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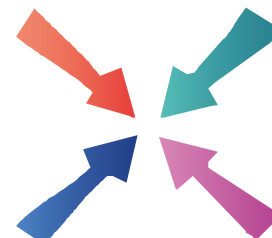
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Meeting Point

Volume 46, Number 4, January 2022

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

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Publication date
1st of each month

Material for February 2022
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 10th January 2022.

From the Editor

In this month's Meeting Point, the first of 2022, I am delighted to say that several of the articles feature the younger members of our community participating in a variety of different activities.....

The tree planting initiative from Making Space for Wildlife involved young helpers, as the beautiful collage of photographs shows, and they clearly had a fantastic day. Four of the 1st Olveston Brownies have written about their active and enjoyable pack holiday, which was held back in November. Olveston AFC, in the first of its planned monthly articles, highlights the fact that they have six junior teams. Over a dozen young people are name-checked in the article about the next Parish Players production. And finally, Sustainable Thornbury reports on the recent local schools COP26 summit, outlining Olveston School's pledges and celebrating the pupil who won one of the poster competitions. Brilliant!

Marelin

The cover this month is by Cheryl Millar ARPS

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

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Green Force

The Green Force Group has been awarded a Bronze Medal by the Diocese of Bristol, to mark the efforts made to bring awareness of the environment to St Mary's Church in Olveston. This has involved reviewing the energy use within the church building, sensitive mowing of the churchyard to encourage wildflowers and wildlife, and offering recycling facilities.



Last month the group visited the UrbaseR Waste Unit (which sits beside the M5 near Gloucester)

Did you know... this unit is the only one in northern Europe and is therefore unique to the UK?

While there we were given a detailed talk followed by a conducted tour round the huge buildings. In a nutshell, this is what we learnt... HARMFUL → BENEFICIAL → HARMLESS.



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All members felt reassured and very well informed by the visit. We hope that many similar units will be built across the UK in the future.

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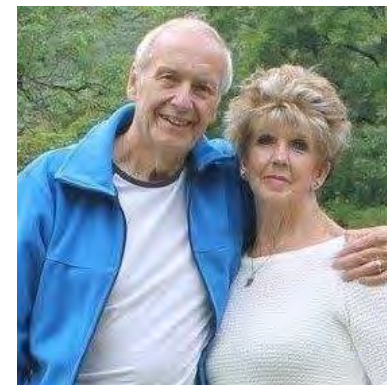
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Mike and Mo Lewis

Mike Lewis



Mo Lewis has been prominently featured in the local social media and press pages a great deal in recent months, as she worked hard to make a success of her fourth *Christmas Toy Appeal* on behalf of the Salvation Army, a charity ensuring that needy children wake up on Christmas morning to find new toys! *"With 16 grandchildren in our extended family, I knew none of them had ever gone without, especially at Christmas. I was shocked to read just how many children had little or nothing, and that Christmas Day was*

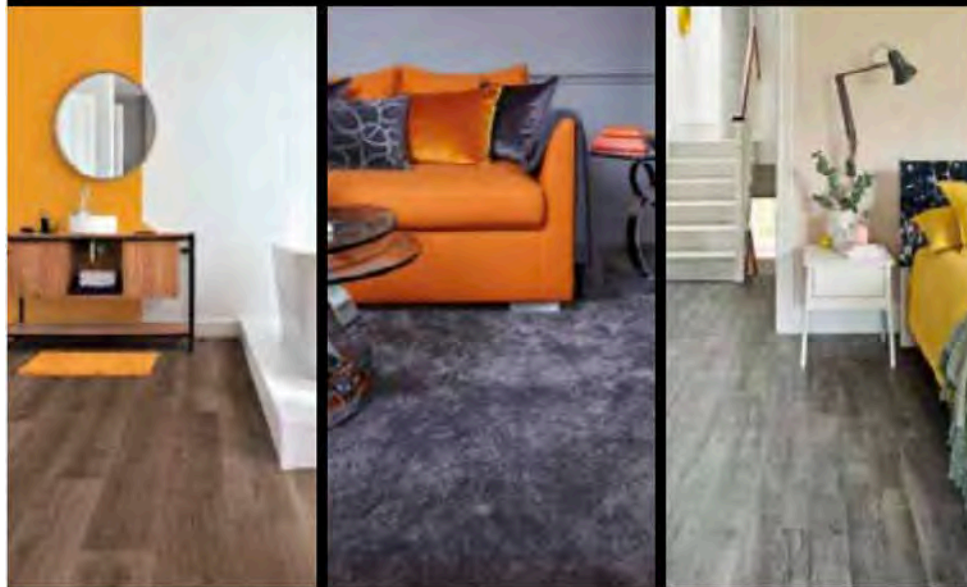
nothing special in their sad lives. I thought I would try to help just a little". That proved to be a huge understatement. In each of the first three years, around £2,500 was donated. Christmas 2021 shattered those impressive statistics! In a quite remarkable show of support from the local community over £10,000 in new toys, toiletries, Boots vouchers and cash was handed over.

