

Meeting Point

Volume 33, Number 2, November 2008

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

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**Material for December 2008 to
Editor or Deputy Editor by
13th November**

From the Editor

You will see in this issue that once again we have a weather report from Marcus Bean and that this is for the three months July, August and September. Please tell us if you prefer this format which we could publish four times a year or if you prefer the monthly reports (or indeed none). Speak to any member of the Committee or contact the editors; your feedback is most welcome.

You may already know that there has been vandalism in the Vicarage Lane Park including broken glass left by some mindless individual(s) in places designed to harm young children. The Police are appealing for our help in combating this disturbing trend. Our appeal for the return of the stolen bench also went unheeded. Let's hope this is a temporary blip in the normally tranquil surroundings of Olveston, especially in this month when we remember those who died to let it be so.

Our cover is by Kate Hickman

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

Village People: Marelin and Hamish Orr Ewing

Pat Thirkettle

Marelin and Hamish moved to a house behind Denys Court last year, but it was only the culmination of their interest in the village. Hamish attended Bristol University studying civil engineering and worked for the City Council for twenty five years. When he started, the River Avon was disgustingly polluted and when he finished salmon could survive in it. Marelin worked as volunteer in St Paul's before going to University in Norwich, after which she returned to Bristol and taught in schools and Further Education Colleges.

When they lived in Montpelier in Bristol they were neighbours of Olveston residents Cathy and Chris Bolton and also went skiing with John Clayton and Jan Winter of Church Hill, Olveston. Through these friends they began coming out to social events, in particular Twinning Association wine tastings and barn dances. The more they saw the more they liked, and having decided to move out of Bristol, asked their friends to look out for houses for sale.

Hamish has recently retired from Hydrock, a flourishing engineering consultancy he started in 1996 in Over, which came fifth last year in the Sunday Times '100 Best Companies To Work For'. A recent job was the stabilisation of the Combe Down mines near Bath. Marelin now teaches teachers at the University of the West of England and they have three grown-up boys and a grandchild a few months old.

In May they finally visited Bréhan and are looking forward to entertaining their French hosts here next year. Apart from seeing Bréhan it was a wonderful opportunity to get to know the other 'twinners' from Olveston, something also said by Jackie Cavanagh in the April Meeting Point. In July they hosted the Twinning Family Fun Day on the field next to their house, when over two hundred and fifty children and adults enjoyed games, stalls, music and a barbecue.

An initiative Hamish is hoping to start is a Folk and Blues evening in The White Hart to complement the popular Jazz evenings and they are both looking forward to becoming involved in more village activities and meeting more and more people.

Olveston Parish Allotment & Gardeners

Association AGM & Social Evening

Olveston Parish Allotment & Gardeners Association will be holding their AGM & Social evening on Friday 7th November 2008 at the Parish Hall, Tockington. All members are welcome to join us. Please arrive from 7pm. The AGM will start at 7:30pm followed by the social evening; drinks and nibbles will be served. All members are welcome to join us. For further details contact Brian Arkell on 616244 or Sam Crabb on 414472.



St Peter's Hospice

Kath Burgess

Coffee Morning

A coffee morning will be held in the Methodist Hall, Alveston on Wednesday 5th November between 10.00 am and 12 noon. Entrance to include tea/coffee

£1.00. Stalls and raffle. Please come along and support St Peter's, your local Hospice.

Gift Fair

Saturday 8th November a Gift Fair will be held at Tockington Village Hall, between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm. Many stalls, ideal for Christmas shopping. Refreshments and raffle in support of St Peter's Hospice and Olveston Pre School. Entrance by donation.

St John's, Aust, Christmas Fayre

Do your Christmas shopping early – come to St John's Church at Aust on either

Friday November 28th 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. or

Saturday November 29th 10 a.m. until 12 noon

Leather Handbags, Purses and Wallets

Sweets and Treats for Christmas

Gifts and Jewellery

Wood Turned Items

Cards

Santa's Postbox

(letters to Father Christmas can be posted until 6p.m. on December 22nd)

There will be refreshments on sale throughout the opening hours

- Tea, Coffee, Mulled Wine and warm snacks

LIVE SEASONAL MUSIC BY

LOCAL SINGERS and CHORISTERS

Please come and support this event in aid of the Church

Olveston and Tockington

Methodist Church

Jennifer Bone

Wednesday 17 December in Tockington Chapel

Poetry and Music for Christmas, followed by refreshments.

Tickets: £3, in aid of charity.

Please see posters and December Meeting Point for further details.

Fashion Show

Kath Burgess



Thornbury Townswomen's Guild are holding a fashion show on Tuesday 11th November in the Armstrong Hall at 7.30 pm in aid of Thornbury Stroke Support. Mrs Jean Ford will present "Just In" fashions of Winchcombe and Churchdown. The ticket cost of £7.00 will include a glass of wine and light refreshments.

Tickets are available at Thornbury Town Hall.

Friends of St Mary's Christmas Fayre

22nd November at the Parish Hall 2pm to 4pm

Once again we are laying on the opportunity of you buying some early inexpensive gifts for Christmas but we as usual want this to be an experience that the children & you won't forget.

Just as in previous years Father Christmas will be on hand in his Grotto between 2pm & 3pm to give out a FREE GIFT TO EVERY CHILD that comes along with an adult.

In addition this year we will be presenting the £50 first prize & 5 runner up prizes of £10 each for those balloons that went the furthest when you all had a go in our 'Balloon Race' at the Church Fete. Not only that but anyone who joins the local Lottery at the Fayre will be entered into a draw & one lucky winner will receive their membership free for a year.

