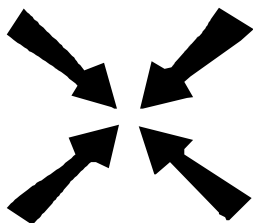


# MEETING POINT



APRIL 2013



# Meeting Point

*Volume 37, Number 7, April 2013*

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**

In April Meeting Point, the village of Aust features on the front cover and in the 'Village People' article on the next page. Aust Parish Annual Meeting will take place this month. The regular feature 'Parish Council Matters' is high in the list of popular hits on [olvestonandaust.com](http://olvestonandaust.com)

Spring must be on the way: Totally Locally is starting up again and there's a walk round the grounds of Thornbury Castle. Not that winter weather has deterred a group of intrepid 1st Olveston scouts (see their night hike report)!

The cover: a view of Aust village photographed by  
Peter Haworth

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

**Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory are online at the  
Community Website: [www.olvestonandaust.com](http://www.olvestonandaust.com)**

# Village people: Clive and Susie Roberts

*Pat Thirkettle*

Clive Roberts was born in Surrey and had the good fortune to go to an innovative boarding school in Suffolk called Woolverston Hall. This was run by the Inner London Education Authority, who took over the vacated premises of The Royal Nautical School after the war. They built six boarding houses for three hundred and sixty pupils who had passed the eleven plus exam, and thus it became a residential grammar school, which eventually closed in 1990. The headmaster was interested in playing the recorder and for seven years Clive was a member of the recorder group playing early English music, an interest he continued in later life. The biology teacher was also inspirational, and encouraged Clive to read medicine. He chose Bristol University as his uncle had studied there and told him it was difficult to get in, so he had to try, and succeeded.

He became a GP, worked in various practices in the local area and is at present based in Horfield. He married his wife Susie four years ago, and she also works for the NHS locally. Their mutual interest in early English music naturally brought them to Aust where Peter and Gina Dobbins had been running 'Music in Aust' since 1997. They joined the committee, became more and more involved and, when Peter and Gina moved eighteen months ago, Clive and Susie bought their cottage in Aust.

They also took over 'Music in Aust'. This had been running at ten concerts a year with funding from the Arts Council, which has since dried up. Early English music was always a niche interest and some concerts were of folk music. The two strands overlap as they have the same musical roots and the same people seem to like both. Nowadays 'Music in Aust' puts on four concerts a year due to lack of funding and falling audiences. Each year there is a medieval Christmas concert played on instruments such as the hurdy-gurdy, bladder pipes, schawms and crumhorns. If these mean nothing to you, you can find out at the concert on 7<sup>th</sup> December! A five piece London based group called Pieva is coming in September. This group makes its own early English instruments, and brings some half made examples to explain the process. There are also various types of folk music, the Dursley Male Voice choir and an Irish themed evening is planned for May. All events are in the Meeting Point diary each month.

Clive is aware that early English music is harder to put on without funding and is looking to expand the folk music side. He would very much appreciate some feedback from readers about the type of music they would like to hear in Aust: baroque, renaissance, instrumental, vocal, Irish, Scots or Welsh folk music? If you have a preference, please give Clive a ring on 632238.

# The Olveston Parish Vision

*Mark Roper*  
*Steering committee member*

Following a well-attended residents meeting at the end of last year, where the intention to produce a Parish Plan was introduced, a steering group has now been formed and tasked with moving the project forward.

To reiterate the purpose of a Parish Plan, it would take the form of a report into the important issues of the Parish, producing a blueprint that would help us as a community to have a real say in our future. This would then put us in a much stronger position to influence future decisions affecting our community, focus increasingly scarce resources on agreed priorities, and provide evidence of need if bidding for funds. Government (national and local) would see that we have thought seriously about our needs. The ever increasing pressure on resources and the potential challenge of localism suggest it is essential that we seize this opportunity now. Further information on the plan can also be found on the Parish Vision website [olvestonparishvision.co.uk](http://olvestonparishvision.co.uk)

Going forward, it is of utmost importance that all those living in the Parish have a say on both the concerns or issues within the area and the positive aspects. The Parish Vision will not only serve to help rectify the concerns but also conserve the very best features and services that lie within the Parish. These of course can be on any topic you feel relevant, no matter how insignificant you may think it is. This will then give a better insight into the opinions of the community, from which a more in-depth study can be made into each topic.

With this in mind we would like to challenge ALL parishioners to start the evaluation process rolling by simply stating the 5 worst things and the 5 best things about your parish.

Just send your opinions without prejudice to the Parish Vision email [olvestonpc.vision@gmail.com](mailto:olvestonpc.vision@gmail.com) For those without email, there will be a postal questionnaire in due course.

At this stage there is still an opportunity to be involved with the steering group, therefore please let yourself be known if you wish to play a part in planning for the future. So please forward your opinions. Even if you are content with what the parish has to offer, it is still important to know what you think in order to safeguard and improve our thriving community.

# Aust Parish Council Matters

*Tim Pyper* ([austparishcouncil@googlemail.com](mailto:austparishcouncil@googlemail.com))

## **Annual Parish Meeting**

March 31 marks the end of the Parish Council's financial year, and we will hold our Annual Parish Meeting at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April in Elberton Village Hall. The annual meeting is your chance to raise any matter you wish with your Parish Council. We hope to be able to give a report about the progress with broad band developments in South Gloucestershire.

