

Meeting Point

Volume 36, Number 3, December 2011

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

Thank you, Sharon, for an editorship successfully completed, and for 'teaching me the ropes'. You can now go and enjoy your Christmas preparations with a light heart!

This Christmas *Meeting Point* is packed with things to do and see and experience. You can listen to music in all our churches, sing carols, drink mulled wine, go to the theatre, chase a whale ... even go mumping. There are also a couple of suggestions for presents which you can buy locally.

Have a happy and peaceful time!

Our cover this month is by Ernie Baker

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

Andy Warn and Windy Strings

Pat Thirkettle

Andy Warn was born in Fishponds and his passion for music began with his playing in a rock band with friends at the age of fourteen. After school though, his dad insisted he got a 'proper' job so he completed an engineering apprenticeship at British Aerospace. After seven years he gave up his well paid job to follow his dream when a friend asked him to join a band to tour the Army and American Air Force bases in Germany for two months. They were paid £100 a week with only two nights off a month and with travel, accommodation and beer expenses Andy returned home with £100 less than when he'd left!

After the band split Andy decided to study the classical guitar to diploma standard and support himself by teaching. In 1984 Maxine came for lessons and Andy was torn between asking her out, and losing £5 a lesson! The former won and they were married in 1986. Together, they enrolled at Newton Park College (now Bath Spa University) for a BA (Hons) music degree. Three years later Maxine completed her PGCE and Andy an M.Mus at Reading University.

When Andy's father's old engineering workshop became available they decided to convert it into a music school, running music lessons and workshops for children and called it 'The Crotchet Factory'. Though the combination of this business and the birth of their children Hannah and Jacob didn't allow Andy to complete his PhD at Bristol University, other projects were imminent. In 1997 Andy saw Glendor at Awkley for sale. Sold to the Ministry of Transport when the M49 was built, the house was derelict. He persuaded Maxine they must bid for it at auction; she agreed thinking they wouldn't get it!

When they did, they sold their house in Eastville, (also by the motorway), rebuilt the house in six months and Andy celebrated his 40th birthday with a party in the large garden.

Several years on, Hannah is at Winchester University studying Contemporary Performance, and Jacob in the lower sixth at QEH, both having started out at Tockington Manor. In addition to teaching and performing, Andy travels the country giving school concerts with a wide variety of instruments including Gamelan, Chinese, African, Indian and Samba. Jacob's mutual love of music, particular recorder playing, prompted the father and son duo 'Windy Strings' to form some three years ago. Jacob, who also plays guitar and violin, enjoys promoting the recorder in schools and in concert to help change its image.

It's not all music; as a family they run half marathons and do triathlons. They are partially self sufficient in vegetables, keep chickens and a pair of peacocks and Andy can play the bagpipes as they have no near neighbours!

Touching Bass

St Mary's, Olveston, are delighted to announce the return of the wonderful father and son duo, Windy Strings, for a concert called Touching Bass, on Dec 3rd at 7.30pm.

Andy and Jacob Warn are local - they come all the way from Awkley Lane, Tockington! - and they've come an awfully long way since their debut concert here in June 2009. Dad Andy is on guitar, son Jacob on recorder, but it's not like primary school recorders! These guys are amazing!

You can visit their website on www.windystings.co.uk. Tickets are only £8 with concessions at £6, and you can get them from June Robbins or from the Stores, or from Andy himself - 07916 253267. There will be a licensed bar beforehand and during the interval.

The History of Olveston Schools from 1836 to 1968

Judging by the high buzz of conversation in the coffee break and the frequent cries of 'Look! There's!', as local residents pointed at faces or names they recognised in photographs on display at Eric Garrett's recent talk on schooling in Olveston Parish, his latest book is going to be very popular.

Sales were brisk. People from Olveston, Elberton, Aust, Alveston, Thornbury, Pilning and beyond queued to buy copies of a book that contained photographs of their parents, their uncles, their brothers, their teachers, their children's teachers, their friends... Familiar local surnames abound in the photograph captions and sometimes in the text of this book.

