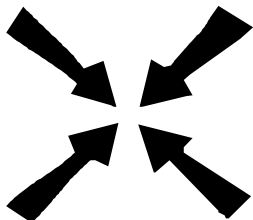


Meeting Point



November 2013



Meeting Point

Volume 38, Number 2, November 2013

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

EDITOR:

Phyllida Pyper
Stock Farm
Littleton upon Severn
Bristol BS35 1NL
Tel: 01454 416422
meetingpointeditor@gmail.com

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

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

ADVERTISING:

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

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**Material for December 2013
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 4th November 2013.**

From the Editor

The first pages of November Meeting Point are given over to remembrance of those who gave their lives for us during all the wars of the last almost one hundred years. Next year marks the centenary of the start of the 'Great War' of 1914-18 and on page 11 you will find details of how Olveston proposes to commemorate this. Meeting Point would be pleased to publicise any plans other parts of the area may have.

Also in the magazine: a fireworks display at Aust, a new use for a redundant telephone box in Tockington, an abseil in aid of St Peter's Hospice and, as usual, a variety of articles aimed to interest and involve every age group in the area.

The cover: The newly refurbished War Memorial outside St Mary's Church Olveston, photographed by Peter Haworth (see article on page 3)

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**

Oveston War Memorial

Richard Rogers
(olvestonpc@gmail.com)

This month the country commemorates all those who have given their lives in the 1st and 2nd World Wars and subsequent conflicts. It also gives us an opportunity to think of those who have fought, or are fighting on our behalf across the World.

It is easy to imagine, when the War Memorial was first erected at St Mary's Church nearly 100 years ago, how the junction adjacent to the White Hart looked without the raised pedestrian walkways, and five steps focussing up to the War Memorial. Since then, the lowest steps have been absorbed into the footpath, causing a tripping hazard and damaged by vehicles negotiating the junction. The steps too (made from locally mined sandstone) have been badly ravaged by the elements and breaking up, causing health and safety concerns as well as being an eyesore.

Despite changes to both the Parochial Church and Civil Parish boundaries since the War Memorial was first erected, Oveston Parish Council has retained responsibility for its upkeep, and two years ago agreed to undertake necessary repairs. Given the presence of the pedestrian walkway, the Parish Council decided to keep any redesign within the curve of the existing churchyard walls and to add a further step, to ensure the War Memorial was easily accessible from all sides.

Whilst replacing the steps with single stone blocks was considered, it proved to be very expensive, and so the Parish Council (in conjunction with the contractor Country Developments (Bristol) Ltd) identified stone and cappings that they felt were in keeping with the colour and style of surrounding buildings, whilst endeavouring to ensure that the result would last as long as the initial steps.

Financially, the Parish Council sought funding from a variety of national bodies, but without success. Instead the Parochial Church Council and the Parish Hall Management Committee kindly made donations and, together with realistic costings, the Parish Council was able to fund the recent work.

The Parish Council has since been grateful for many positive comments about the refurbishments, and hopes to arrange for the monument itself to be properly cleaned in time for 2014 commemorations of the start of the Great War.

The Mystery of St Mary's Great War Crosses

Nick Fear

Against the rear boundary wall of St. Mary's churchyard are two well crafted wooden crosses of similar design. One is inscribed; 'To the memory of A.W.L. Turner of the Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps, severely wounded Gallipoli 1914 – 1918 war. Died at Wickwar 29th December 1964. Aged 73 years'.

Its neighbour reads; 'In memory of Captain F. McL. Mitchell 18 Hrs, 2ndLt. K. L. Turner, 325233 Cpl. E. Richardson, Worcester Yeomanry. Killed in Action 2.5.18.'

Arthur William Lindsay Turner, born in Nottinghamshire, worked as a tea plantation manager in Ceylon. As with many planters, he joined a local militia in 1907 and, at the outbreak of war, transferred to Ceylon Planters Rifle Corps for active service abroad. He initially found himself defending the Suez Canal against Turkish attacks alongside Australian and New Zealand Forces. In April 1915 his corps went ashore with them at Anzac Cove on Gallipoli. After five days under fire he was shot through both thighs which necessitated him being evacuated for treatment. Sadly his injuries were so serious that they resulted in him having his right leg amputated. To a lesser man this would have ended his war service, but Arthur returned to England, took a Commission in the Royal Artillery to command an anti aircraft battery. He returned to Ceylon at war's end.

Captain Frederick McLellan Mitchell, a Londoner, was a member of Cambridge University Officer Training Corps. He took a Regular Army Commission with the 18th Hussars at the outbreak of war in 1914 and rose through the ranks. In 1917 he was awarded the Military Cross for gallantry in the field.

