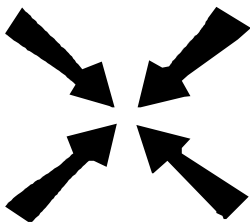


Meeting Point



February 2013



Meeting Point

Volume 37, Number 5, February 2013

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

EDITOR:

Phyllida Pyper
Stock Farm
Littleton upon Severn
Bristol BS35 1NL
Tel: 01454 416422
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 March 2013
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 4th February 2013.**

From the Editor

Snowdrops on the front cover of Meeting Point and bulbs just appearing round the villages make one hope that Spring isn't too far away. February is a big month for musical events – 'The King and I' in Olveston, folk music in Aust, a choral workshop in Thornbury. Find out about path furniture, how to make something delicious with a cauliflower, and when and where to join in a clothes swap

'Yours Faithfully' offers a different perspective on the season of Lent and there is a full programme of worship and reflection throughout the Severnside area in its places of worship and in private houses.

The cover: snowdrops in the snow at Elberton photographed by Peter Haworth

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**

Parish Players - The King and I

Wed. 13 Feb to Sat. 16 Feb. 2013, 7.30pm, Parish Hall, Tockington

The Parish Players have been rehearsing hard for Rodgers' and Hammerstein's 'The King and I', based on the true story of a Victorian school teacher, Anna Leonowens, who bravely went to Bangkok in the 1860s to teach the King's children. This will be the first local production for over 30 years.

Welcoming a significant number of local children into the show has given a new dimension to the Company. There are sixteen young princes and princesses and there is double casting for Anna's son Louis, played by Timothy Mitchell and Jake Woodward. Jake also happens to be the real life cousin of Alexander Morris, who travels to rehearsals from Gloucester and plays the King's eldest son, Prince Chululongkorn. The pivotal role of the King is played by Phil Savage, an experienced and popular actor, with the much coveted role of Anna played by Lynn Shelley. The King's head wife Lady Thiang is played by Lesley Clarke, in her first leading role. Newcomer Laura Pritchard plays Tuptim, with Chris Bentley as Lun Tha, her doomed lover. Ray Hale plays the menacing Prime Minister, the Kralahome.

This is certainly turning out to be a family show. Other smaller parts include David and Margaret Stone's granddaughter Emilia who has the part of Princess Ying Yaowlak, sharing it with Isobel Lambie. Cath Chappell has two grandchildren in the cast, whilst Amy Sutherland, last year's leading lady, also has her daughter Phoebe playing a princess. Other cameo roles are taken by Holly Anderson, Felicity Hemmett, Esther Sully, Helena Osborne, Linda Chappell, Richard Newley, Tad Olewicz and Charlotte Turner. Geoff Chappell returns to play Sir Edward Ramsay, the visiting British ambassador whom the King and Anna are determined to impress, Siam being under the threat of being made a protectorate.

Choreographer Jill Harris has the exciting challenge of teaching Oriental movement and gesture and creating the ballet 'Small House of Uncle Thomas'. She is enjoying working with Maedene Webb who has the central dancing role. The Stage Management aspect of the production is in the capable hands of Keith Richards who has also been busy, with Norma, making all the unusual Oriental props, including a dragon.

Andy Black has once again designed a glittering, opulent set for the 1860s Palace of Bangkok, assisted by Brian Brown and Rod Williams. Richard Churchill as Lighting Designer brings the magical Orient to life. Gill Olewicz has her greatest task yet as Wardrobe Mistress for this exotic production. Musical Director Chloe Alsopp-Jones is in charge of the well-known and much-loved musical score ('Getting to Know You', 'I Whistle a Happy Tune', Shall We

Dance?', 'Hello Young Lovers', 'A Puzzlement' and 'The March of Siamese Children').

The show is under the wonderfully imaginative direction of Linda Evans, who is thrilled to be working with some children whose mothers were in her previous Thornbury production of 1982!

Box Office: Richard and Jenny Newley 01454 202011. £10 for adults, £5 for children. Don't miss out on seeing this wonderful production!

Olveston Parish Hall News

Annual General Meeting 28th February

The Management Committee invites you to the **Annual General Meeting**, to be held at the hall **7.30pm Thursday 28th February**, followed by wine and cheese. Why not show some commitment and come along to your Parish Hall and see what has been achieved by the existing committee for the benefit of our community. We are always looking for new committee members with ideas and enthusiasm to join the existing team to become involved in continuing the progress that has been made over the last few years.

Rural Arts South Glos. present *Men in General* A Cappella Quintuplets Saturday 9th March at 7.45 pm at Olveston Parish Hall

Bringing together members of The Singing Sous Chefs and The Spooky Men's Chorale the show combines precise and captivating vocal harmony with comedy presentation. These five ordinary lads sing The Beach Boys, Rogers and Hammerstein, Billy Joel and more. Fast moving and funny, this show shouldn't be missed. Come and enjoy a cabaret evening at your Parish Theatre! Licensed Bar-Nibbles. Tickets £8.00 from The Crusty Loaf or Tel: 01454 615806

Wind turbine planning application

It's not too late to voice your opinion!

