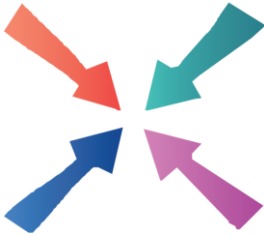


Meeting Point



January 2019



Meeting Point

Volume 43, Number 4, January 2019

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

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From the Editor

This first Meeting Point of 2019 includes details of an impressive range of local events and activities that are taking place in the month ahead – plus even a bit of advance warning of some things happening in February.

Included in the options for January there is a Panto in Thornbury (Oh yes there is!), a Quiz and two Monday Movies in Olveston and a concert in the Cossham Hall by a young folk band that sounds delightful. There is also something a bit out of the ordinary, namely a 24-hour Games Marathon to raise money for St. Peter's Hospice. It's worth finding out more about that event.

So, however you decide to spend January, home-based avoiding the cold or venturing out to enjoy some of the events listed in the magazine, I hope that it is the start of a very Happy New Year.

Marelin

The cover is by Cheryl Miller

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 Harries



Sow and Grow

St Mary's latest appeal, Sow and Grow, had a very successful launch on Sunday 2nd December and is aiming to raise £15000 in total, £5000 for Olveston School and £10,000 for a village, Myange, in Rwanda. Over fifty people came to the tea party, where they heard about the two parts of the appeal.

The preliminary design for the reflective area for Olveston School, was displayed which looks very exciting! This incorporates many of the features that children had requested, including seating areas, a solar powered water feature and maze. Amanda Luke, headteacher of Olveston School, explained the importance for children to have space to sit quietly and reflect.

This was followed by Mike Beresford, from CED, who gave an excellent presentation on the Rwanda side of the appeal. The aim here is to help returning refugees from Tanzania, by training them how to make rainwater storage tanks, develop a kitchen garden and make their homes more weather resilient. This is a brilliant project which should be sustained for years to come. Each family should be able to support themselves and then share their skills with others.



Look out for fundraising activities in the New Year. The first planned fundraising event is a singalong to the film "The Greatest Showman" (the cinema hit of 2018, with Hugh Jackman as P.T. Barnum). It will be held in the church on 19 January at 6pm (a family event, hence the early start). Come along dressed as a circus performer (there will be a prize on the night) and start practising your juggling skills. Tightrope walkers & stilt walkers will need to bring their own risk assessments! See posters for details. If you would like to make a donation to the appeal, please use one of the white envelopes in the Church and put it in the wall safe, marked Sow and Grow.

Journey of Generosity half-day Retreat

All North Severnside congregations are invited to attend a 'Journey of Generosity' half day retreat on Saturday 13th January at St Mary's Olveston. It will start at 11am and finish at 3pm with lunch provided. The course material features brilliantly produced and inspiring video case studies from around the world; group discussions and Bible studies. If you would like to attend please email Paul.harrod@gmail.com or RSVP on 01454 613642.

Burns Night

We will be having a Burns Night Supper on Saturday January 26th 7.30pm At St Mary's Church Olveston. Haggis, neeps and tatties will of course be on the menu!

Tickets £7 contact Debbie on 01454 613273 or email oboe-debbie@live.co.uk

Quiz Night

Our next quiz is on Saturday February 16th 7.30pm. Tickets £5 and a maximum of 6 per team

Please contact Debbie to book a team, email oboe-debbie@live.co.uk

Change of Service Times

When David Moss was appointed as our new Vicar, he inherited five churches that all held their 'main' service of the day, in the morning, with start times varying between 9am and 10am. It is therefore literally impossible for David to attend more than one service each Sunday morning. Each church in the benefice has moved its service start times to accommodate this. We at St Mary's have decided to move our 10am service to 9.30am. This will be for a trial period of a maximum of six months starting from January 1st. We will commit to reviewing it before six months have elapsed.

From the Registers of St. Mary's, Olveston

18 th November	Baptism of Harvey Leo Lewis, son of Tim Lewis and Natalie Derry Scaum.
22 nd November	Funeral of Wendy Elizabeth Savage, followed by cremation.

Thank You

Philip, Julian and Jenny Savage would like to thank everyone who sent such wonderful and touching cards and messages expressing their love and admiration for Wendy. Thanks also to the many friends who filled St. Mary's Church in such amazing numbers to join with us in celebrating a unique and treasured life.

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 January Tea and Chat will be at 2.30 pm on Friday January 18th at 2.30pm at Littledown, Haw Lane, Olveston. For details, or to request transport if necessary, please telephone Lynn: 01454 612201 or Lesley 01454 613804

The Sound of Music



It's almost time to book your tickets for the Parish Players' energetic and colourful 2019 production of 'The Sound of Music', which is coming to the Parish Hall in Tockington for February half term. The musical is based on Maria von Trapp's book 'The Story of the Trapp Family Singers', a true love story set shortly before the Second World War in Austria.

