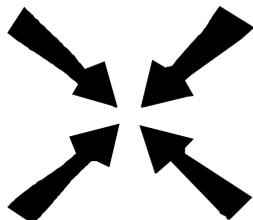


Meeting Point



February 2015



Meeting Point

Volume 39, Number 5, February 2015

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

February is not generally an inspiring month. The days are short, and the weather tends to be cold. But for those of us who have allotments, it is when we start to sow for the coming season: spring is on its way! Also, there are lots of things going on in the community this February to interest you – see within!

There is no mention inside of December's Ingst Windfarm planning decision, which people on both sides of the argument were awaiting impatiently. I imagine most people know the outcome, but in case you don't, the news is that the Planning Committee rejected the application. Of course, the applicant has the right to appeal.

I hope you enjoy this edition.

The cover: Elberton and the Severn from the top of Vicarage Lane. Photo by Les Harper

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

Chris Wicks - chef at Old Down Estate



Profile by Pat Thirkettle

Chris has been a well known chef in Bristol for nearly twenty years. He went to catering college in Devon and then started his catering career in Devon before moving to Bath. He always admired Keith Floyd who made a TV series in the 1990s called Floyd in Australia, and this inspired Chris to go to Australia on a one year visa. There he immediately got a job in Perth and later at the Cable Beach Club in Broome; when he read Keith Floyd's book of the TV series later he was pleased to see it mentioned. He came home buzzing with innovative ideas such as sundried tomatoes, rocket, char grilling, Soy sauce and fusing Mediterranean / Asian cooking; don't forget this was in the 1990s when most of us in England were still eating meat and two veg.

Back in Bristol he worked in several well known restaurants including Bell's Diner in Montpelier and Rocinantes tapas bar in Clifton. The latter was an organic restaurant owned by Barny Haughton who was a driving force for organic produce in the UK. In 1997 he was approached to buy Bell's Diner which he ran for seventeen years. He also opened a Spanish/Portuguese tapas bar called 130 in Cheltenham Road, Stokes Croft, which was the forerunner of many eateries there now. He was part of the team that ran Budokan, a group of pan Asian restaurants between 1998 and 2009. In 2005 he appeared on the BBC programme 'The Great British Menu'.

Wanting a change, two years ago he rented out his restaurants and started teaching at the City of Bristol College. During this time he was involved in a Foraging Dinner held at Old Down Estate as part of the food festival 'Love Food', and was so taken with the place and its wonderful view that he decided that if the Executive Chef job became available he would like to apply. Last July this came to pass.

He works full time in the very busy restaurant in the Manor where they host conferences, functions and weddings – one hundred of the latter are booked for 2015. Chris makes full use of the fruit and vegetables grown in the Kitchen Garden; this year he will have a say in what is grown and favours colourful vegetables like yellow and purple carrots, ditto chard and beetroot. Last year

there was a bumper crop of blackcurrants to the extent he was able to make cassis.

Throughout winter Sunday lunches are served in The Manor and in the summer there will be barbecues. In May there will be a Bristol Food Connections event called the '100 Metre Menu'; everything will have been grown or produced within one hundred metres of the Old Down Bistro. On Valentine's Day there will be an eight course Tasting Menu filled with Spring produce. And on the last Thursday of every month there will be a dining evening in The Barn (formerly The Bistro) with different culinary experiences. One of which will be called the 'Night of the Chefs', when Chris will ask several of his Bristol chef friends to cook a course each. Plans are afoot for the shop to become a deli/farm shop with old fashioned cakes, jams and preserves, home cured and smoked meats alongside fresh produce grown on the Estate.

Chris is always looking to see how he can move his cooking forward, as he did by going to Australia years ago. Commercial cooking goes through many phases and the era has passed of rich ingredients like cream, which are known to be unhealthy, so now the emphasis is on excellent produce cooked simply. He is a firm believer in using all of each ingredient, he calls it respecting the whole plant or animal. For example, he cuts the roots off onions and deep fries them, uses carrot tops as garnish and cooks interesting varieties of potato whole to preserve flavour and nutrients. He also likes to cook with offal and the other less fashionable parts of any animal.

So, on your doorstep, there is a variety of eating experiences to choose from. The cafe next to the shop is open all the time for coffee, lunch and tea, with food cooked by Chris, so why not give it a try?

Women's Section, Olveston RBL

The Women's Branch of the Olveston Royal British Legion thank everyone involved in the raising of the magnificent sum of £1322 for the Poppy Appeal at the Great War Remembrance concert. Special thanks go to Roly, Linda and all who took part in a very enjoyable evening. Thank you to Rose and Stan for carrying the standards and manning the collection buckets.

Judy Bulley

Derek Sleath

Georgie, Carole and Tim would like to thank family, friends and neighbours for their kindness shown on the death of Derek, and also for the many cards we received. Also for the contributions to Cancer Research. Thank you all very much.