The deadline of Friday 25th January has passed but you can still send your comments to South Glos Council quoting Application Number: PT12/4071/F,

via email: planningapplications@southglos.gov.uk

via the planning website: <http://developments.southglos.gov.uk/online-applications>

or **in writing** to Simon Penketh, Planning Applications Dept., PO Box 2018, Council Offices, Castle St., Thornbury BS35 9BR

Village people: Bryan and John Gee

Pat Thirkettle

Twins Bryan and John Gee were born in Stoke Gifford in 1948. It was then a small village surrounded by farms and Parkway station was a railway shunting yard. There was no family history of farming but from a very young age they both loved animals and while still at primary school used to help on one of the neighbouring farms. They also reared turkeys, cockerels, chickens and calves in their half acre of garden, (they had a very understanding mother!); a good arrangement as their parents financed their feed bills and the boys pocketed the sales!

They moved up to Patchway Secondary Modern, now Patchway Comprehensive on the same site. They played football, rugby and cricket and ran the school printing press, although with dubious spelling ability! At the weekends they helped on a dairy farm across the road, at that time cows were tied in sheds and milked by hand.

They left school at sixteen and worked for Lady White who owned the Hollywood Estate which includes the land at Cribbs Causeway. They remember picking potatoes under what is now Marks and Spencer, and chasing cows in Lady White's Bristol car (the White family owned the firm that made them), along with the chauffeur and the butler! Then Bryan worked at Church Farm and John at Dyers Farm in Easter Compton, getting from home in Stoke Gifford to work on a rusty scooter. They both went to Hartpury Agricultural College, near Gloucester, for a one year course; at that time the college only had sixty students.

Bryan started relief milking on local farms while John went back to Ed Sheldon's at Dyers Farm. One of Bryan's employers was John Alway at New House Farm, Aust. He agreed to help them start their very own farming enterprise, renting them two acres at Northwick for raising pigs. There were no main services on the land but that didn't stop them building sties and sheds to house the pigs. They used LP gas for heating. The water had to be carried in churns from John Alway's dairy in Aust in a very old van with the front seat removed for more carrying capacity. Picking up the water from John's dairy one day, the water and milk churns got muddled up and Bryan had to chase after the milk lorry to sort it out. Bryan used the van for courting Maggy, popping the seat back in, but never fixing it, so he had to be very careful when braking! John Alway helped them tremendously during this time, often lending them his tractor which they returned broken on more than one occasion. They could never have set foot on the farming ladder without his help.

By 1974 they both worked full time on the Northwick Pig Farm, which now had water, electricity and a phone. They had built a pig herd of two hundred and twenty sows, selling seventy to a hundred weaners a week, quite a large herd at the time.

By 1977 they persuaded their bank manager to lend them enough money to buy Manor Farm, Aust. They started a dairy herd which they ran with the pigs at Northwick. and had two people working for them. Soon after they bought the farm the interest rate on their loan increased dramatically, peaking at nineteen and a quarter per cent, which gave them a lot of sleepless nights.

Bryan married Maggy, John married Marion, and they both had children. As they had always done the building work on both farms they now think of themselves as builders, and their neighbour David Spratt now farms their land. They do all sorts of building work, often working in lovely places and on beautiful buildings. They have worked on most of the local churches and a lot of listed building in the vicinity. Never throwing anything away, they consider themselves very 'green'. If you need anything for an old building they usually have it.

Both their wives have sadly died and their children have grown up. Bryan's son Chris helps run an agricultural contracting business in Bradford-on-Avon. John likes to stay at home with Jenn and his dog but Bryan has travelled a bit, walking in Nepal and Peru. Last summer he walked around Mont Blanc through France, Switzerland, Italy and back into France, camping with an ex New Zealand dairy farmer.

Although they wouldn't admit to it, I have been told that they are a tremendous asset to the village, as they offer their practical skills at any village function. Neither Bryan nor John wants to retire and both look forward to many more years of building, a job they still enjoy.

Music in the Church at Aust

STOP PRESS

Saturday 2nd February at 8pm: ANDY CUTTING,
back by popular demand ... Radio 2 Folk Musician of the Year 2011
Tickets £10 from Olveston Village Stores, Boar's Head (Aust) or at the door.

Oh no, it's Lent!

Roly Bain

There are lots of things happening in Lent in Olveston and Tockington this year. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, Feb 13th, and there's a communion service with the Imposition of Ashes at 9am at St Mary's. Our 6pm Sunday services feature Canon John Poarch as our preacher, and he will be focussing on prayer with a series of sermons and sessions entitled: *SEEKING GOD with the help of:*

<i>Feb 17th</i>	Other people's prayers	<i>Feb 24th</i>	Some Greek tourists
<i>March 3rd</i>	The other wise man	<i>Mar 10th</i>	A breadwinner
<i>Mar 17th</i>	A publican	<i>Mar 24th</i>	A bishop on the run

John will be providing some notes for individual follow-up, and there will also be a group meeting at the Vicarage, led by Roly, on Wednesdays at 7.30pm to talk about what John has said.

Our regular home groups continue to meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and you are welcome to join them. Denis Jones' group on Tuesdays is doing the York Course 'Glimpses of God', and a new group led by Michael Kirby is looking and listening to the CTBI course 'This is our Journey - Stories of Faith' on Thursdays at 7.30pm at his home, Orchard Lea. There are other groups all over Severnside which would welcome you if other days and dates are more convenient.

