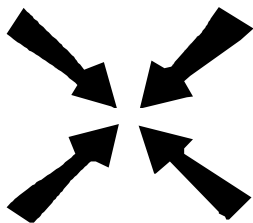


Meeting Point



May 2016



Meeting Point

Volume 40, Number 8, May 2016

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 June 2016
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 9th May 2016.

From the Editor

On a personal note, I am delighted that this issue marks the beginning of the Cream Tea Season, an important time in my year. However, I will have to forego the first opportunity, because it coincides with the Olveston Parish Twinning Association's visit to our twin village of Bréhan in Brittany.

This year's visit marks an important milestone for the twinning relationship – its twentieth anniversary – and it is pleasing to be able to say that a record number of parents and children from Olveston School will be coming, with their French specialist teacher. We hope that this sets the scene for the continuation of the relationship between the two villages well into the future. On past experience, we will be royally entertained, so maybe I won't miss the Cream Tea too much...

The picture on this month's cover shows Tockington Methodist Chapel, by the late John Crossley.

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

Richard Smith

Profile by Pat Thirkettle

Richard's family moved to Thornbury from Scotland in 1963. Initially he remained at boarding school in Dumfries but felt a long way from home and eventually moved to Castle School. On leaving he took a four year apprenticeship with the CEGB at Oldbury Power Station, followed by his first job as Station Instrument Engineer to the Botswana Power Corporation. The power station was brand new, and the CEGB had won the contract to staff it, so forty people went from Bristol. It was a happy five years, and in his spare time he learnt to parachute and fly.

In 1979 he returned to work for Rolls Royce in the industrial engine division in Coventry as an Electrical Commissioning Engineer. For the next ten years he travelled far and wide, working in twenty eight countries, though never east of Iran. In 1980 he had bought the derelict Old Corn Mill at the end of Mill Lane and in 1987 he met Lynn Baker from Littleton and they married in 1988. It was then time to stop travelling and Richard transferred to Rolls Royce military engine division in Bristol. Their daughter Rosie and son Alex were both born at home in 1993 and 1995. At the instigation of Rolls Royce, Richard studied for and achieved an MSc from Exeter University in Logistical Engineering in 2000, and he retired in 2013.



Retirement means he can turn his attention to work still to do on the house. However, I suspect that this comes a poor second to his beloved hobby of Meccano. He currently holds the Sir Alex Issigonis Shield for the life-size model of his grandson Jamie riding his tricycle. (When Sir Alex retired from British Leyland he requested the No 10 set of Meccano as a leaving present, thus lending his name to the shield). Richard wanted to reproduce an accurate depiction of a skeleton in Meccano which had only once been done before (in 1936), and he wanted it to be more interesting than simply a straight figure. The detail is incredible; each disc and vertebra is visible in the spine, it is fully automated, the figure pedals, the wheels go round and the head and eyes move.



Having achieved that, Richard could now be working on the house. However he is presently making a life size model 'A tribute to Don Partridge', who was a pop star-cum-busker in the 1960s, known as the King of the Buskers. So this model is even bigger, and the computer animated figure will be playing the guitar to the sound track of one of his songs - requiring fifteen separate motors. If it is finished by July it will be entered for the Shield.

Meccano is an excellent hobby for retirement as it can be continued when less active. Richard runs Meccano evenings for local scout groups, but it is not proving popular as a young persons' hobby. There are yearly Meccano exhibitions in the Parish Hall, and the winning model has been shown at the Model Engineering Exhibition on Thornbury. Richard is interested in second hand Meccano which he repaints and uses, and is secretary of the local group whose web site is: southwesternmeccano.org.uk, if you want to get in touch.

Olveston Parish Matters

Richard Rogers (clerk@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

17th May 2015 Annual Parish Assembly

This year The Annual Parish Assembly will be held on **Tuesday 17th May at the Olveston Parish Hall starting at 7.30**, and will last approximately 2 hours. We look forward to welcoming all Parishioners.

The Annual Parish Assembly will begin with an introduction to all the Parish Councillors and a general review of the year together with the Financial Review. There will then be presentations by Sita, Richard Lloyd on what the Vision Group have achieved and an update by Geoff Anderson on the Olveston Parish Steering Group. Before concluding the meeting, Mr Hughes will review some of the planned objectives for 2016/17.

PCC Election

The Parish Hall is again the local polling station on **5th May 2016 election for the Avon & Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner**.

Parish Council Vacancy

Olveston Parish is still seeking a parishioner who would like to become a Councillor. A full advert is posted on the Parish website, the Olveston website and the Parish notice boards. The next closing date for applications is Friday 13th May, please contact the Clerk for further details.

Special Award for 1st Olveston Brownies' 'Brown Owl'



Congratulations to Jane Sawyer who has been recognised by the Chair of South Gloucestershire Council for her voluntary work in the community.

To many of us Jane is known as "Brown Owl". She has been volunteering her time for a long time - she has been a Brownie leader for two generations of girls from the South Gloucestershire area! Prior to leading the group in Olveston, Jane started off helping with the Filton pack for several years. However in 1995, when the Olveston Pack was under the threat of closure, Jane stepped in to become its leader and so became Olveston's Brown Owl.

