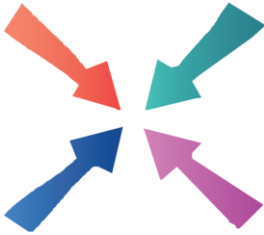


Meeting Point



January 2018



Meeting Point

Volume 42, Number 4, January 2018

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

From the Editor

EDITOR:

Marelin Orr-Ewing
Courtlands
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DU
Tel: 01454 610081
*meetingpointeditor@
gmail.com*

ASSISTANT EDITOR:

Angela Williams
Ashlea
Haw Lane
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4EG
Tel 01454 612850
*meetingpointmagazine@
gmail.com*

ADVERTISING:

Nigel Dawes
Cromwell House
The Street,
Olveston
Bristol BS35 4DR
Tel: 01454 201558
julie.dawes@tiscali.co.uk

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As I began to put this edition together I realised I have been editing Meeting Point for a full year now. To say it has been a learning curve would be an understatement. I now know things about font sizes, formatting paragraphs and the perils of clipart that I never dreamed I would ever need.

Our profile this month is of Revd. David Moss who, on 1st January, will replace Revd. Philip Rowe as vicar of St Mary's, Olveston. We are keen to continue with these monthly profiles and if possible to include people who live all over the Meeting Point area. So, if you have a suggestion of a person from Aust, Littleton upon Severn or indeed any of the villages that we serve, please get in touch.

I have enjoyed our monthly features on birds and on growing vegetables. While the vegetable plot is pretty much dormant at the moment, we have an account of a very colourful interloper on our 'Birds' page this month.

Marelin

The cover is by Cheryl Millar

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

News from St. Mary's

Trevor Cook

Although we sing the carol 'In Bleak Midwinter' at Christmas, it is often the case that our bleak midwinter begins in January. Hopefully you are all keeping warm and well. Perhaps you can drive away the winter blues by dreaming of summer and put a date in your diaries for our 'Rose Ball' which will be held on July 14th this year.



Star Trail

Before Christmas we organised an exciting new initiative in church, called the Star Trail. It involved a trail, following stars, which led you round different activities related to the Christmas story, encouraging people to reflect upon the Christmas story in a different way. When Olveston Primary and Tockington Manor visited, the stations were manned by volunteers who led the activities for the children. It was much appreciated and Tockington Manor said, 'The children thoroughly enjoyed learning the story of Christmas and the way it was delivered to them was perfect.'

Toy Service

The outcome of the Toy Service was very encouraging. People were extremely generous and the Tockington Manor choir sang beautifully. The Salvation Army was delighted with what they received and will distribute them to disadvantaged children.

Christian Unity

We are all looking forward to our service for Christian Unity on 21st January, at 10am during a service which we will, of course, share with our Methodist friends. The Dean of Bristol Cathedral will officiate and during the service will bless the new Credence table, dedicated to the memory of Roly Bain.

Breakfast Club/Open Book

Parents of children at Olveston School will already know about the Open Book performances that were held in the school and others will remember the Breakfast Club that used to be held in the School Hall. On 28th January at 10am, Paul Harrod will bring these two special activities together in the church and hope you will come along and share. Breakfast will be served at the beginning of the service and it will feature Open the Book, a dramatic retelling of a Bible story.

Quiz Night

Our next Quiz Night will be held on 3rd February in the church starting at 7.30pm. Booking is recommended as numbers are limited; do please contact Debbie Harries by email at oboe-debbie@live.co.uk to make a reservation. Teams of up to six people are allowed and the cost is £5 each which includes a supper at half time.

Alveston Gardens Association



'Butchart Gardens, Canada'

A presentation by Sue & John Willams.

7.30pm in Alveston Jubilee Hall
Monday 8th January

All welcome – Visitors (£3)

Full programme:
www.alveston.org

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners December 2017:

£50 John Welsher
£15 Alan Maunder
£5 Chris Northover

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

18/11/17 Mike Rowen

Happy Christmas & Best Wishes for 2018 from everyone at Old Down Cricket Club.

Up the Down!!

Revd. David Moss

Pat Thirkettle



David Moss was born in Bristol, educated at Cotham Grammar School before studying Pharmacy at Sunderland Polytechnic and returned briefly to Bristol to complete his Pharmacy studies at Southmead Hospital. After a short spell in Israel he returned to Bristol once again to work at 'Goods the Chemist' in Gloucester Road, Patchway.

