

# Meeting Point

**Volume 32, Number 4, January 2008**

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

## **EDITOR:**

**Sue Hunter**

Hazeldown,  
Hazel Lane  
Old Down  
Tockington  
Bristol BS32 4PL  
Tel: 01454 412191

***meetingpointeditor@gmail.com***

## **ASSISTANT EDITOR:**

**Carol Norman-Vincenot**

The Stocks  
Main Road  
Aust  
Bristol BS35 4AX  
Tel: 01454 631814

***meetingpointmagazine@gmail.com***

## **ADVERTISING:**

**Nigel Dawes**

Cromwell House  
The Street,  
Olveston  
Bristol BS35 4DR  
Tel: 01454 201558

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## **From the Editor**

I always wonder what happened to the 12 days of Christmas lasting from 25<sup>th</sup> December to 6<sup>th</sup> January or Epiphany. We seem to feel we have to squash all our celebrating into a mad whirl of activity *before* Christmas and then some people start taking down their decorations on Boxing Day! Not in my house though.

As Editor my bookshelves house the bound copies of past Meeting Point issues and for interest I looked up Meeting Point of January 1998. Many of the articles and activities are the same as today but one caught my eye – as a result of a public meeting in October 1997 the very first U3A groups were formed starting exactly 10 years ago. How far U3A has come in numbers of members and groups is truly astonishing. Obviously a great need has been fulfilled and now the Chipping Sodbury U3A is flourishing also.

It is a pleasure to have a new front cover by a young artist, son of Roly and Jane Bain. I hope it will be followed by others.

Thanks again for yet more poems on Haw Lane.

Our cover is by Sam Bain.

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

# Janet Davis and her family - Part 2

*Pat Thirkettle*

*Last month we left Janet having narrowly escaped being married to a Moroccan barman! Read on.....*

In 1980 Janet bought her own house in Passage Road, which had a quarter of an acre garden. She had a swimming pool built, after much hassle with companies not used to dealing with single young women! She has always loved swimming and used it to chill out after work, and to give super pool parties. When her children came along, they learnt to swim at a young age and they enjoyed pool parties too. She met her husband Peter, who was also a policeman, in 1984 and they married a year later. Their son Simon was born in October 1987 and Jenny followed quickly in February 1989. Janet resigned from the Police Force to be a full time mum after Simon's birth. Not that she was idle. She bought reasonable things at jumble sales and sold them on at car boot sales; became a rep selling books; worked at a home for the elderly; and did some gardening until eventually working as a child minder for twelve years.

In 1997 the family moved into Denys Court, Olveston where they live today. They bought the house from a family they knew, who wished to exchange for the Passage Road house. The solicitors were dragging their feet, so the families moved anyway and left the solicitors to catch up. Needless to say their solicitors nearly hit the roof, but it was all sorted out!

The next few years were mostly devoted to helping and encouraging Simon and Jenny in their diverse interests, with many happy camping holidays thrown in, as the children progressed through primary school to Marlwood. Peter was a trained Police Firearms Officer and from an early age Simon could handle a gun safely. He started clay pigeon shooting, and proved to be very proficient, and that involved Janet driving him long distances to shoots (and quietly freezing on winter mornings). He shot for Avon County, and competed three times at the British Open. He asked Janet to enter them (Marlwood) in the annual Inter Schools Competition. The organiser was flabbergasted to hear of a 'COMPREHENSIVE' school wishing to enter but was very welcoming. Actually six people were needed for a team and they only had four, so they entered as individuals. When Janet told the Headmaster he said 'We could do polo next year. Borrow some nags from the local riding school and we'll practise on the football pitch!' Simon came third in that individual competition, and the same year he also qualified for the Finals of the British Open, a fine achievement. He is now at Reading University studying Building Surveying, and is currently Captain of the University Clay Pigeon Shooting Club.

Jenny's passion in life is basketball. She has played since she was thirteen and as a result, Janet has become involved with the sport, supporting the Junior Squads by driving the Team's minibus all over the south of England, and qualifying as a Table Official at basketball matches, (scoring and time keeping). Jenny played for the South West of England, and competed at a tournament in Prague two years running. The second year, Janet went along as the Coach's assistant. Jenny hopes to study Interior Design at a College in the U.S.A starting in autumn 2008, where she will be able to play College Basketball. Janet still officiates at various basketball matches in Bristol.

Janet enjoys a challenge, and the London Marathon proved to be one of them. She took part in 2001, but sustained an injury at mile 14, and was forced to hobble the rest of the way, eventually finishing after six and quarter hours. Peter, Simon and Jenny were there to see her through the Finish Line. She says she didn't come last, but she wasn't far off!

I have just picked out the bits that stood out for me, but there is much, much more there. Janet is very happy working in the Post Office with Rosy, and she mentions several customers in her book, so if you wish to see if you feature, you will have to buy it!