The South Gloucestershire Chair's Community Awards are given annually to recognise the work of volunteers in our community. Jane was also selected from all of the 2016 Chair's Community Award winners as the recipient of one of four special awards - for Long Service.

Congratulations, Jane, on a thoroughly deserved award!

And here is a message from Jane herself, thanking you for your response to the Brownies' appeal last month:

Thank you

'Thank you to everyone who has donated clothes and shoes to our recycling fundraising project for Olveston Brownies. We had a fabulous response and filled up the garage! Thank you also for all the donations of coins, old jewellery and gadgets. We will let you know next month how much we raised!'

Tockington Cream Teas



Two opportunities this month for Cream Teas on the Green – because we have two May Bank Holidays – yum!

Monday 2nd May, 2.30 – 5pm

Monday 30th May, 2.30 - 5pm

In Tockington Chapel if wet and on Tockington Green if fine. Come and enjoy scrumptious cream teas whatever the weather!

Elberton Gardens Open

Sunday June 5th, 2 to 6pm.

Please come and enjoy six of our gardens that will be open this year, in aid of funds for St Johns Church, Elberton.

In each garden there will be a stall, and teas will be served at Elberton Court Garden.

Thank you for your support.

Tools for Self Reliance

Practical help for practical people *Rotarian Nigel Dawes*

You cannot work without tools. African artisans – builders, blacksmiths, seamstresses and more – make tools to farm the land, build schools and homes, sew school uniforms and make desks for students. TSR works with local experienced organisations across Africa to give artisans the tools and training they need to earn a living and build their communities for the future. If you no longer need:

- garden tools
- garage tools eg spanners, screw drivers, hammers,
- also biscuit tins
- and that old sewing machine you have in the spare room,

please ring me on 01454 201558 and I can collect on behalf of Thornbury Rotary Club.

Brian Carne

1929-2016

Born in 1929, and a graduate of Liverpool University, Brian trained for the priesthood in Birmingham, and started his ministry in Swindon in 1955. He was a curate in Bristol for a couple of years, and then Rector of Lydiard Millicent with Lydiard Tregoz from 1960 to 1968, where he developed his life-long interest in the arts, and wrote (eventually) a beautiful book about the St John family of Lydiard Tregoz. After 6 years as a vicar in Hartcliffe, he came to Severnside in 1974 and was Vicar of Almondsbury until his retirement in 1991. He served as Rural Dean of Westbury and Severnside (1980-86), became an Hon. Canon of Bristol Cathedral (1982-91) He played a full part in diocesan life, becoming Chair of the Diocesan Advisory Committee – the church equivalent of a planning authority – and was therefore able to give ‘permission’ for the organ loft at Olveston. By this time, he was, as well as Vicar of Almondsbury, Priest-in-Charge of Littleton with Elberton, and of Olveston with Aust; if you want a job done well, ask a busy person! He did all this with calm efficiency, and seemed blessed with a natural grace which led to his undoubted popularity; indeed he was loved by all who knew him.



He and Gill retired to English Bicknor and took on the labour of love of converting Whitehouse Farm, a listed building, into a charming house. Though retired, Brian played a full part in parish life there, and made St Mary's Choir most welcome on what became a treasured annual visit to sing Evensong with him, and a general sing-song thereafter. A lovely, lovely, gentle man, he died on 18th March after a short illness. Following the funeral on April 8th, St Mary's Choir sang at the Celebration of his life in the afternoon at the packed church in English Bicknor.

From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

30th March 2016: Funeral Service of Dennis John Spratt, followed by burial in the Churchyard of St. John, Aust.

4th April 2016: Funeral Service, followed by burial in the Churchyard, of Janet Louise Williams.

Movies at St Mary's: May

Trevor Anderson



Springtime Greetings to all readers from the Movie Club Team at **St Mary's Olveston!** Our May programme features **FOUR** terrific films and details are given below. As always, doors open 30 minutes before the films start, allowing you to indulge in a glass of wine or soft drink whilst waiting in your seat. (*In how many cinemas are you invited to do that?*).

We show films for the 'grown-ups' on the first and third Monday evenings of each month and for 'children of all ages' every Monday morning during school holidays. Everyone is welcome to all the films (you don't need to be a Movie Club member) and there is no need to book. Admission is free, although a **donation** at the end towards expenses is always welcomed and appreciated.

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and ever-popular classics*)

Mon 2nd May at 7.30pm: An Irish immigrant lands in 1950s Brooklyn, where she quickly falls into a romance with a local. When her past catches up with her, she must choose between two countries and the lives that exist within.