'I came to faith through Crusaders, so when I returned to Bristol it only seemed natural to help out and become a Crusader leader. Our 'boys only' Crusader Group had to modernise and become mixed so we looked around for female leaders. Sue, who was studying nursing at the then Bristol Polytechnic, volunteered

and we ended up marrying in 1988'. Sue and David have five sons aged between twenty five and eight, Joel, Aaron, Isaac, Reuben and Nathaniel. Sue works in Public Health at Bristol City Council.

David explained how he came to be a vicar. *'My boss wanted to retire and sell the business and suggested that I might buy it. It was a really good opportunity, a good business and fantastic staff team but it also made us look at other opportunities. We struggled to know what God was saying, and approached The Church Missionary Society to see if we could use our nursing/pharmacy skills abroad. That year I spent a week as usual helping with the national crusader summer camp on the Isle of Wight. The regular Chaplain was unavailable so it was suggested (at the last moment) that I take his place. Whether it was the summer chaplaincy I don't know, but CMS were not too sure about our application and suggested I might make a better vicar than missionary. So here I am!'*

After training at Ridley Hall Theological College, Cambridge his first curacy was at St Michael's and All Angel's Highworth where he managed an interregnum at the end of his curacy. It was 1997 and with a new Vicar appointed, Bishop Barry sent David to St Michael's Windmill Hill, Bedminster.

'Windmill Hill was a lovely Parish, people were proud of their church but money was scarce. We desperately needed a Junior Church Room'.

Some of the money came from a Government initiative of the time that provided grants for after-school play schemes.

'This was a brilliant opportunity not only would the church become a centre for working parents to send their children, it also provided new junior church facilities. Unfortunately despite the grant and the generosity of the congregation, the money ran out and we decided to complete the project ourselves. We dismissed the builders on the Friday and met the following Tuesday convinced that we could finish the building work on our own. We managed to paint half a wall badly. Everyone felt quite depressed. The building would never be finished on time for the play scheme to open!'

At this time Sue had just started working for a small charity in Knowle West and attended a training course where she sat next to a Probation Officer. He happened to enquire what Sue's husband did for a living and when she replied that he was a vicar, he asked if the church needed any help as he needed to find voluntary work on Saturday mornings for a group of people. When this group had completed the new community room, they went on to redecorate the whole church; for David it was a God-incidence.

'There were many other little God-incidences along the way; 'surprises' that brought new people from the community into the church and helped fill our Junior Church with young people'.

The Archdeacon suggested that after twenty years at Windmill Hill, David might like a fresh opportunity to work elsewhere. They came here informally in February, and everywhere they went they were greeted with warmth and love which convinced them that it was the best move they could make. David was licensed in a wonderful service at St Mary's Olveston in November, attended by people from Alveston, Elberton, Littleton, Aust, the Parish Council and friends from Bedminster. The family live in Alveston Vicarage with Whisper the golden retriever; David started his ministry mainly there but on January 1st he will replace Revd. Philip Rowe as vicar of St Mary's Olveston.

Obviously they will miss their old church, but it is the right time to move. David feels strongly about living in the present and future, but this snapshot of his past work in Bedminster makes interesting reading. He says God is full of surprises, examples in his life include being encouraged to take up the ministry and being asked to consider moving. He wants the churches thoroughly involved in their local communities and has no idea what surprises are in store during the next five years as he takes up the reins in five rural parishes, so different from Bedminster.



MONDAY MOVIES in St Mary's Church, Olveston is now in its **eighth** year and continues to grow in popularity.

Here are a few reasons why people say they come to the evening shows:

The friendly welcome

Thought-provoking films

A glass of wine while watching

Local venue in a beautiful setting

The chance to watch classics I missed, plus films I'd never heard of

Refreshments in the interval

The chance to see new films soon after release

Just like cinemas used to be - small, intimate and friendly

Lots of people to chat to

I hugely enjoy coming!

If you haven't yet been, come and join the hundreds who have!

First and third Monday evenings of each month at 7.30pm

Plus children's films at 10.00am most Mondays in the school holidays.

Free admission, but we do value a small donation at the end towards expenses if you have enjoyed the show.

What are we showing in January? See next page....