## Tom's Arctic Expedition

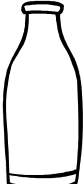
*Thomas Williams*



I would like to thank everyone that sponsored me for the Offa's Dyke walk that I did at the beginning of September. I have nearly collected in all the money and am pleased to say that I have raised £1,041 so far from the hike alone, and am well on my way to reaching the £7,500 estimated total of the expedition.

### **The Parish Players will present My Fair Lady**

**at the Parish Hall, Tockington, Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30 pm**  
Ticket sales commence Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February from 6pm to 7pm  
at Olveston Methodist Church Hall and any time afterwards by telephoning  
612850



# Local milk in a supermarket near you

*Richard Harper*

Did you know it is now possible to buy locally produced milk from Tesco? Tesco has recently launched LOCAL CHOICE MILK, which is sourced from farms in the area where it's sold. Three farms in South Gloucestershire supply Tesco in this area, with milk coming from farms in Littleton, Lower Morton and Tytherington. Not only is this milk low in food miles but also the money raised from its sale is returned to the producers in this area so helping to support small family farms near where you live. Hopefully if the milk proves popular then more farms can join the scheme and benefit. So next time you are shopping in Tesco take a few moments in the dairy section to seek out Local Choice milk, who knows you could be driving past the cows that produced it on the way home! For further details about local choice milk in this area visit [www.mythornbury.co.uk/local\\_milk](http://www.mythornbury.co.uk/local_milk)

## First Safer and Stronger Public Meeting

The first 'Severn Safer and Stronger South Gloucestershire' public meeting was in Elberton.

This new group has been set up across the South Gloucestershire Wards to see how we can make the area safer and stronger. It's not just about crime and crime prevention but a whole range of issues that are of local concern.

The meeting was well attended with a good mixture of parish council representatives, police, fire and rescue service, local organisations and members of the public. The first meeting identified traffic speeding, lack of a youth club in Olveston, anti-social behaviour in general and at Halloween, flooding at Aust and the wide parking bay at Aust, as the main issues that need addressing. There was also widespread support for the introduction of taxi tokens for the elderly and disabled by South Gloucestershire Council to overcome rural isolation to vulnerable groups.

The local police are going to train up anyone who would like to join a speed watch group in their village. Anyone who like to get the training should ring PC Roger Hopes on 0117 9455959.

The next public meeting of the Severn Safer Stronger Group will be on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2008 at Rockhampton Village Hall, 7.30pm. All members of the public are welcome.

# Report from Olveston and Tockington WI

*Joyce Davies*

November is AGM month and, after welcoming members to our meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall, Mrs Shepherd (President) called on Mrs Carmen Pitts (Secretary) to review the past year. Mrs Shepherd herself thanked everyone for their help and support during her first year as President.

Mrs Whitfield (Treasurer) passed round the audited Financial Statements. A healthy balance has been maintained.

The retiring Committee was thanked by Mrs Lesley Thomas. Our speaker was Mr Joiner, a Director of Barts' Spices, a Bristol based firm which originated with an Olveston family some 30 years ago. They decided that spices and herbs at the time were substandard and aimed to supply a better quality produce. The firm has been a success and is still expanding and providing excellent products. At the close each member was presented with a 'Goody Bag' containing Barts' spices and a cookery book. Mrs Mary Hoad gave the vote of thanks to Mr Joiner.

The January Meeting will be on January 8<sup>th</sup>, when Eric Garrett will be giving a talk on local buildings. Why not start 2008 by going to a WI talk and enjoying a new local organisation?

## Future WI Meetings

*Carmen Pitts*

In January 'a casual walk of village buildings' as mentioned above

February: 'The History of John Lewis'

March: 'Spring Gardens' from the Garden Shop.

April might puzzle members with the title 'In a twist'

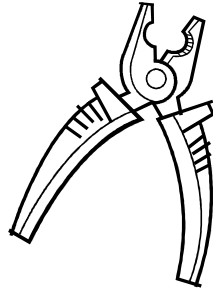
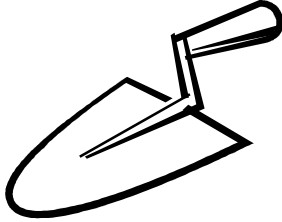
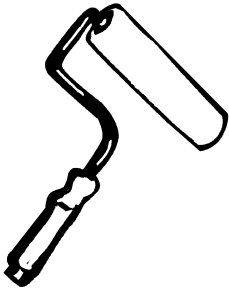
May is a musical month: 'London Shows & Ivor Novello'

June: 'Behind the Antiques Roadshow'

Don't forget that WI membership provides access to many sporting activities, including skittles, golf, bowls, darts.

We meet on the second Tuesday each month in the Parish Hall, with business at 7.30pm and the speaker at 8.00pm. I hope to see you there.

N.B. The prescription run is now on Tuesdays and Thursdays, a very useful community service.