Unashamedly romantic and achieved with a beautifully subtle, old-fashioned elegance, this graceful coming-of-age tale was nominated for three Academy Awards and won the BAFTA Award for **Best British Film 2015**. (*2015, Cert 12*)

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA (*'Non-mainstream' films and historic classics*)

Mon 16th May at 7.30pm: Internationally renowned Japanese director Hirokazu Kore-eda's latest film is a modern fairy tale about two young boys trying to reunite their divided family. 12-year-old Koichi, who has been separated from his younger brother because of his parents' divorce, hears a rumour that the new bullet trains will precipitate a wish-granting miracle when they pass each other at top speed. The film is a superbly acted picture of Japanese family life and is a deeply satisfying adventure story that is tender, but never sentimental. *In Japanese with English subtitles*. (*2013, Cert PG*)

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

Mon 2nd May at 10.00am: A young boy befriends a giant robot from outer space that a paranoid government agent wants to destroy. (*1999, Cert PG*)

Mon 30th May at 10.00am: Long-haired Rapunzel has spent her entire life in a tower, but now that a runaway thief has stumbled upon her, she is about to discover the world for the first time, and who she really is. (*2010, Cert PG*)

Refreshments available at all the shows, plus licensed bar in the evenings and popcorn, soft drinks and biscuits in the mornings.

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 of our Spring Programme by email. It costs nothing to join – just email me at trevoranderson@btinternet.com.

News from St Mary's

Roly Bain

Thornbury Arts Trail

Once again we are playing host to Thornbury Arts Trail with three artists using us a venue: Angus Macaskill, Jennifer Krupa and Tom Carter are displaying their works. Do come and look at what they have to offer, and do pick up a brochure which tells you all the other places and art works you can see in the vicinity. It is a splendid venture, and a rewarding one.

Visiting Preachers

We have a number of visiting preachers lined up in the coming months for our 10am services. On May 15th we celebrate Pentecost with the welcome return of Canon Chris Pullin from Hereford Cathedral. On June 19th, Dave Day is our preacher - Dave is very involved with the Bridge Trust and he and his wife Rhi were our link persons for the Bridge to Gautampuri Appeal. And on July 17th, Canon Neville Boundy is coming. Neville is a broadcaster, playwright, author, theatre chaplain and was formerly at Cotham Parish Church before retiring some years ago.

Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

On Sunday evening, May 15th, we shall be showing the Queen's Birthday Pageant on our big screen, if you'd like to come and join us. The bar will be open for drinks both alcoholic and soft. And on Friday, June 10th, we will relay the National Service of Thanksgiving for the Queen. On this occasion a glass of fizz will be on the house! On Sunday, June 5th, at 6pm we'll be joining in the Severnside Churches' Songs of Praise in honour of the Queen, in Almondsbury Vicarage Garden, along with the Thornbury Town Band. This will be hosted by Steve Webb. There will be no evening service at Olveston that day.

Trinity Sunday Service

On Sunday May 22nd, Trinity Sunday, we are having a single Sunday service for all our congregations at the unusual time of 11am. Paul Harrod will be preaching, and we hope that members of the 8am, 10am, 6pm, Breakfast Club and Back to Front congregations will all join together for it. It will be followed by a lunch at 3 Grey Gables. Please let Debbie Harries know if you're coming for lunch, for catering purposes (613273).

Dodington Silver Band

On Saturday June 4th, our next concert is from the Dodington Silver Band. This is being organised by the British Legion and is in aid of the Poppy Appeal. Tickets are only £6, from Rose Brown or June Robbins, but you can, of course, pay on the door. The bar will be open for refreshments.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the April draw, held on 7th April 2016 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	254	Mrs S Roos, Olveston
£75	357	Mr D J Smart, Thornbury
£25	285	Mr J Mayes, Tockington
£25	486	Mrs C Phillpott, Tockington
£25	397	Mrs G Crossley, Olveston
£20	228	Mrs J Davies, Olveston
£20	378	Mr N H Dawes, Olveston
£20	171	Mrs C Healey, Olveston
£10	288	Mr & Mrs R J Davies, Abergavenny
£10	412	Mr R J Lloyd, Tockington
£10	570	Mr R J Lloyd, Tockington
£10	276	Mrs L Evans, Alveston
£10	572	Mr P Haworth, Olveston
£10	446	Mr B Amos, Olveston

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

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners April 2016:

£50	Simon Gould
£15	Bill Finch
£5	Ian Maunder

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

12/03/16	Simon Gould
26/03/16	Barry Reeves
02/04/16	Simon Higgs

Senior Fixtures commence on Saturday 7th May. Everyone is welcome, so please come along and support. Full Fixtures next Month.

Up the Down!!

Glass, Gems & Geometry

Friday 29 April to Sunday 8 May, 10am to 4pm, daily

Three artists will be taking up residence in Thornbury and District Museum during the Art Trail – and it's FREE to visit them and the rest of the museum.



Come and see:

- Claire Alway's beautiful **glass engravings**
- Rosemary Millar's **silver and gold jewellery with semi-precious stones**
- Philip John Whitehead's **colourful geometric drawings in Indian ink.**



You may even spot something you'd like to buy...

Putchers and Putts

New museum exhibition opens Tues 10 May – continues until August
From 10 May - Tuesdays to Fridays: 1 – 4pm, Saturdays: 10am to 4pm

What do you know about putchers and putts?