## **Planning matters**

The past month has seen the site inspection and development control committee hearing on the application to use the building between Quarry House and the White Hart in Littleton for tourism. The Council has considered applications by the traveller family living beside Sandy Lane, Aust for a certificate that they have used the site for long enough not to require planning permission, and for a new manège in Littleton. Aust church has received a welcome permission to replace its lead roof with terner steel – good news as it will prevent further damage by theft of lead.

## **Highway issues**

We have been trying for some time to get the surface of the track from Manor Farm, Aust to the M48 slip road repaired. It has been in very bad condition for ages. It forms part of the national cycle network. We have met with South Gloucestershire and the Highways Agency to seek a solution. It seems that the road is on land belonging to the Highways Agency, and has not been adopted by South Gloucestershire as highway. We have not persuaded either of these authorities to accept responsibility for this track, but will continue our efforts.

# Severn Vale Flower Club

**Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 pm in the Armstrong Hall, Thornbury**

“The Natural World”. This is the title of a floral demonstration to be given by Margaret Fairhurst at our Open Evening on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30pm. This will be held in the Armstrong Hall Thornbury. Doors open at 6.30pm. There will be refreshments, raffle, and plant and sales tables. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling 01454 885213 or 01454 619070. Our charity for this year is the Great Western Air Ambulance. Recently a cheque to the value of £650.00 was presented to representatives from “The Willow Trust” which was our previous charity. Many thanks to all those who supported us.

# Olveston Parish Council Matters

*Richard Rogers* ([olvestonpc@gmail.com](mailto:olvestonpc@gmail.com))

The Parish Council has been informed by South Gloucestershire Council that an election does not need to be held to replace our three retiring Councillors Ms Val Hudspeth, Mr John Spratt and Mr Allen Cogram. We would now welcome applications from Parishioners to replace these Councillors. These applications should briefly inform the Council of the applicants' details and reasons why they would like to join the Council. Informal interviews will be held in due course. Please e-mail or write to the Clerk as soon as possible.

The venue for the Annual Parish Assembly has now been confirmed as being the Olveston Parish Hall. The meeting will be held from 7:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May, and all are invited from 7:15 for Tea/ Coffee. A lot has happened in the Parish since last year's Assembly, and the Parish Council is welcoming the opportunity to report back to the parish on this and potential activities for the coming year.

Many parishioners will have noticed the damage to verges at Old Down adjacent to the Windmill House development, due to the movement of contractors throughout the bad weather at the end of 2012 and the start of 2013. The owners have assured the Parish Council that they will be restoring the verges once all the work has been completed.

We now have the opportunity to commemorate the Queen's Coronation. One suggestion is to plant 60 indigenous trees throughout the Parish. The Parish Council hopes to plant several trees and would welcome other householders and landowners to do the same. The objective is to create a record of any trees planted in 2013, for historical purposes, so please get in touch with the Parish Council if you would be interested in supporting this.

## **Olveston Parish Countryside Group**

**AGM, Thursday 4th April, 7.30 pm at Olveston Methodist Hall**

Iain Green, Professional Local Wildlife Photographer, will talk on Wildlife on Your Doorstep, illustrated with wonderful photographs. Visitors very welcome

# Olveston wind farm update

As most of you know, the planning application for the proposed wind farm at Ingst, on the outskirts of Olveston, was submitted by the developer REG Windpower just before Christmas. Although the formal deadline for responses to this application was the end of January this year, the planning team is still accepting letters if you have yet to write. As of the 1st March 2013, 662 letters had been submitted:

59 letters in support of the application (9%)  
593 letters objecting to the application (89.5%)  
10 neutral letters (1.5%)

Here are the next steps in the planning process. A team of Councillors from South Gloucestershire Council who form the decision making committee for the application will come and visit the site. The purpose of the site visit is to see at first hand the proposed site for the turbines and to see for themselves the surrounding landscape and dwellings. This group will visit a number of viewing points on the way to or from the site location. It is not confirmed yet, but a possible date for the site visit is 5th April.

The next step after the site visit is a meeting of the South Gloucestershire committee who will make the decision on the application. This could be two weeks or six weeks after the site visit. The relevant dates and timings of the site visit and decision making meeting will be posted on the OWAG website (see below). The planning team write a report on the site visit before the decision meeting. This will be available publically 5 days prior to the meeting on: <http://council.southglos.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CIId=147&Year=0>  
Other useful websites: [www.owag.co.uk](http://www.owag.co.uk) [REGwindpower.co.uk](http://REGwindpower.co.uk)

## **Wanted: Your Pre-loved Clothes and Accessories**

Do you have any clothes lurking in your wardrobe that have not seen daylight in some time? Is your coat-rack weighed down by old hats and scarves you no longer use?

Olveston Pre-School is looking for donations of your old dresses, coats and jackets, skirts, beads and necklaces, trousers, hats, shoes, gloves and scarves for the children to use for 'dressing-up', the old-fashioned way. The children love to dress up, and these clothes would be used to encourage a broader range of imaginative role-play. Any donations in good condition would be greatly appreciated. They can be dropped off at the Pre-school (Olveston Parish Hall) during Pre-school hours. Alternatively, we would be happy to collect - please contact Helen Moorefield on 01454 612074 to arrange a collection.



# Cook's Calendar: April

*Natasha Harrod*

As I write this, snow is forecast and a bitter wind is blowing; it feels like the depths of winter. Such are the vagaries of the British spring however, that by the time you read this we may be basking in sunshine reminiscent of a Mediterranean summer.