## Tools for Self Reliance

### Help Africa to help herself

The Rotary Club of Thornbury is delighted to be associated with 'Tools for Self Reliance', a UK charity providing renovated hand tools to poor African countries to give them the opportunity to build their own future. Surely, in the long term, this is the only way to alleviate poverty and continued reliance on aid. Whilst modest in its aims, it is a start on the road for them to help themselves.

Hence we are collecting, on their behalf, your old, unwanted hand tools which The Hatch Adult Centre in Kington Lane will repair and renovate as necessary, ready to go on the next shipment to Africa.

Tools needed are those for woodworking, blacksmithing, building and plumbing, shoe and leather working, car and bicycle repair (not car jacks), metal and tinsmithing.

Please **DO NOT** send electrical equipment or any garden tools.

If you have any tools for donation, please contact **Derek Hawkins on 01454 413188** or email [dghawkins@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:dghawkins@blueyonder.co.uk) and collection will be arranged.

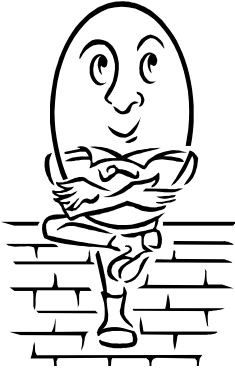
## Pilates

*Pat Thirkettle*

Why not begin the New Year by giving your body gentle, but very effective, exercise for strengthening the core abdominal muscles - and all the others too!

A few places are available for beginners at 11.15am on Fridays in the Wesley Rooms, Tockington, starting 18th January. Cost is £7. Just turn up or contact Maree Rice, on 0117 502411. (She is away until 13<sup>th</sup> Jan.)

Here are some more Haw Lane Poems:



## Stone Walling

*Graham Clark*

While eyeing the wall in Haw Lane,  
A councillor tripped on a drain,  
'Get it fixed up by night!  
Or you'll have me to fight,  
'Cos Patience's not my middle name'.

## Lost Monies - Just for Fun

*A poem by 'No Poet'*

In the year two thousand and twenty  
The Council's coffers were empty.  
They had always had plenty (before)  
So they sat through the night  
Discussing their plight  
Looking for reasons for sure.

One elderly councillor awoke  
From a slumber  
With a grin that greeted them all  
I remember, I remember and now can recall  
That the money was spent on Olveston Haw Lane Wall!

*Peter Floyd has updated his poem published last month with another verse*

## Haw Lane is Shut

Work has now begun – at last !  
Thanks to SGC,  
But what about that whopping hole?  
We'll have to wait and see!



# Oveston CEVC Primary School News

## CD Recording Stars!

Oveston School pupils had lots of fun recording tracks for our CD, 'Oveston Primary School, United in Song.' on Wednesday 28th November.

The 21 track CD features songs from both the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Nativity plays. There were also guest appearances from Oveston School Choir and Year 5 who fondly sang the special song, 'You had a dream' that was written by Mr Bonney and Year 5 for Mr Wike's memorial service.

The recording took all morning and the children really did have to be very quiet at the start and end of each song.

The teachers were so impressed by every child's enthusiasm and commitment to make a wonderful CD.

## Luv Esther – A story to remember

Year 5 and 6 took a trip to the Colston Hall on Thursday 29th November. The performance of 'Luv Esther' was a musical and dance extravaganza! Here is the inside story from Stephanie and Shannon, Year 6 pupils:

*'At first it seemed all ancient and scary, but suddenly a massive dance off broke out.*

*In the story a king has lost his wife and is searching for a new one, a young Jewish girl called Esther who was forced to go to the king like all the other girls but she had to hide the fact that she was Jewish.*

*The king chose Esther to be his Queen and the wedding went forward, but Haman tricked the king into signing a contract to have all the Jewish people*

*killed. Brave young Esther had to go to the king and tell him about Haman, but there was a Fifty percent chance she would be hung. She went along and the king was so in love with her that he listened to her and exterminated Haman so all ended well!'*

Written by Stephanie & Shannon, Year 6





# Action Medical Research

## Give and let live

Once again, the Thornbury branch of Action Medical Research is planning an active programme of events, in the coming year. In addition to its popular summer supper, which is held at the Old Vicarage, in Olveston, and also the Spring and Autumn bridge drives; it will be holding a luncheon to warm the winter months and a number of smaller events, throughout the year.

The Charity funds an incredible amount of wide-ranging work, which has achieved many breakthroughs and is seeking to provide for a healthier future for everyone. Action Medical Research does this by investigating those illnesses where a breakthrough is most likely to occur. For over 50 years, the Charity has been improving the health and quality of life for all.

Not many charities can claim to have touched the lives of everyone - Action Medical Research can. Its impressive track record includes developing lifesaving polio and rubella vaccines, the artificial hip operation, ultrasound scanning in pregnancy, new treatments for epilepsy and discovering the link between taking folic acid and preventing spinabifida. Action Medical Research is currently looking for answers to a wide range of medical problems that affect all age groups, including research into premature birth problems, pre-eclampsia, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, stroke, blindness, Parkinson's disease and osteoporosis.