Putchers are cone shaped and putts are bigger (funnel-shaped and in three sections). Both were used in the Severn estuary. Salmon were caught in putchers and salmon, eels and shrimps in putts.

This new exhibition has been put together by Don Riddle and Deryck Huby (who both had the fishery at Haywards Rock near Berkeley for many years) and Nick Large (who took photos of salmon fishermen in the late 1960s). Don and Deryck still make putchers today – but for floral displays in the town. The photo above shows Deryck Huby with part of a putt.

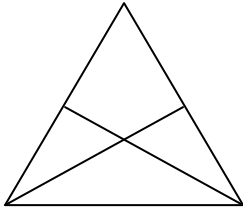


Image: Jacqueline Sarsby 2001

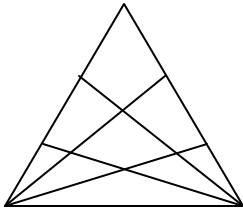
Thornbury & District Museum, Chapel St, Thornbury (Free parking for 2 hours in St. Mary Street Car Park). Tel: 01454 857774
email: enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk
www.thornburymuseum.org.uk

Triangles

May's Puzzle, by Jan Winter



In this diagram there are 8 triangles – can you find them all?



How about in this diagram?

Can you predict how many there would be in the next one in the series? What is the pattern in the numbers?

Last month's solution

Amongst the people who sent in solutions to April's fox, hen, and corn puzzle, we had the youngest clear thinker so far – eight year old Sophie Evans from year 3 at Olveston school: well done Sophie! Her answer was 'take the hen over and return empty-handed; take the corn over, leave it and return with the hen; leave the hen, take the fox over and return empty-handed; take the hen over'. There is another correct answer, which involves swapping the order in which you take the corn and the fox.

Olveston Sports & Social Club

We are starting monthly **Quiz Nights** again on the **first Sunday in every month at 8.15pm**. We hope this will be a regular feature, depending on support. Proceeds will go to charities, and also to give members' children a Christmas Party. Everyone is welcome, member or not, so do please join us.

Bingo is held on Sunday evenings when there is no Quiz, starting at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome.

We are **offering a 50% reduction** on all bookings for Parties at the Club. To book please contact Barbara Lansdown (tel.01454 415036) and quote M.P OSSC1. Before the reduction, adult bookings are £55 for members, and £75 for non-members. There is a price scale for other types of booking.

Stepping Stones Open/Fun Day

in aid of 'Make a Wish Foundation'

This is on **Saturday 7th May 2pm – 4pm** at **Elberton Village Hall**. Stalls, cakes, tea and coffee, children's games and forest activities. Come and meet our friendly staff team and see all our facilities. All proceeds from the day will go to the 'Make a Wish Foundation'. Any donations of cakes or second hand toys and books will be gratefully received. Please ring Gill on 07853173221 or drop down to the hall during session times.

Thornbury Methodist Players

"Strangers in the House"

It's a thick foggy night in a London suburb.

The Jones household is full of mystery. The clocks don't tell the right time, and the people are not who they seem.

Penny and Mark are trying to understand Mrs Benbow, as well as their parents and their own love lives.

As the action progresses more is revealed about each character and their secrets. What is the truth?

This mysterious comedy by Victor Lucas is being performed by Thornbury Methodist Players from **Wednesday 18th – Saturday 21st May, 2016**.

Performances at Thornbury Methodist Church Hall begin at 7.45pm.

Tickets £7.

Contact Tel : 01454 414749/ 01454 600503 or available on the door.

The charity we are supporting with this production is **Cancer Research UK**.

Please come along, have a good evening out and show them your support.

Tri a triathlon in 2016

Join us for this year's 1st Annual Players Sprint Triathlon on **Sunday 2nd October 2016** at The Players Golf Club, Codrington. (Plenty of advance warning to get in training!)



The West of England MS Therapy Centre is hosting this event to help raise vital funds and awareness of the treatments and therapies the Centre provides to people with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) and other neurological conditions within the Greater Bristol area.

The Players Sprint Triathlon is aimed at all levels of fitness and ability and is the perfect event for newcomers to the sport and a fantastic finish to the 2016 season for the more experienced athlete. The event starts with a 750m open-water swim in the golf courses lake, then a 20km bike ride along the country lanes of Codrington and it finishes with a 5km run along the championship golf course itself. The event includes secure bike racking, chip timing, medal and goody bag for all finishers, changing and shower facilities. The Clubhouse will be serving hot refreshments throughout the day. You can enter either as an individual, a relay team of two, or a relay team of three. Relay entries can be all male, all female or mixed. To find out more about the event and to register visit mstherapybristol.org.uk/triathlon

The MS Therapy Centre has never turned anyone away. Please help us to keep our promise in months and years to come.

Emma Sansom, Events and Community Fundraiser, 01454 628725.

Cancer Research UK

Coffee Morning

The Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee are holding a Coffee Morning at the **Alveston Methodist Church Hall on Wednesday 4th May between 10am and 12midday.**

There will be homemade Cakes, Jams, Chutneys, Used Books, Jewellery and Cards for sale together with an opportunity to win some wonderful Raffle Prizes.

