

Meeting Point

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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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From the Editor

One of the interesting things about being editor is that you get to see magazines from neighbouring villages. These only produce 10 issues per year and miss out August and January. I was concerned that August would be a thin month for Meeting Point but suddenly, just around the time of the deadline, lots came in! Please keep articles coming. Contributions from school aged children are especially welcome .

I am writing this on St Swithin's Day, 15th July, and what a soaker it's been. Will the old saying be true I wonder? I was disappointed that June was not the wettest on record but only since 1998; four times more rain fell than in glorious June 2006.

Never mind! The gardens are green and lovely and the fruit is swelling nicely. We Brits are stalwarts when it comes to weather and really appreciate our sunny days.

Despite my comments about 'virtual worlds' last month we are now on the internet! Read Trevor's article on Olveston.com on page 5. Don't worry if you don't have all this wizardry, (or if it's not working!) Meeting Point will still come plopping through your door.

This month's cover is by Elaine Thomas

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

Cathy Bolton

Pat Thirkettle

Cathy was born in Church Village, near Pontypridd, with a Welsh speaking father and grandmother. She learnt Welsh at school and took it at 'O'level, and today she says she still understands it but has little reason to speak it.

In true Welsh musical tradition Cathy learnt violin and piano up to top grades, and became a member of Glamorgan County Youth Orchestra. Glamorgan was one of the pioneers of county youth orchestras and Cathy benefited from the experience before moving on, at the age of fourteen, to the Welsh National Youth Orchestra. She spent her summer holidays, after a residential ten days training, touring Wales giving concerts. It was very hard work, but great fun, with a built in social life. In 1966 they did an exchange with a Slovakian Youth Orchestra in Bratislava, when Alexander Dubcek was in power, just before the 'Prague Spring'. (For those too young to remember, Dubcek initiated some reforms to the Communist hard line, which were eventually quelled by the invasion of Czechoslovakia in August 1968, without bloodshed, as Dubcek ordered the army not to respond). It was her first visit abroad and they stayed in a holiday camp surrounded by barbed wire and (empty) sentry boxes, the people were very poor and the shops had nothing much to sell. Cathy remembers the date for a second reason, because their charter plane (which flew from Filton) came in to land over the very new Severn Bridge.

After school she went to Cardiff University to do a music degree. She chose Cardiff because it was a practical course offering a wide variety of opportunities to play. It was at this time that Cathy fell in love with the mellow sound of the viola and started to play it at music societies and concerts. After Cardiff she went on the Guildhall School of Music to do a postgraduate year, an entirely practical course, playing the viola. During her year there she was chosen to play on a 'Youth and Music' course in Lisbon, one of the Robert Mayer series. She also played at one of the Lord Mayor's Banquets for people in the Arts, in the Guildhall in London.

After the Guildhall School of Music Cathy came to Bristol to join the BBC Training Orchestra. Sadly this no longer exists, but it was invaluable for newly qualified musicians to spend up to three years learning the repertoire in the orchestra and being coached by top professionals, before they embarked on their own careers. She then went to the Halle Orchestra in Manchester as a viola player, but after a short time she left to return to Bristol and freelanced for two years with many orchestras, including the Bournemouth and WNO. She rather enjoyed this, as there was so much variety and there was no need to get involved with the politics of any particular orchestra, as you were always on the fringes.

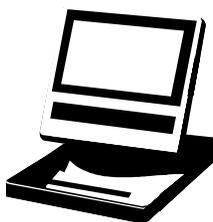
In 1973 she was working temporarily with the BBC Midland Radio Orchestra in Birmingham, but after she married her husband Chris that year, she moved to the BBC Orchestra in Cardiff full time, travelling daily from Bristol where they lived. After their son Tim was born she became freelance again and two years

later Matthew was born, so she has been freelance ever since, either teaching privately or playing the viola. Career highlights include BBC orchestral tours to Japan and Germany and many appearances at the Proms.

They lived in an old cottage in Bristol, but always wanted to move to the country, so they explored all round Gloucestershire, and settled on Olveston. Nothing came up through the estate agents, but when someone put a note through their door, they decided to do the same in Olveston, and that is how they came to live in the Old Meeting House on The Green. A big and very welcome surprise came when they saw inside the house. The Quaker Meeting Room at the back of the house is a perfect room for music, having a high ceiling and furnished with plenty of wood.

Soon after they moved here, they joined the Twinning Association and went on the trip to Brehan. It was a wonderful way to meet not only new French friends but also new Olveston friends. Cathy is still very involved in the musical world, including playing chamber music in The Meeting Room.

Chris and Cathy have always loved travel, especially to exotic locations. Tim being in the travel business has been a great help, and now Chris is retired they have even more time. They have been to Peru, Namibia and India amongst others, and in November they are travelling to Bhutan. If, like me, you don't know where it is you will need an atlas!



Olveston.com

Trevor Cook

By the time you read this we hope to have the July edition of Meeting Point loaded on the www.olvoston.com website. And, if we are successful we might get the August edition on too. Please have a look; it would be great to hear from you and get feed-back on our use of new technology. You will now be able to get the magazine wherever you are;

no more pining for news of home; no more wondering when the Church fete is going to be when you've lost the magazine.

As you will see, when you reach the home page, the website was created by Noel Clarke of Synergie Marketing and Design. Noel lives in Olveston and the site is his personal contribution to the community. He is offering free use of space on the server for websites for non-profit organisations within the parishes. Chris Cook, of Leading Edge Hosting (and, by no coincidence, my son) has assisted us by loading the files on to the site.

Noel's offer extends to setting up email addresses on the server so we could all have an address "someone@olvoston.com". How neat is that?

At present, Meeting Point will share the website with the Village Design Statement, which is worth a read and a look at the photographs of Olveston. I hope that we will soon be joined by others.

