

Meeting Point

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The community magazine for the villages of Olveston, Tockington, Old Down, Lower Hazel, Awkley, Ingst, Aust, Elberton and Littleton upon Severn

EDITOR:

Sue Hunter

Hazeldown,
Hazel Lane
Old Down
Tockington
Bristol BS32 4PL
Tel: 01454 412191

meetingpointeditor@gmail.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Angela Williams
Ashlea
Haw Lane
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4EG

meetingpointmagazine@mail.com

ADVERTISING:

Nigel Dawes

Cromwell House
The Street,
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DR
Tel: 01454 201558

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Editor or Deputy Editor by
10th July**

From the Editor

As you see, we are delighted to welcome a new deputy editor for Meeting Point - Angela Williams. Angela is fast improving her computer skills in this, her first issue, and the good news is also that Carol will stay on the Committee to ensure that Aust Parish is properly represented.

I learnt from our Parish Clerk recently that we could be about to lose our lovely red telephone boxes due to lack of use. Notices are pasted inside them stating that a 42 day 'consultation period' began on 5th May and hence is already over. South Glos Planning department knew nothing of this proposal. One of their staff is attempting to get the consultation period extended. Could one remedy be to get them listed?

On a brighter note, there is no shortage of activities in July in the guise of fetes, barbecues, garden parties, concerts and even performances of Oliver. Sunshine would be nice but I am going to stop complaining about English weather. Having just returned from touring in north Italy, south France and north Spain, the temperatures were lower and there was more rain than the UK!

Our cover is by Kate Hickman.

Meeting Point Founded in 1976 by the Anglican and Methodist churches in Olveston, near Bristol

The Rev Roly Bain - priest and clown

Pat Thirkettle



Roly Bain and his family came to live in the Vicarage ten years ago but only now has Roly been officially appointed Honorary Curate to the parishes of Almondsbury and Olveston with Aust. He has been very active in Olveston over the ten years, but now he is officially available two days a week to help Philip Rowe in all 'vicarly' matters. From October he will be leading the fourth Sunday services at 10am, which he hopes will be a mixture of the traditional and the contemporary, usually centred on the communion service.

From the age of eight Roly wanted to be a clown; however he ended up being ordained into the Church of England in 1978. He never forgot clowning and in 1982 he helped found Holy Fools, a loose-knit network of "loose nits" committed to clowning and ministry. 1990 was a big turning point, when he gave up his parish and studied for a year at Fool Time, the circus school in Bristol, and has been clowning full time ever since. Of course, full time does not mean five days a week, 9-5, which is why he is able to combine working for us two days a week. He performs and teaches in schools, prisons, churches, cathedrals, showgrounds, circuses, conferences, theatres, streets, fairs and shopping centres. He works wherever or whenever asked, including all over the UK, throughout Europe and at international events in the USA, Canada and Australia and is usually away at weekends.

His clowning is rooted in the Gospel, his party piece being the slack rope act seen by many in the village. He combines humour, circus, pathos, slapstick and storytelling in order to amuse, challenge, move and teach. His gentle anarchy turns the church and the world upside down, and as the Church's jester he is able to tell the truth and get away with it. His two clown models are the Jester and the Vulnerable Lover. The Jester is the truth teller and the Vulnerable Lover is loving and playful, prepared to get hurt and enter into vulnerable places where others fear to tread. The best clowns are deeply profound and speak of laughter and tears, comedy and tragedy, death and resurrection – and ultimately of the mystery and love of the God of Laughter and Tears.

Last year he travelled, with the Archbishop of York, to celebrate the one hundred and fiftieth year of the founding of the Diocese of Perth, Australia. The organising committee wanted a bit of fun, but nothing was prepared, Roly just turned up and did his own thing, and waited to see what followed. For example, he sneaked up behind the Archbishop who was walking in solemn procession, and held a ring

over his head as a halo, and the cathedral dissolved in laughter. On another occasion at a meeting in a basketball stadium, he blew up beach balls and had four hundred children following him like the Pied Piper. This year he is going to the National Schools Conference again in Perth.

When at home Roly is always out and about in the village. You can find him playing skittles or leading carol singing in the White Hart, and, until he went blind, he used to walk his spaniel Jaffa who now lives with Shirley, Roly's mother-in-law. Now that his sons Jack and Sam no longer do their paper rounds, Roly doesn't have to deliver papers anymore! He has led the Wednesday morning communion for four years and does all the posters and publicity for the church.

Roly has been a member of Holy Fools now for twenty-five years since its inception, but he is the only full time, ordained clown not only in the UK, but in the world. How good it is to have someone so unique living in Olveston.

Amusement et Jeux (Fun and Games)

On **Saturday 12th July, 3pm – 8pm approximately**

Olveston Parish Twinning Association is organising an afternoon of fun and games in the former jousting field behind Denys Court. The entrance to the field is between numbers 11 and 13 and will be indicated by lots of balloons so you don't get lost.

The afternoon will start with activities for children (and adults!) including skittles, football penalty challenge, croquet, boules, face painting and so on.

Later there will be games and races, organised for everyone who would like to join in. These are strictly for fun – great for spectators as well as participants! See how far your dad can wang a welly, or who can throw an egg furthest without breaking it!

Tea, drinks and cakes will be on sale throughout the event, including beer and wine for adults. There will be an early evening barbecue accompanied by live music from local musicians. Bring a rug and relax on the grass.

Entry is by programme – available from Olveston Stores and the Crusty Loaf or on the gate on the day. **Price £1 for adults and 50p for children.** Hand in your lucky programme number on the day for entry into a draw to win a meal for two in the White Hart, Olveston for adults or a box of sweets for children.