Please come along and support us in raising funds for this very worthwhile Charity.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Thornbury Orchestra Concert

11th June 7.30, Castle School. Music by Dvořák, Shostakovich, Mendelssohn and Frith. Conductor Chris Hill. Leader Janet Lewis

Tickets £8. These can be purchased via the orchestra's website www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk and at the door.

The orchestra performs all of its concerts for charity, and over the years many thousands of pounds have been raised for good causes. This summer the charity is "Thornbury Area Youth Music" www.thornbury-music.org

Dvořák 8th Symphony 1889

Dvořák tried to achieve a marked difference to his 7th Symphony, a stormy romantic work: "different from the other symphonies, with individual thoughts worked out in a new way". The Eighth is cheery and lyrical and draws its inspiration more from the Bohemian folk music that Dvořák loved.

Mendelssohn The overture A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Overture in E major, Op. 21, was written by Mendelssohn at 17 years and 6 months old (it was finished on 6 August 1826). The piece is also noted for its striking instrumental effects, such as the emulation of scampering 'fairy feet' at the beginning and the braying of Bottom as an ass.

Shostakovich Suite for Variety Orchestra

Confusingly this is also known as Jazz Suite number 2. However that piece composed in 1938, originally thought lost, it was found in 1999. The Suite for Variety Orchestra was written after 1956 as a collection of movements which derive from other works by the composer. The suite is in 8 movements and includes a wide variety of extra instruments such as accordion, guitar and pianos.

John Frith Prologue from the Wanderer Suite

The Prologue is a programmatic account of Masfield's American trip designed to establish a foundation for the Wanderer Suite - eight settings of Masfield's 'Salt-Sea Ballads' for Choir and Orchestra. This work was commissioned by the Ledbury International Poetry Festival in 2006 and premiered that same year.

Thornbury Chamber Players

Following the success of Thornbury Orchestra a new group, Thornbury Chamber Players, has been set up to play repertoire for smaller string ensembles. Rehearsals take place in Thornbury on Thursday evenings. Players interested in joining are asked to email Guy Halley guy@thornburyorchestra.org.uk

Tea and Talk for St Peter's Hospice



ST PETER'S HOSPICE SEVERNSIDE SUPPORT GROUP would be delighted to welcome you to Afternoon High Tea on **Wednesday 25th May at the Methodist Church Hall in Thornbury at 2.30pm**. The guest speaker will be **Mrs Jane Fearnley Whittingstall, Garden Designer, Author, Columnist and Grandma**. Tickets are priced at £10.00 (to include a full home-made high tea) and are available from Thornbury Town Hall from 2nd May or pay on the door.

Please support St Peters – your local Hospice.

Nostalgic Concert - 'On Air Again!'

Come along and be part of the studio audience at Thornbury's 'Television Centre' for a trip down memory lane or to gain an insight into yesteryear. On 3rd and 4th June (including a matinée) the Thornbury Musical Theatre Group will be bringing the home-produced concert 'On Air Again!' to the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury. Like its prequel 'On Air' in 2005 in which the world of radio was explored, the sequel 'On Air Again!' is a concert which explores the world of television and brings to the stage the sight and sound of television, from the 30 lines of John Logie Baird through to the high definition of the modern era. The journey will include some great popular songs across the decades from the 1920s to the present day, songs associated with the all-time great television performers, popular hits synonymous with programmes like Top of the Pops, and so much more. This variety entertainment will appeal to mixed age groups and tastes in entertainment. Like its prequel, the box office is likely to be very busy for 'On Air Again!', so don't delay in booking a seat.

Including a matinée, there will be only three performances - on **Friday 3rd June at 7.30 pm and on Saturday 4th June at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm**.

Tickets are bookable online at www.tmtg.org.uk. £12 Adults (Concessions £10), and a family ticket for 4 costs £36. Group discounts of 10% can be arranged via our Box Office for 10+ seats. For enquiries call Angie at the Box Office on 07516 270140. Tickets will also be available at Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings at 53 High Street, Thornbury in early May.

For more information about 'On Air Again!' and our group generally, take a look at www.tmtg.org.uk or contact us by e-mail at membership@tmtg.org.uk. You can also follow us on Facebook.

AFL Update

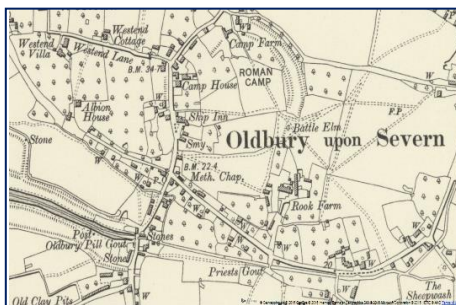
Here's the latest from A Forgotten Landscape, the local Landscape Partnership project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund.



Working with volunteers is at the heart of our projects. All the training is free – and no experience is necessary. We promise to help you every step of the way.

Discover the past! Tales of the Vale – for History research volunteers

Interested in the past? Always wanted to know more about your family's history, old buildings, or your area? Historian Virginia Bainbridge will show you how to discover the past hidden in archives, photo records, and other historical sources.