We meet Maria, a postulant nun, as she leaves her convent in Salzburg to become a governess to the seven children of widower Captain von Trapp. Although intended to be a temporary arrangement, events take a different course! We follow the von Trapp family as they are caught up in Austria's struggles with the Nazi regime and have to choose whether to try and escape with their lives and leave their beloved homeland forever.

The last of Rodgers & Hammerstein's fantastic scores, and possibly the best known and most loved, 'The Sound of Music' was first performed on Broadway in 1959, so 2019 is its 60th anniversary year. Come along to enjoy its many

memorable songs, including 'Do, Re, Mi', 'The Lonely Goatherd', 'So Long, Farewell', 'Edelweiss', 'My Favourite Things', 'Climb Every Mountain' and, of course, 'The Sound of Music'. The Company is delighted to be immersed in the uplifting music and songs, once again under the skilful guidance of Chloe Allsopp-Jones as Musical Director.

The strong principal cast is led by experienced actress Sarah Wiggins, debuting with the Company as Maria, and Dan Phillips, making a welcome return to take the role of Captain von Trapp, which requires him to play the guitar! They head the family, which includes newcomer Matilda Evans as youngest child Gretl, with Zoe Bonnett double-cast with Evie Snadden as Louisa, and Sophie Allsopp-Jones and Lizzie Barnes sharing the role of Marta. Isobel Lambie takes the role of Brigitta, with Cameron Phillips as Kurt, and Jake Woodward as Friedrich. Talia Nicholls plays Liesl.

Marcus Burton joins the Company to play Liesl's sweetheart Rolf. Louise Luft plays Maria's trusted adviser, the Mother Abbess. Meanwhile, Amy Sunderland is cast as von Trapp's fiancée, the Baroness, and David Proud is impresario Max. We welcome back Cynthia Black to play housekeeper Frau Schmidt, and Richard Newley as Franz the butler. Cameo parts include Paul Dimery as Admiral von Schreiber, and Phil Savage as the mysterious Herr Zeller, alongside his off-stage role as Front of House Manager.

Jill Harris is once again in charge of choreography, which includes colourful folk dance, and our dedicated group of nuns are busy perfecting their Latin chanting!

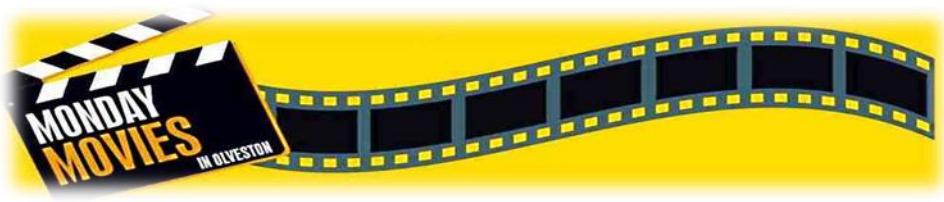
The challenging scenery features the mountains surrounding the Von Trapp's villa, as well as the Nonnberg Abbey, but we can rely on Andy Black and his team to create the beautiful views and the convent's serene atmosphere. Andy Allsopp-Jones as Stage Manager and Richard Churchill as Lighting Designer, with Cath Chappel as Wardrobe Mistress and her husband Mike in charge of Sound Effects, complete the production team.

The show is in the experienced and capable hands of Linda Evans as Director, whose talent and guidance have brought us so many superb productions. Everyone involved is looking forward to a joyful and memorable show week in February. Make sure you are there to enjoy it too!

The Sound of Music takes place during half term week on Wednesday 20th to Saturday 23rd February, at the Parish Hall, Tockington: curtain up at 7.30pm.

Tickets go on sale on Saturday 5th January, at 9.30–11.30am, in Olveston Stores. Prices: £10 for adults, £7 for children and £12 for premium seats.

From 6th January, tickets are available from Richard and Jenny on 01454 202011. But don't dither, they usually sell quickly! Follow the Parish Players on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers



JANUARY PROGRAMME

Trevor Anderson

Happy New Year to all readers from the Movie Club Team in Olveston. Details of our January films are given below. Everyone is welcome (you don't need to be a Movie Club member), admission is free and there is no need to book.

