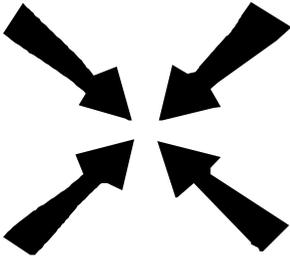




MEETING
POINT



AUGUST 2013



Meeting Point

Volume 37, Number 11, August 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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Publication date
1st of each month

Material for September 2013
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 5th August 2013.

From the Editor

Old Down Cricket Club has been celebrating its 170th birthday; Poppy Thompson from Ingst arrived in Berne; the Olveston flower festival was a huge success - and that's just to mention a few events reported in this edition of the magazine.

If you are feeling energetic this August you can go to a dog show, attend a grand tea party or take the children to various holiday events in Thornbury. Otherwise, stay at home and read about a present day smallholder from Mumbleys and a nineteenth century tailor from Tockington. And if you are expecting a baby between August and November turn to page 13 for an article which may interest you....

The cover: cricket at Old Down by John Crossley

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.olvostonandaust.com

Old Down Cricket Club - 170 not out!

Tony Gardner

Old Down Cricket Club is celebrating its 170th Birthday this year. Already the Club has staged a successful Fund Raising Auction with over £5000 raised. Club Member Jon Pullin was the auctioneer and was largely responsible for driving the bidding to ridiculous heights!!

On Sunday 14th July the Celebrations continued with a Club Under 35 v Over 35 Contest, an all day barbecue and a Balloon Race Launch, a fund raising idea co-ordinated by Simon Higgs.

The Club is in serious fund raising mood as it strives to attain 'Club Mark Status' and has other ambitious plans to expand the playing area, which will mean re-fencing the ground. It has also been one of the participating clubs in the 'Chance to Shine' project, with the Club linking up with local Primary Schools, assisting in keeping cricket alive in schools and teaching a generation of young people key life skills. John Peplow has been central to the success of this project, which culminated in a Kwik Cricket Tournament at the Park, with Olveston Primary School the winners. More information at <http://www.chancetoshine.org/>

The Club is also planning a Coach Trip to Lords on Thursday 15th August to watch Gloucestershire in floodlit action against Middlesex. The coach will leave Old Down at 1.00pm and return in the early hours of Friday 16th!! With the children on their summer holidays, it's an ideal opportunity to experience a match at the 'Home of Cricket'. Cost of return coach travel £15.

The Annual Dinner & Dance will once again be staged at Old Down Manor on Friday 12th October. Old Down CC is so lucky to have outstanding sponsors, namely: Fox Inn Old Down, Old Down Country Park, Linela Embroidery, Electrotech Electrical. Sincere thanks to all of the above and those who are kind enough to sponsor Match Balls.

2013 is proving to be a good one on the field as well. At the time of writing the 1st XI, under the stewardship of Mike Rowen and Dave Gardner, are standing 2nd in B&D Division One and the 2nd XI, captained by the evergreen Andy Kitchen, are thriving with a mixture of Colts and Veterans and stand mid-table in their league. The Colts Division also continues to flourish with coaches Angus MacDonald, Reg Purchase, Andy Rowen and Graham Witchard doing sterling work with the 1st XI players of the future!!

Continued overleaf

150 Club Winners July:

£50 Sylvia Gould

£15 Tom Pullin

Diane Grosvenor

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

29th June

Barbara Binns

6th July

Olivia Maunder

Places are available in both of the above competitions, so please contact me if you would like to join!! If you would like any further information on any of the above, please contact me.

August Fixtures at the Park: (2.00pm Start)

3rd August 1st XI v Bristol Sri Lankans

10th August 2nd XI v Hampset

17th August 1st XI v Cleeve

24th August 1st XI v Whitchurch

31st August 2nd XI v University Staff

Please come along & support, everybody welcome.

Up the Down!!

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

Aust Church Fête – new date

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 1st from 2 p.m.

It was necessary to postpone the fête planned for July 20th and we hope this did not inconvenience anybody. The new date is Sept 1st and the venue will be the garden at The Boar's Head. There will be lots of games for children and hourly story times for the little ones from 1 p.m. - come and meet local author, Susan Goodwin and hear the stories of "Teddy and Molly". Susan will be selling and signing copies of her book all afternoon.

From 2 pm there will be cakes, produce, books, toys and interesting "stuff" - AND handcrafted cards and gifts. Cream Teas will be available. Bar B Q and skittles from 4 and, hopefully, rounders from 6.00.

We might also have guest singers - see September issue for final information!!

Bristol to Berne by Bike

by Poppy Thompson from Ingst

Following a great send off from Penny Brohn Cancer Care on 4 July, which the rain failed to dampen, my Cousin Edward and I cycled off into the mist not expecting to see anyone for a while. 5 miles later we had the first puncture! Thankfully, as it happened, our only puncture.

We fixed that by the roadside and carried on, camping for the first night near Stonehenge. Another party with family and friends before setting off for Portsmouth the next morning and an overnight ferry.