Map of Oldbury in the 1890s

Working with Water Voles - a monitoring project

Help monitor these rare, fascinating and elusive creatures in the rhines of Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston. Nationally rare, they do quite well in this unexpected environment! You must be able to attend a full day training on Sat 14 May.



A rhine waking up to spring

For more information please contact Katie Scaife on 01454 863 043 or email Katie.scaife@southglos.gov.uk. Alternatively visit our website at www.aforgottenlandscape.org.uk, or our Facebook page.

Thornbury Library

Consultation on the Future of Library Services Have Your Say – Consultation Closes 13 May

South Gloucestershire Council is consulting with residents about changes to the library service, which are required because of reduced funding from government. The consultation is based on proposals that would allow the service to reduce funding by £650,000 a year. However it is important to note that no decisions have yet been made on how these savings could be delivered.

There are a range of options and proposals described in the consultation. The current consultation runs for 12 weeks, until 13 May. During that time there will be consultation forms for people to make their views known and these are supported by a number of drop-in sessions at libraries to allow residents to find out more about the current proposals and to make their views known. We are encouraging people to let us have their views on the proposals details of which can be found at **www.southglos.gov.uk/librarychanges**

Severn Vale Art Trail at Thornbury Library Fri 29 April – Sat 7 May

Throughout this year's Art Trail Thornbury Library will be showing a slideshow of participating artists' work including photography by Tom Vooght. The slideshow will be available to view on our plasma screen during library opening hours. If the slideshow is not showing at the time of your visit please ask a member of library staff, who will be happy to run it on demand. Please note that Thornbury Library is closed on Thursdays and Sundays – see **www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries/thornbury** for opening times. Printed copies of the Severn Vale Art Trail guide are available from Thornbury Library.

Memory Service Drop-In - Tuesday 3 May 2-4pm

Are you worried about your memory, or the memory of a relative or friend?

Drop in for a chat with staff from the Memory Service (Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust) who will be at Thornbury Library on Tues 3 May from 2-4pm. This is a free service and there is no need to book. Further date to follow on 7 June (2-4pm).

Children's Half-Term Holiday Drop-In Activity – Tues 31 May 11am-12.00

Drop-in for free family fun, aimed at primary-aged children. Adult supervision required, no child under 8 years to be left unattended.

Chatterbooks Reading Group For Children Aged 9-11 Years

New Members Welcome – Next Meeting Saturday 21 May 2-3pm

Chatterbooks reading group meets monthly on Saturday afternoons in Thornbury Library. Children discuss specially selected book titles and take part in fun activities related to books. There is no cost to take part. Parents and carers of interested children should email

thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk to arrange their child's place.

An Evening with Four Classically Trained Voices

Four third-year students from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff performed in Thornbury and Alveston last Christmas to much public acclaim in the solo roles in Handel's Messiah with the Alveston Singers.

It is with real pleasure and pride that we can announce that the four singers have agreed to return for a special concert at **7.30pm on Saturday May 7th in the Baptist Church, Gillingstool, Thornbury.**

Local residents may be aware of the musical progress and prowess of Thornbury born-and-bred Aaron Holmes (Baritone). He appeared with Tom Perkins (Tenor), Cristina Negoescu (Mezzo) and Grace Wyatt (Soprano) at the performance of last year's Messiah, and Cristina and Grace also sang at a recent performance in Thornbury of Stabat Mater.

The concert given by these four young, talented performers will feature their favourite songs and recital pieces and will include classical pieces, musical theatre songs and even the odd traditional folk song.

Any proceeds from the concert will be donated to the Armstrong Hall Redevelopment Project (Phase 1) which is concentrating initially on the dressing room area used regularly by youth groups and local Am. Dram. Groups, as well as by professional performers at the annual Arts Festival.

This is a rare chance to appreciate the talent of outstanding students who, who knows, may one day appear at the highest level of our national musical scene.

Tickets at £10 each (£5 for under 18s) can be obtained from Thornbury Town Hall or from Thornbury Baptist Church or by phoning 01454 412272.

Alveston Gardens Association Annual Plant Sale

We will be holding our Annual Plant Sale at 9.30am on Saturday 7th May in Alveston Methodist Hall.



Be there early
to get the best choice!



Alveston Singers

invite you to their Summer 2016 concerts to celebrate

The Fair Season

with

♪ Dvorak's 'Songs of Nature'

♪ Elgar's 'From the Bavarian Highlands'

plus

♪ a selection of traditional and folk songs

Saturday 18 June
Methodist Church
Alveston

7.30pm

Saturday 25 June
United Reformed Church
Thornbury

Free admission with retiring collection for

Meningitis NOW & BRACE

Could you volunteer for Carers Support Centre?

Could you make a difference to someone who is ill or disabled?

Do you want to give a carer a break?

Carers Support Centre runs a sitting service in South Gloucestershire which gives companionship. The local charity links volunteers with family carers and the person they care for. They provide this service FREE to carers in South Gloucestershire, but currently have a long waiting list and they urgently need to recruit more volunteers.

