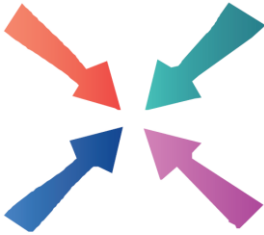


Meeting Point



August 2018



Meeting Point

Volume 42, Number 11, August 2018

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

EDITOR:

Marelin Orr-Ewing
Courtlands
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DU
Tel: 01454 610081
*meetingpointeditor@
gmail.com*

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Angela Williams
Ashlea
Haw Lane
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4EG
Tel 01454 612850
*meetingpointmagazine@
gmail.com*

ADVERTISING:

Nigel Dawes
Cromwell House
The Street,
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DR
Tel: 01454 201558
julie.dawes@tiscali.co.uk

Publication date
1st of each month

Material for September 2018
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 6th August 2018.

From the Editor

Last year we had a series of articles about growing vegetables on an allotment in Olveston and even, for August, a report from an allotment in France. This year, with the hot weather and lack of rain, I expect that the allotmenters are having quite a struggle to grow their crops – I know I am!

A bonus of this lovely weather is that we can plan outdoor events with much more certainty that we won't be 'rained off'. The Chantry in Thornbury has an outdoor theatre performance aimed at children on August Bank Holiday Monday and there are Cream Teas on the Green in Tockington. The Aust Fete on September 1st deserves an advance mention too.

It is a coincidence I expect, but both Aust and Olveston Parish Councils need a new Parish Clerk and have used the pages of Meeting Point to advertise these vacancies. I hope that they are both successful in finding somebody to take over this important role.

Marelin

The cover is by Les Harper

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**

News from St. Mary's

Debbie Harris



Barbecue

We are having a barbecue on Saturday August 4th at 6.30pm, Hillside House, Haw Lane, Olveston. Bring a chair and anything you would like to barbecue. Salads are provided. If it rains, it's off!!! Any enquiries to Debbie on 01454 613273

Toilet Twinning Update



We have now twinned both toilets at St Mary's church, the toilet at Compton Greenfield church and notionally twinned a toilet with St John's, Aust (where they are hoping to install a toilet in the future!). The toilets have been twinned with four households in Kanombe Village, Muramba Parish, in South West Uganda. St Mary's have also twinned Olveston School toilets with a school in Lwatizi, Rumphu in the country of Malawi. They have taken an assembly to tell them all about the project, where a photo of the toilet block was also presented to them. Next time you visit one of these local locations, have a look at the photo.

If you are interested in twinning your own toilet and making an enormous difference to a family's life, go to www.toilettwinning.org for more information. It is very simple to do!

Veg Bank at St. Mary's

Sue Farr

The cool porch of St. Mary's Church has, over the last few years, become a collecting point for surplus seasonal vegetables from our village gardeners. Please come and help yourselves to fresh local produce when there is some. This offer is open to everyone.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

Parish Council Communications

I expect that, like me, you have heard enough about the General Data Protection Regulation to last you a lifetime. However, it applies to your parish council, and this has prompted the Councillors to review the way they communicate with residents. The parish council itself doesn't have a database of residents, although I as clerk and individual Councillors do have email addresses and some other information about some residents with whom we have communicated. The council itself doesn't broadcast communications to residents except indirectly through Meeting Point or the website.

Each of the three villages has an email group set up by residents. Not all Councillors are members of their village groups, but those that are, sometimes use the groups to broadcast messages to their own villages. The Littleton group is set up so that members don't know who else is on it. I believe that the Elberton group is open in that members can see the email addresses of the other members. I don't know how the Aust group is organised.

The parish council is not going to establish a database or try to communicate with all residents, but individual Councillors will continue to circulate information using the village groups. If you would like to receive any such messages, please make sure you're on your village list.

Vacancy for Clerk

I became Clerk on 1st January 2010 and I feel that I have passed my 'best before' date. So, over the next few months, the Council will be looking for a successor. It's a very interesting role and, if you're a bit nosy like me, you get to know a lot about what is going on in the parish and in South Gloucestershire as a whole.

The main role of the Council is to comment on planning applications in the parish. The main duties of the clerk are to prepare for the monthly council meetings (10 per year), held in the evenings. This includes preparing and circulating the agenda, writing the minutes and taking forward action points. The Clerk also acts as the liaison between the Parish Council and South Gloucestershire Council and is the Responsible Financial Officer for the Council, so responsible for maintaining financial records – which is not an onerous task.

The only fixed time commitment is the 10 meetings a year, held in the evenings. Other things can be fitted in at times to suit the clerk. The time commitment is usually something between 15 and 20 hours a month and the post is salaried.

If you might be interested, or you would like more information about what is involved, please talk to me or the chairman, Catherine Collinson, or any of the Councillors.

