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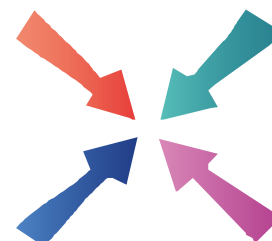
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Meeting Point

Volume 51, Number 1, October 2026

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

From the Editor

Welcome to the 50th anniversary edition of Meeting Point, which began its impressive run in October 1976.

By the time of the 40th anniversary celebrations I had already been approached by the then editor, Chris Bolton, to take over the editing role. I'd covered for Chris a couple of times when he was away, so knew what was involved, and took over officially in January 2017.

Everything went smoothly until the Covid pandemic and the ensuing lockdowns, which resulted in Meeting Point going 'online only' in May and June 2020 and February and March 2021. These were the only months, in over 40 years, that the magazine had not dropped through local letterboxes.

Despite changes to the magazine's appearance over the five decades, due mainly to technological developments, the articles themselves remain essentially the same - reflecting the strength and vitality of our villages.

Marelin

Meeting Point Founded in 1976 by the Anglican and Methodist churches in Olveston, near Bristol.

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Community Website: www.olvestonandaust.com**



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Stone Stiles of Tockington

Martin Gibson and Tony Turnbull

The Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE) sponsors ongoing research which aims to identify and log all the stone stiles in the county. It is known as the Gloucestershire Stone Stiles Project. Members of Olveston Historical Society have now joined in, noting all known stone stiles in our Parish.



Stone stiles come in three different types. There is the squeeze (or v slit) stile which, as its name implies, is usually V shaped, narrowing the lower down it goes. Then there is the rather uncommon step stile where a series of steps allows the user to easily clamber over and thirdly there is the stone slab stile. This takes the form of a large flat, vertical stone, often difficult to negotiate. Each of these stile types are usually supported on either side by a stone wall of similar height.

*Broken stone slab stile
Moor Lane*

All Olveston Parish's stiles are of the stone slab type. The ones we know of are to be found in:

- 1 Lower Tockington Road (by Little Brobury Farm)
- 2 Moor Lane, Tockington, on the footpath between the stables and Tockington Mill
- 3 The Green, Tockington, behind Musthay & Musthay House
- 4 The Green, Olveston, between Tynant and Sunnyside
- 5 Vicarage Lane, Olveston, entering the play area

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As is usual with Tockington and Olveston's landscape history, these stone slab stiles throw up lots of questions, and at the moment our members don't have many answers. All bar one are of sandstone and this part of Gloucestershire is almost wholly limestone. So where did the slabs come from? One possibility is Snuff Mills, on the North Bristol city border, or perhaps The Forest of Dean. A less likely source would be the sandstone quarries of Monmouthshire.

Some of the headstones in St Mary's graveyard are made of sandstone and they tend to shale or delaminate, which is not the case with any of the slab stiles. There is also a stile made of stone on the corner of Catherine Hill and The Green, but it bears no resemblance to the slab stiles as it features a horizontal stone lintel above a stepped opening. Generally speaking, the carboniferous limestone quarried in this Parish does not 'dress' into large flat slabs.



The purpose of these slab stiles seems fairly obvious; they marked a boundary or kept sheep in a field. But why use a construction material that is exceedingly heavy and must be brought many miles over land and/or sea? It would be much easier and far cheaper to build a wooden stile or even simply fashion one out of smaller, local stone.

Dating the slab stiles has also been problematic. There just isn't any documented history, so the best bet would be late 18th to mid-19th centuries, possibly around the time of the main Enclosure Acts of

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1773 and 1836.

It is quite possible that local ramblers and dog walkers are aware of stone stiles not listed above. Some parts of the Parish are quite remote, Ingst and the marshlands towards Pilning, for example. If we've missed any, do please get in touch with either Martin mrtngibs@aol.com or Tony jaturnbull72@gmail.com



Monday 5th October

Woody Allen has made some seriously whacky films, but there is one which is considered to be above all the (high class) rest.....and that's the one we're showing on the first Monday in October.

Allen plays a very competent film critic besotted by Humphrey Bogart. Other than that, he's a failure. His wife leaves him and so his two friends (Diane Keaton and Tony Roberts) try to help him get his love life back on track. And Bogart is always there to egg him on. Black and white scenes from the original 'Casablanca' feature prominently. But in Woody Allen's life, if anything can go wrong, and due to Allen's inferiority complex, it usually will. This is a comedy where events will bring reminiscences to us all. The dance scene in particular will surely take us back to our early 20s, and the times when embarrassment was always hovering like a ghost over our social lives.

When released in 1972 the film was panned by the critics. However, the public loved it so much it rated an almost unbelievable score of 97% on film review site, Rotten Tomatoes.