A carer is someone who cares, unpaid, for a family member or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health problems.

Volunteers are motivated by their desire to help carers; and they give their time regularly and build a relationship with the cared for person. They typically volunteer for 2- 3 hours per week or fortnight. They are given training and ongoing support. Their help means a carer can take regular time out...to meet friends, go shopping, or simply enjoy a hobby.

Marilyn Crump, Sitting Service Co-ordinator explains:

"A volunteer needs to be someone a carer can trust and who wants to build a relationship with the cared for person. We take time to find out about and train

volunteers so that we can match them carefully to a family. This means that carers can take a regular break in complete confidence that the person they care for will be happy and safe.”

The service relies on volunteers who offer companionship, care and compassion by spending quality time with the cared for individual. If you are a sensitive, friendly and reliable person, with a few hours a week to spare this could be the perfect opportunity for you.

Ray is 69 and cares for his wife, Irene. She has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's. They have been married for 48 years and, for the last three, Irene has been a totally different person: it has been heart-breaking for him. Since Irene's diagnosis Ray has experienced a loss of independence, until he found a sitter through the Carers Support Centre.



They matched Irene with Barbara, who visits once a week and the two have really hit it off. Ray is really enjoying being able to see his friends again. He said, “The sitting service is a lifesaver. It is just two hours a week, but you can put up with an awful lot if you know that you can get a break. It's the only time I meet up with friends I've known for 50

years. Barbara is a very creative person and Irene always seems to be quite happy when I get back in. Just recently Barbara has got Irene knitting again. She has always enjoyed art and craft work.”

Thornbury Choral Society Concert

Thornbury Choral Society will be holding their next concert at **The Castle School, Thornbury on Saturday May 7th at 7.30pm.**

The works to be performed are Rossini's William Tell overture, Rossini's exciting Stabat Mater and Schubert's lovely Mass in G. The concert will be conducted by Steven Kings and accompanied by Thornbury Camerata. The soloists are Christina Birchall-Sampson (soprano). Helen Ann Gregory (alto), Richard Belshaw (tenor) and Min Kim (bass).

Tickets cost £12 (£2 under 16) and may be obtained from Thornbury Town Hall, from any Thornbury Choral Society member or from Ruth Piolle (01454-416518 or email ruthpiolle@tiscali.co.uk).

Yours Faithfully

Ann Roberts, Aust Evangelical Church

When I retired five years ago, I had dreams of relaxing with a good book and taking life at a much slower pace, but like many others I've found that God had other ideas and as it says in Ephesians: "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."

One of those activities is my involvement in the NW Bristol Foodbank, which began when one Saturday morning I was greeted at the entrance to a local supermarket by Alison Rowe, Rev. Philip Rowe's wife. She was collecting for the Foodbank and asked me to donate some food to the collection. A useful conversation ensued which resulted in our Church collecting food over the Christmas period and my donating it to Avonmouth Foodbank, which was then the nearest outlet in operation. Since then I've volunteered as a helper in Emmanuel Chapel, Henbury Foodbank, collected at various supermarket doorways and am now a Trustee for the Trussell Trust in NW Bristol.

For me every Friday morning is the most fulfilling of the week. Many people seem to think that the Foodbank clients are refugees, but in reality I spend that morning with local people, who for one reason or another are in the crisis situation of having no food and little or no money. Single mums, families on low incomes, the recently unemployed, the long-term sick and those with mental health problems – I meet them all and each one will eventually get benefits, but in a system which makes frequent re-assessments, crises occur and too often these unfortunate folk are left temporarily with nothing.

We are immensely grateful to everyone who donates to the Foodbank and to the well-known store at Cribbs Causeway which donates fruit and vegetables to us three times a week. What a joy to send people home with bags of quality food and many return when their fortunes have altered, to donate something to the next needy family. Jesus told the story of the righteous and the unrighteous in Matthew 25 and commended those who fed and clothed the needy, concluding: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me." For me it is certainly "more blessed to give than receive." (Acts 20 v35). Have you thought of giving or getting involved in some way? The rewards are great - and the books will keep for holidaytime!

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

May 1	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Revs A Lloyd & P Rowe
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Mr Trevor Cook
May 5	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ann Lloyd
May 8	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Morning Prayer with Choir	Mrs Janet McBride
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Olveston Course	Revs P Rowe & S Williams
May 15	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Helen Webb
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe & Canon Chris Pullin
	3.45	Back to Front	Paul Harrod
	6pm	Evensong	Mr Denis Jones
May22	11am	Joint Holy Communion Service	Rev P Rowe & P Harrod
May29	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Morning Prayer	Mr Trevor Cook
	6pm	Holy Communion(BCP) with Choir	Rev Ann Lloyd

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk

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

Verger: **Mrs. June Robbins**, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

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

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

May 8	5.30	Holy Communion.	Rev. Ann Parker
May22	5.30	Evening Service	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

May 1	4.30	End of Pilgrimage(approx. time)	Mrs Sandra Edgerton
May15	9am	Holy Communion	Rev Jules Barnes

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

May8	9am	Matins	Sandra Edgerton
May22	8am	Holy Communion	T.B.A.