Just as fascinating as the photos from the 1940s and 1950s are those from earlier decades, right back to 1871.

Using original school log books and the minutes of the management committee of local people who ran the school before it came under the umbrella of the education authorities, Eric tells a fascinating story of how our local community provided for 'the children of the labouring classes' in the Victorian period.

The book would make a wonderful Christmas present for anyone with any connection with Olveston School or anyone wanting to know how education developed in a rural community in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Copies can be obtained from Les Harper (612304) or from Eric Garrett (613019) for £8.

Another ideal Christmas present!



Lovely calendars with superb local photographs, for sale at Olveston Stores and St Mary's Church, price £6, envelopes available. In aid of Church Funds.

Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church

Re-opening of Olveston Chapel

In last month's Meeting Point Sandy Williams set out our hopes and aspirations for the renovated Olveston Chapel. We re-open on Sunday 11 December with events through the following week. For full details please look out for the leaflets. The headlines are:

Sunday 11 December: 6 pm: Carol Service, with representatives of St Mary's and the community taking part.

Monday 12 December: 11 am: Eric Garrett opens an exhibition on the history of Olveston Chapel.

Wednesday 14 December: 9 am: we welcome St Mary's who will be holding their mid-week communion service in the Chapel.

Wednesday 14 December: 7.30 pm: MAK the Sheep Stealer – not to be missed. An hour of one-man theatre re-telling the nativity story with a new twist, through mime, rhyme and music; followed by light refreshments and soft drinks in the Methodist Hall. Tickets: £4, concessions £2.50. Available from The Crusty Loaf, Olveston. Or ring 610053, 416528, or 614601 or contact church members.

Thursday 16 December: 3 pm: Café Xmas; enjoy Christmas songs and carols, tea and cake.

Friday 16 December: 10.30 – 12 noon: Sue Mealing will advise on simple, effective and inexpensive Christmas decorations.

Saturday 17 December: 10.30 – 12 noon: Usual coffee morning.

We look forward to seeing you and wish you all a very Happy Christmas.

Frances Coleman

Thank you for everyone's thoughts and kind wishes following the death of Dawn Collins' mum. In her memory £500 has been collected for the local Methodist churches.

Music in the Church at Aust

The date for the Christmas concert is Saturday 10 December at 8pm. There are four performers – Steve Tyler, Katy Marchant, Tom Garside and Jocelyn West, known as the Daughters of Elvin. Their programme covers a lively mix of music – dance, quiet, and seasonal from medieval to contemporary. All in all, an excellent lead in to Christmas.

Tickets: £10 from Clive and Susie Roberts, tel. 01454 632238, Olveston Village Stores and the Boar's Head at Aust.

Aust Church Christmas Draw

As most of you will know, Aust Church has been targeted by lead thieves three times in the last year. We are in desperate need of funds to replace the roof, so we are holding a special Christmas Draw with some fantastic prizes kindly donated by local people to include a champagne supper donated by Jayne and Paul at the Boars Head, a £50.00 Garden Voucher from Park Garden Nurseries, £100 cash prize and hampers full of Christmas Goodies.

The draw will take place on the Village Dining Night being held in the Boars Head on Friday 16th December at 9pm approx.

Special thanks must go to Jennifer and David Bone for their continued help and support and to Bryan and John Gee for trying so hard to keep the rain out!

We would really appreciate your support by buying some raffle tickets or coming along on the night.

Many thanks
Paula Watkins

Isabel Fothergill

Tom and family wish to thank everyone who attended the Service of Thanksgivings for the life of Isabel at Aust Church and especially the parson, the Reverend David Bone and flower arrangers. Thank you all for your cards and letters of sympathy. Donations amounting to £210.56 have been given to the noted charity Macmillan Cancer Support.