This makes menu planning an impossible task, as by the time you have shopped and cooked you may be eating in a different season from the one you were in when you were imagining what you would like to eat.

April's recipe takes inspiration from the highs and lows of springtime, it is earthy yet sweet, celery to remind us of our honest British heritage, yet apricots speaking of the promised sunshine and light.

If you get this recipe in time, it is a great one to do for the Easter weekend, it's a real crowd pleaser and good for a family get together. It also freezes beautifully.

## **Pork with Cider and Apricots topped with Parsley Dumplings**

1 kg diced pork shoulder  
1 tablespoon of olive oil  
1 head of celery, finely chopped  
3 cloves of garlic, chopped or crushed  
200g dried apricots, chopped  
500ml cider  
2 teaspoons dried thyme  
200ml low-fat crème fraiche

55g vegetable suet  
175g self raising flour  
Small bunch of parsley, chopped  
½ teaspoon of salt  
Cold water, about 100ml, more if necessary

Serves 6

Preheat the oven to 180C and find a large casserole with a lid. **Cont.overleaf**



Heat the casserole on the hob and then add the pork. Allow to brown, even getting a bit crusty in places, then add the chopped celery. Cook for five minutes, stirring, then add the garlic. After one minute add the apricots, thyme and cider, bring to a simmer and cook in the preheated oven for an hour.

In the meantime, make the dumplings. Rub the suet into the flour and salt, then add the parsley. Add enough water to make a fairly sticky dough, being careful not to over-work. This is a messy job and most easily done in a food processor. Form into 18 dumplings.

When the casserole has had a good hour, take out of the oven and stir through the crème fraiche. Place the dumplings on top and put back in the oven for another 30 minutes until the dumplings are crusty and delicious!

## **Charity Film Evening at St Mary's Olveston**

**Thursday 4th April 7.30 pm**

A spectacular well known Abba sing-along with Meryl Streep!

In support of local village girls running the London Marathon for charity, St Mary's Church Olveston is hosting a fun night for all you ladies (men are welcome!). Come along and watch the film with your daughters and friends. Fancy dress and a sing-along for a great cause, supporting Marie Curie, Mind, The British Heart Foundation and The Mental Health Foundation. Bar and refreshments available. Donations on the door.

## **ARBAN UK**

Local charity ARBAN UK has successfully built and set up a clinic in Jheelpur Slum in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. The clinic is open for 3 hours a day, 6 days a week, providing basic but necessary healthcare to slum dwellers who otherwise have no medical support. When two trustees visited on a self-funded visit in November 2012, they were delighted to find a clean, well-organised, productive clinic that was definitely making a difference to people's lives.

The challenge now is to keep this clinic open, so that we can continue to support these desperate but resilient people.

Do you know any companies, trusts or philanthropic individuals who might be prepared to help? If so, please email [saffia.bullock@arban.org.uk](mailto:saffia.bullock@arban.org.uk) or call 07917 276 410. For reports from Dhaka and photographs, please visit [www.arban.org.uk](http://www.arban.org.uk).

The Olveston and Aust website has been running for more than four years and it has become an established source of information for people within the area and outside. In order to encourage new users, it would be great to learn more about your experience of the site and what you use it for.

What is known is that in some months around 750 visits are made to the site. As you would expect, most of the 'hits' are from local people but there were also twenty hits from the USA, twenty from Hong Kong, twelve from Australia and six from Canada in February this year, and more from other countries. Is this your relatives living abroad and feeling homesick or simply people with an interest in life in the Severn Vale?

One of the most popular areas of enquiry is the tab "Community Magazine" which takes you to pdf versions of the Meeting Point magazine. Quite handy if you need to catch up with what is happening or you need a quick reminder from the 'Diary' pages. It's also a handy reference if you are planning an event, as you can avoid a clash with others listed in the long range diary found under the 'Events' tab.

Olveston and Aust Parish Councils will be pleased to hear that their pages are a popular choice for viewing. You can find both Councils' newsletters and a list of Councillors under the "Councils" tab. Is this evidence that people are interested in local politics when the information is made easy to access?

Lower down the rankings, we find people using the site to get information about the village halls and the different societies. We think the list is comprehensive but if anyone is left out please let us know.

Finally, any list of the site's favourite pages must include mention of the ever popular "Photo Galleries" tab, behind which many familiar faces can be seen and where local and talented photographers show their best work. It's always a joy to add pictures of the beautiful area we live in and the beautiful faces too.

Another feature of the website is the email facility which is found under the 'Contacts' tab. It's surprising how many people contact us to help trace their family trees or lost relatives or friends.

If you haven't enjoyed the site yet take a look, there's a lot to read. If you do have comments about the site and how you it can be improved, please do get in touch using the email address **web@olvestonandaust.com** and share your views with us. We would love to hear from you.

# Traffic improvement progress

A year ago, we reported that South Glos Council had allocated £5,000 to identify recommendations for improving traffic safety around Olveston School. We thank everyone who wrote to us afterwards with their thoughts.

