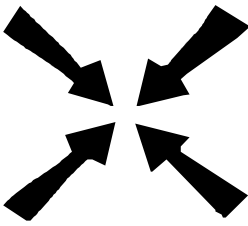


MEETING POINT



JULY 2014



Meeting Point

Volume 38, Number 10, July 2014

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

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Publication date
1st of each month

Material for August 2014
to the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 7th July 2014.

From the Editor

In this edition of Meeting Point we highlight two local individuals, both of whom serve the community in different and valuable ways. High Sheriff of Gloucestershire, Tom Frost, writes about the distinguished office he currently holds. Then you can read about the prestigious South Gloucestershire Community Award recently received by June, in recognition of 38 years' service as Verger of St Mary's Church, Olveston.

Within these pages find out about a ball, a disco, a family fun day out, an open garden, a tea party ... and read about the business enterprise of our local primary school. Watch out, Lord Sugar!

The cover:
The Bakery Shop by Pippa Sumner, aged 8:
"I like the Bakery shop because they make yummie pastries".

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

The Role of the High Sheriff in the County

Tom Frost

High Sheriff of Gloucestershire 2014-15



I daresay that most people have absolutely no idea as to what on earth the role of High Sheriff represents nor indeed as to how he or she is appointed. Indeed until a few years ago I was of similar leaning and it was only when I was approached that I fully understood the significance of such a role that is deployed in each county.

In fact the office of High Sheriff goes back over a thousand years to Saxon times where “Shire-Reeves” as they were called, were appointed by the Crown to support the monarchy with extensive powers involving law enforcement, collecting taxes, judging cases in court and overseeing the Crown’s property in each Shire; in other words they were powerful individuals who represented law enforcement and ensured that the monarchy was kept safe and wealthy.

Over the years the powers were steadily eroded and the Sheriffs Act of 1887 consolidated the law relating to the role of the office to what it is today which is:

- To uphold the Constitution and support the Royal family, the judiciary and other law enforcement agencies including the police, emergency services, local authorities and church and faith groups;
- To support and encourage the voluntary sector;
- To assure the welfare of the High Court judges and local judiciary;
- To support the Lord Lieutenant on royal visits as appropriate;
- To act as Returning Office for parliamentary Elections in the County.

So how is the appointment made?

Basically anyone could become High Sheriff so long as they qualify under the conditions of the 1887 Act which in essence are that he or she must own a property in the county, have had no criminal record, not be an acting lawyer or JP and preferably to have lived in the county for a reasonable period of time.

One also has to make the time available to give to the role which is pretty well full-time!

The other factors are that the role is purely secular and is wholly non-political and most important of all, is also totally unfunded so all expenses have to come out of one's pocket!

The appointment is strictly for one year only and the nominations are made by the sitting High Sheriff with the support of a Consultative panel so as to ensure that the nomination is made three years in advance of taking office. The Consultative Panel is made up of the previous, current and next nominated High Sheriff, a member of the judiciary as well as a Deputy Lord Lieutenant as well as two other highly regarded members of the community. In Gloucestershire [which for this purpose includes South Gloucestershire] it has become practice to try to rotate the nominated person from different parts of the county. The nominated individual is then placed before the Royal Courts of Justice in the strand in London and read out on the eve of Martinmas (12th November) each year in front of the Lord Chief Justice and two judges of the High Court. Once nominated, the individual becomes "in Nomination" until he or she is formally approved, otherwise known as "pricked" by the Monarch which takes place at the beginning of March each year and it is only then that the individual is known as the "next High Sheriff" rather than "in Nomination".

The final piece of the jigsaw is the Declaration service itself which generally takes place between mid-March to mid-April. This ceremony can take place anywhere but must include the reading of the Statutory Declaration of Office in front of a Judge of Her Majesty's High Court or before a justice of the Peace for the county.

Over the past three years Gloucestershire has tied the declaration into the annual Legal service of the County's Crown Court Evensong held in the fabulous surroundings of Gloucester's Cathedral Church, thereby allowing the service to be a public service rather than something that is a private occasion. This year's service took place on 30 March.

Anyway, I hope this gives you a better understanding of the role and I feel hugely privileged to have been nominated for the forthcoming year and I shall make a special effort to represent the interests of South Gloucestershire even though the role is charged to cover the whole county. I should welcome any suggestions that anyone feels might be relevant within the terms of my brief especially matters that impact on the wellbeing of the county's law and order or particular voluntary organisations that need encouragement or support and I will do my best to address them. You can email me on the High Sheriff's email address which is lifa@highsheriffgloucestershire.org

June Robbins receives an award

Jennifer Bone



Those of us who live in the parish of Olveston know how much we owe to the many people who help to make it so pleasant to live in our community. Other towns and villages across South Gloucestershire can tell the same story. Once a year, by means of the Chair's Community Awards, South Gloucestershire formally recognises *"the immense contribution of many of those who work tirelessly and with no financial*

reward" in the interests of those among whom they live. This year one of the recipients was Olveston's own June Robbins.