Our Parish Matters

Richard Rogers
(olvestonpc@googlemail.com)

Jubilees are not just a cause for celebration but have often been used to focus public subscriptions towards community projects. One can think of buildings founded in Queen Victoria's reign, the provision of sports fields celebrating George V's Silver Jubilee, and even the extensions and renovations funded during Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee in 1977. With the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee celebrations in mind, what sort of legacy should we leave for future generations that perhaps reflect our current lifestyles? The Parish Council would welcome written views and ideas.

One idea already being considered is the formulation of a 'Parish Plan', which ultimately will encapsulate what parishioners want from their parish. Several other local parishes have already embarked on this process in anticipation of the Government's Localism Agenda, and Olveston hope to do the same. The community needs to identify a shared coherent view across a number of themes that can be then used by the Parish Council and other bodies when planning and determining future priorities. The intention is to identify interested parishioners with a view to instigating this work early in the New Year.

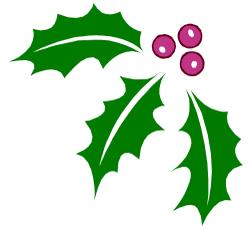
Another potential legacy is the Ingst Wind Farm. There has already been quite a lot of coverage in both the October and November editions of Meeting Point on this emotive subject. Now Olveston Parish Council would especially welcome written views from residents in other parts of the parish whether they are for, against, or undecided/ unbothered, as well as opinions, comments etc.

As previously reported, the War Memorial steps particularly suffered from excessive weathering last winter and care should now be taken around them until the spring when effective repairs can be completed. The Parish Council has approached a number of organizations about repairs and currently awaiting tenders. One suggestion is actually to replace the three remaining steps with four slightly narrower pennant stone steps (30cm wide) so that the bottom step can be closer to the pavement whilst staying within the natural curve of the existing walls. The new steps would be in keeping with the surrounding area, but the overall cost is in the region of £5,000. The Parish Council is pursuing a possible grant that will meet some of the costs, and would welcome any comments on this proposal as well as any donations.

Representatives from South Glos Council visited the October Parish Council meeting with proposals to switch off street lights along the A38 between 00:00 – 05:00 from next spring (although the Fernhill junction shouldn't be affected).

Apparently the financial savings are significant and will repay the cost of modifying each lamp within eight months. To achieve further savings, some urban parishes are also volunteering to have extra street lights included in this scheme, and it may even be possible to arrange for individual lamps to be fitted with appropriate timers. The latter action would only take place with resident approval and after suitable consultations including the police.

The Five Loaves and Two Fishes Project



Food Collections in Olveston

When one thinks of poverty and suffering one calls to mind people living overseas. Much is done by charitable organisations to alleviate suffering, but did you know that in the UK 3.9 million children live in poverty, roughly one-third of the food we buy is thrown away uneaten and within Bristol, especially around St Paul's, many people are homeless, destitute and lacking in basic food provisions?

With this in mind a group called the "Community of the Sisters of the Church", located in Ashley Road, run the "Five Loaves and Two Fishes Project" where on a Sunday afternoon the Sisters give out food parcels to nearly 200 individuals, and they need some 1,500 items every week. It is quite a sight!

Residents in Almondsbury have supported this venture for some time and collections of non-perishable food comprise tins such as rice pudding, fruit, canned fish, baked beans, custard etc and packets of tea bags, cereals, biscuits, pasta etc.

It is hoped to widen the food collection in Severnside and the people who operate Olveston Stores have very kindly agreed to have a collection box located in the shop. So hopefully readers of Meeting Point will place non-perishable items in the box to support this very worthwhile venture. Grateful thanks.

Tony Kite

Home at last

We would like to thank everyone for all the cards, flowers, offers of help and best wishes received while Hesta was in hospital. She is now at home and very slowly recovering, and is pleased to see people for a chat.

Thank you all very much for your kindness. It was really appreciated at such a traumatic time.

