From the Editor

This edition is full, as ever, with details about lots of events to look forward to throughout the month. However, it is also good to look back occasionally at past events. The review of the Parish Players’ Peter Pan reminds me just how much my grandchildren and I enjoyed this show. The sheer exuberance from the stage and the audience as we all sang ‘I believe in fairies’ will stay with me for some time.

Our community benefits in so many ways from the efforts of volunteer groups of all sorts and we are hoping to profile a number of these groups in forthcoming editions. This month we hear from the ‘Litter Pickers’, who tackle the waste and debris discarded on the verges around Olveston and Tockington. Their efforts are very much appreciated by me and doubtless many others in the area. Well done for tackling this important - and not at all glamorous - chore.

The cover is by Peter Haworth
News from St. Mary’s

Trevor Cook

Easter Experience

On the 4th and 5th April, St Mary’s will create an Easter Experience for the pupils of Olveston School. A total of six stations will tell the Easter story. They will allow the children to reflect upon the Easter message and how it can impact our lives today. Come and see.

Holy Week

Although Easter has become a time for ‘Getaways’, there is plenty going on here at home and it would be great to share the celebrations together. Service times are shown in the “Church News” section at the back of the magazine, but you might also enjoy the following.

Before the Palm Sunday service on the 9th April there will be a procession with a donkey with the aim of celebrating Christ’s entry into Jerusalem. Leaving Daldry Gardens at 9.45am it will arrive at the church for the 10am Palm Sunday service.

On Monday, 10th April at 7.30pm come along to see the film, ‘Risen’ which will be shown in the church. The story is about a non-believer who aims to disprove Jesus’ death and resurrection.

On Good Friday a procession will leave Tockington Methodist Church at 12.30pm; a cross will be carried from there to St Mary’s, Olveston. Along the way there will be stops for readings, songs and prayers. All are welcome to participate or watch and to mark this anniversary of the Crucifixion.

On Easter Day I recommend to you the 6.30am (Yes, am!) Communion service held in the gardens of ‘The Brake’ at the top of Vicarage Lane.

Finally, after the Easter Day service at 10 am in the church there will be an Easter egg hunt (for children of all ages) in the churchyard.

Springs of Hope Appeal

There are no specific events during April but watch for more exciting events in May. The total raised at the beginning of March is £7,000.

New Vicar

The offer and job specification for the posting have been reviewed, amended and re-advertised in early March. Fingers crossed for more success this time around.
Old Down Cricket Club:

A recruitment drive for the 2017 season.

Tom Pullin

Old Down Cricket Club (ODCC) is located in Old Down and our ground, which we own, is located behind the Olveston Sports & Social Club (OSSC) and Olveston United football pitch on the Alveston Road. Although we are obviously rather biased, we feel that our ground is one of the most picturesque in the Bristol area, with character as well as stunning views of the Severn Estuary.

ODCC is essentially a ‘village’ club, but we do offer a mixture of league and friendly cricket. We benefit from having permanent nets as well as a bowling machine which helps to enhance our practice facilities. In addition we are lucky enough to benefit from the bar facilities offered by OSSC and most of our social activities centre on the Social Club.

The Club is making a concerted effort to recruit more players for 2017. All age groups are welcome, but senior players are particularly required. If you are interested in playing cricket in 2017, or know anyone who is, please contact Dave Gardner email: dave25laxton@aol.com or 07771 848898

Pre-season Indoor Nets start on Thursday 6th April and continue on 13th, 20th and 27th April from 7.30pm-9.30pm at The Castle School, Thornbury. For information about this – or any other questions about the club - please contact Tom Pullin, 1st XI Captain, on 07890 992542.

Thank you!

Jerry Harding

A big thank you to the kind person who found my glasses, still in their case, and put them (so kindly and thoughtfully wrapped in a new doggie poo bag as it was raining) on top of a post in the children’s playing area on Friday 3rd March. I am so grateful.
The mystery buyer of Tockington Manor Estate revealed

At the end of World War Two many people took stock of their lives and looked to the future. Tockington Manor Estate had for many years been the home of the Salmon family. The then owner, Major Henry Methuen Pomeroy Salmon had served throughout the war, which had tragically taken the life of his beloved wife Honor in a military flying accident. Married in 1941, they had made Tockington their home and life without her must have seemed empty.