Leaving Le Havre was a baptism of fire on the French roads, a test of schoolboy/girl French asking for directions but we quickly got the hang of the local maps and started covering the ground more quickly. Everyone talks about rolling French countryside and we discovered that this does include some seemingly endless hills.

After 3 days getting to the east of Paris the country gradually but noticeably became hillier in the south of the Champagne region and by Day 9 we had a really steep climb of 800 metres up to the Swiss border. We decided that the UK is really pretty flat...

Crossing into Switzerland was great, a feeling of achievement of crossing France in less than 7 days riding, with the end starting to be in sight.

A night next to Lac du Neuchatel was followed by another major climb into the Alps proper, skirting Berne itself, and spending a final night en route at Interlaken before the last push up to Grindelwald on Sunday 14th July after 10 days, with snow covered mountains and the Eiger as a backdrop. A big family party was ready to welcome us after a 3 hour climb.

Between us we have raised over £15,000 for Penny Brohn Cancer Centre which justifies all the painful moments. Thank you for all the support; the site for donations is still open, www.justgiving.com/Poppy-Thompson.

Jules Moore - smallholder

Jules Moore was born in Windsor and spent her childhood in Ascot and her holidays with her father in Malaysia and Singapore, where he moved when she was six, which was unusual in the 70's. After an "indifferent" education at a girls' public school, she graduated top of her year and went to Oxford Polytechnic to do a BA in Business Studies. Influenced by her time in Oxford UOTC, she took the unusual step of signing up for a Short Service Commission with the Army after she graduated.

During her training at the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, she met her husband, Simon, who was training for a commission in the Gloucestershire Regiment. After "passing out" as an officer in 1988, Jules had postings in Germany, Folkestone and Dover, first doing administration and events management with the Women's Royal Army Corps, attached to the Royal Signals and then retraining with the Royal Army Education Corps and teaching Junior Engineers and Junior Infantry until she left in 1991.

She carried on specialising in administration and events management, working for the Magistrates' Association, a City law firm, Cambridgeshire and District Law Society, the Children's Scrapstore in Bristol and a charity, Bees Abroad, before settling to the life of a smallholder.

Simon and Jules have two sons, Edward, who was born in 1994 and Harry, who was born in 1995. During this time Jules ran an interior design/soft furnishings business from home.

Always looking for a challenge, in 2001 the family relocated from Hertfordshire, (where they moved when they left the Army) to Mumbleys Farmhouse, in Sweetwater Lane near Olddown Country Park. They had always wanted to move to the country, Simon is a Devonian, and they fell in love with the house as it had enormous potential and two acres of land. They have since purchased nine more acres.

Jules started the "mostly organic" smallholding with a couple of hens and ducks. Sheep and honeybees rapidly followed and they now have geese, goats and beef cattle as well! As Jules explained, it was a steep learning curve, with little opportunity to learn except from your mistakes and reading books. In 2009, Jules had the idea of combining her Army teacher training with her experiences to start a range of smallholding courses for beginners (as advertised in Meeting Point).

Continued overleaf

She now runs a range of day courses in a purpose-built straw bale classroom. There are beginners' courses on keeping bees, sheep and hens and a very popular Smallholder Taster Day, which is Jules's favourite as it is a really hands on course meeting all their livestock. Jules also writes for "Country Smallholding" magazine on beekeeping and other subjects and is a keen gardener, growing a lot of fruit and vegetables and planting for wildlife as well as creating a lovely garden from what was a wilderness.

Jules explains that the problem with the bee population is critical and there are too many unexplained phenomena affecting bees' behaviour. The parasitic varroa mite has been around for years but is now endemic, making bees weaker and more susceptible to other factors. The cumulative effect of pesticides over generations of bees has been well documented, but although the two year ban on the use of pesticides in Europe may help, it may not be long enough to have any real effect. With wild bee colonies virtually nonexistent nowadays, bees only survive with help. The last two long cold springs have been disastrous and last year Jules had to feed the bees all year.

With Simon working full time, Jules manages this smallholding pretty much single-handed, but she is very energetic and busy and there will be many more interesting developments to come in the future.



Jules with Imogen

Fête, Flowers & Defibrillators

Roly Bain

It's been a busy couple of weeks at St Mary's but profitable ones too! The Summer Fête with Church & School Together was a triumph despite the windy conditions that forced most stalls indoors. There was a really good feel to the occasion as everyone mucked in and lots of people came. The final profit is just over £3,600, shared between St Mary's and the school, but it was as much a community success and celebration as a financial winner. Put June 29th in your diaries for next year! Thanks to everyone who helped, contributed and supported, and thanks to the unsung committee too – if you'd like to join the committee, tell Roly!

The Flower Festival was astonishing, with 43 arrangements dotted round the church telling the story of a year in the life of a parish church. The artistry and elegance and beauty of the flowers was amazing, as everyone commented, and an awful lot of work from all sorts of people made it the undoubted success it was. It made a profit of around £2100 which all goes to our Flight for Sight Appeal, which is now officially finished. We'll be presenting a cheque to MAF at the morning service on September 8th, but it's at the later time of 11am, so don't be fooled. Some pupils from the school will be presenting it, supported by the school choir, and we hope it's around £15,000 which will restore sight to 1250 people in far flung corners of Africa. We'll be serving wine and nibbles afterwards to celebrate going way beyond our original target. Do join us!