Harold and Hesta Knapp

Marlwood School PTA

"Burns Night Alert"

Come and join us for a traditional Burns Night at Marlwood School on Saturday 28th January 2012 from 7.30pm – 12.00 midnight. This is a fabulous evening. Tickets are very reasonably priced and include a two course meal (Haggis and non-Haggis options!) and a disco (bar available for over 18's only).

Glass-making from Egypt to Bristol

Wednesday, 7 December 2011, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Hall

Come and hear about the history of glass-making and glass-blowing around the world and find out how Bristol fits into the story.

Dr. Francis Burroughes of Bristol Blue Glass SW, a glass historian, is well placed to tell us about the Phoenicians, the Egyptians, the Romans ... and Bristolians! Expect an entertaining talk, with samples of historical glassware by way of illustration.

Olveston Parish Historical Society annual membership costs £5, for this and four more talks. Or just come along as a visitor and pay £2 on the door. All welcome!

Christmas Carols at Littleton

Littleton Carol Service will be held on Sunday 11th December at St Mary de Malmsbury, Littleton on Severn at 3.00 pm. The service will be led by The Rev. Dave Pole and musicians, and will be followed by mince pies and mulled wine at the White Hart, Littleton.

The collection will be for the Mercy Ships Appeal. This Appeal supports hospital ships, moored in West African ports, which provide major surgery for severe disfiguring diseases that would otherwise go untreated.

Jazz at the White Hart Olveston

Wednesday 21st December. The third Wednesday of every month sees Jazz by the very popular Panama Jazz Band at the White Hart, Olveston. There is no charge but a collection is made during the evening. So come along for a lively evening of New Orleans jazz from 8.30 until 11 p.m. We are so lucky to have live jazz in the village, but it can only continue with your support.



St. Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group

The Annual Bazaar for St Peter's Hospice will take place in the Armstrong Hall on Saturday 3rd December between 10.00 am and 12 noon. Variety of Stalls including Cards and Diaries, Gifts, Crafts, Home made preserves, Cakes and Puddings, plus many more. Raffle and Teas.
Entry by Donation.

Thank you for supporting St Peter's – your local Hospice.



Totally-Locally

at the heart of the community

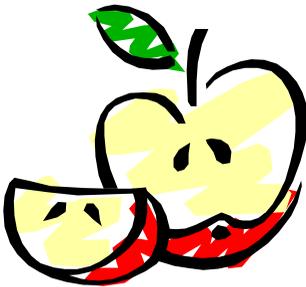
www.totally-locally.org

Once again the weather held for us to remain outside for the TL market last month. It really is a lovely meeting point of unspoilt simplicity and warmth.

We do have a habit of undervaluing what is beneath our noses, with everything that is going on around us I think there is fast becoming a shift in attitude towards the familiar – and what a lovely community we have!

It was great that TL could support the entrepreneurial skills of George Dicks with his hand-made trugs and scented fire lighters and also Ted Addis from Olveston with his wonderful carved wooden toys, (see you on the 3rd boys!)

Thanks so much to Jennifer Bone for the apple identification paper that we will get framed and then anybody will be able to see it on each market day to help work out what apples you may have in your gardens...



The next market will be held on December 3rd – 9.30 till 12.00

Please ring me if you have any more ideas to help grow the creativity of this vibrant community project with any suggestions that could help share our resources to make things happen collectively that may not be achieved alone. This could be anything practical or even inspirational to see how collaboration can work.

Jane Sunnucks Old Down Tel: 01454 419931

Movies at St Mary's: Dec

Trevor Anderson

Three films this month in St Mary's Olveston.



MONDAY MOVIES: Mon 5th Dec, 7.30pm

Director Frank Capra has created this poignant and moving film that is rightly considered to be the quintessential Christmas classic. Stars James Stewart. *Cert U*.

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA: Mon 19th Dec, 7.30pm

An innocent and naive girl in Paris, with her own sense of justice, decides to help those around her and along the way discovers love. The very dictionary definition of 'feel-good' *Cert 15*.