Although the estate was profitable and ably managed, rumours began in the area that it was going to be sold. In December 1945 Major Salmon sold saddles and other tack items to empty his stable, alongside a similar sale by Colonel Turner of Oldown, in Gloucester Market. It then became widely known that the estate was indeed for sale, either as a whole or in parts connected to farms or individual dwellings. Local meetings took place and there was talk of a cooperative of buyers for the entire estate, but the sum needed was large and could not be raised. Some tenants were able to buy their farms, Port Farm at Olveston by Jack and Olive Whelpton, Manor Farm at Awkley by Edmund (Boyce) and Eva Stephens. After several months of speculation, no single person came forward to purchase the estate as whole.

In the spring of 1946 a fully illustrated sale catalogue with photographs and a map, published by Hampton and Sons Ltd of London, was available at a cost of two shillings and six pence. At the direction of Major Salmon, Tockington Manor residential and agricultural estate was offered for sale. It was described as freehold and covering an area of 677 acres. In detail this was a fine old Manor House and Park with Farmery, the reputed Manor and Lordship of Alveston. It had 5 dairy farms, 14 lots of building and accommodation land, small residences and 24 cottages. (The picture shows Lot 19, Ivywell) The rent roll produced a gross rent of £1438 per annum, in the region of £50,000 today. Major Salmon decided to withdraw Lot 23, two freehold cottages and gardens at Tockington, as he wished his tenants to continue living there and the village green was gifted to the local parish council.

The date for the auction was set for Wednesday 26th June 1946 at 2.30 pm in the Grand Hotel Bristol. The auction began as planned, bidding opened at
£30,000 and progressed in a packed saleroom. Bids ended at a sum of £46,200, in the region of £1.75 million today. Local press reporters covered the sale and enquiries revealed that the purchase had been made by an agent who reported that his client did not wish to his name to be divulged. The news reached Tockington and surrounding villages and speculation as to the new owners began.

It was not long before George and James Northover revealed that they had bought the estate. The well respected Northover brothers had been involved in the local economy for many years. In the main they were in business as farmers, haulage and agricultural contactors. They then set about putting their energies into managing their new estate.

In 1947 Tockington Manor House with grounds of 28 acres was sold to Major Tovey to form Tockington Manor School. He also purchased 10 acres opposite this to accommodate playing fields. Over many decades the Northover brothers ran the estate well and made a good living from it. Their tenure only ended when they died and the old estate boundaries were dissolved over time by private sales.

Aust Parish Council Matters
Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

Aust Parish Council annual meeting
The annual meeting will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday April 11th at Elberton Village Hall. The Forgotten Landscape team will talk about their work in the area. In addition this will be your opportunity to talk to your Parish Councillors about the state of things in the parish.

South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
This Group is responsible for commissioning health services for South Gloucestershire residents. It recently published its spring newsletter with articles about the minor injuries unit, a new hospital transport service and other interesting things. See it at: https://www.southgloucestershireccg.nhs.uk/media/medialibrary/2017/03/spring2017.pdf
Cancer Research UK
Fun Wine Tasting Challenge

Do you fancy an enjoyable evening of wine tasting that will also, in a fun way, test your knowledge of wines?

Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee are holding just that on Friday 21st April in St Mary’s Church Hall, Thornbury at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Tickets are £15 per person which includes the tasting of different wines together with cheese, pate and nibbles.

For tickets please call Jennie on 01454 415856 or alternatively contact any of our Committee Members that you may know

Do come and join us all for what promises to be an evening of fun whilst raising much needed funds for Cancer Research UK. Don’t delay or all the tickets will be gone!

The ups and downs of Litter Picking

Rod Williams

Many of us pick up litter near our homes when we go about our daily activities, but in 2010 June Lyons, chairman of the Parish Council at the time, suggested a volunteer team might start picking up the unsightly litter spoiling the approach roads to Olveston and Tockington. The first session produced a mountain of black sacks, but today things are far more reasonable.

We meet every two months on the first Saturday of 'even' months (but not this April - when it will be the second Saturday, the 8th). Usually about eight to ten volunteers answer the call from the notice in Meeting Point, which seems about the right number. In addition several people regularly do their 'own' roads at times to suit them.

Fern Hill Tockington, Aust Road and Washingpool Hill are among the worst affected areas. Here we find discarded fast-food containers, bottles and cans and the occasional dirty nappy thrown in and, quite often, neatly tied bags of
kitchen waste. At the top of Fern Hill we have found gas cylinders and drug users' syringes and other unspeakable items which we carefully double bag!

South Gloucestershire Council come and collect big items like car tyres, microwave ovens, asbestos sheet, builders’ rubble and the road-casualty deer that we’ve started to come across in the last couple of years.

It's a satisfying project, but it is disappointing when just ten days later it can be just as bad again. Personally, litter annoys me but not as much as dog poo on the pavements!

