

# Meeting Point

*Volume 36, Number 7, April 2012*

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

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Publication date  
*1st of each month*

Material for May 2012  
to the Editor or Deputy Editor  
by 6<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

## From the Editor

April *Meeting Point* brings the nautical biography of Peter Grindal to its (present!) conclusion. Pressing traffic problems outside Olveston School are considered. You may read how Jubilee plans for the area are gradually taking shape and attend Annual Meetings of both Aust and Olveston parishes.

On a lighter note, there are primroses to look at, a wedding fayre to visit, and a jazz evening and a male voice choir concert to help put Spring in your step.

All Holy Week and Easter Sunday Services are detailed at the end of the magazine.. Happy Easter!

Our cover this month is by Kate Hickman

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

**Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory are online at the Community Website: [www.olvostonandaust.com](http://www.olvostonandaust.com)**

# *A life on the ocean wave* (part two)

## **Peter Grindal - village person** *Pat Thirkettle*

On being promoted to Commander in 1977, Peter took command of the frigate *Zulu*. She was based at Rosyth, but, as well as Fleet duties in the North Sea and North Atlantic, she took part in a seven-month deployment to the Far East and Australia, exercising with every friendly navy on the way. Following a staff course at the National Defence College in 1979, he returned to Dartmouth as the Training Commander, and in 1982, as he was doing some refresher courses before joining the aircraft carrier *Hermes*, the Falklands war began. He spent most of the conflict in the Operations Centre in the Ministry of Defence, and then finally joined *Hermes* as the Commander (second in command) at Ascension Island on her way home. So he missed the war but got the welcome home!

After ridding herself of South Atlantic rust, *Hermes* spent much of the following year on NATO exercises off Norway and in the North Atlantic, and visiting the USA. Peter was then promoted to Captain, and mouldered at a MoD desk for two and a half years before thankfully returning to sea in command of a squadron of eight frigates, one of which was his own, *Ariadne*. For three months she was the West Indies Guardship and took part in disaster relief in Jamaica after devastating storms. She then went to the Arabian Gulf where Peter was in charge of the patrol protecting British shipping during the Iran-Iraq conflict.

In 1987 he returned ashore to command the training establishment HMS *Raleigh* at Torpoint, Cornwall, which gave initial training to all ratings joining the Navy, and two years later, although based ashore in Plymouth, he began a sea appointment as Commodore Amphibious Warfare. As well as directing amphibious warfare policy and training in close coordination with the Royal Marines, this also included command of British amphibious forces and, in NATO, of the United Kingdom-Netherlands Amphibious Task Group, and for this he was awarded the CBE. That, however, was the end of his naval career.

On retiring, he was recruited to be the Captain of the Sea Cadet Corps, a nautical youth organisation of 400 units around the UK. He also became Chief Executive of the parent national charity, the Sea Cadet Association. Although based in London, he travelled widely to visit units and attend regattas, sports days and conferences, and he led the reorganisation of the charity. Exhausted after four years, he retreated to work part-time at home for the

Association for two years. He then retired properly in 1996.

He had bought a flat in Bath some years earlier, having friends there and finding it an attractive and geographically-convenient base, and became involved with Bath Abbey as a sidesman, a member of the PCC, and, despite having no musical talent, Chairman of the Bath Abbey Music Society, which he still is. He also began work on his *magnum opus*, a weighty tome on the history of the naval campaign against the Atlantic slave trade from 1807 to 1865. This sounds like a specialist subject on 'Mastermind', and is still a work in progress!

His settled bachelor existence was turned upside down in 2005 when, in Bath Abbey, he married Julie, and, to his delight, acquired two step-children, Francesca and Alexander. Julie, a lawyer with long experience in criminal defence, was then working for the Crown Prosecution Service in Bristol. Both she and Peter are from farming stock, New Zealand in Julie's case, and they both wanted to move to the country. Julie needed to travel daily into Bristol and Peter wanted to stay in touch with Bath, and Olveston, a "proper village", was ideally placed for them. They were overjoyed to find the perfect house on the Green, and living here has fulfilled all their expectations. They walk a great deal, some of it long-distance, sailed a small yacht until recently off Cornwall, and have been travelling widely. Peter is a sidesman at St Mary's, and, if only he could finish his book, would like to return to his watercolour painting.

## Action to address Olveston School traffic problems

*June Lyons & Caroline Brewser*

Everyone who lives in the village will be familiar with the congestion around the area of the Church and School every weekday morning and afternoon. As part of its Travel Plan, the School wants to address this problem for the benefit of the children, parents and other villagers alike.

The School has done much over recent years to encourage local parents to walk their children to school, and has arranged parking places around the village, where those travelling from further afield can park to walk the final stretch. Most parents say they like to walk to and from school if they have the opportunity. But many will tell you how dangerous the walk between the village and the school can be, especially around 9am. This is why many parents still choose to drive.

Traffic moves along the main road very quickly (particularly from the direction of Aust, but also leaving the village), and pedestrians crossing the road near the Church cannot easily be seen, and cannot see the approaching traffic. Cars are usually parked legally around the junction, but even so they block the line of sight in both directions. Near-misses where small children are almost knocked over are a regular occurrence here.