We seek your wonderful support, for this most worthy of causes, for which we are hoping to raise a target of £ 5,000 in 2008.



## The Dog Bin Question

*Arthur Webb*

*Ex Olveston Parish Councillor*

In **Your Parish Matters** in the December issue, the article requested feedback regarding extra dog bins, at a cost of £200 each to install, plus £180 a year each to maintain.

During a telephone conversation with the Dog Warden for South Gloucestershire, she confirmed that dog waste can be put into normal litter bins providing it is bagged. The sites mentioned already have litter bins which may be used, thus saving the Parish £400 installation and a further £360 per year, plus any annual increases.



## Find the Church in Olveston Stores.

*Sue Farr*

Have you thought how good it would be to have the Coffee Shop in Olveston Stores as a flourishing and convivial meeting place in the village? Members of St Mary's Church have consulted Jason Riggs and we would like to open and run the coffee shop five weekday mornings with an organised team of volunteers.

We are firstly looking for someone with some time to spare, to set it up with Jason, to organise and train volunteers, to advertise and set budgets and work with the members of the PCC responsible for the promotion. We already have some offers of help in all areas and expertise, so please if you would like to be involved as an administrator, a cake maker or to do an occasional shift, please ring Sue on 614861, or speak to any regular church member. We would really like people of all ages who would represent the varied groups and activities in our villages.



## Olveston Scouts

*Amanda Powell*

A big thank you to everybody who saved and gave their loose change to 1st Olveston Scouts to form a line of coins from the Bakery to Olveston Stores. Thanks to your generosity we succeeded and raised a fantastic £427, which will help towards completing our much awaited scout hut!

We are hoping that 2008 will be the year it finally gets completed and, with this in mind, we are looking for parents/helpers to join our fund raising committee to make this possible. We are a friendly group, very open to new ideas and have lots of fun planning and attending the events. If you have a child just starting Beavers and are new to Scouting, or are interested in supporting us in any way and want to find out more, please ring me on 01454 631169 for a chat.

Any help you give will benefit YOUR children and help them get the very best from scouting in this community.

# Police Report

*Roger Hopes*

Hello everyone, here's the police report for November 07. I hope everyone had a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

The total number of crimes for the month rose dramatically unfortunately, due to one incident on November 5th outside the White Hart in Littleton. 7 cars were damaged while the firework display was on. The cars were scratched and had their tyres slashed, causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. One car had the word SLAG etched into the bonnet and boot, suggesting it was a personal attack on the vehicle owner. There was also camera equipment stolen from one of the vehicles. On the same night a vehicle was damaged whilst parked outside The Anchor at Oldbury.

A domestic burglary was reported in Littleton, where the offenders have caused considerable damage to doors and windows of a house which is undergoing building work. A large TV, cash and other items were reported stolen.

A horse rug was stolen from a farm in Greenditch Street, Pilning. The horse was wearing the rug at the time.

A juvenile has reported a minor assault whilst cycling home from school on the A38 Rudgeway.

Towards the end of the month, the Tennis Pavilion and Olveston Parish Hall on Upper Tockington Road had numerous windows smashed. It is suspected that children are responsible. Damage was also caused to a fence on Alveston Road, Old Down, causing injury to a horse.

A reminder that the next Safer Stronger Community Group meeting will be held at Rockhampton Village Hall on Wednesday 16th January at 7.30 pm. This is an opportunity to discuss any topic affecting the community, not just police matters.

**Beat Surgery** dates for Olveston Stores, 10.30 - 12.00

24th January 2008

28th February 2008



## Olveston Pre School News

Olveston Pre School is pleased to announce that, as from January 2008, they will be welcoming two and a half year olds into the Pre School.

For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact Helen Moorefield on 07786 395414.

# Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in August's draw were:

<b>Amount</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
£150	221	Mrs. S.A. Pearce, Ingst
£75	237	Mrs. E. Hargreaves, Alveston
£25	388	Mrs. S.O. Shaw, Tockington
£20	233	Mrs. G. Bowen, Awkley
£20	257	Mrs. C. Healey, Olveston
£15	275	Mrs. L. Evans, Alveston
£10	434	Mrs. M. Scarborough

The prize winners in September's draw were:

<b>Amount</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
£150	184	Mrs. R. Hitchcock, Olveston
£75	232	Mr. J.R. Moody, Olveston
£25	162	Mrs. P.A. Atkinson, Patchway
£20	182	Mr. J. Hitchcock, Olveston
£15	157	Mr. B. Brown, Olveston
£15	258	Mr. H.W. Pearce, Ingst
£10	379	Mr. N.H. Dawes, Olveston

The prize winners in October's draw were:

<b>Amount</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Name</b>
£150	366	Mrs. P. Halfyard, Alveston
£75	250	Mrs. A. Williams, Olveston
£25	183	Mrs. R. Hitchcock, Olveston
£20	393	Mr. J. Crossley, Tockington
£15	470	Mrs. J. Dawes, Olveston
£15	359	Mrs. J. Hawkins, Alveston
£10	382	Mr. J. Cryer, Olveston