Shortly after the Lewis's arrived in Olveston in 2011, Mike was persuaded to be chairman of The Friends of Daldry Gardens social group. *"I was reluctant to take on another role, to be honest"*, says Mike. *"I had spent a lifetime being involved in one thing or another and, having just survived a serious cancer battle, I was looking for an easier life in a lovely village"*. But Mike did take the role, and Mo became Treasurer. The residents of Daldry Gardens, and a rapidly growing group of other Olveston folk enjoyed their coffee mornings each week and embarked upon numerous regular, varied activities together. This included bingo, quizzes (of course), race nights, excursions, pub meals, Wii sessions, indoor bowls and one memorable Christmas lunch Mo cooked for 22 people, before professional caterers took over to make life easier in later years.

When lockdown finally ended in March 2021, Mike and Mo decided to hang up their organisers' hats, after 10 years at the helm. *"We had done so much in a decade, had fantastic support from some wonderful people, several of whom, had sadly passed away or moved into care. We decided it was an opportune time to take a break. It seemed especially appropriate as the face of Daldry Gardens had changed a great deal, from a supported housing scheme for elderly people, into an independent living project"*.

During lockdown Mike had written and published four Amazon quiz books. The first of those was Quiz Builder, with local question master Chris Smart, with whom Mike and Mo had become friendly whilst helping Chris run his regular entertaining quizzes at St Mary's church. Together with son Rob, Mike and Mo

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had been presenting quizzes around the west country and Wales for almost 30 years. Many of those were for charities, raising tens of thousands of pounds in the process. The trio known as The Inquizitors presented quizzes in some major venues, including Celtic Manor, the National Museum, Cardiff, Doubletree Hilton Hotels and Bowood House. Mo was the adjudicator, probably the most pressurized job, where up to 450 quizzers were answering competitively to win!

Mo and Mike attended St Mary's, where Mike was a server, prior to a double knee replacement. Rev. Roly Bain was approached to become President of The Friends of Daldry Gardens. He readily accepted and was a wonderful presence until his untimely death. Verger June Robbins succeeded Roly and carried on the good work, including the continuation of her long-established monthly Holy Communion in the communal lounge.

The Friends of Daldry Gardens formed strong links with the community, especially Olveston Primary school. To the delight of residents, children from the school choir visited and sang on special occasions. A strong bond was also formed with the 1st Olveston Scouts. As Treasurer, Mo ensured that the group enjoyed some wonderful social occasions, as well as supporting some great causes. Two variety shows were memorably staged in the church as fund-raisers for both organisations. One was a huge success and the other - well, the less said the better! It was just one of those bad dates. Mike took the loss on the chin.



Mike had been commercial director at football clubs including Forest Green Rovers, Swindon Town, Bristol Rovers and Exeter City; another fund-raising string. With Mo's help he then instigated, co-ordinated and presented the very successful half time draw at Bristol City FC for 25 years. Almost 1.5 million tickets were sold and, to mark their retirement, Mike and Mo were rewarded with a presentation of engraved Bristol Red Glass by club owner Steve Lansdown at a special ceremony in the board room.

Mike and Mo have said it was a great move, coming to the friendly village of Olveston. They have met so many lovely people and enjoyed so many occasions. There would, most definitely, be no returning to the city!

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27/11/21 Greg Welsher
04/12/21 Bhavin Radia

Best Wishes for 2022 from everyone at Old Down Cricket Club.

Souper Natter

Souper Natter is a new community group located in Thornbury. We are focused on organising events for the over 50s to help bring the community back together, helping to tackle social isolation and loneliness.

We are a group of friendly residents, so feel free to come along and have a chat. You can also contact us about either becoming a volunteer or attending one of our events. All are welcome!

Look out for our flyers or contact: soupernatter@gmail.com

Oveston and Tockington W.I.

Angela Green

Oveston and Tockington WI invites everyone to come and hear Sir Steve Webb, our former MP and Minister of State for Pensions, on Tuesday 11th January at 7.30pm in the Oveston Parish Hall. Sir Steve will be talking about what it's like to be an MP. I'm sure we shall all have many questions for him!

The entrance fee to WI is now £4, but we do hope many local people (men as well as women) will come to what will certainly be a most interesting and enlightening evening.

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Stan Bradburn

On behalf of the Royal British Legion, and in my capacity as Poppy Appeal Organiser for Severn Beach, Pilning and Olveston, I would like to extend my thanks to everyone who gave me such valuable assistance throughout the appeal.

The schools have once again played a major part in the proceedings, whilst learning the history of this yearly event. Special thanks must go to the house-to-house collectors in Olveston, assisted by Rose, Sue and Pat of the Ladies Section of the Royal British Legion. Thanks also to the businesses of Severn Beach, Pilning, Olveston and district for their invaluable support.

The total raised by our small community is £7780.40 which is amazing considering we have no major supermarkets on our patch, just small businesses, schools and knocking on doors. Thanks to you all once again.

Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in the December draw, held on 7th December 2021, were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	633	Mr M Riddle, Thornbury
£75	630	Mr K Richards, Tockington
£25	278	Mrs B Kingscott, Almondsbury
£25	315	Mrs J Spratt, Tockington
£25	361	Mr & Mrs T Roper, Fern Hill
£25	293	Ms S Howard, Thornbury
£20	340	Mrs D Peachey, Olveston
£20	469	Mrs J Dawes Olveston
£20	569	Mr P Haworth, Olveston
£20	343	Mr B Arkell, Olveston
£10	336	Mrs J Harper, Olveston
£10	559	Mrs C Healey, Olveston

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Making Space for Wildlife

Melinda Evans



It's National Tree Week, and a proverb that springs to mind is *"The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago. The second-best time is now."*

As readers of Meeting Point may recall, one of the aims of the Making Space for Wildlife project is to plant more trees in the Parish. By the time this article goes to print, we are pleased to say there should be seven new trees planted in two locations. The first location is at the top of Orchard Rise where an English oak, field

maple and a small-leaved lime tree have been planted. At the junction of Pump Lane and Alveston Road, two small-leaved lime trees, a sweet chestnut and another English oak should be bedded in for the winter. In the coming years we would like to plant more. We are always interested in hearing suggestions for new tree locations on public land, so if one springs to mind then please do get in touch with the email address listed below.

Trees are vital for restoring biodiversity and combatting climate change. The UK Government has set a national target to increase woodland cover in England from 10.1 % to 12 % by mid-century (or very roughly, that's an extra 250,000 hectares of woodland). By 2030, South Gloucestershire Council is aiming to plant sufficient trees to double canopy cover. In Olveston Parish, Castle School sixth form pupil Charlotte Lambie, estimated tree cover to be 4.6 % in an investigation she undertook to complement her studies (thank you for letting us share this information Charlotte). It is not difficult to see we need to increase the number of trees in the Parish to help meet these objectives. Whilst the project's focus is on planting trees on publicly owned land, there is a huge role for parishioners to play by planting trees on privately owned property too.

Because we'd love not only to have more trees in Olveston Parish, but also to have an idea of how many are being planted, we would like to keep a tally of new trees planted. Therefore, if you plant a tree and would like it to be counted in the parish tally, please let us know about your new tree by emailing olvestonwildlife@gmail.com.

In a tree-mendous ending to this article, we have heard from several parishioners who have taken tree planting to another level. Between them, they have planted approximately 1000 trees recently. These plantings involved members of the community including Duke of Edinburgh volunteering efforts, local Scouts and Cubs who created 'Scout Wood', plus a local Forest School

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and Woodlands group who held a tree planting event in November. And more planting is planned! That's a great kick-start to our parish tree planting tally. The 'Olveston Parish Tree Tally' currently stands at 1000 + 7.

Thank you to these parishioners and we are pleased to be able to share some photos from these events. [Photos from Sarah Gingell, Hannah Cameron and James Farr]



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Hedgehog update

Thank you to all those who have sent in their sightings, stories, photos and even videos of the hedgehogs that live amongst us in Olveston Parish. Since the call went out in the October edition of Meeting Point, residents have reported about 12 sightings (it's never going to be terribly precise as hedgehogs like to move around a lot!) We expect that with the colder weather sightings will become much less frequent, but please do send us your information if you spot one. We are logging the sightings on the Hedgehog Street's 'Big Hedgehog Map', which is publicly available, see the link below. If you have seen a hedgehog and would like to record this, there's two ways to go about it.

The best way is to record the hedgehog yourself online via Hedgehog Street's Big Hedgehog Map, which is easy to use. You will need the date of sighting, location of sighting and whether the hedgehog was alive or not. See <https://bighedgehogmap.org/>

The alternative is to send the information to us on olvostonhedgehogs@gmail.com and we can help to log the sighting. Please let us know when you saw the hedgehog, whether it was alive or not, plus a description of its location. A photo, drawing/map or screenshot would also be useful.



*Making Space for Wildlife is part of the
Olveston Parish Council Biodiversity backed and
funded initiative.*

Alveston Local History Society

As a result of three very successful meetings this Autumn, we are planning eight presentations for 2022. Meetings will be on the 4th Wednesday of each month in Alveston Methodist Church at 7.30pm. There will be a charge of £3 per person to include tea or coffee. Current covid regulations will apply. Wear a mask to your seat and bring a coat as extra ventilation will be required.

Weds Jan 26th: Philip Ashford will speak about 'Gloucestershire and the Berkeley Plantation in Virginia'

Planning for other meetings is underway and will include:

- Memories of working the Rivers Wye and Severn by the River Hobbler's Apprentice, Alan Butt.
- The History of Leigh Court with William Evans

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It's two years since Olveston Parish Hall saw the vibrant colour and excitement of a Parish Players production. At last we're back, with all the joy, music and drama that you have come to expect, as the Deadwood Stage brings 'Calamity Jane' to fill this normally quiet corner of Tockington for February half term.

Calamity Jane's story dates to the 1870s and is loosely based on the life of Wild West frontierswoman Martha Jane Cannary, who was known for

her daredevil antics and habit of dressing like a man, as well as an alleged romance with sharpshooter and professional gambler Wild Bill Hickock. Many of you will have enjoyed the much-loved 1953 musical film starring Doris Day and Howard Keel, which led to a stage musical in 1961.

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Thornbury Rotary Club, along with other Rotary clubs, has been supporting "Tools for Self Reliance" for many years. It is a UK based charity working to help relieve poverty in Africa by renovating and sending redundant tools to them. They then work with local African organisations to deliver a programme of tools and training that brings about effective and sustainable change for carpenters, builders, blacksmiths, artisans and their communities. Primary countries they work in are **Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zambia.**

So, if you have tools you no longer require, please contact Rotarian

Robin Cole-Morgan on 01454 414281

He will arrange to pick up the tools and take them away at a time that suits everyone.