Noel's contact details are on the site. You can contact me on 01454 618442 or by mail at trevor_cook@btinternet.com

ROAD CLOSED!

There used to be a saying that you could wait forever for your bus to arrive but when it did three more would follow close behind. It seems a little bit like that around Olveston this summer with roadworks in the area stacking up.

First the closure of Haw Lane early in July. Although intended for only three weeks the likelihood is that could well be for longer. Olveston Parish Council has long complained that the retaining wall by the wood was unsafe and remedial work was needed to improve it and finally South Gloucestershire Council agreed.

Almost at once it was also announced that Vicarage Lane would have to close for five days to allow essential maintenance on a house, requiring scaffolding well into the road.

The 'third bus' to come along stopped at the The Green where Wessex Water need to dig up the road to carry out sewage pipework and this work too, off and on, could take some time.

The 'last bus' to arrive in our procession was destined for The Street, Olveston. The Parish Council has pushed hard to have this dreadful piece of road resurfaced and finally, thanks to support from Councillor Matthew Riddle, South Glos have agreed to the work being done.

However the downside could be that four of the roads in and out of Olveston could be out of commission at once this summer. Nevertheless such inconvenience does at least offer the consolation of improvements to our daily lives in the long run.

Andy Clarke, Parish Councillor

Olveston & Tockington WI

Notice from Carmen Pitts

From 1st August 2007 prescriptions will only be collected from Olveston Stores on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Collection will be at 2.00pm and returned by 4.30pm to Olveston Stores.

Village of the Year Competition (Avonside).

This year there was only one round of judging so by the time you read this, the fates of the three villages will have been decided. Results will be announced in mid August. Well done to everyone who made an effort. The competition is organised by the Campaign to Protect Rural England and sponsored by Calor.

British Legion Summer Outing

On August the 8th the RBL are organising a coach to the 66 acre National Memorial Woodland at Arlewas in the heart of the National Forest in Staffordshire. It is a day out for all the family to enjoy the beauty of the trees and to reflect upon the memorials in the garden, which was recently opened by Her Majesty the Queen.

There may be a few places left on the coach which departs from White Hart Olveston at 8.30am with some additional local pick-up points. The anticipated return time to Olveston is 7.30pm. Entry to the Arlewas is free and there are multiple amenities on site; the cost of the coach is £ 10.00 per person. For last minute reservations on the coach, please call Bernard Trott on 614408.

Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church

Re-opening of Tockington Chapel

Members of the Church Council extend their warmest thanks to everyone who helped to make the week of events for the re-opening of Tockington Chapel in June so successful. Particular thanks are due to those who took responsibility for the art exhibition and for the flower display, to Manifesto for singing at 'Let's make Music', to the artists who performed at Friday evening's concert, and to St Mary's choir for concluding the evening's events (which included a splendid finger buffet), by the very moving singing of Vespers in the Chapel at twilight. We were glad to see so many visitors calling in through the week for coffee and to view the alterations, and very much appreciated the support we received for the entire programme.

For the fact that we were able to turn our dreams into practicable reality we have to thank Peter Floyd who listened patiently to our imprecise ideas and showed us what was possible. For bringing our plans to fruition, and on time, we are indebted to our builder, Roger Pawsey, and his colleagues. We also wish to thank everyone who responded to our development leaflet and financial appeal. We are glad to be able to confirm that the project came in to budget, and that to date financing is going according to plan; fund-raising still continues.

We very much hope that the community will wish to make use of the Chapel since that was part of the purpose of undertaking the work. To make a booking, please contact Maggie Spooner (610053). Further information about the Chapel and its facilities can also be obtained from Trevor Watkins (416528), Garry Phillips (613241), Glyn Varney (0117-969-6387) and Jennifer Bone (614601). The Wesley Rooms continue to be available for use by all age groups.

Autumn programme

There will be the usual Harvest Fayre on Tockington Green on Saturday 15th September, and our Harvest Festival will be on Sunday 23rd September.

We are hoping to establish a pattern of opening the Chapel on the second weekend of each month, from Friday to Sunday, with a small exhibition, coffee and newspapers and Fair Trade stall. Further details for the weekends of 12th-14th October and 9th-11th November will appear in *Meeting Point* in due course. We are also planning a week of Christmas events from 7th-14th December.

St Mary's Olveston Church Fete **Saturday 23rd June 2007**

Mike Wright

Olveston basked in sunshine for the annual Church fete. Visitors to the Church building were treated to many talented artistic, musical, floral, historic and dynamic displays. The church bells were rung and curious youngsters were later conducted up the tower to enjoy the full vista of the Severn Vale.

A short walk down the hill at Church Farm there was plenty of action in the courtyard, in the display arena and on the sports field.

There were bargains a-plenty at the stalls in the courtyard; summer sunshine encouraged sales of ice cream, teas, cakes, special sausages and plants.

Visitors chanced their arm and their luck at the coconut shy, bottle stall, balloon race and fruit machine plus a host of other attractions.

The young enjoyed a penalty shoot-out in the sports field and the landlord of the White Hart suffered from a barrage of wet sponges whilst held captive in the stocks.

Olveston CEVC School entertained in the main arena with country dancing and Olveston Brownies delighted with a cavalcade of music and dance numbers for the holiday season.

The afternoon concluded with the Battle of the Pubs. A powerful tug of war team from the White Hart, Olveston got the better of a spirited team of challengers from the Plough at Pilning.

The sun kept shining as the happy throng dispersed after a fun village event.



Explosive 80th Birthday **raises £400**

Elizabeth Screen would like to thank the generosity of her friends and families who helped raise over £400 for the British Lung Foundation during her recent 80th birthday celebrations. The gathering at Thornbury Cricket Club on June 8th culminated with the release of

80 yellow and white balloons as part of a charity race challenge, into a night sky filled by fireworks. Congratulations and a prize go to Dorothy Cain whose balloon flew all the way to Taunton!



