

# Meeting Point

**Volume 36, Number 9, June 2012**

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**

With the Diamond Jubilee of our Queen we celebrate a great occasion. The Queen is only the second monarch in British history to celebrate sixty years as Sovereign. Long may she reign!

Nationally, you can follow Jubilee events on the official website: [www.thediamondjubilee.org](http://www.thediamondjubilee.org) Locally, Meeting Point is publishing an updated Jubilee insert (with particular thanks to Nikki Clarke for production). The pages either side of the insert, and Church News & Diary, detail other Jubilee events in this area. Go to [www.olvestonandaust.com/events](http://www.olvestonandaust.com/events) for last minute information.

Don't forget to read all about everything else going on in the villages in June. There's lots!

Cover design by Kate Hickman

Meeting Point Founded in 1976 by the Anglican and Methodist churches in Olveston, near Bristol

**Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory are online at the Community Website: [www.olvestonandaust.com](http://www.olvestonandaust.com)**

# Village Business: Napier Catering

*Pat Thirkettle*

Phil and Claire Cooke now run their business Napier Catering from Redhill Farm, Elberton, but it all began twenty years ago as a home enterprise. Claire's aunt lived at Stone and cooked for friends until she gradually expanded into wider catering. On visiting the bank manager to request a loan to purchase a set of crockery, she was asked the name of the business – not having thought of one, she came up with Napier, because Claire's cousin had recently visited Napier in New Zealand and met her future husband!

Phil and Claire actually live at Usk in Wales, so it was sensible to move the business nearer the Severn Bridge and use the opportunity of expanding into large, purpose-built premises. They met at Hotel and Catering College in Torquay and went on to complete a one year honours degree in Hospitality and Business Management. Following graduation, Phil worked as Conference and Events Manager at the University of Glamorgan for eight years. Claire worked for the Wales Tourist Board managing their Visit Wales destination management website and training, before becoming a consultant for Premiership football grounds, assessing their concourse and kiosk catering, and then working for a University, securing and implementing their European funding for ICT projects. Briefly Phil and Claire managed Claire's parents' hotel operation in Cornwall, before purchasing Napier Catering in 2006 from Claire's aunt.

Initially most of the business was based around Berkeley and Stone, but they have already expanded and hope to do so again in the future. A year ago, they opened the first Napier sandwich bar at Apex Court, Aztec West. The sandwich shop also has a meeting room for up to fifteen delegates, with plasma TV and internet facilities available, which can be hired together with a refreshments etc.

Napier Catering is on the preferred list for catering for weddings and events at Berkeley Castle. This Easter, they opened an eatery called 'The Yurt @ Berkeley'. This is situated in the walled garden and is open to non-visitors to the castle. It comprises a forty foot yurt tent and serves brunch, lunch and afternoon tea. At present it is open Thursdays and Sundays and will open in conjunction with the castle opening times throughout the summer. It's hoped to hold different functions and events there and the Easter opening was a great success. Other contracts include: catering for South Wales police planned events (a contract they have held for the past 5 years), G4S security during the Cheltenham Festival and Coutts Bank in Bristol and Cardiff. Locally, they are on the preferred list at Cheltenham College, Chavenage House, Eastington Park and Frampton Court.

Napier can come and cook a dinner party in your home for four or more guests. They provide crockery (unless someone wishes to use their own), cutlery and

wine glasses, all cleared up and taken away from £35 a head. Eighteen months ago they introduced bowl food. These are small bowls containing tasters of such dishes as sausage and mash, toad in the hole, Thai curry and a prawn dish, ideal for eating standing up with a small fork. This is popular at wedding evening functions or day time drinks parties.

Phil is always looking for new ideas and one in the pipeline is a pop-up restaurant, fashionable in London apparently, but yet to hit the rural West Country! You identify an open space, advertise the event a few weeks ahead and take table reservations, then on the day erect a marquee, provide the food and take it all away afterwards.