**Litter Pick**

The next litter pick will be on **Saturday 8th April**.

Please meet at the Parish Hall car park at 1pm.

**Old Down Cricket Club**

*Tony Gardner 07889 727729*

**150 Club Winners March 2017:**

£50 Tony Cudmore  
£15 Tony Gardner  
£5 Alex Grosvenor

**Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:**

11/02/17 Barry Reeves  
04/03/17 Sylvia Gould

**Up the Down!!**

**Cancer Research UK Coffee Morning**

The Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee are holding a Coffee Morning at the Alveston Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday 3rd May between 10am and 12 noon.

There will be homemade Cakes, Jams, Chutneys, Used Books, Jewellery and Cards for sale together with an opportunity to win some wonderful Raffle Prizes.

Please come along and support us in raising funds for this very worthwhile Charity. We look forward to seeing you there.
Monday Movies in Olveston: April

Greetings to all readers from the Movie Club Team in Olveston. Our spring programme has been agreed and Movie Club members will already have received details by email. Paper copies of the programme are available to pick up from just inside St Mary’s Church door.

Regular readers will recognise a change this month: the Monday Movies Extra title has disappeared! Running every third Monday, it offered carefully selected foreign films, limited release films and quality ‘art-house’ films. Its title was chosen to distinguish it from the Monday Movies programme of mainstream films being shown every first Monday. However, as time has gone on, and as our audience has become more willing to try new things, the distinction between the two streams has become less and less. So we have combined the two and, from now on, Monday Movies, running twice a month, will cover the whole range, from Hollywood ‘blockbusters’ to special interest ‘art-house’ films. Here’s our April programme:

Monday Movies (1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7.30pm)

Mon 3 April: A 59-year-old joiner, unable to work due to a recent heart attack, befriends a young single mother as they both struggle with the red tape of the benefits system. With equal amounts of humour, warmth and despair, the journey is heartfelt and emotional until the end. (2016, Cert15)

Mon 17 April: A documentary on the world’s most famous pop-group, focusing almost exclusively on their ‘touring years’ - 1963 to 1966. Includes interviews, press conferences, recordings and much rare footage. (2016, Cert 12)

Children’s Movie Club (Mondays at 10.00am in the school hols)

Mon 10 April: A stop-motion animated film about the life of Jesus Christ, through the eyes of Tamar; the terminally ill daughter of a priest in Capernaum. A distinguished voice cast ensures that children and adults alike will enjoy ‘the greatest story ever told.’ (2000, Cert U)

All the films are shown in St Mary’s Church, Olveston and doors open 30 minutes before the start. Refreshments are available at all the shows, plus licensed bar in the evenings and popcorn and soft drinks in the mornings.

We make no charge for entry, but we do value and appreciate a small donation at the end towards expenses if you have enjoyed the evening.

More information? Contact me on trevoranderson@btinternet.com
A Forgotten Landscape

Volunteer opportunities

Volunteer water vole monitors
Water vole numbers have plummeted nationally by a shocking 95% since the 1980s. However, one of the most significant populations of water voles in the south west of England makes its home in our project area around Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston. We are looking for volunteers to help monitor these fascinating elusive animals. Your work will support efforts to restore habitat and improve connectivity of the rhine system. Phil Quinn, ecologist, will lead a day’s training on **Saturday 8th April**. Come join our friendly team of volunteer monitors and help protect water vole habitat.

Volunteer pond surveyors
Like newts? We need volunteers interested in inspecting ponds to assess if they might be potential great crested newt habitat. We’ll show you how to conduct pond habitat suitability index (HSI) surveys. By doing this work, you’ll help to increase the knowledge of where these protected animals exist in our project area, knowledge that’s needed to help conserve and safeguard our local colonies. Phil Quinn, ecologist, will lead a day’s training on **Saturday 22nd April**. Come join our friendly team of volunteer surveyors, learn more about ponds, and help protect newt habitat.

Volunteer orchard surveyors
Interested in orchards and wildlife? Like being outdoors? Orchards, once a common sight in our area, and a haven for wildlife, have disappeared alarmingly since the 1950s – we’ve lost about 90%! Contribute to the People’s Trust for Endangered Species' nationwide orchard surveying project and help save traditional orchards and the thousands of animals they support. Jerry Dicker, aboriculturist and woodland management expert, will show you all you need to know to conduct our orchard survey on **Saturday 20th May**. Come join our friendly team of volunteer surveyors!
Learn more about these amazing habitats and help us conserve them where we can.
For more information, please go to www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk/get-involved.