Police Report for June

Kelly Dimery

In June there were 13 reported crimes, Aust services had 3 'making off without payment' incidents. A burglary occurred at an address in Almondsbury where expensive equipment was stolen at about the same time that other properties in the area were targeted as well. An assault occurred near to Windmill House where a plastic bottle was thrown from a car at a pedestrian. The offender

was identified and cautioned for the offence.

Investigations are continuing of a protracted dispute in Littleton-upon-Severn.

A theft of a motor vehicle from a workplace in Aust and theft of a trailer from an address in Rudgeway are also being investigated.

With regard to the ongoing parking issue in Olveston, checks reveal that cars parked on double yellow lines are not always customers of The White Hart but are local residents. Please be mindful of your neighbours and park considerately. Further to the parking issue double yellow lines have now been decriminalised and taken over by South Gloucestershire Council. To report a problem please contact them on 01454 868000.

Olveston Beat Surgery – Update

For those in the community that may not be aware, once a month PC Roger Hopes and I run a Beat Surgery between 1030 and 1200. This is an opportunity for residents to come along and discuss any issues that they may have, to pop in and see who we are and what we do and even to let your children come and meet us.

Due to the Beat Surgeries being somewhat unknown we have decided to change the location so it is more accessible for the local residents. The next Beat Surgery will be held on **Thursday 23rd August 2007** between 1030 and 1200 in **Olveston Stores Coffee Shop**.

We hope that the new location will suit everyone and look forward to meeting you.

PC 3404 Roger Hopes..... PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery
Tel 0117 9455959 Tel 0117 945 5964

Thanks

Stuart and Irene Reid would like to express their deepest thanks to all those who supported them whilst Stuart was ill. It is a measure of the depth of support within the Parish that we extend our thanks in this way, as it would be a difficult task to thank so many people individually. Our experience has shown again that we live in a true community.



A YEAR OF THE ARTS IN THORNBURY WITH ACT

A series of monthly events begins in September to raise funds and increase awareness of Thornbury's venture to create a specialist performance and arts venue for Thornbury and district.

The programme includes everything from a Jane Austen dance workshop to a large and professional three day "Stars in Your Eyes" event. There will also be a fashion show as well as choral, photographic, art and crafts, floral and dramatic events. So watch this space!

The year starts with an Indian Summer event of Tea and Trio at Thornbury Castle on Sunday 2nd September at 3.30 – 6.00 pm.

Bring a blanket or a folding chair (some seating will be available for the less agile), and lounge on the lawns to listen to the Turnberrie Trio. They will entertain you with classical and popular music from 3.45 – 4.15 pm, and again from 5.15 – 5.45 pm. In between time a delicious traditional afternoon tea will be served in the Castle.

Entrance is by ticket and £10 (£9 for FACTs, £5 for children) includes the tea. Tickets will be available from Thornbury Garden Shop, The Courtyard, 8 High Street in Thornbury. Enquiries to (01454) 416518.

Help!

Would you like to become part of the UK's largest female voluntary organisation with over 100,000 adult volunteers and 500,000 girl members? The 14 Brownies of 2nd Olveston Brownies need a new leader. They meet on Tuesday evenings in the new school hall at Olveston School. If you would like to help or would like to discuss what this involves, please telephone Julia Wood on 01454 617615. Should you need leadership training, it can be provided.

The History of Aust

This is a report from a talk which Eric Garrett gave to Alveston Local History Society in April 2007. I thought newcomers to the Aust area would be interested. Ed

It is 40 years since Aust hit the headlines when the First Severn Bridge opened, but there is a lot more to this village than that splendid structure!

There has been a Severn crossing near Aust for at least 2000 years. Roman records show a river crossing here (Trajectus) with a boat ferry used by legions and their families en route to Caerleon in Gwent. It was also the place where Edward I crossed to meet with Llewellyn, Prince of Wales. For centuries, drovers brought huge herds of cattle over the river to markets at Thornbury, Bristol, and elsewhere. Aust village was in the Domesday Book of 1086. For centuries, loaded packhorses, wagons, and eventually Mail coaches made their way over the rough roads to the Aust ferry. The Turnpike Acts of 1798 improved roads and speeded up traffic on the main routes; tolls were collected at Turnpike Cottage. 1827 saw the inauguration of a steam boat service which ran from the new stone jetty built in 1826. Sadly there were several tragedies resulting in loss of life, and this led to the closing down of the ferry service in 1855, but it was reopened in 1924 by Enoch Williams, and later operated as a successful car ferry from 1931 until 1966. At one time there was a 2 hour service, 6 days a week. By 1966 this had become a 20 minute service operating 7 days a week dependent on tides and requiring widened access roads and improved ferry buildings with a café and waiting room.

The 2,500 acres of the Aust village estate were valuable. Much of the area was originally marshland; the Romans built a sea-wall, and the Saxons drained the area producing good agricultural land. On rare occasions the sea defences were breached, with devastating effects – the last time was in 1910. Whilst northern England was being over-run by Norsemen, the South West had a Christian King, Ethelred, who granted the Aust and Henbury estates to the Bishop of Worcester, whose ownership continued until the Dissolution. Indeed, the Pope made Augustine Bishop of the entire South-West; he held a great church conference at Aust in 997 which was commemorated in 1997.