There will also be a series of Films for Lent on Tuesdays at 7.30pm - leaflets are available in St Mary's but for copyright reasons we can't tell you the titles unless you're on the mailing list. For your own personal use and devotion, 'When you pray' by Joanna Collicutt is commended - details on www.brfonline.org.uk.

For further details, ring Roly on 616593 or Michael Kirby, the Co-ordinator, on 619616.

Women's World Day of Prayer

On Friday March 1, in over 170 countries across the world, people will be praying and worshipping together during an annual day of prayer, using a form of service prepared by Christian women in France. There will be a service at St Mary's Church, Olveston at 10.15 am to mark this special international and interdenominational day. The speaker will be Mrs Coralie Payne.

For general information see the WWDP website: www.wwdp-natcomm.org



Cook's Calendar: February

Natasha Harrod

As we trudge into February we approach what farmers call the 'hungry gap'. This is when the winter vegetables are tired and come to an end but we are not anywhere near harvesting spring vegetables. For someone committed to eating predominantly UK vegetables this presents problems. Swedes and cabbage are losing whatever appeal they had and the temptation to succumb to Kenyan sugar snaps is almost irresistible.

My veg box answers this conundrum with a weekly cauliflower. For years I struggled to get excited about this most maligned of vegetables, my school experience being limp, over boiled cauliflower which had been sitting on a warm trolley since just after breakfast.

A few years ago I met a woman who worked for the British Food Fortnight and she urged me to rethink cauliflower, telling me it was a prized vegetable in the Mediterranean, as they struggled to grow it in warmer climes. Maybe cauliflower's ubiquity blinds us to its delicate, creamy flavour.

Here is my favourite way to eat cauliflower; the most luxurious soup imaginable. It seems almost magic: take a mundane and overlooked vegetable, add a few delicious extras and you end up with something which is much more than the sum of its parts. A modern day version of stone soup.

Cauliflower Velouté

1 medium cauliflower, roughly chopped into small pieces
1 onion, chopped
1 potato, peeled and chopped into small pieces
2 tablespoons butter
1 litre chicken or veg stock, homemade if possible
125ml white wine

3-4 tablespoons butter
40g plain flour
125ml soured cream
6 tablespoons runny honey
A little nutmeg to serve

Melt the butter in a large pot, add cauliflower, onion and potato and soften for a few minutes.

Add stock and wine and bring to a simmer, cooking until the veg are soft, which should be about 20 minutes, depending on the size of the vegetables.

Meanwhile, melt the butter in a small pan and stir in the flour to make a paste. Add a little soup and stir in, then add the whole contents of the small pan to the vegetable pan, then puree it all, returning it to the large pan when it is smooth.

Add the soured cream and honey, then taste for seasoning, it will need quite a lot. Return to a simmer then sprinkle with freshly grated nutmeg before serving.

Serves 4

Movies at St Mary's: February

Trevor Anderson



THREE movies this month at St Mary's Church Olveston. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book:

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

Mon 4th Feb at 7.30pm: Two sisters befriend a mysterious foreigner who washes up on the beach of their 1930's Cornish village. With Maggie Smith & Judi Dench. *Cert 12*

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA (*Quality 'non-mainstream' films*)

Mon 18th Feb at 7.30pm: The monumental life and tragic death of Brazilian motor-racing champion, Ayrton Senna, his physical and spiritual achievements and his quest for perfection. Non-racing fans will enjoy too. *Cert PG*

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB (*Every Monday morning in the hols*)

Mon 11th Feb at 10.00am: The creators of Toy Story 3 whisk you away on this new and astonishing adventure to a land full of mystery and tradition. *Cert U*

Refreshments available at all the shows. Admission is free although a small **donation** at the end towards expenses is always appreciated.

For copyright reasons we can't name the films here, but if you **join the Movie Club** we'll send you titles and full details by email. It costs nothing to join – just email me at trevoranderson@btinternet.com.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper
austparishcouncil@googlemail.com

The New Year has arrived, and with it the need to review this year's expenditure and make next year's budget. In common with all local authorities, our financial year ends on 31 March. So at the meeting in January the charge to council tax payers for 2013/14 was set at £3,700, the same as last year. This is among the lowest parish precepts in South Gloucestershire.

There are two important planning consultations before us. One, relating to the conversion of a building in Littleton into a house for holiday lets, and the other the Ingst wind farm. The Council is objecting to the wind farm mainly on the ground that it is inappropriate development in the green belt and would be the final nail in the coffin of what is still a very beautiful landscape.

The property in Littleton is the building erected between the White Hart and Quarry House. The applicant's consultant made a presentation to the meeting and the Council deferred a decision until our next meeting on 12th February. Please let your Councillors or me have any comments, and do make your own to the planning officer.

The Council also considered an application for permission to recover the roof of St John's church, Aust, with tinned steel to replace the lead that has been stolen on several occasions. Councillors gave this application wholehearted support.

The British Red Cross Healthy Homes Project

The British Red Cross is currently offering **FREE Healthy Homes Assessments** with the aim of improving the safety and well-being of people in their homes. The short, one hour, friendly visits provide information on areas including **fire and fall safety, warmth, grants, isolation issues and other available services**.