Oveston Signs

Richard Rogers

(olvestonpc@gmail.com)

Over the last few months, you may have noticed the odd disappearance of street signs around the Parish.

Although South Glos Council's 'Streetcare' Department is responsible for maintaining the signage around the Parish, it can be seen in the adjacent photo that some of the local signs are in a bad state of repair.

After a couple of years of lobbying, South Glos have finally offered to repair some of the signs and replace the oldest ones with new units. Unfortunately these signs would be in an inappropriate plainer style.

Oveston Parish Council has therefore decided to look into repair techniques to renovate the existing signage. This renovation process has the added advantage of maintaining historical references to the Aust Ferry.

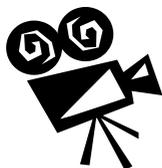
Techniques have been identified for the backing board, and white direction labels and two signs have been completed (at Old Down, and at the foot of Haw Lane, see second photo). 6 more signs are planned over the next 18 months (see map).

Future work may involve renovating the 'finger' signs around the Parish as well as renovating the support poles, and confirming the life expectancy of these renovated signs.



Movies at St Mary's: Feb

Trevor Anderson



St Mary's Movie Club in Olveston has more than 240 members now, and sometimes it's a squeeze to get a good seat. So come early - doors open 30 minutes before the films start. You can always indulge in a glass of wine or soft drink whilst waiting in your seat. (*In how many cinemas are you invited to do that?*).

As many of you already know, we show films for the 'grown-ups' on the first and third Monday evenings of each month and for 'children of all ages' every Monday morning during school holidays.

If you haven't yet been, do come along - everyone is welcome, so bring your friends and family. As always, there is no need to book and admission is free, although a **donation** at the end towards expenses is always appreciated.

There will be THREE Movie Club films in February:

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

Mon 2nd Feb at 7.30pm: Bill Murray is at his wisecracking best in this riotous romantic comedy about a weatherman caught in a time warp on the worst day of his life. If you've seen it already, why not come again.... and again.....? *Cert PG*).

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

Mon 16th Feb at 7.30pm: A former school teacher helps a young boy travel across Brazil in search of the father he has never known. A richly tender and moving experience and a Golden Globe Award winner for Best Foreign Language Film. *In Portuguese with English subtitles. (Cert 15)*

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

Mon 16th Feb at 10.00am: Hiccup and Toothless fly back for another fantastical tale of Vikings and dragons in this new animated family adventure. (*Cert PG*)

Refreshments available at all the shows: licensed bar and tea/coffee in the evenings and popcorn, soft drinks and biscuits in the mornings.

For copyright reasons we can't name the films here, but if you **join the Movie Club** we'll send you titles, details and regular updates by email. It costs nothing to join and it will save you the hassle of trying to guess the film titles from the cryptic descriptions – apparently quite a challenge for some of our readers! Just email me at trevoranderson@btinternet.com.

News from St Mary's Olveston

Roly Bain

A Thank You from Gill Ford I am writing to say a very big Thank You indeed for all the sacks full of toys, donations and interest from people in supporting the Children's Society. It was a real pleasure to come along to the Toy Service and take part and I found the service excellent. Tockington Manor choir was superb. We are, of course, extremely grateful for this level of wonderful kindness, support and generosity from St Mary's. It definitely makes a big impact in helping us to help children who really have nowhere else to turn. I dropped off the toys at our childrens' centre in Swindon. The staff were delighted at the range of lovely toys which were wrapped and distributed to brighten the Christmas of children and families who are struggling. Our sincere thanks to everyone.

Soup Kitchen On Saturday 7th February we're having a Gautampuri Soup Kitchen at the Vicarage from 12.00 till 2pm. As the title suggests, you're invited to come and have a bowl of soup in aid of our Bridge to Gautampuri Appeal. As an update, by 1st January we had already raised £8,500, which is amazing in 2 months. Our target is £15,000, and Olveston Primary School launched their attempt to raise £1,000 at the end of January. It's a community appeal, not just a church one, as has been shown by the donations so far. We are extremely grateful.

Love Life Live Lent We're giving out a little book with this title for use in Lent, which encourages us to do things rather than not do things... Starting with Shrove Tuesday, a daily thought is followed by an "action" as a response. Each action may (or may not) be small but together they will help to change the world. Try it out! More info on www.livelent.net

Lent Films & Preachers Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 18th Feb with our Communion service with the Imposition of Ashes at 9am. We'll be showing Lent Films on Tuesdays again, and we're allowed to tell you the titles (though we still can't do so for the Monday Movies!). 24th Feb: Chariots of Fire; 3rd March: Grapes of Wrath; 10th Mar: The Apostle; and 17th and 24th Mar: Jesus of Nazareth (the original TV series with Robert Powell) in two parts. We also have a series of visiting preachers in Lent, all at 10am. Rev Patrick Hine from Horfield is on 22nd Feb; Rev Sandy Williams, former minister at the Methodist churches here, on 1st Mar; Rev Patrick Forbes, fellow founder of Holy Fools and ex broadcasting officer of the Church of England, on 8th Mar; Rt Rev George Cassidy, former Bishop of Southwell, on 22nd Mar; and Preb Carl Attwood, priest and concert pianist, on 29th Mar.