Second Lieutenant Kenneth Leigh Turner was born in Nottinghamshire and in 1901 took an overseas posting as a Police Officer in South Africa. He served in a mounted militia there, but returned to England in 1917 to volunteer for the army. Giving his occupation as a rancher he joined the Kings Royal Rifle Corps but was soon granted a Commission, transferring to the Cavalry.

325233 Corporal Edward Richardson from Leeds joined the Worcestershire Yeomanry at the outbreak of war. He was promoted after basic training and went to Egypt along with his regiment in 1915.

On the 2nd of May 1918 the Worcestershire Yeomanry and other units were fighting in the Jordan Valley area of Palestine. Holding a line near the village of Es Salt, they were ordered to make an attack on a hilly crest above. Intelligently led by Captain Mitchell the assault proceeded single file in the cover of a wadi. The shelter soon ended and the war diary records the mountainous and strong nature of the countryside over which the troops advanced. At first the uphill struggle went well and was unopposed, but then about 30 Turks were seen approaching the ridge above from the east, 40 more on a neighbouring one. Both sides were intent on reaching the highest point in the area. Speed became essential and orders were received to advance to the objective by the most direct route. Half the force moved onwards leaving the rest as a supporting rear guard. About 150 yards from the summit the leading troops came under shell fire. They then had to move to the right to avoid precipitous cliffs, allowing the Turkish troops to pour accurate rifle fire on them and then on the rear guard. It became impossible to advance further and all troops had to retire to hold their original lines. At roll call it was discovered that 11 men had been wounded, and sadly Captain Mitchell, Second Lieutenant Turner and their Corporal Signaller, Edward Richardson had been killed. Due to the location and fortunes of war the three were buried with care nearby, but after Armistice moved to the tranquillity of Jerusalem War Cemetery where they still occupy the same grave.

The connection between the two Olveston crosses? Research shows that Arthur and Kenneth were brothers. It seems fitting that the three Worcestershire Yeomanry men are mentioned on the same Olveston cross, as they shared the same fate and graves. However, it begs the question as to why are they placed where they are?

Immediately in front of the crosses is the grave of Charles, Isabella and Diana Turner, who lived in Old Down. Charles Edward Turner had served with distinction in the Great War with the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars Yeomanry, rising to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He had fought at Gallipoli and in the Middle East and was the brother of Kenneth and Arthur. Was it he who had the crosses placed so near to the family plot? Parish records may provide a fuller answer as to their siting, but some memorials seem complemented by an air of mystery and this may be the case with the two crosses. The names of 38 men are recorded on St Mary's war memorial; I believe that they would approve of the commemoration of the four comrades in arms remembered in the same churchyard.



Remembrance Sunday Parade - Sunday 10th November 2013

The Parade will muster at the Parish Hall in Tockington at 09.15 and will March off at 09.30. The Parade will halt at Green Lane Garage on the junction with Orchard Rise at approximately 09.40 where it will be joined by the Standards and members of The Royal British Legion. Once fully assembled, the Parade will continue onwards to St Mary's Church for the annual Service of Remembrance.

The Parade is always well supported by the village and we look forward to seeing you there again this year.

Martin J Scott JP
Lt Col (Retd)
Chairman – RBL Olveston

Royal British Legion - Women's Section

We meet monthly on the first Tuesday, 7.30pm at Daldry Gardens Community Rooms, Olveston.

Our last meeting was held on Tuesday 3rd October and it was our AGM. It was suggested that we let Meeting Point know about our activities to encourage new members. As they had done such an excellent job and all wanted to continue serving, last year's committee was re elected: Joyce Parker, President, a member of BL for 60 years, Peggy Oakhill, Chair, Judy Bully, Secretary, Pam Wasley, Treasurer. Sally Cole and Rose Brown are the "official tea monitors", an essential ingredient for a good meeting.

Our next meeting is November 5th and the proceedings from Bingo will be donated to the Poppy Appeal. Please bring along a small item for the raffle. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided free of charge. We hope to see lots of new faces – why not come along?
Pat King

The Great War remembered

A commemoration of WWI by Olveston Parish is being planned for October 17th & 18th 2014, to be presented in St Mary's church in aid of the Poppy Appeal. This will take the form of a compilation of drama, poetry and prose under the direction of Linda Evans, and music under the direction of David Shaw, with a section for local parishioners to tell their personal reminiscences of relatives and friends involved in the Great War. This already promises to be a poignant experience.

The new staging, generously given to the church by a legacy from the late Carmen and Freddie Pitts, will give an added dimension to the visual effects. Rehearsals will commence after Easter on Tuesday evenings in St Mary's to enable us to put together what is hoped will be a very memorable occasion. This will be a thought provoking and moving project for all concerned, whether assisting on the technical side, helping with the period costumes or as a performer.

If you would like to contribute in any way please contact Linda Evans on 01454 413887 or David Shaw on 01454 612781 or Roly Bain, who has kindly agreed to take on the role as advisor, on 01454 616593.