What you could declutter and donate:

Garden Tools and Workshop Tools (for example, spanners, screwdrivers, chisels, planes, and hammers). They can be hand tools or powered.

Thank you!

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*subject to eligibility

Desolate Deadwood City, Dakota, provides the setting for this tangled tale. Here, the menfolk yearn for even a glimpse of a woman as beautiful as famous actress Adelaide Adams, whose image they have only seen on 'cigarette' cards. When a mix-up by Calamity's friend, local show organiser Henry Miller, leaves the men more frustrated than ever, she seeks to put matters right. Needless to say, things don't go to plan. Even worse, dashing Lieutenant Danny Gilmartin – the man of Calamity's dreams – falls in love with her new-found friend Katie Brown. It seems that nothing can go right, but has the secret to happiness been staring her in the face all along?

The show's engaging mix of comedy and romance, and the truly memorable music, will lift your spirits and leave you humming the tunes all week long. 'Windy City', 'The Deadwood Stage' and 'The Black Hills of Dakota', as well as the show's many other songs, rank among the most loved and best-known musical hits of all time.

As ever, Linda Evans as Director uses her experience and energy to create a production that accentuates the talent of every cast member and makes the best use of every inch of performance space. You are certain to experience an evening of musical magic at the skilful hands of Musical Director Chloe Allsopp-Jones.

The Company is excited to welcome accomplished local actress Kate Coyle in the role of Calamity Jane. Paul Dimery returns following his previous characterful roles as Luther Billis in 'South Pacific' and the Tin Man in 'The Wizard of Oz' to play the respected ruffian Wild Bill Hickock.

Amy Sunderland steps gracefully into the shoes of aspiring actress Katie Brown, who attracts the attention of Calamity's love interest Lieutenant Danny Gilmartin, played with ease by Paul Harrod in his second appearance for The Parish Players. Meanwhile, anxious saloon proprietor Henry Miller (Richard Newley) and his niece Susan (Cath Purchase) both find themselves more than a little distracted by the arrival of vaudeville song and dance man Francis Fryer. Fryer is played by David Proud, last seen on stage as romantic Frenchman Emile de Becque in 'South Pacific', and now turning his hand to comedy.

Lesley Clarke effortlessly takes on the role of glamorous Chicago star Adelaide Adams, while we also welcome back the familiar faces of Ray Hale as bartender Joe, Mike Belsten as the Colonel of Fort Scully, Phil Savage as undertaker Doc Pierce and John Jones as stagecoach driver Rattlesnake.

The younger members of our cast are all themselves veterans of many past Parish Players' performances. Jake Woodward and Timothy Mitchell play scouts Hank and Pete, while Sophie Allsopp-Jones, Isobel Lambie, Niamh McBride and Evie Snadden impress with their dancing expertise. They join Kate Baldwin, Heather Collins, Emily Jones, Anne Leslie and Jane Mitchell in the all-important chorus.

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We welcome the return of choreographer Jill Harris to skilfully craft the dance numbers – especially the lively 'Can-Can'. She is supported by Jo Baxter and Isobel Lambie as the show's dance captain and assistant dance captain.

Set designer Andy Black and his construction team of Rod Williams and Richard Newley have once again created the atmospheric scenery, capturing the dusty cowboy country against the soaring backdrop of Dakota's Black Hills. Cherry Proud as Stage Manager, Richard Churchill as Lighting Designer, Cath Chappel as Wardrobe Mistress and her husband Mike in charge of Sound Effects complete the production team.

Everyone involved is looking forward to a joyful and memorable show week in February. Make sure you are there to enjoy it too!

Calamity Jane takes place during half term week on Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th February, at the Parish Hall, Tockington: curtain up at 7.30pm.

Tickets go on sale on Saturday 15th January between 9.30 and 11.00 am in the Methodist Church Hall, 2 The Street, Olveston BS35 4DR.

Prices: £10 for adults, £7 for children and £12 for premium seats.

From 16th January, tickets are available on 01454 202011. But don't delay, they usually sell quickly! Follow the Parish Players on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers

Thornbury Orchestra

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4.00pm
St. Mary's Church, Berkeley
Adults £8, Children free
Tickets available online at www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk or on the door.

At long last, Thornbury Orchestra will be holding its first proper concert in over two years. All proceeds will be in aid of Brain Tumour Support.

Sunday 23rd January
4pm at Berkeley Church.
Tickets £8 adults and children free.

We are excited to finally be playing in front of a live audience (subject to the latest Covid restrictions). We will be playing a selection of well-known popular classics ranging from Pirates of the Caribbean to Pomp and Circumstance, by way of Mozart's Magic Flute and Vaughan Williams' English Folk Songs.

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ABOUT ME

Jed Williams – I'm 16 years old, live locally & have had my own business for over 3 years
Email: me@jedwilliams.co.uk Website: myneat.co.uk Tel: 07887 652358



ST MARY'S CHURCH
TOWER RESTORATION
PROJECT

St Mary's Church Restoration Project

Peter Floyd

Perhaps you thought we had finished?