# Answers to Christmas Quiz

## Christmas Traditions

1. Goodluck
2. A bachelor
3. Eat it, it is porridge
4. Shepherd in the Fields abiding
5. A hot spiced drink
6. The Prince Consort, Queen Victoria's husband

## Pantomime

1. Good – right (Bad – left)
2. Commedia del Arte
3. St Patrick and the Snakes
4. John Rich
5. Covent Garden – Theatre Royal
6. Grimaldi
7. Madam Vestris
8. Boxing Day
9. Aladdin

## Bible

1. The sixth month of Anna's pregnancy
2. No number is mentioned
3. In a house
4. Zacharias
5. 84 years old
6. Nunc Dimittis sung at Evensong.

## Science

1. Smallpox
2. 1943
3. Bacteria multiply by themselves. Viruses only multiply inside living cells.
4. 1825
5. Acetic acid or vinegar.

# Weather- November 2007



*Marcus Bean*

ITEM	DATE RECORDED	ACTUAL READINGS 2007	ACTUAL READINGS 2006	LONG TERM AVERAGE
Max Temp °C	2 <sup>nd</sup>	18.9	15.8	16.3
Min Temp °C	16 <sup>th</sup>	Minus 2.8	Minus 1.4	0.3
Max Press. mbars	2 <sup>nd</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup>	1035	1035	1030
Min Press. mbars	19 <sup>th</sup>	993	976	984
Max Wind speed mph	19 <sup>th</sup>	33	48	47
Days with Gales(35kts+)	—	nil	3	3
Max Day Rainfall mm	21 <sup>st</sup>	14.64	18.27	17.02
Rainfall in Month mm	—	41.28	103.21	83.85

## Summary

High pressure established at the end of October continued for eight days into November, with warm sunny days, cool nights and little wind. The high pressure system moved slightly to the South West, allowing rain on the 9<sup>th</sup> before re-establishing itself for two days, after which it moved Eastwards, allowing depressions to move in, bringing some rain and chilly winds. On the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>, significant rainfall occurred, with highly unsettled conditions and more rain on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. An unsettled spell with some warm days but with cold winds ensued, together with spells of light rain, this continuing until the month end.

November continued the rainfall pattern of the last four months, this being approximately half the long term average and reflecting the long dry spell at the beginning of the month. Average pressure was well above norm but temperature was close to average. We had nine ground frosts and four air frosts in the month and no gales.



# Thornbury Library News

## Extended opening hours

Good news. From Monday 7 January 2008, Thornbury Library will open until 5.30 pm on Mondays AND Tuesdays.

## Our full opening hours will be:

Monday 9.30 - 5.30

Tuesday 9.30 - 5.30

Wednesday 9.30 - 7.00

Thursday CLOSED

Friday 9.30 - 7.00

Saturday 9.30 - 5.00

## Another good winter read

Two more books in our 'Reading Group Recommends' series, this time from Bookworms and the U3A:

***Precious Bane*** by Mary Webb:

A gem of a book, engrossing story, lyrical writing, worthy of a second read.

***Mapping the Edge*** by Sarah Dunant:

An unusual book with two parallel stories featuring the heroine -even at the end, one is not sure which story is true. Lots of points for group discussion if other reading groups are looking for ideas!

*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](http://www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries)*

*Remember you can also access the website to renew your books, check the catalogue, reserve items and consult a wide range of on-line reference materials including: Oxford English Dictionary Online, Oxford Reference Online, Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, Grove Music Online, Grove Art Online. You will need your borrower number and pin number (available from the library).*

***We have added Ancestry.co.uk to the list but this is only available using the library computers.*** You can join the library on-line. We also offer a telephone enquiry service on 01454 866 900 or you can email your enquiry to [askthelibrary@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:askthelibrary@southglos.gov.uk)

We offer free internet access and word processing in the library.

**Please note we can send your reservation and overdue notifications by text, email or voice message. Please ask!**



# Your Parish Matters

*Andy Clarke*

Well, here we go again: a resolute foot forward into the New Year and hopefully a happy future. Best wishes to you all for a fruitful 2008 from your Parish Council. With the excesses of Christmas becoming a dim memory and only a new diet and a box full of empties to remember it by, we can turn to matters of daily life once more.

As a Parish Council that concerns itself very much with the quality of life in this area, we are constantly looking at issues that affect our lives in this way. John Hughes and I have planted daffodils in various public areas to cheer us all up, the Council has helped improve the roads locally too and we are monitoring closely the Haw Lane situation.

Planning ahead for our area is important, so we were disappointed when no one responded to the October Meeting Point article inviting volunteers to initiate a Parish Plan for South Glos to use as its guide for our needs. That means, unfortunately, that this worthy project cannot go ahead.