For both the above, doors open at 7.00. Licensed bar and soft drinks. Free admission.

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB: Mon 19th Dec, 10.00am

Get up, get on, and get ready for the ride of your life! It's Christmas Eve and you are on the North Pole Express! *Cert U*. Doors open 9.30. Popcorn and soft drinks. Free admission.

For film titles, see posters and leaflets in church or join the mailing list (contact trevoranderson@btinternet.com or 613279).

Any films you would like us to show? Send us your requests.

Old Down Trunk Sale

Nigel Simpson would like to thank everyone who came to the Trunk Sale at Old Down on 5th November. A sum of £57 was raised in aid of the Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

See the whale!

Thornbury & District Museum, now 25 years old, is celebrating with a special Silver Jubilee Exhibition, showcasing twenty-five objects, or groups of objects, that have seldom or never been on display before.

What can you expect to see? Well, we don't want to give too much away but here are four tasters:



1) When a whale was beached at Littleton in 1885, special trains were put on for sight-seers. Part of that whale still survives today and is in our exhibition. Come and find out which part it is!

2) What was the link between Mary Bruton (whose collection of local objects formed the core of the Museum's collection) and Donald Campbell, land and water speed record breaker?

3) What is the object that prevented crashes on the Yate to Thornbury railway line?

4) And can you spot the Little and Large of the Bible world?

When you've explored those four items, there'll be just another twenty-one to discover! You can also see our permanent exhibitions about local Roman life and about Thornbury Folk.

The Silver Jubilee Exhibition is on now and will run until April 2012. Free entry for all, to all parts of the museum. Opening times: Tuesday-Friday, 1-4pm, Saturday 10am-4pm. The Museum is in Chapel Street (between The Armstrong Hall and The Wheatsheaf). Tel. 857774 or email: enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk. www.thornburymuseum.org.uk
[Note: The museum's winter closure will be from 24 December 2011 to 30 January 2012 – Re-opening Tuesday 31 January 2012.]

NEWSFLASH! We are holding a **Finds and Activities Day on Saturday 3 December from 11am to 3pm**. Our local Finds Liaison Officer, Kurt Adams, will be on hand to help identify and date objects, maybe things you've found while digging your garden. There will be some Tudor-related activities for children too. So bring the family along on Sat 3 December!

Here To Entertain You!

Northavon Youth Theatre Company members are thrilled to find themselves nominated yet again for the 'Oscars of the Am Dram World': the Rose Bowl Awards for Drama and Music, for their production of ***OUR HOUSE ~ the Madness Musical!***

Since first entering this competition, nearly 20 years ago, the Company, which is made up of 60 students of the Northavon School of Drama, all aged 11 to 18 years, has won seven theatrical awards and received so many nominations they've lost count, but on one occasion, no less than FIVE nominations were awarded for one production (our 1994 version of Lionel Bart's ***Blitz!***) ~ an achievement never equalled either before or since, to my knowledge, and there was no youth section at the time, so we were being judged against many adult groups!

The youngsters are currently rehearsing for next Easter's production: a popular 1950s Broadway musical, but also find time to offer their **Concert Party** to entertain local Community Groups, Societies and Nursing Homes with programmes of song, dance, poems and sketches, in return for a donation towards production funds.

If you would like **NYTC Concert Party** to visit your organisation, please contact either John Mills on 01454 615436 or nytcconcertparty@gmail.com, or Lyn Bedford on 01454 884154 or nytc@blueyonder.co.uk and we promise a fun-filled, energetic and entertaining show. Please checkout our website: www.nytc.org.uk for more details and to see if we won!

Ramblers Festival of Winter Walks

Join Severnside Ramblers on a Winter Walk and be part of Britain's biggest walking festival! The walks are free. You need not book. Just arrive at the meeting point at the times shown. We meet at Aldi car park, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA, and share lifts to the start of the walk. For more details, a contact name and telephone number is given for each walk.