**Free events**

**Tuesday Talks – A Dose of Nature, 4th April 2017, 7.30pm**

Tockington Methodist Church, Lower Tockington Road, Tockington BS32 4LG.

Can nature improve your health? Dr Dan Bloomfield of the University of Exeter has been studying this question through his project, A Dose of Nature. The project’s aim is to find ways in which nature can be more actively used to help people with chronic health problems, and how the UK health system can be involved in making that happen. as being an ecologist, psychotherapist and linguist.

**Journey through the Past – a walk with Rose Hewlett**

**Sunday 23 April 10:30 – 12:30, Redwick, Bristol**

Following on from her popular Tuesday talk on the Great Flood of 1607, Rose Hewlett will be leading a guided walk around New Passage and Northwick Warth. The area has a long and varied history! Learn about the now vanished passenger ferry, hotel and railway line that once carried passengers from England to South Wales. Rose will also discuss the area’s early settlement, the effects of the 1607 flood, reclamation of the warth, sea defences, farming techniques, and traditional fishing methods used on the Severn.

*For more details and to book please go to www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk/get-involved/events*

**St Peter’s Hospice – Coffee Morning**

St Peter’s Hospice, Severnside Support Group, would be delighted to welcome you to the Spring Coffee Morning in the Thornbury Methodist Church Hall on Saturday 8th April at 10.00am.

Home made cake stall, Books, Crafts and Raffle.

Entrance £2.00 to include tea/coffee and cake.

Please come along and support St Peters, your local Hospice.
April Easter Egg Puzzle

Here’s an Easter Egg – and some birds that have hatched from it.

Use all 10 pieces of the egg puzzle to make the birds whose outlines are pictured here. For an additional challenge, try to make some other bird shapes – or perhaps some other creatures that hatch from eggs!

March Puzzle Solution

Well done to Joe and Rhys (Year 5, Olveston School) who solved the puzzle by spotting that finding the square root of 121 was the place to start.

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From the Registers of Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church
March 8th. A Service to Celebrate the Life of Kathleen Hazel Bamfield

From the Registers of St Mary's, Olveston
Mar 8th. Burial of Ashes of Kathleen Hazel Bamfield

Olveston Parish Allotment & Gardeners Association (OPAGA)

At this point all the plots on the allotment (which is opposite Olveston school) are rented, which is really good news.

However, if you are thinking that you would like to grow your own vegetables and soft fruit, please get your name on the allotment waiting list. Circumstances change which force plot holders to give up this much enjoyed hobby. When this happens, the first name on the waiting list is offered the first available vacant plot.

In the past there has been a long waiting list but right now nobody is waiting.

For more information please contact OPAGA Chairman, Marlene Baker on 01454 619289 or email opaga.chairman@gmail.com

Olveston United AFC

Recently Olveston United took on Winterbourne United in the semi-final of the GFA Senior Amateur Cup. This is the first time the club has reached this stage in the Senior Amateur Cup. Domineering the game and not giving Winterbourne any chances, we won 6-0 taking us into the final which is to be held on Monday 24th April 2017 7.30pm at the GFA headquarters in Almondsbury (behind the Police Motorway HQ). The club would love to have the support of the community so why not come and watch and give your support to this side of local youngsters in the final?

We are also through to the semi-final of the league cup as well and if you would like to show your support for this then watch out for dates on the clubs notice boards.
We Are Not Jam And Jerusalem!

Olveston and Tockington W.I. is looking to welcome new members. We are celebrating our centenary in 2018 and would love you to join us for this exciting year. We meet at Olveston Parish Hall on the second Tuesday of every month at 7.30pm. Recent speakers have been Emma Britton, Radio Bristol presenter, John Smith talking on the history of Berkeley Castle and Cllr. Matthew Riddle, the Chair of South Gloucestershire Council. We have had trips to Hampton Court and Bletchley Park, and this year we are visiting Blenheim Palace, Nature in Art, and taking a tour of BBC Bristol.

In April, Susan Marshfield will be telling us that ‘Strange things do happen’ and Susan always has a tale full of anecdotes and humour. Coming up will be talks on Chocolate and Woodchester Mansion.

Please come and join our friendly group for a meeting, you will be more than welcome; we even include tea or coffee and biscuits. If you would like more information or arrange to meet a member for your visit, please call Kim Prewett on 01454 614210, or Vicki Townsend on 01454 412727.

Do come and give us a go, hope to see you soon.

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Northavon Youth Theatre Company Presents

Hairspray

Book by Mark O’Donnell and Thomas Meehan
Music by Marc Shaiman
Lyrics by Marc Shaiman

Based on the New Line Cinema film written and directed by John Waters
This amateur production is presented by arrangement with JOSEF WEINBERGER LIMITED on behalf of MUSIC THEATRE INTERNATIONAL of New York.