St Mary's, Olveston. Doors open at 7pm and the film starts at 7:30pm. Entry is free, but donations are always welcome. Tea and coffee served, licensed bar. This is a community event open to everyone



Parish Hall AGM

The AGM of the Olveston Parish Hall will be held in the hall on Tuesday October the 20th at 7.30 pm, followed by light refreshments.

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Jenny Newley

After a short (half-hour) AGM, Brian Kemp will share more of his research into Oveston Court and Manor. The talk will cover the Saxon origins of Oveston, Robert Gyen's rise and then spectacular fall from grace, the royal visit of 1502, white slavery and the Quakers. Copies of his updated book with more text and illustrations will be on sale.

New venue: All meetings will now take place at **Oveston School** (main hall), Elberton Road, BS35 4DB at 7.30pm, with refreshments served *before* the start of the meeting. Parking is available in the school playground.

Annual membership is £10 in total (for all monthly evening meetings, October to April). Visitor fee for a single meeting is £3. Both are payable on the door (cash or cheque only, please). Fee includes refreshments. All welcome!
www.olvoston.com/historical-society



You Rang M'Lud?



Thornbury & District Museum has a new upstairs exhibition called "**You Rang M'Lud?- In the Servants' Hall**". It investigates the lives of domestic servants in Thornbury and the surrounding area, from the big houses and Thornbury Castle to more humble households where a maid or perhaps a gardener might be employed.

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Oveston and Tockington W.I.

At WI this month we are getting to know someone whose place of work is very near to the Parish Hall where we meet, and yet many of us have not met her. She is Elise, and she runs the forest school in the strip of woodland just over the road. We shall find out exactly what a forest school is and what Elise shows the children and adults who come there, and best of all, we shall be able to have a go ourselves at weaving a basket, or similar. It will be fun to try a handicraft that is new to us.

Making a basket will certainly be different for several WI members, who have been busy throughout the summer knitting all manner of woollen toys for various charities. They have made 'worry monsters' for Oveston School, multicoloured elephants for children with cancer, golden geese for Farms for City Children and chicks for St. Peter's Hospice. Now we're turning our attention to poppies once more, ready to make a drape to hang at Oveston Church for Remembrance. (This will balance the one on the Tockington bus shelter.) We have been joined in this effort by people outside the WI, after putting a note about it in Meeting Point, so our thanks to them. Some people have already made hundreds of poppies!

WI is on Tuesday October 13th at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall. Do come and join us! Angela Green, 615222.

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£50	634	Mr M Riddle, Thornbury
£25	612	Mrs S Fairhead, Oldbury-on-Severn
£25	643	Mr & Mrs C Paterson, Tockington
£25	489	Mr I Lyons, Oldbury-on-Severn
£25	570	Rev A Lloyd, Tockington
£25	291	Mr A Phillips, Oveston
£20	300	Mrs J Rawles, Oveston
£20	490	Mr I Lyons, Oldbury-on-Severn

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Olveston Parish Wildlife Group Open Meeting

Mike Woodcock

Here in the Olveston area we have a surprising and wonderful diversity of wildlife, thanks to the range of habitats, from damp meadows and the rhine system on the way to Ingst or Pilning, woodland at Sheepcombe, The Slad and Lower Hazel and calcareous grassland (a rare habitat in the UK nowadays) on Tockington (Old Little Down) Hill. More widespread are the hedgerows and, very importantly, our gardens.

We are all too aware that our wildlife is under great pressure, and the Making Space for Wildlife team are working on our Local Climate and Nature Action Plan to help us all contribute to climate action and create thriving habitats for wildlife.

To support this, there have been opportunities for the group to discover more about our area with three guided walks led by Ed Drewitt (a professional naturalist) looking at birds and bats initially but taking in many insects and wildflowers on the way. He commented on the sympathetic management by the landowners.

We welcome all to join us at the Olveston Parish Wildlife Group Meeting on October 6th at the Parish Hall on Upper Tockington Road 7pm to 9pm

We can get together, share some local experiences, see some amazing photos, and hear Ed Drewitt on how 'Small Steps for Wildlife Make a Big Difference'.

You might also discover the result of a debate about a 'flounced rustic' or 'beautiful arches'. No, nor me, I was utterly unaware of these until last month so do come along and find out more!

Other local delights include fallow, roe and muntjac deer, a wonderful swift colony based largely at Olveston Primary School, swallows nesting in some barns and feeding over the fields and the allotments, hedgehogs and their hoglets, a greater variety of bats than many places (e.g. serotine, noctule, pipistrelle and long-eared bats), fieldfare and redwing thrushes in the winter, slow-worms and frogs and - if you'll forgive me becoming a little obscure — bar headed mason wasp, chicken-in-the-woods, dryads saddle, grass veneer and oak hook tip.

We can tell you more on 6th October.



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Celebrating Becky and Jay's wedding in November 2025. It wouldn't have been the same without the bells.