After a year of discussions involving local people, the Parish Council and South Glos Council's technical experts, we can relay the recommendations to our fellow villagers:

- a 20mph speed limit around the school and up The Street as far as the Methodist Hall
- improved visibility at the crossroads by the church by prohibiting parking just at 08.30-09.30 and 15.00-16.00 on weekdays by The Old Post Office and The White Hart
- redesigned zig-zag markings by the school, that are enforceable rather than advisory

We carefully considered and rejected many other ideas, including:

*Speed bumps*: noisy for residents when drivers speed up and slow down, and ineffective as you can often drive over them at 30mph.

*Lollipop person*: could only supervise one road crossing, while many children cross two roads at the junction by the church. Local villages have had big problems recruiting and retaining crossing patrols.

*Permanent crossing*: would be an issue in a conservation area, and would be there all the time (with permanent loss of parking) when the main need is just for short periods on weekdays.

Olveston School originally identified the problem of the dangerous crossing and road as part of its 'travel plan', which encourages walking to school. Parents are put off walking because of the danger, which adds to the traffic. That is why we are keen to find a solution. While triggered by a school initiative, the project is now steered by members of the local community, who want to make the village pleasant and safe for all residents.

The Council has now allocated £18,500 for a consultation with locals, and then to do the necessary work.

We would like to know your thoughts now, before the consultation starts.

Contact us with your views, or for more information, at [olvestonprimary.school@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:olvestonprimary.school@southglos.gov.uk), marked FAO School Travel Plan Group.

Caroline Brewser                      Melinda Evans  
Parent Representatives, Olveston School Travel Plan Group

# Carbon Capture Planned for Harnhill

South Gloucester's Planning Department will neither confirm nor deny they have received an application for outline planning consent for a carbon storage facility at Harnhill Quarry, Olveston. However, it is believed by many in the village that Windupower, the multinational recycling and carbon capture specialists, are interested in just such a facility.

A Windupower spokesman, who asked not to be named, confirmed they have carried out extensive research into the effectiveness of storing carbon below ground. Trials into capturing and burying the carbon released by fossil fuel power stations have been ongoing for some time. Windupower feel one area with huge potential, but neglected up to now, is the capture of the carbon in plastic carrier bags.

As their spokesman explained, plastic consists mainly of long carbon chains. When carrier bags biodegrade this carbon is released into the atmosphere, contributing to climate change. With more and more carrier bags in use, Windupower feel utilising spare landfill capacity, such as that at Harnhill, to lock in these carbon chains, will contribute significantly to the government's carbon reduction target.

They estimate when the plant is fully functional there will be upwards of fifty heavy lorry deliveries through the village each day, but feel this minor inconvenience should be offset against the general benefits to the environment. The spokesman refused to comment on Government subsidies, but admitted the facility would be very profitable for Windupower.

Their initial plans are for two local sites, they are also looking at the old quarry on Oldown Hill, but hope to expand to twenty-three more if their trials prove successful. No firm date has yet been set for starting work at Harnhill, but outline plans are expected to be available for inspection at South Gloucestershire Council's Thornbury offices from the first of this month. Public presentations at Olveston Parish Hall and other local venues are planned for later in the year.

*Owen O'Farr*

## Litter Pick

There will be a Litter Pick on Saturday 13 April. Please meet at 1.00pm in the Parish Hall car park. Everybody welcome (duration 90 minutes max.).  
Rod Williams, 612850.



*Well, it's got to that time of year....***Totally Locally Small Plant and Seed Swap**

It's going to be a busy month ahead, sowing, planting, digging, raking and don't forget to save all your spares. Let's hope that this year will allow us all to embrace our community allotments and our own back gardens...

Totally Locally will be held on **20<sup>th</sup> April – 9.30 – 12.00**

The emphasis as normal will be supporting everything local - homemade food and cakes, locally made bread, free range eggs, our healthy rapeseed oil ( still including refills ), marmalades and jam, local honey from our lovely Jeff, plus great gift and card ideas for you to support our clever local makers giving you an opportunity to buy something slightly different.

For those of you who have not been, it has a very relaxed atmosphere around our bacon butty bbq with coffee/tea available and it gives you an opportunity to catch up with your neighbours and friends ... nothing nicer when the sun decides to peep out as well. Open to EVERYONE...

If anyone would like a table please do not hesitate to contact either one of us as it is a non-profit-making opportunity for you to explore your creativity.

Jane Sunnucks	and	Sharon Lapworth
Old Down		Tockington
01454 419931		01454 613502

## **Thornbury Food Fairs**

**Dates for this year are: April 13<sup>th</sup> June 22<sup>nd</sup> September 7<sup>th</sup> December 7<sup>th</sup>**  
**All in Castle Street between 10.00am and 2.00 pm**

Now entering its 6th year, the quarterly Thornbury Food Fair is a great place to meet old friends and neighbours whilst buying delicious local and/or artisan produce.

# Just the other side of the Severn -the Roman Army!



Wednesday 3 April 2013, 7.30pm

Methodist Church, The Street, Olveston

Olveston Parish Historical Society - open to all  
and everyone welcome: £2 on the door.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Augustan Legion (one of just thirty legions in the entire Roman Empire) planted itself on the other side of the Severn at Caerleon in AD 75 and stayed there for two hundred years. Why? Who were they?

Mark Lewis, Curator at the National Roman Legion Museum, Caerleon, will tell us all about **Caerleon and the Roman Army** – and in the summer will act

as our guide when we visit this site. Mark is no stranger to Olveston – he's rung the bells here! Come and find out about the soldiers who were virtually on our doorstep. Mark will be happy to try to answer all your questions...