Armstrong Hall, Thornbury
Telephone & Advance Bookings: 07980543691
Box Office: Wildings, Thornbury High St
[From 28 March ~ Tues, Thurs, Fri & Sat]

12 ~ 15 April 2017
Weds ~ Sat: 7.30 pm
Saturday Matinée: 2.30 pm

www.nyc.org.uk
Virginia and Pat Ward were married at All Saints Compton Greenfield on March 16th 1957, as Virginia grew up in Easter Compton. It is a beautiful little church, over 800 years old, with a Norman arch, set amongst fields south east of Easter Compton. Pat only came from Olveston but still managed to be late for the wedding because he was held up for ten minutes at the old level crossing on Pilning Street!

Sixty years later they have five grandchildren, three great grandchildren and another on the way. They have lived in New Road, Olveston opposite the bus stop for forty eight years. When Virginia first came she noticed the dirty bus stop and ever since the Parish Council has paid her to keep it clean and tidy. This can be a revolting job requiring loads of hot water and Dettol because it is sometimes used as a urinal. In summer they put up hanging baskets, and as I write this in early March the first one is already up.

Last year they celebrated their joint eightieth birthdays with a party for seventy in the Parish Hall. This year they will mark their Diamond Wedding with a Celebration Service at All Saints conducted by Rev Ann Lloyd, Priest-in-Charge. They will share this with friends who were married two years later, also Virginia’s cousin and his wife who were married at All Saints, and many family and friends. They will then go to lunch at the Grange Hotel, Winterbourne.

Although this appears after the event, we offer them belated congratulations and wish them many more happy years together.
The Annual Parish Assembly is to be held on Tuesday 2\textsuperscript{nd} May from 7:30 to review the work done by the Parish Council in the last year and the audience can expect to receive an update on the Housing and Traffic and Parking projects developed from the work undertaken by the Olveston Parish Steering Group and associated subgroups.

The Assembly will start with a presentation ‘The West of England Combined Authority’ by Amanda Deeks, the Chief Executive of South Glos Council. This is an ideal opportunity to meet the most senior officer of our District Council, ahead of the election on Thursday 4 May 2017 to decide who will be the West of England Combined Authority Mayor. This new post will chair the new ‘West of England Combined Authority’ (WECA) made up of three local authorities (Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire) to deliver economic growth for the region and address some of the challenges, such as productivity and skills, housing and transport. The Mayor will be given powers over spending, previously held by Central Government, on the region’s transport, housing, adult education and skills.

Recently the Council has completed a renovation of the fencing at the Parish Hall car park which is also used as a 3rd Tennis Court and a 5-a-side football pitch. Access to the Tennis Courts is now along the left hand side of the Parish Hall, and access to the play area via the right hand side. Eventually a hedge will be established to complete the enclosure of the play area.

The signage at the Old Down recreation ground has been refreshed with new finger posts and removal of the old green signposts. Work has now restarted on the road signs with a new Contractor, and it is hoped that the Tockington sign removed in 2015 will soon be making a re-appearance.
Olveston Parish Council is still seeking replacement Councillors. An initial advert has been published with a closing date of the 16th March 2017, however the Council would still like to hear from interested parties and will advertise any remaining vacancies accordingly. Please contact the Clerk or members of the Council if you would like to be considered.

**Thornbury Ramblers**

Spring is certainly well underway now with lovely flowers adorning the countryside and our gardens, and new life everywhere. Why not start - or continue - walking in great scenery by coming along with Thornbury Ramblers. We are a very friendly bunch of people. Give us a try and see how it goes.

Most walks take place on Sundays and occasionally a weekday evening. Distance tends to be between 5 and around 11 miles, and the pace is not hectic but a good chance to chat.

For further information please have a word with Sue Bird on 01454 413924 or look at Thornbury Ramblers website: [www.thornburyramblers.org.uk](http://www.thornburyramblers.org.uk)

**Olveston and Tockington Tennis Club AGM**

8pm Tuesday 25th April Olveston Parish Hall, Tockington

We welcome new members of all abilities and ages. The official opening of our new clubhouse will take place soon. Watch this space.

For more information please contact Martin Dawes on martin.dawes@live.com
The Severn Beach Railway Line:
one of Europe’s top scenic railway routes!

Wednesday, 5 April 2017, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church

An illustrated talk by Andrew Swift, transporting us along The Severn Beach Railway Line, once rated by Thomas Cook as one of Europe’s top scenic railway routes! Open to all. Everyone welcome: £2 on the night.