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revsrural@gmail.com



On Saturday 10th October we will hold an Auction of Promises at 7.30 pm at St Mary's, Olveston. (See News from St Mary's for more details)

Do come along and support us and *Help Keep Our Bells Ringing*.

Please donate using the QR Code or contact David Prothero: diprothero@talk21.com to discuss a donation.



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News from Aust Parish Council

Return of HGVs to the Severn Bridge

Residents of Aust in particular will be aware that National Highways are planning to allow the return of HGVs to the Severn Bridge. To do so, they need to restrict the volume of heavy traffic on the bridge at one time. All HGVs travelling towards the bridge on the M48 will be required to leave the motorway at Aust roundabout and then rejoin at the far side of the roundabout; traffic lights on the slip road will hold traffic back when the weight limit is exceeded.

National Highways have assured the parish council that they have modelled the potential impacts and that traffic will only be held from rejoining the bridge occasionally and for a short period. However, the council still has concerns about impacts on local residents, particularly those in Sandy Lane who live so close to the slipway from the M48 down to the roundabout.

The parish council continues to press National Highways to do all they can to reduce potential impacts. We are pushing for a barrier to be constructed between the slip road and the Sandy Lane houses, and for the 'yellow box' markings on the roundabout to be repainted to reduce the chance of gridlock on the roundabout.

Any further updates will be posted on the parish council website: austparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Woodwell Meadows volunteering

Our regular volunteer sessions at Woodwell Meadows nature reserve, Littleton, are a great way to get outdoors, meet new people, and play a hands-on role in caring for one of our parish's most beautiful natural spaces. Led by Cllr. Heather Bayston, volunteers help with scrub removal and the conservation of our wildflower meadows, keeping them healthy for wildlife and wonderful for everyone to enjoy. The next session will be on Saturday 3rd October. If you'd like to get involved or want to know more, please contact Heather at: heather.bayston@austparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Next parish council meeting

Council meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for August and December. Our next regular meeting will be on 13th October in Elberton village hall, starting at 7:30pm.

Agendas for council meetings are posted on the village noticeboards at least five days before the date of the meeting, and are also available on the council

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News from St. Mary's



Auction of Promises - Saturday 10th October 7.30pm

Can you make a promise?

We're holding an Auction of Promises, with a bar and canapés, to raise funds for our bell restoration project, and we need your help to make it a success! We're looking for all sorts of 'promises' that people can bid for. They can be practical, delicious, fun or completely unique!

Could you offer to:



Iron a basket of laundry



Do some cleaning or household jobs



Help with gardening



Babysit for an evening



Take someone's dog for a walk



Give someone a lift locally—or even to the airport



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A list of all bids will be available in St Mary's Church and the Olveston Stores from Monday October 5th.

Sunday Evening Services at St Mary's.

Sue Farr

Do you sometimes feel that quiet, reflective moments, are missing in your life? Would you like it if someone read you a story and you had the opportunity to give your opinion on it afterwards, or not? If that time was spent in a beautiful, ancient building, with soft live music, beautiful flower arrangements and just a few quiet, like-minded people? Well, that is just what happens, every Sunday evening at 6pm, at St Mary's Olveston. This is what a regular attender said about it.

".....the feeling among us is that we find this type of service very intimate and get a lot out of it as a group and individually..... we sit on chairs in a semi-circle at the front which adds to the intimacy and spirituality within our church."

Each Sunday in the month has a slightly different format, including Sung 1662 Evensong (different, as it includes the choir) on the 1st Sunday; following Sundays are, Short Communion, Celtic Communion, Reflective Evensong, and Compline if there is a 5th Sunday. The 2nd to the 5th Sunday Evening Services only last around 30 minutes.

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150 Club Winners September 2026:

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£5 Tui Ganilau

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

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22/08/26 Malcolm Grosvenor

05/09/26 Tony Williams

Up the Down!

U3A Bridge Groups

Jan Winter

Did you know that statistics show that, in the history of card playing, it is virtually certain that no two well shuffled packs of cards have ever been in exactly the same order? That means that however many times you play card games you will never get the same hands. (I'll spare you the maths but look it up on the internet!) I think this might be why many people find card games like bridge so interesting – every game is a different challenge with new problems to solve.

Bridge may have a reputation for being quite difficult but once you have basic 'card sense' and a system of bidding (i.e. deciding on how many tricks you might win with a certain trump suit) it is not so daunting. It can also have a reputation for being rather aggressive, but as a social activity our local groups try to be friendly and forgiving. As you play the game with a partner this is really important!

In Thornbury U3A there are 4 bridge groups which each meet weekly, so plenty of choice of different times to play. Three of these groups meet in Olveston and a lot of the players are very local. There is also a group for learners that meets in Thornbury, as it would be quite daunting to join a group where everyone else is much more experienced than you. If you're interested, look at the U3A website for contact details and times of the different groups.