Finally, we're delighted that Filton & District Community Action Group has agreed to match the funding we raised at Jubilee to provide us with a second defibrillator to be sited in Tockington. More news to follow as to the details of how this is all going to happen, but huge thanks indeed to that charity for their support of this community and their wonderful generosity.

One Born Every Minute

Channel 4's BAFTA award-winning series is back!

One Born Every Minute captures and celebrates the amazing journey of what it really feels like to become a parent. Are you due to give birth between August and November 2013 at Southmead Hospital? If so, we would love to hear from you. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in taking part or would like to know more about the series, please get in touch with the production team ASAP:

Tel: 0117 203 3422 Email: oneborn@dragonfly.tv

Grand tea party for Lord Nelson & Tenacious

Saturday 17th August 2.30pm
at Peacehaven, Olveston (next to Methodist Hall)

My apologies for having to cancel this event in May due to illness. I do hope the new date, a Saturday, suits everyone.

My ever popular Mystic Anna will be there for palm reading. Also Island Treasure Hunt, spin-a-wheel, compass points and other stalls. We look forward to your company for a pleasant afternoon. Cream Tea £3 children £1
Peggy James & JST Bristol Branch

Advance Notice

Dragon Boat Racing in Bristol Sunday 22nd September

Would anyone like to row? It's great fun. Ring me on 613129. Peggy

OPTA Update

The Olveston Parish Twinning Association (OPTA) continues to work hard to maintain our 'twinning' with the village of Bréhan in Brittany. Back in May we welcomed a small, but appreciative, group of people from Bréhan to Olveston. Blessed with lovely weather we were able to entertain them with – among other things – visits to Slimbridge, Frampton-on-Severn and the Iron Acton May Day Fair. At the party on the final evening of their visit we held a boules challenge between the two villages and we are pleased to report that Olveston won!

Beer, Blues and Barbie

Sunday 1st September 5pm – 9pm Bowls Club, Alveston Rd, Old Down

The next OPTA event, to raise awareness of the twinning and funds, will be held at the Bowls Club at Old Down on Sunday 1st September from 5pm – 9pm in the Club House and in the paddock behind it (NOT on the carefully tended bowling green!). We will be organizing some games for all ages in the paddock, a raffle, a bar-b-que and music provided by local musicians plus there will be a licensed bar in the club house. As well as local musicians, we plan to source local produce for this event – with burgers, buns, salad and ice cream all using as few 'food miles' as possible.

Tickets* – which include a burger and ice cream. £5 per person

£15 for a family ticket (2 adults and 2 children – additional children £3)

*Available from Noel Clarke (Tel: 01454 614099), Olveston Stores and The Crusty Loaf.

Cook's Calendar:

August

Natasha Harrod



We are approaching the time of abundance, the garden is bearing the fruits of months of labour and we are thankful. However, I sometimes look a little less than thankfully at the sheer volume of courgettes that come my way; one night of rain and the courgettes double in size overnight. This is a recipe which should appeal to anyone who has ever felt oppressed growing courgettes! It's adapted from a 'Delia'.

It has the added bonus, for me at least, of being almost entirely from the garden. I have no aspirations to self sufficiency but I can kid myself when I make this for supper. It's perfect with last year's apple chutney and a salad made from tomatoes still warm from the sun. The only thing I lack is homemade feta, perhaps it's time to get a cow, or even a sheep for true authenticity...

Courgette, feta and mint cakes

Serves 2-3

350g courgettes (about three)

350g potatoes (about three)

Small bunch of mint, chopped

200g feta, crumbled

1 egg, beaten

1 tablespoon of flour

Olive oil

Coarsely grate the courgette and place in a sieve. Place several sheets of kitchen roll on top, then a plate and place something heavy on top. Leave for 30 minutes or so, changing the kitchen roll as it absorbs the liquid from the courgettes.

Meanwhile, halve the potatoes and boil for 5 minutes until partially cooked. Drain, and when cool enough to handle grate coarsely, discarding the skins.

Put the potato, feta, mint and courgettes in a bowl and mix around with the egg. Shape it into 12 flat cakes, you don't need to be too precise about this as any stray edges crisp up deliciously as they cook. Coat each cake in a little

flour on each side.

Now for the cooking; you can go one of two ways with this:

A) I normally cook them in the oven: take a large baking sheet and grease very well with olive oil. Cook at 220° C for 15 minutes then carefully turn them before cooking for another 10 minutes on the other side.

B) If you are feeling really decadent, you can shallow fry them in olive oil. This gives a crisper result, it all depends the level of peril your waistline is currently facing.

Either way, they are fabulous either as a main or a starter. If you were serving them as a starter this quantity would serve six. Diehard meat eaters could add a couple of strips of crispy streaky bacon on the side.