## Thornbury Castle Walk

The first of the walks organised by Thornbury and District Museum this year will be around the grounds of Thornbury Castle on Wednesday 17 April, giving you the opportunity to discover more about the history of the castle and its inhabitants.

The walk will last approximately one and a half hours. We meet on the green outside St Mary's Church at 6.20pm and you are advised to wear sturdy shoes as some paths can be muddy. The walk is unsuitable for the under tens, and older children must be accompanied by an adult. No dogs please. A suggested donation of £2 per person towards Museum funds would be appreciated.

Booking is essential as places are limited; tickets are available from the Museum, Tel. 857774, or email: [enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk) or visit the Museum in Chapel Street on Tuesdays-Fridays 1-4pm, Saturdays 10am-4pm.

# "The King and I"

*Reviewed by Barbie Davies*

The Parish Players 13<sup>th</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> February 2013

Based on the true story of Anna Leonowens' employment as governess to the children of the King of Siam in the early 1860s, this musical was a splendid choice for the cast, with a huge age range. Packed audiences for the Parish Players' "The King and I" enjoyed a feast of entertainment for the eyes and ears.

Sensitively lit by Richard Churchill and James Holder, Andy Black's set design was an exquisite miniature of exotic arches opening on to a sunset shadow of the huge palace of Bangkok. When needed this practical set was slickly changed by a very efficient crew. Costumes of rich gold and silks of every hue certainly gave the impression of luxurious palace life. Beautiful crinoline ball gowns literally filled every inch of the tiny stage. This gave a wonderful mid-Victorian feel to the scene depicting a visit from the British Ambassador. In his honour an oriental-style ballet was performed. Most authentic costumes, fabulous head-dresses and masks were used. These, together with artistic props, river cloth, snow flakes and Buddha, created one of the most memorable scenes of the production. Grand entrances and dragon processions took place down the aisle, giving much variety to the action.

Of course the children stole the show in their charming costumes, but more importantly with their real commitment to every moment of their acting and hearty singing. Alexander Morris as Prince Chulalongkorn captured the young heir's pride and sense of his own importance. He beautifully imitated his father's stance, manner and voice. Anna's son Louis (Jake Woodward) was the perfect little Victorian gentleman showing both courage and kindness.

Phil Savage, as the King (refreshingly played as the real King seemed to be rather than a mere copy of Yul Brynner) achieved an excellent combination of power, energy and impatience tempered by ever increasing awareness of other people and other ways of viewing life. His skilful handling of the wordy "A Puzzlement" song was particularly effective. Lynn Shelley's Anna showed real warmth with the children, and fire in her several confrontations with the King. Gaining in confidence throughout the show, the songs "Shall I tell you what I think of you" and "Shall we dance?" had real sparkle.

The King's chief wife Lady Thiang was beautifully cast. Leslie Clarke had just the right mixture of dignity and emotion to make the audience thoroughly warm to her. Ray Hale as the Kralahome kept the audience at a suitable distance with his prickly, inscrutable manner and haughty bearing. Laura Pritchard as Tuptim, torn from her lover as a human present to the King, showed great sensitivity to the part. She, like Lady Thiang, created a believable sense of

eastern manners and delicacy. Her narration of the ballet was faultless, both rhythmically and in its most moving delivery.

Eliza (Maedene Webb) as the “star” dancer of the ballet (skilfully choreographed by Jill Harris) gave a real flavour of oriental theatre with most graceful movements of head, hand and foot. She was very well supported by the chorus of the King’s wives, who throughout the show injected much humour and delightful detail. Another “star” was Chris Bentley playing Lun Tha, lover of the tragic Tuptim. His lovely lyrical voice thoroughly suited the challenging romantic numbers. All the music was performed with great pace and panache, and sensitively supported all the singing led by the Musical Director Chloe Allsopp-Jones.

Under the expert eye of Director Linda Evans, every member of the cast from servant to King gave a winning performance, which was a most fitting tribute to the much-loved and missed servant of the Parish Players, Arthur Robbins.

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who attended Arthur's funeral service and for the generous donations amounting to £1507. This will be divided equally between St Peter's Hospice and St Mary's Church. June Robbins

## Oveston Parish Hall

At the AGM held on Thursday 28 February 2013 Geoff Chappell stood down as Chairman. Geoff had been Chairman for five years during which time he had overseen the transformation of the Hall to its present day splendour. During this time he was also involved in the pre School building which has greatly enhanced the facilities available to young families both locally and in the surrounding areas. The new Chairman is Pat Savage; contact details 01454 610388. Linda Chappell is the new Treasurer.

### **Men in General Saturday 9 March**

This was a five-man à cappella band who sang songs from Marvin Gaye through to Rogers & Hammerstein. This was coupled with a witty take on men in the kitchen and general flights of fancy with the audience. The band were led by Adrian Mealing who, throughout their various renditions, managed to pay tribute to all the helpers on the night. His post event email paid tribute to a Hall with a “perfect configuration of stage, spotlights, sparkling facilities and possibly the best acoustic of any Village Hall”.

This was indeed a fitting tribute to Geoff whose efforts were recognised with a presentation to him at the interval by Richard Lloyd.