So far, too, no one has offered to register for our 'skills bank' as volunteer advisers in their area of expertise (November '07). We do hope someone will take the chance to help – it is not too late. As you can see, through these articles, Parish notice boards and our annual report open evenings, we are trying to communicate with parishioners, although so far recently with mixed results. However, we remain determined to serve you well, regardless of feedback. We really do want to have an open relationship with you and welcome any interaction.

That said, our most recent attempt in this direction may appeal, more hopefully, to young and old. Jane Turley-Green, our newest recruit, is currently trying to set up a web-site that we hope will invite interaction. More details will be divulged through this august organ in the near future. Watch this space.

We are currently very concerned about the increasing speed of vehicles passing through our area and are setting up a consultation with the experts to consider what to do for the best. We have already had comments from several people with worries about speed and you may have opinions to share too. If so, whether on this or any other issue, please contact me, Andy Clarke on 01454 613730 or the clerk to the Council, Valerie Tutin on 01454 613730 (or any other councillor of your choosing.) Anyway, let's hope we all have the happiest of New Years.



**MEETING POINT  
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st OCTOBER 2007**

<b>RECEIPTS</b>	<b>2007 £</b>	<b>2006 £</b>	<b>PAYMENTS</b>	<b>2007 £</b>	<b>2006 £</b>
Balances at 31st October 2006 and 2005					
At Bank:					
Current Account	254.50	1872.07	Printing and Collation	7333.93	7521.43
Clubs & Charities A/C	4971.13	4889.05	Typing	-	11.25
Advertisements	9960.00	9527.50	Meeting Point Directory	-	384.70
Interest	89.11	82.08	Insurance	72.84	72.84
Donations	12.00	20.00	Postage	377.83	419.07
			Stationery / Materials	64.63	73.49
			Computer Equipment	-	16.95
			Audio version of Meeting Point	124.11	-
			Donation to Aust Village Hall	-	167.00
			Donation to Littleton Village Hall	-	167.00
			Donation to Elberton Village Rooms	-	167.00
			Donation to Olveston Parish Council	-	500.00
			30th Anniversary Celebration	30.00	1614.34
			Equality Training Seminar	-	10.00
			Bookbinding	40.00	40.00
			At Bank:		
			Current Account	2483.16	254.50
			Clubs and Charities A/C	4760.24	4971.13
	<b>15286.74</b>	<b>16390.70</b>		<b>15286.74</b>	<b>16390.70</b>

Documents relative to this Statement have been examined and found correct.

J S Howells F.C.A. *J. S. Howells*

Dated: *3 Dec 2007* Treasurer

*T. W. Watboms*

# Cricket Club Winners

**150 Club:** Winners, November:

£50 Roger Rowen

£15 Ian Bradly

£5 Iain Murdoch

**Special Christmas Prize:** Sybil Banwell

Latest **£25 Bonus Ball** Winners:

10th November Russell Knight

1st December Sylvia Gould

Old Down Cricket Club would like to wish everyone **A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year.**

*Tony Gardner 07889 727729*

## From the Registers

**St Mary's, Olveston on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2007**

Baptism of Valerie May Wilson, daughter of Catherine and Alasdair Wilson

Baptism of Sophie Jemina Bonney, daughter of Jeremy and Jill Bonney

**St Mary's, Olveston on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2007**

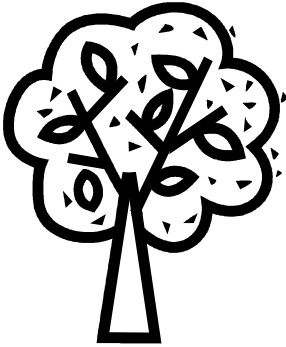
Baptism of Josie Kate Marr, daughter of Jonathan and Sandra Marr

**On 30<sup>th</sup> November 2007** Funeral Service at Westerleigh Crematorium, followed by Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's for Cyril Barry.



## Tockington Chapel

The Chapel will be open on Friday and Saturday mornings, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> January from 10 - 12.30: coffee, newspapers and a small exhibition on famous manuscripts of the bible, including photographs of beautiful handwritten manuscripts.



# Celebrate a Life with Memorial Woodlands

Memorial Woodlands is the perfect alternative to a traditional cemetery. Family and friends are encouraged to celebrate a life rather than mourn a death. Here, the service, burial or ashes interment and the reception can all take place on the same site. Families are given the whole day to share each other's company and remember the life of their loved one, which is reflected in each individually tailored service. Memorial Woodlands, which is based in Earthcott, is leading the West in the notion of green funerals by encouraging families to plant a tree in memory of their loved one and using all proceeds from their funeral plans to create more protected woodlands for the future.

## **One Funeral a Day**

At Memorial Woodlands, families can have the funeral exactly as they like it, reflecting the life and personality of their loved one, and they are given the entire day to enjoy exclusive use of the on-site chapel, reception rooms and burial grounds in whatever way they wish. In the past, themes have included a salsa dancing session and even a procession of classic cars.