The Awards Ceremony was hosted by South Gloucestershire and Stroud College, at its splendid WISE Campus in Stoke Gifford. The evening began with a drinks reception and the opportunity to meet up with distinguished guests such as the Lord-Lieutenant (Dame Janet Trotter), the Vice Lord-Lieutenant (Robert Bernays), Councillors and Council officers, and the senior staff of the College. An excellent buffet supper followed, then everyone repaired to the Campus Theatre for the Awards Ceremony itself.

Thirty six people were honoured, from teenagers to octogenarians, and for a very varied range of activities. June's citation in the programme focused on her thirty eight years as the Vergers of St Mary's: *"she has given time over and above the call of duty to show compassion, care and help throughout the parish. She brings help, advice and comfort to parishioners in their time of need"*.

A presentation was made to each recipient in turn by the Chair of South Gloucestershire, Councillor Ian Boulton, each recorded on camera. The occasion was enlivened by some excellent singing and dancing by the College's students. It was a splendid event, made possible through the good offices of the Council and the College, and very much appreciated by those present. Even the weather co-operated – as we left for home it was still a warm and pleasant summer's evening.

An apprentice's challenge

On Wednesday 7th May, Year 4 and Year 3 at Olveston School did an Apprentice challenge and pitched their design of an energy bar. They pitched to Ian Curtis from The Crusty Loaf bakers and Nikki Clarke, who is in food marketing. To prepare for this, they went in groups of 8 and were given team roles. They went through tasting, packaging, recipes, cost and profit.

We are very pleased to share an article written by the Year 3 winning team, 'Muscle Power':

“At Olveston C.E.V.C. Primary School, we had a bake-off competition last term. We made energy bars for the Crusty Loaf bakery. Muscle power won with their bar, it was called powerful punch. JJ was the team leader, the people in their team were JJ, Cameron, Maddie, Sophie, George, Shantelle and Dennis. Muscle Power chose to add: sunflower seeds, cranberries and pumpkin seeds to the basic flapjack recipe. They were judged by Big Bear (Mr Curtis) and Fox (Mrs Clarke), leaders from the Beavers. People loved the energy bars, they are still on sale at the Crusty Loaf now, for £1.50/bag. The Crusty Loaf are even going to make some for the Summer Fete. People said that the energy bars were 'Amazing', 'Delicious', 'Best I've ever tasted' and 'Spectacular'.

“On Tuesday 10th June we all visited the Bakery and learned how they had made our energy bars on a larger scale and we bought some to try for ourselves.”
JJ and Aron, Yr3



The Bakery visit

Oveston Parish Council Matters

Richard Rogers
(*olvestonpc@gmail.com*)

Western Power Distribution (WPD) is responsible for the electricity network in our region, and has sent the Parish Council some good advice on how to be prepared if ever there is a power cut. WPD is not a company which parishioners pay their electricity bills to, but is the first company to ring in the event of a power outage.

WPD suggests that parishioners consider how dependent they are on electricity for keeping warm, cooking and contacting friends/family or the emergency services. Many modern telephones especially digital or cordless ones don't work in a power cut, mobile phones only have limited battery life, so it is a good idea to have at least one analogue phone in the house (together with a list of contact phone numbers). Keep a torch handy, a wind-up/battery/solar radio so that you can listen to local radio updates, and protect sensitive electrical equipment such as computers with a surge protector plug. Other useful items could include a powerbank (for recharging mobile phones), a foil blanket and a re-useable hand warmer. See www.westernpower.co.uk/Power-outages for more info.

Make sure that any essential medical equipment has battery back-up, and that any mains operated stair lift can be safely returned to ground level in the event of a power failure. Ring 0845 601 2989 or email wpdpriorityservices@westernpower.co.uk if you think you need to be placed on WPD's Priority Services Register. WPD also has arrangements with the Royal Voluntary Service and the British Red Cross to provide assistance to vulnerable customers.

If you experience a power cut, check to see if your neighbours are affected. If not, the problem could be with your fuses. Check your trip switch is in the 'on' position. If your trip switch has operated, switch off all your appliances and try to reset the trip. If the trip switch has not operated, and you can find no other reason, please contact WPD on 0800 365 900 as soon as possible – they may even be able to indicate when your electricity will be restored.

The Parish Council has also received a Guide for travelling by bus to **Southmead Hospital**, from South Glos Council. Copies of the map showing which buses go to Southmead Hospital can be obtained by ringing 01454 868004, or by emailing onthemove@southglos.gov.uk.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper
(austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

The Future of your parish

Please don't forget to return your **parish plan questionnaire** by the end of the month – if your Councillors don't know what you would like in your parish, they can't act on your wishes!