We all try to exercise to keep ourselves fit and I think bridge is a great way to get some mental exercise too. The brain needs its work out and a few hours playing bridge with a small group each week is a great way to do this.

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Tockington Green Murders Part 2

Nick Fear

Following on from my story about two historic murders in Tockington, which appeared in the August magazine, a friend was kind enough to point me in the direction of a third. This murder was connected to The Crown Inn on The Green, eight years on from the murder of William Fisher in 1841. William Fowler the licensee of The Crown Inn, was a married middle-aged man with three children. He was greatly respected, beloved in the village for his kindness and good manners. Charles Kibby was a 25-year-old farm labourer working on the local farm of Samuel Bowden. Kibby was known locally as a man of indifferent character. A press report recorded that he had a violent temper and held intemperate habits. He was untrustworthy and had been prosecuted for stealing.

On the afternoon of Friday the 23rd of March 1849 Kibby had been drinking to excess in The White Hart public house. He was refused further drink and left to visit the Swan but was again refused a drink due to his intoxicated state. Making his way to The Crown, he found the licensee William Fowler relaxing in a chair. In an offensive manner he told the William to get up and give him a cider. He handed him a half-crown in payment and was given the requested drink. The licensee returned to Kibby and gave him change, mentioning that he had deducted the sum which he already owed from a visit on the previous evening. Kibby became angry and verbally abusive, he threatened William and swore vengeance on him. William told Kibby that he would not permit such behaviour and language and told him to leave. Kibby swore that he would not and continued his threats and verbal rant. William made towards him and placed his hand on his shoulder to forcibly eject him from the premises. Kibby attacked William immediately with savage force, beating him about his head and body. The press report reads; *"at length he gave such a severe blow to the area of his heart, as to instantly deprive him of life, the unfortunate man fell and never spoke a word afterwards"*. Fellow customers who had witnessed the incident set about detaining Kibby. He fought ferociously against them but was eventually overpowered. They called a local constable and Kibby was taken to Almondsbury police station cells.

On April 7th Charles Kibby stood trial in Gloucester charged with the manslaughter of William Fowler. The full facts were given by witnesses and Kibby himself, now sobered, spoke in his defence. He maintained that he had wished the deceased no harm, he knew him and his family well and had often drunk at The Crown. On the day he had been drinking for hours and could not fully remember the events due to his intoxication. He bitterly regretted what had happened. The court ran over time whilst the judge considered the case. He found Charles guilty and sentenced him to one month's imprisonment.

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Kibby does not seem to have reformed his habits. In July 1849 he was sentenced to eighteen months for stealing a sheep from Alfred Clark of Olveston*. In 1863 he and four others were prosecuted for burning effigies in Tockington. This custom connected to ancient practices intended to curse individuals. The group had simply been bound over to keep the peace and felt this was a victory for them. They celebrated by placing ribbons in their hats in triumph and no doubt imbibing to excess.

Charles Kibby died in March 1899 aged 74 years. He may have been a local character to some, more than a nuisance to others. He undoubtedly suffered from the negative effects of intoxication albeit self-imposed. It is fortunate that in life this is by far the exception to the rule.

** I did wonder if I should quote Mr Bumble in Oliver Twist as the title for this story, 'The law is an ass'. One month for manslaughter, but eighteen months for stealing a sheep?*

Advent Windows

We will be lighting up the villages in December with our popular Advent windows. A living local Advent calendar.

If you would like to create a window, please contact Debbie for more information: ofoe-debbie@live.co.uk

Thornbury Art Club

Tuesday 27th October 2026 Club Night.

Join us this club night to watch Barry Herniman paint a coastal scene in watercolour, full of colour and vibrancy. Barry loves to travel with his sketch book, capturing scenes of his beloved landscapes or the buzz of the city. His favourite medium is watercolour, with the fascination of its transparency and movement as colours mingle and unfurl on the paper.

Members free, non-members very welcome - £6 on the door, cash or card.
 7.15pm until 9.30pm.

St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Rd, Thornbury, BS35 1DR Free parking on-site. For more information contact:

www.thornburyartclub.co.uk www.facebook.com/ThornburyArtClub or
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October at The Armstrong

Since opening in April, our lovely venue has had many people pass through the doors to attend an event, watch a film, listen (and dance) to a great variety of music or just enjoy a drink in our delightful Foyer Bar. If you haven't yet set foot over the threshold, we have some good news! You can now pop in between 10am and 12pm on Wednesday and Thursday when one of our friendly and knowledgeable stewards will give you a tour, answer any questions you may have and provide you with information on booking a show or hiring our venue. If you knew the old venue you will be thrilled by the changes, and if it is your first visit you will be delighted to find such a great facility on your doorstep.