Great War Remembered If you missed the Great War Remembered, you might be interested in coming to the edited highlights version on screen on Monday, Feb 23rd, with a bite to eat. No charge, though there might be a plate for donations at the end! Please let me know if you intend coming on 616593 or roly@rolybain.co.uk

Oveston Parish Twinning Association 2015

There is plenty of OPTA activity scheduled for this coming year.

Quiz

If you are reading this before January 30th, then there is still time to form a team and come to our quiz in the Parish Hall! (for further information and to reserve a table contact Noel Clarke on 01454 614099.)

Wine Challenge

The ever popular Wine Challenge is being held in the Parish Hall on Friday March 20th. This event is now so well established in the village calendar that it would seem very strange if it did not happen! More details will be available nearer the date but if you have any questions please contact one of the OPTA Co-Chairs either Bob Harris (01454 618331) or John Clayton (01454 612641).

Visitors from Bréhan

For many years the main point of the twinning between Oveston Parish and the small Breton village of Bréhan has been to encourage twinning visits. We are pleased to report that our Bréhan friends will be visiting us between the 1st and 3rd of May and it would be lovely to have some new people involved in this visit. Contact Bob or John (as above) if you would like to know more.

Alongside twinning visits, however, we hope that the links currently being explored between Oveston Primary School and the school in Bréhan will extend the nature of our twinning and get some young people involved using letters, email, web pages and skype conversations for example.

We will be keeping people informed about all of our activities through Meeting Point and posters displayed around the village at key points.

From the Registers of St Mary's Oveston

4th January 2015.

Baptism of Madison Rose Lewis, daughter of Gary and Nicola Lewis.

Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)

Angela Daymond

The subject of many a fairytale, Mr Fox has quite a reputation. He's considered cunning, wily and pretty evil - and if you've ever seen the wanton destruction of a chicken coop after a visit from him, you will understand how that reputation came about.

Yet we still have that little bit of admiration for foxes. We can't deny they have an air of craftiness about them. That striking red coat, the bright brush of a tail, they are masters of adaptability, maximising their skills, colonising almost anywhere, town or country.

They sometimes settle underground in 'earths'; other times above ground in a hollow will do. Mainly solitary animals until their winter mating season, when an extended family is occasionally formed, it's not unknown for a young vixen to join the family set up and for this 'aunt' to help feed the pups, learning from the mum how to bring up a family first hand, to prepare her for her own future litter.

Foxes have superb night time vision, allowing their nocturnal hunting skills to reign supreme. In the countryside, all types of rodents are favourite; in towns a bag of chips is just as tasty to these omnivores. When they hunt prey they often apply their jumping skills. Bouncing high above their prey and with a twist of that bushy tail for balance, they come down for a perfect pounce on an unsuspecting mouse. Did you know they have whiskers on their legs as well as their face, to help them navigate in the dark?

Love them or hate them foxes have an undeniable skill for survival, so lock up your fowls safe. They are sure to be somewhere nearby waiting for a lucky chance!

'Oliver!'

Richard Newley

The Parish Players' 2015 musical production of Lionel Bart's "Oliver!" opens on **Wednesday February 18th**. If you haven't got your tickets already, seats may still be available for the Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall (£10 for adults, £5 for children). In addition there is a preview evening on Tuesday 17th February.

Please phone Richard and Jenny Newley at the Box Office on **01454 202011** for information, to check availability and to purchase your tickets – don't miss out!

Thornbury Arts Festival

Comedian Jo Caulfield to star



**THORNBURY
ARTSFESTIVAL**

AWARD winning comedian Jo Caulfield will be among the headline acts at the 2015 Thornbury Arts Festival.

The star of many TV, radio and live shows will feature in a packed programme of music, literature, performance and visual art.

Organisers have expanded the schedule to add afternoon sessions to the traditional format of evening and lunchtime events, and they hope to attract even more people to the town next spring. They were especially keen to introduce more children to the festival, offering masterclasses and workshops that range from circus skills and theatrical drawing to the playing of miniature harps.

The ten-day festival will run from April 17-26, with events to be held at a variety of venues.

Jo Caulfield is among the early acts to be announced. She has appeared in BBC Radio 4's *It's That Jo Caulfield Again* and *Jo Caulfield's Speakeasy*, as well as being a regular guest on TV shows such as *Have I Got News For You* and *Mock the Week*. Her time as a warm-up act for Graham Norton's first chat show also led to her writing material for the popular host and presenter.

Among other confirmed appearances at the festival are Theatre Temoin with their production of *Nobody's Home* and the five-piece gipsy jazz band Moscow Drug Club, whose infectious music will help bring the festival to a close.