Land at Villa Farm, Aust

The new owner of land at Villa Farm has published a notice under section 15A of the Commons Act 2006. Under that Act, if a significant number of the inhabitants of any locality, or of any neighbourhood within a locality, have indulged as of right in lawful sports and pastimes on the land for a period of at least 20 years, they may apply to have it registered as a village green. Exercising dogs or playing sports count as such uses. If successful, that would protect the rights exercised as a lawful right.

The purpose of the notice that the owner has put up, is to prevent the period of 20 years from continuing after the date of the notice.

The parish council has no views about this, but if a considerable number of Aust inhabitants think they may have a case for registration of some or all of the land, you should consider making an application. As I understand it, the application must be made within 12 months of the date of the notice.

Aust Village Fete

Saturday 1st September

The Boars Head, Aust.

Starts at 2pm

- Stalls
- Games
- Dog Show
- Hot Dogs
- Tea and Cakes
- Pulled Pork

Volley Ball in the evening from 6pm

Fun for all the family





Olveston Parish Council

Richard Panes and Pat Savage

Seeking a new Clerk for Olveston Parish

Olveston resident Richard Rogers has recently decided to step down from his post as Clerk for Olveston Parish Council. Richard has assisted the Parish Council very efficiently over the last seven years and his support and advice will be greatly missed by Parishioners and Councillors alike. The Councillors have expressed their profound thanks and wish him every success in the future.

Olveston Parish Council is now seeking a new Clerk for this varied and challenging position. Parish Councils are taking on an increasing role in the management of local facilities on behalf of parishioners and more responsibility is being devolved from local councils. The role of the Parish Clerk is therefore developing in line with these increasing responsibilities. There are nationally recognised qualifications for Parish Clerks to equip them to support Parish Councillors and ensure correct procedures and accounting systems are followed by the Council. Clerks are often the first point of contact for parishioners and form an important link between the local community and the Parish Council. Further information about Olveston Parish Clerk vacancy is available at jobs@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Olveston Church of England Primary School Ofsted Inspection

Following the visit to the school on 2nd May 2018 the Inspector reported that the school continues to be good with good quality education maintained since the previous inspection. Congratulations to Mrs Luke and her hard-working staff!

Monthly Surgeries

Our Parishioners continue to support the surgeries on the third Saturday of the month at the Methodist Hall in Olveston. The August surgery is scheduled for Saturday 18th.

Bio Diversity

The Team are taking a well-earned Summer rest with an opportunity to seek out the more unusual settings of both flora and fauna. They will be back in the Autumn with some exciting Projects.

Thank You

Dorothy and John Hedges would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for the beautiful flowers, cards, kind thoughts and good wishes during Dorothy's recent stay in hospital. It was most kind and very much appreciated, bless you all.

**Apologies to Dorothy and John as this item should have appeared in July's Meeting Point. Editor.*

Tea and Chat

Do you find it difficult to get out and socialise? Would you like to meet other people for tea and cake once a month? Transport is provided and it's all free.

The August Tea and Chat will be at 2.30pm on August 10th at Littledown, Haw Lane, Olveston.

For details and to request transport if necessary, please telephone Lynn: 01454 612201 or Lesley: 01454 613804.

The Royal British Legion Women's Section, Olveston Branch

Sue Harris

In June we were entertained by Reg King who spoke about the history of the rolling pin. This simple kitchen utensil has a history of over some 1000 years and is used worldwide by different nationalities in the baking of their own individualistic food products synonymous with their countries. Reg gave an informative and light-hearted talk about his collection of more than 500 rolling pins, some of which he brought along as part of his demonstration. He is also a volunteer for The Thornbury Museum which houses some of his collection. We look forward to his return next year when he will talk about 'Wash Day Blues'

In June also, a team of 4 members represented the branch at The Gloucestershire County Quiz. We are pleased that we won with a decisive lead and look forward to receiving the winner's cup at the Gloucestershire Annual Conference on November 17th

The Royal British Legion Women's Section is a membership organisation for women which provides care and support to the Serving and ex-Service community. For over 90 years, our distinct and specially tailored welfare schemes have helped thousands of men, women and children within the

Armed Forces community, who are in financial hardship or in need of extra support. It was formed in 1921 to safeguard the interests of wives, widows and children of men who served in the Great War. The horrors of conflict and war have continued through the generations and are still in the headlines today. Our work continues supporting the entire Armed Forces community from service personnel and veterans to military spouses and children.

We meet on the first Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in the Community Room at Daldry Gardens. The speaker on August 7th will be Phil Savage with a presentation on 'Antarctica'

If you are interested in joining us, please come along to one of our meetings and you will be made most welcome.