There will be all the normal stalls as well as the 'Christmas stall' including the Bottle stall - bric a brac - Cake stall & teas. If there are any Charitable or local groups out there that would like a space in the Hall please give me a ring on 01454 614890 – First come first served basis...

Finally if you can donate any item or cakes etc they would be most welcome as would anyone who can help during the afternoon – Thank you Santa & the committee look forward to seeing you on the 22nd !!

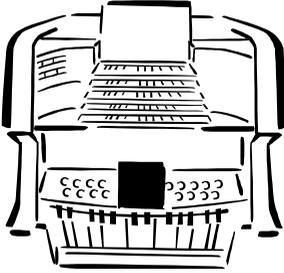
Craft Group

Are you interested in joining a local craft group? If so please contact Mary Slader on 07747 562264. If there is enough interest the first meeting will be on Wednesday 7 January 2009 in the Wike Hall, Olveston School.

Annual Organ Recital

John Crossley

This popular village event will be held at the Parish Church of St Mary the Virgin, Olveston on Saturday **1st November at 7.30pm** by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev Philip Rowe and the PCC.



The occasion commemorates the donation of the present organ to the church by Jack Britton and also Mrs Nan Bernays, his sister a well loved and remembered member of this community.

This year the organist, following on a number of other distinguished persons, is to be Andrew Dewar recently appointed as organist at Clifton College. He began playing at an early age at his

local church in Yeovil when he was nine years old. A pupil, organ scholar and later organist at Wells Cathedral, he studied in Stuttgart at the Musikhochschule for eight years before being appointed to Clifton College.

He has won many national and international prizes, has performed throughout Europe and America and has released two CDs.

Tickets are £8, available from Olveston Stores and June Robbins (tel 617491), as well as at the door and include a glass of wine or soft drink.

In addition to the organ recital St Mary's Choir will be performing.

Alva - The Bells of Paradise

Aust Church Saturday 1st November 8pm

Songs of sensual love and spiritual devotion, street cries and lullabies, chilling murder ballads and dance-songs for the Virgin Mary – this programme celebrates the richness of English song ranging from 13th century sources to folk-songs collected by Ralph Vaughan Williams.

Alva features the beautiful voice of Vivien Ellis and the magnificent fiddle playing of Giles Lewin, and was formed in 1997 to explore the links between early European vocal repertoire and surviving folksong traditions.

Alva will be at Aust church on Saturday 1st November at 8pm. Tickets are £10 full and £8 concessions, available from Peter or Gina Dobbins on 01454 632306 or directly from the Boar's Head, Aust, or Olveston Stores.

Royal British Legion Coffee Morning

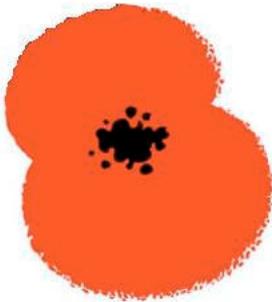
On **Saturday 8th November 10am** at Olveston Methodist Church.

The scouts are organising this one!

St Mary's Olveston Annual Memorial Service

Rev Philip Rowe

For all who are mourning the loss of someone they loved, regardless of whether the bereavement was recent or long ago, a Memorial Service will be held at St. Mary's Olveston at 6.00 p.m. on Sunday 2nd November. At this Service there will be an opportunity to light a candle, as well as having the name of your loved one(s) remembered in the prayers. Please mention the name(s) you wish remembered to the sidesman as you enter the church. Afterwards there will be a chance to meet and talk with others over light refreshments. Please do attend with as many of your family and friends as you wish. Everyone is warmly invited.



Olveston Branch of Royal British Legion, Remembrance Service, Sun. 9th Nov. 10am

A parade for uniform parties will leave the Parish Hall at 9.20am to arrive at St Mary's at 9.50. There will be a rehearsal at St Mary's at 10am on Saturday 8th November.

Tockington Harvest Fayre, September 13th

Garry Phillips

Once again we had glorious weather and consequently another very successful and happy Fayre. We would like to thank all of you who came along and we do hope you enjoyed the afternoon's events and music even though the Ballet Centre unfortunately had to cancel at the last minute.

As a result of your support we raised £1630, which will be used to maintain and improve the Wesley Rooms and our Church facilities in Tockington and Olveston. We would also like to thank all those people who helped, in particular :- David Shaw – our excellent mc, Olveston Guides and Brownies, Tockington Toddlers, the members of the Folk Band, Amanda Swale and Gill Carey - the judges of the competitions and fancy dress parade, Colin Mealing and family – for the barbeque, John Cryer – for safely transporting the pews, Cecil Draper – for getting all the tables to and from the Village hall and finally Gary Lewis, of Avon Turf – for all his efforts getting the grass cut in time for the Fayre. We are extremely grateful to all of you and we do hope to see you all again at next year's Fayre!

Thornbury Camera Club News and Tips

Peter Haworth

NEWS

The beginners' course is presently under way at the United Reform Church. It is designed to help people understand their camera, consider composition and creativity in photography, use basic manipulation techniques and the presentation of images by printing or projecting.

Forthcoming evenings at the club during November include a practical evening of table top photography, judging of the second competition, and a talk on "Kenya Wildlife Safari."

New members of all abilities are welcome please contact me, Peter Haworth, on 01454 612441 for more information.

TIPS

Rockets, flares, damp squibs!! Yes, November has arrived and this month's tips, you've guessed it - taking pictures of fireworks.