# Movies at St Mary's: April

Trevor Anderson



THREE movies this month at St Mary's Church Olveston. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book:

**MONDAY MOVIES** (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Apr at 7.30pm:** Dustin Hoffman and Emma Thompson prove you can never be too old to make memories in this gentle romantic drama. *Cert 12*

**MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA** (*Quality 'non-mainstream' films*)

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Apr at 7.30pm:** This memorable film, and winner of five Oscars, tells the moving and uplifting story of a remarkably gifted musician. *Cert 12*

**CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB** (*Every Monday morning in the hols*)

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> Apr at 10.00am:** Set sail on a fun-filled voyage and hilarious pirate antics with the biggest Band of Misfits on the seven seas! *Cert U*

Refreshments available at all the shows. Admission is free although a small **donation** at the end towards expenses is always appreciated.

For copyright reasons we can't name the films here, but if you **join the Movie Club** we'll send you titles and full details by email. It costs nothing to join – just email me at [trevoranderson@btinternet.com](mailto:trevoranderson@btinternet.com)

## Olveston & Tockington WI Report

Our March talk about "Freewheeler Blood Bikes" was a real eye-opener. Most of us had no idea that there were volunteers delivering urgent medical supplies to hospitals out-of-hours. Speedy delivery by motorbike is an impressive idea, carried out by a very dedicated team.

Towards the end of March, Olveston W.I. hosted a Group Rally at the Parish Hall for members of eight local W.I.s. We had a brilliant and amusing talk by Chris Harris who most recently appeared as a pantomime dame at the Theatre Royal in Bath.

Our next talk will be by Vicky Carne who will tell us about "The role of the midwife". Do join us at 7.30 on the 9<sup>th</sup> April. You'll also be able to hear about the events and outings we are planning for the rest of the year.

# Night Hike

15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2013

by Rhys Wittcomb  
1<sup>st</sup> Olveston Scouts



On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> of January 4 scouts went on a night hike. The scouts that went were Jamie, Oliver, Josh and Rhys (myself!). Firstly we were given a map and a compass from Stuart (one of our leaders) then we were dropped off somewhere in Alveston (*Rhys, you were in Littleton...☺*) and were told to make our way back to the hut.

Group 1 (Josh and I) had an early lead but Jamie and Oliver soon caught up and led the way. I got my boot stuck in a really muddy part of a field, to make things worse I nearly lost my other boot at the same time, my sock was really muddy.

About an hour later we found them sat on a bench eating crisps, at that point we decided to join groups. Oliver, Jamie, Josh and I were trying to find our way home. At about 11:45 we were back at the hut to find that Caroline had made us some lovely soup so we had some soup and went to bed. In the morning we got up and we were told to make ourselves a cooked breakfast and then wash up. Me and Josh, made bacon, eggs and beans which was nice but very hard to wash up! Finally we did flag down and that was the end of our night hike.

We were very tired but we all had a great time and I hope to do it again soon thank you so much Lynda, Stuart and Caroline.



## Zumbathon

in aid of Hammer Out

**April 14th 10.30am-1.30pm**  
**Armstrong Hall, Thornbury**

£20 pay on the door or £20 in collected sponsorship.

To book a place log onto: [www.eventbrite.com/event/5667696232#](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/5667696232#)

Sponsorship forms can be found here:

[www.hammerout.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/30107\\_Sponsorship-form.pdf](http://www.hammerout.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/30107_Sponsorship-form.pdf)

# Old Down Cricket Club

## 150 Club Winners March:

£50 Angus MacDonald

£15 Sylvia Gould

£5 Dave Birtle

## Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

9th February

Paddy Gardner

23rd February Tony Williams

2nd March

Mike Rowen

Pre-season Nets commence on Tuesday 2nd April at Castle School 7.30-9.30 & continue weekly until Tuesday 7th May. New players welcome.

## DIARY DATE

The Club is holding a Fund Raising Deeds Auction on Thursday 9th May at Old Down Manor (7.30). The Auctioneer will be none other than the World Famous (sic) Jon Pullin. Any more information on how you can contribute to the event, please contact me. Please make every effort to attend, as we are raising funds to assist with the re-fencing of the ground. Up The Down!!

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

# Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in the March draw, held on 7th March 2013 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<i>Name</i>
£150	449	Mr G Chappell, Olveston
£75	507	Mr J Clucas, Tockington
£25	190	Mrs J Williams, Pilning
£25	203	Mrs J Davis, Olveston
£25	280	Mr A Bryan, Tockington
£20	221	Mrs S A Pearce, Ingst
£20	388	Mrs S Shaw, Tockington
£10	533	Mr M Stevenson, Awkley
£10	510	Mr P Floyd, Old Down

# 'Let us Pray' conference

St Mary's Church Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> 10 am - 4 0 pm

'Let us Pray' is the title of a conference on the power and practice of prayer being held at St Mary's on April 27th from 10am till 4pm. Bishop Gordon Mursell, Wanda Nash and Martin Cavender are three extremely prestigious speakers. Registration fee is £10 and that includes lunch. Leaflets in St Mary's or contact Roly Bain on 616593 or [roly@rolybain.co.uk](mailto:roly@rolybain.co.uk)

## David Withers

A huge thank you to everyone who sent cards and messages of sympathy following David's death. They have been of great comfort to me.