News from the Methodist Church

Trevor Watkins

Change of Minister

In July we said farewell to Rev. Pete and Debs Brazier at a celebration, in Thornbury, of their time with us. We thank them for their contribution to the life of our Church and wish them every success and happiness in their new Circuit at Portland. The Rev. Simon Edwards, wife Hannah and young family will join us in September.

Church Outing, a Scenic Tour of Four Counties.

Another trip has been arranged by Jack Vokes for Tuesday 4th September. It will be a scenic tour of Gloucestershire, Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Monmouth. The itinerary includes coffee in Tewkesbury, lunch in Worcester, with opportunity to visit the Glass Museum or Cathedral. We then travel over the Malvern Hills to Ledbury for tea and proceed to Monmouth and, via the Wye Valley, back home.

Pick up points:

8.45am Alveston at the junction of Stoney Stile and Greenhill Road

8.50am Olveston at the bottom of Haw Lane

9.00am Tockington by the Green

Cost per person £13.50 for the Coach and Drivers gratuity but excluding meals.

To book your seat contact Trevor Watkins on 01454 416528. Everyone welcome.

Cream Teas

Teas will be served in Tockington Chapel and on the Green on Bank Holiday Monday 27th August from 2.30pm to 5.00pm. The proceeds will be for the Thornbury and District Stroke Support Group.

Harvest Fayre

See the article below.

Tockington Harvest Fayre 2018

Garry Phillips, Jane Sawyer

The Harvest Fayre will be on Saturday September 15th at 2 pm on Tockington Green. Come and enjoy a delicious cream tea or homemade cake whilst watching the children's fancy dress parade, ballet and free dance displays, and Zumba dancing, with live music too! The Fancy Dress theme will be "Famous People" and children's competitions will be a photograph of 'Your favourite place near where you live' or 'A mode of transport made from junk'.

There will be fabulous stalls including, cakes, fresh vegetables and fruit, books and 'As New' items for you to browse through. There will be a pet's corner from Old Down Country Park, games, and skill stalls for everyone, young and old!

If you are having a sort-out over the summer months, we would be grateful for any good quality donations of unwanted presents, bric- a- brac, or second-hand 'household' items, books, toys and games. Please leave any items in plastic bags outside the Wesley Room doors, anytime, or contact:

Garry Phillips email:garryphillips194@btinternet.com tel:613241

Maggie Spooner tel:610053,

Jane Sawyer email:jane@prologue.co.uk

We rely on this event as a major source of funds for the upkeep of The Wesley Rooms and Church at Tockington and Olveston Church and Hall. They continue to be used extensively by many other local community organizations.

However, the success of the Fayre also depends on the physical work in preparing, running and clearing up. We need your help! Meet from 9am on Saturday 15th September on Tockington Green to help with setting everything up or clearing it all away at 5pm. There is a free tractor ride on Friday 14th September evening, to bring the pews from Olveston to Tockington! Meet on the green at 7pm. Please contact any of the above if you can help. As always, we'll do our best with the weather, so you can enjoy an afternoon at Tockington's Harvest Fayre and we hope to see as many of you there as last year.

The Great War, Peace and Beyond

Current exhibition

If you'd like to find out how the First World War came to an end in our area 100 years ago, check out the latest free exhibition at Thornbury & District Museum, next to the Armstrong Hall. You may have children or grandchildren who will be studying the First World War in the Autumn term. Now's your chance to get clued up yourself!



Local interest

In the picture you can see the Olddown Troop on parade in Thornbury. These were local men riding local farmers' best horses. They had been organised into a volunteer troop before the war by Colonel Turner of Olddown House, an army veteran, and they trained in their spare time. Once the war started, they all enlisted straight away and were sent off (men and horses) to Egypt, Palestine and Syria. They also fought (without their horses) at Gallipoli. You can see photos of the Olddown Troop in the exhibition, together with the sand goggles and field glasses of Eric Garrett's father, who was a member of the Troop along with his brother and cousin.

As well as the Armistice itself, the exhibition looks at how Thornbury and the surrounding villages celebrated the Peace and describes how, in the years following the War, local war memorials were set up. There is considerable detail about how things were organised in Olveston.

The contribution of women and children to the war effort is not overlooked and there are some interesting insights into the Home Front and the Home Defence Militia. The terrible 1918 flu pandemic is also highlighted, with examples given of casualties in the Thornbury area.

On display are a number of interesting objects, including some trench art, embroidered postcards, WWI ration books, and a walking stick presented by the residents of Littleton-upon-Severn to Orpheus Durnell, after his return home from the War. The Littleton vicar composed a song for the occasion, sung to the tune of Uncle Tom Cobby!

Museum open: Tuesdays to Fridays: 1 – 4pm, Saturdays: 10am to 4pm
Chapel St, Thornbury (Free 2-hour parking in St. Mary St Car Park opposite)
Tel: 01454 857774 email: enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk

Elves are making mischief at Thornbury Museum this summer!