There is no parking available in the field so, if you are not walking, please park on the main road and walk down to Denys Court.

If you enjoyed the Wine Challenge, here's an event which your children will enjoy too. For more information ring John or Jan on 612641 or Marelin or Hamish on 610081.



Oveston School Summer Fete

Saturday 5th July 2008

2pm - 4pm

The Friends of Oveston School have been working hard to make sure this summer's 'Recycling Themed' Summer Fete is a success. The Fete is to be held on a Saturday this year, to enable the wider community to enjoy everything on offer.

We have entertainment from the local Brownies and the school drama group, and a local band will be providing the atmosphere. Refreshments will be available including Cream Teas, Hot Dogs and Burgers.

Try your hand at the many games on offer or win a prize on the tombola, and as if all that isn't enough we have a raffle with fantastic prizes. This year all the children have made things out of recycled products to sell on their own stalls; come and see what they have created!

We look forward to seeing you there on the 5th.

Aust Church Fete

Saturday July 26th at 2 p.m.



With all the usual stalls -
Cakes, Homemade Jams, Bric-a-Brac, Toys
and Plants, Bottle Stall.
Ice Creams and Teas
Brilliant Bar-B-Q

Fantastic Raffle Prizes

There will be something for Dogs - please bring them on leads

Evening Rounders, Music, Bar and a Bar-B-Q with
the now legendary Hot Roast Pork Rounder

Repairing St Mary's Chancel Cross

Peter Floyd

Have you ever looked at the stone cross on the roof of the chancel at the east end of St Mary's Church ?

Though it looks quite small, way up on the roof, it is over 1m high and almost as broad, but delicately carved, placed upon a baluster base to give it height and fixed to the traditional gabled cap stone at the top of the parapet.

The church Buildings Committee is regularly reminded of the condition of the church's stone work by its architect, through his Quinquennial Review. Upon closer inspection from the ground, we realised that the cross was cracked diagonally at its base, might have become dangerous and called in Mark Hancock of Centreline, who are architectural masons.



The cost to scaffold the east end to give working access to the cross was unrealistic considering the job to be done, but with some lateral thought we secured the use of a large crane from King Lifting, which appeared at 7.00am on Sunday morning 13 April. It was not the fixed platform type that Mark had expected. He was hoisted up in a swinging basket, which he had to buffer off the east gable to prevent damage to the stonework and he had to hang on whilst he worked!

Returned to the ground, the cross was indeed broken diagonally along a fault line in the old stone, but we discovered that it had been broken - and mended -before. The interior of the cross had been drilled with many small holes on both sides of the break and lead poured in, holding the two sides together. The mend had proved successful since Mark thought it had been carried out in the 1950's and which we noted was about the date the church had been re-roofed.

Time and weather had further damaged the cross making the break far worse, but rather to my surprise, Mark assured us that modern adhesive would make a satisfactory mend once again, which he would do in his workshop at Painswick.

All was completed; Mark returned with the cross and, since construction always takes longer than demolition, at the even earlier time of 6.30 am on Sunday 1 June. Now attended by his courageous wife Gillian, they were again hoisted aloft in the swinging basket and re-erected the cross under the anxious gaze of a few privileged onlookers who breathed a sigh of relief upon their return to ground.

The repaired cross looks as good as new around the former break, but it is a fine cut piece of stone and since it is now well weathered it seems remarkable that it is

still so sound. Indeed, Mark pointed out that the horizontal arms appear to have drooped slightly, something he has noted in oolitic limestone before, so he took the precaution of extending the stainless steel fixing rod up beyond the cross arm and down through and below the cap stone into the walling below, so it should be well anchored.

So another small piece of our ancient heritage has been secured for the future.

Flowers for Pleasure

Jo Whiteman



The Severn Vale Flower Club is a friendly and informal group of people who get together at least once a month to learn more about floral art and flower arranging. In February 2007 we celebrated our 50th anniversary. We were delighted to have had Michael Boyer, an International Demonstrator, demonstrate for us. Michael appeared last year on BBC Television in a program entitled "The Great British Village".

We are affiliated to the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (NAFAS) and are part of the Three Counties and South Wales Area of NAFAS.

Our meetings are held once a month, usually during the afternoon of the third Wednesday in the Armstrong Complex, Thornbury. The focus of these meetings is a flower arranging demonstration, usually by a NAFAS demonstrator, or an interesting talk. This is followed by tea and biscuits and a raffle of the beautiful floral designs made by the demonstrator.

In addition to our meetings we host social events that our members look forward to and enjoy. These include an optional lunch before some of the demonstrations, coffee mornings, a strawberry tea and outings.

We also raise a significant amount of money for charity. This money is raised from sales at our meetings and from our Christmas coffee morning.

Winston's Wish was our chosen charity for last year and a total of £1,500 was raised. This was presented to David Hardy at our last meeting held in February. Our chosen charity for this year is the Bristol Oncology Centre.

The Club runs practice classes with a different theme each month. Members bring flowers and foliage and make their own arrangements with practical help and advice. Members then have the opportunity to put their learning into practice by entering the flower arranging competition at our monthly meetings. The winners each month receive a small prize. At the end of the year, the overall winner of the Novice class receives the Figurine and the winner of the Advanced class receives the Cup.

We have a Sales Table at our meetings. Members and visitors can buy accessories for flower arranging, such as floral foam and other items, at very reasonable prices.

In addition to attending our Club events, members also have the opportunity to attend and, if they so wish, participate in local area and national events, Area Flower Festivals and the National Show. In 2008 this show is being held in Edinburgh. Members often have the opportunity to visit such events as part of a trip organised either by us or one of our local, sister clubs.