If you go to a firework display consider the best location for your photography, a position close to where the fireworks are set off allows you to point the camera up at the sky's canopy and capture all the streaks and flares. A slightly distant location enables you to photograph fireworks against an interesting background, such as a city skyline or foreground reflections on water. For a change try taking the occasional black and white image.

Fireworks and light trails usually require a second or two of exposure. It's impossible to handhold a camera completely still, so a steady tripod is a must. A wide angle lens is usually required to catch the area of the sky that's exploding with light and colour. Try tracking a rocket in flight and time the start of your exposure as it reaches the top of its arc; you will need a few seconds exposure to photograph a series of bursts in one shot. Take care.

Thornbury Carnival 2009

David Goldring

Following an announcement about a possible Carnival a few months ago there is another Open Meeting for all would-be contributors on **Thursday 6th November, at 7.30 pm, in Turnberries**, in Thornbury. Even though Thornbury Chamber of Trade are taking the lead, all organisations taking part are invited to use the event independently for their own fundraising. It will need wide participation from Thornbury groups as well as those from the surrounding villages if the Carnival is to succeed. Please try to attend the meeting so that the organisers can gauge support.

Oveston PreSchool Nearly New Sale

As the credit crunch begins to bite, many local parents are planning to take advantage of the permanently popular nearly new sale organised by Oveston PreSchool. Good quality toys, books, baby equipment and much more at a tiny fraction of the store prices. With Christmas creeping ever closer, many parents find the nearly new sale a brilliant solution, as well as a wonderful opportunity to burnish their green credentials – less dumped in landfill and more money in your pocket.

You can also sell your items which are now surplus to requirements, please contact natashaarrod@hotmail.com for sellers' information.

The date is: **Saturday 15th November 10-12 at Oveston Parish Hall.**

"White Mischief"

(With apologies to the author of the Kenyan Highlands novel)

The experts were chatting on Telecoms matters,
I chipped in to say my plants were in tatters,
You need 'wiFi' they said, continuing their anthem,
But it's white fly I said, trying to impress them.....
....And I use Murphy's systemic in order to clear it,
(But no sympathy came from the principal pundit!)

Next day the "Thunderer" gave me a clue.
I then solved the problem without much ado,
For a volcano had erupted in Oveston town,
And ash had cascaded and fallen like down,
Upon all my fuchsias and pansies as well.
But then on the article I started to dwell,
Thereafter discovering the real truth was that...
The Oveston mentioned was in Montserrat!

John Nutton

The poem was inspired by a newspaper item reading:

"Volcano spews gas and ash – Oveston. The Soufrière Hills Volcano in the island of Montserrat released ash and gas after a series of blasts at the weekend as scientists reported an increase in seismic activity. No injuries or damage were reported."

Line Of Coins and Coffee Morning:

Lynda Spratt SL 1st Olveston Scouts

It's that time of year again! The challenge to line the pavements of Olveston with your spare coins.

1st Olveston Scouts are holding their annual Line of Coins through the village, on Saturday 15th November. One group is starting outside the Bakery and the other outside the Stores with the aim of meeting in the middle and raising a load of money! There will also be a coffee morning in the Methodist Hall.

We will be there from 10-12 noon but you can also donate at the Bakery if you can't make the day. Alternatively give it to one of our 79 Beavers, Cubs or Scouts in the group..... you must know one of them??????

Friends' Walking Group Steam Train trip to Dartmouth

Dan Evans, Group Leader



On a sunny day in September I organised a group trip of twenty eight people to travel by steam train from Temple Meads to Kingswear. As we travelled through Weston-super-Mare and Taunton the scenery was average: these areas are mostly comprised of Keuper Marls (a reddish clay) which is Triassic in age and a younger lias clay soil which is Jurassic in age. As we approached Exeter the New Red Sandstone soils were distinct and later we appreciated the river scenery and, soon afterwards,

the beautiful English Channel. We then travelled along the coast through Dawlish and Teignmouth where red sandstone cliff scenery is evident. The scenery continued to be outstanding as we approached Torquay and Paignton, especially in the Torbay area. On arriving at Kingswear we boarded a ferry to cross the Dart to the town of Dartmouth. As we had such a large group we split up into small groups for lunch.

Often the steam train has a habit of breaking down but we were fortunate in that we had a perfect ride down. After four hours in Dartmouth we had to take the return ferry to the station : four people got in the wrong ferry..... but they just boarded the train in time. The weather was beautiful and sunny, so hopefully I can say: "a good day was had by all"!

Police Report

The police priorities from the Safer Stronger Community Group remain as speeding vehicles on the B4461 at Elberton, parking issues at Olveston School and youth issues in Olveston.

Glass on climbing wall



We have recently been alerted to ongoing issues in and around Vicarage Lane Park, Olveston. The parish council have spoken to us about this and asked for some action. Young people have been gathering, causing anti-social behaviour late into the night. It has been suggested that the majority of these young people come from Olveston but some may be visiting from outside. They are bringing alcohol with them and on more than one occasion

have **smashed glass around the children's play area**. Glass shards have been wedged into the chain links of the children's swings and this weekend I have seen a bottle of Bombay Sapphire Gin smashed against the children's climbing wall and glass put into the "cupped" hand-holds on the climbing wall (see photo). Obviously the only reason to do this is to cause injury to small children.