At the Dissolution, the estate went to Ralph Sadler. Reclaimed land was soon enclosed by major landowners. such as the Duke of Buckingham who took 334 acres for Thornbury Deer Park and Castle grounds. In 1662 the Aust estate was purchased by Samuel Astry of Henbury, a rich landowner married to an heiress. The couple disinherited their two “intemperate and vicious” sons. Their three daughters married well, (into the Howards, the Smythes of Ashton Court and the Chestermasters of Knole Park, Almondsbury) and each inherited a third of the Aust estate, - with £20 to pay a priest to hold services in Aust Church. Subsequent changes in ownership mostly involved relatives and

descendants of the three sisters until finally the Sitwells divided and sold the estate in the 19thC. Aust manor plus the title and Cote Farm were sold for a massive £32,000 to Lippincott. Other properties came into the hands of the Cann-Lippincott family.

A church ('Chapelry') existed here in the 12thC, but the current building dates from the 14thC. Rev'd John Wycliffe, translator of the Bible, served in Aust at one time. The "Chapelry" was at first attached to Henbury Parish, then joined to Northwick - and finally attached to Olveston in 1950. Named "St John's" in the 1920's, it has been the venue for mass funerals for ferry victims, and survived bombing in 1943, and an all-out strike of the congregation in 1924! There are gravestones and memorials to local families - and in Henbury Church an unusual plaque to Scipio Africanus, a Negro servant with connections to Aust Manor. Hill House, opposite the Church, is the site of the old Manor House.

Of seven pubs once in the village area, only the ancient Boar's Head remains. Extra hospitality for ferry passengers was supplied by the 'Esperanza' and Cliff House Tea-Gardens, and of course the Passage Hotel. There was a village shop/post-office/petrol supplier once run by a Mr Kingscott. The Infants School, established in 1878, catered for 30 children - older ones walked to Northwick school via the safe and direct "horse way" path (with its rolling banks). The Zion Methodist Church, built in 1896, still stands.

And last but not least - the shoreline at Aust is famous for its rock strata and fossils, including prehistoric reptiles, many displayed at Manor Farm. Ancient relics included a rare bronze Romano British figure now in the British Museum, which is portrayed in the logo of Thornbury Heritage Group. A remarkable and fascinating history for such a small village!



Thornbury Choral Society

Ruth Piolle

The Choir is very eager to welcome new singers. So, if you sing at school or you used to sing at school or college and would like to take it up again or if you have just always had a yen to sing, why not come and have a go for a few rehearsals.

You do not need to audition!

Our first rehearsal is on Monday 3th September at 7.45 pm. at the United Reformed Church in Thornbury.

We give two concerts in a year and a Workshop in the Spring. This session we are singing some quite different works: Benjamin Britten's "St. Nicholas" which features three boy trebles and is really tuneful and Kurt Weill's "Happy End" which will have you tapping your feet. We do hope you will come along to try us out.

1st Olveston Scout Group :

In June's Meeting Point there was an appeal from Ian Knowles for new Leaders. The following article by Amanda Williams is about what Scout Leaders actually do. The Group Scout Leader's role sounds rather daunting so I hope it doesn't put anyone off coming forward. ed

The Group consists of Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. There are leaders and assistant leaders of each section and a committee (usually of parents, but any member of the community can be involved). The Group Scout Leader (GSL) oversees what is happening throughout the group and liaises between the group and the district.

In my role as **Group Scout Leader:**

- I make sure every adult who is involved with the children or money has a CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) clearance. Often the leaders or members of the committee give these out but I check them and send them off to District.
- I make sure parents or carers fill in a Tax Aid form so the group can claim the basic rate of tax back from the tax man.
- I interview every potential leader to make sure they know what's involved and are clear on the Scouting system and what will be required of them (and the potential benefits and enjoyment!).
- I keep records of the leaders' training and ensure they keep up with what they need.
- I ensure each leader knows about and follows the rules for the activities they undertake.
- I go the District meetings (every 2 months) and ensure our leaders' views are represented and then make sure the leaders know what are the thoughts and events the District are involved in.
- I go to Group committee meetings (again, every 2 months or so) and put forward the thoughts of the leaders and the District and then report back.
- I hold leaders' meetings about 3 times a year to ensure each section knows what's happening and we discuss where the group as a whole is going and what we need out of the committee.

Very little of the work needs to be done on one particular night so I often work in the evenings or days which suit me and e-mail people at strange times of the day and night.

How much involvement a GSL has with the young people is optional. As my boys have progressed through the sections, I have been involved with hikes and camps at Beavers, Cubs and Scouts. As a leader there is training for the role which needs to be done as soon as possible as it is so useful. One of the delights of being a Scout Leader is the variety of courses on offer: there are training sessions for just about any activity you enjoy and other people who are enthusiastic and willing to share expertise with each other.

A section leader eg a Scout Leader has a far more 'hands on' role.

A leader must be CRB cleared and have an interview with a District appointments' committee to ensure they are suitable and that they know what they're getting into! Saying that, the Scouts have no discrimination on gender, religion, race etc.

The leader has training for the job, where they meet other leaders and find out more about their responsibilities and the back up that's available.

Again, there are courses to teach any activity you're interested in and to share your enthusiasm with others.

The leader must meet with the other adults in the section (and for Scouts, with the older children) and plan a balanced programme for the coming term.

As many activities need permission and planning to meet Scouting requirements of health and safety, the planning needs to be done in plenty of time.

Then it's the role of the leader to ensure that each meeting is run safely and with enjoyment for all the young people in the section . That's all!!!



MARLWOOD GRANGE - GARDEN PARTY

Thornbury Townswomen's Guild in support of St Peters Hospice will be hosting a Garden Party at Marlwood Grange, Thornbury Hill (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Garrett) on Sunday 12th August, 2.30pm – 5.00pm Entrance is £3.00 to include tea and cake, Bring a picnic chair and listen to the music of Standing Stones. There will be various stalls, raffle and children's' drawing competition.

Thornbury Townswomen's Guild have adopted St Peters as their chosen charity for the year; please support us.