The tower was 'topped out' in a ceremony in early November and the old pinnacles were sold for the amazing sum of £1,200 each. The clock now has a new face, and the works are updated so they can be wound automatically. The tower has now been restored and it was rededicated in church in December, whilst the wonderful new pinnacles and their crockets have become an ideal perch for the local jackdaws! Our thanks to all who have given and organised, and to the Tower Team for their good work so far.



But more is still to come, with the provision of foundations that the external stair tower has never had – indeed it is not at all clear how the tall tower has stayed upright, since it is unconnected with the main church building against which it leans and down which it has been very slowly sliding, we assume ever since it was built, perhaps 200 years ago.

The 'Tower Team' will continue their work, with some more complex 'raking shore' scaffolding to stop the stair tower falling over. Only about half of its existing circular walls sit on the ground – seeming never to have had any foundations – so we are having new foundations added, very, very carefully.

This picture shows Churchwarden Debbie Harries placing the final 'bud on the last of the pinnacles



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1st Olveston Brownie Pack Holiday

The holiday was in November 2021, at Cowley Deer Park, Gloucestershire, with the Disney film, Moana, as its theme. Anna, Lyra, Evie and Emily have written the diary of the trip.....

When we arrived at Cowley on the coach, it was pitch black. My friends and I were put into a room, and I got the privilege of sleeping in a single bed while the others were in bunks! Before bed we went outside to find glow-sticks, all of my friends got two, so we hung them up in our dark bedroom and it looked really cool!

On Saturday morning we woke up and had breakfast. After which we made flower garlands. We then went on a trudge up a steep hill but stopped halfway to look at some amazing beech trees, the leaves were beautiful. When at last, we got to the top of the hill there was a long, high Zip Wire. The lady who worked there made us put on all these harnesses, but it was so high up and it felt like you were flying – I screamed the whole way! We each had two goes.

After lunch we made collages out of leaves and twigs. We then went for a walk and saw loads of animals, we saw so many alpacas and there were some multi-coloured ones, but my favourite was the one with a brown body and a white face.

When we got back to the house, we went out for a campfire. The fire was really fun because we sang lots of songs and laughed a lot

After dinner we got ready for bed and had our hair done. Just the year sixes were allowed to stay up a bit and we played really fun games including 'zookeeper' and charades.

On Sunday we woke up and started packing. For breakfast we had toast, bacon, eggs, rice krispies, shreds or porridge. I had porridge with syrup, which I would never be allowed at home! It was super delicious. After breakfast we each made a Moana headdress and then went back out to the hill to do grass-sledging. After lunch we went back to the house, put our things on the coach and travelled back to Olveston. Our Brownie Pack Holiday had been so much fun.

Look out for the Mobile Library

In association with Almondsbury Parish and South Gloucestershire Council, North Somerset Library Service visits Almondsbury, Pilning and Severn Beach once a fortnight. All aboard for books for all ages, audiobooks, large print, and a friendly welcome.

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Choose from over 2.5 million items on the LibrariesWest website:
www.librarieswest.org.uk or try the free LibrariesWest app. You can reserve the books you want to read and pop along to a stop near you to collect your requests when they arrive – just select North Somerset Mobile as your pickup branch.

There are six stops on the route:

6th & 20th January; 3rd & 17th Feb; 3rd, 17th & 31st March; 14th & 28th April.

Almondsbury, Bowl Inn (9.40-10am)

Easter Compton, Fox Inn (10.15-10.30am)

Hallen, Hi Way Caravan Park (10.45-11.05am)

Severn Beach, Abbot Road (11.20-11.40am)

Severn Beach, Salthouse Farm (11.50am-12.10pm)

Pilning, Cross Hands (12.20-12.40pm)

So, call in and use your South Gloucestershire Library Card or bring proof of address to become a member. As with all libraries there are safety measures in place on the mobile and limited numbers are allowed on at any one time.

To find out more visit bit.ly/MobileL1b email mobile.library@n-somerset.gov.uk or call 01275 888 864.

Olveston United AFC

Philip Williams



As you may already know, Olveston United AFC is a community football club, based at The Plain, Alveston Road and our sole purpose is to provide opportunities for local children and adults to play football.

A key indicator of our recent success is evidenced by not only by the on-pitch success of our teams, but the increased number of local children and adults playing for our sides. We now boast five adult football teams (consisting of 3 men's teams, and 2 women's teams), along with a thriving junior section (consisting of 6 junior teams). If you are interested in becoming a playing member of the club, then please do get in touch.

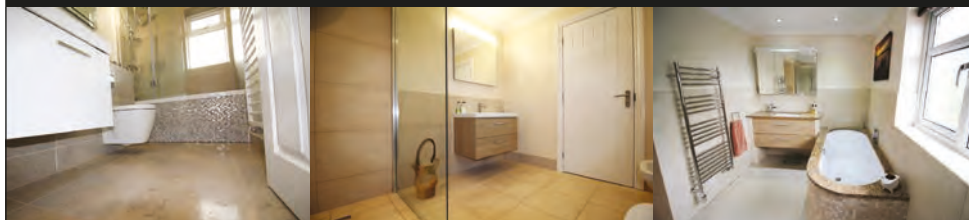
Moving forward, we hope to produce a monthly article in Meeting Point, to share updates, results, upcoming events, and important information from the football club. We hope that this will attract even more local support for our club.

Within this first piece we would like to introduce our committee members (the majority of which either grew up in, and/or reside in the Parish of Olveston).