October is full of enticing events and activities, starting on October 3rd with the hilarious and critically acclaimed *Pantaloons Theatre Company* who will be bringing their blockbuster show *The (Almost) Complete History of Britain* to The Armstrong. This will be history not quite as you know it as the *Pantaloons* take you on a breathless race through the entire history of Britain in under two hours. Following on the heels of earlier successful *Armstrong Sessions* in the gorgeous Foyer Bar, on Sunday 11th at 7pm, *Piano Mike* will be performing hits from Billy Joel, Elton John and other classic favourites. Joining him will be solo vocalist Gina Rose who will offer hits through the decades, including ABBA, Fleetwood Mac and Shania Twain - and please join in - extra mics will be available!



It's into the *Strictly* season, so put on your dancing shoes for the *Autumn Tea Dance* on October 14th, held in the Cossham Hall from 2pm. Local dance callers, Belinda and Peter will take you through your steps in a warm and welcoming atmosphere with other dance enthusiasts.

As for half term activities, look no further than The Armstrong for amazing family entertainment for all ages. Starting with *Rock the Tots*, suitable children for aged 0 to 6, Steph and Craig bring spooky tunes combined with bubbles, puppets and comic turns – all with a Halloween theme. On Thursday 29th, at 10am, there will be a *Halloween Family Yoga Session* and on Friday 30th at 11am, Richard Welsh will bring his unique *Wow Bubble Show for Kids* (see photo) and their

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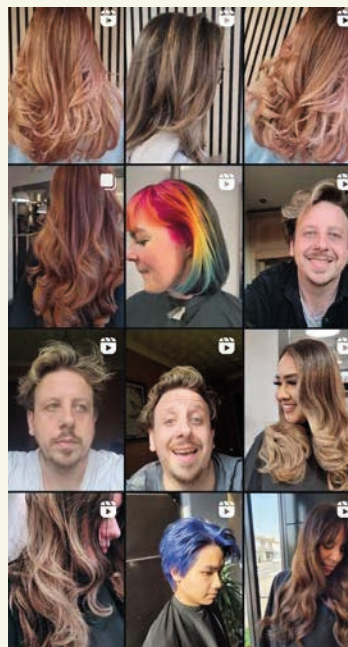
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families. Be amazed as Richard performs some wonderful bubble tricks and creates bubble sculptures. There will be plenty of silliness and interactive activities. Then, as the climax to a week of scintillating spookiness head for the *Family Halloween Party* on the afternoon of October 31st with lots of fun and games, dressing up and general hilarity – with a spooky twist!

For full details and how to buy tickets for these events and many others in October, such as weekly Line Dancing sessions and The Thornbury Clothes Swap on October 9th, visit our website: www.thearmstrong.co.uk/whats-on

CRUK Autumn Fair

The Autumn Fair for Cancer Research UK will take place on Saturday October 17th, 10-1pm at St. Helen's School, Alveston, BS35 2QX

We will have a craft table, Christmas cards, Christmas gifts, local honey, jams, pickles, cakes for sale, plus our tombola. And, of course, there is always tea/coffee and cake.

We look forward to seeing you. For further information, please call 07707 159645.

Guys and Dolls

From 28th to 31st October, Thornbury Musical Theatre Group will be performing "Guys and Dolls", written by Jo Swerling and Abe Burrows, a musical which the group last performed in 2002. Directed by Jacqs Graham and ably assisted by Bev Pepall, this is sure to be a crowd pleaser.

Musical Director Roger Winter is working with the cast to make the very best of the wonderful music and lyrics by Frank Loesser which include notable songs such as Luck Be a Lady, Sit Down, You're Rockin' the Boat and Adelaide's Lament. The band, comprising nine members, will certainly enhance this production in the wonderful Olympus Theatre. Added to this Ella Jones is once again putting the cast through its paces with her fabulous choreography. The cast of 36 is one of our largest casts to date, including 16 new members who have joined the group.

Performances will take place at The Olympus Theatre on the WISE campus in Filton at 7.30pm Wednesday 28th to Friday 30th October, then a matinee at 2.30pm and an evening performance at 7pm on Saturday 31st October. Tickets are available from www.tmtg.org.uk



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Music at St. Mary's Thornbury



3rd Sunday Afternoon Concert on October 18th.

Our guests will be NotaBene, a small cappella ensemble, based in Bristol. They perform a wide repertoire of music ranging from medieval part songs to arrangements of present-day pop classics. I am sure we shall find their programme enjoyable.

The concert starts at 4.00pm and is followed by refreshments. Admission is free and there is a retiring collection, the proceeds of which go to St Mary's Music.

Piano Recital

There will be a recital with piano 4-hands given by Andrew Nesler and Blake Huang. They will be performing Holst's The Planets and the powerful environmentally based 2013 Sonata for four hands by Stuart Greenbaum.