And a date for your diaries **Wednesday 2 July at 7.30pm in Aust Village Hall**: South Gloucestershire Council has published its Core Planning Strategy which will be amplified on specific local issues in another document. The Parish Council was asked to submit proposals for additional development in the parish, and said that there should be none. We also asked that the village development boundary should be removed from Aust village– which would mean that the village would all be in the green belt. This will be a **meeting with representatives of South Gloucestershire Council** to talk about this proposal. Please come to hear what is said and express your views to South Gloucestershire Council about the parish as a whole, not just Aust village.

There is a proposal to run a **half marathon on August bank holiday** Sunday (24th August) over the old Severn Bridge and back, including a loop to Elberton, through Littleton, to Kington, Mumbleys and back to the bridge down the B4461. The B4461 and Mumbleys hill would be closed from 8 am to 1.30 pm and at least some of the bridge during that time. The Parish Council is concerned about safety on the roads that are not to be closed, and also the effect on farming operations if the roads are required for harvest because of the weather.

Lastly, it seems that the **decision on the proposed wind farm at Ingst** will not be made until spring 2015 at the earliest. The developers are renewing some environmental surveys. This will take several months.

Littleton at Home

From a viewpoint behind the tea urn, it was a busy and very enjoyable event. Visitors had tea before, during and after touring the village: there were so many mouth-watering cakes to sample that return visits were obligatory for some. And that was in addition to glorious gardens open all over the village, plants to take home, 'made in Littleton' to buy, tombola and raffle to indulge in. I'm biased but I thought it was a great afternoon - *Ed*.

Flights of Fancy - Larks

Trevor Cook

The quintessential sound track to a summer's walk across the fields is the trilling song of the skylark. Seeing it is rather more difficult as we search for that small dark shape against the boundless sky. Sometimes, however, it can be found, fluttering its wings like a manic butterfly as it declares its territorial ambitions.

If you head out to Elberton, along the bridleway from Olveston, the skylark can be heard and seen in and above the corn fields. It is unmistakable and identified by its song in flight and position in the sky. When seen descending



Skylark ©Daniel Petterson

we can note that it continues to flutter its way back to the ground, landing discreetly a few metres from its nest amongst the grass or corn. If you get really lucky and get close to it on the ground, you will see that it has a small crest which identifies it.

It's one of those birds that have declined over the years but farmers are now cooperating and leaving patches of bare earth: it is thought that the bare patches provide a diversity of food which helps the skylark through the summer.

A bird which can confuse is the meadow pipit which also likes to sing its way up into the heavens but its song is a little plainer and less musical. Apart from the song, the meadow pipit descends differently, dropping with its wings raised, making more a parachute descent. Also, the meadow pipit is more often seen in open country, for example along the banks of the Severn where the terrain is wilder. It is often flushed out with a flash of white on the borders of its tail and an announcement that it is a 'pipit'. It has no crest.



Meadow Pipit ©Zambog

It takes a trip to Marshfield to find another similar bird, the rarer corn bunting, where it sits in the hedges and on the wires with a song which is often described as jangling of keys.

Hear the skylarks's song at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tkk7bnTG5JM>

July

Angela Daymond

Down by the water you might wonder where all the male mallards have gone. No longer the deep iridescent green headed drakes around, just the drab brown females. But look again, some of those heads are a bit darker, a little glint of green? These are the males. Their glorious colours now faded, job done in attracting a mate for this year, chicks fledged, it's time for birds to begin their annual moult.

Smaller birds will be doing the same, sitting quietly in the dense tree cover pecking off passing insects, waiting for their new feather growth to appear. Larger birds don't have the chance for this little break; raptors (birds of prey) must be able to hunt to survive. So they moult one or two feathers at a time, that's why they often appear to have gaps in their finger like wing tips.

But colour still abounds at the waterside. Dragonflies and damselflies dance in the sunlight. Emeralds, blues, reds and blacks, their shades appear almost tropical. Damselflies are the delicate ones that tend to stay close to the water's edge. When they rest they usually fold their wings together. Dragonflies on the other hand zoom about in fast darting movements and when they finally come to a stop will keep their wings flat. They have emerged from the water after spending sometimes up to five years in their larval stage, when they are known as naiads. During this time they lurk in the darkness eating mosquito larvae and the odd tadpole; they have the amazing skill to avoid predators themselves by accelerating out of danger by squirting water through their rear like a jet bike! Look for their empty body cases on reeds, left behind after the dragonfly has burst through its skin. No wonder they appear to be dancing. After all those years crawling around in a muddy pool, suddenly to find you can fly must be astounding, imagine the joy! Perhaps that's how we'll feel when we get our Angel wings?