So whether you want a sandwich at Aztec West, a coffee or lunch at Berkeley Castle, a celebration dinner party at home or even happen to be passing when a restaurant pops up on Tockington Green, Napier Catering will be happy to oblige!

## **Community Award for Refurbishment of the Parish Hall**

Each year the Chairman of South Gloucestershire Council presents Community Awards to recognise the great contribution made by volunteers in improving community life within the towns and villages of South Gloucestershire. Twenty eight awards were presented this year at a special ceremony. Among the winners was Geoff Chappell, in recognition of his outstanding work as Chairman of the Olveston Parish Hall Committee in leading the programme of modernisation and refurbishment which has so transformed our Hall.

His certificate reads:

“Geoff has driven forward the development of Olveston Parish Hall from a tired building to a thriving community facility once more. He has tirelessly redeveloped each space of the hall enabling the development of a top class pre-school facility and has boosted the usage of the building as a whole. Geoff's positivity and leadership as Chairperson has benefited the community of Olveston and will continue to do so for years to come.”

## **Celebrating Fifty Five Years** *Jo Whiteman* **The story of Severn Vale Flower Club**

In March 1957 two ladies from Almondsbury wrote letters to a number of ladies all around the district who were known to be interested in flowers and gardens, inviting them to a meeting to be held at the Church in St. Mary's Street Thornbury, with the view to discussing the formation of a Flower Club. The

meeting proved to be a huge success as a great number of ladies who attended were keen to join a club.

Two ladies from the Dursley Club, which had started a couple of years earlier, were invited to Thornbury, and with their help and guidance the Severn Vale Flower Club Constitution was drawn up. It was from this early association that the Dursley Floral Art Society was unofficially adopted as our "Sister" Club, and on many occasions the two clubs have worked together at various events such as Church Festivals. Seventy ladies enrolled in the first year, all keen to learn the art of flower arranging. In those days it was not unknown to see members attending the monthly meetings all wearing flamboyant hats, even the demonstrator was not to be outshone.

Severn Vale Flower Club then became affiliated to the National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies (N.A.F.A.S). The club's first meeting was held on March 30th 1957 in the Cossham Hall, Thornbury. The subscription was ten shillings per annum and half a crown for visitors. The club held meetings at several venues during the first years, including the White Lion. In 1966 the Royal George Hotel became a venue, then the Chantry. In 1979 the club finally moved to the Armstrong Hall where we still have our meetings. The Club soon began entering competitions and the first was the Bath Flower Society's Open Competition in 1961, in which two of our ladies won second prize. In 1959 the competition table first made an appearance at the monthly meetings.

Today we still have monthly competitions with advanced and novice tables. Members enjoyed the highly successful annual Christmas Faye and Coffee Mornings held in the early days, selling cakes and home made preserves. Today the Club still holds such events with proceeds going to different charities. A cheque to the value of £650.00 was recently presented to the Senior Manager of the Bristol & South Gloucestershire Young Carers Association.

At the start, practice classes only took place a few times a year, but became so popular that in 1963 they became a monthly event. Today Mrs Kathleen Taylor now runs a successful class which is very popular and is held each month. These classes have been most beneficial, as Severn Vale Flower Club has over several years arranged magnificent floral displays in many Church & Cathedral Festivals. The first one was Malmesbury Abbey in 1968. In August 2012 three of our members will be representing the club at a Flower Festival in Brecon Cathedral.

Flower clubs around the world owe their existence to Mrs Constance Spry who was one of the first to create the art of Floral Arranging. With her love of gardening and flowers she became a florist. At the peak of her success Constance Spry designed the flowers for the Queen's Wedding and Coronation. Severn Vale Flower Club owe the past successful 55 years to the dedication of our past and present Committee and Members. The Club has gone from strength to strength and may it continue to flourish for many years to come.