MONDAY MOVIES (7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month)

Mon 7 Jan: Get ready to sing and dance, laugh and love all over again. Ten years after its hugely successful predecessor, you're invited to return to the same magical Greek island in an all-new musical based on the songs of the famous Swedish pop group. With the film's original cast returning, plus talented new additions, the film goes back and forth in time to show how relationships forged in the past resonate in the present. (2018, 1h 54m, Cert PG)

Mon 21 Jan: This smart, elegant and deeply moving film stars Emma Thompson in a riveting performance as a British high court judge who, in the midst of a marital crisis, must rule on a life-changing legal case concerning the survival of a teenage boy. The issue is whether to order a blood transfusion on the boy, a Jehovah's Witness who, just months short of his eighteenth birthday, is refusing on religious grounds the procedure that would save his life. (2017, 1h 45m, Cert 12)

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB

The Children's Movie Club is currently 'on hold' and we urgently need more adults to join the team to enable it to continue. If you think you might like to help, please contact Martin Gibson on mrtngibs@aol.com

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



We make no charge for entry, but we do value and appreciate a small **donation** towards church running costs if you have enjoyed the show.

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



OPTA Quiz

OPTA's ever-popular quiz returns for 2019 on Friday 25th January.

Olveston Parish Hall, doors open at 7pm for a prompt 7.30pm start.



Teams of 4, £5 per person. This includes a selection of snacks and nibbles on your table. There will be a Bar serving a range of drinks and a Raffle will be held during the evening.

As 25th January is Burns' Night, anybody who arrives wearing some tartan (not necessarily a kilt!) will be given a complimentary tot of whisky!

To reserve your table, contact Emma by email: emmanea1369@btinternet.com or text her on:

07812719948.

Other News from OPTA

We will be running a number of other fundraising events during 2019. The Wine Challenge will be held this year on March 22nd. More information will be available nearer the time, but please make a note of the date in your diaries.

Our friends from Bréhan are due to visit us this year and, although the exact date of their visit has yet to be set, we expect it will be in early summer. We will make sure that the information about this visit goes out in plenty of time.

Rockhampton Wind Quintet

Cossham Hall, Saturday 9th February at 7.30pm.

'Wonderful tunes brilliantly played by these talented musicians' (*Bristol Evening Post*), Gareth Williams (flute), Sophie Cottrell (oboe), Emma Tenison (clarinet), Hazel Woods (bassoon) and Mike Lea-Wilson (horn).

The concert is part of the fund raising in aid of the Armstrong Hall Redevelopment Project (Phase 1). Tickets £10 (to include interval finger food) are on sale at Thornbury Town Hall or call 01454 412272.

St Peter's Hospice

Winter Warmer Lunch

St Peters Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to our Winter Warmer Lunch on Wednesday 23rd January at 1pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Thornbury.

Lunch will be cottage pie and crumble, followed by tea or coffee. A vegetarian option will be available.

Tickets are £8.00 per person and are available from the Town Hall in Thornbury from 7th January 2019. Please come along and support St Peters, your local Hospice.

24 Hour Board Game Marathon

Lauren Ruiz

9am Saturday 26th January to 9am Sunday 27th January. The Chantry, Thornbury.

My partner's father was the first patient to stay in the temporary inpatient unit at The Chocolate Quarter in Keynsham. He suffered from mesothelioma and stayed at St Peter's for respite care. Thanks to the work of the palliative care doctors and nurses, he was able to manage the pain he experienced. Sadly, he passed away earlier this year, but we will always be grateful for everything St Peter's did for our family and want to help them support more families in the Bristol area.

We enjoy playing board games and have a small group of friends join us every week to play. At first, I was planning on hosting a small fundraising event just for our friendship group but then decided that St Peter's Hospice deserve much more than that. So, I am now hosting an event for anyone who would like to join. All are welcome to attend for the whole event, or just for a few hours. Games kindly loaned by Playground Coffee House.

For more details contact Lauren at lesmith11@hotmail.co.uk or search for 24 Hour Board Game Marathon on JustGiving.com

New Year Folk Concert by the Wriggle Jigglers

Saturday 12th January 3pm in The Cossham Hall, Thornbury.



The Wriggle Jigglers are a folk band made up of eight young people from three families from Thornbury and Rockhampton. They play folk from the British Isles and some of their own tunes, on fiddles, whistles, guitar, mandolin, melodian, double bass and percussion. They all sing and sometimes dance and will introduce their music with a jokes and banter!

Wriggle Jigglers won the South Downs young folk competition, were finalists in Music for Youth and have performed at Sidmouth, Bristol Harbour and Rockhampton festivals. They have raised nearly £5,000 gigging and busking for 'War Child' charity.

The performance will last about an hour and is guaranteed to get you tapping your feet, clapping along and will almost certainly inspire children to take up folk instruments themselves. Come along and chat to the band, ask questions and have a close up look at the instruments after the performance.