St Peter's Hospice Garden Party

Sunday 6th July at The Pound, Church Road, Oldbury

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to The Pound, Church Road, Oldbury on Severn to a Garden Party to be held on Sunday 6th July, 2.30pm – 5.00pm (by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Paul Astle). Entrance is £3.00 to include tea and cake, raffle and stalls. Bring a picnic chair, listen to the music of "The Standing Stones" and enjoy the gardens.

Please come along and support St Peter's, your local hospice.

Family Fun Day at Stepping Stones

Saturday July 12th 10.00-12.00

In aid of Make a Wish Foundation

Come and join in the fun and support this worthwhile charity who 'grant magical wishes to children and young people fighting life-threatening conditions'. Cake stall, tombola, second-hand books and toys, refreshments and many different children's activities, including face painting, colouring competition and cake decorating. Our usual woodland Wednesday activities will be available in the woods for both parents and children to join in with. These include den building, making crowns, walking with mirrors, bark rubbing and making magic potions. The garden with the new wooden climbing frame and mud kitchen will also be open for the children to play in. All proceeds will go the 'Make a Wish Foundation'. For more information please ring Gill on 07853173221. Hope to see you there!

Feeling Safe with Safeguarding - what we all need to know?

On Saturday July 19th, from 9.30-12.30pm, in St Mary's Church, Olveston, Leanne Smith, the new Diocesan Safeguarding Officer is coming to talk to anyone interested, and especially to anyone who thinks they are *not* interested, about what safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, in our churches, our schools and our communities means to each one of us and how we need to be aware of what can and does happen in our own neighbourhood.

Please come and join us, everyone is welcome, refreshments will be available. For more details contact Sue 01454 614861.

Afternoon tea at Cromwell House, Olveston

At 2.30 pm on Thursday 10th July in aid of the RIDING SCHOOL for the DISABLED. There will be a Grand Raffle and afternoon tea. Do come and support this worthy cause, and hopefully relax in lovely warm sunshine.



Disco for Brain Tumour Support (formerly Hammer Out) Saturday 19th July 8.0 pm

Fancy a drink (or two) and some good music to dance to on a Saturday night? Join us on 19th July when we'll be having fun, and raising money for local charity Brain Tumour Support (formerly Hammer Out). It's the only brain tumour charity in the South West and Midlands dedicated to providing specialist, tailored services for anyone affected by any type of brain tumour – that's the patient, as well as their families. Though the name has changed, its aim is still to make sure no-one feels alone in their experience of coping with a brain tumour.

£5 ticket covers the cost of the venue and DJ, with excess donated to Brain Tumour Support.

Venue: Olveston Sports & Social Club

Date: 19th July

Time: 8pm til 12

Disco by: the delightful Adam Panting

Tickets available from Olveston Stores; Sally Challoner (01454 613411); or Teena Farrell (07876 400307)

The Wurzels are coming to Marlwood

Marlwood's first Music Festival is taking place on Thursday 10th July from 4.30 through to 9pm. The Wurzels will be there!

Please phone Marlwood School on 01454 862525 for further details and tickets.

Garden open to the public

Vicki and Tracy Watkeys will be opening their garden, Holly Trees, Old Down (BS32 4PH) for charity through the National Garden Scheme on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th July from 2-5pm Entrance £3 (children free). Cream teas available nearby (proceeds also for charity).

News from St. Mary's

Two highlights of the year in the church's social calendar this month: **the Sunflower Ball** is on a Saturday this year, July 12th - a record turn out of 240 suggests it's a good move. It's not too late to come if you ring Julia Johnstone on 07966 302762. It should be a superb evening, and there are some terrific items in the Silent Auction. It's black tie with a splash of sunshine.

Then the following Saturday, July 19th, is our **annual concert** with the splendid **BCO Sinfonietta Chamber Orchestra**, which is always hugely popular. Tickets at £10 are available from me (Roly) on 616593, June Robbins 617491 or The Stores.

Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in the June draw, held on 5th June 2014 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	387	Mrs M Baker, Olveston
£75	325	Mrs S James, Olveston
£25	563	Mr B Brown, Olveston
£25	552	Mrs B Kingscott, Almondsbury
£25	270	Mr R Hicks, Cornwall
£20	438	K Chick, Olveston
£20	187	Mrs J Williams, Pilning
£20	436	Mr G Clark, Olveston
£10	456	Mrs B J Toft, Olveston
£10	479	Mrs S Farr, Olveston
£10	371	Mr M Wright, Olveston
£10	556	Mrs S Chick, Olveston

Don't forget, if you're not in it you can't win it. Give us a call on 01454 614890

Litter Pick

There will be a litter pick on Saturday 5 July. Please meet at 1pm at the Parish Hall car park.
Rod Williams, 612850.