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- Dave Birtle, Club President
- Stuart Evans, Club Chairman
- Russell Knight, Vice Chairman and Men's 1st Team Manager
- James Eveleigh, Ladies 1st Team Manager
- Tony Williams, Treasurer
- Philip Williams, Club Secretary
- Dave Fuidge, Committee Member
- Paul Ferragut, Committee Member
- James Gusterson, Committee Member

As we are currently recruiting for a Welfare Officer and Junior Chairman, may I take this opportunity to state that we are always looking for volunteers to help with the running of the club, and are always very grateful for any support received. If you are interested in volunteering, then please do get in touch.

Finally, we would like to say that everyone is welcome to visit and become a member of the football club and social club. We look forward to seeing you very soon. We welcome any questions that you may have, so please do not hesitate to contact us:

info@olvestonunited.co.uk or 07502221588



Thornbury Rotary Still Collects Old Tools

Last year Thornbury Rotary reported that they were collecting old tools to pass on to 'Tools for Self-Reliance'. They had a tremendous response to that appeal and wish to thank everyone who supported this initiative. In 2021, Thornbury Rotary has extended its support to 'Tools with a Mission' (TWAM).



TWAM gathers donated tools, refurbishes them, sorts them and packs them into trade packs that can be used by workers in poorer countries. They currently work in 17 countries, but by far the greatest number of tools goes to four countries in

Africa, namely Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The trade kits are targeted at agricultural workers, builders, carpenters, electricians, motor mechanics, plumbers and garage workshops. They also supply sewing machines, knitting machines and fully working computers and IT equipment. Last year TWAM was able to send 1500 tool kits

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comprising 450,000 individual tools which amounted to over 300 tonnes and filled 20 containers.

The charity is unable to accept certain items, the focus being on what people can use. Items that TWAM cannot accept, for example, include broken tools or tools with woodworm, ladders and step ladders, lawn rakes and long handled shears, mowers, printers, scanners and typewriters, disability aids, clothes and shoes, bikes, books and embroidery materials.

If anyone would like to help Rotary support this charity by donating tools that they no longer require, they can contact Rotarian Robin Cole-Morgan on 01454 414281. He will arrange to pick up the tools and take them away at a time that suits everyone.

Aust Parish Council

Emma Pattullo Parish Clerk

Aust Parish Council would like to wish a Happy New Year to all our residents! We hope that 2022 will prove to be a happy and healthy year for you.

PC Meetings

Despite high local Covid rates as I write this, the Parish Council will continue to meet face-to-face unless the Government decides to make a change to legislation. We normally meet at Elberton Village Hall, at 7.30pm on the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on 11th January. Please contact me (contact details below) or your local parish councillor if you would like to raise any issues.

Littering

Litter continues to be a problem in some parts of the parish, made worse by recent windy weather spreading items over a large area. The area around the motorway services and the Severn Bridge viewpoint continues to be of particular concern. The parish council would like to again offer grateful thanks to those residents who take the time to collect such rubbish.

A new combined litter and dog waste bin has been purchased and will hopefully be in place by the tunnel entrance to Sandy Lane, Aust, by the time you are reading this. The bin will initially be emptied fortnightly, but please let me know if it is often becoming full, so we can consider increasing the frequency of emptying.

Jubilee celebrations

Plans are being made for a parish event to be held on 5th June to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Thanks to those residents who have already volunteered to help organise this; there is definitely room for more volunteers though! Please contact me or one of the councillors if you are able to offer some help. austparishcouncil@gmail.com / 01454 837271

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Marlwood Marathon Dads

For more than 40,000 runners on Sunday 3rd October, all roads led to London or, more accurately, 26+ miles all around London. To the uninitiated runner and spectator alike, the London Marathon is an incredible event with thousands of runners being cheered along the entire length of the race by thousands upon thousands of supporters. Marathon aficionados noted the 2021 event was particularly special, given the limits that have been placed on gathering in large crowds these last 18 months. Also, the day itself was glorious sunshine, all the luckier as the day before was a sodden wash-out.

Friends of Marlwood School (FOMS) is proud to say that amongst these 40,000+ runners were two Marlwood dads, Chris Kedward and George Evans. Both were running to raise money to kick-start fundraising for FOMS' sport courts refurbishment project. Neither dad had been in a London Marathon before. For Chris, this was a much-anticipated day as events had conspired to prevent him running the race in 2019 as originally planned. Whereas George was lucky enough to get a ballot place on his first attempt this year.



We are delighted to say both dads not only completed the Marathon, but also managed to raise a huge £3872 between them. As a happy coincidence, having seen 'Running for Marlwood School' on Chris' shirt, two runners joined Chris for part of the race, saying they were former Marlwood School pupils. George enjoyed it so much he has entered the ballot for next year's race!

George Evans presents a cheque for £3872 to Seema Purewal, Marlwood's Head Teacher at the recent FOMS Quiz Night. Photo by Matthew Bullock

Chris and George's efforts are much appreciated by FOMS and the school. Our thanks also go to the many in the local community who also supported their efforts with sponsorship and good wishes.

More information about FOMS is on our Facebook page: @Friends of Marlwood School or please email marlwoodfriends@gmail.com.