This is my life

Wed Nov 6th at St Mary's, Olveston

Still Redeeming the Dream—Challenge of a Lifetime
Prof Mary Grey, Roman Catholic Liberation Theologian

Wed, Nov 13th at St Mary's, Olveston

The Life & Times of a Has-Dean!

The Very Revd Nick Bury, ex Dean of Gloucester Cathedral

Thurs, Nov 21st at St Mary's, Olveston

Didn't she do well!

The Ven Christine Froude, Archdeacon of Malmesbury

Mon, Nov 25th at Olveston Methodist Church

The Glory of God is a Human Being Fully Alive

Elisabeth Gilpin, Head teacher, St Mary Redcliffe & Temple School

Each speaker talks for 45 minutes about their life and their journey of faith, then there's time for questions and then refreshments. Admission free.

Each evening begins at 7.30pm and aims to be over by 9pm.

Any queries to Roly Bain, 01454 616593

Village Person: Pat Savage

– Parish Hall Chairman

Pat Thirkettle

Pat was born in Ferbane, Co Offaly in Ireland, one of six children. They had a happy rural childhood and were convent educated. When she was sixteen her father's job moved him to Oldbury Power Station and the family relocated to Bristol. At this point she found herself in a mixed sex city comprehensive - quite a change.

She must have adapted well, as after three years she left to become an articled clerk in a Bristol firm of accountants. There she met her husband Roger; they married in 1975 and lived at Claverham. Sadly her mother died two years later. A year later Roger's father died, at which point they moved to Thornbury to be near his mother.

While Roger remained with the Bristol firm, Pat started her own accountancy business in Thornbury when the first of her four sons was a year old. She says she was never a 'domestic goddess'; running her own business enabled her to work around childcare. They had a 'wonderful' girl who looked after the boys for ten years. In 1990 they bought their present house in Olveston. In 1992 Roger joined Pat in the business which was then in Thornbury High Street, and in 2008 they relocated the business to Olveston.

Being so busy with children and her own business Pat had limited time to be involved with village activities. She did, however, join Olveston and Tockington Tennis Club. In 2006/7 June Robbins suggested that she become treasurer of the Parish Hall while John Jones was Chairman and later Geoff Chappell. This year Geoff stood down and Pat took over. During Geoff's tenure the hall underwent a complete overhaul and is now a very desirable venue for many activities including weddings.

Pat is keen to see more community events take place at the Hall; the recent Jazz Evening and Harvest Supper being good examples. The next event will be the Fish and Quiz evening on Saturday 23 November.

The Hall now has a number of regular bookings including U3A Film Society; black out blinds are being fitted to give a more cinematic effect! A very lively Table Tennis Club meets on Monday mornings, with the WI continuing to meet every alternate Tuesday. Those wishing for a more energetic work out can join the Zumba classes on Wednesday evening; dancing classes are on Fridays.

Continued overleaf

The Hall is very fortunate to be part of the Rural Arts Touring in Wiltshire and S Gloucestershire, whereby the artists are paid by Rural Arts; the Hall then remits 75% of the takings on the door. During the current year the Hall staged *Men in General* which was a great success. In May The Strongman made an appearance in the car park in the wind and the rain! The spring 2014 production is *Crusoe*.

All events are advertised in Meeting Point; please check the diary at the rear of the magazine.

Parking around Olveston School

Further to the article in September's *Meeting Point*, Olveston Parish Council is pleased to report that the community parking area on the verge near the allotments on Aust Road is now available for use. The footpath from the parking area to Elberton Road has been levelled and covered with wood chippings to help maintain it.

The police will now be enforcing parking restrictions around the Elberton Road/Aust Road junction. They will be issuing warnings to drivers who park within 10 metres of the junction, with fines for repeat offenders for 'unnecessary obstruction'.

The aim is to ease congestion around the junction at school times.

Now the parking area is operational, road users should avoid parking anywhere on Aust Road itself (even if further than 10 metres from Elberton Road), and instead use the parking area on the verge. This is to avoid pedestrians stepping out from parked vehicles into single lane traffic that has poor visibility.

If you have any questions, please contact olvestonpc@gmail.com or 07780572594.

The next step to improve road safety around the school will be a consultation by South Gloucestershire Council in the next few months, regarding a 20mph speed limit near the school and time-limited parking restrictions near the church to improve visibility in that location at school times.

Olveston Parish Council
October 2013

Olveston School Outdoor Classroom

From the school newsletter:

“A huge thank you to FOOS (Friends of Olveston School) PTA and Parents for raising the £6000 to build an outdoor classroom. The outdoor classroom now sits beautifully on our school field and will provide a wonderful place to go for lessons and playtimes. At lunchtimes the classroom will be used for crafts, drawing and reading or just a place to sit and be still!”