## **'I'd sooner be Buried in a Field'**

Founder Chris Baker developed Memorial Woodlands to fill the growing needs of people who feel that a conventional funeral is too rushed and impersonal. He explains, 'As you get to a certain age you start going to funerals and I was appalled by the conveyer belt system that is the typical funeral. I said to someone 'I'd sooner be buried in a field', and that made me think of how I could fund my own woods. I recruited a team of people who shared my vision of allowing families to make an occasion out of the farewell in an unhurried, relaxed atmosphere. Since we only hold one service a day, people are given the peace and privacy to say goodbye in their own way and we provide the back up in terms of food and drink, transport and any help they may request'

## **Environment Legacy**

Every funeral held at Memorial Woodlands plays an important part in helping to preserve our environment. In place of a gravestone, families are encouraged to plant a tree in memory of their loved one, creating natural habitats where family and friends can visit in years to come. Chris explains, 'The idea of an environment legacy is absolutely central to Memorial Woodlands. We've

planted 800 trees in the past year alone and are using all proceeds from our funeral plans to create more protected woodlands in the area. The land is protected which means it can never be developed, ensuring the environmental legacy of anyone who plans their funeral with us’.

### **Funeral Plans**

Memorial Woodlands offer funeral plans which allow people to plan and pay for their own funeral in advance. This not only makes the funeral a truly personalised occasion but also relieves families of financial pressures and gives them comfort that they are following the wishes of their loved one.

If you would like to find out more about Memorial Woodlands or to arrange a visit, please call 0800 6129513 or visit their website [www.memorialwoodlands.com](http://www.memorialwoodlands.com).

## **Yours Faithfully**

*Helen Webb*

Well – the New Year is here! You know what that means - people will be vowing to lose weight, stop smoking, stick to a budget, save money, find a better job, become more organised, exercise more, be more patient, eat better, and \_\_\_\_\_ (fill in your own resolution).

I'm all for New Year's resolutions. But I wonder if we need to be more ambitious in what we resolve to do. Maybe for every personal resolution that is just for us, we need to resolve to do something for others as well.

This past year has been a memorable one for me in many ways—I went to Johannesburg in South Africa at the end of the summer to work in the only AIDS village in the world. This village was established to care for children whose lives have been affected by HIV and AIDS – who are orphaned, abandoned and many are themselves living with HIV. It was an amazing and humbling experience. Lots to look back on but what to resolve to change in the future?

We don't have to go as far as South Africa to realise that there is great need and injustice in the world. Nearly half the world's population live on less than £1 a day, 850 million people go hungry everyday, with a child

dying of malnutrition every five seconds, and an estimated 15 million children have lost one, or both their parents to HIV/AIDS.

When faced with the sheer size and complexity of a situation like this, it can leave you believing that the need is insurmountable, sometimes preventing us from responding at all. But God's Word challenges us time and again about our responsibility to the poor.

Psalms 41:1 reads, "Blessed is he who considers the poor" My question is, "Do we?" I wonder how much time we spend considering the plight of the poor? Is the poor just the homeless person on a city street and those living in poverty in parts of Africa? Perhaps we're lucky because we don't see a whole lot of poverty, so we're not directly confronted by the need to consider the poor.

However - when we start thinking of the poor as anyone who is less fortunate than ourselves, we'll never have any difficulty finding people to consider.

Considering the poor is the responsibility of a Christian, and it's a responsibility that comes with promise. If we read on in Psalm 41, it says: "Blessed is he who considers the poor; The Lord will deliver him in time of trouble. The Lord will preserve him and keep him alive, and he will be blessed on the earth" In a similar vein, Proverbs 19:17 tells us that, "He who has pity on the poor, lends to the Lord."

Our compassion and generosity towards the orphan, the widow, the refugee and the poor person moves God's heart. The Bible has a whole lot more to say about our attitude to the poor than it does about some of the other things we hold very dear. Interestingly the Bible warns us of the consequences of ignoring the plight of the poor. Proverbs 21:13 reads, "Whoever shuts his ears to the cry of the poor will also cry himself and not be heard", and Proverbs 28:27 tells us that, "He who gives to the poor will not lack, but he who hides his eyes will have many curses."

Maybe this New Year as we make our resolutions we can think about this – what can we do this year to make life just a bit better for others? What can we do to care for the poor? Perhaps we can decide together, as we plan for 2008, that we're going to consider the poor and find every opportunity we can to make a lasting difference. Let's be committed to tackling the issue of injustice and poverty from every direction. What a difference we could make!