Summer Fair finds more Volunteers!

This year, Volunteers' Week in June celebrated its 23rd year. It continues to provide the ideal opportunity to thank the millions of people who volunteer across the UK each year whilst also providing the perfect time to recruit new volunteers.

To this end Thornbury Volunteer Centre, sponsored once again by the St Mary Centre, hosted its third Volunteer Fair in St. Mary's Shopping Centre, Thornbury on Thursday 7 June. The weather was dry and sixteen voluntary and community organisations took part in this well attended event. The Dave Parker Trio jazz band provided live music throughout the morning and visitors were attracted to the colourful stalls and the popular Farmers' Market.

Everyone who attended the event felt that it was very enjoyable and worthwhile. Over £300 was raised for local causes and the organisations raised their awareness and recruited more volunteers.

Also this year to celebrate Volunteers' Week, the St Mary Centre and Volunteer Centre decided to hold a Children's Poster competition with cash prizes donated by St Mary Centre. The competition was open to any child living in the Thornbury area and the children had to submit a drawing, picture, painting, collage, computer generated poster or similar which highlighted what volunteering meant to either individuals or groups of people, the local community or the environment.

The standard of entries was extremely high and it was a very difficult decision for the judges, but eventually they selected Tess Clothier in first place, Emily Boland in second place, Daisy Smith and Chloe Marks in joint third and Amy Smith and James Ponting in joint fourth. Zack Vaughan, Megan Welmers and Annie Beurschgens were Highly Commended. Phyllida Parsloe, prior to the Volunteer Centre AGM, presented the children with their prizes and certificates. The posters were on display at the Volunteer Fair and in the St. Mary Centre and a photo was published in the Gazette newspaper.

The AGM on June 6 was held in Turnberries with guest speaker Phyllida Parsloe, Chair of the new building. A guided tour of the building was included and questions answered, it was informative and enjoyable.

If you would like more information about Thornbury Volunteer Centre or wish to volunteer or recruit volunteers please do not hesitate to contact us on 01454 413392, email tdvl@freenet.co.uk or visit our website on www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk The office is open 10.30am-12 noon Monday-Friday at the Town Hall in Thornbury.

PLEASE NOTE: From week commencing July 30 to week commencing September 3rd the office will only be open on Wednesdays and Fridays.

Cricket Club News

Home Fixtures at The Park in August



Sat 4th Aug
Sat 11th Aug
Sat 18th Aug
Sun 19th Aug

Sat 25th Aug
Sat 1st Sept

1st XI v St Mary Redcliffe
2nd XI v Chipping Sodbury
1st XI v Blagdon
Sunday XI v Bill Owen
XI (Friendly)
2nd XI v Bishopston
1st XI v Phoenix West
Indians

Senior fixtures commence at 2.00pm on Saturdays & 2.30 on Sundays.
Spectators are always welcome!!

150 Club Winners July

£50 Malcolm Grosvenor

£15 Tracy Taylor

£ 5 Dave Lippiatt

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners

9th June Neil Cross

30th June Paddy Gardner

There are vacancies in both of the above competitions, so please contact me if you would like to support Old Down Cricket Club in this way.

Diary Dates

Sat 6th October: Dinner & Dance at Cattle Country

Fri 16th November: Race Day at Cheltenham

Please ring for more information.

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

Thornbury Library

Summer activities for children

Because of uncertainty about the new library we will be holding two **FREE** 'drop-in' events on Wednesday mornings from 10.30am-12.00 noon.

Wednesday 1st August – 'Wild and Wiggly'

Wednesday 15 August- 'Growing green'

Please look out for further details in the library.

'Funder Finder'

If you are you looking for the best source of funding for your club/organisation then this is the computer resource for you. Just fill in a few simple details and it will provide you with a list of the charities best able to help. This software package is only available on computers 6 and 13 in the library. Please ask for further details. Please note this package only applies to groups NOT individuals.

For more information on any of the above items please give the library a ring on our new number 01454 868 006 (24 hour renewal line 08450 020 777) or visit our web-site on www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries.

Weather- June 2007 *Marcus Bean*

ITEM	DATE RECORDED	ACTUAL READINGS 2007	ACTUAL READINGS 2006	LONG TERM AVERAGE
Max Temp °C	11 th	29.6	30.6	29.0
Min Temp °C	29 th	9.0	5.7	5.9
Max Press. millibars	2 nd , 4 th & 5 th	1026	1032	1029
Min Press. millibars	25 th	993	1008	1002
Max Wind speed mph	21 st & 26 th	39	36	38
Days with Gales(39mph+)	21 st & 26 th	2	nil	1
Max Day Rainfall mm	25 th	38.06	9.53	15.72
Rainfall in month mm	—	109.82	25.67	50.29

Summary

High pressure built at the start of the month centred on Southern Norway and, apart from a rain shower on the 1st, the next thirteen days were dry, warm and sunny. All changed on the 14th when a low pressure system was trapped to the South West of Ireland between high pressure over the mid Atlantic and high pressure over Southern Europe. This low pressure system moved extremely slowly Eastwards over the next twelve days and continually swung its frontal systems over the country bringing heavy rain, wind and cool conditions. June is known as the "European monsoon month" because low pressure systems are often trapped, as above, or a succession of Atlantic lows pass over the country causing significant rainfall. How this month earned its nickname of "Flaming June" is a mystery! Torrential rain occurred on the 25th with extensive flooding in many parts of the country. The spell of unsettled weather continued to the end of the month.

Rainfall for the month was approximately double the normal level and for the first six months of the year rainfall has been about five inches above average. Barometric pressure was well below normal but temperatures were close to average. We had one electric storm in the month.

This was the wettest June since 1998!