Mon 26 Dec 10.00am	Dyrham deer, views and quaint churches	5.5 miles leisurely	Joy 01179 334998
Thurs 29 Dec 9.30am	Ford/Castle Combe brook, woods, lane Optional pub at end	4 miles leisurely	Jean 01454 419274
Mon 2 Jan 10.30am	Frenchay/Purdown lanes, paths	9 miles moderate	Ann 01179 798626

For other walks in Dec. find a programme in your library or see www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk

Thornbury Library

Christmas opening hours: see Christmas insert

Computer course run by Filton College starting in New Year

Filton College will be running another FREE 18 week basic computer course starting on Thursday 2 February from 1.00-4.00pm at Thornbury Library. For further details and to be added to the waiting list please contact the library.

Bob the librarian is retiring!

Yes it's going to be a long Christmas holiday for me as I hang up my date stamp for the last time – or computer mouse as it's become in recent years. At last I will have time to 'put my feet up' and read all the books in the library. As you can imagine over the 40 years I have been a librarian I have seen lots of changes but the reason I became a librarian in the first place – the opportunity to work with people –has remained a constant and my long career has been a happy one. I would like to take this final opportunity to thank all the users of Thornbury Library and my loyal and hardworking staff for the help and support you have given me over the 15 years I have been at Thornbury Library. For more information on any of the above items please ring the library on 01454 868006 or visit our web-site: www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

Carols and Mulled Wine

Join us for Carols around the Piano with mulled wine and mince pies.
Thursday 15th December at The Old Vicarage.
£5 in aid of Action Medical Research.



Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners November:

£50 Olivia Maunder
£15 Bill Finch
£5 James Finch

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

15th October	Richard Panes
22nd October	Simon Gould
29th October	Diane Grosvenor
5th November	Tony Gardner

Up The Down!!
Tony Gardner 07889 727729



December Delights!

ACT (Arts and Community in Thornbury) is delighted to offer a trio of delights for your Christmas delectation! Batteries have been recharged and following a successful chocolate stall in the *Thornbury Christmas Lights Switch On*, Saturday 3 December is the date for two exciting events. The first has become something of a tradition, with local choirs, groups and schools being invited to come along and sing ***Carols Around the Christmas Tree*** in St Mary Centre, Thornbury, from 10.00 am until 12 noon and everyone is very welcome to come along to get in the Christmas spirit!

That evening sees a very special concert, in support of **ACT**, given by **Thornbury Orchestra**, which now boasts over 60 members, in Thornbury Baptist Church, starting at 7.30 pm. Conductor Chris Hill will be guiding us through a delightful programme of popular light music, including such diverse pieces as *'The Lark Ascending'* and the theme tune to *'The Pirates of the Caribbean'*, so there really is something for everyone! Soloists are Alistair Whittle and Jake Eady and donations of £10 for adults and £5.00 for children are suggested. Doors will be open from 7.00 pm, so arrive early to be sure of your seat!

Finally, ***Mumping Night*** makes a welcome return on Saturday 17 December at the Chantry, in Castle Street, Thornbury. Following a procession, interspersed with carol singing, from St Mary Centre down through the town, a warm wassail welcome, plus a mince pie awaits you, while all sorts of entertainers will be filling every room in the building. Last year's programme included magic, music, mummies and many diverse entertainments and the event sold extremely quickly, so look out for more details and pop along to Thornbury Garden Shop for your tickets!

Proceeds from all three events will go towards **ACT's** project to provide a community complex with a state of the art theatre at its heart, which will be for residents from the whole of South Gloucestershire to enjoy. For more details, please go to **www.ACTthornbury.org.uk** and for information on Thornbury Orchestra, visit www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk.

Yours Faithfully

Paul Ashford

The Oasis Church, Old Down

“Christ will always be the light – even in a bleak mid-winter”

As I write this article the airwaves are full of news about the financial crisis which has paralysed Greece and is in the process of bringing down the Italian government as well. By the time you read this article, I cannot predict where we shall be. However, I am not predicting that a white knight will emerge from somewhere to rescue the Euro zone and the economies that depend on it. The US has enough problems of its own and China doesn't seem to be interested.