Olveston and District Branch - *Royal British Legion*

The next meeting, which will be our AGM, will be on Wednesday 11th September 2013 at 1930hrs in The White Hart, Olveston.

The Royal British Legion is open to all men and women who have served as full time and reservists in the Royal Navy, Royal Marines, Army and Royal Air Force plus the Merchant Navy and the Cadet Forces. It is also open to those families who have had, or currently have, members serving their Country in the uniformed services. Olveston Branch would welcome any members of our community who fit this category and cordially invite them to the meeting on September 11th next.

Come and enjoy a pint and a chat; we know there are many ex-service people and families in the Parish, so why not come and join us? There is much more to the Royal British Legion than Remembrance Sunday, although we do hold that particular day as something rather special.

Hope to see you there,

Martin J Scott JP
Lt Col (Retd)
Chairman.

Oveston Parish Council Matters

Richard Rogers (olvestonpc@gmail.com)

As the School year draws to a close, and the Parish starts to slumber in a blaze of summer sun (!?!), you may be aware of a few projects being undertaken. Earlier this year, South Glos Council notified the Parish that they would be completing the final stretch of the Old Down to Alveston foot path starting on the 1st August. Hopefully, by now they have notified all the local businesses affected, erected the appropriate warning signs, and clarified whether the road can be used in the evenings.

The Parish Council too has been preparing for the summer break. We have agreed terms with a new contractor to rebuild the steps to the **War Memorial**. The stone is on order with an anticipated completion by the end of August 2013. The first defibrillator (funded by the Jubilee Committee) should soon be sited at Green Lane Garage, and a local parishioner has funded a new bench at the bottom of Haw Lane, in memory of Anita Shurmer.

Parking is an ongoing issue throughout the Parish, and the Council has been looking into opportunities to improve the situation by selective trials using grassed areas. South Glos have given the Parish Council a year's licence to allow parking on the Aust Road grass verge, which could be used by parents to reduce the congestion around the School at the start and end of each day, before a serious accident occurs. The Parish Council is seeking financial support from South Glos and other interested parties to help fund the necessary work. As previously mentioned in Meeting Point, the Oveston School Travel Group (including the Police, the Parish Council and Oveston Primary School) have also been offered funding by South Glos Council to consult about proposals for speed and enforceable parking restrictions.

'Communications' has been a constant theme over the last year in this article, and Councillors were saddened and dismayed at a recent Parish Council Meeting when a visiting parishioner admitted to only occasionally 'flicking' through Meeting Point, never looking at the Parish website, facebook, notice boards or attending the Annual Parish Assembly, and instead relying on email to get information. To create a Parish email directory would be time consuming and potentially an invasion of privacy. We are concerned that sometimes, despite using the above forms of communication, we still have complaints that we are not communicating! – Should anyone have ideas on how we can improve, please let us know.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper austparishcouncil@googlemail.com

Council Tax Consultation

The rules relating to council tax benefit – that is, support towards paying their council tax for those on low incomes – have changed. The benefit used to be funded by the Government paying the benefit to district councils. That changed last year when the support was reduced by 10% and South Gloucestershire Council made up the shortfall out of its general fund. They don't think they will be able to do so next year and have launched a consultation as to how the reduction in benefit should be borne. It seems that they are proposing that the cost will effectively be borne by recipients of council tax benefit who are of working age (the Government will continue to fund the benefit for pensioners), rather than by the general body of council tax payers. You are invited to comment (as the Parish Council will do) at www.southglos.gov.uk/counciltaxchanges or ring 01454 868002 to ask for a copy. The consultation will close on 16th September.

Planning issues

The Parish Council has submitted an opposition to a change of use of Greenacres at Aust to use for horse culture. This is a contentious site and South Gloucestershire Council's decision is awaited. The Highways Agency imposed a three month deferment while they considered the highway implications.

The Council is pursuing its campaign to get South Gloucestershire Council to maintain a register of conditions attached to planning consents, such as agricultural ties, and to monitor compliance.

Two Events at the Chantry, Thornbury

Random Reptile Party at The Chantry, Thornbury Tuesday 6 August 10.00 – 12.00 noon. Come and meet the crazy creatures from Wild Kids Reptile Parties! Refreshments available. Take part in our Find a Focus garden challenge for a "reptilian" reward! Entry £3.50 per child

Arty Afternoon at The Chantry, Thornbury Sunday 1 September 12.30 – 4.30 pm. The lovely walled garden and rooms at The Chantry will be open for a relaxed afternoon of live music and an introduction to the works of Heath Robinson, renowned for his elaborate inventions. Free entry. For further details of both these events call 01454 414268 or email office@thechantry.org.uk



Love dogs?

Got dogs or even horses? Or fancy a family fun day out whilst helping to support the local stray dogs?