Each home visited will receive a **free Healthy Homes pack** containing essentials for coping with the cold weather, power cuts and other household issues. As well as yourself, please also consider people you know (e.g. relatives, friends and neighbours) who could benefit from a non-invasive visit, and encourage and help them to contact us on the details below.

Telephone us on: 0117 3012611
OR email us at: H&SCWAG@redcross.org.uk

Oveston Parish Council Matters

Richard Rogers (olvestonpc@gmail.com)

Have you visited Tockington Play Area recently? Following a joint collaboration between Oveston Pre-school and the Parish Council, December 2012 saw a much needed refurbishment of the play equipment behind the Parish Hall. The final affect is stunning, and should provide excellent play value for a number of years to come. 2012 also saw remedial work on the play equipment in Vicarage Lane which, despite its age, still provides great benefit to the parish.

But, does the Parish lack 'play equipment' for older people, whether teenagers, 20+, parents, grandparents or anyone else who wants to find their 'younger' side? Skate parks or fully fitted gymnasiums often spring to mind, but other alternatives are possible and could be provided if there is sufficient interest and will within the parish.

Indeed provisions such as this could form part of the Parish Vision. As mentioned at the Annual Parish Assembly, and subsequently in Meeting Point, the Parish Council have been striving to form a core of parishioners interested in creating Steering Group to develop a Parish Vision. This group now exists with its own Chairman and Secretary (see www.olvestonparishvision.co.uk for more details). and will involve the parish with its proposals.

February 2013 will also see the Parish Council contacting South Glos.Council about the retirement of three of its Councillors. As previously reported, the Parish Council is keen to hear from anyone interested in finding out about this role. Parishioners are always welcome to attend the Parish Council meetings on the 4th Tuesday of the month (details available on the Parish Notice boards outside the Stores, the Swan at Tockington or by the Bus Shelter at Old Down).

South Glos.Council will have to ascertain whether a formal election is required, or alternatively ask the Parish Council to co-opt parishioners, through an informal interview selection process. The intention is to complete the process by the end of March, and certainly in time for the next Annual Parish Assembly scheduled for April 25th 2013.

Cancer Research UK

Saturday 23rd February at 7.30pm for 8pm at The Ship Inn, Alveston

"Tribal Fantasy and Friends" - tickets £12.50 each available from Jean Churchill on 01454 614343 or Mary Hurford-Jones on 01454 414466.

Public Rights of Way – in a nutshell

*Lindsay Saunders
PRW Officer for the 'Meeting Point' area*

South Gloucestershire Council's Public Rights of Way team has three officers each looking after an area of about 13 parishes. We are responsible for maintaining footpaths (not footways/pavements), bridleways and restricted byways for use by the public; advising on planning applications which may affect existing public rights of way or provide opportunities for new ones; doing legal work concerning adding, diverting or removing paths from the network; and liaising with landowners, developers, contractors, user groups, the public and parish councils.

Maintaining paths in a useable condition involves dealing with complaints, contacting landowners, and carrying out improvement works where needed (which can include major resurfacing, especially on bridleways). Many people do not know that broken or overgrown stiles and gates are the responsibility of the landowner, as are overhanging hedges. The Council is responsible for the surfaces of paths but does not usually own the land over which they run. We are continually in touch with landowners about the repair or replacement of worn or broken path furniture, access for surface works, or about paths which have become obstructed for a variety of reasons because, legally, it is a landowner's responsibility to keep their paths clear. However, it is the Council's policy to assist landowners subject to budget restraints. We arrange a twice yearly vegetation cut of around 250 paths in the SGC area which are the most well used and we also have a Ranger who carries out clearance work and some repairs/replacements. We rely heavily on the public and user groups to let us know about problems and it is very helpful if people are prepared to carry secateurs! We also have two very good Avon Ramblers volunteer work parties who carry out clearance and installation work on a fortnightly basis as well as internal and external contractors who carry out larger or specialist works. We are always very busy and juggle many jobs at once – endless lists of things to do and red flagged emails!

The flip side of talking to landowners about their paths is trying to help them with their complaints about irresponsible walkers; especially dog walkers who do not keep to the paths, do not pick up after their dog or allow their dogs to chase livestock. Many people do not realise that dog faeces can easily get into the food chain, either via contaminated crops or ingested by farm animals. Contaminated food crops or livestock may be rejected and cattle particularly are at risk of liver damage and the meat may be condemned. Pregnant animals that have been chased by dogs will often abort, if they are not more badly injured. This has significant financial implications for food producers and they find it frustrating that they have little protection. We make up signs for them to put up near their footpaths and in some cases we liaise with the dog wardens and the Police.

Public paths are classified as highways and have the same legal protection as roads. People often assume that if a path isn't used for a number of years it will cease to exist, or that it can be moved a few metres for convenience. However, the legal line of any path is recorded on the Definitive Map, which was created following the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act and was the subject of a process that lasted many years. The legal line prevails and no changes can be made to a path without a legal order. Although there are some disputes about whether or not a path exists or is in the right place, which generally needs to be settled by a court, these are relatively few. However, we get several applications each year for paths to be added to the Definitive Map as a result of long use, or for existing paths to be diverted. These have to go through a legal process and meet certain criteria before being submitted to a SGC Sub Committee, and can result in a public inquiry if they are controversial.