# **Littleton-on-Severn Open Gardens**

**Sunday June 24<sup>th</sup> from 2.00 – 6.00pm**

Littleton gardens will be open on Sunday 24th June from 2.00 – 6.00. Parking, teas, and an exhibition will be at the Village Hall. Plants for sale, Pimms and a "made in Littleton" stall will be in various gardens. Our village Church, St. Mary de Malmesbury, will be open.

Entrance will be £3 per person (children free) and all proceeds go towards essential replacement of the church guttering and downpipes.

We look forward to seeing you all in Littleton on 24th June.

# **Summer Concert at Elberton Church**

**Saturday June 30<sup>th</sup> 7.30 pm**

Our usual Midsummer Concert with St. Peter's Festival Choir will be held at St John's Church Elberton on June 30<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 pm. It will be an entertaining evening and refreshments will be served on the lawn afterwards. There is no charge but donations at the end will be much appreciated. Please come and enjoy our beautiful church and churchyard – and the entertainment.

# **Mrs Lyons' (Olveston Parish Chairman) report to the 2012 Annual Parish Assembly, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012 [abridged] Part 1**

Welcome to the Annual Parish Assembly, which this year for the first time has also been promoted with hand-delivered flyers. As part of the evening, the Council will use a Forum to create awareness about the proposed Parish Plan. This plan needs to be produced by parishioners for parishioners, covers all aspects of life in our community, needs to fit with the emerging Localism Bill and will be a building block for the future. Those with access to the internet will shortly see associated links appearing on the Olveston website.

The Parish Council has met monthly; Matthew Riddle (our District Councillor) attended 6 meetings; parishioners attended on 6 occasions, and an average of 7 councillors attended each meeting. During the year Mr Andy Clarke resigned, and was replaced by Mr Adrian Baxter after following due process. Andy Clarke

had served on the Council for 6 years, was a member of the Recreation & Leisure Committee, and the Council representative for a number of organisations. However, he will be best remembered for his monthly articles in Meeting Point. Andy has recently had heart surgery and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

Parish Council meetings are open to all, and throughout the year several organisations and parishioners made representations. These included the Severnside Cycle Club who agreed to change the night they meet from Wednesday to Tuesday at the Queen Alexandra Pavilion for time trials around the area; South Glos Council who updated the council on plans to switch off street lights as part of £¼million savings; Olveston Pre-School explained their proposals to become a 'Company Limited by Guarantee' and asked the Council to take on the legal responsibility for the new company; and a parishioner who informed the Council of his intention to invest in a mobile catering van and sought opportunities for using it in the Parish.

Several representations concerned the potential Wind Farm at Ingst (in which I have declared a personal interest and have therefore absented myself from all Parish Council and Planning Meetings when it has been discussed) firstly by local residents expressing various concerns at the plan, and who asked for support from the Parish Council in opposing this project. In December, Councillors from Almondsbury and Aust Parish Councils and the 'Action Group against Wind Turbines' attended to share their views. It was subsequently agreed that a questionnaire should be drafted and distributed to every household in the Parish (which has demonstrated that the majority of parishioners who responded were against the idea of Wind Turbines). In January, REG Wind Power attended to describe how potential Wind Farm sites are selected, the criteria for their installation, discussed maintenance during their working life and decommissioning after 25 years.

The Diamond Jubilee has also attracted interest, with Meeting Point representatives discussing possible ways of celebrating the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and associated funding, whilst Geoff Chappell and Richard Lloyd gave a presentation in February about their commemorative proposal to install an electric clock in the round aperture at the front of the Hall, and asked for a donation.

Over the last 12 months, the Planning Committee has received 65 planning applications, including residential extensions, tree surgery work in the conservation area, and improvements to businesses such as additional farm buildings, Old Down Country Park, and the Central Garage. At long last, Windmill House has won an appeal to retain its car park, and can also extend the original house to accommodate more residents.