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

May 1	10am	Toc.k Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Pete Brazier
May 8	10am 6pm	Olv. Ch. Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Debs Brazier Evening Worship with St Andrews led by Rev Jonsing Lee
May 15	10am 2pm	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr David Head Pentecost Celebration at Hanham Mount
May22	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr John Creech
May29	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev S. Williams

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed. 11th May.

To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm in the Swan on Thurs 19th May. To book please ring 613241 or 612112

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

PRAYER MEETING Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olv. Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUPS Tues 3rd May at 6 Manor Close at 10.30am and 19th May at 7 The Green Olveston at 10.30

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC Olveston Methodist Hall

Monday 2-4pm Wednesday 10-12 Friday 7-9pm

Ring 07833 354672 or 07957 433091 for further information.

CREAM TEAS Served on Tockington Green, or in the Chapel if wet, on Bank Holiday Mondays 2nd & 30th May 2.30-5.00pm

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176,

e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer & conversational Bible studies incorporating Communion, on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm We also visit other Churches and events so please check our Notice Board or contact .

Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07512 917229 or email:

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

May 1	6.30pm	Tony McQueen
May 8	6.30pm	Steve Loader
May 15	6.30pm	James Guilford
May 22	6.30pm	BEMC Concert
May 29	6.30pm	Lyall Drewitt

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & PraiseTime

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

Paul Ashford, 07774 110 814 or email: **Paul@CalebGroup.net**

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH

 Family Worship 11.00am

For more details contact **Ann Roberts** 632564.

e-mail ann.roberts@bylanes.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.ctlk-thornbury.org.uk

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Roger Howell at **rogerhowell2@talktalk.net** 01454 415035

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

Diary Dates for May 2016

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

1 st Sun	Thornbury Arts Trail until 8 th Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social club	7pm	
2 nd Mon	Children's Movie Club Computer Clinic every week Cream Teas, Tockington Green or Chapel Monday Movie	10.00am 2-4pm 2.30-5.00 7.30pm	S+M MH TCh S+M
3 rd Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Royal British Legion (Women) Five Alive	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	DGCL DGCL
4 th Wed	Computer Clinic every week Holy Communion at Daldry Gardens Table Tennis	10.00-12.00 2.30pm 7-8.30pm	MH DGCL PH
5 th Thu	Police & Crime Commissioner Election Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	7am-10pm 9-1pm 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	PH OS+ MH
6 th Fri	Thornbury Carers Support Group Computer Clinic every week	1.00-3.00 7-9pm	Chy MH
7 th Sat	Coffee Morning Stepping Stones Open/Fun Day	10.30-12.00 2.00-4.00	MH EVH
10 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café W.I. Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30pm	DGCL TMH PH EVH
11 th Wed	Table Tennis	7-8.30pm	PH
12 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
14 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	MH AVH
15 th Sun	Queen's 90 th Birthday Celebration		S+M
16 th Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	S+M
17 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Olveston Annual Parish Assembly Royal British Legion (Women) Bingo	10.30-12.00 7.30-9.30 7.30pm	DGCL PH DGCL
18 th Wed	Severn. Vale. Flower Club Table Tennis Bosom Buddies at Swan Inn Thornbury Th. Meth. Players 'Strangers in the House'	2pm 7-8.30pm 7.30pm 7.45	AH PH

	'til Sat 21st		TMH
18 th Wed	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	8.30pm	
19 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1pm 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
20 th Fri	Th. Picture House 'Of Horses and Men'	7.30	CH
21 st Sat	Coffee Morning	10-30-12.00	MH
24 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café Olveston. Parish Council meeting	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	DGCL TMH AP
25 th Wed	Beat Surgery Table Tennis Alv. Local History Soc Anti-Slavery Movement in Bristol (plus A.G.M.)	10.30-11am 7-8.30pm 7.30pm	OS+ PH AMC
26 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
28 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
29 th Sun	Aust Quiz Night at Boar's Head	7.30pm	
30 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Cream Teas, Tockington Green or Chapel	10.00am 2.30-5.00	S+M TCh
31 st Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
Looking ahead to June			
25 th	School and Church Fete	2.00-4.30	

KEY: AC Aust Church; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Alv Meth. Ch.; AMH- Alv Meth. Hall; AP – Alexandra Pavilion; AVH – Aust Village Hall; ; CH – Cossham Hall; Chy – Chantry ;CS Castle Sch. CTk Christ the King DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton Village Hall; LVH Littleton Village Hall MH – Olv. Meth. Hall; OMC Olv Meth Ch OS – Olv. School; OS+ – Olv. Stores; OV – Olv Vicarage; PH – Olv Parish Hall; StM St Mary's Church, Olv.; StMA Almondsbury Church StMT St Mary's Thorn TCh Tock Chapel; TBCh - Thornbury Baptist Church; TMH – Thorn. Methodist Hall; ; WR – Wesley Rooms. WHLS White Hart L-O-S

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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