Tickets, to include interval tea and cakes £7.50 (£5 under 16) from Thornbury Town Hall or call 01454 412272

Robin Hood



Written for Octopus by Peta Maurice, and directed by Adrian Dennis, this hilarious romp through Sherwood Forest is a real post- Christmas treat for all the family.

Christ the King Church Hall, Castle St, Thornbury
Wednesday 9th to Friday 11th January at 7.30pm
Saturday 12th January at 11 am and 2.30 pm
£7 for adults over 18 and £5 for concessions and children.

Tickets from Chappell and Matthews, Thornbury High St or
call Karen on 01454 413783

Thornbury Macula and Low Vision Support Group.

In conjunction with The Macular Society, we are trying to set up a support group in Thornbury for people with impaired vision. The aim is to have regular monthly meetings where people with similar problems can talk to each other and perhaps pick up tips on dealing with different situations. A surprising number of local organisations have made offers of help - ranging from giving talks to displaying items designed to aid life for people with this disability.

The inaugural meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th. February 2019 and hopefully meetings on the first Tuesday of the month thereafter.

10.30 am for an 11.00am start. The Methodist Church Hall, Castle Court, Thornbury BS35 2AQ. All are welcome.

For further information phone John on 01454 885301

Olveston Beavers

Andy Hollingdale



The 1st Olveston Beavers are looking for new members to join their colony. Children (girls and boys) can join the Beavers once they are 6 years old. Children of any age can join the waiting list. We meet at the Scout Hut on Old Down Hill from 6pm – 7pm on Monday evenings.

Please contact andyhollingdale@gmail.com for more information

So, why are we 'Making Space for Wildlife'?

Melinda Evans

One of the consequences of moving to a different country is that you are constantly trying to figure out what is 'normal'. One of my childhood memories from growing up in rural Australia is of my dad always having to scrape multiple insect casualties off our car windscreen. Fast forward roughly 20 years and a move to Britain, I noticed this rather morbid job was rarely



needed. Innocently at first, I put this down to insects sharing my reluctance for cooler weather, only to realise over time this was not normal for Britain either. There have been enormous changes to the abundance of British wildlife in the last 40 years.



The United Nations has recently said biodiversity loss is as urgent an issue as climate change. A sobering fact is that the UK has lost most of its grassland and meadow habitats upon which the absent insects, and many creatures and plants upwards and downwards in the food chain, depend. Cue Olveston Parish Council's Biodiversity project: "Making Space for Wildlife", which aims to take positive steps to improve our local environment.

Since it started in 2017, the project and its volunteers have already achieved a great deal. Following the launch with an inspiring presentation by ecologist and television presenter Mike Dilger, it has supported the 2017 Charter for Trees Woods and People and planted a commemorative tree in the Olveston Vicarage Lane playground. Two more trees have been planted with our two local schools, Olveston Primary and Tockington Manor. In collaboration with the *A Forgotten Landscape* project and South Gloucestershire Council, we have enriched the Aust Road verge with seed and plug plants of wild flowers to help restore our lost grasslands habitats.

Our plans for the future include a community orchard, wildlife surveys and mapping. We will also be launching our project logo designed by local children. However, the project depends on the skills, imagination, support and energy of the people living in our parish. If you've any ideas or skills to share, or would like to get involved, we would love to hear from you. For more information please contact Melinda Evans on melinda_rackham@yahoo.co.uk.



Olveston Parish Council Matters

Pat Savage

Bio Diversity

We were sad to lose Catherine Offer from the Parish Council as she had taken on the mantle for Bio Diversity with great enthusiasm. This role has now been taken over by Melinda Evans. Whilst this is a quiet time of year, Melinda and her team will be springing into action post-Christmas. Volunteers are always welcome, please email *clerk @olvestonparish.gov.uk*

Olveston Play Area

This is now progressing very well. Volunteers are as always welcome both in promoting the project and helping with fund raising.

Village Green

Whilst the matter of the status of the Village Green has been discussed and indeed debated over many months, we have now received Council's opinion. This is available to read in full on the website:

www.olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Local Elections

These will take place on Thursday 2nd May 2019. This is your opportunity to re-elect the existing Councillors or indeed elect a new team. If you are interested in becoming a Councillor, please contact South Glos. Council, where you can obtain the necessary application forms. There is no deposit payable!

Monthly Council Meetings

It is worth noting that members of the public are always welcome to attend the monthly meetings which are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month apart from December when it is on the third Tuesday. It is not necessary to notify the Clerk of your proposed attendance. However, if you have a lengthy matter for discussion please let the Clerk know thus enabling them to allocate more time at the start of the Meeting.