The problem has worsened significantly over the years with the increase in traffic travelling through the village. It is particularly bad if extra drivers use the village as a cut-through when there's a blockage on the motorway, or if a very large lorry comes through and mounts the pavement. Ironically, the Council says the situation would be even more dangerous if there were no congestion around the school, because the parking that spills out at the bottom of Elberton Road serves to slow the traffic down!

So, unfortunately, the problem isn't one that parents can solve on their own. Improvements are needed to make the area around the Church and down towards the School much safer. This should in turn encourage parents to walk, and so improve the congestion around the school gates, making that area safer too.

The School has been working closely with the Parish Council, local Councillor Matthew Riddle and officers at South Gloucestershire Council to find the best way of addressing the problem. The Council has allocated £5000 towards identifying a solution during 2012, and will hopefully find further funding to make the improvements during 2013. Until the Council has completed its investigation of the site, it's not clear what its recommendations will be. However, possibilities include a reduction in speed limit in the area around the school to 20mph during peak periods, and restrictions in parking along the main road by the Church for the same limited periods of time. Another option might be a school crossing patrol outside the Church.

The School is very keen to find a solution that works for local residents too, and that is why liaison between the School and the Parish Council will continue as a very important and valuable part of the process. If you have any views or questions, please contact [olvestonprimary.school@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:olvestonprimary.school@southglos.gov.uk), marking your email FAO School Travel Plan Group.

June Lyons, Chairman, Olveston Parish Council  
Caroline Brewser, Parent Representative, Olveston School Travel Plan Working Group

# Aust Parish Council Matters *Tim Pyper*

austparishcouncil@googlemail.com

## Annual Parish Meeting

The date and place have now been fixed. The meeting will be at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April at Elberton Village Hall. This meeting is your opportunity to have your say about what the Parish Council has done, and what you think it should be doing. And generally to air your views about your parish. Please come! We hope to have a sample of the Jubilee commemorative mugs available – see below.

## Planning issues:

Last month, I mentioned two particular planning matters. First, the proposed treatment facility at Harnhill Quarry to treat water from gully cleaning vehicles. As I anticipated, the Council welcomed the proposal and gave it their support.

The other one was the proposed wind farm at Ingst. While no application has yet been made, the Council discussed what is known about it. Though a formal decision will only be taken once an application has been made, the view of the Council was that this is the wrong scheme in the wrong place, and it is likely to oppose it.

The owner of the site adjoining Quarry House in Littleton has appealed against South Gloucestershire Council's latest refusal of permission to create a separate dwelling. The Parish Council will continue its campaign against this proposal.

## Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Parish Council will be organizing a **beacon at the lookout above the Severn at Aust** as part of the national network of beacons. The Council is grateful to Mr and Mrs David Spratt for kindly agreeing that their land may be used. The Council will also present **commemorative mugs** to all those under 18 – we hope to have a sample at the Annual Meeting - and these will be available also for adults to buy.

## Jubilee Celebrations Update

**Littleton-on-Severn**: will celebrate with a Ceilidh on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> June on Taylor's Field, 6pm – late. Best spurs/Cowboy outfits optional. Jubilee bonnet competition. Village Bar. Adults £10, under 16s free. Ploughman's included.

**Aust, Elberton**: announcements of Jubilee plans eagerly awaited ....

# Oveston Parish Matters

Richard Rogers

[olvestonpc@googlemail.com](mailto:olvestonpc@googlemail.com)

Further to the report in last month's Meeting Point, the Parish Council would again like to thank all the parishioners who answered the recent Wind Farm Questionnaire. A staggering 772 replies were received, which represents an unprecedented 46% response. Of the returns accepted, 107 (14%) were in favour of the Wind Farm and 662 (86%) were against. This result will give the Parish Council a clear steer when the planning application is submitted, and South Gloucestershire Council will be made aware of parishioners' views.

Since last summer there have been an increasing number of complaints about dog fouling in the play area at Vicarage Lane, and recently along the Street and around the Stores. It is very sad that a small minority of dog owners should be so inconsiderate, especially as, apart from the visual impact, smell and general unpleasantness, there is evidence that dog faeces carry e.coli and hepatitis. Additionally 100 people each year (mainly children) have eye diseases caught by swallowing the *Toxocara* egg, which can lead to blindness.

Toxocariasis is an infestation of humans with the larvae of *Toxocara canis*, a small threadlike parasitic worm that resides in a dog's intestine. A dog harbouring the small round worm causes large numbers of worm eggs (each about 0.07mm diameter) in its faeces which can contaminate the soil. Children who play with contaminated soil can then inadvertently put their fingers in their mouths and swallow some of the worm eggs. The swallowed eggs hatch in the intestine of the child to liberate larvae, which then travel towards the liver, lungs, brain and eyes. Here they can trigger off allergic reactions such as asthma, and they also have more serious affects such as loss of vision.