Thanks also to all my friends and neighbours who have been and continue to be a great support at this difficult time. My particular thanks to Dorothy Hedges and the Meredith Family. Penny Withers

## From the Registers of St. Mary's, Olveston

March 4th      Thanksgiving service for the life of Joy Pandora Morel  
followed by burial in the churchyard

**St Mary's would like to invite you to ...**

**FROCKS AND FROLICS**

**May Fayre in the beautiful grounds of Olveston Court.**

**On May 6th at 12.30pm**

**Lunch with a medieval flavour so why not come dressed  
appropriately?!**

**Tickets twelve guineas (£12.50!)      Ring 613273/617491**

# Future Olveston School Events:

## Annual Quiz Night

Friday 17th May in the Wike Hall, Olveston School

The Friends of Olveston School are once again organising this fun quiz night. Cost £2.50 per person, max 6 people per team. B.Y.O drinks and nibbles - this year there will be a prize for the best laid table!

Please confirm your entry with Clare at: [clareevanstobe@hotmail.com](mailto:clareevanstobe@hotmail.com) or 07584 194545.

Doors open at 7.30pm, Quiz starts at 8.00pm. Hope to see you there!

## School Fun Run

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Did you enjoy running the Olveston School Fun Run last year, or wish you had taken part? This year the fun run is on Sunday 30 June 2013 with a 1K course around the school field and a 5K course starting and ending at the school.

Entry forms are available on the website or from Nicola Bushell on 01454 612 173. [www.olvestonschoolfunrun.org](http://www.olvestonschoolfunrun.org)

## Olveston Summer Fete, 22 June

Advance notice that Olveston Summer Fete will be held on Saturday 22 June in the school and vicarage grounds, commencing at 2pm.

Post script

## Dan Burge VC DSO

### Tockington's Victoria Cross Hero [March article]

Dear Editor,

Reference the current month's Meeting Point subject Col. Dan Burge. He and his wife Florence resided at Grove House, Tockington between 1930 and 1937. He took possession of the residence following the death of Capt. Herbert Raban. A member of the village British Legion whilst living here. He had a brass plate mounted on the entrance wall that contained his title and medal awards which he removed on leaving.

Regards, Eric Garrett

# Yours faithfully

David Bone

Two little thoughts to share with you, one now and one at the end; both came my way recently, but I've no idea of their origin. First: *"for every question there is an answer, easy to understand, and wrong."* I was reminded of that when talking to a friend, another parson, as it happens, who shared a view common among many of my generation: *"the older I get, the more sure I become, but about less and less."*

By the time you read this, it is just possible that the newspapers and the media generally will have lost a little of the intense interest in the past and present of two clerics elevated to high positions: Jorge Mario Bergoglio and Justin Welby. In their respective parts of the world-wide church, *"they gone about as fer as they can go"*, as somebody sings in Oklahoma. Lose interest? Yes, unless they do something silly, or say something silly, or get involved in controversy, the new Pope and the new Archbishop of Canterbury will be nine-day wonders for the press. Some have been quick to suggest that there are one or two dark skeletons in the past of Pope Francis, and our new archbishop has had to mend some fences with a leading politician. Sadly, one thing is for sure, simply because of their new responsibilities they will be receiving plenty of hate-mail; the sort of thing from religious extremists, of whichever faith, that gets religion a bad name. One can only hope that Pope Francis and Archbishop Justin will, as they say, realise that it goes with the territory, and that they will see the glorious light of Easter through the darkness of Good Friday.

So, a thought from each of them; first the new Archbishop: *"It cannot be right that the secular press is a substitute for dialogue between Christians, a vitriolic go-between that makes our communication with other people who follow Christ more difficult, not more easy."* I find that very hopeful. And next, the new Pope; the then-Cardinal Bergoglio told Argentina's priests last year: *"Jesus teaches us another way. Go out. Go out and share your testimony, go out and interact with your brothers, go out and share, go out and ask. Become the Word in body as well as spirit"*. That brought to mind the second thought that came my way recently; it's a good thought for all Christians at Eastertide: *"Get out there and give them heaven!"*

## Thank You

Ray Roberts would like to thank everyone for their good wishes, letters, cards and presents following his fall, which resulted in his retirement from the Meeting Point delivery he has carried out over the past few years. Ray will miss his chats with friends and neighbours on his delivery round.

# Church News

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Apr 7	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion & Baptism	Rev. R. Bain & Rev. P. Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Mrs J McBride & Rev R Bain
Apr 14	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev D Bone
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Mr Denis Jones
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
Apr 21	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Rev. David Bone
Apr 28	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Breakfast Club in Church	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev P Rowe & Mrs A Lloyd

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

### Contacts:

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: [office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk](mailto:office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk)

Rev Roly Bain for Baptisms, Marriages & Funerals 01454 616593.

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

[www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html](http://www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html)

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain  
except 4<sup>th</sup> Wed when it is at Olv. Methodist Church

## CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Apr 14	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Apr 28	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680 Janet Ford 633300

## ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Apr 7	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
Apr 21	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Apr 14	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole
Apr 28	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

## OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Apr 7	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch St Andrews	Morning Worship led by Mr Robert Wallace Evening Worship led by Mr Kevin McNally
Apr 14	10am	Olv. Ch.	All Age Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney Breakfast Club to join later
Apr 21	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney
Apr 28	10am	Olv Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Valerie Williams

**NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:** This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April.. To book your lunch please ring 416528

**TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP** meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> April. To book please ring 613241,or 612112

**COFFEE MORNINGS:** Sat. 10.30 - 12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall.

**HOUSE GROUPS** One led by Mr Glyn Varney or Mrs Rosalie Doyle on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston. Another led by Rev. Sandy Williams on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 10.30 Please ring 416528 for details of venue

**CREAM TEAS** Served on Easter Monday from 2.30-5.30pm in Tockington Church/The Green

**CONTACT: Rev David Hardy 0117 9693135,  
e-mail [dandlhardy@btinternet.com](mailto:dandlhardy@btinternet.com)**

## THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies incorporating Communion, on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm We also visit other Churches and events so please check our Notice Board or contact .