If you are interested in becoming a member call 01454 885144 or 01454 619070. If you would like more information on our Practice classes, the number to ring is 01454 412087.

We like to think we are a very friendly bunch of people who make newcomers welcome. If you are new to Thornbury this is a good way of making new friends. You do not have to be a flower arranger to come and join us.



ACT brings Instant Wit to Thornbury

Arts and Community in Thornbury is delighted to present the eleventh of its monthly arts events at Turnberrie's on Saturday 19 July, with the evening performance starting at 8.00 pm. Instant Wit is a quick-fire comedy improvisation show packed full of sketches, gags, songs and surreal situations. The show is completely improvised and shaped around the audience's suggestions; because of this each show is unique, giving members of the audience the chance to participate as much or as little as you like. In the second half, the show is based on suggestions that members of the audience have written down (anonymously) during the interval.

The show has been running for over ten years and is an extremely well developed and successful format. Local actress, Lynne Dennis is a member of the group. So come along for a thrilling and hilarious evening.

Instant Wit also runs workshops in improvisation, and ACT has engaged them to run a workshop for 14 to 19 year olds in the afternoon, starting at 5.00 pm. This is a fantastic opportunity to have fun at the end of the school year, but there are only 20 places, so don't delay. There are special rates for the 14 – 19 year olds who attend the workshop and the evening show.

Tickets (£10 & £9 for FACTs) and registration forms are available from the Garden Shop at the Courtyard in Thornbury's High Street, or from Ruth Piolle on 01454 416518.

Music in the Church at Aust

On Saturday 12th July 8pm

'With A Little Bit O'Luck' is the story of Stanley Holloway - the man, the music, the monologues. Dave switches between being the narrator and the man himself on Stanley's rollercoaster ride to fame, meeting, on the way, old friends such as Sam Small and Albert Ramsbottom.

The great classic monologues and songs are revisited. "Sam, Pick Oop Tha' Musket", "The Lion and Albert" and "Three Ha'pence a Foot" all feature along with "My Word You Do Look Queer", "Brahm Boots", "With Her Head Tucked Underneath Her Arm" and from My Fair Lady, "Get Me To The Church On Time" and "With A Little Bit O'Luck". If you enjoyed the Parish Players' My Fair Lady in March, this will be right up your street.



Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church

12-13 July: Tockington Chapel

On Saturday 12 July, coffee will be served in Tockington Chapel from 10.30 - 12 noon. There will be a small exhibition celebrating the Rev Tom Hall's sixty years of service as a Methodist minister this month. Mr Hall, who lives in Thornbury, frequently leads Methodist worship at Olveston and Tockington, and will be taking the evening service at 6 pm on Sunday, 13 July.

Oliver!

Performances of Oliver will be held in Marlwood School Drama Hall on July 9th, 10th and 11th at 7.00pm. All are welcome.

Tickets are £4.50 for an adult and £2.50 concessions.

To reserve tickets, please call the School Reception on 01454 862525.

Website: www.oliveratmarlwood.moonfruit.com.

Old Down Neighbourhood Watch
is holding a

DIY BBQ
on

SATURDAY 12th JULY 2008

1.00 p.m. - 4.00 p.m.

at WINDMILL HOUSE
OLD DOWN

BRING YOUR OWN FOOD & DRINK

SALADS, STRAWBERRIES, SOFT DRINKS PROVIDED
COUNTRY & SQUARE DANCING CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

ENTRANCE £4.00

PRIZE DRAW FOR LUCKY NUMBER

CHILDREN UNDER 18 FREE

TICKETS FROM YOUR LOCAL REPRESENTATIVE

COME AND JOIN THE FUN FOR EVERYONE

Have you got AAADD?

Anonymous

For those of us that get to the top of the stairs and then wonder what we're doing there, then go back down again only to remember, when we get back to the bottom, why we went up in the first place, here's a 'scientific' explanation.

Thank goodness I'm not alone.....

I went to the doctor yesterday and have been diagnosed with **Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder.**

This is how it manifests itself.

I need to wash the car, but as I go towards the garage, I notice that there is mail on the hall table. I decide to go through it before washing the car. I put the keys down on the table, put the junk mail in the bin and notice it is full, so I decide to put the bills back on the table and take the bin out.

Then I think that, since I am near the post-box when I take out the bin, I might as well pay the bills first. I take my cheque book off the table, and see that there is only one cheque left, so I go back to the desk in my study where I find a bottle of Coke I'd been drinking. I'm about to look for a new cheque book when I notice the Coke is warm, so I decide to put it in the fridge.

I head towards the kitchen, and a vase of flowers in need of water catches my eye. As I put the Coke down on the work-top, I notice my glasses, which I've been looking for all the morning. I decide I'd better take them back to my desk, but first I must water the flowers.

I'm filling a jug with water, when I spot the TV remote control on the kitchen table. Tonight, when we go to watch T.V., we'll be looking for it, so I decide to take it back to the lounge but first I must water the flowers. Before watering them, some spills on the floor, so I put the remote down to wipe it up, then head off down the hall trying to remember what I had planned to do.

Now it's the end of the day.

The car isn't washed; the bills aren't paid; there's a warm bottle of Coke on the work-top; the flowers aren't watered; there's only one cheque in my cheque book; I can't find my glasses; and I don't know what I did with the car keys. I try to work out why nothing has been done today and I'm baffled because I've been really busy and now I'm really tired. I realise that this is a problem and I'll try to get some help, but first I must check my e-mails!!!

Age Concern South Gloucestershire

Reg Charity 1109999

We are a self-funding charitable organisation which aims to improve the quality of life of older people in South Gloucestershire. We are solely responsible for providing the funding for services and are hoping to add to our funds by holding the following exciting event.