Along with five other museums in South Gloucestershire, Thornbury Museum is joining in the fun of this year's **Summer Reading Challenge** which is taking place in all South Gloucestershire Libraries between **Saturday 14 July** and **Saturday 8 September**.

A message for all primary age children this summer holiday:

“Two impish elves have invited themselves into the Museum and have naughtily hidden some things of their own in amongst our exhibitions. Your challenge is to spot the items which don't belong with the rest of the display.

When you have found them all and had your special Museum Mischief Maker's Collector's Card stamped by the custodians at the desk, you will be given an “I've seen the Thornbury Coin Hoard” badge to keep.”

*While you are in the Museum, don't forget to find out why we have chosen *The Tailor of Gloucester* by Beatrix Potter as our favourite book – there is a surprising link to Thornbury!”*



The Museums' Mischief Makers Collectors Cards are available from Thornbury Library (or any other South Gloucestershire library) when children sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge. Every child who is doing the Reading Challenge can also visit the six participating museums and collect a stamp and special treat at each one. Complete the Reading Challenge and you will be entered into a prize draw to win a special prize. For more information visit: www.southglos.gov.uk/childrenslibrary.

As well as Thornbury and District Museum, the other museums taking part are Aerospace Bristol, Avon Valley Railway, Frenchay Village Museum, Kingswood Heritage Centre, and Yate and District Heritage Centre.

So, go out and visit some exciting places this summer! Thornbury Museum is open on Tuesdays to Fridays 1-4pm and Saturdays 10am-4pm, all through the summer holidays. www.thornburymuseum.org.uk



News from Olveston School

As we come towards the end of our school year, we would like to share some of the highlights of the Summer term.



Trips

In keeping with their conservation topic, Year 5 spent a day at Bristol Zoo learning about endangered species and their habitats.

They also enjoyed a visit to school from Rolls Royce engineers. The children learnt how airplanes stay in the air and how there are several forces involved in the

process of flight. They then enjoyed looking at parts from a Red Arrow Jet, rebuilding model jet engines, making their own paper planes and exploring how wings on planes work.

Year 6 spent a team building week at the outdoor activity centre in Dolygaer, Brecon Beacons. During the week the children got the opportunity to try archery, rock climbing, caving, raft building, stand up paddle boarding and lots, lots more!

Sports

Our annual sports day took place in the middle of June. We are so proud of every child who took part. While some children enjoyed success, others displayed another of our school values – courage.



We have taken part in a number of cricket tournaments over the summer and are very proud of our boys Kwik Cricket team who reached the semi-finals of the county Kwik Cricket tournament.

Our running club continues to be the most popular club at school and keeps on producing superb runners. Anna (Yr6) comfortably won the Yate cross country league (winning each of the 3 races in the series), helping our girls to victory in the team event, while our boys team finished a very commendable second.

We are delighted to have received the School Games Silver Award for our commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport in 2017/18.

Church and School together Summer Fayre

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this event such a success. It was lovely that Old Down were able to join us too with some of their animals for the children to hold. The weather was perfect and following an afternoon of fun, games and food the children and their families came together for our Olveston Night at the Prom – an evening of singing, music and dance.



Before we close the gates on another school year, we have the Year 6 production of 'The Jungle Book' to look forward to. It will then be time to say goodbye to our Year 6 children and wish them well as they continue their journey at secondary school. We really will miss you all – don't forget to keep in touch.

Next Term

September will soon be with us and we look forward to welcoming our new reception children into school.

We currently have two lunchbreak supervisor vacancies (job share considered) and always welcome people coming into school to help the children with their learning. If you would like to become part of our school community, we would love to hear from you, please give us call: 01454 613299 or drop us an email: olvestonschool@gmail.org.uk

Lost Cat

My cat's name is JC, he escaped from my car on the 23rd May 2018 at 8.15am, at the Rudgeway traffic lights on the A38.

He is a large, all black, cat. He is 5 years old, chipped, neutered and hopefully still wearing his blue collar that has a bell on it.

JC doesn't meow like other cats, he has a *squeak* and sometimes makes no noise, just mouth movement.

A reward will be given. Please contact Jacqui on 07970789729

Alveston Gardens Association



Monday 6th August 7.30pm Alveston Jubilee Hall

'A Close-up View of the Cotswold Countryside'

A presentation by Roger Umpelby

All Welcome – Visitors £3. Full programme on www.alveston.org

August Events at The Chantry

Quiz Night Thursday 16th August at 7.30pm. Come and test your knowledge at our monthly Quiz. £1 per person and up to 4 in a team; bar open. This is now a Chantry fundraiser, so come along and support us.