"It is fantastic because it only took two days to build and now we can use it forever!" - Kai and Alexi

"I think our learning is going to be very fun in it" – Charlotte

"I like it because in our school the outdoor classroom will help us to do even more outdoor learning" - Francesca

"It's a bit of a shelter, we can be taught in the outdoor classroom and then go and do the den building etc." – Max



Ta dah! Key Stage 1 children show off the new outdoor classroom

SOS: 'Hello Dolly' (Parish Players 2014 production)

urgently needs more chorus members. Rehearsals are on Mondays and Thursdays at 7.30 in the parish hall, but not everyone is needed for each one. It's fun all the way! If you'd like to join in, call Linda Evans on 01454 413887.



Cook's Calendar: November

Natasha Harrod

Scrumptious Sausage Casserole with Cheesy Mash

As the leaves fall and the evenings chill, I long for a log fire and something warming. This casserole is just perfect for bonfire night; you can prepare it in advance and pop it in when you return, feet numb and the smell of wood smoke on your hair. Serves 6.

1 tablespoon of sunflower oil
12 sausages (I use Powell's breakfast sausages)
6 rashers smoked streaky bacon, chopped into small pieces
2 medium onions, chopped
2 garlic cloves, chopped or crushed
1 teaspoon paprika
2x 500g cartons of tomato passata (or used chopped tinned tomatoes)
300ml chicken stock
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
1 tablespoon dark brown sugar
½ teaspoon dried thyme
2 bay leaves
350g red lentils

For the topping:
6 large potatoes
150g grated Cheddar cheese
100 ml milk
1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
Salt to taste

Heat the oven to 180C

Heat the grill and then brown the sausages, watching to ensure they do not explode. They do not need to be fully cooked at this stage.

Heat the oil in a large lidded casserole then add the bacon pieces and brown, setting to one side when they are done. Add the onions to the pan, adding more oil if necessary, and soften over a gentle heat. Add the garlic and cook,

stirring frequently, for another couple of minutes until the onions are beginning to brown, then add the paprika.

Stir in the tomato passata, stock, Worcestershire sauce, brown sugar, herbs and lentils. Add the sausages and bacon, cover with a well-fitting lid and cook for 30 minutes in the preheated oven.

While this is cooking, peel and chop the potatoes, then boil until soft enough to mash. Drain and mash with the milk. When the mash is smooth I usually use an electric whisk to make the mash light and fluffy. Stir in the grated Cheddar, allow to soften in the hot mash then add salt and mustard to taste.

If you are going to eat the casserole straight away, spread the mash on top of the sausage and lentil mix and put back in the oven to crisp on top. If you intend to eat it later, allow both the sausage mix and the potatoes to cool before layering the potato, as it's easier to spread when cold. Heat thoroughly before eating with delight.

Movies at St Mary's: Nov

Trevor Anderson



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

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

Mon 4th Nov at 7.30pm: This compelling anti-war masterpiece from world-class director/writer Stanley Kubrick is a blistering indictment of military politics and an

unforgettable movie experience. Our film for Remembrance Week. *Cert PG*

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

Mon 18th Nov at 7.30pm: A woman who's spent 15 years in prison is released into the care of her younger sister's family. Kirsten Scott Thomas gives a sensational performance in this intelligent, compassionate and deeply-moving BAFTA award-winning French drama.

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

No holidays in Nov ('boo!') so no CMC.

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

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

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper

austparishcouncil@googlemail.com

What are your views on future development in the parish?

South Gloucestershire Council has launched a consultation on a Policies Sites and Places Plan to set out planning policies in rural areas. The plan, once made, will supplement the Core Strategy. It is intended to cover:

- new polices to be used to decide planning applications in the area;
- identification of new “development” in the area – such as shops, community facilities, employment;
- whether there is a need for small scale housing development in villages.

This is clearly an important consultation, and the Parish Council will be holding a special discussion on it at the start of its November meeting. If you have views, please tell your councillors or let me know. As for all council meetings, member of the public are free to attend. Details of the consultation are at www.southglos.gov.uk/policiessitesandplaces.

Road Safety in Aust

Recently there was a fatal accident at the junction of Aust main street with the A 403. The Parish Council has asked South Gloucestershire Council to remove the wide load lay-by because of the obstruction to visibility by vehicles which stop there, particularly heavy lorries. The matter will be considered by the South Gloucestershire Highway committee at its November meeting. If you think this is important, please tell South Gloucestershire Council what you think. The person to contact is Chris Studley, 01454 863751 transportservices@southglos.gov.uk

Next meeting

The next meeting will be on Tuesday 12th November.