JANUARY PROGRAMME

Trevor Anderson

MONDAY MOVIES (1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7.30pm)

Mon 1 Jan: What better way to start the New Year than with this, one of the most successful musicals ever filmed? Filled with great songs, priceless dialogue and amazing choreography, it is wonderful and awe-inspiring, and the characters are among the most memorable in film history. (1952, Cert U)

Mon 15 Jan: The story unfolds on land, sea and air in this recently released World War II thriller about the evacuation of Allied troops from the French city of Dunkirk before Nazi forces can take hold. (2017, Cert 12)

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB (10.00am most Mondays in the school hols)

Next movie **Mon 19 Feb.** Details next month.

All the films are shown in **St Mary's Church, Olveston** and doors open 30 minutes before the start. Refreshments are available at all the shows, plus licensed bar in the evenings and popcorn and soft drinks in the mornings.



We make no charge for entry, but we do value and appreciate a small **donation** at the end towards expenses if you have enjoyed the evening.

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

Poppy Appeal Thanks

Stan Bradburn

On behalf of The Royal British Legion I would like thank everyone who helped in raising a grand total of £6902.48 for the 2017 Poppy Appeal.

It has been a tremendous effort on the part of all the small businesses and the schools of Pilning Severn Beach Olveston and Tockington, the house to house collectors of Olveston, and all the people who helped man the stall at Aust Services .Also the local churches and their associated organisations.

Many thanks once again to all concerned.

Parakeets

Trevor Cook

When I go to visit my friend in Sunbury-on-Thames, I always look for the flocks of parakeets (parakeets are a sub-set of the parrot family, distinguished by their long tails) that have made their home there. Indeed, if you travel to anywhere around London you are likely to encounter the Ring Necked Parakeet.

Obviously bright green parrots flying around English gardens cannot be mistaken for anything else, and they are so noisy they are hard to ignore.

Because they are descended from escapees, they raise the question about whether to cull them or allow them to integrate into our existing bird population?

Personally I think the pure numbers (an estimated 30.000 birds) would prevent ridding ourselves of these attractive visitors. The problem that they pose is about the long-term impact that the birds might have on our existing ecology.



They have colonised much of London and the Home Counties, but don't think that they are limited to the South East; there have been sightings in Bristol and as close as New Passage.

It seems that seeing parrots flying around the parishes is a sight that we can expect in the next few years. Whether they will

be welcome or not remains to be seen.

Alveston Local History Society

January 24th Was Thornbury a Target in the Cold War? John Stennard.

February 28th Barber Surgeons of the 14th and 15th Centuries. John Putley

March 28th The 18th Century Naval Cook. Ed Boreham

April 25th The Somerset Food Riots. Steve Poole

May 23rd (Plus a short AGM) A Look at Thornbury through Ten Items. Meg Wise

ALHS meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of each month at the Alveston Methodist Church at 7.30pm. Members pay £12 annually and visitors £2.50 per talk. For further information contact Jennie Hensley on 01454 417186.

The Parish Players present 'The Wizard of Oz'

February is fast approaching, and the Parish Players are excited to be putting this year's show together for half term at the Parish Hall in Tockington.

The 1939 MGM version of Frank Baum's children's book 'The Wonderful Wizard of Oz' (written in 1900) is considered one of the greatest films in cinema history, and holds the record for the most watched. Interestingly, Baum had signed away the rights to the work to help pay his debts, but continued to write novels about the Land of Oz: his seventh and last was published in 1913.

The Parish Players are presenting what is known as the Munny version: classically staged and more theatrically conservative, but with music and lyrics as for the screen. These include all the evergreen box office hits, such as 'Somewhere over the Rainbow', 'The Merry Old Land of Oz', 'Ding, Dong the Witch is Dead', together with the unforgettable theme songs of Dorothy's companions.



The iconic role of Dorothy Gale from Kansas is double cast with dedicated members of previous shows, Isobel Lambie and Aggie Barnes. The former played the mischievous Tinkerbelle in last year's Peter Pan, and the latter made a popular 'Annie' the

year before. Isobel's younger sister, Bryony, plays a Munchkin, and Aggie's sister Jemima is an accomplished dancer and dance captain of the show.