Olveston Parish Historical Society  www.olveston.com/historical-society

Family Fun Day and Open Day

Saturday May 6th 2.00pm – 4.00pm at Stepping Stones, Elberton Village Hall

Come and join in the fun and support ‘Make a Wish’. This worthwhile charity grants ‘magical wishes to children and young people fighting life-threatening conditions’.

There will be a cake stall, raffle, tombola, second-hand books and toys, refreshments and many different children’s activities, including face painting, colouring competition and cake decorating.
Our usual forest activities will be available in the woods for both parents and children to join in. These include den building, making crowns, walking with mirrors, bark rubbing and making magic potions. The garden with the large wooden climbing frame and mud kitchen will also be open for the children to play in.

From September 2017, if you are entitled it, you will be able to use your 30 hours free childcare at Stepping Stones; so come and meet our friendly staff team and see all our facilities. All proceeds from the day will go the ‘Make a Wish Foundation’. For more information please ring Gill on 07853173221 or email gillpowell1961@hotmail.co.uk.

Hope to see you there!

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the March draw, held on 2nd March 2017 at the Friends’ Committee Meeting were:-

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<td>Mr M Lewis, Olveston</td>
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If you are not yet a member and wish to join the lottery please telephone Andy Phillips on 01454 614890.
Police report

Reported crime for February:

- Attempted theft of landscaping equipment, Elberton
- Horsebox stolen from Oldbury-on-Severn. Suspicious persons seen in a vehicle earlier on in the day.
- Engine from a motorbike stolen from an outbuilding in Ingst.
- Caravan stolen from Tockington but recovered from Avonmouth.
- Horse box trailer stolen from Littleton.
- Padlock broken off a gate and unknown persons have been looking around premises, Elberton.
- Vehicle stolen overnight from a driveway in Littleton.

There has also been a recent increase in tools being stolen from works vehicles, please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity you may see.

Beat Surgery Wednesday 19th April
Easter Compton Village Hall 09:15 – 10:00am
Olveston Village Stores 10:30 – 11:15am

Severn Vale Flower Club

Open Meeting on Monday 24th April. 6.30pm for 7.30pm in the Armstrong Hall, Thornbury.

White Knights is the title of a floral demonstration to be given by Katherine Kear at this meeting. Katherine is a well-known National Demonstrator as well as a speaker and teacher for N.A.F.A.S. She was also an RHS 2016 Gold Medallist at Chelsea.

There will be Refreshments, Raffle, Plant & Sales Table. For more information and tickets the numbers to ring are 01454 885213 or 01453 811089. Alternatively come along and pay at the door.

Our chosen charity for 2017 is M.S. South West Therapy Centre.
Peter Pan - what makes folk fly?

Barbie Davies

In this busy world, everyone likes a dose of Never Never Land. The Parish Players, in their musical version of ‘Peter Pan’ took us there by means of the set, stage and technical crews’ ingenious flying mechanism, dream-like sets, lighting and effects. They are indeed a dream team of imagination and efficiency. Whilst the melodies of this version of the original 1904 play by J.M. Barrie might not be the most interesting, Chloe Allsopp-Jones’ quartet brought the excellent arrangements to life with their expert verve and sensitivity. They gave wonderful support to everyone on stage which resulted in confident and heart-felt singing.

Linda Evans’ experienced hand gave all the performers a real sense of the pantomime flavour, much panache, and a discipline which translated into a slick and infectiously enthusiastic production. Sheer energy, attack and a sense of fun oozed from every performer. The hard-working chorus of Pirates/Red Indians really entered into the spirit of each caricature, providing some very amusing moments, especially in the hands of Ray Hale and Richard Newley. All the lost boys were an absolute delight with their total commitment to their parts, their fabulous facial expressions and wonderful singing. What talent there is for the future!

On the last night, after an arduous week, Niamh McBride still strong and crystal clear as Wendy, perfectly captured the ‘perfect little mother’ adopting just the right amount of tongue in cheek capabilities – and what a super singing voice! Hannah Clarke was a very convincing John – no mean feat for this generous young performer. Theo Woodward made a very winning Michael by his obvious love of the part, while Peter Pan himself was beautifully played by Jake Woodward, who captured the freedom and joie de vivre of the role. He too had a really strong and tuneful voice. Evie Snadden delivered the difficult role of nearly good fairy, Tinkerbell, with real grace, mischief and perfect timing.