In 2006, the Council invited the project manager of Gamesa to the Annual Parish Assembly to give a talk on 'Renewable Energy – the use of Wind Power'. Now, six years on, the Council has received its first planning applications for solar panels, including those in a field and on the Church roof, and also for a

meteorological mast for the monitoring of wind speeds at Ingst, which is linked to the potential wind farm.

Approval has been given to demolish the redundant buildings at Dawes Mill to make way for four new homes and one retail unit, this site being the last really open space left in the centre of the village. Almondsbury surgery too has given notice it wishes to close its surgery in Haw Lane, and the Council has written to the Practice conveying their disappointment concerning this closure, especially for the older residents of the parish.

Once again the Council is working with the Olveston School Travel Plan Working Group to find ways for children and parents to walk safely to School, to ease traffic congestion by the School, and through the village at the start and end of each school day. This has been a perennial problem, and even in 2003 the Annual report indicated 'the slow and as yet unsatisfactory progress of this project'. Over time, improvements have been made, with a path cut from the Aust Road to Elberton Road for children walking from the Common and Ley Lane, but safe routes still need to be provided along the Street and for crossing Vicarage Lane. The Parish Council is no longer allowed a representative on the School Governors' Board, but will help in whatever way possible for the safety of the children.

*To be concluded*

## **Aust Parish Council (APC) Chairman's Report, 2011/2012 [summary]**

*M. J. Hawkins*

The Council has continued to pursue several of the issues from past years. In particular: Greenacres, where progress has been delayed due to ownership uncertainties; Whale Wharf which remains largely empty, despite the owner winning an appeal to allow residential schooling use; the building next to Quarry Cottage in Littleton, which is anticipating another appeal; and Aust flooding, where the flooding study "approved" under Sustainability Act provisions remains to be addressed.

Two major new proposals are the urban style estate of 12 houses proposed at Blakedown Nursery in Elberton, and a proposed wind farm at Ingst. In both cases, and following public meetings, the Council has registered strong opposition.

However, we have had some successes. Olveston School held a "safari day" at Woodwell Meadows in June 2011. This was rated a major success by all concerned. The presence of two small pigs at a school meeting, held to review the safari, might be seen as the "icing on the cake" or, more likely, something odd on the floor! We also look forward to a reed bed waste water treatment scheme on Harnhill, which will allow South Gloucestershire Council (and others) to clean and to recycle water and residues from the road gullies at greatly reduced cost.

Routine works continue. Road markings, signage, verge trimming and the widening of the Aust/Ingst road lay-by have all been completed – the latter by APC, and the others following stimulus by APC.

The Council, with the considerable assistance of our district councillor, Matthew Riddle, continues to pursue all of these issues, meeting with South Gloucestershire Council, the Environment Agency, and others, as appropriate.

The Localism Act will give your Parish Council more influence. For example, the Parish Council could propose some development in the Green Belt if it were approved by plebiscite. We may need to develop a Parish Plan, which would take account of the differences between the three villages. If this becomes necessary we will seek volunteers to help with the preparation.

As in many other rural communities the lack of fast broadband, as well as the poor quality of the existing service, is a major concern. APC continues to lobby for improvement.

You will know that Horizon have cancelled their plans to build a new power station at Oldbury. Who, if anyone, will replace them is unclear. APC is maintaining a “watching brief” on the impact of any future “new build” that might happen at Oldbury. It is also monitoring moves to uprate the connection between Hinckley Point and Seabank Power Stations, as well as any impact upon Aust as a consequence of that activity.



# The Garden Line

From articles (1991-92) by *Cecilie Turton*

I always feel entitled to spend some time to sit and enjoy the garden in June. After all the cleaning of borders, grass cutting and edging in April and May, one should be able to relax a little. Even so, there are many jobs to be done.

The tips of dahlias and chrysanthemums should be nipped out to promote bushy growth. Sweet peas need to be syringed with a mist spray of soft water, best done after sunset. Give the ground a good soaking at least once a week.

Sow seeds of hardy biennials; they can be sown outdoors this month. Towards the end of the month sow seeds of wallflowers and Sweet Williams.