## Church News: ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

<b>January 6<sup>t</sup></b>	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Feast of Fools Taizé with Choir	Rev. Philip Rowe Rev. Roly Bain Rev. David Bone
<b>January 13<sup>th</sup></b>	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship with Choir Breakfast Club Going for Growth	Canon David Sansum Rev. Roberts Team Rev. Philip Rowe
<b>January 20<sup>th</sup></b>	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev.'s Rowe / Bone Rev. Philip Rowe Team Rev. David Bone
<b>January 27<sup>th</sup></b>	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Breakfast Club Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Canon David Sansum Mrs Janet McBride Team 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](mailto: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](http://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

Jan 13 <sup>th</sup>	10am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Bone
Jan 27 <sup>th</sup>	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

Jan 6 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole
Jan 20 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield

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

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jan 13 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield
Jan 27 <sup>th</sup>	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole

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

## OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

<b>Jan 6<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr.Colston Smith.
	6 pm	Olveston Church	Evening Worship led by Superintendent Minister, Rev. Peter Mortlock
<b>Jan 13<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	St.Mary's Ch	All Age Worship led by Mr.Hugh Ferguson. The Breakfast Club will join us later in the Service
	6pm	Tockington Ch.	Locally arranged Service.
<b>Jan 20<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Tockington Ch.	Annual Covenant Service led by Rev.lesinga Vunipola. Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms
	4 pm	Daldry Gardens .	Service led by Rev .lesinga Vunipola
<b>Jan 27<sup>th</sup></b>	10am	Tockington Ch.	Morning Worship led by our former Minister Rev. Rosemary Davies. Junior Church in the Wesley Rooms.
	6 pm	Olveston Ch.	Evening Worship led by our Superintendent Minister, Rev. Peter Mortlock.

**LIGHT LUNCHES:** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January at 12.15pm in the Tockington Wesley Rooms. To book your lunch please ring 416056.

**NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:** This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 9th January. 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.

**DISCUSSION GROUP:** A Discussion Group covering topical subjects is held on the

4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month. Meetings commence with coffee 10.30am for 11.00am. This month's meeting is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

**CONTACT PERSON: Rev'd lesinga Vunipola. 01454 412269; lesinga@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 Notice Board or contact **Mike and Barbara Matthews, Tel: 07840 793772 or email thevine\_awkley@hotmail.com**

## **THE OASIS CHURCH, OLDDOWN**

<b>Jan 6<sup>th</sup></b>	6.30pm	Lyllal Drewett
<b>Jan 13<sup>th</sup></b>	6.30pm	Royston Pick
<b>Jan 20<sup>th</sup></b>	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
<b>Jan 27<sup>th</sup></b>	6.30pm	David and Myrtle Lawrence

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 **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                      11.00am - 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 January 2008

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Tue	The RBLWS in Olveston - Tel: 632135	7.30pm	DGCL
2 <sup>nd</sup> Wed	OPHS – 'Olveston Buildings ' a talk by Eric Garrett	7.30pm	MH
3 <sup>rd</sup> Thu	Start of Term at Olveston School Olveston Baby and Toddlers	2.30-4.30pm	MH
4 <sup>th</sup> Fri			
5 <sup>th</sup> Sat	12 <sup>th</sup> Night Skittles, organised by Roly Bain		White Hart
6 <sup>th</sup> Sun			
7 <sup>th</sup> Mon			
8 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Olveston and Tockington WI – 'A Casual Talk On Local Buildings' by Eric Garrett	10-12 noon 7.30pm	WR PH
9 <sup>th</sup> Wed	The RBLMS in Olveston Thornbury Orchestra Rehearsal	7.30pm 7.45-9.45pm	DGCL URC
10 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers	2.30-4.30pm	MH
11 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Tockington Chapel Open Weekend	10-12.30	
12 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Tockington Chapel Open Weekend	10-12.30	
13 <sup>th</sup> Sun			
14 <sup>th</sup> Mon			
15 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers	10-12 noon	WR
16 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club - Lucretia Goode ' My Fair Ladies' Bosom Buddies – Jennie Morris Tel: 884177 for info.	2pm 7.30pm	AH
17 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers	2.30-4.30pm	MH
18 <sup>th</sup> Fri			
19 <sup>th</sup> Sat	RBLWS – Coffee Morning Burns Night	10-12 noon 7.30pm	MH Olveston Vicarage
20 <sup>th</sup> Sun			
21 <sup>st</sup> Mon			
22 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Parish Council Meeting	10-12 noon 7.30pm	WR AP
23 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	Thornbury Orchestra Rehearsal	7.45-9.45pm	URC
24 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers	2.30-4.30pm	MH
25 <sup>th</sup> Fri			
26 <sup>th</sup> Sat			
27 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Marlwood School Car Boot Sale – Tel: 202492	Set-up from 9.30am	
28 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Olveston School Inset Day		
29 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers	10-12 noon	WR

30 <sup>th</sup> Wed			
31 <sup>st</sup> Thu	Olveston Baby and Toddlers	2.30-4.30pm	MH

	<b>Looking Ahead To February 2008</b>		
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	City of Bristol Brass Band Concert	7.30pm	St. M
6 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Olveston Parish Historical Society	7.30pm	MH
8-10 <sup>th</sup> w/e	Tockington Chapel Open Weekend		
12 <sup>th</sup>	Women's Institute	7.30pm	PH
29 <sup>th</sup>	OPTA Storytelling Evening – 610056	7.30pm	

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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