Alison Neil will be performing one of her highly acclaimed and very witty one-woman shows 'The Sixth Wife' on Thursday 24th July at 7.30 pm at BAWA, Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol BS34 7RG.

'The Sixth Wife' is set in the night, as Katherine Parr waits for her husband, the king, to die. She takes the opportunity to reflect on her extraordinary life, her four husbands and the five earlier (previous or former) wives of her tyrannical husband, Henry VIII.

Katherine casts her witty, observant eye over the turbulent Tudor age and shows how a 'mere' woman could shape the mind of a king and the future of a nation.

Please come and enjoy this amusing and riveting tale – and also help Age Concern South Gloucestershire ensure it can continue its work for the older people of the area.

Tickets at £10, or concessions for over 60's £9, are available from:

Sandra Day, Age Concern South Gloucestershire

34 St Mary Street, Thornbury, Bristol BS35 2AT.

Telephone: 01454 857754

Our grateful thanks go to Almondsbury Garden Centre and Mr and Mrs Keith Hodges for sponsoring the event.

Advance Notice

Barbara Lansdown

Olveston Sports & Social Club are holding an open fun day on the football ground on **Bank Holiday Sunday August 24th**, from midday onwards. There will be a Bouncy Castle etc. for the children. It is also hoped that a fire engine will be in attendance. There will be a five-a-side football competition during the afternoon. The Footballers will be organising a Barbecue. Then we round off the day with a Female Vocalist to entertain in the evening. The Bar will be open all day. We hope to see some of you there, as all are welcome.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the draw held on 3rd March 2008 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	357	Mr. D.J. Smart, Olveston
£75	498	Revd. D. Bone, Tockington
£25	433	Mrs. J. Prothero, Buckover
£20	311	Mr. A.L. Maunder
£15	288	Mr. & Mrs. R.J. Davies, Old Down
£15	290	Mrs. M.G. Griffiths, Olveston
£10	247	Mrs. C.K Hickman, Olveston

The prize winners in the draw held on 9th April 2008 were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	345	Mrs. C. Mason, Tockington
£75	152	A. Cogram, Olveston
£25	378	Mr. N.H. Dawes, Olveston
£20	327	Mrs. M. James, Olveston
£15	512	Mrs. R. Arkell, Olveston
£15	487	Mrs. C.A. Phillpott, Tockington
£10	172	Mr. & Mrs. A. Robbins, Olveston

The prize winners in the draw held on 14th May 2008 were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	477	Mrs. C. Pitts, Olveston
£75	332	Mr. R. Garlick, Olveston
£25	231	A. Gardner, Olveston
£20	438	Mrs. D. Gingell, Awkley
£15	354	Mr. A.G. Robbins, Olveston
£15	218	Mrs. P.K. Dash, Olveston
£10	339	M. Shurmer, Olveston

Olveston Branch Royal British Legion

June Robbins

We are running a coach trip to Windsor on Wednesday 30th July. The fare is £12 and there are still a few seats left. If anyone is interested in joining this trip, please contact Olveston Stores or telephone 614408.

Cricket Club News

150 Club Winners (June):

£50 Roger Rowen £15 Rob Birtle £ 5 Lesley Clarke

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winner (17th May): Andy Rowen

Race Night held on 6th June:

We would like to thank all the Sponsors, Horse Owners & Punters, who helped raise £1000 towards the 'Net Project'. A most enjoyable evening was had by everyone!!

July Fixtures at The Park:

Saturday 5 Jul	1st XI Hampset 2.00pm
Sunday 6 Jul	u-17s Stone 10.00am
Sunday 6 Jul	Sunday XI Keynsham 2.30pm
Tuesday 8 Jul	u-13s Patchway 6.00pm
Saturday 12 Jul	2nd XI Phoenix West Indians 2.00pm
Sunday 13 Jul	Sunday XI Cardkey 2.30pm
Saturday 19 Jul	2nd XI St Mary Redcliffe 2.00pm
Saturday 26 Jul	1st XI Pak Bristolians 2.00pm
Sunday 27 Jul	Sunday XI Benfleet 2.30pm

Spectators are always welcome at all matches, so we look forward to seeing you!!
Tony Gardner 07889 727729 www.olddowncricketclub.co.uk

St Peter's Hospice - Garden Party

Kathleen Burgess

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to Heneage Court, Falfield to a Garden Party to be held on **Sunday 13th July, 2.30pm – 5.00pm** (by kind permission of Mrs Durston).



Sharing the Caring

Entrance is £3.00 to include tea and cake. Bring a picnic chair and listen to the music of "Standing Stones" and enjoy the beautiful gardens.

Please come along and support St Peter's, your local Hospice.

Parish Players

Phil Savage

Following the huge success of MY FAIR LADY, the Players would like to thank all those who supported that production. They are pleased to announce that next season's show is to be OKLAHOMA by Rodgers and Hammerstein - a much-loved musical, full of memorable tunes, comedy and high drama. The dates for the performances are from the 17th to the 21st of March 2009 - a long time ahead, but a definite for your diaries! My Fair Lady was an instant sell-out, so don't be disappointed this time.

We would be delighted to welcome back previous Players, and, of course, welcome new Players to join us for this project which promises to be hard work but hugely enjoyable. The first rehearsal is scheduled for Monday, September 22nd, when we shall start by exploring the music of the show. Rehearsals are, as usual, in the Parish Hall at Tockington at 7.30pm sharp.

A social evening is planned for late August or early September - watch for more news.

Please contact me for any further information/news at pesavage@btinternet.com

Olveston Pre-School

Exciting changes are afoot at Olveston Pre-school!