The Parish Council would urge all people out walking or exercising their dogs to take plastic bags with them so that they can clean up as they go. 'Dog poo' bins have already been provided around the parish that are regularly emptied, and more warning notices have been erected. The South Gloucestershire Council Dog Warden is happy to contact dog owners to make them aware of the regulations concerning dog fouling and if necessary issue a £50 fixed penalty notice. He can be contacted on 01454 868000 or via email to [streetcare@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:streetcare@southglos.gov.uk). However to be effective, the dog warden will need to know a description of the dog and the owner, where the dog is regularly exercised, and if possible details about discrete incidents. Given the increased use of all three Play Areas in the parish as spring approaches, it would be wonderful to ensure that they are suitably safe.

With the coming of spring it also time for the Annual Parish Assembly. This year it is to be held at Olveston Parish Hall on Thursday 26th April starting at 7:30, with tea and coffee available beforehand. Please come along to meet your councillors, to hear what has been done in the last financial year, and to air any concerns that you may have. There will also be opportunities to get first hand knowledge on Localism and the Parish Plan.

Increasingly, information is being sent to the Parish Council via email and through website links. Topics that could affect the parish (like updates on the M4/M5 roadworks, or opportunities to discuss or get involved in local Health issues, etc) are regularly being passed to the website manager for inclusion on the council pages at [www.olvoston.com](http://www.olvoston.com), so if you have access to the internet it is well worth a look.

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## Proposed New Pole Taxes

010412

New proposals before South Gloucestershire District Council mean clubs and organisations can no longer use telephone poles free of charge to display posters for their events and shows.

It is estimated that complying with new EU regulations will raise the cost of monitoring telephone poles by 13.7% per annum. Forensic examination of damaged poles shows a multitude of pinholes can allow bacteria, new to this country as a result of climate change, to penetrate the poles and make them unsafe and a risk to the public.

Under the new regulations, applicable from the first of this month, posters must be forwarded for approval, three months prior to display, to the Planning Department at Thornbury, with the appropriate forms and fees. Charges will be 50p per week, or part of a week, for an A5 sized laminated poster and £1 for an A4 sized laminated poster.

Details of where and when the posters are to be displayed must be provided, together with a full specification of the drawing pins or staples to be used, as these must meet recent EU Health and Safety requirements.

For full Terms and Conditions and the necessary application forms, contact South Gloucestershire Council at Thornbury, or go to their website [www.southgloucestershire.gov/phonepoles](http://www.southgloucestershire.gov/phonepoles) where both are available and can be downloaded.

# A Clock fit for a Queen!

As a permanent reminder of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, the Parish Hall is to have a handsome clock. It will be fitted on the front elevation in the round window above the door and should be in place in time for Jubilee celebrations.



We hope that members of the community will wish to make a contribution to this special and lasting memorial. The cost will be in the region of £3000. Please send donations to Olveston Parish Hall, c/o the Treasurer, Pat Savage, The Coach House, Aust Road, Olveston, BS35 4DE.

The names of donors will be recorded on a certificate to be displayed in the Hall and in a book which will be placed in the archives of the Olveston Parish Historical Society.

## Gardeners' Open Day at The Chantry on Saturday 14 April 2012

The Chantry will be hosting a Gardeners' Open Day on Saturday 14 April, from 10am to 4pm. Come and explore the beautiful walled gardens of this Grade II listed building, and get some ideas for your own garden!

There will be plants for sale and refreshments, including cream teas, will be available.

For more information please contact The Chantry on 01454 414268 or [office@thechantry.org.uk](mailto:office@thechantry.org.uk)





# The Garden Line

From articles (1991-92) by *Cecilie Turton*

April for me is a most exciting month, so many seeds to be sown and cuttings to take. Fuchsias root easily –you can't have too many for hanging baskets and borders.

I'm looking forward to growing *Nicotiana glauca*, for the first time. This is a half hardy annual, 3 – 4 feet tall, pure white and beautifully scented. Imagine groups of three or four planted in a shrubbery or at the back of the herbaceous border. Hurry and plant seed now.

Towards the end of the month plant out dahlias, divide clumps carefully with a sharp knife, make sure each rhizome has a shoot, discard any unhealthy ones. Divide large clumps of herbaceous plants, eg michaelmas daisies, rudbeckia etc. Replant healthy outside shoots. Stake delphiniums late in the month. I prefer twiggy sticks to canes; apart from the obvious danger of canes, twiggy sticks are soon hidden by the foliage.

Time now to plant onion sets and sow salad crops, not forgetting parsley and various herbs. Plant out March sown seedlings of sweet peas and remember to manure the trench bottom not the top – this only encourages surface rooting. Prepare ground outside for late flowering chrysanthemums.

As the ground warms up, apply mulching to beds and borders - garden compost, or rotting leaves. Put straw round fruit bushes to conserve moisture. Give a general spring clean to indoor pot plants. Remove dead leaves, wash off dust and slightly increase watering. Cacti, which should have been kept dry through winter months, will appreciate plenty of water and feeding now.

Although there is much to be done, never overdo it. Gardening is for pleasure and enjoyment, and what is forgotten this week can often be done next week.

# Rural Touring Arts - The Tammy Weis Trio

Olveston Church, Saturday 14th April, 7.45 pm.