PARISH COUNCIL UPDATE on OPEN SPACES

Andy Clarke, Parish Councillor

In a recent review of conditions in our local, controlled open spaces, ie Vicarage Lane playing field, Tockington play area and at Old Down, we have observed that public information notices regarding conduct and use of the areas were not attracting the attention that they should.

Perhaps people have been ignoring the advice they contain or maybe they are poorly presented. Either way we have decided to address the issues, firstly by redesigning and perhaps re-siting them but also by making sure that some aspects of them are high-lighted in other ways, hence this article.

As a country area we recognise that nothing is more natural than dog-owners walking their animals for exercise. Yet we must protect others, especially children, from any possible side-effects, no matter how unlikely.

1. We urge all dog walkers to follow local bye-laws strictly by not allowing dogs off-lead in the three controlled areas already mentioned. Verbal control is not enough.
2. When dogs leave body-waste (poop!) anywhere, please collect it in bags and either take it home or leave it in the bins provided.
3. As litter is becoming a problem please help to keep our lovely villages tidy by using the litter bins provided – and ensuring that our youngsters learn the habit too.

I am sure a positive response to these and other issues will help to make ours a healthier community.

Olveston Out of School Club

Cath Purchase

We are looking to employ an unqualified assistant for 1-2 evenings per week from 3.30pm-5.15pm term-time only, at Olveston Primary School. Required from September 07.

Minimum wage, sixth form/college students considered.

For further information contact Helen on 01454 619782 / info@oosc.co.uk

Late Summer Party

in aid of Olveston Scouts

Amanda Powell

This will be at Cliff Farm, Aust on Friday 7th September 7pm 'till late

- Marquee
- Rock Band
- Raffle
- Pig Roast
- Salads and vegetarian food
- Strawberries and puddings
- Fine wines, ales and cider
- Fun and games on the slippery pole
- Wellie throwing with prizes awarded
- Minibus transport provided by request

£10 ticket (adults only) For tickets telephone 01454 631169 or 625075



St Mary's, Olveston

Improvements to St Mary's Church – an Update

Mike Wright

The latest plans were described to the Annual Parochial Meeting at the end of April. As you probably know they include better functional facilities provided in a visually pleasing and practical way. We plan to have new toilets, storage, kitchen, meeting room, changing areas for

priests and choir and worship facilities such as an improved small worship space and new audio visual equipment, all within the building.

If you would like to see the plans and an artist's impression of what it will look like, please come and see them. They are displayed at the back of the Church which is usually open from around 9am to 6pm. We have completed a round of consultations with the Council for the Care of Churches, the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, English Heritage, South Gloucestershire Council Conservation and two eminent experts on wood conservation. The latest plans have been prepared in the light of their comments.

The developments are an important part of the Church's 'Going for Growth' programme. Our Bishops are encouraging us all to grow in commitment to God, form partnerships with each other, increase our range of influence in our communities and grow in numbers. We are fully committed to seeing the Church in Olveston flourish into the next century!

Our architect is about to prepare more detailed drawings of the scheme for submission to the Church Authorities for their go-ahead. Like all good architects he is very busy and we have to keep chasing but we hope to have moved forward by the Autumn. Your comments are all appreciated as we know how much the church building means to you. To give your comments, please ring Philip on 613223 or Mike on 616312.

‘STEPPING OUT’ TO RAISE FUNDS FOR MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

A very amusing theatrical fundraising event will take place at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury on the evenings of Friday 28th and Saturday 29th September. Sounds of laughter and tap dancing will emanate from the hall as ‘Stepping Out’ is performed by Sky Productions, a local group which has been temporarily formed for this one-off production. All monies raised from this event will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support.

‘Stepping Out’, written by Richard Harris, follows a beginners’ tap class, from hesitant start, to first public appearance. Studded with lively tap dancing routines and humorous dialogue, the story is that an ex-pro dancer heads a group of eight tap dancing students from various backgrounds (all female apart from one painfully shy man) and a stubborn pianist. As the group comes to grips with their dancing and personalities, it scratches at the surface of each character to reveal hidden secrets, hopes and fears through passionate rows and fallouts, intimate personal moments, frustrations, tantrums and tenderness as they bond together and are transformed into a formidable dance troupe.

Tickets are £6 on the flat, or £7 for raised seating. This is bound to be a popular charity event, so be sure to get your tickets in good time. Ticket enquiries can be directed to 01454 857283.

Macmillan Cancer Support improves the lives of people affected by cancer. They provide practical, medical, emotional and financial support and campaign to keep cancer at the top of the government agenda. In Bristol, Bath and North Somerset alone, they need to raise over £343,000 every year to continue providing the local services, health professionals and patient grants which provide such great support for people living with cancer in the region. To achieve this, they rely on the generosity of the local community and groups such as Sky Productions who support them through fundraising activities such as ‘Stepping Out’.

Look out for further details in the September issue of this fun evening that will also swell the coffers of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Friends of St Mary's Summer BBQ

Andy Phillips

Hi there! What are you doing on the 18th August ??

Well we are holding a '**BBQ with A Difference**' on that day from 6-00pm at Oakleaze off Washingpool Hill simply to celebrate 11 years of the Friends Lottery in our area.

What's the difference? Well you provide your own food, drink & chairs & we provide the BBQ, the lovely view & hopefully good company to enjoy it with.

We will give you a welcome glass of wine, provide the salads & the sauces.

During the evening there will be raffle where one of the prizes will be a year's subscription to the lottery plus a host of other prizes.

There hopefully will be 'live music' through the evening as well as the evening sunshine that we have ordered.

Oakleaze are joint hosts in this event so that you can look around the things on offer & enjoy the special priced bargain packs that you can order on the night.

Entry is free & Car parking is provided to the side of the lower field – Follow the signs



Thornbury Picture House - New Season Starts 7 September

Kieran Warren, Chairman

Think you've seen it all ? When you see the season of films on offer from Thornbury Picture House you might want to think again.