The programme will also feature film, storytelling, talks and a concert by performers from the annual Thornbury children's eisteddfod that will be held from March 7-15 under the umbrella of the festival.

And just days after the main festival ends, the Severn Vale Art Trail will open, giving visitors the chance to visit artists' studios and exhibitions in and around Thornbury from April 30-May 10.

Festival artistic director Shirley Sharp said: "At first it seemed slightly daunting to give a new image and appeal to the festival, while still retaining its amazing formula that has worked for 45 years.

"But it is proving to be very exciting. We have a new logo and will launch our new-look website in January. The full programme will follow soon after and a new online booking facility will be up and running to allow people to book earlier.

"We are listening to what people want and aiming to give them just that – a lively and energetic festival that has something for everyone."

Thornbury and the Railway

Friday 13 February, 7.30pm, admission £5

United Reformed Church, Chapel St, Thornbury (opp. the Wheatsheaf)



It's difficult to imagine now but Thornbury used to be served by a railway line. Come and hear Meg Wise tell all about it, as part of the Museum's programme of Winter Talks.

She will tell the story of the branch line that ran to Thornbury, the railway company that operated the service and the people that worked on the railway. You can also discover exactly where the railway station used to be.

The ticket price of £5 includes refreshments. Tickets need to be booked in advance by phoning 01454 857774 or emailing the museum (enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk). The museum is closed during January and will re-open on 3rd February but phone messages and email reservations will still be dealt with during our winter closure.

Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners January 2015:

£50 Roger Rowen £15 Diane Grosvenor £5 Iain Murdoch
New Year Surprise: Marilyn Green

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

6th December Simon Davis 13th December Tony Williams
20th December Barry Reeves

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

Thornbury Rotary 'Swimarathon'

Thornbury Leisure Centre on 27th, 28th February and 1st March.

Supporting Bristol & South Glos Young Carers,
European Cleft Organisation, local charities and good causes.

COME AND JOIN US: IT'S GREAT FUN!

Teams of up to 6 swimming in relay for 55 minutes
3 sessions on Friday 27th, starting at 6.15pm (perfect for young swimmers)
2 sessions on Saturday and Sunday, starting at 7.15pm
Corporate sponsors welcome.

www.thornburyrotary.org/swimarathon
graham@mdqltd.co.uk
Graham Cook: 01454 528396 or 07718 434997

Bristol Zoo in its Early Days

Olveston Parish Historical Society: Wednesday 4 February 2015, 7.30pm
Methodist Church, The Street, Olveston BS35 4DR



When Bristol Zoo was founded in 1836, how did it acquire and sustain its stock of animals?

In a talk entitled **Animal Commodities: Bristol Zoo and the Wild Animal Trade in the Nineteenth Century**, Dr. Andy Flack will explore contemporary sources to trace the methods and motivations of the early traders in wild animals.

Everyone welcome - £2 on the door.

Website: <http://www.olvoston.com/historical-society>

From the Registers St John's Church Elberton

Nov 4 2014. Burial of cremated remains of Derek Lionel Sleath.

Dec 6 2014. Marriage of Vanni Gasbarri & Megan Ruth Watkins.

Fighting fire

EXHIBITION: Opens Tuesday 3 February 2015

Thornbury & District Museum, Chapel Street (next to Armstrong Hall)

Open: Tues - Fri 1 – 4pm, Sat 10am – 4pm. FREE admission.



Our first exhibition in 2015 looks at the story of fire-fighting in our area and the history of Thornbury's Fire Service.

Drawing on photographs and documents from the Museum's collection, the exhibition tells how a regular Fire Brigade was established in Thornbury and follows the moves of the Fire Station through various locations in the town. Discover the part played in fire-fighting by the hooter at Mr Cullimore's sawmill, learn about the involvement of Sir Stafford Howard, read stories of fires both dramatic and tragic - and even a fire which turned out to be a myth.

Upstairs, we have a small exhibition about the First World War, including the war diary of Sir Algar Howard of Thornbury Castle, who served in Mesopotamia. The diary has been lent to the Museum for a short time by his granddaughter.

Make a New Year's resolution which could save your life

Bringing the firefighting theme right up to date, the Editor has learned that firefighters across Avon Fire & Rescue Service (AF&RS) are asking you to make a New Year's resolution which could save your life.

Crews want you to make a pledge to install smoke alarms on every level of your home and to check regularly the batteries are working.

Smoke alarms provide an early warning that a fire has broken out and can provide vital extra minutes to escape from the property, especially at night.

Just two or three breaths of toxic smoke from a fire is enough to render you unconscious, so a working smoke alarm could save your life, but only if it is working.

AF&RS Group Manager for Community Safety, Matt Peskett, said: "A working smoke alarm could be the difference between life and death.

"Between April 2012 and March 2013 nearly a third of fire deaths in the UK occurred in properties where no smoke alarm was installed. The devices cost less than £10 and will activate at the first sign of fire. They can make all the difference if a fire breaks out at night giving everyone in the property the chance to escape.