Here in the UK, we have enough financial strife to be going on with. We have austerity packages which have the potential to tip our economy back into recession once more and unemployment has now topped 2.5 million (over 8%) for the first time since 1994. The level of uncertainty about job security only compounds the problem as people reign in their spending – arguably, as they should.

Those that see Christmas as a time for expensive gifts and lavish living may feel that the festive period will be fairly downbeat this year. Others may even be fearful of the inevitable financial impact of the event, particularly if they are already unemployed with children to cater for. Many will feel that they are indeed heading for a 'bleak mid-winter'.

However, the words of the hymn by the same name speak of a sense of awe which is not about the size of the presents, or the beauty of the surroundings, but the magnificence of Christ, even when pictured as a babe in a manger.

The hymn writer, Christina Georgina Rossetti struggles with what she could possibly give to the one whom cherubim worship night and day. After trawling through the gifts of the shepherd and the wise man, she concludes that the only thing of sufficient value that she can offer is her own heart.

Her conclusion is a message for us all. Christmas should always be first and foremost about relationship. As Christina realised, relationship with Christ was the most valuable thing she could offer. Relationship is not measured in the size of presents but the depth of love. So even in sparse and barren surroundings the light of relationship in Christ shines through. May it attract the attention of many more this Christmas, however bleak the winter.

Kathy Haskins

Mike, Suzanne and Nicola would like to thank everyone for their kindness and support during their recent bereavement.

Beryl Lavinia Hedges

All the family wish to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind support, letters and cards of sympathy; also for your attendance at Beryl's funeral and for the generous donations to St. Mary's. A special thank you to Rev. Roly Bain for conducting the service and delivering such a warm tribute, also to June, and to the Funeral Directors L. and J. Gulwell.

Friends of St. Mary's

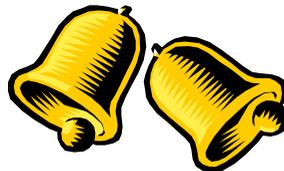
The prize winners in October's draw, held on 13th October 2011 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<i>Name</i>
£150	501	Revd. D. H. Bone, Tockington
£75	374	Mr. P. E. Savage, Thornbury
£25	385	Dr. R. R. Slade, Littleton upon Severn
£25	366	Mrs. P. Halfyard, Alveston
£25	240	Mr. D. A. Organ, Olveston
£20	352	Mrs. V. Brown, Olveston
£10	336	Mrs. J. W. Harper, Olveston
£10	168	F. Milward, Olveston

The prize winners in November's draw, held on 10th November 2011 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<i>Name</i>
£150	491	Mrs. J. E. Lyons, Ingst
£75	400	Mr. L. R. Slaytor, Tockington
£25	169	M. & K. Hughes, Olveston
£25	291	Mrs. I. Phillips, Olveston
£25	513	Mrs. M. Bailey, Lower Hazel
£20	466	Mrs. I. Anderson, Olveston
£10	474	Mr. C. Malpus, Alveston
£10	414	Mr. R. J. Lloyd, Tockington

**A very Happy Christmas to all our
readers from the Meeting Point Team!**



Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Dec 4	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev P Rowe & Mrs A Lloyd
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Rev R Crew & Rev R Bain
Dec 11	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Mr Denis Jones
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	United Carol Service Olv Meth	Rev Sandy Williams
Dec 18	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev D Bone & Rev P Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Carol Service with Choir	Mrs Janet McBride
Dec 24	4pm	Christingle	Rev P Rowe & Rev H Webb
	11.15p	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev R Bain & Rev R Crew
Dec 25	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Family Service	Rev Roly Bain

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Contacts:

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

Wed 14th Holy Communion at Olveston Methodist Ch.