A new date for Aust Fireworks

Friday 8th November at Manor Farm Aust

Gates open @ 6pm

Display @ 7pm

Hot Food & Drinks to buy. All proceeds go towards Church and Village Hall.
Family Ticket £10 Adults £4 Children £2

Olveston Parish Vision

The Olveston Parish Vision Steering Group is pleased to give prior notice that each household in Olveston Parish will be receiving a questionnaire during this month.

The questionnaire has been developed with help from responses to a request for views on the parish in Meeting Point and comments made at the public meeting held last year.

Completed questionnaires will help identify the community's hopes and needs as a first stage in producing The Parish Vision, this document will then set out priorities for the Parish of Olveston, demonstrating our preparedness to help ourselves, and putting the community in a stronger position to influence decisions affecting our area and offering evidence when bidding for scarce funds.

Olveston Parish Council and South Gloucestershire Council are both backing this study and providing technical support. They will use the conclusions of the work to set out their planning and spending priorities

The Parish Vision is important for Olveston Parish and can only be done with your help. So do please read the questionnaire when it arrives and complete as much as possible, we really need to hear your views and it really will make a difference.

Mark Roper
Chairman Parish Vision Steering Group

Parenting course

I will be running another parenting course for parents of 0-11 yr olds starting in November at Almondsbury Vicarage. If you are interested please contact me, Alison Rowe, on amrowe@Hotmail.co.uk so that we can find a time that suits all participants.

"Alison and friends made us all feel extremely welcome and comfortable when we turned up at the Vicarage each Friday morning for the Parenting Course. I found the dvd and discussion time full of really useful advice and relevant information about bringing up my primary school aged children. The ample supply of coffee and croissants was also a real treat for any mum not to have to make for herself!! Many thanks again." Clare Adams (mum of 3)

Kilimanjaro conquered!

Selena Power

Thank you all very much for your donations and support during the last twelve months as I prepared to climb Mount Kilimanjaro.

I reached the summit at 06.45 (04.45 your time) on Thursday 26th September after a gruelling five and a half day ascent. Conditions on top were great after we had battled through snowstorms to get there, a truly remarkable sight from up high. The picture below shows myself, Jon Gupta from JCG Expeditions (Thornbury) and Godfrey my summit guide with the Hammer Out hippo "Henry".

My just giving page remains open for those still wishing to donate. I have reached the huge target of £7,500 I set myself, however this money will continue to help and support families like my own, affected by a brain tumour diagnosis. If you prefer, you can drop your donation through my parents' letterbox at 21 Orchard Rise (cheques made payable to Hammer Out please) www.justgiving.com/selena-power2

I have been overwhelmed by good luck messages and people's generosity, thank you all very much.



The History of Thornbury Castle

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

Tony Cherry has just published a book recounting the history of Thornbury Castle and on 6th November he's coming to Olveston to tell us of some of his discoveries.



The castle's story starts with its builder, the powerful, wealthy and well-born 3rd Duke of Buckingham, Edward Stafford. It would have been difficult to predict, when he was a young boy in hiding after the beheading of his father and the confiscation of his estates, that he would reach such a position of power.

Tony will relate the fluctuating fortunes of this and subsequent owners of the castle, as well as people who visited the castle. No-one's head was secure!

It will be possible to buy copies of the book, a beautifully illustrated hardback costing £15. Buy several copies and give them to friends and family for Christmas! Tony is generously donating all the royalties to our local volunteer-run museum.

Don't miss this talk. You can come along as a visitor and pay £2 on the door. Residents of local villages very welcome! But if you'd like to join, Olveston Parish Historical Society's **annual membership** costs only £5, which you can pay on the door. There are five more talks this season, after this one.

www.olvoston.com.historical-society



Thornbury lights up for Christmas

Bristol born songstress Lauren Aquilina will be switching on the Christmas lights in Thornbury at 7pm on Tuesday 19th November. The celebrations will start on the 19th November at 5.30pm with a fun fair on the High Street and a food fair in Castle Street before the lights switch on at 7pm.

Tockington telephone box lives again

Thanks to lots of help from a number of kind Tockington residents and Olveston Parish Council, the phone in the telephone box just outside The Swan pub has been decommissioned, the structure has been spruced up and it's ready for a new lease of life. It would have been a shame to let such an iconic fixture deteriorate now that we don't need phone boxes any more, so let's use it for the community.