Please come and support Friends of South Glos Strays at our **Doggy Day and Fun Companion DOG SHOW** on **SUNDAY 18TH AUGUST**

'13 at AVON RIDING CENTRE, Kings Weston Rd, **HENBURY**,

Bristol **BS10 7QT** open 10am judging starts 11am. We have lots of stalls many animal themed, food, refreshments, mega raffle, dog displays and have a go too. Dog show, stalls and agility display are indoors.**Something to see and do whatever the weather!** Dog show prizes and rosettes to 5th place. Lots of classes to enter: £1 a go or £5/dog for as many as you want to. Get advice from local dog rescues and cat rescue! Please help us raise money to help our local dogs in need. 07768 285009 (Julia evenings) or email a.j.s.b.deane@btconnect.com Visit www.fosgs.comule.com Find us on facebook.

Help the horses

Christina Carter Jones

Horsology has been set up by me - an Olveston resident and our mission is to make life better for horses and their owners across the globe.

Our first project sees us teaming up with The Gambia Horse & Donkey Trust to collect unwanted snaffle bits. The Gambia is a small country on the west coast of Africa, where over half the population lives below the international poverty line of \$1.25 a day. However, if a family has a working horse or donkey it can earn up to 500% more. Unfortunately the traditional Gambian bits are made from wire and twisted rope, causing terrible injuries to the horses and hardship to their owners as they are unable to use them for transport and farming. The solution is simple - we're asking horse owners to donate any unwanted snaffle bits that they may have. Older style nickel bits are also suitable,

Local businesses acting as collection points include Patrick Pinker Country Store in Latteridge near Iron Acton and Burrows Court Farm in North Nibley. The campaign runs until October, when all the bits collected will be transported to The Gambia, where they will make a real difference. Further info about the campaign can be found on our website at www.horsology.co.uk

A Tockington Tailor's Tale part 1

Nick Fear

Military records tell us that on the 15th of April 1835 Thomas Savery joined the 28th (North Gloucestershire) Regiment of Foot. He attested that he was over the age of 18, from Tockington and a tailor by occupation. His signature provides some evidence of a good local schooling, it is clear and solid. Recruited into the red-coated ranks Thomas underwent basic training including the skill of using the legendary infantry weapon of the day, a flintlock musket known affectionately as Brown Bess. He had joined a regiment with a history which had seen it awarded many battle honours. In 1801 at Alexandria during the Egyptian Campaign, the battalion, being hard pushed by the French, had stood firing back to back and won the day. In recognition of this action the regiment had been given the honour of wearing two regimental badges on their headgear, one to the front as was usual, the other to the rear. The Back-Badge is still associated with the Gloucestershire Regiment to this day. Thomas, no doubt, wore his with pride.

Growing up within sight of the River Severn, Thomas must have viewed vessels plying their trade between its shores. Following basic army training however, Private 1099 soon found himself sailing on the high seas in a vessel which often lost sight of land. He was off on a military adventure which was to take him to a very distant land, Australia. James Cook's H M S Endeavour voyage in 1770 had mapped eastern coastal lands which he named New South Wales, claiming it for King George III. In the mid 1780s the British Government decided on a novel way to aid prison overcrowding by transporting convicts to Australia. In May 1787 the first fleet of eleven ships sailed from Portsmouth, led by Captain Arthur Phillip. Making landfall in January 1788 near Botany Bay, led to the establishment of a settlement nearby, called Sydney after the then Home Secretary, Lord Sydney

Early life was harsh for all who stepped on Australian shores. Extremes of weather, disease, strange insects and some unfriendly natives caused many deaths. The territory was full of animals however, and the sea full of life, both of which provided good food. Settlers, business people, adventurers, military men and above all convicts arrived in boat loads. These last were often manacled together and used to build settlement buildings and roads as well as prisons for themselves. Thomas Savery sailed to a developing Australia in 1835, probably on a convict transport providing security and ultimately to take up his military posting. The exact route his ship took is unknown, but he most probably stopped off for supplies in Africa and Gibraltar, before rounding Cape Horn into the Pacific Ocean for the final stage of the journey. After many months on board Thomas made landfall in New South Wales, the sights he experienced along the way can only be imagined.

Life ashore had many delights and distractions for a soldier, but basic living conditions and army discipline marked many men for life. Thomas found himself posted to a penal colony known as Hassans Walls Stockade. This was sited to the side of the Great Western Highway, 93 miles west of Sydney, south of a small settlement called Lithgow. Today the town of Lithgow is in the Blue Mountains National Heritage Area, but for Thomas it was a desolate place which most travellers simply passed by. The convicts he guarded worked tirelessly on road construction and were housed in crude huts. Unusually there were no wooden staked stockade fences around these as in other encampments in the area. There were barracks for Thomas and his comrades next to stores buildings, and a fine house for the Commandant and his family. Life had a regular monotony for all at Hassans Walls with most men there, be they convicts or soldiers, wishing they were elsewhere. Serving time for His Majesty was not easy and, for Thomas, Tockington must have seemed, as it was, a long way off.

However, Thomas's life was about to be changed dramatically, by life threatening injuries...

Part 2 next month

"Hello Dolly!"