I would ask that the police are called when these incidents are ongoing, although the police may not be able to attend on every occasion (we attend most despite what you read in the press) the logged calls help me and Kelly to build a picture of what's happening, when and where, therefore patrolling in a more effective way. You can call the police anonymously or speak to crime stoppers on 0800 555 111. Obviously phone 999 in an emergency or 0845 4567000 to report all other incidents or crimes. You can speak to me or Kelly about community issues on the below numbers. We do need your help to combat this problem.

Crimes for the month:

4/9/08 A theft of fuel from Aust Services

5/9/08 A vehicle drove over the cricket pitch at Rockhampton C.C. causing damage to the grass.

15/9/08 Theft from Allotments in Olveston

19/9/08 Olveston Sports and Social Club was broken into.

22/9/08 A garage in Tockington was broken into.

24/9/08 Another "drive off" from Aust Services.

30/9/08 A plant sale Honesty Box was stolen from outside a house in Olveston.

Roger Hopes PC 3404 Neighbourhood Beat Manager, DC 125 Severnvale

Phone: 0117 945 5959 or Mobile: 07919628625

Thornbury Police Station, Rock St, Thornbury S Glos. BS352BA

E-mail: roger.hopes@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the August draw were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	168	F. Milward, Olveston
£75	438	Mrs. D.M. Gingell, Awkley
£25	485	Mrs. S.E. Lyons, Ingst
£25	239	Mr. D.A. Organ, Olveston
£20	218	Mrs. P. Dash, Olveston
£15	187	Mrs. J. Williams, Greenditch Street
£10	321	A.M. Bennett, Alveston

Cancer Research

Betty Gain

The Thornbury and District Local Committee is holding a **Christmas Celebration of Words and Music** commencing at 7.30pm on Wednesday 26th November in St Helen's Church, Alveston. The evening will include secular and religious offerings and everyone is most welcome. The evening will conclude with light refreshments and a retiring collection for Cancer Research.

Your Local Radio 87.7



Thornbury FM is back on air for its seventh season, broadcasting on 87.7 FM from Monday 3rd through to Sunday 30th November. With over seventy presenters, there are programmes to suit every taste. Full details of the schedule are available on www.thornburyfm.org where you can also listen on-line. The radio station is

keen to give publicity to local events, and to take dedications and celebrate all that is happening in our district. During the broadcast period, phone the studio on 01454 412001, *txt* THORNBURY + msg to 07766 40 41 42 or email studio@thornburyfm.org.

Scout News

Ian Knowles

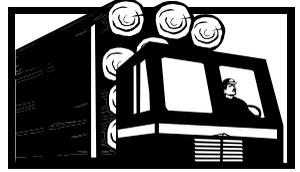
The Scout Hut at Old Down is now ready and the Scout groups should be moving in by the time you read article, (watch out for news of the grand opening day which is planned for mid November). We desperately need someone to support us in the role of "**hut caretaker**". This will mainly involve taking "hire" bookings; arranging maintenance; key holding and generally providing a focal point for any hut issues. Perhaps someone retired may be interested in this valued community role???

We also need individuals to join our fundraising committee, especially since the building of the hut has left us very short of savings. Please contact me on 616744 or Lesley on 616477 if you feel you can commit to either of these roles.

Evolution of maths teaching

1. Teaching Maths In 1970

A logger sells a lorry load of timber for £100.
His cost of production is $\frac{4}{5}$ of the price.
What is his profit?



2. Teaching Maths In 1980

A logger sells a lorry load of timber for £100.
His cost of production is $\frac{4}{5}$ of the price, or £80.
What is his profit?

3. Teaching Maths In 1990

A logger sells a lorry load of timber for £100.
His cost of production is £80.
Did he make a profit?

4. Teaching Maths In 2000

A logger sells a lorry load of timber for £100.
His cost of production is £80 and his profit is £20.
Your assignment: Underline the number 20.

5. Teaching Maths In 2008

A logger cuts down a beautiful forest because he is selfish and inconsiderate and cares nothing for the habitat of animals or the preservation of our woodlands.

He does this so he can make a profit of £20.

What do you think of this way of making a living?

Topic for class participation after answering the question: How did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down their homes?

(There are no wrong answers.)

6. Teaching Maths In 2018

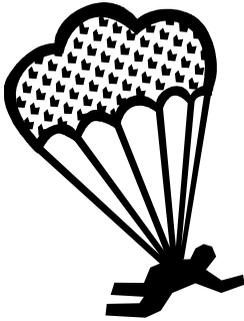
رالود 100 لجا نم بشخل نم فنحاش لهومح عيببت لجسمل ا
هل حبرلا وه ام. نمثل نم جاتنال ا قفلكت بحاص

This was sent to the editor by Trevor Anderson who writes: *I've shown this to several teachers of maths and school heads and, without exception, everyone remarked how true it is. Not surprising perhaps, but what was surprising was that not one person seemed to take on board any responsibility for trying to do something about it!*

If you have any comments, agreeing or disagreeing with the above, please send them to Meeting Point.

Our local Sky-diving hero

Angela Williams



St Peter's Hospice has been a charity close to Peter Wadley's heart ever since they cared for his wife 12 years ago. When the opportunity occurred to raise money for the charity Peter literally jumped at the chance.

Sitting with Peter in his bungalow it was hard to imagine this 83yr old had jumped out of a plane strapped to a parachutist just 3 days earlier.

We were able to re-live the experience watching the DVD made by a professional sky-diving photographer.