Currently the phone box is being used as a collection point for the Thornbury Food Bank service and we hope to put some shelves up shortly, at which point we can also use it to swap books or CDs etc. If anyone out there has any other ideas for using the box, please leave a note in the box. All non-perishable goods are welcomed by the Food Bank as long as they are within the 'sell-by' date. The box is emptied weekly - normally on a Monday evening - and every month a list of specific needs is posted inside the box

The wonderful thing is that in the first four weeks, a little over 40 items were donated. Thanks. For more information about the food bank, please email foodbank@thornburybaptistchurch.org.uk

Curry and Quiz night in aid of Arban UK

Saturday 23rd November at 7.30 in Olveston Parish Hall

The excellent Quiz master Paul Harrod will again provide an amusing and fun night, with tasty curry orchestrated by Matthew Bullock and Helen Oates. There will also be a bar, and we promise not to run out of beer this time! Teams of up to 8 people. Start thinking about your team name!
ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO STRAIGHT TO HELPING THE SLUM DWELLERS IN DHAKA BANGLADESH.
Please buy tickets in advance from Jo Jenkins (07595 493345) or Saffia Bullock (07917 276410)

Christmas fair

Where: Olveston Methodist Hall and Chapel **When:** Saturday 23 November
Time: 10.30am – 3pm

This year, for the first time in many years, there will be a Christmas Fair in the Methodist premises in Olveston.

Stalls to include: cakes and other food items; high quality craft goods for presents; Christmas decorations; cards and local books; ASNU for stocking fillers and little extras

Christmas decorations to make: with Sue Mealing

Children's area: make up your own cards and calendar (bring photos/pictures if you wish)

The Christmas Book for sale, incorporating local contributions

Music: varied programme of Christmas music throughout

Refreshments: coffee and mince pies, soup and sandwiches (lunch time), tea and cakes, soft drinks

For further information or if you have goods to sell, please contact Jennifer Bone (01454-614601) or jennifer.bone@btinternet.com

Proceeds in aid of the Methodist Building Fund and Aust Church Roof

Community Archaeology in Action

The latest temporary exhibition in our local museum displays the results of a community archaeology project in South Gloucestershire. SCARP (the **South Gloucestershire Community Archaeology Project**) was a Heritage Lottery Fund initiative to get local people involved in their historic environment by providing them with training, skills and ongoing support in archaeological techniques. Volunteers in local communities throughout the area were trained in the use of non-intrusive techniques, such as earthwork, geo-physical and building surveys. They also worked hard on documentary research of historic sites. They researched prehistoric, Roman, medieval, and Tudor and post-medieval sites, including industrial heritage locations.

The museum exhibition incorporates a travelling display put together by the SCARP project and shows the range of different sites investigated and the finds that were made. The exhibition also contains some of the museum's own material and contributions from our local Finds Liaison Officer, Kurt Adams. Come and find out how local people have made a difference to local knowledge! **Thornbury & District Museum**, Chapel St. (next to the Armstrong Hall). **FREE admission** (donations welcome). **Tues-Fri, 1-4pm; Sat, 10am-4pm.** The exhibition runs until December 2013.

News from St Mary's, Olveston

Parish Calendars

This year's calendar from St Mary's is A4 size this time, due to popular request, and features a number of organisations and people. Not only is there a picture of the whole netball squad, but there's also John Cryer playing skittles and Stan behind the counter of the Stores. At £6 it's a bargain! Available from the Stores or St Mary's church.

Antiques Road Show

On November 23rd at 7.30pm, we're having an Antiques Roadshow in St Mary's church with the help of Philip Taubenheim of Wotton Auction Rooms. This is an opportunity to bring antiques and collectables for valuation or comment, with the assurance that the items commented on will not be identified with their owners. Tickets at £6 include a meal of soup and pate, and £1 from each ticket will go to the Animal Asia Foundation which rescues exploited brown bears in China. They are available from June Robbins on 617491 or Roly Bain 616593.

Evenings on Prayer

Canon John Poarch is doing a short series of sermons on Prayer at the 6pm services at St Mary's on Nov 3rd, Nov 17th & Dec 8th. On the matter of prayer, we now have a short informal service of Morning Prayer, using the order of service that John Poarch designed, in the chancel on weekdays at 8.30am, apart from on Wednesdays when we have Communion at 9am.

Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in the October draw, held on 10th October 2013 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>		<i>Name</i>
£150	168	Ms F Milward,	Olveston
£75	510	Mr P J Floyd,	Old Down
£25	537	Mr R A Hicks,	Torpoint
£25	603	Dr E S Saunders,	Olveston
£25	583	Mrs P R Kerrison,	Olveston
£20	405	Mrs S Chick,	Olveston
£20	391	Mrs S O Shaw,	Tockington
£10	165	Mrs P A Kemp,	Stoke Lodge
£10	494	Mr J L Henniker-Heaton,	Winterbourne
£10	504	Mr C J Dawes,	Littleton-Upon-Severn
£10	312	Mr A L Maunder,	Newquay

Ride and Stride - for the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust

This was a first for the Severnside group of churches – members of several of the churches joined together to walk or ride between almost all the churches in our group (which includes the Meeting Point area, plus Alveston, Almondsbury, Compton Greenfield, Pilning and Severn Beach). Many of our churches have been helped by grants from the GCHT when they face repair costs. Examples of the grants made include works to the spire and the weathervane at Elberton, for windows and rain water goods at Littleton, re-ordering at Olveston and roof works at Almondsbury.