We are proud to promote The Tammy Weis Trio: [www.tammyweis.com](http://www.tammyweis.com)

Tammy is a fine Canadian singer, sensitively accompanied by guitar and double bass. She sings a mix of classic jazz standards and beautifully crafted originals which are performed with a wonderful sense of melody and swing.

Tammy has performed at The Royal Festival Hall, The Royal Albert Hall, and performed with Hayley Westenra, Bobby McFerrin, and Randy Bachman at Pizza on the Park. Now resident in London, Tammy recently launched her new album, *Where I Need to be*, which was released to a sold out crowd at the legendary Ronnie Scott's Club. She has been interviewed on Radio 4's *Woman's Hour* with Jenni Murray and on Jamie Cullum's show on BBC Radio 2, building a popular following across the UK.

"Isn't she great! Now there's a vocalist!" Michael Bubl 

Licensed bar and raffle. Tickets at  8 are available from June Robbins 617491 Geoff Chappell 615806 or Roly Bain 616593.

## Movies at St Mary's: April Trevor Anderson



**Movies at St Mary's Church Olveston** are proving very popular. Everyone is welcome, refreshments are available and admission is FREE.

Four movies in April:

### **CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB at 10.00am**

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr:** Rowan Atkinson returns to the role of accidental secret agent in this comedy spy-thriller

**Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Apr:** Our cheese loving inventor and his savvy canine companion try to capture a mysterious beast of epic proportions.

### **MONDAY MOVIES: Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr at 7.30pm**

Smiley is summoned from retirement to root out a mole believed to be embedded at the heart of British intelligence.

## **MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA: Mon 16<sup>th</sup> Apr, 7.30pm**

An affectionate and well observed road movie about the man who became the revolutionary Che Guevara.

For copyright reasons, we can't name the films here, but you can see posters and leaflets in church. You can also join the **mailing list** and get quarterly Newsletters and updates: contact [trevoranderson@btinternet.com](mailto:trevoranderson@btinternet.com) or 613279.

## **Young workers**

**Wednesday, 4 April 2012, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church**



John Loosley, an energetic and lively local historian, will be talking about his researches into "**Childhood Employment in Gloucestershire**". He has investigated child workers in the Forest of Dean and the textile mills of Stroud and, in preparation for this talk, has been looking into details of young workers in South Gloucestershire parishes.

The meeting is open to all. Just turn up. You'll be very welcome!  
Visitors pay £2 at the door. [www.olvoston.com.historical-society](http://www.olvoston.com.historical-society)

## **Olveston Parish Countryside Group**

**AGM and Open Meeting, Tuesday April 17<sup>th</sup>, 7.30pm, Tockington Chapel**

We keep the business part of our meeting brief, and our speaker Rosemary Westgate will be giving a talk and presentation on 'Wildflowers in Gloucestershire'.

If you are free that evening, do please come along, you will be very welcome.

# Jubilee sponsorship

There are plenty of plans ahead for celebrating the Diamond Jubilee in June, and it's going to be a brilliant weekend, but Olveston Diamond Jubilee Committee hasn't got an awful lot of money to put where our mouth and ideas are! Last Jubilee, a year was spent fund raising and £13,000 was raised. This year we've only got a little short of a thousand pounds to play with ....

Is there anyone out there who can help? We really need around £3,000 to cover the set up costs. Ticket money will help cover the cost of some of the things we're doing, but there are niggling background costs, like insurances, that need to be paid for.

If you feel moved to help in even a small way, please give a cheque made payable to 'Olveston Diamond Jubilee Committee', or cash, to Roly Bain, Olveston Vicarage, David Prothero (Treasurer), Rose Cottage, Buckover, Wotton-under-Edge, GL12 8DX or Nikki Clarke, Homewood, Olveston. The whole community will be grateful.

## Olveston Pre-School Open Morning

Olveston Pre-School is having an Open Morning on Monday 23 April to allow prospective pupils and their parents a chance to see its 'outstanding' learning environment and facilities for themselves.

The Pre-School has excellent staff and new purpose-built facilities, and is located adjacent to the Parish Hall in Tockington. There are large indoor and outdoor play areas, and something that will appeal to all children.

Staff will be on hand for guided tours of the Pre-School and to answer any queries; whether they are about the Pre-School's approach to learning, how to enrol, or what a typical day comprises.

Refreshments will be served, so why not come for a cuppa and a chat at a time that suits you?

Doors will be open from 9.30 am to 12 noon. We look forward to seeing you there.

**STOP PRESS!** A couple of very end of March events - Ed.



Totally- Locally will be held on Tockington Green on  
Saturday 31st March 9.30-12.00  
Contact:Jane Sunnucks 01454 419931

## Spring flowers

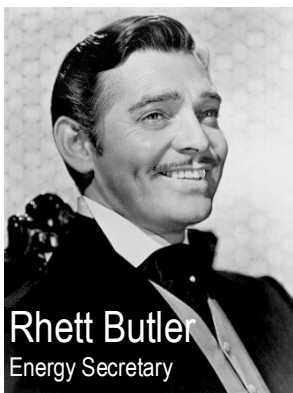
*Peter and Tessa Floyd*

Peter and Tessa Floyd are opening their garden at Maryland, Old Down (off The Down – which will be signposted) on Saturday afternoon 31 March from 2-5pm., in aid of St Mary’s Church, Olveston. Come and see the spring flowers – particularly primroses - which are always a good show,

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## Gone with the Windfarm

*Dr Rovert*



Midday Movie (By Special Request)

‘**GONE WITH THE WINDFARM**’ is an epic drama about how life in the West changed forever when wind turbines sprang up in field after field across the whole Severn Vale.