Peter was prepared for the flight and squeezed into a small aircraft with 7 other people, including Claire his daughter, and taken to 2 miles above the Gloucestershire countryside. The door slid open and there was no turning back. Peter, with the instructor on his back, was somersaulting through the air. After 1 mile of freefall, the main parachute opened and they were heading for the landing spot. Unfortunately, Peter landed on his knees but no bones were broken and, yes, he did keep his eyes open all the time!

As Peter says, 'never again!' He is just pleased to be able to give something back to the Hospice where he has been a volunteer for many years. When all the sponsorship money is in, Peter hopes to have raised £1000. A magnificent achievement.

If you want to support Peter in achieving his goal, he is still collecting money!

Roger Royle coming to Olveston

Roly Bain

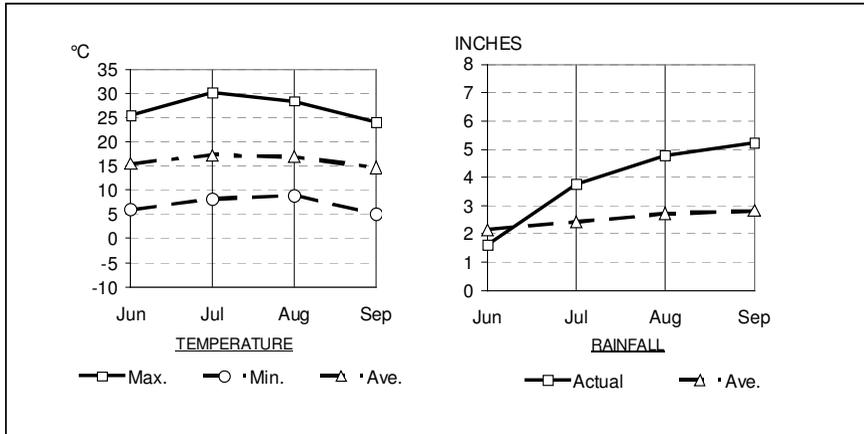
Canon Roger Royle, star of Radio 2, pantomime and all sorts of things, is coming to St Mary's on Wednesday, December 3rd at 7.30 pm to kick off our Advent Talks. He'll be followed by Anita Thorne, former Vicar of the parish, on Tuesday, Dec 9th at 7.30 pm. Sr. Hilda Mary, an Anglican nun and clown is addressing us on Thursday, Dec 18th and Bishop Lee of Swindon is finishing the series on Monday Dec 22nd - at the slightly later time of 8 pm. There'll be a talk, followed by questions, and then wine and refreshments will be served. Do come to any or all of them. There's no charge, though contributions towards expenses as you leave will be asked for!



Weather Record

July to September 2008

Marcus Bean



July

A very mixed month with a lot of cloud and, at the beginning of the month, a lot of very heavy rain. A drier and warmer period mid-month developed into very high temperatures at the end of the month bringing the inevitable thunderstorms and heavy rain. Actual rainfall was about one and a half times average whilst average temperatures were about normal but average pressures were low for the time of year.

August

Overcast and gloomy skies and heavy rain on all but five days characterised the weather this month. With the jet stream passing over Southern Britain a constant stream of Atlantic low pressure systems passed over us bringing almost continuous rain and wind. In consequence the average temperature and pressure were significantly below average and sunshine levels were about 60% of normal, whilst rainfall was approaching double the average, making this the wettest August since 1997.

September

The wet and windy weather continued from August until the middle of the month when high pressure tried to build, bringing more settled conditions. High pressure finally established itself on the 17th with warm sunny and dry days and little wind. This continued until the penultimate day of the month when a low pressure system brought wind and some rain. Rainfall for the month was nearly twice the norm and with much cloud early in the month temperature and sunshine levels were below average.

Save the Environment and Money on your Energy Bills!

To support households to reduce their energy bills and help prevent climate change, South Gloucestershire Council has teamed up with Severn Wye Energy Agency to launch **SG Futureenergy** – a renewable energy advice service which provides advice, grants and low interest loans to householders wishing to install renewable energy in their home.

The scheme includes a helpline manned by expert advisors that give free, impartial advice and support from the initial enquiry to actual installation of a renewable technology. Advisors can help identify the most suitable renewable technologies for your home, give you a list of reliable local installers, provide a £500 grant towards the cost of the installing a technology and advice about accessing other grants.

The scheme has also introduced a fantastic low interest loan which is available to all homeowners to help with the cost of installing a renewable technology. The loan of up to £3500 is offered at a fixed interest rate of 3% and is repayable up to 10 years.

The renewable technologies that are eligible for the scheme's grant and loan include: solar hot water, solar photovoltaics (PV), ground source heat pumps, small scale wind and biomass.

To find out more information and to apply for a grant call the **SG Futureenergy Renewable Energy Advice Service** on **01594 544119**, lines are open Mondays to Fridays, 9 am until 5 pm.

Alternatively email renewables@swea.co.uk or visit the website at www.southglos.gov.uk/climatechange.

Olveston Parish Matters

Andy Clarke

On the face of it there is much to be grateful for living in a Parish like this one. Attractive location, good facilities, great walks and views as well as a good range of interest groups and activities. On top of that we are close (but not too close) to a great shopping mall and foodstores, with a country town nearby too, so what more could we want.

Well, like any community, we also have our problems - mostly out and about. A recent survey of traffic speeds in and out of the area showed up horrific statistics of a high proportion of road users (of course, not all are locals) exceeding the designated limits on the Tockington Road, Haw Lane, Orchard Rise, the Aust Road and through Olveston itself. We can all perhaps consider how safe we want our local roads to be.