A Virtual Tour of Bristol

Wed. 9th January 7.30 pm. Olveston Methodist Church, The Street BS35 4DR

Louise Ingsley is an experienced tour guide on open-top bus tours of Bristol and her talk comes recommended to us by another history society. What better way to spend a winter's evening than coming to the warm Methodist Church and being taken on A Virtual Tour of Bristol?

Last month we learned about underground Bristol. Here's a chance to brush up your knowledge about the overground city, including many well-known landmarks. Who knows when it will come in useful, as you show friends and visitors around? Just sit back and enjoy the ride!

All welcome...just turn up.
Visitors: £2.



Olveston Parish Historical Society: www.olvoston.com/historical-society

Olveston and Tockington W.I.

Vicki Townsend

December saw the end of a busy but very enjoyable year, where we successfully celebrated our Centenary. The New Year heralds interesting and intriguing subjects for speakers at our meetings:

January 8th: Avon Fire Brigade, The Lighter Side
February 12th: Tax Case and Toy Boys
March 12th: Sunshine and Blue Skies, Panama to Mexico

Meetings, at Olveston Parish Hall, start at 7.30pm. We would like invite ladies to join us on any or all of the above dates to sample the hospitality of the W.I. with a view to joining our group.

And finally, our November Meeting Point article had one major error, our new President is Jane Haworth, not Harris. Sincere apologies to Jane and we wish her great success in her new post.

The Royal British Legion Women's Section - Olveston Branch

On 17th November members from the branch attended the County Conference at Stonehouse, where we collected the County Quiz Winners' cup, following our success at the County Quiz in June.

Our chairman Rose Brown received the 'Gwen Berthon Cup for Individual Endeavour' in recognition of her dedication and hard work throughout the year in raising membership figures and heightening the profile of the branch. This was no mean feat as this award is only made to acknowledge outstanding achievement when credit is due and is not necessarily an automatic occurrence every year. We thank Rose for all her hard work. We also extend our thanks to Stan Bradburn for all his tremendous support.

In December we returned to fund raising for our own branch with a beetle drive, a Christmas buffet and 'Secret Santa'. We look forward to an active and busy programme in 2019.

Poppy Appeal

Stan Bradburn

On behalf of the Royal British Legion Poppy appeal I would like to express my thanks to everybody who helped to make 2018 our most successful appeal to date. The total raised so far is £8100, which is an astonishing figure, considering we do not have any supermarkets or major retail outlets in our area.

Shops, pubs, local businesses and schools have all pulled out the stops to help this year. Olveston residents turned out in numbers for the house to house collections and excelled, as did the new recruits in Severn Beach. All this reflects in our impressive total

Special thanks to Mrs Rose Brown(chairman) and all the ladies of Olveston Royal British Legion for their invaluable assistance.

St. Mary's, Thornbury

Sunday Afternoon Concert 27th January. 4pm – 5pm with refreshments and tea.

Soloist Lydia Kenny, who is a young saxophonist from Dursley, currently studying at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. She is a Gloucestershire Young Musician of the year. There is no charge, however donations for the music fund are welcome. Everybody is welcome

Beginners' Course in Photography

It's a New Year and here is an opportunity to learn new skills. Have you ever looked critically at the average snaps posted on social media? More to the point, have you ever wondered how you could do better? You can. Easily!

2019 is the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Thornbury Camera Club and, as part of the celebrations, the club has decided to share its knowledge and experience by running a beginners' photography course. You will learn:

- how to choose a camera;
- how to use your camera once you have bought it;
- how to look critically at an image.

After the course you will no-longer be bamboozled by words such as focal length and aperture. In particular, you will have all the skills needed to take better pictures.

The course will run for six Tuesday evenings from February 5th to March 12th in the Games Room at Turnberries. If you are interested, please contact the secretary Andy Gillingham on 01454 415015 or by email: secretary.thornburycameraclub@gmail.com. The cost of the course is £75 and includes membership of the Camera Club until the end of the season on August 31st, 2019.

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889727729

150 Club Winners December 2018:

£50 Dave Birtle
£15 Barry Reeves
£5 Diane Buckley

We would like to thank everybody who has helped make 2018 so enjoyable, both on and off the field. Very Best Wishes for the New Year, from everyone at Old Down Cricket Club. Up the Down!!

January Puzzle

This month's puzzle is a list of six anagrams of words or short phrases that we associate with the month of January. See how many you can unravel.....