Both Dorothys are enjoying the humorous interaction with David Proud as the endearing brainless scarecrow, newcomer Paul Dimery as the 'heartless' Tin Woodman, and the Cowardly Lion, played by the experienced Ray Hale. Amy Sunderland has the role of the Wicked Witch of the West and also plays Aunt Em, Dorothy's guardian, as is traditional. Amy also has dancer daughters in the show, as have several members of the cast. Another newcomer, Van Andrew, is cast as the sparkling Sorceress of the North.

The mysterious and terrifying Wizard himself is played by Richard Newley. Evie Snadden and Talia Nichols are double cast in the role of Gloria, the daughter of the Lord Chamberlain of Oz, played by Brian Brown. There are also many cameo roles and a large chorus of Munchkins, the Ozian army, ghosts, skeletons and dancers for the snowflake ballet.

Jill Harris as Choreographer is working hard to create all the different styles of dance required.

The backstage team is again led by the gifted Andy Black as Set Designer – Munchkinland is a technicolour fantasy after all. He is assisted by stalwarts Rod Williams, Richard Newley and Brian Brown, with Andy Allsopp Jones as Stage Manager. The fantasy element depends on sound and lighting effects: Richard Churchill returns as invaluable designer and technician.

Cath Chappel, with her assistants, is in charge of the challenging costumes, both for the fairy-tale characters and the extraordinary woodland animals. The fantastic Wizard is being designed by the children.

Chloe Allsopp Jones as Musical Director and Linda Evans as Director are looking forward to seeing everything come together for the audience's enjoyment. With so many young people and their parents involved, this certainly is a family show, with everyone contributing to make this truly magical production come to life.

The Wizard of Oz takes place during half term week on **Wednesday 14th to Saturday 17th February**, at the Parish Hall, Tockington: curtain up at 7.30pm.

Tickets go on sale on **Saturday 6th January, at 9.30–11.30am, in Olveston Stores**. Prices: £10 for adults, £7 for children and £12 for premium seats.

From 7th January, tickets may be obtained by phoning Richard and Jenny on **01454 202011**. *But don't dither! Tickets traditionally sell very fast.*

Follow the Parish Players on Facebook at www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers

Local Lord of the Manor

Olveston Parish Historical Society talk: all welcome.

Wednesday 3rd January 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church

Last year, we learned about Ralph Sadler, holder of the Manor of Olveston, who rose to a position of great influence in the Tudor court. Now we shall hear about another man, Sir Samuel Astry, who, in the next century, married a Gloucestershire heiress, bought extensive lands, became Lord of the Manor of Aust, and built The Great House at Henbury.

His Henbury estate with its gardens and avenues is shown here in the splendid engraving by Johannes Kip.



As Clerk of the Crown on the King's Bench, Samuel played a part in the Glorious Revolution of 1688, which saw the overthrow of King James II of England and brought William and Mary to the throne.

Come and hear Jennifer Bone and William Evans giving our January talk:
Sir Samuel Astry of Henbury and Aust and the Glorious Revolution.

William Evans will explain the issues at stake in this enormous upheaval and how it unfolded. Jennifer Bone will flesh out Sir Samuel Astry the man, examining his career, his landholdings and his family.

This talk is open to all. £2 for visitors. Hope to see you there!
www.olvoston.com/historical-society



Bréhan Visit 2018

Olveston Parish Twinning Association (OPTA) is all set for an enjoyable and busy year. For a start, our trip to Bréhan over the May Day weekend is firmly on the calendar. We took a full coach of both grown-ups and children last time we went, in 2015, and were made truly welcome. Everyone who came seemed to have a great time. We would very much like to take a large group this year and children will be especially welcome. The fine tuning of our plans is yet to take place but here is a provisional outline:

Bréhan May 4th – May 7th

Depart Olveston by coach approx. 4pm Friday 4th May.

Ferry Plymouth to Roscoff.

Arrive Bréhan approximately 12 noon on Saturday 5th May

Meet host families and settle in.

The programme, organized by our Bréhan friends, will include visits to local attractions, lovely food, possibly music and dancing. Whatever they arrange it is always good fun.

Depart Bréhan approximately 9.00am Monday 7th May.

Travel back via a supermarket (for essential supplies!) and a day crossing Roscoff to Plymouth.

Arrive back in Olveston around midnight,

The cost will be in the region of £125 per adult and children free.