Lift bulbs of daffodils where leaves have yellowed, spread out to dry and store in shallow wooden boxes in a well ventilated shed, first removing dead leaves and



trimming roots. Tulips need to be lifted regularly. Daffodils only when overcrowded.

Plant outdoor tomatoes. Leave a slight depression around each plant and water in thoroughly. It is a good plan to insert a 4" pot in the ground beside each plant with the top at soil level. Fill pots with water each time you tend the plants. The roots will benefit directly instead of the surrounding soil.

If going on holiday, make sure house plants are not standing in a south or west facing window, move them to the centre of the room. Better still, ask a friend to attend to them.

An old dustbin lid filled with water and placed in a shady part of the garden makes an ideal bird bath.

## **Police Report: April 2012**

In the month of April we received a total of 41 calls and 13 reported crimes for the beat.

Oldbury-on-Severn suffered 3 incidents over two nights: theft of a motor vehicle from Chapel Road where offender(s) took the vehicle from an open fronted garage; theft of chainsaws and other garden equipment from outbuildings; and the theft of a motocross bike from a garage in Featherbed Lane.

Fuel was stolen from a vehicle at Aust Services and a vehicle stolen whilst parked at Passage Road in Aust. There was a travellers' encampment at the Travelodge car park for a few days where they did cause problems to members of staff on site; officers attended and they were given notices to leave, which they did.

Olveston Primary School suffered theft of lead from the roof of the school. Criminal damage was caused to a vehicle parked in Bramley Close.

The next Beat Surgery will be held on Thursday 7th June between 10.30 – 11.30 at Olveston Stores Coffee Shop.

The next SSCG meeting will be held on Saturday 1st September between 10.30 – 12.30 at Olveston Parish Hall.

Non-Emergency number to report crime or an incident is 101.

Contact office number: PCSO 3404 Roger Hopes and PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery 0117 945 5959.

Contact mobile numbers: PC Roger Hopes 07919 628625, PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery 07917 586645.

# Gazebo Mix-Up!

Did you lend your Gazebo to Tockington Harvest Fayre last September (2011)? A church member recently checked her white, standard size gazebo and found that the frame did not match the top. If you have a similar mismatch, please contact Maggie Spooner on 01454 610053. Hopefully we can solve this puzzle before this year's Harvest Fayre on the 15<sup>th</sup> September!

# Calling all scarecrows!

Don't forget to design and make your scarecrows to be displayed in the village week beginning 9th June. Take them along to the Olveston Fete on 16th June where they will be judged, with a winning prize of £50! So why not have a go? We look forward to a scarecrow-filled village!

# Olveston Fête - Saturday 16 June 2.00 - 4.30pm

**in the school and vicarage grounds – ‘the simple pleasures of life’.**

Free entrance (via the vicarage)

- Westerleigh Silver Band to welcome you
- all the fun of the stalls & the famous bottle tombola
- delicious cream teas
- stalls to test your skills with ball (and bean-bag)
- scrumptious burgers, ice creams & sweets
- books to browse, CDs for all tastes
- sip a Pimms or two, savour a wine or beer
- Grand Draw with super prizes, 4.00pm
- meet the Scarecrows! – judging 4.15pm, £50 to the winner
- (Draw tickets available from any Olveston school pupil or from outside Olveston Stores on Saturday mornings, £1 each).



# Royal British Legion Olveston Women's Section

**Wednesday June 6th 6.00 pm**  
**Daldry Gardens Community Lounge**

Our June meeting will start at 6.0 pm with a Diamond Jubilee Afternoon Tea, followed by a Flower Arranging Demonstration by Sally Taylor. Visitors are welcome to come at 7.30 pm for Sally's demonstration.