Theatre in the Garden Monday 27th August 2.30pm in the garden. The Witches by Roald Dahl presented by the Downpour Theatre Company. £9 adults, £7 children £28 for family of 4. Tickets from our Facebook page and from the office in the mornings.

www.thechantry.org.uk email; office@thechantry.org.uk; 01454 414268

Meeting Point Covers

Marelin Orr-Ewing



You probably recognise this image as the one we used for the July edition of Meeting Point. It was produced for us by Lisa Helyar and I omitted to credit her for this image on July's Page One. My apologies to Lisa.

There are several local photographers who, very kindly, keep us well supplied with possible images for the front covers. We are very grateful for these contributions and enjoy deciding which one will best suit the month ahead.

Thanks for the photographs!

June Lyons - Another Royal Appointment

Pat Thirkettle

June Lyons was born in Bristol in 1938; she remembers walking to school carrying her gas mask during the war. In 1946 her family moved to Nettleton near Castle Combe onto a great uncle's farm and thus began a very happy country interlude, but not before walking to school on the top of hedges in the heavy snow that year! Eventually and surprisingly their great uncle married so the family had to leave; it was difficult buying houses after the war but luckily June's mother worked for a gentleman in Bath with a large house and he kindly offered the family the ground and top floor of the house. There was a four-acre garden and he allowed June to bring her friends back to play and paid her 2s 6d (25p today) to sometimes weed the flower beds. Three years later he sadly died at the age of 97 and her parents bought a house near Victoria Park in Bath and then soon moved to a new house in Holt near Bradford on Avon.

June was able to continue school in Bath travelling by train from Holt Junction during the week and every Saturday for piano lessons until she was eighteen. She went the Technical College to collect the requisite number of O levels that took her to a three-year course of Domestic Science at Bath College, now part of the University. The first two years she lived in student accommodation at Claverton Manor, now the American Museum. It is a lovely house and they used to have parties and dances with male students from other colleges including Cirencester Agricultural College. In her third year she lived in Somerset Place at the end of Lansdowne Crescent in a house is now worth

millions, and the students entertained the lecturers to dinner showcasing their cookery skills.

On graduating she taught at Southbroom School in Devizes, still able to commute by train from Holt Junction. Always a member of Young Farmers, she first met her husband Lance at the Three Counties Ball in Bath. He was running Valley Farm in Ingst as his father and mother had recently died within three weeks of each other; they were married in 1961 and June has now lived there for fifty-eight years.

Briefly she did some supply teaching at the Grammar School (now Marlwood) and Castle School, Thornbury before her three sons were born. There followed years of hard work in the house and farm which had been rented until they were able to buy it in the late 1960s. It was a time of very high interest rates so was a huge step to take at the time. Luckily over the years, they were able to buy more land, but it was a financial struggle at first.

Lance sadly died in 1994 and their son Stuart now runs the farm with his wife Sarah, now better known as one of our postmistresses. In 1985 June had been persuaded to join the Parish Council and after Lance died it helped to keep her busy - an understatement as she became Chairman in 1987 and retired in 2015 thirty years later!

Initially all the councillors were people working locally with local interests at heart, but inevitably it has changed with many more devolved responsibilities and financial restraints. June highlighted the following actions that have made a big difference to the Parish over the years. The Queen Alexandra Pavilion on Old Down was redeveloped to include a Parish Council meeting room, a new outdoor play area was built nearby, and a continuous pavement installed to Olveston, primarily for Marlwood children walking home. Flooding in Lower Tockington was controlled, a continuous footpath created to Olveston and the Council took over the responsibility for the Parish Hall from former trustees. Olveston now has a twenty-five-year lease from South.Glos. to keep the valued open space next to Daldry Gardens. A car park to relieve traffic problems at Olveston School was built on Aust Road and a 20mph speed restriction introduced for child safety. Mains gas came to the Parish and more recently a defibrillator was installed in each village.

Nowadays June looks after a large garden and occasionally gets lunch for the family. She enjoys flower arranging and has been a member of Severnvale Flower Club for many years. She enjoys travelling and has recently been to Norway and sailed down the Danube from Budapest to Bucharest.



However, a very recent journey took her to Buckingham Palace for the first Royal Garden Party this summer.

June was nominated for the honour by the Parish Council which is not surprising given what has just been written. She was accompanied by her youngest son Ian. The weather was beautiful and first they enjoyed lunch at a hotel within walking distance of the Palace before queuing to show

passport identification. They walked through a reception room into a quadrangle and then another reception room lined with Beefeaters and onto the terrace overlooking the lawn. There was a huge marquee for tea with a band playing at either end of it. After a quick cup of tea, they watched The Queen, Prince Andrew, Prince Edward and the Countess of Wessex come out onto the terrace and start meeting specially invited guests. June and Ian had a delicious tea and then explored the lake area and garden full of rhododendrons and azaleas all completely secluded and difficult to believe they were in the middle of London. They then sat under the trees, listened to the band and 'people watched'. As it was so hot they were offered iced lemon drinks and Marshfield ice creams. Then the National Anthem was played and the Queen left, having spent two hours at the party. It had been an honour to attend and a day to remember.