Perhaps even more alarming is the recent increase in anti-social behaviour on our streets but more especially in our parks and play areas indicating, we are

forced to suppose, that our youngsters and their friends from further afield are responsible. There has been an outbreak of vandalism to our public property, fences, notices benches etc., all of which have to be repaired at public cost - you and I have to pay for this. If you see any anti-social behaviour and feel unable to deal directly with it please, for all our sakes, report it to the Police - ask for a crime number to make sure that it is logged and followed up. Staple Hill clearing centre can be used (0117 9454127) if you are unable to reach local officers on the numbers they publish. Damage can be reported to the Parish Clerk, Mrs Valerie Tutin (01454 613730). Let's not ignore this mounting problem but all try to deal with it.

Local activities and organisations were mentioned earlier and many of them display interesting profiles and information on the community website, which you can access on www.olvoston.com or www.olvostonandaust.com (both take you to the website) if you want to learn more. Perhaps you run an activity that would benefit from similar exposure. You could join up too, so log on!

If there are any issues you would like to raise with the Parish Council, please contact me, Andy Clarke (01454 613804), Mrs. Tutin, or any other councillor and we will be glad to receive you.

Royal British Legion Women's Section

Peggy Oakhill



Our meeting on November 4th will be Bingo in aid of this year's Poppy Appeal. We welcome anyone who would like to come and have a good evening to raise as much money as possible. It is needed more than ever now. The time is 7.30pm and the venue is Daldry Gardens Community Lounge. We look forward to seeing you.

Remembrance Sunday is November 9th and we will be taking a full part in the parade and service.

Parish Hall News

Village Harvest Supper

Saturday 4th September saw one of most successful harvest suppers the parish hall has seen in years with well over 90 people in attendance and excellent food and local entertainment from the likes of Dave and Margaret Stone, Bill Morgan, Rod Williams, Richard Lloyd, John Crossley with Gill Olewicz, David Bone and piano accompaniment from Olwen Wonnacott. At the time of going to press the figures will still be added up but all indications are that the event raised several hundred pounds for hall refurbishments. The management committee would like to pass on its thanks to June Robins and the team for putting on the event.

Active for Life

To all those who could not make the South Gloucestershire Council Community Sport and Active Lifestyle team event, Brian Gardner is drumming up interest for regular activity session in the hall. If you would like to get a bit more active just give Brian a call on 862296 and see what is on offer.

Family Quiz – Saturday 8th November

Teams of 4 at £5 per head. Families with children under 16 years £15, prices include a light supper and soft drinks. Bar available.

Christmas Sing Along – 6th December

Come and enjoy all the classics and share a festive drink at the annual singsong.

Graffiti Classics – 21st January 2009.

Not gypsy, not jazz, not traditional, not classical but 16 strings, 8 dancing feet and 4 voices. Graffiti Classics have moved the classical string into the 21st Century and will be performing at your village hall in the New Year.

If you would like any tickets for the forthcoming events please contact Geoff Chappell 615806 or Mark Bunyan 613761.

Watch out ... there's magic about!

'A TOUCH OF MAGIC' will be performed for one night only, on 22 November at the Cossham Hall. The performance starts at 7.30 pm with a break during which wine and soft drinks may be purchased. Tickets are £5.00 and will be on sale at Thornbury Town Hall weekdays from Monday 3 November, or by calling 07849 638804 at any time. Alternatively, e-mail magic@barrysmith.co.uk. To find out more about Barry, visit his website www.barrysmith.co.uk. Tickets will be on sale at the door on the night also, space permitting.

So come and join in the fun and mystery by witnessing this fascinating evening of magic.

Thornbury Library News

Children's half term event - children AND adults welcome!



The *The Campaign
for Drawing*



**Big Draw - Tuesday 28 October –
drop in any time between 10.30-
12.30 – FREE, no ticket required!**

South Gloucestershire Libraries are inviting you to create a postcard of your favourite story, fable or poem for the *Big Draw 2008*. Our theme is *Word of Mouth* and artist *Carrie Creamer* will help you to explore how stories can be shared and passed on to others. All artistic abilities catered for.

For more details please contact the library in person; phone 01454 868006; email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk or look on the website: www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

There is no charge for drop-in sessions. You are welcome to drop in for as long as you like but please note that the library cannot be responsible for children left unattended by parents. Drop-in sessions are not a child care facility.

Mobile Library

We have had a number of enquiries recently about South Gloucestershire Libraries' mobile library.



South Gloucestershire Mobile Library is a fortnightly service that covers the whole of the council area. It stocks books (including a large print and children's selection), DVDs, Talking Books (on CD & Cassette) and Jigsaws. You can either join on the

Mobile or use your existing South Gloucestershire library card. If we do not have the book you require we will reserve it for the next visit free of charge. The Mobile Library is equipped with a lift for ease of access. We can also deliver books to people living close to where it stops. For full details of dates & routes either log onto www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries or ring 01454 86 8006 for more information.

Mobile library - route F

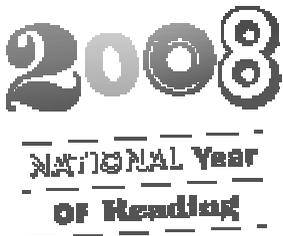
Alternate Mondays: 10 and 24 November, 8 and 22 December

Olveston	Orchard Rise	10.50 – 11 10
Olveston	Daldry Gardens	11.20 – 11.40
Littleton on Severn	Post Office	11.50 – 12.10

Mobile library - route I

Alternate Thursdays: 13 & 27 November and 11 December

Rudgeway	Rudgeway Park	11.00 – 11.15
Almondsbury	Tockington Lane	3.30 – 3.50
Tockington	Tockington Green	4.00 – 4.20



Drop in for a *Football Reading Family Fun day*, including a real penalty shoot out!