The recital will take place at Alveston Methodist Church on Saturday 3rd October at 2pm under the auspices of Thornbury u3a Music Group. There will be no entry fee, just a charity collection at the end. Tea, coffee and cake will be served. For further information contact Jos Gregson on 01454-411652 or email [josgregson@gmail.com](mailto:josggregson@gmail.com)



The Thornbury Poppy Appeal

We are looking for new collectors to help with this year's campaign. We need volunteers who can do two-hour slots at four locations in and around Thornbury during the period 24th October to November 11th.

If you can support the appeal and raise funds for veterans and military families, please get in touch with the RBL appeal organiser, Kevin Arnold. 5306arnol@armymail.mod.uk or text 07971 319737.

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u3a Thornbury and District

New Members' Welcome Meeting Friday 23rd October from 3.30-4:30pm in
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This meeting is to welcome new and prospective members of Thornbury u3a.
Following a short talk about Thornbury u3a, tea and coffee will be available
and some of the interest groups will illustrate their activities.

If you have just joined do come along. Please also encourage anyone who is
thinking of joining us to come along to find out more.

For more information visit our website <https://thornbury.u3asite.uk/> or contact
the membership secretary membership@thornburyu3a.org.uk

Thornbury u3a Coffee Morning Saturday 14th November
from 10:30 – 11:30 in Porch House, Christ the King, Castle Street.

Members and non-members are welcome. Some u3a groups will be
represented and will be happy to answer questions. There will also be
refreshments. Please do come along to meet other people and have a coffee
and chat. NB: For members with no email address only, the Autumn
Newsletter will be available to collect.

For further information visit our website: Thornbury u3a or for membership
enquiries please email membership@thornburyu3a.org.uk

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Grant-Giving Programme 2026/7

Thornbury and District League of Friends (TADLOF) have celebrated five very
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Cont/.....

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Last year a record total of almost £30k was granted to local charities including: SARA; GWAAC; New Start Debt Advice; BRACE; KRUNCH SW; Rockhampton Ravens; Thornbury's 2 Memory Cafés.

TADLOF encourages local organisations to apply for a grant towards any wellbeing or health-related project supporting our charitable aims for which our financial assistance might be needed. We welcome your interest and will consider all requests carefully.

The 2026/7 programme will operate as follows:

7 October - 9 November 2026: Grant Applications to be submitted;

9 November: Last date for Grant Application submission;

13 November: Announcement of Grants awarded.

Please contact Andrea for further information: abates1101@msn.com

Please note: We always need more active members to help us put on future events, so if you are interested in assisting in any way, please contact Paul on paul.wilkinson53@outlook.com



Green Force

Glaciers are melting six times faster than in the 1990s due to 1.2°C global warming and losing tons of ice annually. Areas affected are high mountainous regions such as the Alps, Greenland, Alaska, Andes and the Himalayas. Glaciers in the Himalayas are retreating by 20 metres each year. Glacier melt accelerates warming of the ice because rock becomes exposed and absorbs solar radiation (ice normally reflects the solar radiation). This then amplifies ice loss, creating a feedback loop that accelerates glacier retreat and contributes directly to global melt. Communities in downstream regions face seasonal collapses in water availability. Melting glaciers are not only reshaping landscapes but also amplifying hazards like floods, landslides, and ecosystem collapse. This rapid ice loss contributes to freshwater shortages, threatening at least ten major Asian river systems whose populations rely on glacial rivers for their water supplies for drinking, hydro power and agriculture. Glacier melt also adds about 1.5 mm per year rise to the sea level. The recent disaster in Nepal has been a tragic example of glacier melt.

Date for your diary: 18th October - National Reuse Day, created to encourage us all to reuse and repair items instead of throwing them away.

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The concert takes place at The Cossham Hall, Chapel Street, Thornbury on Saturday 24th October at 7.30pm.

Tickets £25 from AAGThornbury@gmail.com or call 01454 850933
www.bristolensemble.com


Repair Café
 Alveston

At St Helen's Church in Alveston on
Saturday 17th October from 10:00 to 13:00
 (First Repair Café of 2027 will be on the 16th January)

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Coming up in November.....

Allotment Society AGM

The Olveston Parish Allotment and Gardeners' Association (OPAGA) will be holding its AGM at 7.30pm on Friday 6th November in Olveston Parish Hall.

After the brief AGM we will have a speaker – Victoria Wright, PhD, M.B.P.R., a professional horticulturalist who will speak on 'Gardening with Peat Free Soil'.

All are welcome to join us; refreshments will be served and there will be a bar. If you are not an OPAGA member we would be grateful if you would let us know if you would like to come. Please email: janwinterolveston@gmail.com

Severn Vale Flower Club

Our Christmas Open Evening on Tuesday 3rd November is a demonstration by Angela Turner entitled A Natural Christmas.