Of course every pantomime has its baddies. Phil Savage’s Captain Hook had the perfect balance of silliness and glory in the gory. His arch-enemy (a most
sleek crocodile) made many a swift slither across the stage causing many a giggle. Only Nana the nurse dog rivalled him, affectionately played by David Proud. No wonder Mrs Darling, warmly performed by Lesley Clarke, was grateful for Nana’s help at that amusing moment when she and her husband (Phil Savage, after a quick change) stand surrounded by the boys who no longer want to be lost, but adopted by the Darlings.

The Parish Hall may only have a small stage (plus, on this occasion, a useful fore stage) but the impact is always big: whether in dance work (choreographed by Jill Harris), the colourful costumes by Cath Chappel, Felicity Hemmett and Helen Leicester, or the sense of magic which is created when a community works together. That’s what makes folk really fly!

Director’s note: This review was from Saturday 18th February. On alternate evenings, the roles of Peter and Tinkerbell were played memorably by Timothy Mitchell and Isobel Lambie.

Yours Faithfully

Ann Roberts, Aust Evangelical Church

I started wearing glasses in order to see that tiny print on all the labels in supermarkets; then I noticed the messages on my phone were becoming blurry, now the books which I receive are a mass of drawings. Sometimes, we find that in life things happen that we don’t understand. It’s a blur until we can look back and see it all in perspective. Hindsight is a wonderful thing.

At Easter Jesus told his disciples in NIV Luke 18v31-34 ‘We are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written by the prophets about the Son of Man will be fulfilled. He will be turned over to the Gentiles. They will mock him, insult him, spit on him, flog him and kill him. On the third day he will rise again’. It was just a blur, they didn’t understand what He was saying and it wasn’t until later that they realised what was going to happen to Him. In the NIV Luke 24v45 it says, ‘Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures.’

Does the Bible seem like a blur to you? Do you wonder why things happen? None of us understands everything, but I know that when we put our whole trust in God he gives such a joy and peace, as well as the strength we need for those difficult times.

This Easter why not try visiting your local church, or try an Alpha Course; maybe talk to somebody you know who is a Christian to find out more. I can testify to the amazing, fulfilling life you will have when you put your whole trust in Jesus. It’s not until you have the full experience of being a Christian (or put those glasses on to see those blurry words!) that you will understand.
### Church News

**ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON**

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Leader(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Philip Rowe</td>
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<td>10am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Philip Rowe &amp; Canon Chris Pullin, Mr Trevor Cook</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Evensong with Choir</td>
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<td>Apr 9</td>
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<td>Holy Communion (BCP)</td>
<td>Rev David Bone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Morning Worship with Choir</td>
<td>Mrs J McBride</td>
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<td>6pm</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Philip Rowe</td>
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<td>Apr 13</td>
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<td>Agape Supper</td>
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<td>2pm</td>
<td>The Last Hour with Choir</td>
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<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>6.30</td>
<td>Dawn Eucharist</td>
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<td>8am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Ann Lloyd</td>
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<td>10am</td>
<td>Holy Communion with Choir</td>
<td>Rev Philip Rowe</td>
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<td>Apr 23</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Holy Communion (BCP)</td>
<td>Rev David Bone</td>
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<td>10am</td>
<td>Fourth Sunday</td>
<td>Paul Harrod</td>
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<td>6pm</td>
<td>Evensong (BCP) with Choir</td>
<td>Rev Philip Rowe</td>
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<td>Apr 30</td>
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<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Ann Lloyd</td>
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<td>10am</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
<td>Paul Harrod</td>
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<td>6pm</td>
<td>Holy Communion (BCP) with Choir</td>
<td>Rev Philip Rowe</td>
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Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

**PRAYER GROUP**: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

**WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION**: At 9.00am except 4th Wed when it is at Olveston Methodist Church

**Morning Prayer**: 8.30am daily ex. Wed

### CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

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<tr>
<td>Apr 9</td>
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<td>Rev. Ann Parker</td>
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<td>5.30</td>
<td>Evening Service</td>
<td>Rev. Ann Parker</td>
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Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

**Church Wardens**: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

### ST MARY DE Malmesbury, Littleton-on-Severn

<table>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
<td>Mrs Tracey Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Nick Williams</td>
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Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660
ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

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<td>Apr 9</td>
<td>9am</td>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
<td>Judith Heybyrne</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>8am</td>
<td>Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Jennifer Hall</td>
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Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

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<th>Service</th>
<th>Leader</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Tock. Ch.</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 9</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Olv. Ch.</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Rev Mandy Briggs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6pm</td>
<td>Olv. Ch.</td>
<td>Unfolding Service led by Rev Pete Brazier &amp;</td>
<td>Mrs Debs Brazier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Tock. Ch.</td>
<td>Easter Morning Worship with Holy Communion</td>
<td>Rev Pete Brazier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 23</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Olv Ch.</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Mrs Alison Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>10am</td>
<td>Tock. Ch.</td>
<td>Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams</td>
<td>Cluster Service at Westbury-on-Trym</td>
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<td>3pm</td>
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NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed. 12th April. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm at the Swan Tockington on Thurs 20th April. To book please ring 613241

COFFEE MORNINGS: Sats 10.30 - 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall.