Denis Jones led a party of 4 walking from St Mary's church Almondsbury via Compton Greenfield, Pilning, and Northwick to Aust, and Tim Pyper led a group of 7 from St Helen's Alveston, via the churches in Tockington, Olveston, Elberton and Littleton-upon-Severn, also to Aust. We were joined by two riders on horse back and we all met for lunch in the Boar's Head. One intrepid walker then walked the other half in the afternoon! The weather was kind and we all enjoyed the walk. We were welcomed at all the churches we visited

We raised over £2,000, half of which will go to GCHT (plus quite a lot of gift aid) and the other half for the maintenance of our own Churches. The walkers from Olveston are very generously giving their share towards renewing the roof of Aust church.

We intend to take part in the countywide effort again next year – the date will be Saturday, 13th September. Put it in your diaries now! For more information, please get in touch by phone or email with Denis Jones tel 01454 612394 or denisandbrendajones@gmail.com; or Tim Pyper tel 01454 416422 or tim.pyper@btinternet.com

If you're interested in the GHCT, their website is at www.ghct.org.uk.

Another MAD (mother and daughter) Challenge

Sharon and Charley Lapworth in November 2011 abseiled down the Premier Inn in central Bristol. Having had a year off, they have decided to do a natural abseil down the Avon Gorge on Sunday 17th November.

It would be wonderful to raise £350 for St. Peter's Hospice and hopefully enjoy the view on the way down.

Sponsorship would be very much appreciated by going to

<http://www.justgiving.com/Sharon-Lapworth> or by contacting Sharon on 01454 613502.

Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners October:

£50 Tony Cudmore £15 Sylvia Gould £5 Bill Finch

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

21st September Greg Welsher

28th September Barbara Binns

Diary Dates:

Friday 22nd November. Trip to Races at Ascot. £35 to include Breakfast Bap at Fox Inn, Entrance to Premier Enclosure & Return Coach Trip. Please contact me for details.

Up the Down!!

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

From the registers of Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church

Tockington Church

September 22nd

Service of Baptism and Confirmation
for Rebecca Louise Bidwell

From the Register of St Mary's Church, Olveston

14th September 2013

22nd September 2013

Wedding of Martin Augustus and Jo Fear

Baptism of Isabella Jayne Bain

daughter of Samuel Bain and Amanda Harris

Yours faithfully

Paul Ashford

The Oasis Church, Old Down

“Humility in Thanksgiving”

I am sure that you have come across people who have an aversion to particular annual events in the calendar. Some may not look forward to Christmas. Others may not like the passing of another year and find New Year celebrations misplaced. My own pet aversion happens to be harvest thanksgiving. This is clearly not a good position for a Christian leader to find himself/herself in, bearing in mind that the core of the event is thanksgiving to God for His generous provision. I have therefore wrestled on a number of occasions with my attitude and have struggled to explain it to others – including my own fellowship at Old Down. Indeed, I have considerable sympathy with them as they try to understand my position, since I have struggled to understand it myself.

As I have sought to come to terms with my apparently irrational position, I have found myself continually vexed by my knowledge of the inequalities of food distribution across the globe and the wastage that occurs here in the West. Unsurprisingly, the US tops the availability charts at 3,770 kilocalories per capita per day. Most of the West, including the UK, is in the “3,000+ club”. At the other end of the scale are the African countries which come in below 2,000 kilocalories per capita per day. As I researched the data further, I was shocked by the fact that Eritrea came at the bottom of the table at 1,590 kilocalories per capita per day. The shock was not that Eritrea should be at the bottom, but that my discovery of this fact came in a week which had seen the capsizing of a ship in the Mediterranean carrying many Eritreans and in which at least 114 were killed with hundreds more still unaccounted for.

Now, I am not proposing for a moment that food is the only reason for mass migration. The on-going stand-off between Ethiopia and Eritrea is used as the justification for a regime which is as autocratic as North Korea’s. Nevertheless, we have to ask why the migrants are not content to remain elsewhere in Africa, but flee to Europe for a ‘better life’. Equally, I am not proposing that there is an easy answer to the food distribution question. My difficulty is only with celebrating the goodness of God to us here in the West, while we, as a society, are willing to waste so much and watch others struggle without. Perhaps a harvest time of fasting and prayer would be a better option than a harvest supper. I am reminded of the parable that Jesus told about the Pharisee who prayed ‘God I thank you that I am not like other men…….’ (Luke 18:11). We need to be humble in our thanksgiving.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Nov 3	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Breakfast Club Evensong with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe Rev P Rowe & Rev A Lloyd Breakfast Club Team Rev R Bain & Canon J Poarch
Nov 10	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parade Service with Choir Breakfast Club Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain Rev Roly Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev P. Rowe & Mrs J McBride
Nov 17	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev David Bone Rev P Rowe & Crisis Ministries Breakfast Club Team Mr D Jones & Canon J Poarch
Nov 24	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Fourth Sunday Breakfast Club Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev Roly Bain Rev Roly Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev P Rowe & Rev R Bain