'Where is love?' ... 'Pick a Pocket or Two'

Oliver! - opportunities for local children

'Oliver!' is the Parish Players' choice for their half-term Spring Production running from Feb 18 - 21st 2015 at the Olveston Parish Hall. Composed by Lionel Bart and based on 'Oliver Twist' by Charles Dickens, it has been a resounding success all around the world since the London première in 1960.

Local children are needed to play the Orphans and to be members of Fagin's gang and it is hoped that this will be an exciting and enjoyable opportunity for them.

A preliminary sing-through for the children with some acting will be held on **Sunday September 7th** at 2pm in the Parish Hall. If interested, please contact the Secretary, Felicity Hemmett, on 01454 415979 or the Director, Linda Evans, on 01454 413887. New adult members will be welcome at the commencement of rehearsals for the main company on **Thursday September 25th** at 7.30 in the Parish Hall.

'Food, Glorious Food' ... 'Consider Yourself'

'As Long as He Needs Me' ... 'I'm Reviewing the Situation'

Jazz Returns to the Chantry

Those who enjoyed hearing the jazz trio **Mood Indigo** at last December's **Mumping Night** will be delighted to know that Will Grealish is bringing his 5-piece jazz swing group back to the beautiful Chantry Garden on Friday 11 July, starting at 7.30 pm.

Mood Indigo is a UK based Jazz swing outfit, which has worked extensively in this country and all over the world, having represented the United Kingdom at the Miri International Jazz Festival and at KK International Jazz Festivals in Malaysia.

Tickets, at £10 each, are available from Thornbury Garden Shop, in Thornbury High Street, or ring 01454 417038 for further details of this exciting event.

Oveston Netball Club well done and thank you!

Oveston netball club has been established since June 2010 and currently has two teams in the Avon netball league and a developing back-to-netball squad.

This season has been a massive achievement for both our league teams, our 1sts gaining fourth position after going up a division last season and the seconds finishing a very commendable 6th in their division. Both teams have climbed a least four positions this season and credit must go to each and every player for their hard work, commitment and determination this year, not forgetting our fantastic coach Abbi Cosh who, with her fun-filled and varied training sessions, encouragement, knowledge and belief in us, has helped us to achieve these amazing results.

Oveston netball club welcomes new players of all abilities. We are a very friendly and social club and if you are interested in joining please visit our website <http://www.olvestonnetball.co.uk/>.

A HUGE thank you must go to our sponsors this year - Burton Sweet, Linela, and Oveston stores/Riggs properties. We can now enter next season looking really smart in our new kit which is very much appreciated by the club and would not have been possible without your kind sponsorships!

Teenage Cancer Trust

It was a lovely, sunny day on the 15th of May, when a coffee morning in aid of Teenage Cancer Trust was held at Julie and Nigel Dawes' home in Oveston. All 95 people who came were very generous with help, donations, cakes, raffle prizes and are warmly thanked. A grand total of £750 was raised for the Teenage Cancer Trust, a worthwhile charity. [*This was the cause Stephen Sutton raised millions for in the last few months of his life – Ed.*]

Thank You

Eric Garrett would like to thank everyone for all their kind thoughts and cards whilst in hospital. Glad to say now home and making a speedy recovery.

Movies at St Mary's: July

Trevor Anderson



THREE movies this month at St Mary's Olveston. If you haven't yet been, do come along. Everyone is welcome and there is no need to book:

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and popular classics*)

Mon 7th July at 7.30pm: In the pre-Civil War United States, a black man from upstate New York is abducted and sold into slavery. The film tells the true story of his remarkable fight for survival and freedom. (2013) *Cert 15*

MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA (*'Non-mainstream' films and historic classics*)

Mon 21st July at 7.30pm: Set in a famous European hotel between the two world wars, Wes Anderson's comedy-drama offers a vibrant and imaginative evocation of a bygone era. Stylish and thoughtful. (2014) *Cert 15*

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

Mon 28th July: Recently released on DVD, this is Disney's coolest comedy-drama ever, featuring Anna's epic journey to find the Snow Queen *Cert U*

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

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

Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners June:

£50 Bhavin Radia £15 Tony Gardner £5 John Fox

World Cup Bonus: Rob Birtle

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

17th May James Green 31st May Barbara Binns

June Matches at The Park (2.00pm Start):

05/07/14	1st XI v Almondsbury	12/07/14	1st XI v Bradley Stoke
19/07/14	2nd XI v Hambrook	26/07/14	1st XI v Bristol Asians

Please come along & support, everyone welcome. Up the Down!!
Tony Gardner 07889 727729

OPTA Visit to France 2014!