"We would also ask people to ensure they plan and practise how they get out of the house in the event of a fire. Make sure your escape route is clear and that everyone knows where keys to doors and windows are kept. We would like everyone to start the New Year on a positive note and this is an ideal way to protect your family from the devastating consequences of fire."

Firefighters visit the homes of the most vulnerable members of the community to provide fire safety advice and fit free smoke alarms if required. To find out more about Home Fire Safety Visits or for more fire safety advice visit www.avonfire.gov.uk

Daldry Gardens



On the first Wednesday of each month (except August) there is a simple celebration of Holy Communion at 2.30pm in the Communal Lounge at Daldry Gardens. The service is conducted by June Robbins and tea and biscuits or cake are served afterwards. The next Service is on Wednesday 4 February, and everyone is most welcome.

Meeting Point Directory

Jenny Newley

Do you run or are you aware of a club, society or sporting organisation which you think should be included in the new Meeting Point Directory?



The team which produces the Meeting Point magazine will shortly produce a new version of the Meeting Point Directory, a non-commercial directory listing local services and not-for-profit clubs, societies and sporting organisations. Copies of this free Directory will be delivered to all households in the Meeting Point area in the Spring and will be kept updated in the online version thereafter.

The Directory, like the Meeting Point magazine itself and the Community Website run by the Meeting Point team (www.olvestonandaust.com), is intended for everyone living in the nine villages and hamlets which make up the civil parishes of Olveston and Aust – Awkley, Ingst, Lower Hazel, Old Down, Olveston and Tockington in Olveston Parish, and Aust, Elberton and Littleton upon Severn in Aust Parish.



The content of the Directory sometimes stretches beyond those boundaries to reflect services and organisations which are not to be found in our immediate area but which are used by local people (the library and the leisure centre, for example).

Do please check out the online version of the existing Directory (<http://www.olvestonandaust.com/directory>) and then, if your organisation's details are not included or need updating, please let me know via email: meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com



If you are a sports organisation which runs a junior section or offers sporting activities for children - in season, all year round or just in the summer holidays - we should be particularly glad to hear from you.



Community Land Trust Update

Following the public meeting in November 2014, a group of local residents offered on everyone's behalf to find out more about Community Land Trusts (CLTs). This group has since met the Secretary of an existing CLT from Dorset to find out more about CLTs, and their constitution.

A further meeting on the 8th January 2015 confirmed that a second Public Meeting would be held on 25th February 2015 – please watch out for suitable advertising closer to the date. A CLT can be used for a number of Community Projects, whether providing a mechanism for additional housing, or to step in and help maintain services that would otherwise be unviable (village shops, Post Offices and pubs being popular examples). For Olveston a significant issue is the lack of space in the existing Cemetery, and it is hoped that a CLT could help with this.

Norton Sub Hamdon & Environs CLT is focused on three villages in rural Dorset, with a similar number of residents to Olveston Parish, but spread across several parish boundaries. Norton village is partially covered by a Conservation area, and in about 1999 the parish completed a Village Design statement that was adopted by the District Council as part of their planning policies. A Housing Needs Survey in 2005 identified that 10 affordable properties were required. The Parish Council with Community Support had started the process to identify suitable land, and a Housing Association to work with - but couldn't proceed financially until Government funding became available, which was on the proviso that the project was led by the Community, in the form of a CLT.

Norton CLT have since completed a 10 house Scheme (8 rented, 2 shared ownership, all semi-detached) on a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre in conjunction with Yarlington Housing Association, and subsequently have been asked to take over the Village Shop (and Post Office). The houses are now all occupied. 6 out of 10 went to people directly connected to the village, and all met 'local' housing criteria laid down by the CLT. Indeed the Secretary from Norton emphasised how well the CLT and Housing Association had worked together on the layout and style of the housing, the selection criteria and the ongoing maintenance of the properties and the tenants.

Where a CLT embarks on a housing programme, it first has to confirm the need for housing, identify suitable sites (compulsory purchase is not an option) and where considered appropriate engage with a Housing Association. It is important to note that the CLT retains ownership of the Land, and not all Housing Associations are interested in working with CLT's. In any event unless land can be earmarked from within existing settlement boundaries, a 'Rural Exception Site' would have to be created by South Glos Council following an official 'Housing Needs Survey' of all residents.

Should local residents decide that a Community Land Trust needs to be formed, one of its obligations is to ensure that all parish residents are fully informed at every stage. Full notes of the December Meeting with Norton CLT and other information concerning CLTs are now available at www.olveston.com/community-land-trust, together with a link to an online forum to express individuals' views. Alternatively please contact Mr Geoff Chappell or Mr Mike Wright.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

The Council doesn't meet in December and the January meeting was too late in the month for any information about that meeting. There will be more news in the March issue. However, I came across a couple of pieces of useful information.