Olveston Pre-School is based in the Olveston/Tockington area and has been running for more than 40 years. Some of our Mums remember attending Olveston Pre-school themselves. We have excellent facilities and a large amount of space, both indoors and outside, at our setting in the Parish Hall. However, nothing stands still and we are pleased to report a number of exciting projects and activities currently ongoing.

We meet at Olveston Parish Hall (which is on the main road between Tockington and Olveston) every morning and offer lunch club on 3 days. Children attending are between 2 ½ years and 5 years old and we also offer places for children during their first half term at school (during the settling-in period) if required. We welcome children from all areas, not just Olveston and Tockington.

We have been awarded a grant so that from September 2008, we will operate 3 extended days per week, as follows:

Mondays & Thursdays:

9.00 - 11.45 am Morning session
11.45 - 12.30 Lunch club

Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays

9.00 - 11.45am Morning session
11.45 - 12.30 Lunch club
12.30 – 3.00pm Afternoon session

We are working closely with members of the Parish Hall committee who are embarking on a substantial improvement programme of the Parish Hall (they have already redecorated the main hall and Jubilee room), which of course further enhances the building for all users (you may want to check out the changes and consider bookings for your private events).

Olveston Pre-school is also building a new, safe and enclosed garden (approx 10m x 16m) at the back of the hall, which will be ready by the time you read this article. It will feature a variety of levels, textures and surfaces, a live willow structure and sensory planting, as well as a sand pit. It will offer a chance for the children to learn more about the countryside, participate in gardening activities, maximise outdoor play and enable other group outdoor activities. Children will be able to have free-flow play access through new patio doors from the committee room and choose between playing indoors and outside (all well led and supervised by our dedicated, enthusiastic staff). This will continue to be supplemented by use of the tennis courts for bikes, scooters and cars and use of the park equipment.

Our changes to snack time offer the opportunity for children to develop self-selection and self-service skills. Snack time involves the children choosing their own time to eat; what they want to eat from a selection; pouring their own drinks and serving their own snacks onto a plate. They then practise cleaning their own dishes. The children love doing this and show abilities we sometimes underestimate as busy parents in our efforts to keep mess to a minimum and rush to the next activity. Lunch club is also good experience before school as the children eat their own packed lunch with their friends and staff.

Olveston Pre-school provides fun, learning through play designed to meet the key stage 1 curriculum and maintains the Stepping Stones record documents for children in the Pre-school year. Daily activities include arts and crafts, a sensory activity (sand, water, play dough), mathematical games, puzzles and computer games, reading/writing and quiet corner, a home corner and construction toys. Other special activities of note include forestry skills classes, cooking, Pre-school trips and talks/displays from invited guests; last term the children particularly enjoyed a talk on owls and met a barn owl.

Outside of session times, our parents and staff host a number of fun social and fundraising events open to everyone, not just those who attend Pre-school.

Sounds interesting? If you would like to find out more, please contact Helen Moorefield (Play Leader) on 07786395414 or Clare Evans (Committee Chair) on 01454 619850.

Oveston Parish Council News

Andy Clarke (councillor)

While our Chairman, Mrs June Lyons, embarks on an incredible 21st year in office, the Parish Council is faced with a busy schedule. High on the agenda is the ever increasing problem of **litter** in our open spaces and on our streets, which is beginning to disfigure our beautiful area. One idea to deal with this could be to offer a prize of a box of Mars bars to the person collecting the biggest sack of litter in a bid to start a clean-up, but the wrappers might then cause a problem too! Instead it was agreed that we should appeal to all our parishioners to make a real effort to educate our youngsters and influence others to keep the Parish tidy. So, the ball (of litter) is perhaps in *your* court now. What will *you* do?

The Council has just completed a review and subsequent **re-evaluation of rents and leases** for Parish facilities with a view to ensuring they remain available and affordable to those who live in our community.

As far as housing is concerned, we have found it very hard to find anyone willing to sell suitable land for *affordable* housing projects to enable our young people to buy homes nearby. This remains a target for future focus.

The Council is delighted with the renovation of the Hall recently undertaken by Geoff Chappell and his team on the Parish Hall Committee and we have offered them every encouragement and support possible in the process. We may soon see a super facility, fit for use in a modern society. Watch this space.

Mrs Jane Turley-Green, a recent recruit to the council, is helping to bring us up to date with a Parish web page on the village website at www.olveston.com which will be gradually extended to inform and connect with the public about Council business. For those without computer access we will also shortly be producing a printed "who and what" guide to Parish activities.

These are just a few of the many issues affecting us all and dealt with by the Council. For information, guidance or consultation, please contact any councillor or the Parish Clerk, Mrs Valerie Tutin on 01454 613730.

Thanks

Chris & Derry Smart.

We would like to thank our family and friends who made our Wedding a special day to remember and everyone who was involved with the organising of it too. It was a wonderful occasion from the start of the day to the end and we will treasure

it for the rest of our days. Thanks also to all the people who made donations to the “British Heart Foundation”; a total of £395 was raised.

Largest ever Concert for local orchestra

On 14th June, around 60 local musicians took to the stage in Thornbury Orchestra’s largest concert so far, in aid of the Friends of St Mary’s charity. The orchestra performed a summer programme packed with popular classics, including Mussorgsky’s *Pictures at an Exhibition*, Walton’s *Crown Imperial* and *Jupiter* from Holst’s *The Planets*, as well as a selection of film music. The works chosen require a large symphony orchestra including a harp, timpani and six French horns.