Angela is a national demonstrator and a floral designer. She has been flower arranging for several years and has also competed at Chelsea, winning gold.

Olveston & Tockington Parish Hall. Doors open at 6.30pm for 7.30pm.

For tickets and more information call 01453 811089 or 01454 885213.

Tongue in Cheek



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Hilarious send-ups include The Ruler of the Queen's Navee and Lehrer's setting of all the elements of the Periodic Table to the tune of I Am The Very Model of a Modern Major General.

The performance takes place at the Cossham Hall, Chapel Street, Thornbury on Saturday November 14th 7.30pm. Tickets £20 from AAGThornbury or call 01454 850933 .

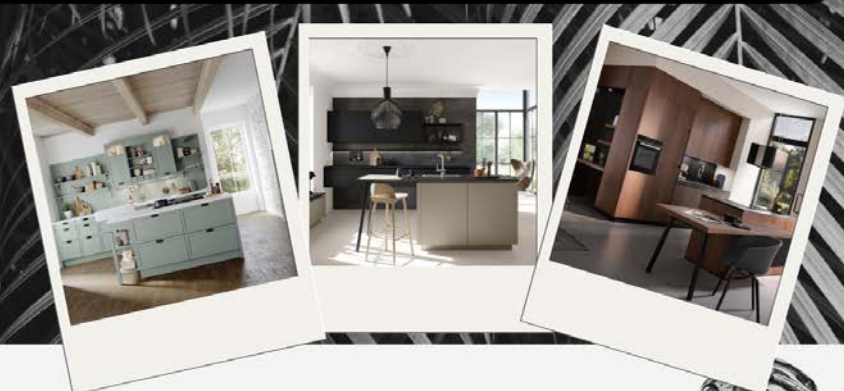
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Yours Faithfully

Revd. C Neil Mobbs
The Oasis Church, Old Down

You may have heard the phrase 'change is here to stay'. As I write these notes a new Prime Minister has come into office and a new school year has started. It is the beginning of autumn. Climate change is here we are told, following the hottest summer on record and future summers may be hotterand so on.

Maybe your circumstances have changed too. Possibly they have become more difficult in terms of your health or your family or your finances. As a Christian I have been privileged to serve as a Hospital Chaplain and a Minister for many years and continue to lead services and seek to help people pastorally.

I am so encouraged that amidst all life's challenges (having lost my wife four years ago) I have personally learned to trust in the living God revealed in Jesus, who the Bible says is the same yesterday, today and forever. (Hebrews chapter 13 verse 8).

One of the Greek names translated for Jesus is I AM seen many times in the Gospel of John. I am so grateful that He lives for ever, the same constant and consistent Friend, who loves us all. You are precious to Him. We are invited to put our trust in Him and commit our lives to Him for time and eternity.

Whatever circumstances you are experiencing this Autumn, I pray that you will turn to Jesus, praying He will forgive you all your wrongdoings and receive from Him the joy of knowing Him in a personal relationship that will last for ever. May God bless you!



The Oasis Church Old Down



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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Oct 4th	11am	Harvest Festival followed by a Ploughman's lunch - Choir	Rev David Lloyd
	6pm	A Said Communion	Rev David Lloyd
Oct 11th	10am	Morning Prayer - Choir	Rev David Lloyd
	6pm	A Short Holy Communion	Rev David Lloyd
Oct 18th	10am	Morning Prayer - Choir	Janet McBride
	6pm	Celtic Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd
Oct 25th	10am	Holy Communion - Choir	Rev Ann Lloyd
	6pm	Reflective Evensong	Janet McBride

First Sunday of the month during term time, **Messy Church** 9am.
 Every Saturday (term time) '**REFRESH**', 4.30-5.30 - Fun, relaxed church.
 Every Wednesday, Holy Communion, 10am.
 NB Clergy may change.

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Oct 11th	10am	Harvest Festival (see below)	Rev David Moss/Trevor Cook
Oct 25th	10am	Morning Prayer	Trevor Cook

Contact: Trevor Cook, 01454 618442

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 and Jon Burnett 633835

NB: Places for The Harvest Lunch are limited and must be pre-booked via Jenn Dickens. The cost of the meal is £10 pp with the aim of raising money for the needed graveyard renovations

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Oct 11th	9am	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Lloyd
Oct 25th	9am	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd

Contacts: Church Wardens: Catharine Gunnery 413225 and Cheryl Meredith 411065

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ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Oct 11th	3pm	Harvest	Rev David Moss
Oct 25th	3pm	Evensong with Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Oct 4th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship Local Arrangement
Oct 11th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Pearl Luxon
Oct 18th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Brenda Isherwood
Oct 25th	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Revd. Simon Edwards

Contact: Rev Dr Simon Edwards 418176 Simon.edwards@methodist.org.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer, Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Meeting at 11am every Sunday and on the 1st and 3rd Weds at 2.30pm.