The Parish Players are looking forward to presenting Jerry Herman's 'Hello, Dolly!' as their next production to run from February 18th- 22nd 2014 in the Olveston Parish Hall. Based on Thornton Wilder's comedy 'The Matchmaker', and set in New York in the early nineteen hundreds, the story revolves round the indefatigable Dolly Levi and her efforts to marry Horace Vandergelder, the well known millionaire, 'so that she can send his money circulating like rainwater, the way her late husband Ephraim Levi taught her.'

The show stopping numbers include 'Put on your Sunday clothes', 'It takes a woman', 'Before the parade passes by', 'Elegance', the notorious 'Waiters' gallop and one of the most famous songs in the history of American musicals 'Hello, Dolly!'

Rehearsals commence on September 12th at 7.30 in the Olveston Parish Hall and are held on subsequent Mondays and Thursdays. Auditions will be held on September 26th.

New members of all ages will be very welcome for this sparkling show, so do join the company whether as an actor/singer/dancer or backstage helper.

Please ring the secretary Felicity Hemmett on 01454 415979 for more details or just come along on September 12th and fend off those winter blues.

Movies at St Mary's: August Trevor Anderson



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

MONDAY MOVIES: Mon 5th Aug at 7.30pm

Classic retro, feel-good movie with Robert Redford and Paul Newman as con artists out to fleece Mob boss Robert Shaw. Scott Joplin entertains. *Cert PG*

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA: Mon 19th Aug at 7.30pm

Stanley Kubrick's classic black comedy about a group of war-eager military men who plan a nuclear apocalypse is both funny and frightening. *Cert PG*

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB at 10.00am every Monday in the hols

Mon 5th Aug: State-of-the-art restoration of a Disney cartoon classic *Cert U*

Mon 12th Aug: Wonderful movie of a lonely girl's triumph *Cert U*

Mon 19th Aug: One of the most famous and beloved films of all time *Cert U*

Refreshments available at all the shows. Admission is free although a **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.

Friends of St Mary's

Following an increase in membership there are now two additional prizes each month! The prize winners in the July draw, held on 4th July 2013 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	364	Mr R. Newley, Olveston
£75	269	Mr J Mason, Tockington
£25	532	Mr M Stevenson, Awkley
£25	304	Mr J Mason, Tockington
£25	453	Mr G Clark, Olveston
£20	543	Mrs T Fear, Tockington
£20	160	Mr J H Chick, Olveston
£10	445	Mrs J Skinner, Olveston
£10	282	Mr R A Hicks, Cornwall
£10	256	Mrs C Healey, Olveston
£10	356	Mr D J Smart, Thornbury

Thornbury Library: August

SPECIAL LIBRARY EVENTS

Summer Reading Challenge 2013

There's a spine-tingling adventure waiting for children in South Gloucestershire Libraries this summer! The theme for the Summer Reading Challenge this year is CREEPY HOUSE. The challenge is underway in all South Gloucestershire Libraries and runs until September 14. It's free to join in the fun. Children are challenged to read just 6 books to collect their very own medal and certificate and be entered into our grand LibrariesWest prize draw for a chance to win a Kobo. Libraries are also holding free activities throughout the holiday to help children complete the challenge. Visit your local library or log on to www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries to find out more. For more Creepy House fun visit www.creepy-house.org.uk

Summer Holiday Activities at Thornbury Library

Creepy House Crafts Make spooky spiders and silhouettes. Wednesday 7 August, drop in between 1030-midday. FREE of charge. Suitable for ages 4-11yrs.

Creepy Creations Workshop Use weird and exciting material to make your own creepy creations with artist and designer, Peter Margerum. Wednesday 14th August, drop in between 10am-midday. FREE of charge. For school aged children ONLY – all children MUST be accompanied by an adult.

Hide & Spook! Creepy crafts to surprise your friends – make monster masks and batty bats! Wednesday 21st August, drop-in between 1030-midday. FREE of charge. Suitable for ages 4-11yrs.

The Wimpy Kid workshop, provided by Explore Learning. Tuesday 20th August 11am-midday at Thornbury Library. Here's your chance to describe and draw your own diary entry inspired by Jeff Kinney's popular "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" series. Spaces strictly limited – book your place either at Thornbury Library or by calling Explore Learning tel. 01454 626764. For ages 7-11yrs only. FREE of charge.

A note about library coffee mornings

Due to children's summer activities and events we will not be serving coffee on Wednesday mornings during August.

Friends of Daldry Gardens

Friends of Daldry Gardens are having a coach trip to Weston Super Mare on 15th August. We will leave Daldry Gardens at 11.00am and return about 4.00pm. There are a few seats available at £8: you are most welcome to join us. Please contact John Ellis on 626280.

Tockington Harvest Fayre *Garry Phillips*

The Fayre will be held, as usual, on the Green on September 14th starting at 2pm. Following the tradition of previous years we will be having lots of stalls and amusements and of course delicious cream teas. During the afternoon there will be displays in the Chapel and dancing on the Green, including the Brownies and the Rainbows. We will also be having competitions for children and a fancy dress parade with a theme celebrating the Coronation.

