

February 2024

January flew by much too quickly and I'm sure February will too! On the plus side it is lovely to see everything beginning to grow, early daffodils are trying to stand up in the strong winds and snowdrops, crocus and aconites are giving us some colour.

We had a very productive Committee Meeting earlier this week and finalised the plans for our trip to Bath in April and the long awaited visit to Westminster Abbey in May. We have also booked two Workshops – Clay Modelling in March (Tuesday 5th March) and 'Art with Mark' in October (date to be decided). Please sign the board if you are interested in the Clay Modelling.

We are running the Café again on 27th February and, as usual, will have bacon rolls for sale as well as cheese scones and cake. We would love to see as many members there as possible especially if you are not a regular Café user. Mark (Art with Mark) will be running a session at the Café on that day so you can have a preview of what you might be doing if you joined our Workshop.

Two teams have entered the GFWI Quiz Competition and the first round is being held on Monday 11th March in Bisley. Hopefully at our March meeting we will be able to congratulate at least one team on getting through to the next round.

On the table are some forms to be used to take part in the GFWI 200 Club. Each share costs £6.00 and the draw takes place every month. It's a good way to help GFWI finance their headquarters and, over the years, Avening WI members have been very successful.
Liz

AWI members January 2024, Avening Memorial Hall.
Even the chilly conditions didn't spoil their smiles!



Standing: Liz, Andrea, Margaret, Soo, Jo, Gill T, Sue K, Wendy, Helen, Maureen, Gill A, Jean W, Sarah, Sharon
Sitting(middle):Mandy, Gwyneth, Penny, Jean C, Pat, Alison, Cas, Vicky, JeanS
Sitting(front): Gill R, Hilary P, Sandra, Sue S, Elizabeth, Hilary B

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Wed 21st Feb Book Club 2.30
Amalfi in Minchinhampton
'High Wages' Dorothy Whipple

Tues 27th Feb AWI running the
Community Café

Tues 5th March 10 -12
Clay Modelling Workshop
Cherington Village Hall £15
Bring and share lunch

Wed 6th March 7.30pm
Barn Theatre 'Sherlock Holmes'

Mon 11th March GFWI Quiz
7.30pm Bisley Village Hall

Wed 20th March 7.15 Skittles
practice. Social Club

Thurs 21st March Walk on
Selsley Common. Lunch at The
Old Fleece, Woodchester
Meet 10.30 Avening M Hall
11.00 at large car park on Selsley
Common. 12.15 lunch. Non
walkers welcome to join lunch

Wed 24th April Walking Tour of
Bath (details to follow)

Sat 25th May Westminster
Abbey visit (details to follow)

NEXT MEETING March 14th

**A ride around England – one
man, one horse, 2,700 miles &
30 cathedrals.**

William Reddaway

**Flower of the month.
Raffle**

Refreshments: Chris and Anne

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY GIRLS

Anne Penny Chris Gill R

Avening WI President:
Liz Knowles

Treasurer:
Wendy Jennings

Secretary:
Helen Haiselden

Website:
[http://
aveningwi.wordpress.com](http://aveningwi.wordpress.com)



Avening WI

meets in the Memorial Hall
on the
second Thursday of every month

Visitors are always welcome!

Money matters

WI membership

subscriptions of £48 will be due in April. For dual members it is £23.60

Westminster trip. If you would like to spread the cost, Wendy suggests a payment of £40 in March, with the balance to be paid in early May when she has the final figures.

Please pay by BACS if you can to:

Avening Womens Institute
30-98-29 01740384
or cash or cheque to Wendy

Soo is still collecting stamps and used greeting/Christmas cards (complete, not cut up)

Tour of Javelin Park Incinerator 30th Jan 2024

Jo Harwood



Twenty two members arrived for a 10 O'clock start at the site. After signing in at Reception we were taken by lift to the Classroom where we were shown to coffee making facilities before we settled down for our pre tour talk by Mel, also our guide. Mel gave us a brief history of the site and explained that the site 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.

Construction began in 2016 and completed in July 2019 when Gloucestershire Energy from Waste started generating electricity that month. It generates enough electricity to power 25000 homes, which Mel added is a bonus, because the main purpose of the Park is to deal with waste.

On a normal day the site employs 48 people, with only 3 at night and weekends.

Normal operations begin with a waste truck arriving and reversing into one of the Bunker bays and tipping its load into a vast cavern. This waste is then lifted and dropped down the feed chute and onto the combustion grate. Here it is dried then burnt at more than 850degrees. Ash falls through the grate, leaving ferrous and non-ferrous metals that are recovered, sorted and then sold. The bottom ash that remains is used as Construction aggregate. In another part of the plant, high pressure steam is fed to a turbine, connected to a generator which generates electricity. This is exported to the Western Power grid. We were reassured that it is mostly steam coming from the tall chimney, with allowed emissions well within Environment Agency rules.

We were amazed by the sheer scale of the Park, sometimes quite dizzying looking down through grid floors and steps. We all felt that we had learned a great deal and thoroughly enjoyed our time at Javelin Park.

To round off the morning some of us adjourned to La Campagna in Stonehouse for a delicious Italian lunch. Great service and great food.

Clay Modelling Workshop

The Committee try to organise a couple of craft workshops each year, which we subsidise using the money that used to be allocated for a bursary to a Denman College course. This benefits more members than the previous scheme.

Our Spring workshop is planned for Tuesday 5th March 10 – 12 am and will be a Clay Modelling Workshop run by Charlie Clarke of Little Earthquake pots based at Nympsfield. Our workshop will take place at Cherington Village Hall and Charlie will enable members to construct a 'Decorative Fruit Bowl' The subsidised cost to members will include materials, firing and delivery of pots and will be in the region of £15. 12 places are available so please sign up as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. We will round the session off with a bring and share lunch if you would like to participate.

Skittles Following a fun evening last Wednesday for an informal skittles practice, we have decided to have another similar get together on 20th March so that those that could not come last month can join us. Please sign the board if you wish to come. I need to know numbers as I will bring refreshments again. It will be at Avening Social Club at 7.15 pm. Please come and have a go even if you have never played skittles before or were hopeless at sport. You might surprise yourself!

Gwyneth

Badge Amnesty: Please return your name badge to Helen if you have it at home