We are a bunch of local film enthusiasts, supported by a 140-strong membership, who want to promote the world of cinema in Thornbury, using state-of-the-art equipment to enhance the filmgoer's experience

Building on the success of our inaugural season, TPH are offering the citizens of the Thornbury area a lively mix of animated, natural world, and foreign films, comedy, political drama and even the odd blockbuster.

Films are screened in the Armstrong Hall on Friday evenings, starting at 7.30pm.

You can 'pay as you go' at £4.50 per film or take advantage of our great offer – all 10 films in the programme for £25, surely a fantastic bargain !

The season starts on 7 September with *The History Boys* , in which a radical teacher challenges the manners and *mores* of his talented students. The full programme looks like this :

2007

7 September – The History Boys
30 September – Arthur & the Invisibles
19 October – The Chorus
16 November – Little Miss Sunshine
30 November – Casino Royale

2008

11 January – Pan's Labyrinth
8 February – Last King of Scotland
7 March – Volver
25 April – Venus
23 May – Members' choice

If you wish to be added to our mailing list then ring our Secretary Terry Ray on 412272 or e-mail him at holly-bush@tiscali.co.uk .I'll be happy to answer any of your queries – ring me on 413621.

Join us for what promises to be an exciting season of films: in the words of Al Jolson "You ain't seen nothing yet !".

Thornbury Power Walkers

would like to say *Well Done* to all the team who completed the Moonwalk recently. This 26.2 mile Power Walk in London is throughout the night and is organised by the charity Walk the Walk. Each of the 15,000 walkers raises sponsorship for Breakthrough Breast Cancer and last year the Moonwalk raised over £6 million.

The TPW team finished in times ranging from 6 hrs 24 mins to 8 hrs 51 which shows how the club caters for a variety of walking speeds. If you would like to "Walk and Talk to Fitness" with TPW this Summer, then new members are always welcome.

You don't need to be super fit (you will soon feel fitter!) and you don't need expensive equipment (just a good pair of trainers to start you off). TPW meets Mondays and Wednesday evenings. We have a basic route that is 4 miles long with extra loops for those who wish to go up to 6 miles.

So come and join us! Ring Sara on 01454 413115 for more details or look us up under Walking groups on www.walkthewalk.org

Tockington Harvest Fayre

Maggie Spooner

An early reminder that our annual Harvest Fayre will be held on Saturday 15th Sept. There will be the usual children's competitions which will include fancy dress on the theme of Summer Holidays - so you have plenty of time to come up with some great ideas - e.g. summer sports, air hostess/pilot, even come as a sand castle!

Yours Faithfully

David Bone

Writing this for the August issue, the terrorist attacks in London and Glasgow are already beginning to fade from our minds; there are some for whom the Glasgow airport incident hasn't registered at all. I met one such, a friend, the other day who had been away for three weeks – no TV, no newspapers, – and, as Michael Flanders put it, "It's marvellous! Nothing happens!"

Except that things do, and sometimes we feel aggrieved at not being 'in the know'; it's not that we're unduly inquisitive, necessarily, but we don't like being left out (except when we choose not to be bothered, etc. with all the terrible things that happen in the global village, or even the terrible titbits in our own village). So I guarantee it won't be long before you hear somebody say "Nobody told me! How was I to know?", and the mild (through gritted teeth) reply: "It was in the pew sheet / Meeting Point / the Gazette", only to be met in turn with: "I must have been away", which is understandable, or "Oh, I can't be bothered reading that", which is bordering on the inexcusable.

We have a duty to be in the know, those of us who are Christians, and to ensure that others are, too, when it comes to what's going on in and around our churches, and, too, in and around our village. That's not a licence for gossip. The trick is to do so without appearing unduly 'nosey', though I'd rather people were nosey than allow, as I also heard tell recently, someone to be lying injured and in agony on their kitchen floor for three days.

Getting the balance right, getting our priorities right, needs constant practice, and some of us want to add, as an article of faith, constant prayer too. When Jesus was asked about getting our priorities right, he said "Love God, and love your neighbour"; when someone asked prissily "who is my neighbour" he told the graphic story of the good Samaritan to explain how far neighbourliness should go. A good start for some of us would be to get to know (all over again, if needed) quite who our neighbours are!

From the Registers at St Mary's

10 th June	Baptism of Thomas Charles William King, son of Steven and Marie King
17 th June	Baptism of Edward Morgan Slade son of James and Emma Slade
7 th July	Marriage of Oliver Charles Bendall and Rebecca Sarah Fry
7 th July	Marriage of Andrew Vincent Carr and Katherine Helen Adams

From the Registers of St John, Elberton

16 th June	Marriage of Mark Ford and Lisa White
23 rd June	Marriage of Andrew Fleet and Caroline Kemp
30 th June	Marriage of Stephen Turner and Sally Reed
23 rd June	Marriage Blessing of Rebecca and John Farr

Church News: ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

August 5th The ninth Sunday after Trinity	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Evensong - Choir	Rev. Dr. B. Topalian Canon John Poarch Rev David Bone
August 12th The tenth Sunday after Trinity	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship - Choir Evensong	Canon David Sansum Mrs Janet McBride Rev David Bone
August 19th The eleventh Sunday after Trinity	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion - Choir Evensong	Rev. Roly Bain Rev. Philip Rowe Rev David Bone
August 26th The Twelfth Sunday after Trinity	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Exploratory Service Evensong- Choir	Canon David Sansum Mrs Janet McBride 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

August 12th	10am	Holy Communion	Canon John Poarch
August 26th	10am	Matins	Rev David Bone

Assistant Curate: Rev David Bone (01454 614601)

Church Wardens: Jo Jenkins (01454 632838) and Maria Livingstone (01454 632557)

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

August 5th	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole
August 19th	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

August 12th	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield
August 26th	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Aug.5th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr John Hopper.
	6 pm	St Andrews, Filton	Evening Worship led by our Superintendent Minister Rev.Peter Mortlock.
Aug. 12th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr.Fe'ao Vunipola
	6 pm	Olveston Ch.	Evening Worship led by Rev.Audrey Standhaft.
Aug. 19th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev.Iesinga Vunipola.
	6 pm	Daldry Gardens	Evening Worship led by our Superintendent Minister Rev.Peter Mortlock
Aug. 26th	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Margaret Mortlock
	6 pm	Olveston Ch.	Evening Worship led by our Superintendent Minister Rev.Peter Mortlock.