**Press Review:** “*Frankly my dear, I don’t give a damn.*” Rhett Butler, Energy Secretary Olveston Parish Hall, Tockington at 12.00 noon on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Admission FREE. Don’t miss it

# News From St Mary's

## Bristol Northwest Food bank

*Roly Bain*

Since Emma Murray's visit to St Mary's in January, we've been collecting food for Bristol NW Food bank. It's a Christian charity that provides food for those recommended by statutory bodies, so it's very focussed in what it does. There is a credit card sized shopping list of the things they prefer, and these and leaflets about their work can be found on the table by the church door.

From Easter onwards there will also be a box in Olveston Stores. Hitherto this box has been for the Loaves & Fishes Project, a charity that St Mary's supports at Harvest, but Tony Kite from Almondsbury has very kindly let us change the destination of the food that's collected there.

Do please support the project. Just a tin or a packet each week when you do your own shopping - it's not a lot to ask.

## **THE STRAWBERRY BALL**

St Mary's Annual Ball in the marquee at Tockington Manor is on Tuesday, July 17th, at 6.30pm - a week later than usual because of term times. It's still only £49 if you pay the early bird price by May 1st, although it's £55 thereafter.

We welcome back the Veroneke Big Band, and Napier Catering are again providing our sumptuous meal. There is the inevitable raffle and silent auction. All in all it promises to be another wonderful evening. Queries to Roly Bain on 616593. Tickets from Julia Johnstone 07966 302762.

## **Scarecrows!**

*Debbie Harries*

We are planning to have a scarecrow festival this June! It would be great to see lots of scarecrows in gardens throughout the villages during the week leading up to the Fête at Olveston School and St Mary's Church on 16th June.

Judging will take place on the Saturday. So start thinking about your designs! More details will follow in May.

# Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in February's draw, held on 9th February 2012 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

Amount	Number	Name
£150	178	Mrs V. Brazell, Olveston
£75	444	Mrs. J. M. Skinner, Olveston
£25	515	S. J. & M. J. Phelps, Olveston
£25	534	Dr. M. Wright, Tockington
£25	327	Mrs. M. James, Olveston
£20	354	Mr. A. G. Robbins, Olveston
£10	460	R. & J. Smith, Olveston
£10	339	Mrs. M. Shurmer, Olveston

The prize winners in March's draw, held on 8th March 2012 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

Amount	Number	Name
£150	333	Mr. & Mrs. R. Garlick, Olveston
£75	422	Dr. D. Cochrane, Olveston
£25	431	Mrs. C. M. Pitts, Olveston
£25	514	Revd. R. Bain, Olveston
£25	287	Mrs. A. Harley, Alveston
£20	344	Mrs. J. Hahn, Olveston
£20	272	Mr. J. Donaldson, Alveston
£10	314	Mr. & Mrs. R. Birtle, Olveston



## St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group 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 14th April at 10.00am.

Home made cake stall, Books, Crafts and Raffle.

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

# Police Report:

## January and February 2012

In the month of **January** we received a total of 23 calls and there were 7 reported crimes, which I believe could be an all time low for the beat - very good news.

Unknown offender(s) caused criminal damage to a vehicle in Olveston by throwing a large piece of masonry stone to the back of the vehicle costing hundreds of pounds to repair. There has also been some nuisance behaviour where tyres have been let down. If anybody sees anything suspicious, please report it.

Burglary at an outbuilding in Ingst: offender(s) stole a large amount of scrap metal and a tractor battery, and an unknown male was disturbed at premises in Aust where no offences were disclosed.

In **February** we received 35 calls and 10 reported crimes, details as follows:

Graffiti to a farm building in Pilning with no further incidents  
Number plates stolen from a vehicle in Passage Road, Aust  
Copper piping stolen from Woodhouse Park, Fernhill  
Access gained to farm buildings in Oldbury – however, nothing stolen

The next beat surgery will be on Thursday 12th April between 10:30 – 11:30 at Olveston Stores Coffee Shop.

The next SSCG meeting will be on Thursday 12th April 2012 at 7.30 pm  
Olveston Parish Hall

Contact number: PCSO Kelly Dimery and PC Hopes 0117 945 5959  
Mobile numbers: PCSO Kelly Dimery 07917 586645 PC Hopes 07919 628625



# **Dursley Male Voice Choir at St.Mary's Church, Almondsbury**

Two years ago Dursley MVC gave a concert in St Mary's Church, Almondsbury that was very well received. By choir policy, this is the earliest opportunity for a return visit to be made.