The orchestra has grown rapidly since it was founded in 2002 by a group of local amateur musicians, who wanted to provide an opportunity for local enthusiasts to play together in an ensemble and as a way for young people to gain their first experiences of orchestral playing. The orchestra performed its inaugural concert in 2003, shortly followed by its debut at the Thornbury Arts Festival in May 2004: “An impressive performance from this new orchestra” was how one festival reviewer described the orchestra’s achievement. The ensemble also aims to give composers from the region the chance to have their works performed in public; at its sell-out concert in December 2007 the group played an excerpt from a piece by local composer Trevor Jones.

Five years on from its foundation, the orchestra draws players from across South Gloucestershire and beyond and includes musicians of all ages and from all walks of life. The group rehearses fortnightly on Wednesday evenings and performs two to three concerts a year, often in support of local charities. Conductor Chris Hill has been involved with the orchestra from its early days and thanks to his enthusiastic encouragement the group is tackling ever more ambitious programmes of music that require a wide range of instruments.

With recruitment for its December concert in mind, the orchestra is also planning two open evenings on Wednesdays 2 July and 16 July at 7.45pm. The free-of-charge sessions will take place at the orchestra’s usual rehearsal venue of the United Reformed Church in Thornbury. Prospective members will have a chance to join the orchestra for a relaxed and informal play-through of Mahler’s *First Symphony* and the *Háry János Suite* by Hungarian composer Kodály. Thornbury Orchestra is particularly keen to hear from string players and musicians from local schools. Players need to be of a good standard and wishing to improve.

For more information about Thornbury Orchestra look at:
www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk. Alternatively you can contact Chris Hill on 01453 792453 or Chairman Hugh Price on 01454 612453

Stepping Stones receives excellent Ofsted report

Stepping Stones is a small friendly preschool in the heart of Olveston village. After a long wait, Ofsted finally arrived to inspect us at the end of March. It was well worth the wait! Our report was excellent, with particular emphasis on the social aspects. Throughout the report, it was quoted that children were “confident, self aware, well behaved, happy, settled, polite, caring and kind”. They complimented us on the resources, which they said were balanced and effective, the leadership, and the quality of teaching, stating that the staff were kind and caring towards the children and that the activities provided were stimulating and interesting. There were so many positive comments that it’s impossible to quote them all but a full report can be seen from a link on our website at www.steppingstonesolveston.co.uk . If you would like your child to join our friendly setting or would like more details, please phone Gill on 01454 632828.

WI Report

Anne Boulton

An overflowing plant stall, soon surrounded by members, began the May meeting on a fittingly lovely spring evening. Looking forward to our June garden party, President Audrey Shepherd asked for the names of people involved with our WI over the years to whom we shall send special invitations. The two resolutions to be debated at the National AGM in Liverpool are the inappropriate imprisonment of the severely mentally ill and a ban on bottom trawling – a system of fishing which causes catastrophic loss of marine life.

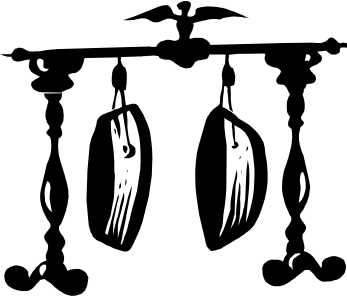
Events on our calendar include an evening with Ben Fogle and a historical field trip to Castell Coch and St Fagans. Sheila Marsh urged members to support the hog roast and barn dance on the 14th June in aid of the Parish Hall. The talk for the 8th July will be The History of English Wine Glasses when visitors will be very welcome.

Thornbury Library

For Youngsters: A Reading Challenge

Read 6 books over the summer holidays to get a certificate and medal and lots more prizes! The Challenge starts on Saturday 19 July. Come along to the library on the morning of that day and join, or you can join any time after this date.

For the Housebound: The Library is looking into the possibility of using Four Towns and Vale Link Transport to bring housebound people into the library. If you are interested in this service or would like someone to collect books for you, please telephone 868006.



'Gamelan'

St Mary's Church

July 26th

Roly Bain

'Gamelan' sounds like a word from *Call my Bluff*, but it's actually an Indonesian Orchestra, full of huge gongs and metallaphones. There are very few in the country and only one that travels - and it's coming to St Mary's, Olveston

on July 26th. If you want the musical chance of a lifetime, you can come to the workshop in the afternoon, from 1pm -5pm, and then take part in the concert at 7pm. You have to be able to do both, and it costs only £10, payable in advance. The first thirty to sign up can come, and you have to be at least secondary school age. Book in with June Robbins on 617491. If you want to know more, ring Andy Warn on 625360.

The concert itself promises to be a special event too, with guitars and other instruments as well as the Gamelan, and tickets at £5 will be available from June too - that's both the month and the person! Don't miss it!

June Robbins' telephone number is 617491.

From the Registers at St Mary's

Baptism on 8th June 2008 of Jamilla Rose, daughter of Matthew and Saffia Bullock.

Marriage on June 7th 2008 of Christopher Smart and Denise Watts (Chris & Derry).

Funeral Service on May 20th 2008 followed by burial in the Churchyard of Iris Florence Woodward.

Funeral Service on 2nd June 2008 followed by cremation at Canford Crematorium of Edward Philip Bastian. Burial of ashes in the churchyard on 3rd June.

Funeral Service on 6th June 2008 followed by burial at Memorial Woodlands of Sybil Joyce Bailey.