We are always happy to talk to people and answer questions so anyone who wants to know about public rights of way in the Meeting Point area and neighbouring Parishes can ring me (Lindsay Saunders) on 01454 868646, email rightsofway@southglos.gov.uk or visit the Council's website www.southglos.gov.uk



Ladies Clothes Swap Event

**Thursday 21st February Olveston Parish Hall, 7.30pm - 9pm
in aid of Selena's Kilimanjaro trek for Hammer Out**

Here's how it works: Pay £5 entrance fee plus minimum 3 items of unwanted clothing from your wardrobe (can include shoes and bags), hand in your 'to swap' items, socialise with friends and light refreshments. Browse and claim three 'new to you' items from the donated selection. Any more than 3 items can be purchased for a contribution on each item (provided someone else doesn't want it!).

If you have lots of items, and want to donate to beforehand, please call 01454 631047 (Selena) or 01454 614366 (Brenda) to arrange delivery and receive a 'clothes donated' voucher to present on entry, just leaving your £5 entrance fee to pay on the evening. All items unswapped at the end of the evening will be donated to St..Peter's Hospice Shop, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

OPTA Update

- including a report of the Brittany trip

Since the last update from the Olveston Parish Twinning Association (August Meeting Point) we have undertaken two very successful activities:

Our Murder Mystery Evening 'Flappers Away!' was held in the School Hall back in early October. It was very well-attended and, as well as being a fund-raiser for OPTA, two thirds of the profits from the event were donated to the locally based charity ARBAN UK.

Later on in October we made our biennial trip to Brittany, somewhat later this time because of the elections in France which made our normal date in May impossible. Our group of 28 had an amazing weekend, where regular visitors and newcomers to the Twinning alike were all treated with wonderful hospitality by our friends in Bréhan. Ian, our village baker, and his son joined us this time and they were hosted by one of the two bakers in Bréhan. Ian was keen to learn about the making of French bread and we believe there is video footage of him mastering the art of the French Stick! We hope this will be a new line on offer in The Crusty Loaf once the building renovations to the bakery have finished. A couple of the host families in Bréhan have young children of primary school age, so there is definitely scope for us to draw in some Olveston families with young children when the French come to visit us in May. We will be generating more publicity about this nearer the time.

Events that are planned for early 2013 include a quiz on Saturday February 9th in the Parish Hall (see advert below) and then the famous Wine Challenge which will be on Friday 22nd March, also in the Parish Hall. More information about the Wine Challenge will follow in the March edition of Meeting Point, plus there will be posters placed in key village locations. Please put both these dates in your diaries – we look forward to seeing you!

Annual OPTA Quiz

Saturday 9th February 2013

Olveston Parish Hall 7.30pm (for a prompt 7.45 start). Teams of 4 - £5 per person to include light refreshments. There will be a bar serving beer, lager, wine and soft drinks. There's a prize for the winning team!

To reserve your team's table, please contact Noel Clarke (01454 614099).

2000 Years of Earning a Living in Bath

Wednesday, 6 February 2013, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church

The Director of **The Museum of Bath at Work** is going to give an illustrated talk about some of the ways in which the people of Bath have earned a living during past centuries.

Did you know Bath had a rather fine car-manufacturer in the early twentieth century – one with a not very English-sounding name? Bath also had (and still has) miners – stone miners - working 30 metres under the beautiful Bath countryside, these days with very state-of-the-art equipment. Journalists and secretaries have a Bath resident to thank for an invention which makes their work easier. And Nick Park of Aardman Animations could never have created Wallace and Gromit without another Bath-patented invention, manufactured in Bathampton from 1900 until the 1980s. Come and find out about all these and more, in the history of Bath at work.

Incidentally, people regularly come to our talks from Thornbury, Alveston, Almondsbury, Pilning and Oldland Common, as well as the villages and hamlets covered by Meeting Point. Everyone is warmly welcome. Entry (if not already a member) is just £2 on the door. Look forward to seeing you!

www.olvoston.com.historical-society

All the King's Men

There's a new exhibition for the New Year at our local museum in Thornbury. 'All the King's Men' examines South Gloucestershire's involvement in conflicts, from the English civil war of the 1640s to 21st century campaigns – not just through membership of the permanent armed forces but in voluntary cavalry units and county militia too.

The exhibition also explores the impact of wartime events on the South Gloucestershire area and the people living here.

This exhibition has been developed as a result of Thornbury and District Museum's involvement in and collaboration with the South Gloucestershire Museums Group.

FREE entry for all, both to the new exhibition and to the rest of this entirely volunteer-run museum - although donations are always welcome!

The exhibition opened on 29 January. The museum, in Chapel St. next to the Armstrong Hall, is open Tuesdays-Fridays 1-4pm and Saturdays 10am-4pm.

Concerts & a quiz at St. Mary's

On Feb 2nd The South Cotswold Youth Orchestra, based at Marlwood School, is staging a concert at 7pm. Admission on the door only £4.