On Saturday afternoon 1 November from 2.00 - 4.00 children's author *Tom Palmer* (a Leeds United supporter and author of *Foul Play*) will be visiting the library to host a *Football Reading Family Fun day*. Activities include: a football reading game; football detective hunt; football quiz; colouring competition; reading from *Foul Play* -all with prizes

to be won and followed by a penalty shoot out! This event will be suitable for children aged from 6-12. For more information please look out for posters in the library, ring 01454 86 8006,

email: thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk, or check the website www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

Finally, wear your football shirt!

Christians at Aztec West

A group of Christians working in various businesses at Aztec West has been meeting at St Mary the Virgin, Almondsbury, on the last Friday of every month at 1.10pm until 1.50pm for over a year. We have been very grateful for the open door and the peacefulness of the church.

We support each other in prayer and pray for our colleagues, clients and places of work at Aztec West. We long to see our colleagues and clients come to know our Lord Jesus Christ, and for us to be more Christ-like.

Please pray for us as we meet to pray. If you would like further information or would be interested in joining us to pray, then please contact Jonathan Reynolds at jreynolds269@btinternet.com, or on 07903765310.

From the Registers at St Mary's

Burial in St Mary's Churchyard on 9th September 2008 of Edith Clara Witts

Burial of ashes at St Mary's on 30th September 2008 of Peter Royston Edwards

Cremation at Westerleigh Crematorium on 6th October 2008 followed by Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's of Joan Earle Cogswell.

News from Olveston Parish Twinning Association

Here are three dates for your diaries:

OPTA AGM

This will be on Sunday 23rd November at 8.00pm in the skittle alley at The White Hart, Olveston. If you'd like to know a bit more about the twinning association, do join us at the AGM. Business will be brief and we will then have a social time playing skittles. All members of the Association (whose subscriptions are now due, reminds our treasurer!) are very welcome as are non-members who'd like to get involved.

'Allo 'allo! Whodunnit evening

On Friday 6th February at 8.00pm in the parish hall, Tockington we will be holding a social evening based around solving a fiendish murder in a French café. Come along, hear all the clues and work out for yourselves who is the dastardly killer. There will be food and wine and plenty of fun. More details will be in a later Meeting Point with tickets available straight after Christmas. There's nothing like a grisly murder to liven up the long evenings of February! Put it in your diary now!

The great Annual Wine Challenge

We know this is one of the parish's most eagerly awaited events, so thought you'd like early notice of the date. The next Wine Challenge will be on Friday 6th April in the parish hall – with all the usual combination of fun, skill and luck as we try to identify ten carefully chosen wines. Make a note of the date now and a later Meeting Point will give full details of ticket sales. It's an evening not to be missed!

We are also expecting a group of our French friends to visit next May, so if you'd like to know more about that, or anything mentioned above, please call Jan on 612641 or Paul on 626835.

Cricket Club News

150 Club Winners October:

£50 Mike Rowen £15 Beverley Stephens £ 5 Graham Clare

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

20th September Diane Grosvenor

27th September Paddy Gardner

11th October David & Diane Buckley

Diary Date: Friday 14th November: Race Day at Cheltenham

Please contact me for Tickets & Information about this popular event.

Tony Gardner 07889 727729 www.olddowncricketclub.co.uk

Yours faithfully - Hope

Roger Howell

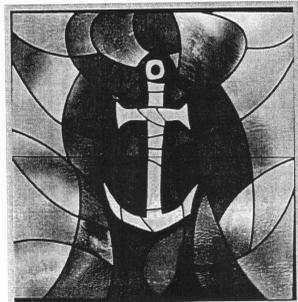
I have amongst my most treasured possessions some pieces of china given to me by my grandmother which once belonged to her great-grandparents who had farmed at Stidcote Farm, Tytherington in the early years of the 19th century. The three pieces had been part of a set of china bearing allegorical depictions of faith, hope and charity in the form of three young women painted in red on a white ground. The vessels have survived the vicissitudes of some 200 years of farm life, though not without damage; a chip here, a crack there, a missing lid: symbolic you might think of the battering that faith, hope and charity, those three fundamentals of our emotional existence, have received; also over the last 200 years.

The allegorical figures of course are a reference to St Paul's great homily on love in Corinthians 1 chapter 12. St Paul discusses charity, or love, in great detail and there is nothing more to be added to his profound words, so I would like to speak up for hope. We live in a world where despair rather than hope might seem to be the order of the day, for in spite of the horrific wars and cruelties of the 20th century, man still seems to find it only too easy to solve his problems by resource to arms, whether in war, terrorism, urban violence or crime. Although we see clearly the damage we do to the environment of our planet by our indulgent use of pollutants, we seem incapable of restraining ourselves. In the fight against disease, like the heads of the Lernaean Hydra, when we eradicate one, ten more seem to spring up.