If you would like more information about this trip, please contact Lucy Shrimpton. email: lucyshrimpton@talktalk.net or mobile: 07752942284

Quiz Night Friday 26th January

Our first fundraiser of the year is our Annual Quiz in the Parish Hall. This is usually a very popular event so please get together a team of four (not more, to keep it all fair) and get in touch with Lucy, see above, to book a table.

7pm for a prompt 7.30 start. Teams of 4

£5 per person to include some 'nibbles'. There will be a bar serving beer, wine and soft drinks.

Friends of St.Mary's

The prize winners in the December draw, held on 7th December 2017 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	151	Mrs H G Dangerfield, Olveston
£75	294	Mr J Mason, Tockington
£25	317	Mrs Y Williams, Olveston
£25	161	Mrs L Clarke, Olveston
£25	190	Mrs B Kingscott, Almondsbury
£20	210	Mrs C E Black, Thornbury
£20	333	Mr & Mrs R Garlick, Olveston
£20	462	Mrs M Morey, Portishead
£10	183	Mrs R Hitchcock, Olveston
£10	289	Mrs G Davies, Abergavenny
£10	481	Mr D Skinner, Sneyd Park
£10	379	Mr N H Dawes, Olveston
£10	589	Mr G B Amos, Olveston
£10	532	Mr M J Stevenson, Awkley

If you are not yet a member and wish to join the lottery please telephone Andy Phillips on 01454 614890.

'Rock of Ages' Dance

Thornbury & District Cancer Research UK

Come and join us and banish those winter blues! We have Rock of Ages performing at The Castle School on Saturday February 17th commencing at 7.30pm. Local drummer Brian Henley will help the band go with a swing, with great music from the 60s, 70s and 80s. Since it's close to Valentine's Day, red is the theme, with plenty of love to go round. Those of you who came to our last dance will know that a great foot tapping night will be enjoyed by all, whether you like to dance or just listen to some fabulous music. There will also be a Bar and a Raffle.

Tickets £12.50 per person, which includes refreshments, available from Thornbury Town Hall, Owens the Florist on the Plain, The Garden Shop off the High Street or give Jennie a call on 01454 415856.

We are sure that there will be a high demand for tickets so get in quick to secure yours! All profits from the evening will go to Cancer Research UK.

Cross-Country Running Success

Paul Harrod

For such a small group of villages, Olveston, Tockington and the surrounding area boasts a remarkable array of cross-country running talent.

Tockington Manor School has long prided itself on the quality of its cross-country teams, and former pupil Dalis Jones, (now at Marlwood), is the silver medallist from this year's English cross-country championship, and is reigning U13 Independent Schools National Champion. Not to be outdone, her brother Ceredig has also recently qualified to represent the county team at the Avon Schools cross-country championships, and is a key member of the Westbury Harriers U15 boys team who are the current Gwent League champions.

Dalis and Ceredig's father, JJ, is the driving force behind the remarkable cross-country success at Tockington Manor. Their U13 boys' team were fourth in the Independent Schools national competition, and their U11 boys won the 'Small Schools Trophy.' Tockington Manor is clearly a much smaller school than many of its rivals, so for the school to compete so well at a national level is extraordinary.

Earlier this year Olveston School won both the boys and girls team AND individual boy and girl titles in the South Glos. primary schools cross-country championships. This was the second year in a row the school enjoyed a clean sweep in all competitions.

The pictures below show representatives from Olveston School's South Glos. Cross-Country Championship winning teams.



Former Olveston pupils, now representing the Castle School and Marlwood School, have also enjoyed tremendous success, with James Harrod, Cole Edmund, George Shrimpton, George Peacock, Summer Johnson, Evie Turner and Anna Shrimpton all winning county races at some point over the past twelve months. The numbers of local children coming in second, third or in top 10 places are too numerous to mention! But they are all part of a greatly successful local running scene.

Police Report

PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery

I hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Year. As some of you will know, PC Pete Wozniak has now retired and is enjoying a few months off before starting a new role within Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

Beat Surgery 3rd January 2018 (Wednesday morning)

Easter Compton Village Hall 09:15am – 10:00am

Olveston Stores 10:30 – 11:15am

Thornbury Library

Computer Support Volunteers

Drop-in without an appointment on Monday mornings 10-12 to see Mike, our computer volunteer who can help with quick enquiries.