**Mike and Barbara Matthews,** tel. 07512 917229 or email:  
[thevine\\_awkley@hotmail.com](mailto:thevine_awkley@hotmail.com)



## THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Apr 7	6.30pm	Martin Taylor
Apr 14	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies
Apr 21	6.30pm	Ken Payne
Apr 28	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer Time

For further information please contact **Ceri Morgan-Davies** 413043

**Paul Ashford**, 07774 110814 or email: [Paul@CalebGroup.net](mailto:Paul@CalebGroup.net)

## AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Family Worship 11.00am

'The Door' for young people on the last Sunday at 7pm

[www.THEDOORYOUTH.CO.UK](http://www.THEDOORYOUTH.CO.UK) or tel 07837234949

For more details, please phone 632564.

## LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Evening Worship every Sunday at 6pm

For details tel. 413247

**B.C.F.** -(Resound) Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block)

Contact 0117 3050969 [www.bcfnet.com](http://www.bcfnet.com)

## RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Tel 01454 412223 [www.ctlk-thornbury.org.uk](http://www.ctlk-thornbury.org.uk)

## SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Meeting for Worship Sundays 10.30-11.30: The Hanover Room, The Chantry, Castle St. Wheelchair accessible. Children welcome with prior notice.

**Local contact:** Ben & Candia Barman 01454 412603

National: [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) Bristol area: [www.bristolquakers.org.uk](http://www.bristolquakers.org.uk)

# Diary Dates for April 2013

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	StM
2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
	R.B.L. Women Hypnotherapy	7.30pm	DGCL
3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed	O.P.H.S 2nd Augustan Legion	7.30pm	OMC
	Th & District CRUK AGM at Th. Hospital	7.30pm	
4 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market	9.00-1.30	
	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OST
	Olveston Toddlers	2.00-4.30	MH
	Countryside Group AGM & talk	7.30	MH
	Charity Film Evening: 'ABBA' singalong film Open Mic. At White Hart	7.30pm	StM
6 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	St Peters Hospice Spring Coffee morning	10.00am	TMH
9 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Memory Cafe	10.15	TMH
	Women's Institute	7.30pm	PH
	Aust Parish Council, Annual Parish Meeting	7.30pm	EVH
11 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OST
	Beat Surgery	10.30-11.30	OST
	Olveston Toddlers	2.00-4.30	MH
13 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	AVH
	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Thornbury Food Fair, Castle St & Plain	10.00-2pm	
	Litter Pick	1pm	PH
14 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Spring Lunch A.M.R. at Old Sch. Hall Alm	1pm	
	Zumbathon for Hammer Out	10.30-1.30	AH
15 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Open meeting	6.30pm	AH
	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	StM
16 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
17 <sup>th</sup> Wed	R.B.L. Women Bingo	7.30pm	DGCL
	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	8.30pm	
18 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market	9.00-1.30	
	Coffee Shop	9.00-12.00	OST
	Olveston Toddlers	2.00-4.30	MH
19 <sup>th</sup> Fri	19 <sup>th</sup> -28 <sup>th</sup> Thornbury Arts Festival		
20 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Totally Locally on Tockington Green	9.30-12.00	

	Coffee Morning Fascinating Rhythm .	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	MH StM
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mon	Old Down Neighbourhood Watch A. G.M.	7.30pm	
23 <sup>rd</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Memory Café Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 10.15 7.30pm	WR TMH AP
24 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Severn Valley Quilters - Charity Quilts	7.30pm	CH
25 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS† MH
27 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School 'Let us Pray' conference	10.30-12.00 1.30-3.00 10.00-4.00	MH  StM
28 <sup>th</sup> Sun	R.B.L. ANZAC Service at Leighterton		
29 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Practice	1.30pm	AH
30 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
<b>Looking ahead to May</b>			
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Annual Parish Assembly	7.15pm	PH
4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup>	Twinning Visit from Brehan		

**KEY:** AC Aust Church; ACR – Almondsbury Church Rooms; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Olveston Methodist Church; AMH- Olveston Methodist Hall; AP – Alexandra Pavilion; AVH – Aust Village Hall; ; CH – Cossham Hall; Chy – Chantry ;CS Castle Sch. DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton Village Hall; LVH Littleton Village Hall MH – Olveston Methodist Hall; OMC Olv Meth Ch OS – Olveston School; OS† – Olveston Stores; OV – Olveston Vicarage; PH – Olveston Parish Hall; StM St Mary's Church, Olv.; StMA Almondsbury Church SMH St Mary,s Ch. Hall Thornbury; TCh Tockington Chapel TBCh - Thornbury Baptist Church; TMH – Thorn. Methodist Hall; URC - Thornbury United Reform Church; WR – Wesley Rooms.

**Contact details** for any clubs or organisations in the Meeting Point area can be found in the Meeting Point Directory on the community website: [www.olvestonandaust.com](http://www.olvestonandaust.com). If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: [meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com](mailto:meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com)

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