But Dante was surely right when he envisaged the inscription to the entrance to hell as "Abandon all hope you who enter" for despair is of the devil just as hope is of God. Whereas despair is destructive, a giving up on life, hope on the other hand is positive and creative. It is nurtured by love and most of us have known love in some form or another; the love of our parents and family, the love of loyal friend. Hope, like love, is meant to be shared but whereas love is now, hope looks to the future. Descartes' famous dictum "I think therefore I am" might be put in the future tense as I hope therefore I will be, or as Alexander Pope puts it:

*Hope springs eternal in the human breast
Man never is, but always to be blest*

The anchor is one of the most ancient of Christian symbols and Hope is set before us "as an anchor of the soul, sure and firm" (Hebrews 6:19-20)



The above was broadcast on Thornbury FM radio's Thought for the Day

Church News: ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Nov 2 nd	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Breakfast Club Memorial Service with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe Rev Philip Rowe Breakfast Club Team Rev. Philip Rowe
Nov 9 th	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parade Service with Choir Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev Roly Bain Mrs Janet McBride Breakfast Club Team Mr Denis Jones
Nov 16 th	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev. Philip Rowe Rev Philip Rowe Breakfast Club Team Rev David Bone
Nov 23 rd	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion(BCP) 4 th Sunday Breakfast Club Evensong(BCP) with Choir	Canon David Sansum Rev Roly Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev. Philip Rowe
Nov 30 th	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Advent Family Service Taize Advent Service with Choir	Canon David Sansum Rev. Helen Webb Rev.David Bone

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

CONTACT PERSONS:

The Rev Philip Rowe, (01454 613223); email: office@stmaryssevernside.org
Please contact Philip about Baptisms, marriages, funerals or other matters at any time, but please try to avoid Thursdays except in an emergency.

Mrs. June Robbins, Verger 01454 617491

Internet: www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 3.00pm in the Church (except third Monday)

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Nov 2 nd	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Nov 9 th	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Nov 16 th	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Nov 23 rd	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone
Nov 30 th	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Bone

Assistant Curate: **Rev David Bone (01454 614601)**

Church Wardens: **Jo Jenkins (01454) 632838 and Janet Ford 633300**

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Nov 2 nd	9am	Holy Communion	Rev.David Pole
Nov 16 th	9am	Mattins	Mr Don Streatfield

Contact person: **Rev. David Pole (01454 414810); www.sthelensalveston.org**

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Nov 9 th	9 am	Mattins	Mr Don Streatfield
Nov 23 rd	9 am	Holy Communion	Rev Dave Pole

Contact person: **Rev. David Pole (01454 414810); www.sthelensalveston.org**

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nov 2 nd	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship.led byMr Glyn Varney. Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms.
	6pm	Olveston Ch	Evening Worship led by Rev.Iesinga Vunipola
Nov 9 th	10am	St. Mary's Ch.	Remembrance Day Service.
	6pm	Tockington Ch.	Evening Worship led by Mr Colin Blenkinsopp.
Nov 16 th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led byMr Glyn Varney. Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms.
	4pm	Daldry Gdens	Worship led by Mrs Margaret Mortlock
Nov23 rd	10am	Tockington Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Iesinga Vunipola. Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms
	6pm	Olveston Ch	Evening Worship led byRev. Oluyemisi Jaiseimi
Nov 30 th	10am	Tockington Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev Audrey Standhaft Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms
	6pm	Olveston Ch	Evening Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney

LIGHT LUNCHESES: Thursday 6th Nov at 12.15pm in the Tockington Wesley Rooms. To book your lunch please ring 416056.

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: T his meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday12th November. To book your lunch please ring 416528

PRAYER MEETINGS: Thursdays at 2.15pm in the Olveston Vestry.

COFFEE MORNINGS: Saturdays 10.30am – 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall. On Saturdays 8th & 15th coffee will be served by Olveston Scouts & Cubs

DISCUSSION GROUP: A Discussion Group covering topical subjects is held on the 4th Tuesday of every month. Meetings commence with coffee 10.30am for 11.00am. This months meeting is on the 25th November

CONTACT PERSON: Rev Iesinga Vunipola 01454 412269; iesinga@hotmail.com

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies and incorporating Communion, normally on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm. As we also visit other churches and events, please check our Notice Board or contact us. If you would like us to pray for you, your requests can be posted through the letter box at The Vine or sent to us by post or email. Please add a name or initial to identify your request. **Mike and Barbara Matthews**, tel. **07840 793772** or email **thevine_awkley@hotmail.com**

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Nov 2 nd	6.30pm	Victory Outreach
Nov 9th	6.30pm	Michael Patten
Nov 16 th	6.30pm	Eric Barret
Nov 23 rd	6.30pm	John & Barbara Alvis
Nov 30 th	4.00pm 6.30pm	Baptismal Service Paul Ashford

For further information please contact **Olwen Wonnacott (412141)** or **Paul Ashford (07774-110814)** email: Paul@CalebGroup.net

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH offers a warm welcome to Family Worship at 11.00am and to Evening Worship at 6.30pm. For more details, please phone 632564. 'Happy are the people whose God is the Lord'.

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IN OLVESTON

Our Sunday morning meetings are held at The Grange School in Warmley at 11 am, but the life of the church continues in a variety of forms, locations and styles throughout the week. Please contact the Fellowship Office in Almondsbury on **01454 613305** for more information or on the internet at www.bcfnet.com

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury - each Sunday
8.30am Mass **11.00 Family Mass** **6.30pm Mass**

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Meeting for Worship: Sundays 10.30-11.30am, The Hanover Room, The Chantry, Castle St. Wheelchair accessible. Anyone can come but children welcome with prior notice. National website www.quaker.org.uk Bristol area www.bristolquakers.org.uk Local contact **Elizabeth Sidwell 412975**