And February 23rd at 7.30pm sees the return of 'Changing Tunes', the prison charity which does so much work rehabilitating prisoners with the help of music and performance.

Do come and support them both. Looking slightly further ahead, our next quiz is on Mothering Sunday weekend, Sat Mar 9th at 7.30pm, with shepherd's pie on the menu this time. Chris Smart is our quizmaster, and tickets are only £5.

Olveston and Tockington WI Report

The talk in our January meeting was a fascinating look at the history of paper money and the Bank of England. – there's more to money than spending it! But, talking of money – one of the W.I. National Resolutions this year will be concerned with the need to keep local shops open – use them or lose them. Members will have the opportunity to vote on this.

If you've often thought of coming to W.I. but didn't manage to come to our January meeting, how about coming on February 19th at 7.30 to take part in some simple hands-on Science experiments? – It should be fun! (It's the 19th because of the Parish Players' dress rehearsal on our usual day).

Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners January:

£50 Tracey Jarvis	£15 Graham Clare	£5 Richard Panes
-------------------	------------------	------------------

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

15th December	Richard Panes	22nd December	John Welsher
29th December	Tony Williams	5th January	Paddy Gardner

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

Police Report for December 2012

For the month of December and Christmas period the Severn beat received a total of 38 calls and 7 crimes of which ...

There was an attempted burglary of a property in Old Down where the offender(s) tried to gain access via a wooden door. Vouchers were stolen from an address in Olveston, and a vending machine was damaged at the Woodhouse Scout Association.

Even though crime is down, please still ensure that all doors and windows are secure, remove all valuable items from sight and please tell your neighbours if you are going away so that they can keep an eye on your property. Please also ensure that any suspicious person(s) or vehicle(s) are reported so that incidents can be checked out.

Security mark all valuable property and register it at www.immobilise.com

The next Beat Surgery will be held on Thursday 14th February 2013 between 10.30 – 11.30 at Olveston Stores Coffee Shop

PC 3404 Roger Hopes

PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery

Contact us:

999 emergency calls only

101 (non emergency incidents and reports of crime)

0117 945 5959 (Office number with answer phone facility)

07919 628625 or 07917 586645 (on duty mobiles)

Film warns deaf residents about internet fraudsters

South Gloucestershire Trading Standards would like to advise residents that a new film 'Watch Out! Scam Awareness' in BSL film has been created to warn the deaf community to be on their guard against fraudsters who may try to contact them via the internet.

It contains a series of crime prevention messages delivered in British Sign Language, along with sub-titles and voice-overs. The film is available to watch on YouTube and can be reached via a link on the ActionFraud website at <http://tinyurl.com/co847hl>



Introducing your new Librarian at Thornbury Library

Rebecca Furness writes:

"I am delighted to be your new Librarian at Thornbury Library. I have worked for South Gloucestershire Library Service for 5 years in Bradley Stoke, Patchway and Filton Libraries. Previously I was a primary school teacher, for 9 years, in various parts of the UK and also in an international school in Warsaw, Poland. I am passionate about libraries, reading and new technologies which allow everyone to share ideas and communicate. I decided to follow this passion and I re-trained to become a Librarian, graduating in 2011. It is a pleasure to join the dedicated and friendly staff team at Thornbury, who have made me very welcome. I look forward to meeting you and to receiving any suggestions or feedback you have to promote your local library."

SPECIAL EVENTS

Digital Camera Talk for Beginners, Wednesday 6th February at 7.30pm

We will be holding another of our popular and practical talks on the basics of using a digital camera. Tickets priced £5 available from any South Gloucestershire Library, all proceeds going to charity.

National Libraries Day, Saturday 9th February

www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk

Join us for a special day celebrating libraries and promoting the wide range of services and opportunities available in your local branch. Full details of events at Thornbury Library for National Libraries Day will be available nearer the time at www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries or enquire at Thornbury Library.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Weekly Coffee Morning every Wednesday 10.30 -11.30 at the library.

RAFA Band Concert

Saturday 23rd February 2013, 7.30pm in the Armstrong Hall, Thornbury

An Evening of Music by the RAF Association Concert Band. Tickets £10 available from the Town Hall in advance or available on the night. Raising money for the 2392 Thornbury Air Cadet Squadron.



Choral Workshop

Saturday February 23rd
10.30 am – 5.00 pm

Registered Charity 277013

Come, sing with us!

Thornbury Choral Society cordially invites you to come and join them for an all day workshop to study the beautiful Brahms German Requiem on Saturday 23rd February 2013. We will be conducted by Steven Kings and accompanied by our excellent regular accompanist Robin Baggs. This will be Thornbury Choral Society's tenth annual workshop.

Venue: Thornbury Baptist Church, Grovesend, Thornbury BS35 2EG.

Tea, coffee, squash, biscuits and cake at tea are included in the £12.50 cost of the ticket. **Scores:** Available for hire for £2. **Lunch:** Available only by pre booking for £6.50, limited numbers available so book early!