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Oveston Parish Council

Pat Savage

New Councillor

We are very pleased to announce that Lyndsey Gethin has now joined the Council, bringing our numbers to a full quota of nine. Lyndsey has lived in the village for some time. Her business interest is catering, which is based in North Bristol. She now wishes to become involved in village life through her role as a Councillor. Lyndsey is also involved in charitable work with young children.

Queens Platinum Celebrations

The Steering Committee has now had its first meeting. The events planned include five a side football, father and sons' cricket, tug of war, music and possibly a barn dance. There will of course be the obligatory parade commencing at the Vicarage Lane Play Area and heading to the Parish Hall. If you are at all interested, would like to get involved or indeed let us have your thoughts, please email martin.gibson@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Village Bus Stops

As mentioned in last month's publication we are looking for two residents to look after the bus stops in Tockington and on the Crescent at Old Down. The Council pays a small stipend of £95 p.a. If you are interested, please contact pat.savage@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Data from VAS 24th October – 7th November

Old Down Hill, facing up hill; speed limit 30 mph	
Number of vehicles per day	568
Percentage of vehicles within the speed limit	88.44%
Percentage of vehicle in excess of the speed limit	11.56%
Maximum speed recorded	54 mph

Parish Hall, facing Tockington; speed limit 30 mph	
Number of vehicles per day	660
Percentage of vehicles within the speed limit	73.51%
Percentage of vehicle in excess of the speed limit	26.49%
Maximum speed recorded	74 mph



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Monday Movies

Monday 3rd January

We kick off 2022 with a comedy film* (some say the best of all time). An ex-World War Two pilot, who now has a fear of flying, boards a plane in pursuit of an air hostess. The crew are all taken ill with food poisoning and our anti-hero is forced to pilot the plane. Can he do it? This 1980 film stars Lloyd Bridges and Leslie Nielsen in a series of hysterically funny cameos which are very much 'of their time'- but how do we perceive them 40 years on? This film is definitely not for the politically correct.

Monday 17th January

Two feuding women, both murderers, pit themselves against the other and fight for fame that will keep them from the gallows in 1920s Chicago. This 2002 film, based on the American jazz musical, stars Richard Gere, Renee Zellweger and Catherine Zeta-Jones. Come along and tap your toes to memorable tunes such as All that Jazz, Mister Cellophane or Razzle Dazzle.

Doors open at 7pm and films start at 7.30pm. All welcome, free admission, licensed bar, tea and coffee. Donations towards expenses gratefully received. If you'd like advance notice of all our films, please join our mailing list by emailing mondaymoviesolveston@gmail.com

**For licensing reasons we are unable to name the films.*

Sustainable Thornbury - Local Schools' Cop26 Climate Summit



On Wednesday 10th November, several local schools, including Olveston Primary School, took part in the first ever Thornbury and surrounds Schools Climate Summit. This virtual event coincided with the United Nations Climate Change Conference, or COP26, that was being held in Glasgow at the same time. In all, five local schools took part: Olveston, Crossways, Gillingstool, Manorbrook and The Castle School. Although they couldn't attend on the day, SGS College Filton also contributed.

The event was organised by Sustainable Thornbury, who had invited schools to take part to share ideas about what actions they are taking on climate change and biodiversity. Local politicians were also invited to attend, so that

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they could hear about the children's concerns, and to answer questions from children about what is being done to address this issue.

Prior to the event, each school was asked to do three things. First, to make a short video about climate change and biodiversity loss; the actions they and their schools are taking; and the help they need from leaders and politicians. Second, schools were asked to make a set of school pledges to act or step up their current actions on climate change and to say what help they need from leaders to fulfil these pledges. Finally, pupils were invited to take part in a poster competition with a theme of 'What a green future looks like to me'.

Local politicians and leaders who either spoke at the meeting or who sent messages of support via video were Dan Norris (West of England Combined Authority (WECA) Mayor), Matthew Riddle (South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) Councillor), Maggie Tyrrell (SGC Councillor and Thornbury Town Councillor) and Guy Rawlinson and Clive Parkinson (Thornbury Town Councillors).

Olveston Primary School's pledges were made by individual classes. Year 3 Goldfinch class pledged "to plant bee friendly plants and flowers around our school and local community", whilst Reception Class pledged "We will recycle our food waste from snack time". Year 6 Swift Class pledged to walk or cycle where possible especially on Fitness Fridays, and the Year 2 Robin Class pledged to plant seeds and grow their own food. Year 5 Wagtail Class committed to recycling and reusing especially paper used in the classroom, as well as litter picking once a week! Year 1 Kingfisher Class said they will turn off taps and not waste paper and Year 4 Starlings pledged to plant seeds, plants and to make space for nature.

At the end of the summit the winners of the poster competition were announced. One of the winners was Megan from Olveston School, (her poster is shown on the right). Well done Megan, and all the pupils at Olveston School who sent in entries, the judges had a very difficult time choosing the winners.

Sustainable Thornbury would like to say a huge thank you to all the children who took part in the Schools' Climate Summit, and to all the teaching staff who helped them prepare their videos, posters and pledges. The knowledge and enthusiasm of all those who attended was very impressive and our planet will be in good hands if this is a sign of things to come.





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A Grand Piano Launch!



It is with great excitement that the Armstrong Arts Group can announce that Thornbury and the locality are to have a beautiful baby grand piano!