The concert will be held on Saturday 21st April, starting at 7.30.p.m. Tickets are available from Almondsbury Village Community Shop and the following telephone numbers: 01454-613163 & 01454-613130. They cost £8 in advance and £10 on the door prior to concert. Light refreshments (tea/coffee/biscuits) will be provided free in the interval.

The Children's Society will receive any profits made from the concert.

A warm welcome is assured to anybody who comes to a practice on a Wednesday evening (7.30 pm to 9.30 pm) in the Chantry Centre (former Lister Hall) in Dursley. Why not find out more from the choristers when you attend the concert? Or ring Huw Jenkins on 01454-613030

## **Cancer Research UK**

Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee will be holding their Annual General Meeting at Thornbury Hospital on Wednesday 4th April, commencing at 7.30pm. All are invited to attend the Meeting which will be followed by light refreshments.

Anyone wishing to join us please contact the Committee Secretary, Betty Cain, on 01453 843802.

## **Olveston School Annual Quiz Night**

**Friday 18th May in the Wyke Hall**

The Friends of Olveston School are once again organising this fun quiz night. Cost £2.50 per person, max 6 people per team. B.Y.O drinks and nibbles.

Please confirm your entry with Clare at: [clareevanstobe@hotmail.com](mailto:clareevanstobe@hotmail.com) or 07584 194545.

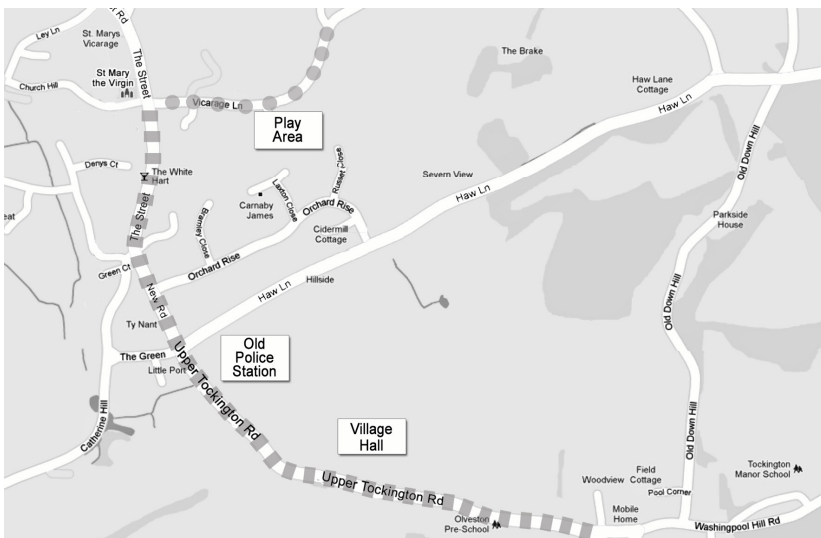
Doors open at 7.30pm. Quiz starts at 8.00pm. Hope to see you there!

# Oveston Jubilee Celebrations - Road Closures

The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations in Oveston and Tockington will take place on 4th June 2012 and will involve various activities throughout the day, starting with a parade from the Play Park in Vicarage Lane, down to the White Hart, along The Street and Upper Tockington Road, finishing at the Village Hall.

The parade will set off at 12.30pm but to facilitate this it will be necessary to close Vicarage Lane to traffic from 12.15 to approx. 13.00. The road will re-open as soon as the parade has passed. The Street will also be closed from 12.15 to approx. 13.30, reopening as soon as the parade has passed. Upper Tockington Road will be closed from 12.30 to 15.30 to allow the parade and then the Soap Box Derby (from the Old Police Station to the Village Hall) to take place. This road will re-open as soon as the competition is completed. Please note that emergency services will have priority of access at all times.

Application for the Street Closure Order will shortly be made to South Glos. Council on behalf of Oveston Diamond Jubilee Committee by Colin Prewett. Should you have any concerns, special needs or objections you can contact Colin on 01454 614210 or email [colin.prewett@talktalk.net](mailto:colin.prewett@talktalk.net) or S. Glos Cnl. on 01454863794 or 863050 (Mr Essery), email: [streetevent@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:streetevent@southglos.gov.uk)



# Thornbury Arts Festival 2012

Just a reminder regarding the dates for the Thornbury Arts Festival and the Severn Vale Art Trail this year:

**Thornbury Arts Festival** - Friday 20th April - Sunday 29th April

Highlights: Saturday 21st April - Dame Evelyn Glennie – a performance by the world famous classical percussionist who also happens to be deaf.

Sunday 22nd April – actor Robert Powell- celebrating the anniversary of Charles Dickens.

**Severn Vale Art Trail:** Friday 4th May - Sunday 13th May, open studios and exhibitions with artwork for sale.

Full details available on our website [www.thornburyartsfestival.com](http://www.thornburyartsfestival.com)

## Old Down Cricket Club

### 150 Club Winners March:

£50 Ian Watkins

£15 John Cryer

£5 Rob & Audrey Evans

### Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

11th Feb Alex Grosvenor, 18th Feb Reg Purchase, 25th Feb Dave Buckley

**Senior Pre-Season Nets** commenced at Abbeywood Community School on 13th March 6.00 - 8.00pm & continue every Tuesday until 17th April. New Players Welcome!