Olveston Parish Hall



2018 Autumn Supper

Saturday 29th September at 7.30pm.

Tickets: £12.50.

AHM Catering will again provide a two-course meal. The entertainment has not yet been

finalised but you know it will be a great evening!

Tickets will not be issued this year. Please contact Pat Savage: pat@savageassociates.co.uk or telephone 01454 610388.

A list of applicants will be held and ticked off at the door.

Litter Pick

Rod Williams

Please meet at the Parish Hall car park at 1pm on Saturday 4th August.

Grass Snakes

Trevor Cook

In my previous house I had a pond; it was not a grand affair but it pleased us to see the wildlife in and around the water; we had given up on fish as the heron had come for early morning breakfasts a couple of times and the Garden Centre told us we shouldn't have any more goldfish unless we fitted a water filter.

And so it was that we came to designate ours as a wildlife pond and enjoyed the dancing of the damsel flies, the dragonflies patrolling the garden, and the pond skaters pouncing on any misguided insects falling in the water.



The pond's season began in early spring as the ice melted and the frogs began their nocturnal carousing, and then of course we had frogspawn and the tadpoles.

But even if the tadpoles survived to hatching, they were still not safe as by March, just they hatched, the common newts arrived and would

sit next to the frogspawn picking off tiny tadpoles as they wriggled out of their shells. It was tough but, as Chris Packham would surely point out, newts have to survive as well.

However, one late spring morning we were amazed to find a couple of grass snakes swimming purposefully around in the water. I imagine they also enjoyed the taste of tiny froglets as they had grown fatter and more juicy by then. It was exciting to see the snakes in the pond but we should not have been surprised as they are known to hunt in water.

However, the most frequent place to find grass snakes is in and around the compost heap and a friend recently brought in a photograph showing us just such a beast that he had found as he turned over the mulch. For it is deep in the warmth of the compost that their eggs are laid, incubated and will hatch after around ten weeks.

You may differentiate grass snakes from adders by their greenish grey colour and by the yellow collar around their necks. They aren't poisonous but they do say that they are liable to give you a peck if you get too close. They are a protected species so the best advice is to leave them alone.

As for 'my' grass snakes, they disappeared soon after I got out my noisy petrol mower and cut the lawn. I never saw them again.

Olveston and Tockington W.I.

Audrey Shepherd, a member of the W.I and known to many U3A members, gave an extremely interesting and informative talk on the life of architect William Burgess. An interest in Art Architecture, European styles and stained glass determined many of Burgess's later commissions including churches and country houses in all areas of the UK. A meeting with the Marquis of Bute, who was only 18 years old at the time, resulted in William designing additions to Cardiff Castle, the results of which can be seen today.

An important meeting followed, determining the future of O & T W.I. Finding members to sit on a Committee is often a problem for local groups, the W.I. is no exception. However, a constructive discussion followed culminating in volunteers coming forward to fill the vacancies created by those resigning. We will now have a full complement of officers and the future appears secure.

The Church bells will be rung at 7.30pm on 3rd September to mark the first meeting of the O & T W.I. 100 years ago. On September 8th we will be celebrating our centenary with an afternoon tea in the Olveston Parish Hall from 2.30pm until 4.30pm. Please do come along to enjoy some W.I. hospitality.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the July draw, held on 5th July 2018 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	404	Mrs A Knapp, Tockington
£75	324	Mrs M James, Olveston
£25	554	Mrs B Kingscott, Almondsbury
£25	454	Mrs P Macleod, Olveston
£25	485	Mrs S Lyons, Ingst
£20	497	Revd D Bone, Tockington
£20	318	Mrs A Harley, Alveston
£20	299	Mrs J Dickens, Aust
£10	559	Mrs C Healey, Olveston
£10	401	Mrs N Slaytor, Tockington
£10	425	Mrs S Fairhead, Oldbury-on-Severn
£10	336	Mrs J Harper, Olveston
£10	566	Mrs M Shurmer, Olveston

If you are not yet a member and wish to join the lottery, please telephone Andy Phillips on 01454 614890.

Local People Awarded Honours

Les Harper

This year's Queen's Birthday Honours List included British Empire Medals for two local people, surely an exceptional occurrence!

Margaret (Peggy) James was honoured for services to the Jubilee Sailing Trust and to the community in Olveston. The Jubilee Sailing Trust takes both disabled and able-bodied men and women to sea in its two square-rigged three-masted barques, the STS Lord Nelson and the SV Tenacious, not only to teach them how to crew a tall ship, but to promote equality and integration of people with different capabilities.