Regular readers of Meeting Point will know that Olveston Parish Twinning Association (OPTA) is one of the many thriving groups that exist in our village. Nearly twenty years ago now a twinning was established with a village called Bréhan, in the middle of Brittany, and every year since we have either visited France or had our Bréhan 'twins' visit us here in Olveston.

This year we have been invited to go to Bréhan in October (24th to the 27th) which falls within the school October holiday. So, if you would like a weekend in France for the cost of the travel why don't you join us on this next visit? We always have a great time as we're entertained by very friendly French hosts. During the weekend we can expect interesting shared outings and, of course, marvellous eating and drinking. Don't worry if you don't speak French – many of our hosts speak English and we get by with a bit of miming from time to time. We spend much of the time as a group, which eases any language difficulties, and we stay with host families in and around the village. There are children of all ages there and they love to welcome ours.



We plan to leave Olveston by coach in the afternoon of Friday 24th October and travel to France by overnight ferry, arriving in our coach in Bréhan on Saturday morning. We return on Monday 27th October, travelling on a daytime ferry and arriving home in the evening. The only cost is for the travel and to take a small gift for your French hosts. The price will be £100 per person and any child still at school goes free! We will need a deposit of £25 per person before 13th August to secure your place. If you are not a member of OPTA you will need to join for the year, but this only costs £10 for a family or £5 for an individual.

Interested? If you'd like to come or just want to talk about it to find out more, please contact either Noel Clarke (01454 614099) or Bob Harris (01454 618331).

Thornbury Volunteer Centre

Summer opening hours

Thornbury Volunteer Centre will operate limited opening hours throughout the summer period. From Monday 28 July to Friday 29 August the office will be open to the public on Mondays and Wednesdays only between 10.30am-12 noon. We can however be contacted through our website www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk or via email mail@volunteer-thornbury.co.uk. You can also leave a message on our answerphone on 01454 413392 and we will answer all enquiries as soon as possible.

Normal opening hours resume on Monday 1 September.

Annual Volunteer Fair

Thornbury Volunteer Centre will be hosting its annual Volunteer Fair in the St Mary Shopping Centre on Thursday 3 July between 9am-1pm. Seventeen local voluntary and charitable organisations will be showcasing their group whilst raising valuable funds and talking to potential new volunteers. We are hoping that new Mayor Cllr Guy Rawlinson will be present between 10am-11am to talk to the groups and show his support. Live music will be performed throughout the morning courtesy of the Octaves Children's Choir and classical violinist Ursula Toher. Do please come along.

Many thanks to the St Mary Centre for sponsoring this event once again and to Thornbury Horticultural Society for the use of their tables.

AGM

Thornbury Volunteer Centre is holding its AGM on Thursday 3 July at 1.15pm in the function room of the Swan in Thornbury. We will be taking a look back at last year's successful Silver Jubilee and then forward to the future. A light buffet and refreshments will be served and everyone is welcome to attend.

Sevenside Ramblers



Join Sevenside Ramblers for some fresh air and exercise, you will also enjoy some great views and hopefully see some wild life. Join Sevenside Ramblers on a ramble. Non-members are always very welcome.

For more information about walks in July 2014, log on to **www.sevenside-ramblers.org.uk**, or pick up a programme at your local library. A contact name and telephone number is given for each walk. We meet at Aldi car park, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA at the times shown below and share lifts to the start of the walk. Please bring packed lunch and plenty of fluids. If you want to go directly to the start of the walk, phone the contact person.

Fri 4 July Whale Wharf, Oldbury on Severn. Circuit taking in Littleton, Pullens Green & Cowhill 2 Hrs Meet 9.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Allan 0779 1083113.

Sat 5 July Bristol to Bath or Keynsham – along the River Avon. 9 or 18 miles. Meeting point contact Ann 01179 79862.

Sun 6 July Lydney. 8.5 miles. Second walk exploring countryside outside of Forest of Dean boundary. Meet 9.00 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Chris 01594 845423.

Sun 13 July Nailsworth. 10 miles. Undulating walk of woodlands and meadows. Passing water mills and fine houses. Meet 8.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Ken 01179 315108.

Fri 18 July Milbury Heath/Tytherington. 2 hrs. Scenic walk using lanes, tracks & fields. One hill, 59 steps & some stiles. Meet 9.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Jean 01179 761445.

Sat 19 July Freshford. Limpley Stoke, 8 – 9 miles. Monkton Coombe, Dundas, Winsley and Avoncliff. Contact Joy for details 01179 334998.

Sun 20 July Doynton. 8 miles. Mainly flat along footpaths and quiet lanes linking Dyrham, Doynton & Hinton. One ford and 2 inclines. Meet 9.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Jean 01454 419274.