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 Church

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Nov 10	10am	Joint Service at Aust Evan. Ch. Followed by Act of Remembrance in St John's Churchyard at 11am.	Rev David Bone
Nov 24	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680 Janet Ford 633300

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

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

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

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

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nov 3	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev D Chidakwa
	6pm	St Andrews	Evening Worship led by Rev David Hart
Nov 10	10am	St Mary's Ch.	Remembrance Day Service
Nov 17	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
Nov 24	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs D Brazier

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

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 28th November To book please ring 613241, or 612112

COFFEE MORNINGS: Sats 10.30 - 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall.
Sat 9th Nov served by Scouts for RBL

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.30am in Olv. Methodist Ch.

HOUSE GROUPS One on 2nd Tues of the month at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston. Another on 4th Wed at 10.30 Please ring 416528 for details of venue

Christmas Fayre 10.30-3pm Sat 23rd Nov. in Olv. Meth Ch..

Proceeds for Church & Aust Church. Roof .

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 412269,

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

Nov 3	6.30pm	Rev Colin Lewis
Nov 10	6.30pm	Ian Thornley
Nov 17	6.30pm	Calix Furus
Nov 24	6.30pm	Mike Jenkinson

Each Thurs at 7.00pm Bible Study & Prayer Time

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

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

www.THEDOORYOUTH.CO.UK or tel 07837234949

For more details, please phone 632564.

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

Resound (BCF) - Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block)

Contact 0117 3050969 www.bcfnet.com

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Ben & Candia Barman 01454 412603

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

Diary Dates for November 2013

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

2 nd Sat	Coffee Morning Charity Quiz at Sports & Social Club(Old Down) & every Sat	10.30-12.00 8.15	MH AP
3 rd Sun	Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social Cl.	8.30pm	AP
4 th Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Open Meeting Monday Movie	6.30pm 7.30pm	AH StM
5 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning R.B.L.Women. Bingo for Poppy Appeal	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 7.30	WR DGCL DGCL
6 th Wed	SPH Coffee morning Every Wed & Fri Vic Hallett Library open O.P.H.S History of Thornbury. Castle	10.00-12.00 10.00-12.0 7.30pm	AMH OMC
7 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Open Mic. At White Hart	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 8.30pm	 OSt MH
8 th Fri	Fireworks at Manor Farm Aust(new date) Th. Picture House: 'The Great Debaters'	From 6pm 7.30pm	 CH
9 th Sat	Coffee Morning RBL Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	AVH MH
10 th Sun	Remembrance Sunday.		
12 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café Women's Institute Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 10.15 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL TMH PH EVH
14 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Th.& District Flower Cl-Demo	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 7.30pm	OSt MH TMH
15 th Fri	Castle School Autumn Fayre	6-8.30pm	CS
16 th Sat	Coffee Morning Advent Calendar making Old Down Pk	10.30-12.00 11.00-2pm	MH
18 th Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	StM
19 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Winter Welly Walk at Old Down Pk Switch On Thornbury Lights	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 11am 7pm	WR DGCL

20 th Wed	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	8.30pm	
21 st Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market	9.00-1.30	
	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OS+
	Beat Surgery	10.30-11.30	OS+
	Olveston Toddlers	1.45-3.15	MH
23 rd Sat	Christmas Fayre	10.30-3pm	MH
	Curry & Quiz (Arban UK)	7.30pm	PH
	Antiques Road Show	7.30pm	StM
26 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
	Memory Café	10.15	TMH
	Olveston Parish Council	7.30pm	AP
27 th Wed	SevernValley Quilters Christmas Workshop	7.30pm	CH
28 th Thu	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OS+
	Olveston Toddlers	1.45-3.15	MH
	Th.& District Flower Cl-Practice	7.30pm	TMH
29 th Fri	Ploughman's Lunch at Old Vicarage(AMR)	12.00	
30 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Wreath Making at Old Down Pk £1/child	11.00-2pm	
	Th. Choral Soc. Christmas Concert	7.30pm	CS

Looking ahead to December

7th	FOOS Christmas Fayre Salvation Army Band concert	7.30pm	OS StM
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KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; ; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry ;**CS** Castle Sch. **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** Littleton Village Hall **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall;**OMC** Oliv Meth Ch **OS** – Olveston School; **OST** – Olveston Stores; **OV** – Olveston Vicarage; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** St Mary's Church, Oliv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church **SMH** St Mary,s Ch. Hall Thornbury;**TCh** Tockington Chapel **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; **URC** - Thornbury United Reform Church; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

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

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