We would be very grateful for any contributions for our stalls in terms of bric-a-brac, vegetables, cakes, books, etc. If you have any, then please bring them along to the Chapel before 12noon on the 14th, or contact, Garry Phillips email – garryphillips194@btinternet.com tel 613241, Maggie Spooner email - pandmspooner@tiscali.co.uk tel 610053, Jane Sawyer email - jane@prologue.co.uk. As always we are very grateful for any additional help on the stalls and in the preparations and clearing up - if anyone can help then please contact above.

This is our major fund raising event and we rely on it to support the upkeep of our Methodist premises at Tockington and Olveston that are used extensively by many other local community organizations. We hope as many of you as possible will be there and we'll do our best to make the sun shine so that you can enjoy an afternoon at Tockington's Harvest Fayre on the village Green.

Alveston Flower & Craft Show

Saturday 7th September Jubilee Hall & Youth Centre 2.0 pm
Cream Teas available 2.30 - 4.15pm.

CELEBRATING OUR 125TH YEAR

Once again we are teaming up with the Community Forum for this very special event. So as well as the Flower Show there will be lots of things happening on the Jubilee Fields. The Flower Show will of course have the usual classes to suit everybody - Cookery, Veg & Flowers, Floral Art, Photography. Even the children are well catered for with classes to fire their imagination. So why not come along and join us for the afternoon, or better still enter one of the classes on offer this year? You don't have to live in Alveston to take part – it's open to everybody. If you have visited us previously I am sure you had an enjoyable afternoon. The schedules should be in the shops and library soon. Any queries ring me on 01454 418694

We hope to see you there.

Marjorie Roper-Marshall

Alpha

"What Alpha offers, and what is attracting thousands of people, is permission, rare in secular culture, to discuss the big questions – life and death and their meaning."
The Guardian

Over 18 million people across the world have attended an Alpha course, and now Alpha is coming back to Olveston for a second year, by popular demand! Alpha is a chance to meet with other non church-goers and learn more about the Christian faith. Our aim is to offer you a non-threatening, and 'no-pressure' environment, to ask the questions you have always wanted to ask. No question is too controversial!

Was Jesus just a 'good man' or was he really the son of God? How can a 'loving God' allow such suffering in the world? How can the Bible story be reconciled with the modern understanding of science? Is there more to life than our seventy-odd years on this planet?

There is however such a thing as a free supper! Why not come along to an Alpha taster course on Wednesday 18th September at 7.30pm at Churchill House, Vicarage Lane, Olveston. Natasha and Paul Harrod will be your hosts, and the evening will start with a meal before you get a chance to watch a DVD talk from Nicky Gumbel, the founder of the Alpha International.

The course will continue each Wednesday evening (with a break for half-term) for about ten weeks. We would love it if you could attend each session - and dinner is provided each and every week! However, there is no need to commit to that just yet. Please just come along to the first evening session on the 18th September and see what Alpha - and the amazing message of Jesus - is all about!

If you would like to find out more about Alpha then please talk to Natasha or Paul Harrod. You can ring them on 613642 or email paul.harrod@gmail.com Alternatively come and see me, or call me on 616593.

Rev. Roly Bain Associate Vicar, St Mary's, Olveston

Ride and Stride: diary date

Saturday 14th September

Ride and Stride – either walk or bicycle between the churches in Severnside on Saturday 14th September 2013 – sponsorship for your local church and the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust. More details in the September issue.

Mike Huish

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for the cards, good wishes and prayers following Mike's sudden death. It really helped me to get through a very sad time.
Val Huish

From the Registers of Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church

Olveston Church.

1st July 2013. Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Edna Norah Frost,
followed by Cremation at Westerleigh Crematorium.

From the registers of St John's Elberton

2nd July 2013 Funeral Service & Burial of Ashes of Godfrey Attwood

From the registers of St Mary's Olveston

20th June 2013 Funeral at Canford Crematorium of Michael James Huish

28th June 2013 Wedding at St Mary's Church of
Gary Lewis and Nicola Poulton

Litter Pick

The next Litter Pick is on Saturday 3 August. Please meet at 1pm at the
Parish Hall car park. Rod Williams, 612850.

Yours faithfully

Rev. Dave Pole

Queen Elizabeth (the First, that is,) was reputed to have described St Mary Redcliffe church as the “fairest and most godliest” parish church in the land and you’d have to say that, so far as piles of stones go, it’s a very pretty one. As to the “most godliest” bit, I hardly think I’m competent to judge. There’s nothing more effective than a place of pilgrimage to bring out the curmudgeon in me. That probably sounds strange, since I spend a certain amount of time walking and planning pilgrimages every year but it’s nonetheless true. This sombre line of thought came to me when I was discussing our summer adventure with one of the Littleton members. We’re planning to cross the Pyrenees from Spain and drive to South East France and naturally he asked if we’d be visiting Lourdes. I very much hope that the feeling of dismay I felt at the idea didn’t reach my face. Not Lourdes then!