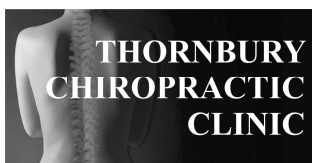
For a booking form contact Jos Gregson

18 Willoughby Close

Alveston, BS35 3RW Tel. 01454-411652

email: jos@josgregson.plus.com or download a booking form for our website

www.thornburychoralsociety.org.uk



Thornbury Chiropractic

February Mania

Focusing on Children and Teenagers

In February half term our team of chiropractors will be offering **Free Consultation and Advice** to all children under the age of 18*. We will look at posture, bad habits such as texting, gaming and general activity levels. We can also identify tight muscles such as hamstrings which can lead to sporting injuries. We will be able to offer advice on school bags, foot wear, posture and exercises to try and prevent an injury.

Contact the clinic for more details or to book an appointment:

01454 418259

info@thornburychiropractic.co.uk

*Children under the age of 16 will need to be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

"Little Red Riding Hood"

13th- 15th February in the Armstrong Hall

"If you go down in the woods today you're in for a big surprise" – perhaps not the one you are expecting and not exactly the woods but at Thornbury's Armstrong Hall. Thornbury Musical Theatre Group is performing "Little Red Riding Hood" from 13th to 16th February starting at 7pm with matinees at 2pm Friday and Saturday.

You won't see any teddy bears but you will meet lots of well known fairytale characters and some who are not so well known. Everyone needs a little lift and some sparkle after the winter so why not bring the whole family for a half term treat? Follow our heroine's adventures as she makes her way through the forest to grandmother's house.

This is a pantomime so there is sure to be a happy ending – oh yes there is! This is a show full of traditional elements which will make sure that everyone leaves with a smile on their face – come and cheer for the handsome prince and boo at the dastardly wolf!

If you haven't already booked your tickets then don't delay as they are selling fast. Ring Karen on 01454 853947 or go online at www.tmtg.org.uk. You are assured of first class entertainment at bargain prices – no need to travel to the big cities. Tickets start at £8 and details of discounts can be obtained from Karen – big discounts for schools and youth organisations.

"Cinderella"



The Churpel Society in Tytherington is proud to present their pantomime production of 'Cinderella'. Our show will be performed in Tytherington Village Hall on 6th, 7th, 8th 9th March at 7.30pm with an additional matinee performance on Saturday 9th March at 2.30pm. A licensed bar will be open and tea and coffee will also be available.

Tickets go on sale on Tuesday, 5th February at 6.00pm in Tytherington Village Hall and will be available, thereafter, in the hall on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 7pm or from the box office 01454 418553.

Yours faithfully

Ruan Crew

Assistant Curate (training), St Mary's Church, Olveston

Although we have always found the weather a great topic of conversation, 2012 has given us a lot to talk about. It was the second wettest year on record – ironic if you consider that we were being warned of droughts and hose-pipe bans in March last year. And rather sobering in a world where one in ten doesn't have access to safe drinking water.

I've been thinking about water in a different context, preparing a sermon on Jesus's visit to that wedding in Cana, when over a hundred gallons of water were turned into wine (John 2). Behind this Sunday-school favourite is the notion that if we offer ourselves to God, he can take the mundane water of our ordinary lives, and transform it into the abundant new wine of his kingdom. One of the great blessings that this new wine symbolises is peace with God. The evangelist John wrote, "to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God." (John 1:12). That's a tremendous blessing – not a guaranteed release from our difficulties, but a peace that passes all understanding, to carry us through the hard times.

In the Netherlands in the summer of 2000, two dykes failed, causing widespread flooding and damage. The problem was not heavy rain, as one might imagine, but prolonged hot dry weather that had caused the peat inside the dykes to dry out, compromising their structural integrity.

It's all too easy for us to dry out spiritually, to lose that sense of peace with God. To maintain our spiritual integrity, we need to find ways of watering our spiritual lives regularly. The season of Lent is an excellent opportunity to do just that. This year, rather than *giving* something up, why not *take* something up – a daily Bible reading, or a weekly Lent group, for example? And as you do, let God turn water into wine once again, and experience his peace and his presence in your life.

Enough mixed metaphors for one month – the rain has stopped outside and I'm off out for a walk. I think I'll take my umbrella with me, however, just in case

MEETING POINT **RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st OCTOBER 2012**

RECEIPTS	2012 £	2011 £	PAYMENTS	2012 £	2011 £
Balances at 31st October 2011 and 2010					
At Bank:					
Current Account	1044.00	1798.93	Printing	11560.00	10733.48
Clubs & Charities A/C	5001.40	4996.40	Meeting Point Directory	-	478.00
Advertisements	11944.00	11367.50	Insurance	73.53	73.53
Interest	5.00	5.00	Postage	1055.37	475.38
Donation	5.00	30.00	Stationery/Materials	112.10	72.86
Corporation tax rebate	123.51	-	Corporation Tax	-	197.19
			Gratuities	79.99	79.99
			Bookbinding	42.00	42.00
			Photocopying	6.35	-
			Queen's Jubilee Fund	100.00	-

At Bank:

	18122.91	18197.83		2087.17	1044.00
			Current Account	3006.40	5001.40
			Clubs and Charities A/C		
	<u>18122.91</u>	<u>18197.83</u>			

Documents relative to this Statement have been examined and found correct.

J S Howells

J S Howells F.C.A.

