

# Olveston Parish Historical Society

Wednesday, 2nd November 2011, 7.30pm, The Wyke Hall, Olveston School, Elberton Rd, Olveston BS35 4DB

All welcome. Free admission for all at this special event.

## Schooling in Olveston Parish, 1836-1968



*Headmaster William Green  
and pupils in 1900*

Olveston C.E.V.C. Primary School is a big part of many local people's lives. It's a thriving and successful school, with a lively curriculum and caring ethos. But what was schooling like in the past – in the twentieth and the nineteenth centuries?

We're in for a special treat when Eric Garrett reveals what he has discovered about the history of schooling in the parish of Olveston, using documentary sources such as school log books and the Victorian school management committee minutes.

He starts his story in 1836 when a new school, Olveston and Elberton National School, was built in Elberton Road, to serve the children of what were then the parishes of Olveston and Elberton. His talk will contain fascinating glimpses of school life in very different times from the present, when schooling was often interrupted by sickness and by absence to help with agriculture. We shall also hear about the Old Down Infants School, whose caring teachers were often praised by school inspectors.

Eric will tell us about different head teachers, all men until the arrival of Doris MacDonald in 1953, and the latter part of his talk is bound to include names of staff – and maybe even pupils - who will be familiar to many local residents. His new book, which is being launched at this event, contains many photos of class groups which should provide hours of fun spotting familiar faces!

*Old Down Infants School*



*Mrs Lucy Durnell with Infants in 1924*