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC Olveston Methodist Hall
Monday 2-4pm  Wednesday 10-12  Friday 7-9pm
Ring 07833 354672 or 01957 433091 for further information.

CREAM TEAS Served on the Green and in Tockington Chapel on Easter Monday 17th April from 2.30pm -5.00pm

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176, e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

THE VINE, AWKLEY
The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley
We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer & conversational Bible studies incorporating Communion, on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm We also visit other Churches and events so please check our Notice Board or contact: Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07512 917229 or email: thevine_awkley@hotmail.com
THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Vision of Hope</td>
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<td>Apr 9</td>
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<td>Martin Taylor</td>
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<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Ceri Morgan-Davies</td>
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<td>Apr 23</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Alan Mann</td>
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<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
<td>Tony McQueen</td>
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Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & Praise Time
For further information please contact Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@gmail.com
Paul Ashford, 07774 110 814 or email: Paul@CalebGroup.net

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH  Family Worship 11.00am
For more details contact Ann Roberts  632564.
email ann.roberts@bylanes.co.uk

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH
Evening Worship every Sunday at 6pm for details tel. 413247

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -
Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass
Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am
Tel 01454 412223 www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury
Local contact: Roger Howell rog3er2@gmail.com 01454 415035
National: www.quaker.org.uk  Bristol area: www.bristolquakers.org.uk
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Sat</td>
<td>Coffee Morning</td>
<td>10.30-12.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Sun</td>
<td>Open Garden Rock House Elberton (N.G.S) inc. stall for Church Funds</td>
<td>11am-4pm</td>
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<td>'Eat Clean Fair' at Th. Leisure Centre</td>
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<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Mon</td>
<td>Thornbury Carers Support Group</td>
<td>1.00-3.00pm</td>
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<td>Computer Clinic every week</td>
<td>2.00-4.00pm</td>
<td>MH</td>
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<td>Monday Movie</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>4&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Tue</td>
<td>Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning</td>
<td>10.30-12.00</td>
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<td>R.B.L.(Women ) Beetle Drive</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>DGCL</td>
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<td>A Dose of Nature talk by AFL</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>TMH</td>
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<td>5&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Wed</td>
<td>Computer Clinic every week</td>
<td>10.00-12.00</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Holy Communion at Daldry Gardens</td>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>DGCL</td>
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<td>Table Tennis</td>
<td>7.00-8.30pm</td>
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<td>O.P.H.S. The Severn Beach Railway Line</td>
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<td>6&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Thu</td>
<td>Thornbury Farmer’s Market</td>
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<td>Coffee Shop</td>
<td>9.00-12.00</td>
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<td>Olveston Playgroup (Mothers &amp; Toddlers)</td>
<td>9.30-11.30</td>
<td>MH</td>
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<tr>
<td>7&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Fri</td>
<td>Computer Clinic every week</td>
<td>7.00-9.00pm</td>
<td>MH</td>
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<tr>
<td>8&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Sat</td>
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<td>Coffee Morning</td>
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<td>Litter Pick</td>
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<td>10.00am</td>
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<td>11&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Tue</td>
<td>Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning</td>
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<td>DGCL</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Memory Café</td>
<td>10.15-11.45</td>
<td>TMH</td>
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<td>Aust Parish Council Annual Meeting</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>EVH</td>
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<td>Olveston and Tockington WI talk by Susan Marshfield.</td>
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<tr>
<td>12&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; Wed</td>
<td>'Hairspray' (NYTG) 'til Sat 15&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt; inc matinee on Saturday at 2.30pm</td>
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<td>Table Tennis</td>
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<td>Children’s Movie Club</td>
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<td>Cream Teas on Tockington Green/ Chapel</td>
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<td>Monday Movie Extra</td>
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**Looking ahead to May**

5th-13th

**Thornbury Arts Festival**

**Contact details** for any clubs or organisations in the Meeting Point area can be found in the Meeting Point Directory on the community website: www.olvestonandaust.com. If you would like to update your organisation’s details, please email: meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com

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