10th December 2012

Dated

T.W. Williams

Treasurer

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Feb 3	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. R. Bain & Rev. P. Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Candlemas with Choir	Rev D.Bone & Team
Feb 10	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev R. Bain
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Mrs Ann Lloyd
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev R Bain & Mrs J McBride
Feb 13	9am	Holy Communion with Ashing	Rev Roly Bain
Feb 17	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev P Rowe & Mr D Jones
	6pm	Evensong	Rev. P. Rowe & Canon J. Poarch
Feb 24	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 R Crew & Canon Poarch

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Contacts:

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: 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

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the **Rev. Roly Bain** except 4th Wed when it is at Olv. Methodist Church.

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Feb 10	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Feb 24	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: **Rev David Bone**, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680 Janet Ford 633300

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Feb 3	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
Feb 17	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: **Rev. David Pole** 01454 414810; www.sthelensalveston.org

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Feb 10	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole
Feb 24	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Feb 3	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Peter Mortlock
	6pm	Tock Ch.	United Service with St Andrews led by Mr John Creech
Feb 10	10am	Olv. Ch.	All Age Worship led by Rev. Sandy Williams Breakfast Club to join later
Feb 17	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr. Joe Withington
Feb 24	10am	Olv Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev. Sandy Williams

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 13th Feb. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 21st Feb. To book please ring 613241 or 612112

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

HOUSE GROUPS One led by Mr Glyn Varney on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at 7, The Green Olveston. Another led by Rev. Sandy Williams on the 4th Wednesday Please ring 416528 for details of venue

CONTACT: Rev David Hardy 0117 9693135,

e-mail: dandlhardy@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

Feb 3	6.30pm	Jan Cooper
Feb 10	6.30pm	David Godfrey
Feb 17	6.30pm	Royston Pick
Feb 24	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer Time

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

'The Door' for young people on the last Sunday at 7pm

www.thedooryouth.co.uk or tel 07837234949

For more details, please phone 632564.

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Evening Worship every Sunday at 6pm

For details tel. 413247

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block)

Contact 0117 3050969 **www.bcfnet.com**

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Tel 01454 412223 **www.ctlk-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** Bristol area: **www.bristolquakers.org.uk**

Diary Dates for February 2013

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

2 nd Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Table Top sale in aid of 'Hammer Out'	10.00-12.00	PH
	South Cotswold Youth Orchestra	7.00 pm	StM
	Music in the Church at Aust: Andy Cutting	8.00pm	AC
4 th Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Practice	1.30pm	AH
	Monday Movie	7.30pm	StM
5 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
6 th Wed	O.P.H.S. 2000yrs of Earning a Living in Bath	7.30pm	OMC
9 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	AVH
	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	OPTA Quiz Night: tel 01454 614099	7.30 pm	PH
11 th Mon	Children's Movie Club	10.00	StM
12 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Women's Institute - postponed to 19th Aust Parish Council	7.30pm	EVH
13 th Wed	Parish Players: The King and I	7.30pm	PH
	TMTG: Little Red Riding Hood, Panto	7.00pm	AH
14 th Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OST
	Beat Surgery	10.30-11.30	OST
	Parish Players: The King and I	7.30pm	PH
	TMTG: Little Red Riding Hood, Panto	7.00pm	AH
15 th Fri	Parish Players: The King and I	7.30pm	PH
	TMTG: Little Red Riding Hood, Panto	2.00&7.00pm	AH
16 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Parish Players: The King and I	7.30pm	PH
	TMTG: Little Red Riding Hood, Panto	2.00&7.00pm	AH
18 th Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	StM
19 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Women's Institute (note change of date)	7.30pm	PH
20 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club A. G. M.	1.00pm	AH
	Jazz at the White Hart, Olveston	8.30pm	
21 st Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market	9.00-1.30	
	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OST
	Olveston Toddlers	2.00-4.30	MH
	Th. & District Flower Cl. A.G.M.	7.30pm	TMH
	Ladies Clothes Swap party for Hammer Out	7.30pm-9.00	PH

23 rd Sat	Coffee Morning Thornbury Choral Society: Annual workshop -At Thorn. Baptist Church, Grovesend RAFA Band Concert Cancer Research. 'Tribal Fantasy': -At the Ship, Alveston 'Changing Tunes' charity: Concert	10.30-12.00 10.30-5.00 7.30 pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	MH AH StM
26 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR AP
28 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Olveston Parish Hall:AGM	10.00-12.00 2.0-4.30 7.30 pm	OS+ MH PH
Looking ahead to March			
2nd	Hammer Out Jumble Sale	TBA	PH
6,7,8,9 th	Cinderella: Panto: Churpel Society At Tytherington Village hall	7.30pm and 2 pm Sat	
8,9,10 th	Rotary Club Swimathon Th. Leisure Centre St. Mary's Quiz Night with supper		StM
22 nd	O.P.T.A. Wine Challenge		
26 th to 30 th	NYTC: Miss Saigon	7.30 pm	AH

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; ; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry ; **CS** Castle Sch. **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** Littleton Village Hall **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall; **OMC** Olv Meth Ch **OS** – Olveston School; **OS+** – Olveston Stores; **OV** – Olveston Vicarage; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church **SMH** St Mary,s Ch. Hall Thornbury; **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.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 2013. 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 **Bristol Business Centre**