Trading Standards

I went to a meeting at which South Gloucestershire Trading Standards made a presentation. They are responsible for ensuring that traders give accurately measured goods such as beer, wine, petrol or coal; for licensing the sale and storage of fireworks; for animal health; and fair trading. They are keen to root out rogue traders and scams operated against South Gloucestershire residents. If you are troubled by one, or you think you have been approached by a rogue trader, you can make contact through the Citizens' Advice Consumer Helpline on 03454 04 05 05. They will refer you to the appropriate person in South Gloucestershire offices.

Anyone who sells you goods or services at your door for more than £35 must give you a 7 day cooling off period in which you have the right to cancel the order. The trader must tell you this in writing at the time of taking the order. If he doesn't, he is committing an offence and you aren't bound by the order. If you agree that the trader is to start work straight away, this must be recorded in writing and the notice must state that you may have to pay for work done if you cancel the order after the work has been started.

If you are targeted by a scam, or you know someone who is, get in touch with Trading Standards. Many are a result of unsolicited phone calls – you can get call blockers to help prevent such calls. Apparently only 5% of scam victims report their losses.

Closure of Wide Load Lay-by at Aust

South Gloucestershire Council consultation about this proposal has now ended and the decision is to go ahead. I'm not sure when it will happen, but the lay-by will be removed.

Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in the December draw, held on 4th December 2014 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	508	Mr P Floyd, Old Down
£75	220	Mrs E Screen, Rudgeway
£25	468	Mr G Clark, Olveston
£25	202	Mrs E Jackson, Olveston
£25	329	Mr B Fennell, Alveston
£20	199	Mr P Haworth, Olveston
£20	282	Mr R Hicks, Cornwall
£20	316	Mrs Y Williams, Olveston
£10	368	Mrs J Bendall, Tockington
£10	565	Mr R Lloyd, Tockington
£10	409	Mr R Hicks, Cornwall
£10	470	Mrs J Dawes, Olveston
£10	561	Miss J Davies, Olveston

The prize winners in the January draw, held on 8th January 2015, were:

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	161	Mrs L Clarke, Olveston
£75	479	Mrs S Farr, Olveston
£25	186	Mr G Clark, Olveston
£25	565	Mr R Lloyd, Tockington
£25	410	Mr R Hicks, Cornwall
£20	348	Mr D I Copley, Olveston
£20	281	Mr D J Talbot, Olveston
£20	572	Mr P Haworth, Olveston
£10	373	Dr M Wright, Olveston
£10	499	Rev D Bone, Olveston
£10	595	Mrs C Healey, Olveston
£10	532	Mr M Stevenson, Awkley
£10	185	Mrs B Morgan, Tockington
£10	251	Mr & Mrs R Williams, Olveston

Olveston and Tockington WI

On **Tuesday 10th February at 7.30**, at The Parish Hall, there will be a talk by **Terry Pashley on 'The Panama Canal'**, covering design, construction and future of one of 'the modern wonders of the world'.

Police Report

There were 11 reported crimes in our area in the month of December most of which involved theft from premises (including garages and sheds), or criminal damage to cars. Here are some useful tips:

- Don't leave packaging outside your house. If possible, only put it out on the morning of collection or take it to a recycling centre.
- Register your property on the free national property database www.immobilise.com, including uploading photographs and receipts, identifying marks, serial numbers etc. This can be an extremely useful tool if information needs to be retrieved.
- Make use of tracking software which you can download on computers, tablet devices and some smart phones for free. These can be activated remotely to find the location of your device if it ever goes missing.
- Always secure windows and doors, especially at night. Never leave windows open in unattended rooms.
- Keep small high-value items like your car keys, mobile phone, wallet, handbag and jewellery out of view of windows and ensure they cannot be seen or reached through cat flaps and letter boxes
- Set light switch timers for when you are out or away on holiday
- Report any suspicious behaviour. It is common for an offender to check out a number of properties for entry points before finding a vulnerable home. If you see someone suspicious hanging around a property, call 999.

PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery 0117 9455901 or 07889659691, or kelly.dimery@avonandsomerset.police.uk

St Peter's Hospice - Annual Quiz

St Peters Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to the Annual Quiz on Friday 6th March at the Armstrong Hall commencing at 7.15pm. The quiz team should be made up of four people. An excellent supper is served and a very good raffle takes place. The cost is £28.00 per table of four.

Cancer Research UK

Once again, by popular request, Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee are holding a **QUIZ NIGHT** with Fish and Chip supper on Friday 20th March at Manorbrook Primary School, Thornbury, commencing at 7.30pm sharp - so please be there at 7.15pm. There will be a Licensed Bar available together with an excellent Raffle.

Tickets are priced at £10 per a person which includes both admission and a fish and chip supper. They are available from Gill Blackborough on 07866580608 or any Committee Member. Don't delay since tickets for this event will be quickly sold out!!