William (Bill) Morgan was honoured for charitable services to the Bristol Aero Collection Trust. The BAC Trust collects and preserves the heritage of the Bristol aviation industry which has been so important for more than 100 years. Much of the material Bill has been instrumental in acquiring for the BAC Trust is now displayed in the new Aerospace Bristol exhibition, which he was deeply involved in getting established and funded.

Peggy and Bill have been enthusiastic supporters and leading members of their respective charitable bodies for many years, as well as being active in many other aspects of our community life, and we congratulate them for being awarded these honours. They will be presented with their Medals by Dame Janet Trotter, Lord Lieutenant of Gloucestershire later this year.

From the Registers of St Mary's, Olveston

15 th June	Funeral of Stephen Leslie Preston.
30 th June	Marriage of Martyn James John Symonds and Megan Amelia Scott.
9 th July	Burial of Ashes of John Stuart Clements.
14 th July	Marriage of Benjamin James Ziemkiewicz Quigley and Anna Christine Goodson.

From the Registers of St John the Evangelist, Elberton

2 nd June	Marriage of Christopher James Cook and Jasmine Cheryl Meredith.
9 th June	Marriage of William Hahn and Lucy Collins.

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners July 2018:

£50	Jon Pullin
£15	Dave Birtle
£5	Helen Barnett

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

12/05/18	Angus MacDonald
26/05/18	Malcolm Grosvenor

Home Fixtures August 2018 (1.30 Start)

04/08/18	1st XI v Failand & Portbury
05/08/18	M.C.C. v Old Down C.C. (11.30 Start)
11/08/18	2nd XI v Backwell Flax Bourton
18/08/18	1st XI v Lodway
25/08/18	2nd XI v YMCA (1.00 Start)
01/09/18	1st XI v St Mary Redcliffe (1.00 Start)

NB. Please join in our continued 175th Anniversary celebrations by attending our prestigious fixture v MCC on Sunday 5th August 11.30am start.

All spectators welcome! Up the Down!!

July Puzzle

How did you manage on the Trackword puzzle in last month's magazine? The nine-letter word was PICTORIAL and a 'Brainbox' score would have been 41 words and an average score 26.

Yours Faithfully

Ann Parker, St. John's, Aust.

I went to a State Boarding School in Swanage, called Oldfeld, which was part of Swanage Grammar School. We walked to school every day and back again. Our housemaster had been in the Intelligence Corps in the war and had then become a school teacher at a prestigious boys' school. As an ex-army man, he was very keen on fitness and so he used to make the boys get up as soon as the morning alarm bell rang and leap out of bed, get into shorts and trainers and run all the way round the house, to the accompaniment of shouts and jeers from the girls leaning out of their windows. Eventually the girls had to leap out and do exercises in one of the barns - but that's another story. Sundays, after lunch, there was compulsory walking with the Housemaster and Housemistress. This carried on until you were a house prefect, when you were trusted to go on your own, but you still had to go.

The combined effect of all his walking was to make me very physically lazy. Exercise and I parted company with a vengeance, until one day, one very stupid day, I volunteered to do a 5K Fun Run, and even I knew that I had to train, so I did. Everyone said, "You'll get hooked", but no, I thought, not me, this was definitely a one off. I was just going to get fit enough to finish. I did finish, but, dear reader, by then I was indeed hooked. I even did a half marathon and finished not last. I found that if you have a problem and go for a run, you don't even think about it, but things are a lot better when you get home. But age took its toll and I had to give up running because it was damaging my back and so I took to swimming instead.

Then I moved to Bradley Stoke and found myself living next to a nature reserve and, what a treat to go for a walk and see nature open up before you..... ducks, swans, even herons. As the seasons unfold and God's glory is revealed, I get to contemplate all that He has given me. Like my exercise, faith in God is always there, always available, even if I don't always feel like praying He is just there, watching the seasons come and go, as He does in us; the babies made in his image, the adults with free choice who reject Him or accept Him. It's up to us, but you do have to be careful, too much belief and prayers may make you go down paths you never dreamt of or mix with people you never thought of and you might, as I have, find yourself in a relationship more wonderful that you could ever have dreamt of.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Aug 5	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Bone Revs D Moss & A Lloyd Mr Trevor Cook
	10am	Holy Communion	
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	
Aug 12	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Helen Webb Mr Trevor Cook Rev Ann Lloyd
	10am	Morning Prayer with Choir	
	6pm	Holy Communion	
Aug 19	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone Revs D Moss & D Bone Mr Paul Harrod
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	
	6pm	Evensong	
Aug 26	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ann Lloyd Mrs Janet McBride Rev David Moss
	10am	Fourth Sunday	
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev David Moss, 01454 415190; email: mossds@gmail.com