Weather-May 2008

Marcus Bean

ITEM	DATE RECORDED	ACTUAL READINGS 2008	ACTUAL READINGS 2007	LONG TERM AVERAGE
Max Temp °C	12 th	28.3	24.7	26.9
Min Temp °C	21 st	5.8	3.8	3.9
Average Temp °C	—	14.84	13.4	13.62
Max Press. mbars	5 th & 6 th	1022	1025	1029
Min Press. mbars	28 th	1000	996	1000
Average Press. mbars	—	1013.7	1010.7	1014.7
Max Wind speed mph	25 th	34	41	40
Days with Gales	—	nil	3	1
Max Day Rainfall mm	10 th	14.94	19.54	17.36
Rainfall in Month mm	—	83.49	124.51	73.66

The first couple of days of May were chilly but the month quickly warmed up and although we had a few showers the days were warm and sunny. This changed on the evening of the 9th when we had a very noisy and prolonged electrical storm with some discharges immediately overhead and accompanied by heavy rain. The storm was followed by five days of glorious warm sunshine with dry days and cool nights. On the 15th a low pressure system moved in from northern France bringing cooler conditions and rain. The cool conditions persisted due to a high pressure system over North West Scotland bringing Northerly or North Easterly winds. On the 23rd the pressure reduced marginally allowing fronts from the low pressure system still situated over France to bring significant quantities of rain, with the Spring Bank Holiday being an almost complete washout. Cold wet conditions continued to the month's end.

Mixed weather for the month: rainfall was a little over normal and the average temperature was significantly over normal with no air or ground frosts. This was somewhat surprising in view of the Northerly airflow for a good portion of the month.

Yours faithfully: *Good Morning, Good People*

I was in Rome recently at a meeting of my religious order revising our in-service training programme; the meeting was a busy one and lasted almost a fortnight. We only had one day off on the middle Sunday. However, as they usually do, a nice trip was organised and this time it was to places connected with St Francis of Assisi, near Reiti.

Among other places we visited the small monastery of Poggio Bustone. This is the place where St Francis first went after leaving Assisi in 1208. Above the village there is a ruined Benedictine Monastery dedicated to St James and it was there that St Francis stayed for some time as a hermit. It was a critical time in his life; he had definitively left Assisi and begun his wandering life of poverty in imitation of Jesus.

When he entered the town early in the morning with his rather bedraggled followers, he loudly and cheerily greeted the people as they were going off to their work in the fields with the phrase, "*Buon giorno, buona gente!*"- in English, "Good Morning, Good People." I wonder what they made of this strange grinning fellow who took up residence in their neighbourhood?

It is interesting because it is while he was at his hermitage in Poggio Bustone that Francis became anxious and wondered how it was possible that God could forgive his sins. He also was very preoccupied with the future of his newly founded Order and wondered if it would ever come to anything.

These problems were answered when one day, as he was deep in prayer, he experienced a vision of an angel who assured him that God had already forgiven his sins and that his new Order would spread throughout the world. This is precisely what happened because it was from the humble hermitage of Poggio Bustone that Francis sent out his first eight followers as missionaries.

That greeting, "Good Morning, Good People" was a kind of sign of what St Francis was all about. Although those villagers must have had their mix of good and bad people as you would find in any other small place, although they must have had their quarrels and fights just the same as people everywhere, St Francis declares them all to be "Good People".

The angel in the vision took that greeting and turned it back on Francis declaring his own essential goodness and the forgiveness of his sins.

St Francis is one of the most appealing saints in all of history and one of the small glories of that little tumbledown cloister hanging on the side of the hill above Poggio Bustone is a stunning sequence of wall paintings of the life of St Francis painted in the 17th Century. The beautiful paintings depict an even more beautiful story, the extraordinarily attractive story of St Francis who, in his own lifetime and down the centuries since, has constantly drawn people to a more radical living out of the Gospel of Christ.

Father Alex McAllister SDS

Christ the King Catholic Church, Thornbury

Church News: ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

July 6th	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong - Choir	Rev. David Bone
July 13th	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev. Roly Bain
	10am	Morning Worship - Choir	Rev. David Bone
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Rev. Philip Rowe
July 20th	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion - Choir	Rev. Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Mrs Janet McBride
July 27th	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Canon David Sansum
	10am	4 th Sunday	Mrs Janet McBride
	10am	BC Summer Celebration	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) - Choir	Rev. Philip Rowe

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

CONTACT PERSONS:

The Rev. Philip Rowe, (01454 613223); email: office@stmaryssevernside.org

Please contact Philip about Baptisms, marriages, funerals or other matters at any time, but please try to avoid Thursdays except in an emergency.

Mrs. June Robbins, Verger 01454 617491

Internet: www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 3.00pm in the Church (except third Monday)

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

July 6th	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Bone
July 13th	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ann Parker
July 20th	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Bone
July 27th	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev. David Bone

Assistant Curate: Rev. David Bone (01454 614601)

Church Wardens: Jo Jenkins (01454) 632838 and Janet Ford

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

July 6th	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole
July 20th	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield

Contact person: Rev. David Pole (01454 414810); www.sthelensalveston.org

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

July 13 th	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield
July 27 th	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole

Contact person: Rev. David Pole (01454 414810); www.sthelensalveston.org

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

July 6 th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev. Audrey Standhaft Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms
	6 pm	Olveston Ch.	Evening Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney
July 13 th	10am	Olveston Ch.	All Age Worship led by Rev. Iesinga Vunipola Breakfast Club will join us later in the Service
	6pm	Tockington Ch.	Evening worship led by Rev. Tom Hall
July 20 th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev.Malcolm Warren Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms
	6 pm	Daldry Gardens	Evening Worship led by Rev.Audrey Standhaft
July 27 th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr.Glyn Varney
	6pm	Olveston Ch.	Evening Worship led by Miss Kitty Barrett

LIGHT LUNCHESES: Thursday 3rd July at 12.15pm in the Tockington Wesley Rooms.
To book your lunch please ring 416056.

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 23rd July.
To book your lunch please ring 416528.

PRAYER MEETINGS: Thursdays at 2.15pm in the Olveston Vestry.