Contact: 01454 612084, thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Services at 6.30pm every Sunday. All are welcome.

Contact: Neil Mobbs, cnmobbs@hotmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Service 11am every Sunday

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH Service 5.30pm every Sunday

Contact: esther@thebamfields.co.uk

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury

Mass on Sundays at 9.00 and 10.30am

Contact: 01454 412223, https://ctkandholycross.org.uk

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Contact: Chris Willmore, chriswillmore@blueyonder.co.uk

THORNBURY UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

Services are every Sunday at 10.45am Rev Neil Thorogood

Diary Dates for October:

Information believed to be correct at going to press.

1 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market Coffee Shop, every Thurs Good afternoon choir, every Thurs Thornbury Art Club painting Studio, every Thurs.	9am 9.30-12pm 1-3pm 1.30-4.30pm	StM URC SMCH
2 Fri	Haven Memory Café every 1 st &3 rd Fri Tockington Community Café Friday Monthly Music Night	10.15-11.45am 10-12pm 7.30pm	URC TMC CTK
3 Sat	Park run every Sat Love Thornbury Octoberfest Piano Recital	9am 10am 2pm	MPF Thorn AMC
4 Sun	Litter picking	10a.	OPH
5 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club. Monday Movies	2pm 7.30pm	SMCH StM
6 Tues	Citizens Advice, every Tues Thornbury Arts Club painting studio, every Tues. Olveston Wildlife Grp meeting WRBL meeting	10-12pm 1.30-4.30pm 7pm 7.30pm	TTH SMCH OPH DGCL
7 Wed	Table Tennis every Weds Olveston Parish Historical Society	7pm 7.30pm	OPH OPS
10 Sat	Coffee Morning	10-12pm	OMC
11 Sun	Sunday Music night	7pm	CtK
12 Mon	Severn Vale Flower club: Demo	2pm	SMCH
13 Tues	Thornbury Memory Café every 2 nd & 4 th Tues Olveston & Tockington WI	10.15-11.45am 7.30pm	URC OPH
15 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market	9am	
17 Sat	Repair Café CRUK Autumn Fair	10-1pm 10-1pm	StH StHSc
18 Sun	St Mary's Music	4pm	StMT
20 Tues	Parish Hall AGM	7.30pm	OPH
23 Fri	u3a: New members welcome meeting	3.30-4.40pm	SMCH

24 Sat	AAG: Paris by Night	7.30pm	CH
26 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club; Practise	1.30pm	SMCH
27 Tues	Thornbury Arts Club Night	7.15pm	SMCH
28 Weds	Alveston Local History Society talk	7.30pm	AMC
29 Thurs	TMTG: Guy and Dolls until Sat 31st	7.30pm	TOT

Looking forward to November:

6th Nov - Friday OPAGA AGM 7.30pm Olveston Parish hall

14th Sat -Thornbury u3a Coffee Morning, 10.30-11.30pm, Porch House CTK

KEY: **AMC** - Alveston Methodist Church, **AMH** - Alveston Methodist Hall, **AOSH**- Almondsbury Old School Hall, **AVH** - Aust Village Hall **CS** - Castle School, **CH** - Cosham Hall **CTK** - Christ the King, **DGCL** - Daldry Gardens Community Lounge, **ECVH** - Easter Compton Village Hall, **EVH** - Elberton Village Hall, **FVH**-Falfield village Hall, **JHA** - Jubilee Hall, Alveston **LVH** - Littleton Village Hall **MSch** - Marwood Schoo **MPF** - Mundy playing fields **OC** - Oasis Church, Old Down, **ODE** - Old Down Estate **OMC** - Olveston Methodist Church, **OMH** - Olveston Methodist Hall, **OPH** - Olveston Parish Hall, **OTF**-Olympus Theatre Filton **OPS**-Olveston Primary School **PHT** -Porch House, Thornbury **QAMP** - Queen Alexandra Memorial Pavilion, Old Down **RHVH** - Rockhampton village hall. **StH** - St Helen's Church, Alveston. **StHSc** - St Helen's School **StM** - St Mary's Church, **StMB** - St Mary's Berkely **StMT** - Thornbury St Mary's Ch, **StP Sch** - St Peters School, Pilning **SMCH** - St Mary's Church Hall **SBVH** - Severn Beach Village Hall, Thornbury, **TA**- The Armstrong, **TGC** - Thornbury Golf Club, **TCC**-Turnberries, **TOT**-The Olympus Theatre **TMC** -Tockington Methodist Church, **TMCH** - Thornbury Methodist Church Hall, **TTH** - Thornbury Town Hall, **URC** - United Reform Church **WADCA** - Winterbourne & District Community Association

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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