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.15am except 4th Wed when it is at Olveston Methodist Church

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Aug 12	9.45	Holy Communion	Revs D Moss & A Parker
Aug 26		No Service	

Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Aug 5		No Service	
Aug 19	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Aug 12	9am	Morning Prayer	Judith Heybyrne
Aug 26	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Aug 5	10.30	Alv.. Ch.	Joint Service led by Rev David Alderman
Aug 12	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
Aug19	10am	Tock Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr John Hopper
Aug 26	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by members of the congregation

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed.8th August
To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP No meeting in August Next lunch Sept 20th

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUP Holy Habits Bible Study 31st July 10.30 at 6 Pentland Ave
Thornbury

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC Olveston Methodist Hall Friday 7-9pm
Ring 07833 354672 or 07957 433091 for further information.

Cream Teas 27th Aug on Tockington Green in aid of Thornbury & District Stroke Support Group

CONTACT: from Sept 1st Rev Simon Edwards Tel 01454 418176,

THE VINE House of Prayer

Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Designated as a 'House of Prayer for all Nations' in 2005 we continue to meet in a relaxed atmosphere seeking, with God's help, to find ways to influence the world in which we live through prayer and relevant actions. This also includes sharing our own personal situations and praying for one another and the communities of which we are a part Times of worship (in various forms), applying Biblical Truths and a time of remembrance of the death and resurrection of Jesus in sharing Communion are essential in our meeting together. We meet, 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

Aug 5	6.30pm	Pastor Chris
Aug 12	6.30pm	Martin Taylor
Aug 19	6.30pm	Brian Miller
Aug 26	6.30pm	Courtney Harris

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & Praise Time
Contacts Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@gmail.com
Sue Tett stett56@hotmail.co.uk

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Family Worship 11.00am

For more details contact Danny Bamfield 01454 419324.

e-mail danny@thebamfields.co.uk

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am

Tel 01454 412223 www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Roger Howell rog3er2@gmail.com 01454 415035

National: www.quaker.org.uk Bristol area: www.bristolquakers.org.uk

Diary Dates for August 2018

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

1 st Wed	Holy Communion followed by Tea & Cake Table Tennis every week	2.30pm 7-8.30pm	DGCL PH
2 nd Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-1.30 10.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OST MH
3 rd Fri	Haven Memory Café Thornbury Carers Support Group Computer Clinic every week	10.15-11.45 1.00-3.00pm 7.00-8.30pm	URC Chy MH
4 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
5 th Sun			
6 th Mon			
7 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Tea/Coffee & Bis. 50p Monthly Raffle British Legion Women. Phil Savage talk on Antarctica	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	MH DGCL
8 th Wed			
9 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	10.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OST MH
10 th Fri			
11 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	AVH MH
12 th Sun			
13 th Mon			
14 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45	DGCL TMH
15 th Wed	Beat Surgery Jazz at the White Hart	10.30-11.15 8.30pm	OST
16 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-1.30 10.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OST Mh
17 th Fri	Haven Memory Café	10.15-11.45	TMH
18 th Sat	Coffee Morning Parish Council Surgery	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	MH MH
19 th Sun			
20 th Mon			

21 st Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
22 nd Wed			
23 rd Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	10.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS† MH
24 th Fri		7.30pm	
25 th Sat	Coffee Morning		MH
26 th Sun			
27 th Mon	Cream Teas on Tockington Green	2.30-5pm	
28 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café Olveston Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	MH TMH AP
29 th Wed			
30 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	10.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS† MH
31 st Fri			
Looking ahead to September			
8th	BCO Sinfonietta Orchestra	7.30	StM

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alv Meth. Ch.; **AMH**- Alv Meth. Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; ; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry ;**CS** Castle Sch.**CTK** Christ the King **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** Littleton Village Hall **MH** – Olv.Meth.Hall;**OMC** Olv Meth Ch **OS** – Olv. School; **OS†** – Olv. Stores; **OSH** Old Sch. Hall Alm; **PH** – Olv Parish Hall; **StM** St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church **StMTSt Mary's Thorn TCh** Tock Chapel; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; ; **TMS** Tock Manor Sch.. **URC** United Reform Ch Th

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

Advertisements Neither Meeting Point, its editor, nor management committee accept any responsibility or give any guarantee in case of any dispute or claim as to quality, condition or delivery of commodities or services advertised in this magazine. It is not to be taken that publication implies recommendation. It is always advisable to check prices when ordering goods or services.

Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the editor or Meeting Point magazine.

Copyright Meeting Point 2018. Copyright remains with the author(s) and Meeting Point. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without the prior permission of the copyright owners.

Meeting Point is printed by Motion Printing LTD.