Wed 23 July Failand. Easy 3.5 miles. Evening stroll in woodland, pastures & golf course. Opt pub at end. Meet 18.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Andy & Chris 01454 416321

Sun 27 July Sheepscombe/Wysis Way. 12 miles. Alternate take on the Cotswolds. Few stiff climbs. Meet 8.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Jill & Steve 01454 631036.

Fri 1 August Wotton-under-Edge. 2 Hrs. Historic streets, paths & tracks including part of Cotswold Way. Some stiles & 3 short climbs. Meet 9.30 Aldi Car Park Bradley Stoke. Contact Jean 01454 419274

Thornbury Library

You'll be a-mazed at what's going on for children in South Gloucestershire Libraries this summer. It's *Mythical Maze*, Summer Reading Challenge 2014!

The challenge begins in all South Gloucestershire Libraries on 12 July and runs until 13 September. It's free to join in the fun.

Children are challenged to read just 6 books to collect their very own medal and certificate. More than 7000 children took part in Creepy House last summer. The parent of one child said: 'as the mother of a very reluctant reader I was worried about him not reading over the holiday but this reading challenge changed everything. He asked to keep coming back to the library and even finished some books by the end of the same day. Please do it again!'

Visit any South Gloucestershire Library this summer for children to take part in *Mythical Maze*.

Libraries are also holding free activities throughout the holiday to help children complete the challenge. Visit your local library or log on to www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries to find out more.

For more *Mythical Maze* fun visit www.mythical-maze.org.uk

NEW

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE LIBRARIES FACEBOOK PAGE

South Gloucestershire Libraries have recently launched a new Facebook page.

For all the latest news at "South Gloucestershire Libraries" find us on Facebook. "Like" our page and be the first to hear about our latest services, FREE children's holiday activities, events for all ages and much more.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Our regular Bookstart Bear Club sessions on Monday 2.15pm- 2.45pm and Friday 11am – 11.30am will be taking a break for the summer. The last StoryTime will take place on Monday 14th July and our last Rhymetime will take place on Friday 18th July. Sessions will start again from week beginning Monday September 8th.



Fun Doggy Day and Companion Dog Show

Sunday 17th August
Doors open 10.00 am
Dog show starts 11 00 am

Whatever the weather this event will take place in aid of South Glos stray dogs on Sunday 17th August 2014 at Avon Riding Centre for the Disabled, Kings Weston Rd, Henbury, Bristol BS10 7QT. Even bigger and better than last year's – with something for everyone!

For more details ring 07768 285009 evenings (Julia) or email fossgodshow@hotmail.co.uk Visit us on www.fosgs.comule.com

From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

Baptisms

- 11th May 2014 Sophie Eva Such, daughter of Dean and Charlotte Such
8th June 2014 Ella Maria Parsons, daughter of
David Parsons and Loreta Batty
8th June 2014 Ellie Louise Roe and Jake Aaron Roe, daughter and son of
David Roe and Hayley Taylor

Marriage Blessing

31st May 2014 Jeff and Lisa Searle

Funeral

13th June 2014 Funeral Service for Dr Dennis Henry Fox M.B.E.

Yours Faithfully

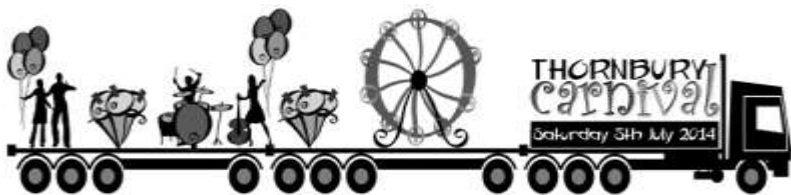
Roly Bain

High Horses

I can't be the only person in the village who is occasionally frustrated and exasperated by some of the horse riders plodding through the village. Most of the horse riders are fine and courteous, and show their gratitude with a nod or a smile if you've given them wide berth or a wave of apology if they think they've delayed your car journey through the village. But some seem as snooty as you like and ride through as if they own the place and certainly seem to believe they have right of way over all vehicles. They're nearly as bad as the cyclists but nowhere near as noisy! Clergy in pulpits are often accused of appearing to be six foot above contradiction, and some of these women (don't men ride horses?!) could be accused of the same!

There is no doubt that a horse and rider can be a majestic sight, especially when horse and rider seem to be as one. I've got nothing against horses at all - it's the attitude of some of the riders that gets me. But I find anyone who climbs up on their metaphorical high horse pretty objectionable, for anyone who tries to look down on others from a great height with disdainful aloof needs to take a proper look at themselves. Climbing onto hobby horses and trotting out the same tired old obsessions is pretty galling too. Perhaps this is just a call for humility, for the need to be earthed, to recognise our common humanity. None of us are any better than anyone else – all are equal in the sight of God.