Seaway Nerdy

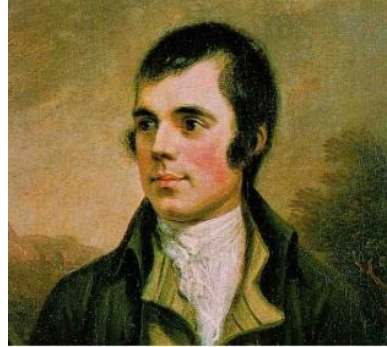
Nasal Jay Rues

Erroneously Wins Seat

A Poem Mints

Bright Nuns

Flew Tight Nth



Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the December draw, held on 6th December 2018 at the Friends' Committee Meeting, were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	304	Mr J Mason, Tockington
£75	223	Mr & Mrs R Panes, Olveston
£25	387	Mrs M Baker, Olveston
£25	461	Mr & Mrs R Smith, Olveston
£25	332	Mr & Mrs R Garlick, Olveston
£20	416	Mrs J Hawkins, Alveston
£20	385	Dr R Slade, Olveston
£20	445	Mrs J Skinner, Sneyd Park
£10	274	Mr & Mrs J Croome, Exmouth
£10	164	Mrs P A Kemp, Stoke Lodge
£10	571	Mr J Mayes, Tockington
£10	233	Mrs G Bowen, Awkley

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

Debbie Harries

Pat Thirkettle



Debbie had a very happy childhood by the sea in West Sussex. She went to the local primary school and then Angmering Comprehensive School. Music has always been important to her; she plays the piano and oboe and has a beautiful singing voice, so she played in the local youth orchestra, the school band and sang in the school choir.

Three years of nurse training followed at Hastings and Brighton hospitals where she met her husband Bill, then a Junior Doctor, and they married in 1988.

They first lived in Hayward's Heath, where Bill commuted to St Mary's Hospital, London, and Debbie worked

locally, specialising in orthopaedics and trauma. Their son Luke was born there in 1992 and in 1993 they moved to Iver Heath. Debbie worked in Wrexham Park Hospital and their second son Oliver was born in 1994. In 1996 Bill moved to Bristol BRI as a Senior Registrar and they moved to Combe Dingle in Bristol. Their daughter Lottie was born in 1999 and in 2000 they moved to Olveston. She now works at St Michael's Hospital in the surgical Day Unit, specialising in gynaecology and oncology. Debbie worked continuously while having the babies, so, what with working, three small children and moving to a new house, it took her a few years to surface in village life.

The first thing she did was join St Mary's choir which over the years has been invited to sing in many places including English Bicknor Church and Armagh, Gloucester, Southwark, Hereford and Bristol Cathedrals. Since Roly encouraged her to join the church's Publicity Committee she has become more and more involved. Nowadays Debbie is Church Warden, organises the church flowers, Advent Windows, monthly quizzes with a hot meal and many social events including eleven Summer Balls!

When not doing any of this, you are likely to see Debbie walking around the village with her Springer Spaniel Noah, the sixth member of the family, not forgetting the cats!

Spindle Ensemble at Rockhampton

Nicki Barnes

Rockhampton Folk Festival, now in its sixth year, is proud to present an exciting Winter Series starting at Rockhampton Village Hall on Sat Jan 19th 7.45pm with the delightful Spindle Ensemble.

This fascinating and youthful quartet are; Daniel Inzani (folk harp, accordion and keyboard), Caelia Lunniss (violin), Harriet Riley (marimba and vibraphone) and Jo Silverston (cello). They perform original compositions by Daniel that hover cinematically somewhere between jazz, folk and classical idioms, taking inspiration from artists such as Moondog, Eric Satie and Mulatu Astatke.

The group will also be touring Care Homes and Special Schools in the area courtesy of the 'Live Music Now!' scheme and the profits from Rockhampton Folk Festival. So, a big thank you to all those of you who had a drink in at the summer festival - the profits are going directly back to the community!

Tickets for Spindle's public performance are £10 (£5 under 18) available from www.rockhamptonfolkfest.org.uk

Helping Others in the New Year

With the festivities of Christmas behind you and the long dark nights stretching out in front of you, why not consider volunteering in your local community? By giving just an hour a week of your time, you can make a huge difference to those that you help, and volunteering has been shown to improve your health and happiness too!

There are many reasons that people give for volunteering. For some, volunteering can be a route to employment, or a chance to try something new which may lead to a career change. For others, volunteering appeals because of its social benefits, meeting new people and making new friends.

On top of this, many people volunteer for a variety of other reasons, a desire to make a difference to the lives of others, feeling valued, having quality time away from work or a busy lifestyle.

Thornbury Volunteer Centre can provide you with information and support on volunteering opportunities in the local area which best suit your needs, skills and time available, whilst making sure that you find volunteering an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. We are contacted regularly by groups and organisations that are seeking to recruit volunteers from all walks of life, levels of expertise (from none to highly skilled) and time available. Age, gender or

disability is not a barrier to volunteering. Anyone, who can spare some time, from an hour a week to once a month or just on a one-off basis, would be warmly welcomed by someone in the community. Volunteering is a valuable experience that benefits all parties.