COFFEE MORNINGS: Saturdays 10.30am – 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall
except on the 12th July when it will be held in Tockington Chapel.

DISCUSSION GROUP: The Discussion Group will not meet in July.

CONTACT PERSON: Rev. Iesinga Vunipola. 01454 412269; Iesinga@hotmail.com

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies and incorporating Communion, normally on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm. As we also visit other churches and events, please check Notice Board or **contact:**

Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07512917229 or email thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLDOWN

July 6th	6.30pm	Julian Richards
July 13th & 20th	6.30pm	John & Phyllis Mercer (Queensland)
July 27th	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan - Davies

For further information please contact Olwen Wonnacott (412141) or Paul Ashford (07774 - 110814) email: **Paul@CalebGroup.net**

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH offers a warm welcome to Family Worship at 11.00am and to Evening Worship at 6.30pm. For more details, please phone 613134 or 632564. 'Happy are the people whose God is the Lord'.

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IN OLVESTON – well, not so much in Olveston these days, as we concentrate on serving the community primarily in other areas of Bristol and Thornbury. As followers of Christ, our heart is to be where the Lord wants us to be most effective and currently we are establishing our presence in North and East Bristol as well as continuing to work with the other local churches in Thornbury and in the heart of Bristol amongst the most needy. Our Sunday morning meetings are held at The Grange School in Warmley at 11 am, but the life of the church continues in a variety of forms, locations and styles throughout the week. Please contact the Fellowship Office in Almondsbury on 01454 613305 for more information or on the internet at www.bcfnet.com

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, THORNBURY - each Sunday
8.30am - Mass 11.00am - Family Mass 6.30pm – Mass

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), THORNBURY

Meeting for Worship: Sundays 10.30am. The Tudor Room, The Chantry, Castle Street.
Tel. Elizabeth Sidwell 412975

Diary Dates for July 2008

The information given below is believed to be correct as we go to press.

1 st Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women	10-12noon 7-30pm	WR DGCL
2 nd Wed	Thornbury Orchestra	7.45pm	URC
3 rd Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers Whist Drive – all welcome Thornbury Rambling Club, Snuff Mills C.P.	2.30 – 4.30pm 7.30 7pm	MH DGCL
5 th Sat	Olveston Methodist Hall Coffee Morning Olveston School Summer Fete Cricket 1 st XI	10.30-12.00 noon 2 – 4 pm 2pm	 The Park
6 th Sun	Thornbury Rambling Club -Llanthony Circuit: long- 413924 Cricket under 17's Cricket Sunday XI	8.30am 10am 2.30pm	 The Park The Park
8 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Cricket under 13's WI -History of English Wine Glasses	10-12noon 6 pm 7.30pm	WR The Park PH
9 th Wed	Royal British Legion – Men Thornbury Rambling Club: local - 612684 Oliver	7-30 7pm 7 pm	DGCL Marlwood Sch
10 th Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers Whist Drive – all welcome Thornbury Rambling Club: Short - 633720 Oliver Thornbury & District Flower Club: 'Colour,Canvas& Concept' Elizabeth Graham	2.30 – 4.30pm 7.30pm 10am 7 pm 7.30pm	MH DGCL Marlwood Sch TMH
11 th Fri	Tockington Chapel Open Weekend 11 th -13 th Oliver	7 pm	Marlwood Sch
12 th Sat	Olveston Methodist Hall Coffee Morning Old Down Neighbourhood Watch Barbecue Cricket 2 nd XI Amusement et Jeux Music in the Church at Aust	10.30-12.00 noon 1-4 pm 2 pm 3pm-8pm 8 pm	Windmill House The Park
13 th Sun	Cricket Sunday XI	2.30pm	The Park
15 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers St Swithun's Ball - Tockington Manor School	10-12noon	WR
16 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club- Summer Lunch	12 for 12.30	AH
17 th Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers Beat Surgery Whist Drive – all welcome	2.30 – 4.30pm 10.30-12.00 7.30pm	MH Olv. Stores DGCL

19 th Sat	Olveston Methodist Hall Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 noon	
19 th Sat	Thornbury Library - Reading Challenge Cricket 2 nd XI ACT Instant Wit	2 pm 8.pm	The Park Turnberries
20 th Sun	Thornbury Rambling Club long 0117 9104974	9am	
22 nd Tue	Tockington Toddlers Parish Council Meeting	10-12noon 7.30	WR AP
24 th Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers Thornbury&District Flower Club Whist Drive – all welcome ‘The Sixth Wife’ Age Concern School term ends	2.30 – 4.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	MH TMH DGCL BAWA
26 th Sat	Olveston Methodist Hall Coffee Morning Gamelan Music Day Aust Church Fete Cricket 1 st XI	10.30-12.00 noon 2 pm 2 pm	StM AVH The Park
27 th Sun	Marlwood School Car Boot Sale Cricket Sunday XI	9.30am 2.30 pm	The Park
28 th Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club - Practice		
29 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	10-12noon	WR
30 th Wed	Coach Trip to Windsor - RB Legion		
31 st Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers	2.30 – 4.30pm	MH

Key: AC – Aust Church; ACR – Almondsbury Church Rooms; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Alveston Methodist Church; AMH – Alveston Methodist Hall; AP – Alexandra Pavilion; AVH – Aust Village Hall;CCCP – Castle Court Car Park;CH – Cossham Hall;Chy – Chantry; DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton Village Hall; MH – Olveston Methodist Hall; OS – Olveston School; PH – Olveston Parish Hall; StM – St Mary’s Church, Olveston; StMa – Almondsbury Church; TBCh – Thornbury Baptist Church; TMH – Thornbury Methodist Hall; URC – Thornbury United Reformed Church; WR – Wesley Rooms.

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