And God in the form of Jesus chose not to ride a majestic stallion into Jerusalem and look down on the crowds that gathered. He chose to ride a simple donkey, a beast of burden to help him carry his own burden to Jerusalem and then all the way to the cross. The only place Jesus looked down at people from was from the cross itself, and that was rather different. Never mind the high horses, I'll follow the donkey rider every day.



Saturday 5th July 2014

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Jul 6	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Rev Roly Bain
Jul 13	8am	Holy Communion(BCP)	Rev David Bone
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev. Philip Rowe
Jul 20	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe
	6pm	Evensong	Mrs Janet McBride
Jul 27	8am	Holy Communion(BCP)	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Celtic Communion	Rev R Bain & Mr D Jones
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev R Bain & Mr T Cook

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk

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

Verger: **Mrs. June Robbins**, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Jul 13	10am	Holy Communion.	Rev David Bone
Jul 27	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev D Bone

Hon. Curate: **Rev David Bone**, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy 633680 Janet Ford 633300

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Jul 6	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
Jul 20	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jul 13	9am	Family Service	Sandra Edgerton
Jul 27	9am	Holy Communion	Rev. David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Jul 6	10am 6pm	Tock.. Ch. St Andrews .	Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Jones Evening Worship led by Rev. Richard Barley
Jul 13	10am	Olv. Ch.	All Age Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney. Breakfast Cl. will join us later in the service
Jul 20	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
Jul 27	10am	Olv.Ch..	Morning Worship led by Mrs Brenda Isherwood

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 9th July. To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 17th July. 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 the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston. led by Mr Glyn Varney or Mrs Rosalie Doyle. Another on Wed. 2nd July led by Rev Sandy Williams at 10.30 Ring 416528 for details of venue .

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

Jul 6	6.30pm	Tony Ward
Jul 13	6.30pm	Ian Thornley
Jul 20	6.30pm	Chris Palmer (One Mission Society U.K.)
Jul 27	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer Time

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: Ben & Candia Barman 01454 412603

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

Diary Dates for July 2014

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

1 st Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning R.B.L. Flower Arranging with Sally Taylor	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 7.30pm	WR DGCL DGCL
3 rd Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Open Mic. At White Hart	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 8.30pm	OS+ MH
5 th Sat	2p Poppy Appeal The Street Coffee Morning Thornbury Carnival	8.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	MH
6 th Sun	Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social club St Peter's Hosp. Garden Party @ Oldbury	8.15 2.30-5pm	AP
7 th Mon	Monday Movie	7.30pm	StM
8 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café W.I. Skittles in the White Hart Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL TMH EVH
10 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Th. & District Flower Club. Practice Tea at Cromwell House for RDA The Wurzels @ Marlwood Music Festival	9.00-12.00 1.45-3-15 7.30pm 2.30pm 4.30-9.00	OS+ MH TMH
12 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Open Garden Holly Trees Old Down Elberton Church Fete Family Fun Day at Stepping Stones	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 2-5pm 10-12	AVH MH EVH
13 th Sun	Open Garden Holly Trees Old Down	2-5pm	
15 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning R.B.L. Women's Section Bingo	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 7.30pm	WR DGCL DGCL
16 th Wed	Brain Tumour Support Group. Severn. Vale. Flower Cl. Members Day Bosom Buddies Meeting Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	10.30-12.30 12.00 7.30pm 8.30pm	AH
17 th Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market	9.00-1.30	

17 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
19 th Sat	Coffee Morning Disco for Brain Tumour Support BCO Sinfonietta Concert	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	MH AP StM
21 st Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	StM
22 nd 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
23 rd Wed	Beat Surgery	10.30-11.30	OS+
24 th Thu	Coffee Shop Th. & District Flower Club. Practice	10.00-12.00 7.30pm	OS+ TMH
26 th Sat	Coffee Morning Marlwood School Car Boot sale	10.00-12.00 1.30-3pm	MH
28 th Mon	S. V. Flower Cl. Practice Children's Movie Club	1.30pm 10.00am	AH StM
29 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	WR DGCL
31 st Thu	Coffee Shop	10.00-12.00	OS+

Looking ahead to August

23rd	St Mary's Summer Barbecue		
25th	Cream Teas on Tockington Green		

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. **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** Littleton Village Hall **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall;**OMC** Olv Meth Ch **OS** – Olveston School; **OS+** – Olveston Stores; **OV** – Olveston Vicarage; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church **SMH** St Mary,s Ch. Hall Thornbury;**TCh** Tockington Chapel **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; **URC** - Thornbury United Reform Church; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

Contact details for any clubs or organisations in the Meeting Point area can be found in the Meeting Point Directory on the community website: www.olvostonandaust.com. If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: meetingpointsecretary@olvostonandaust.com

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