would you like to be one of our van drivers? Out and about across this beautiful county making sure our shops are getting all the stock they need.
- How about being a patient driver, enabling someone to get to the hospice?
- If shopping is your thing or you want to channel your inner Mary Portas, our 20 shops across the county need you to help customers find that special purchase.
- Or you could be a volunteer based at the hospice itself, supporting activities including cooking, gardening and painting. For anyone who's super organised or has a good eye for detail, we're also looking for volunteer administrators.

If you can find some regular time each week to volunteer with us, we promise fun, new friends, new skills and the simple joy of knowing you are making a huge difference contact volunteering@longfield.org.uk.

Longfield Community Hospice is a charity and relies on voluntary donations to provide the much-needed care and support to patients, their families and loved ones.

Treasurer/Finance Trustee Needed

Do you want to help the community where you live, work or study and gain valuable skills and at the same time make sure your family and neighbours get the advice they need now and in the future?

We are looking for someone with appropriate financial expertise to join the Board and the Finance Sub Committee with a view to taking on the role of Treasurer. They ideally will have an appropriate accountancy qualification but, as importantly, have relevant financial management skills and experience (not necessarily from within the Not For Profit sector) to work alongside our CEO to oversee the financial aspects of the Charity.

We would particularly welcome applications from [those with lived experience of poverty and living on a low income, black and ethnic minority candidates, disabled candidates and those from under-represented groups and marginalised groups.](#)

We are also keen to encourage applications from younger members of the community and from those who have accessed Citizen Advice services. Previous Board experience is not required as induction and training will be provided, as is support from Trustees and the staff team.

Time commitment

Overall, the total time commitment for a Finance Trustee is approximately one day per month made up of a couple of hours or so per week which includes chairing the monthly Finance Committee and attending the bi-monthly Trustee Board meeting which typically last a couple of hours and may be online via Teams, or in person, in either Cirencester or Stroud.

Trustees can also participate in other projects which would involve some additional time on occasions.

For more information or to register your interest and request an Information Pack and Application Form please email info@ca-scd.org.uk Closing date: 29 March 2024

If you cannot access the website or need further help you can contact Citizens Advice Stroud and Cotswold Districts on 0808 800 0510 or 0808 800 0511 Monday to Thursday, or Email us using the form on our website (www.citizensadvice-stroudandcotswold.org.uk).

Church Floodlighting

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.



AVENINGCINEMA CLUB



WEDNESDAY 27th MARCH
AVENING MEMORIAL HALL

Interval halfway -
please feel free to bring refreshments

Doors open 7 pm, Film starts 7.30 pm
Admission £5

The film club runs on the last Wednesday of every month.

Contact us at 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



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Avening Community Café

Enjoy good company, home made cakes and a drink at your Community Café.

Every Tuesday morning in the Social Club from 9 – 12 am.

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

The Café continues to be a popular village meeting place on a Tuesday morning attracting a wide cross section of the community including young Mums, children, home workers, walkers and many others. February half term was particularly enjoyable with the busy hum of conversation and children enjoying themselves, complemented with red rose table decorations in celebration of Valentines Day.

Also this year we have celebrated Burns Night with a wee dram in our coffees and the Chinese New Year with fun fortune cookies.

Many thanks to Wendy Jennings for organising the Café rota for the last few years. Cas Boddam-Whetham has now taken over this role so if anyone would like to help out behind the counter please let her know.

Hope to see you all at the Annual General Meeting on 11 March.

March Highlights / Café themes

5 th March	Celebrate St Davids Day
Mon 11th March	Café AGM – 7pm Social Club lounge with free glass of bubbly on arrival
12 th March	Gold Cup sweepstake
19 th March	Celebrate St Patricks Day. Also, Art with Mark (£3 each, all materials supplied)
26 th March	Welcome to our younger members at start of Easter break
2 nd April	Easter Egg Raffle

John Hetterley, for Avening Community Cafe



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Avening Parish Council



Parish Council Vacancy

There is still a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7pm. If you are interested, please contact the Clerk or speak to a Parish Councillors.

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

23/04043/FUL: The Queen Matilda Tavern. Change of Use from Public House to residential dwelling. Object.

23/03998/FUL: Bannut Tree New Inn Lane. Replace boundary dry stone wall and build new retaining block wall. Replace coping stones on top of the dry-stone wall that runs along the driveway. Support.

23/03893/CLEUD: 48 High Street. Certificate of Lawful Use or Development under Section 192 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the confirmation of use of No.46 as additional residential curtilage. Support.

Decisions Notices

24/00029/AGFO: Hazelwood Cottage. Prior notification for the erection of modern steel framed agricultural building for forestry purposes. Prior Approval not required - AGFO

23/03649/FUL: 51 Nags Head Lane. Reroofing and extending existing garage to form kitchen and extending to form new stairwell. Relocating car parking and vehicular access. Application Withdrawn

23/03402/FUL. 59 High Street. Partial demolition of garage and conversion to independent dwelling with associated works. Application Withdrawn

23/02690/LBC. 25 Point Road. Replacement of front elevation windows. Permitted.

Crime and Policing

No report was received this month.

Neighbourhood Policing Team: PC Chris Pritchard; PCSO Edmund Maina

101@gloucestershire.police.uk

Potholes

Report the potholes directly to Highways on 08000 514514 or at the GCC Report It website. <https://fixmystreet.gloucestershire.gov.uk>

The Agenda and Minutes of the last parish council can be viewed at www.avening-pc.gov.uk The Parish Clerk can be contacted via email at: parishclerk@avening-pc.gov.uk

Puzzle Answers

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

Avening Art Group



The Avening Art Group is an informal friendly group that meets weekly at Avening Park Farm (Celia's) on Wednesdays from 10 to 12. All budding artists are welcome to attend – further information available from the Community Cafe. There is also fortnightly tuition from Mark Kelland. We look forward to seeing you.



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Regular Activities in the Villages

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

Event	Day	Time	Where	Contact
Community Café	Tuesday	9.00am - 12.00pm	Social Club	Gill Adams 07826 291759
Mobile Post Office	Tuesday	9.30am - 11.30pm	Social Club car park	
Cherington PC	Tuesday bi-monthly	6.00pm	Cherington Village hall	Richard Smith 07884 265117
Line Dancing	Tuesday	8.00 - 9.30 pm	Social Club	Social Club 01453 833760
Avening Youth Club	Every Tuesday in term time	6.30 – 8.00pm	Avening Memorial Hall	01453 756745
Avening Churchyard tidy up	Wednesday	6.00 - 7.00pm	Holy Cross churchyard	Churchwardens
Avening Art Group	Wednesday	10.00 – 12.00	Avening Park Farm	Community Café
Avening PC	2nd Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	Shani Baker 07415 039234
Avening Cinema Club	Last Wednesday each month	7.30pm	Memorial Hall	avening Cinemaclub@gmail.com
Avening church bell ringing	Wednesday	8.00-9.00pm	Church bell tower	Andrew Lelliott Aslelliott37@gmail.com
Avening W.I.	2nd Thursday each month	7.30pm	Social Club/ Memorial Hall	Liz 01453 833803
Fledglings for pre-schoolers	Fridays during term time	2.00 - 3.00pm	School Garden	Avening School
Winter Fun Skittles	Friday	7.30	Social Club	
Charity Quiz	1st Saturday each month	8.00pm	The Bell	
Avening Singers	Sunday	4.00pm	tba	Derrick Pierce 01453 835090

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