If you need more intensive support, book in to see our computer volunteer Chris on Thursday mornings at 9.30, 10.30 or 11.30. Sessions with Chris must be booked in advance – enquire in person at Thornbury Library or email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk

Looking for opening times, service information or contact details?

See our website www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

Winter Warmer Lunch

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to the Methodist Church Hall, Thornbury, on Wednesday 24th January at 1.00pm to our Winter Warmer lunch. This will be Cottage Pie and Crumble followed by tea or coffee. A vegetarian option will be available.

Tickets are priced at £8.00 per person and are available from the Town Hall in Thornbury, from 4th January 2018.

Craft Sessions in Littleton

Craft Sessions are continuing in Littleton Village Hall. We have a keen group of knitters who are working together to make jumpers for children in Gambia and hats for babies at Southmead. We have space for more people so please come and join us. If knitting isn't your thing, please bring something else to do, or just come for a chat and a coffee/tea. If you would like to learn to knit we can help you, and provide needles and wool - the jumpers we knit are an ideal first project! All ages welcome, it would be lovely to have some children coming along.

Sessions are on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month:
Jan 11th and 25th, Feb 8th and 22nd, March 8th and 22nd. !0 am to 12 noon.

FFI contact Janet Harrison 07799303737 or warren@townsendhouse.me.uk

January Puzzle

There is a television quiz show where, beforehand, 100 people are asked a question. The contestants on the programme then have to work out which answer was given by the fewest of those 100 people.

Here are anagrams of 5 countries whose usual names in English are eight letters long. Work out what they are and then which one got the fewest responses from the 100 people.

A THIN LAD GLIB AURA POLAR TUG ROMEO CAN VINO SALE

December Puzzle - Answers

Here are the correct groups from the 'Word Wall' and the connection that links them:

Fairy Godmother/Dandini/Ugly Sisters/Baron Hardup: Cinderella

Hart/Fawn/Buck/Doe: The Deer family.

Millican (Sarah)/Éclair (Jenny)/Tate(Catherine)/Brand(Jo or Katy): Comedians

Chip Cookie/Brownie/Buttons/Yule Log: Chocolate

RockPipes Burns' Night

This is a reminder about the Burns' night with a difference at the Armstrong Hall on Saturday 20th January 2018, 7pm, with entertainment provided by RockPipes, a 7 piece Celtic Rock Band.

There are still some tickets available. Included in the price you get a two course meal, a welcoming whisky dram, music, dancing, fun and games. The bar will be open.

£25, per person, available from Thornbury Town Hall or online: www.rockpipes.co.uk or contact Andy Warn on: 07916 253267

Wriggle Jigglers

Nicki Barnes

Young Folk Concert -Sun 7th January 2.30pm Rockhampton Village Hall

This exciting young group from Thornbury and Rockhampton have been making a name for themselves at Sidmouth and South Downs Folk Festivals and as finalists in the National Festival of Music for Youth. They have also raised £2017 this year for the 'Warchild' charity by performing and busking.

They will be playing a mixture of Traditional Irish folk and some of their own compositions on fiddles, whistles, guitar, double bass, cajon and vocals. The hour-long performance will be followed by cream tea.

Tickets £6 on the door, including tea and cake. Proceeds to Warchild charity.



For more information please call or text 07973 796508

The Chantry Thornbury

Quiz Night Thursday 18th January 7.30pm

Come along and test your knowledge at our monthly quiz. £1 per person and up to 4 to a team. Bar open.

www.thechantry.org.uk email: office@thechantry.org.uk 01454 414268

Young Musicians' Afternoon Concert

Saturday 20th January 3.00pm in the Cossham Hall Thornbury,

Start the New Year by enjoying a delightful classical musical concert, accessible to all, given by our top local young musicians. This is a chance to celebrate the talent of a dedicated group of instrumentalists aged 11 to 18 and to enjoy a varied selection of solo pieces and ensembles including strings, piano, woodwind and brass, organised and introduced by well known local professional musician, Michael Lunts.

The concert will be in two parts with an interval for you to enjoy tea and cakes, and is expected to finish around 4.30pm. All proceeds from the event will go to the Armstrong Hall Redevelopment Project (Phase 1). Tickets £7.50 (£5 for children under 16) to include interval refreshments available from the Town Hall or phone 01454 412272.

Resolve to help others this New Year.