### Diary Date:

Saturday 21st April 'Irish Night' at Bristol Cider House with Dave Keogh (formerly of Wylde Green). For Tickets, £10 including Buffet, please ring Tony Gardner 07889 727729 Up the Down!

## From the Baptismal Register of St. John's, Aust

26 February 2012

Benjamin Paul Morgan Lee

# Yours Faithfully

*Rev. Sandy Williams*  
*Minister of Olveston and Tockington*  
*Methodist Church*

Easter is often the time when we go to visit friends or relations. Our son and his family often travel to North Wales to visit his wife's mother. Their children cope with the long hours in the car because they have on screen and other electronic entertainment. When our children were small we spent our time playing 'I spy' or word association games.

If we were playing a word association game now what word would pop into your mind if I called out the word 'Easter'? I suspect many people might answer 'egg' or 'bunny', perhaps recalling the episode of *The Vicar of Dibley* that featured Geraldine (aka Dawn French) dressed up as the Easter bunny. For others, the word 'Easter' may conjure images of 'springtime' or 'daffodils'. For church goers Easter is the season of 'resurrection' or, to use less churchy language, 'new life' and 'new beginnings'.

Another word game might be to see who is quickest to call out the opposite of a given word. So if I say 'despair' the word I'm looking for is 'hope'. If I say 'death' the word I am looking for is 'life'. Easter is the season of hope and new possibilities.

There is no doubt at all that many people we know both near to home and far away are facing continuing Good Fridays when it seems that illness, or debt, or fear, or bereavement ... the list goes on, makes an Easter experience seem an impossibility. Yet without Good Friday there could be no Easter Day, and without the journey of Lent (as Christians re-imagine and in some way re-live the way of suffering, the *Via Dolorosa*, that Jesus travelled to the cross) there can be no real experience of Easter.

While my husband was in intensive care throughout December I sat at his bedside and watched relatives of other patients doing the same. I knew that many people were praying for us, and your prayers helped me to remain aware of God's presence throughout those difficult days. I was certain, however, that God's presence was not confined to the space around Gil's bed but was there throughout the ward and beyond the ward, beyond the hospital, flowing into every corner of the earth where people were in need of healing and comfort.

If I were playing our word association game and someone said 'Easter', I hope I would respond with the word 'joy'. Joy is often thought of as a synonym for 'happiness' but that is to misunderstand the nature of joy. Joy is the inner conviction that despair can never have the last word. Joy is at the heart of

Christian experience even during the Lenten journey and even during Good Friday experiences. This is because, when things look bleak and when, like Jesus, people are abandoned by friends, or abused by human cruelty, or experience pain and suffering, there is a certainty that God's love will lead us through times of despair and will bring new hope and a healing of past hurts. My husband is still far from well but he came out of intensive care. Many people never went home to their relatives. I felt then, and still feel now, that if my husband had not come home I would still be able to rest in the certainty that his love would always be a reality in my life, and that I would never lose the conviction that God's love would continue to surround us both.

Jesus was prepared to face the cross to show the world the nature of God's love, the God who never abandons us and who suffers with us and for us. If we really wish to experience resurrection life, we too need to be ready to accompany those who need us, and then Good Friday will become Easter Day and the distinction between the two will disappear.

Gil and I thank everyone who held us in your thoughts and prayers and for accompanying us throughout this difficult period in our lives.

I wish you all a joyous Eastertide.

## **From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston**

19 <sup>th</sup> February	Baptism of Daisy Elizabeth Hicks
20 <sup>th</sup> February	Thanksgiving Service for Douglas Arthur Organ followed by Burial in the churchyard
22 <sup>nd</sup> February	Service of Celebration for the life of Charles Edward Jarvis
27 <sup>th</sup> February	Burial of Ashes of Derek Alfred Keirle
3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Service of Thanksgiving for the life of John Crossley followed by Burial in the churchyard

## **Thank you**

Jill Crossley and family would like to thank everyone who sent messages of sympathy and support in our recent bereavement.

# Church News

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Apr 1	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Mr Denis Jones
Apr 5	7.30p	Agape	Rev R Bain & Rev D Bone
Apr 6	2pm	Last Hour (withChoir)	Rev Roly Bain
Apr 8	6.30	Dawn Eucharist at the Brake	Rev Roly Bain
	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev R Bain & Mrs A Lloyd
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev P Rowe
Apr 15	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Helen Webb
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev David Bone
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Mrs Janet McBride
Apr 22	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Fourth Sunday	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev David Bone
Apr 29	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Morning Worship	Rev Roly Bain
	6pm	Holy Communion(BCP) with Choir	Rev Roly Bain

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

### Contacts:

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: [office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk)

Rev Roly Bain for Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals 01454 616593.