Jazz with Jessica and the Park Row Five

Were you lucky enough to hear Jessica Radcliffe sing in Thornbury with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra at the 2013 Thornbury Festival or at her return visit last February?

Jessica, originally from Bristol, is a rising star in the highly competitive world of jazz singers. She performs regularly with the National Youth Jazz Orchestra.

We are delighted to welcome her back to Thornbury once again in company with The Park Row Five in a relaxed Jazz Café setting on Friday 6th February 2015.

You can enjoy an evening of original arrangements of a wide range of jazz classics, blues and ballads from Gershwin and Ellington to masters of Latin jazz and beyond, performed by The Park Row Five with Gareth Williams on saxophone and flute, Rob Bartlett on trumpet, Stuart Potter on piano, Ray Loadman on double bass and James Heming on drums accompanying Jessica's exhilarating jazz vocals.

It will be an evening of great music in the Armstrong Hall to appeal to all tastes. Finger food to be served in the interval is included in the price of the ticket. Bar available.

The concert, which is part of the fund raising project in aid of the Armstrong Hall Redevelopment Project (Phase 1) will be held in the Armstrong Hall on Friday 6th February at 7.30pm. Tickets at £10 each are on sale now at Thornbury Town Hall or by phone on 412272.

For further information and to reserve your table please telephone Mary on 01454 412567. Thank you.

Please come along and support St Peters, your local Hospice.

Alveston Gardens Association

Please come and join us at our meeting at the Jubilee Hall, Alveston, on 2nd March 2015 at 7.30pm when George Alway will be telling us:

"How to grow vegetables without tears"

Visitors (£2) will be very welcome

Full programme on www.alveston.org

Thornbury Library

Rebecca Furness

DIGITAL LIBRARY SERVICES

Find out more about our range of FREE digital library services, available 24/7 including eBooks, eAudio books and eMagazines. Ask at the library and staff will be pleased to help you. If you would like to bring your device with you we can help to get you started. To find out more information about these free services visit:

<http://www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries> and select "Library e-resources".

NEWS AND EVENTS

NATIONAL LIBRARIES DAY SATURDAY 7TH FEBRUARY

Celebrate National Libraries Day by visiting Thornbury Library on Saturday 7th February, where we will be holding a day of special events and activities for all to enjoy. Full details will be available in late January from Thornbury Library and online at www.nationallibrariesday.org.uk

DIGITAL CAMERA TALK – WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY AT 7PM

Digital Camera Talk for beginners, helping you to get the most out of your digital camera. Due to limited places all tickets must be booked in advance, by contacting Thornbury Library 01454 868006 or email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk £5 ticket fee payable on the night, all proceeds to charity.

SATURDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 11am-11.30 FAMILY RHYMETIME

Join us for a special RhymeTime for families which include a child aged 0-4 years. FREE, and no booking required, just turn up! Breastfeeding welcome and nappy changing facilities available (please take used nappies away with you).

MACMILLAN CANCER INFORMATION AND SUPPORT SERVICE

Specially trained Macmillan advisers hold regular information and support sessions at Thornbury Library. The sessions are free and no booking is required. Please enquire at Thornbury Library for upcoming dates, or check the Macmillan website at www.macmillan.org.uk/howwecanhelp and select "Local information centres" from the left-hand menu.

Yours Faithfully

Rev Roly Bain, St Mary's Olveston

February

February has always been my least favourite month of the year. It seems to be relentlessly drear and damp and cold and dark, and it tries to persuade me that spring will never come. Valentine's Day has never brought a huge postbag to brighten the horizon – I can't remember the last time I got a card! My diary fills up with the funerals of those who hung on for Christmas and then at last let go. I tend to scour the lawns and flowerbeds for the elegant snowdrops and brightly coloured crocuses for they are signs of life and growth that contradict the evidence of all those dank and leafless trees. But it's the daffodils that really herald the spring: regal, vibrant trumpeters proclaiming new life in all their vitality.

This month I shall be recuperating from an operation and so will be out of action for quite a lot of the month. I shall feel particularly grotty to begin with, but will convince myself that all will be well and that by March I'll be a new man. But given that Lent begins on Feb 18th and I shall be giving up alcohol again till Easter, I shan't really be celebrating till then. But then Easter Day really is my favourite day of the year, the day we should be celebrating most and best of all. The rigours of Lent and the dark days of the year are banished. In the early hours of Easter Day a dozen or so of us will gather on the hillside up at The Brake for a Dawn communion that welcomes daybreak, the daybreak of Easter, the breaking of eternal life into the world. And at ten when we sing 'Jesus Christ is risen today', the hairs on the back of my neck will raise and tingle once more.

I'm a man who sees a glass as half full, never half empty. I know in my heart as well as my mind that sunshine always follows the rain, rather than the other way round. I'm an eternal optimist – I have to be as a fisherman, for the next cast will always procure the big one I've been waiting for! But it is Easter that gives us the real hope, and its brilliant light shines in the darkness. Indeed it sheds light on the whole world all the year round as the empty tomb echoes with the sound of God's laughter. So if you do see me looking gloomy this month, just hand me a daffodil, remind me that Easter is coming, and I shall be eternally grateful! Meanwhile, Happy Lent to all of you!