With the festivities of Christmas over, you may be at a loose end and volunteering in your local community could be just the answer you are looking for. By giving just an hour a week of your time you can make a huge difference to those that you help, and volunteering has been shown to improve your health and happiness too!

Thornbury Volunteer Centre can provide you with information and support on volunteering opportunities in the local area which best suit your needs, skills and time available, whilst making sure that you find volunteering an enjoyable and worthwhile experience. We are contacted regularly by groups and organisations that are seeking to recruit volunteers from all walks of life, levels of expertise (from none to highly skilled) and time available.

Age, gender or disability is not a barrier to volunteering. Anyone who is able to spare some time, from an hour a week to once a month or even just on a one-off basis, would be warmly welcomed by someone in the community.

If you would like to find out more please contact Thornbury Volunteer Centre on 01454 413392; email mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk; visit our website on www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk; follow us on twitter: @thornburyvc or Facebook: thornburyvolunteers. Alternatively, call into the office at Thornbury Town Hall between 10.30am-12 noon Monday to Friday. We look forward to meeting you.



Swimarathon 2018

Can you swim 25 metres, the length of the pool? Why not put your talent to good use and raise money for charities?

Come and join hundreds of other South Gloucestershire swimmers at the annual Swimarathon fundraising event that will take place at **Thornbury Leisure Centre over the weekend of 2nd – 4th March 2018.**

Swim to the pulsating beat of the Castle School Steel Band creating a carnival atmosphere by the pool. We are looking for teams of enthusiastic swimmers to help us raise sponsorship to exceed the £21,000 raised in 2017. This exciting event is a fun, sponsored relay challenge for all age groups, raising money for many local charities and good causes. So, get together a team of up to 6 swimmers and send in an application to join one of the most enjoyable evenings you will have this winter – as always, entering a team is free.

The Rotary Club of Thornbury is delighted to have Berkeley Vale Motors as the main sponsor again for 2018 with lots of support from many other local businesses. We are organising this event to support Cystic Fibrosis Trust, Jigsaw Thornbury and many other local charities, good causes and initiatives.

More details are available on the website:
www.thornburyrotary.org/swimarathon.

To find out more please email the organiser via
Swimarathon@thornburyrotary.org.



Yours Faithfully

*Danny Bamfield
Aust Evangelical Church*

God has walked my trail.

Jesus said in John 16v33 "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart I have overcome the world." What an interesting thought that no matter what I face or go through in life Jesus has already been there and come through victorious. Perhaps God is not as far away or distant as we think, someone who doesn't understand our problems and cannot help us. We do not have a high priest who is unable to empathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are, yet he did not sin. "Let us then approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace in our time of need." Hebrews 4v15-16

I have recently read Bruchko by Bruce Olson(thoroughly recommended) which is about a 19 year old who became a missionary to a remote tribe in South American forests. They had no contact with the outside world because their language and customs were totally different. What was important to these Motilone Indians was that each had his own trail. Through a peculiar way they realized that Jesus had walked their trail, he knew the way and could help them. Jesus has walked our trail, he knows the way, the problems, the hardships, the joys, the wrong turnings that lead to gloom and despair and he has promised to guide us.

The Lord is my shepherd I lack nothing
He makes me lie down in green pastures
He leads me beside quiet waters. He refreshes my soul
He guides me along the right paths for his name sake
Even though I walk through the darkest valley
I will fear no evil, for you are with me
Your rod and your staff they comfort me.
You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies,
You anoint my head with oil and my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Psalm 23

If I needed to go somewhere, I would not ask someone who didn't know the way. I want someone who has been there and their good advice would be invaluable.

As we step into the New Year let us put our hand into the hand of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is great company and an excellent guide.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Jan 7	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion	Revs D Moss & A Lloyd
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Mr Paul Harrod
Jan 14	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Helen Webb
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Mr Trevor Cook
	6pm	Holy Communion	Revs A Lloyd & D Bone
Jan 21	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Christ Unity Service	Dean of Bristol
	6pm	Evensong	Mr Trevor Cook
Jan 28	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ann Lloyd
	10am	Fresh Expressions Service	Mr Paul. Harrod
	6pm	Candlemas	Rev David Moss

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev David Moss, 01454 415190; email: mossds@gmail.com

.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 except 4th Wed when it is at Olveston Methodist Church

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily except Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Jan 14	9.45	Holy Communion	Revs A Parker/D Moss
Jan 28	9.45	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Parker

Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Jan 7	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss
Jan 21	9am	Morning Prayer	Mrs Tracey Black

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jan 8	7.30	Plough Monday	Rev. David Moss
Jan 14	9am	Matins	Judith Heybyrne
Jan 28	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Jan 7	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship led by Mrs Rosemary Shaw
Jan 14	10am	Olv.Ch.	Annual Covenant Service led by Rev Pete Brazier
	6pm	Olv. Ch.	Unfolding Service led by Rev Pete & Mrs Debs Brazier
Jan 21	10am	St Mary;sCh	Week of Christian Unity Service
Jan 28	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev. Sandy Williams

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed. 10th January To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP Thursday 18th January at 12.15
To book your lunch please phone 613241

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUP Please see Church Newsletter for details

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC 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 House of Prayer

Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Designated as a 'House of Prayer for all Nations' in August 2005, we continue to meet in a relaxed atmosphere seeking, with God's help, to find ways to influence the world in which we live through prayer and relevant actions. This also includes sharing our own personal situations and praying for one another and the communities of which we are a part. Times of worship (in various forms), applying Biblical Truths and a time of remembrance of the death and resurrection of Jesus in sharing Communion are essential in our meeting together. We meet, 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

Jan 7	6.30pm	TBA
Jan 14	6.30pm	TBA
Jan 21	6.30pm	TBA
Jan 28	6.30pm	TBA

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & Praise Time

For further information please contact Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@gmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Family Worship 11.00am

For more details contact Ann Roberts 632564.

e-mail ann.roberts@bylanes.co.uk

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Evening Worship every Sunday at 6pm for details tel. 413247

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am

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: Roger Howell rog3er2@gmail.com 01454 415035

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

Diary Dates for January 2018

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

1 st Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	S+M
2 nd Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Tea/Coffee & bis. 50p Monthly Raffle	10.30-12.00	DGCL
3 rd Wed	Computer Clinic every week Beat Surgery Holy Communion followed by Tea & Cake Table Tennis O.P.H.S. J. Bone & Bill Evans: Sir Samuel Astry of Henbury & Aust	10.00-12.00 10.30-11.15 2.30pm 7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	MH OSt DGCL PH OMC
4 th Thu	Thornbury Farmers Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	 OSt MH
5 th Fri	Making Space for Wildlife Haven Memory Café Thornbury Carers Support Group Computer Clinic every week	10am-8pm 10.15-11.45 1.00-3.00 7.00-9.00pm	MH URC Chy MH
6 th Sat	Wizard of Oz Tickets on sale Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	OSt MH
7 th Sun			
8 th Mon	Computer Clinic every week	2.00-4.00pm	MH
9 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café W.I. Katie Scaife 'Our Forgotten Landscape Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30pm	MH TMH PH EVH
10 th Wed	Table Tennis Peter Pan until Sat 13th	7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	PH CTK
11 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OSt MH
12 th Fri	Th Picture House A United Kingdom	7.30pm	CH
13 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	MH AVH
14 th Sun			
15 th Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	S+M
16 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
17 th Wed	Table Tennis Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	7-8.30pm 8.30pm	PH
18 th Thu	Thornbury Farmers Market	9.00-1.30	S+M

	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS+ MH
19 th Fri	Haven Memory Café	10.15-11.45	URC
20 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
21 st Sun			
22 nd Mon			
23 rd Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45	DGCL TMH
24 th Wed	Table Tennis	7-8.30pm	PH
25 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS+ MH
26 th Fri	OPTA Quiz	7.30pm	PH
27 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
28 th Sun	Aust Quiz Night at Boar's Head	7.30pm	
29 th Mon			
30 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
31 st Wed	Table Tennis	7-8.30pm	PH
Looking ahead to February			
3rd	St Mary's Quiz	7.30pm	StM
14 th -17 th	Wizard of Oz	7.30pm	PH

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alv Meth. Ch.; **AMH**- Alv Meth. 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** – Olv.Meth.Hall; **OMC** Olv Meth Ch **OS** – Olv. School; **OS+** – Olv. Stores; **OSH** Old Sch. Hall Alm; **PH** – Olv Parish Hall; **StM** St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church **StMTSt Mary's Thorn** **TCh** Tock Chapel; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; ; **WR** – Wesley Rooms. **URC** United Reform Ch Th

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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