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Dec 11	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Dec 19	6pm	Carol Service/Nativity	Rev David Bone
Dec 24	11.30p	Christmas Communion	Rev David Bone
Dec 25	10.30	Short Family Service	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Janet Ford, 01454 633300 Terry McLeavy 633680

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Dec 11	3pm	Carol Service	Rev David Pole
Dec 25	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Dec 11	9am	Matins	Tracey Black
Dec 19	8pm	Carol Service	Rev David Pole
Dec 25	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Dec 4	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
	6pm	Tock. Ch	A Service of Christmas Music led by Mr Glyn Varney with friends from St Andrew's Ch.
Dec 11	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams
	6pm	Olv. Ch.	Carol Service led by Rev Sandy Williams
Dec 18	10am	Tock. Ch.	A Christmas Service with Olv. Brownies & other young people led Mrs Rosalie Doyle
Dec 25	10.15	Tock. Ch.	A Short Christmas Celebration Service led by Rev Sandy Williams

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: Christmas Lunch 12.30pm on Wednesday 14th December. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP No meeting in December

COFFEE MORNINGS: Sats 10.30-12 noon in the Olveston Methodist Hall. Please see details of activities during the week the Olveston Church is reopened elsewhere in Meeting Point

CONTACT: Rev Sandy Williams tel 07841 752 941,
Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

For Services please contact.

Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 0784 0793772 or email:

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Dec 4	6.30pm	Roger Greenslade
Dec 11	6.30pm	Rev Colin Lewis
Dec 18	6.30pm	Carol Service Paul Ashford
Dec 25	10.00am	Christmas Morning Service Ceri Morgan-Davies

Prayer Time every Thurs 7.30

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

Paul Ashford, 07774 110814 or email: **Paul@CalebGroup.net**

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Dec 18 11am Family Worship with Christmas Play

Dec 18 6.30pm Evening Worship with Christmas Play

Dec 25 10.30am Christmas Service

for more details, please phone 632564.

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -Our Sunday morning meetings

are held at The Grange School in Warmley at 11 am,

Contact 01454 613305 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.ctk-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 December 2011

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

1 st Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	Ost MH
2 nd Fri	Christmas Coffee morning at The Loans	10.30	
3 rd Sat	Totally Locally on Tock. Green Coffee Morning St Peter's Hospice Bazaar Litter Pick Windy Strings	9.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 10.00-12.00 1.00pm 7.30pm	MH AH PH StM
4 th Sun			
5 th Mon	Monday Movie Open Mic. at the White Hart .	7.30pm 8.30pm	StM
6 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women Christmas lunch at Ship Hotel Alveston	9.30-11.30 12.30pm	WR
7 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club Christmas lunch O.P.H.S: " Glassmaking & Bristol's Place in its History" (£2 on the door)	12.00 7.30pm	AH MH
8 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Advent Talk	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 7.30pm	Ost MH StM
9 th Fri			
10 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Christmas Fair Castle St Thornbury Littleton Village Supper	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 10.00-2.00 7.30pm	AVH MH LVH
11 th Sun	OMC Open week begins		
12 th Mon	Craft Group Tel 07747 562264 for venue	2.00pm	
13 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women Women's Institute American Supper Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL PH AP
14 th Wed	Royal British Legion Men Severn Valley Quilters 417559 for details	7.30pm	DGCL
15 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.30-1.30 9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30pm	Ost MH

	Advent Talk Carols at the Old Vicarage	7.30pm 7.30pm	StM
16 th Fri	Aust Village Dining at Boar's Head, raffle		
17 th Sat			
18 th Sun			
19 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Monday Movie	10.00am 7.30pm	StM StM
20 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
21 st Wed	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	8.30pm	
22 nd Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
23 rd Fri			
24 th Sat			
25 th Sun			

Looking ahead to January

2nd	Children's Movie Club	10.00am	StM
28th	Marlwood School Burns Night		

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Olveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; **CCCP** – Castle Court Car Park; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry; **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall; **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; **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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