There is to be a concert, attended by the Deputy Mayor and presented by the Armstrong Arts Group, to welcome the new community baby grand piano, which will live at the United Reformed Church in Thornbury.

It is with sincere thanks to generous sponsors that this has been possible and to Michael Lunts, much loved musician, who has made it happen. The concert, to include musicians of all ages, is currently being created ready for the piano launch, which will be on Sunday 23rd January at 3.00pm in the United Reformed Church. It will be in two halves, each of thirty minutes or so, followed by refreshments.

Covid considerations will be in place and tickets will cost £5 for adults with no charge for under 16s. These can be booked by emailing: AAGThornbury@gmail.com or ringing 01454 850933

.....and more AAG events coming up in Thornbury

Sea Shanties at The Ship, Bristol Road, Alveston

February 19th at 7.30pm.

Tickets will cost £12, with the option of purchasing food separately. Contact details as above.

Thornbury Jazz Festival at the Assembly Hall, Castle School

Saturday, 19th March from 4 pm to 9.30 pm.

Tickets are £25, plus pre-ordered food. Contact details as above.

More information about these events in next month's magazine.



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The presents have been pored over, the turkey eaten, the New Year celebrated; it feels like the season is ended; and it feels like the 'Bleak Midwinter' stretches endlessly before us.

And yet Christmas is not over; at least not until we have celebrated Twelfth Night and marked the beginning of the season of Epiphany

Epiphany, a noun defined by the dictionary as both:

1. The manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles as represented by the Magi (as in Matthew 2:1-12).
2. A moment of sudden and great revelation or realisation.

Now the Magi, or Wise Men as Matthew describes them, are important personages in the Nativity story because they were the first non-Jewish people to recognise and worship Christ as the saviour of the world, and this realisation was of course their Epiphany.

However, having an Epiphany moment is not something exclusive to Wise Men; it can happen to anyone. Not necessarily on 6th January even, but when the time is right for you, when a moment will come, a moment when the Holy Spirit inspires you, as he did the wise men, to first believe that God sent a saviour to Earth in order to bring love to you and all mankind.

And then Christmas will never be the same again.



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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Jan 2	9.30am 6pm	Holy Communion Evensong	Revs Bone & Lloyd Paul Harrod
Jan 9	9.30am 6pm	Morning Prayer Communion CW	Rev David Moss Rev David Moss
Jan 16	9.30am 6pm	Morning Prayer, Service of Christian Unity Holy Communion BCP	Rev Simon Edwards Rev David Moss
Jan 23	9.30am 6pm	Holy Communion /Baptism Evening Prayer CW	Revs Lloyd and Bone Janet McBride
Jan 30	9.30am 6pm	Morning Prayer Taizé Candlemas	Rev Ann Lloyd Ministry Team

Also, every Wednesday at 10am, Holy Communion usually with Rev Ann Lloyd.

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Jan 9	10am	Morning Prayer	Trevor Cook
Jan 23	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact: Trevor Cook, 01454 618442

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 & Clive Roberts 632238

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Jan 9	9am	Morning Prayer CW	Mrs Tracey Black
Jan 23	9am	Holy Communion	Mrs Tracey Black

Contacts: Tracey Black 417660 & Tim Pyper 416422 /07802 419451

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jan 10	7.30pm	Plough Monday	Archdeacon and Judith Heybyrne
Jan 23	9.30am	Holy Communion CW	Rev David Moss

Contacts: Judith Heybyrne 616725 and John Gunnery 413225

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Jan 2	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by John Creech
Jan 9	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Stephen Holliday
Jan 16	9.30am	St Mary's	Service for Christian Unity. Preacher, Rev Simon Edwards
Jan 23	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Pauline Culshaw
Jan 30	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev David Willis

Contact: Rev Simon Edwards 418176, email: simon.edwards@methodist.org.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer, Pilning Street, Awkley

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Contact: Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07512 917229 or email: thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

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Contacts: Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@ymail.com & Sue Tett stett56@hotmail.co.uk

AUST EVANGELICAL and LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCHES

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RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury

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SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Contact: Brian Hawkins, hawkinsb863@gmail.com 01454 854867

Events in January.

Monday 3 January, 7.30pm **Monday Movies at St Mary's**
1st and 3rd Thursday 9.00-1.30, **Thornbury Farmers' Market**

Tuesday 11 January 7.30pm **W.I. Talk by Sir Steve Webb**

Saturday 15 January 9.30 -11 am. **Tickets for Calamity Jane go on sale,**
Olveston Methodist Church Hall.

Monday 17 January, 7.30pm **Monday Movies at St Mary's**

Coffee Morning every Tuesday at 10.30 at Daldry Gardens lounge

Coffee Shop every Thursday at St Mary's Church Olveston, 9-12 in term time and 10-12 in school holidays.

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

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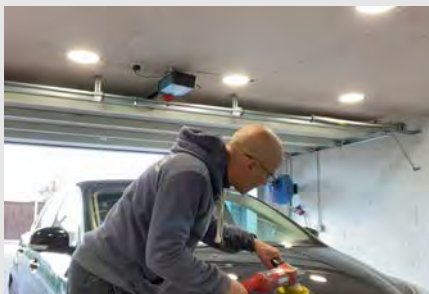


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