LIGHT LUNCHESES:- There will be no Light Lunch this month, the next one will be on the **6th September** (Tel:01454 416056).

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:- This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 15th August. To book your lunch please ring 01454 416528.

PRAYER MEETING:- Thursdays at 2.15pm in the Olveston Vestry.

COFFEE MORNINGS:- Saturdays, 10.30am – 12 noon, in the Methodist Hall. **Saturday 18th will be organised by the Royal British Legion Women's Section.**

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

THE VINE, AWKLEY

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies, incorporating Communion of Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm. You are welcome to call in at anytime.

Mike Mathews, 35 Salthouse Farm Park, Severn Beach, Bristol BS35 4NH

CONTACTS: Mike and Barbara Matthews, The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley; tel: 07840 793772 or email: **thevine_awkley@hotmail.com**

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLDOWN

August 5th	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies
August 12th	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies
August 19th	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
August 26th	6.30pm	David Wyatt

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 613134 or 632564. 'Happy are the people whose God is the Lord'.

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP IN OLVESTON - well not so much in Olveston these days as we concentrate on serving the community primarily in other areas of Bristol and Thornbury. As followers of Christ our heart is to be where the Lord wants us to be most effective and currently we are establishing our presence in North and East Bristol as well as continuing to work with the other local churches in Thornbury and in the heart of Bristol amongst the most needy. 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 01454613305 for more information or on the internet at www.bcfnet.com

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury - Meeting for Worship Sundays
10.30am The Chantry, Castle Street. For further details please contact Elizabeth Sidwell on 01454 412975

Diary Dates for August 2007

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

Wed 1 st	'Wild and Wiggly' - FREE 'Drop-in' event for children at Thornbury Library Severn Vale Flower Club - Coffee Morning	10am-12 10.30am 'Hawkfield'
Thu 2 nd	Thornbury Rambling Club - Tel. 01453 511931	7PM
Fri 3 rd		
Sat 4 th	Cricket at The Park p 27	2pm
Sun 5 th	Thornbury Rambling Club - Short Tel: 614088	9.30am
Mon 6 th ^h		
Tue 7 th	Tockington Toddlers RBL Womens Section	10 - 11.30am WR 7.30pm DGCL
Wed 8 th	RBL Summer Outing - Tel: 614408 Thornbury Rambling Club - Tel: 0117 9104974	8.30am - 7.30pm 7pm
Thu 9 th	Thornbury Rambling Club - Local Tel: 418093	10am
Fri 10 th		
Sat 11 th	Aust Village Hall Coffee (and Cake!) Morning Cricket at the Park p 27	10.30am-12 AVH 2pm
Sun 12 th	Thornbury Rambling Club - Medium Tel: 415687 Marlwood Grange Garden Party	9am 2.30-5pm
Mon 13 th		
Tue 14 th	St Marys Church Walking Group Tel: 625313 Tockington Toddlers	9.30am 10-11.30am WR
Wed 15 th	'Growing green' - FREE 'Drop-in' event for children at Thornbury Library	10am-12
Thu 16 th		
Fri 17 th		
Sat 18 th	Cricket at The Park p 27	2pm
Sun 19 th	Thornbury Rambling Club - Long Tel: 414022 Cricket at The Park p 27	9am 2.30pm
Mon 20 th		
Tue 21 st	Tockington Toddlers	10 - 11.30am WR
Wed 22 nd		
Thu 23 rd	Police Surgery -Tel: 0117 9455959	10.30-12 Village Shop
Fri 24 th		
Sat 25 th	Cricket at The Park p 27	2pm
Sun 26 th	Marlwood School Car Boot Sale - Tel: 202492 Thornbury Rambling Club - Short Tel: 416464	From 9.30am 9.30am
Mon 27 th		

Tue 28 th	Tockington Toddlers Fibromyalgia Sppt Grp- Did You Know..? 418882 Olveston Parish Council- Urgent items only	10 - 11.30am 7- 9pm 7.30pm	WR AMH AP
Wed 29 th			
Thu 30 th			
Fri 31 st			

Looking Ahead to September

Sat 1 st Sept	Cricket at The Park p27	2pm	
Sun 2 nd	ACT Tea & Trio p 15 Tel 416518	3.30 – 6.00pm	
Fri 7 th	Thornbury Picture House film p37	7.30pm	AH
Sat 8 th	Aust Harvest Fayre	10am	
Sat 8 th	Late Summer Party p 33	7pm 'till late	
Sun 9 th	Aust Harvest Service	10am	
Sat 15 th	Tockington Harvest Fayre		
Sat 15 th	Music in the Church at Aust	8pm	
Sun 23 rd	Tockington Harvest Festival		
Fri 28 th	'Stepping Out' p 35		AH
Sat 29 th	'Stepping Out'		AH

Key: **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall, **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion, **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; **CCCP** – Castle Court Car Park; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry; **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall; **OS** – Olveston School; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** – St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; **URC** Thorn United Reform Church; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

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