If you would like to find out more please contact Thornbury Volunteer Centre on 01454 413392; email mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk; visit our website on www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk; follow us on twitter: @thornburyvc or Facebook: [thornburyvolunteers](https://www.facebook.com/thornburyvolunteers). Alternatively, call into the office at Thornbury Town Hall between 10.30am-12 noon Monday to Friday. We look forward to meeting you.

January News from The Chantry

Happy New Year to everyone. Lots of activities will be happening this month at the Chantry, so here is the latest update.

Collage for Wellbeing: A free six-week course introducing scrapbooking as a skill to support personal wellbeing and self-expression starts on 10th January. Contact Abi Ball: Abigail.ball@southglos.gov.uk

Beginners Yoga: If you have never tried yoga, then perhaps you would be interested in joining a new group for beginners. Classes are set for Monday evenings. Contact Lucy Loquette to book a space: lucy@lucyloquette.com

Yoga for Children: 12th January at 2.30pm. Contact coconutkidsyoga@outlook.com for further details

Candle Making Workshop: Saturday 19th January 10am-12.30pm or 1.30pm-4pm £35.

A fun and informative morning or afternoon session learning the basic skills to create three different scented soy wax container candles. All materials and tools provided plus unlimited tea coffee and biscuits. For more information and booking visit www.MountCottageCrafts.co.uk or telephone 01454413103.

Mindful Meditation: Courses starting Monday 14th January at the Chantry. Full details at <https://mindfulmeditation1.wixsite.com/mysite>.

Fundraiser Quiz Night: Thursday January 17th at 7.30pm. Come and test your knowledge at our monthly Quiz. £1 per person and up to 4 in a team; bar open.

Contact details for The Chantry: email office@thechantry.org.uk or telephone 01454 414268

King Arthur - The Pantomime

Thornbury Musical Theatre Group is proud to bring to you the world premiere of a brand-new pantomime with its central themes based in the realms of the Arthurian legend. 'King Arthur The Pantomime' will be performed at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury from Wednesday 20 to Saturday 23 February with two matinées. Written by our very own Richard Prior and directed by Mark Collins, this is a traditional family pantomime full of fun and frolics, audience participation, hilarious comedy, catchy music, drama and romance. It is sure to be a family favourite.

Performances are 7.30 pm nightly and matinées at 2.30 pm on the Friday and Saturday. Tickets are bookable online at www.tmtg.org.uk with no booking fee. Adults £12.50, Senior Citizens £11.50 and Children £10.50. Family tickets £40. For enquiries call Angie at the Box Office on 07516 270140. We are once again indebted to Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings for their generous offer to run our Box Office at 53 High Street from Monday 14th January. The staff are big fans of TMTG and always delighted to meet our audience members but remember it's a very busy office, so please be patient if they're not available the first time you call.

For more information about 'King Arthur The Pantomime' and our group generally, take a look at www.tmtg.org.uk. You can also follow us on Facebook.

Thornbury Library

Free Holiday Craft Session for Children

Drop in anytime between 2pm and 3 pm on Thursday 3rd January for free family fun, aimed at primary school aged children. Adult supervision required.

Carers Support Centre Drop In - Supporting Carers into Employment Wednesday January 23rd 10.30am -12 noon

Carers Support Centre are supporting unpaid carers and former carers who have been out of work for more than 12 months to move closer towards their employment and training goals. An Advisor from the Carers Support Centre will be here to give free advice and support, drop in anytime between 10.30 am and 12 noon.

Looking for more information about what is happening in the Library? See our website www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries.

Yours Faithfully

Trevor Cook

LLM North Severnside Benefice*

January heralds in Twelfth Night on the 6th of the month and that marks the end of the Christmas festivities. But it is also a celebration in itself, marking the beginning of the season of Epiphany which lasts until Lent.

It's also the day that, across Europe and the Christian world, we celebrate the visit of the Three Kings to Jesus and was the occasion when they experienced their Epiphany moment (epiphany being defined as 'a moment of sudden and great revelation or realisation'). For the Three Kings it was the moment they realised that in the child Jesus they were in the presence of God come to earth; God in human form.

Many Christians have shared that epiphany moment, a moment when they too realised that we have a God who touched the earth and became a human in order to save us from ourselves; one who was sent with framework in which to live and who gave us an overarching ethic of love.