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

[www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html](http://www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html)

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

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

## CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Apr 8	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Apr 22	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Janet Ford, 01454 633300 Terry McLeavy 633680

## ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Apr 1	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole
Apr 8	8am	Easter Day Holy Communion	Rev David Pole
Apr 15		No Service	

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Apr 8	9am	Holy Communions	Tracey Black
Apr 22	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Apr 1	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
	6pm	St Andrews.	Evening Worship led by Rev.Paul Edwards
Apr 8	8am	Olv. Ch.	Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
	10am	Olv Ch.	Easter Day Service led by Rev S Williams
Apr 15	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr Colin Blenkinsopp
Apr 22	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Susan Hatton
Apr 29	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Dilwyn Edwards

**NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:** This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April. To book your lunch please ring 416528

**TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP** meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> April To book please ring 613241, or 612112

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

**CREAM TEAS** Will be served on Bank Holiday Mon. 9<sup>th</sup> April on Tockington Green and in the Chapel from 3.00pm-5.30pm

**HOT CROSS BUNS** Will be served on Good Friday in the Methodist Hall after the Service at St Mary's

**CONTACT:** Rev Sandy Williams tel 07841 752 941,  
Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com

## THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and 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

Apr 6	10.00am	Good Friday Ceri Morgan-Davies
Apr 8	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
Apr 15	6.30pm	Dolfus De Chikera
Apr 22	6.30pm	Roger Greenslade
Apr 29	6.30pm	Munir Din

Prayer Time every Thurs 7.30

For further information please contact **Ceri Morgan-Davies** 413043

**Paul Ashford**, 07774 110814 or email: Paul@CalebGroup.net

**AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH** Family Worship 11.00am Evening Worship 6.30pm. For more details, please phone 632564.

## LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Family Worship every Sunday at 11am. For details tel. 413247

## BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP - now called RESOUND

Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block). [www.bcfnet.com](http://www.bcfnet.com)

Contact **Matt Sanderson**, 856904 or email: [matt@livingroomthornbury.org](mailto:matt@livingroomthornbury.org)

## RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Tel 01454 412223 [www.ck-thornbury.org.uk](http://www.ck-thornbury.org.uk)

## SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Meeting for Worship Sundays 10.30-11.30: The Hanover Room, The Chantry, Castle St. Wheelchair accessible. Children welcome with prior notice.

**Local contact: Ben & Candia Barman** 01454 412603

National: [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) Bristol area: [www.bristolquakers.org.uk](http://www.bristolquakers.org.uk)



# Diary Dates for April 2012

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Sun			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	Children's Movie Club Monday Movie	10.00 7.30pm	S+M S+M
3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women Salmon Fishing Northavon Youth Theatre - Sat 7 <sup>th</sup> Littleton PCC AGM	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm 11.30am	WR DGCL AH LVH
4 <sup>th</sup> Wed	O.P.H.S.: talk on 'Childhood Employment in Gloucestershire'	7.30pm	OMC
5 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1.30pm 10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
6 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Northavon Youth Theatre	3.00pm	AH
7 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Northavon Youth Theatre	10.30-12.00 2.30pm	MH AH
9 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Children's Movie Club	10.00	S+M
10 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Women's Institute	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR PH
11 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Royal British Legion Men	7.30pm	DGCL
12 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Beat Surgery Olveston Toddlers SSCG	10.00-12.00 10.30-11.30 2.00-4.30 7.30pm	OS+ OS+ MH PH
13 <sup>th</sup> Fri			
14 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning St Peter's Hospice Coffee Morning Tammy Weis Trio	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 10.00am 7.45pm	MH AVH TMH S+M
16 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club -Open Meeting Monday Movie extra	6.30pm 7.30pm	AH S+M
17 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Aust Annual Parish Meeting followed by Parish Council Meeting Countryside Group A.G.M. & Open Meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR EVH TCh
18 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston Severn Valley Quilters	8.30pm 7.30pm	CH
19 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OS+

	Olveston Toddlers Thornbury Farmers' Market	2.00-4.30 9.30-1pm	MH
20 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Thornbury Arts Festival starts -29th		
21 <sup>st</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Old Down Cricket Club Irish Night at Bristol Cider House with Dave Keogh Dursley Male Voice Choir at StMary's Alm <sup>y</sup>	10.30-12.00  7.30pm	MH
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sun	Wedding Fayre at Old Down Manor	11am - 4pm	
23 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	PreSchool Open Morning	9.30-12.00	PH
24 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women - Bingo Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL AP
26 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Olveston Annual Parish Assembly	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 7.30pm	Ost MH PH
28 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School	10.30-12.00 1.30-3.30pm	MH
29 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Olveston School Fun Run		
30 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club - Practice	1.30pm	AH

## Looking ahead to May

12th	Thornbury Choral Society at Castle School	7.30pm	
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**KEY:** **AC** - Aust Church; **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH** - Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavillion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; **CCCP** – Castle Court Car Park; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry; **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** - Littleton Village Hall; **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall; **OMC** - Oliv Meth Ch; **OS** – Olveston School; **Ost** – Olveston Stores; **OV** – Olveston Vicarage; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** – St Mary's Church, Oliv.; **StMAIm** - Almondsbury Church; **TCh** - Tockington Chapel; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; **URC** - Thornbury United Reform Church; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

**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.olvostonandaust.com](http://www.olvostonandaust.com). If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: [meetingpointsecretary@olvostonandaust.com](mailto:meetingpointsecretary@olvostonandaust.com)

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