No, not Lourdes. And not because I don’t believe that God is present there but because I wonder if we haven’t almost driven God out of the place with the industrial apparatus of feeding, housing and entertaining the pilgrims. A kind of spiritual Las Vegas where every human fantasy about God finds concrete form in plaster and neon.

But then I have to remind myself of an afternoon spent in Chartres Cathedral some years ago. We were travelling with another family and we shipped up just before lunchtime and fought our way through the crowds to get into the cathedral. On first impression I hated it. I hated the queues of people carrying their plaster models of the Virgin to be blessed. I hated the noise and the smell of food drifting in through the doors, the lines of penitents and the sense that somehow we were all missing the point. But something happened there that I’ve never understood. I was slowly and gently overwhelmed by the intuition that I was touching the hem of the cloak of a reality so far beyond understanding that my rational mind shut down. I took my shoes off and walked barefoot around the Cathedral and in my memory it felt as if I was there alone. After an hour perhaps I put my shoes back on and rejoined our friends just as they were finishing lunch. Someone said, “You were a long time”.

We pilgrims can get so absorbed in hunting for God that God has to come and rescue us. Often when we least expect it, and in spite of our best efforts to bury him under a pile of pretty stones!

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Aug 4	8am	Holy Communion	Rev P.Rowe & Mr T Cook
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev P Rowe & Rev A Lloyd
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Rev Roly Bain
Aug 11	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly. Bain
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Rev Roly Bain
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Aug 18	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev R Bain & Rev P Rowe
	6pm	Evensong	Mr Denis Jones
Aug 25	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Fourth Sunday	Rev Roly Bain
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) Choir	Rev P Rowe & Mrs Janet McBride

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: 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

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Aug 11	10am	Holy Communion.	Rev David Bone
Aug 25	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

Aug 4	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
Aug 18	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Aug 11	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole
Aug 25	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Aug 4	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mr Colston Smith Evening Worship led by Rev David Hardy
Aug 11	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev David Hardy
Aug 18	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Miss Rosemary Clews
Aug 25	10am	Olv Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Lesley Parker

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 14th Aug. To book your lunch please ring 01454 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP No meeting in August

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

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

CREAM TEAS Will be served on Bank Holiday Mon. Aug 26th from 2.30-5.00pm in Tockington Chapel and on the Green

**CONTACT: Rev David Hardy 0117 9693135,
e-mail dandlhardy@btinternet.com**

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer & 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

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Aug 4	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
Aug 11	6.30pm	Royston Pick
Aug 18	6.30pm	Tony Ward
Aug 25	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies

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**

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Family Worship 11.00am

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

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

Resound (BCF) - Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block)

Contact 0117 3050969 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

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 Bristol area: www.bristolquakers.org.uk

Diary Dates for August 2013

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

1 st Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Beat Surgery Open Mic. At White Hart	9.00-1.30 10.00-12.00 10.30-11.30 8.30pm	OS+ OS+
2 nd Fri	Every Wed & Fri Vic Hallett Library open		
3 rd Sat	Coffee Morning Litter Pick Th. Horticultural Show	10.30pm 1.00pm 2.00pm	MH PH AH
5 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Monday Movie	10.00am 7.30pm	StM StM
6 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	WR DGCL
7 th Wed	R.B.L. Women Ploughman's Lunch	12.30	
8 th Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OS+
9 th Fri			
10 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning A Midsummer Nights Dream at Winterbourne Medieval Barn	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 2.30pm	AVH MH
12 th Mon	Children's Movie Club	10.00am	StM
13 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 10.15	WR DGCL TMH
15 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Friends of Daldry Gardens Outing to WsM Coffee Shop Old Down Cricket Club coach trip to Lords	9.00-1.30 11.00-4.00 10.00-12.00 Dep. 1.pm	OS+
16 th Fri			
17 th Sat	Coffee Morning J.S.T. Grand Tea Party at Peacehaven	10.30-12.00 2.30pm	MH
18 th Sun	Friends of S Glos Strays Dog Show	10.00	
19 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Monday Movie Extra	10.00 7.30pm	StM StM
20 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	WR DGCL
21 st Wed	Severn Vale Flower Cl. Members Day Lunch Th. Museum evening walk Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	12.00 8.30pm	AH

22 nd Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OS+
23 rd Fri			
24 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
25 th Sun			
26 th Mon	Cream Tea on Tockington Green	2.30-5.00pm	
27 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
	Memory Café	10.15	TMH
28 th Wed			
29 th Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OS+
	Beat Surgery	10.30-11.30	OS+
30 th Fri			
31 st Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
	Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School	1.30-3pm	

Looking ahead to September

1 st Sun	Aust Fete (new date)	2pm	
	OPTA Beer Blues & Barbie at Bowls Club	5-9pm	
7 th Sat	Alveston Flower Show @ Jubilee Hall	2pm	
11 th Wed	R.B.L. A.G.M. in the White Hart	7.30pm	
14 th Sat	Harvest Fayre on Tockington Green	2.00pm	

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston 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.olvostonandaust.com. If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: meetingpointsecretary@olvostonandaust.com

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