Some may have their epiphany early in life but for many that spark of realisation does not come easily and we might rage and fight against it for decades, I know I did. But if, and when, that moment does arrive, you will know it; you will come to know that your soul is not alone in the universe, that there is a God. A God that, although we might struggle to define, who is a God who constantly challenges us, is ultimately a God who is able to touch the earth and who can touch your life too. A God on whom we can rely to love us and guide our lives.



So, go and read the gospel of Matthew, chapter 2, verses 1-12 for the full story of the visit of the Three Kings (or Wise Men if you prefer). You can find it on-line as well of course at www.biblegateway.com

And, as a final teaser, you can look up the city in Europe where you may visit the final resting place of the Three Kings!

**Licensed Lay Minister*

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Note the new 9.30am services, for a trial period.

Jan 6	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Helen Webb Revs Moss & Lloyd Paul Harrod
	9.30	Holy Communion (Epiphany)	
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	
Jan 13	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Ann Lloyd Trevor Cook Revs A Lloyd & D Moss
	9.30	Morning Prayer with Choir	
	7.30	Taizé	
Jan 20	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone Rev Simon Edwards
	10.00	UNITED SERVICE AT OLVESTON METHODIST CHURCH	
	6pm	Evensong	
Jan 27	8am	Holy Communion	Rev D Bone Paul Harrod Rev David Moss
	9.30	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

Jan 13	10am	Holy Communion	Revs Moss & Parker
Jan 27	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Parker

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

Jan 6		NO SERVICE	
Jan 13	9am	Morning Prayer	Mrs Tracey Black
Jan 20		NO SERVICE	
Jan 27	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jan 7	7.30	Plough Monday, refreshments	Rev David Moss
Jan 13	9am	Morning Prayer	Judith Heybyrne
Jan 27	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Jan 6	10am	Tock Ch	Annual Covenant Service led by our Superintendent Minister Rev David Alderman
Jan 13	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Chris Leese
Jan 20	10am	Olv Ch	United Service for Christian Unity, with Holy Communion, led by Rev Simon Edwards
Jan 27	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr John Hopper

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed. 9th January. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP: will meet in the Swan on Thursday 17th January

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUP: Please see Church Newsletter for details.

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC: no longer functioning.

CONTACT: Rev Simon Edwards Tel 01454 418176, email simon.edwards@methodist.org.uk

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

Jan 6	6.30pm	Mervyn Douglas
Jan 13	6.30pm	Martin Taylor
Jan 20	6.30pm	Rev Philip Hopes
Jan 27	6.30pm	Ed Stuart

Each Thurs at 6.30pm Prayer & Praise Time
Contacts Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@ymail.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 January 2019

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

1 st Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Tea/Coffee & Biscuit 50p Monthly Raffle	10.30-12.00	DGCL
2 nd Wed	Table Tennis every week	7.00-8.30pm	PH
3 rd Thur	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Thornbury Farmers' 'Market	10-12 10.30 -12.00 9-1.30	OS+ MH
4 th Fri	Haven Memory Café Thornbury Carers Support Group	10.15-11.45 1.00-3.00	URC Chy
5 th Sat	Coffee morning Sound of Music tickets on sale	10.30-12.00 9.30-11.30	MH OS+
6 th Sun			
7 th Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	StM
8 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Thornbury Memory Café WI Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30	DGCL TMH PH EVH
9 th Wed	Coffee Morning OPHS Virtual Tour of Bristol Robin Hood Panto 'til 12 th (Sat Mat 2.30)	10.30-12.00 7.30 7.30	MH OMC CTK
10 th Thurs	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Craft Session	9-12 10.15-11.45 10-12	OS+ TMH LVH
11 th Fri			
12 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Wriggle Jigglers Folk Concert	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 3pm	MH AVH CH
13 th Sun			
14 th Mon			
15 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
16 th Wed	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	8.30pm	
17 st Thurs	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Thornbury Farmers' Market	9-12 9.30-11.30 9-1.30	OS+ MH
18 nd Fri	Haven Memory Cafe	10.15-11.45	URC
19 th Sat	Coffee morning Parish Council Surgery	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	MH MH
20 th Sun			

21 th Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	StM
22 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Thornbury Memory Café Olveston Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	DGCL TMH AP
23 th Wed	Alveston History Soc. - 15 th C Bristolians	7.30pm	AMC
24 th Thur	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9-12 9.30-11.30	Ost MH
25 th Fri	OPTA quiz	7.30pm	PH
26 th Sat	Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	MH
27 th Sun			
28 th Mon			
29 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
30 th Wed			
31st Thur	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9-12 9.30-11.30	Ost MH
Looking ahead to February			
20-23rd	The Sound of Music	7.30	PH

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; Ost – 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.olvostonandaust.com. If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: meetingpointsecretary@olvostonandaust.com

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