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Feb 1	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev P. Rowe & J McBride
	6pm	Candlemas with Choir	Mr D Jones & S Shaw
Feb 8	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Rev David Bone
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
Feb 15	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe
	6pm	Evensong	Rev Ann Lloyd
Feb 18	9am	Holy Communion with Ashing	Rev Roly Bain
Feb 22	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Celtic Communion	Rev R Bain & Rev P Hine
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Mr T Cook & Rev P. Rowe

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 Chancel

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Feb 8	5.30	Holy Communion.	Rev. Ann Parker
Feb 22	5.30	Evening Service	Rev. Ann Parker

Focal Minister: **Rev Ann Parker**, 01454 632329

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680 Janet Ford 633300

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Feb 1	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
Feb 15	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Feb 8	9am	Family Service	Sandra Edgerton
Feb 22	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Feb 1	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Dilwyn Edwards Evening Worship led by Rev. Pete Brazier
Feb 8	10.30	Th. Meth. Ch.	Mission Cluster Service led by Rev P. Brazier
Feb 15	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Rosalie Doyle
Feb 22	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 11th February To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm at the Swan on Thurs 19th February. To book please ring 613241 or 612112

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olv. Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUPS One on Tues 10th Feb at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston led by Mr Glyn Varney or Mrs Rosalie Doyle. Another led by Rev Sandy Williams. Please ring 416528 for details. .

THE OLVESTON INTERNET CAFÉ Olveston Methodist Hall
Monday 2-4pm Wednesday 10-12 Friday 7-9pm

Ring 07833 354672 or 07957 433091 for further information.

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176,

e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

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

Feb 1	6.30pm	Mike Jenkinson
Feb 8	6.30pm	Ed Stuart
Feb 15	6.30pm	Vic Soffe
Feb 22	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & PraiseTime

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

Paul Ashford, 07774 110 814 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

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: Roger Howell at rogerhowell2@talktalk.net 01454 294367

National: www.quaker.org.uk Bristol area: www.bristolquakers.org.uk

Diary Dates for February 2015

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

1 st Sun	Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social club	7pm	
2 nd Mon	Monday Movie Alveston Gardens Assn: Westonbirt	7.30pm 7.30pm	S+M JH
3 rd Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	WR DGCL
4 th Wed	Holy Communion Tea & Biscuits after O.P.H.S. - Bristol Zoo early days	2.30pm 7.30pm	DGCL OMC
5 th Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
6 th Fri	Thornbury Carers' Support group Jazz with Jessica AH fundraiser	1-3pm 7.30pm	Chy AH
7 th Sat	Coffee Morning Gautampuri Soup Kitchen Nat. Libraries Day Events at Th. Library	10.30-12.00 12.00-2pm	MH OV
9 th Mon	Mobile Library Orchard Rise(also 23rd) Mobile Library Daldry Gardens (also23rd) Mobile Library Old P.O.- L-O-S (also23rd) '	11.10-11.25 11.30-11.50 12.00-12.15	
10 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café W I Talk: Panama Canal Aust Parish Council meeting	9.30-11.30pm 10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL TMH PH EVH
11 th Wed			
12 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Th. & District Flower Club Demonstration	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 7.30pm	OS+ MH TMH
13 th Fri	'Thornbury & the Railway' talk	7.30pm	URC
14 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	AVH MH
16 th Mon	Children's Movie Club Monday Movie Extra	10.00am 7.30pm	S+M S+M
17 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	WR DGCL
18 th Wed	Parish Players 'Oliver' until 21 st Th. Musical Theatre Gp. Pied Piper	7.30pm 2.30 20 th 21 st 7.30each eve	PH AH

	Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	8.30pm	
19 th Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop	9.00-1.30 10.00-12.00	OS+
21 st Sat	Coffee Morning Th. Choral Soc. Come, Sing with us	10.30-12.00 from 10.30.	MH Th.Bap
23 rd Mon	Great War Remembered Highlights	7.30pm	StM
24 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café Olv. Parish Council meeting	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	WR DGCL TMH AP
25 th Wed	Th. & District Flower Club A.G.M. Alveston Local History Society talk	1.00pm 7.30pm	AH AMH
26 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Th. & District Flower Club Workshop	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 7.30pm	OS+ MH TMH
27 th Fri	Quiz & Fish Supper Th. Rotary Cl. Swimathon also 28th & 1 st	7.30pm	PH
28 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
Looking ahead to March			
20th	Great Olveston Wine Challenge (OPTA)		PH

KEY: AC Aust Church; 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.CTK Christ the King DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton Village Hall; LVH Littleton Village Hall MH – Olveston Methodist Hall;OMC Olv Meth Ch OS – Olveston School; OSt – 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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