## Jubilee Services at St Mary's

St Mary's are having two Diamond Jubilee Services at the beginning of June. At **6pm on Sunday, June 3rd**, we're having a Jubilee Community Service, to which representatives of all the local groups and organisations are invited. Last year's Community service was much appreciated, so we're doing it again! The Very Revd David Hoyle, Dean of Bristol Cathedral, is our preacher, and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Then on **Tuesday June 5th** we shall be relaying the actual Jubilee Service from St Paul's Cathedral on our big screen. Doors open at 9am for the 10.30am service and there will be opportunity, as we did for the Royal Wedding, to join in the hymns and prayers. We shall be serving champagne and cup cakes afterwards - no charge though donations towards expenses will be welcome! Come along and join us in joining in!

### Visiting Preachers at St Mary's

Apart from the Dean of Bristol Cathedral on June 3rd, we've got Rich and Lissie Gercke coming on June 9th at 10am to talk about the Fisch Project, which helps the street children of Iringa in Tanzania. St Mary's sent them nearly £400 in Lent and this is a chance to find out more about them.

Then on Sunday, July 8th at 10am Canon Ray Brazier is our preacher - he is a former Chaplain to the Queen, and retired as Vicar of St Matthew and St Nathanael, Redland in 2005.

# Jubilee Evensong at Littleton

St Mary de Malmesbury Church: 3.0pm Sunday June 3<sup>rd</sup> All welcome.

## Jubilee Picnic on Tockington Green - Saturday 2nd June

Weather-permitting, come and share a plate of food and cakes with your neighbours and friends on Saturday 2nd June from 12.00 noon on the Green. Bunting and flags welcome!

*Mandy Welsman and Cath Purchase*



### Jubilee Weekend, 2nd June 9.30 – 12.00 on Tockington Green

All welcome to a lovely local hub to catch up with friend and neighbours and have the opportunity to buy tickets etc to any local events - this month's Olveston School Fair ....

Highlights for June will be tomato plants, runner beans, peas and I'm sure some more plants for you to buy or swap ... and of course all the other lovely stalls for you to enjoy. See you there.

*Jane Sunnucks Old Down 01454 419931*

## Celebrate Thornbury Volunteers' Week

**Jubilee bunting competition! Win cash prizes for you or your organisation in our easy-to-enter competition. Entries by 7<sup>th</sup> June.**

To help us mark Volunteers' Week in this special celebration year of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the Summer Olympics, we would like you, or your organisation, to submit a piece of bunting (supplied) decorated to capture the spirit of this exciting year. It could be a drawing, a painting, a collage in any

medium, and can be hand drawn or computer generated, – anything goes, it's up to you!

The best 3 entries in the 2 categories of "Individuals" and "Organisations" will each receive cash prizes of: 1st Prize £25, 2nd Prize £15, 3rd Prize £10

All entries must be submitted on the supplied piece of bunting which can be collected from our office at Thornbury Town Hall or downloaded from our website [www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk](http://www.volunteer-thornbury.co.uk), together with your name, address and telephone number and the organisation which you represent (if applicable). Send or deliver your entries to Thornbury Volunteer Centre, The Town Hall, 35, High Street, Thornbury, Bristol BS35 2AR

Entries will be judged by volunteers of Thornbury Volunteer Centre and prizes awarded at our AGM on Thursday June 21st.

Kindly sponsored by The St. Mary Centre, Thornbury

## **New date for Olveston School Fun Run**

### **Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June**

It was very disappointing to have to postpone the Olveston School Fun Run in aid of ARBAN UK due to extreme weather in April. The run is now scheduled for Saturday 30 June 2012 with the 1K starting at 10am and the 5K starting at 10.30am. If you have already entered, please keep your race number and come and join us. If you could help marshal, would like to sign up or have already entered but are not free on that day and would like a refund, please contact Nicky on 07769171772 or [nicky\\_rangetiki@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nicky_rangetiki@yahoo.co.uk).

## **Friends of Olveston School - Giving-A-Bit website**

Did you know you can now raise money for the school whilst doing your online shopping, and it won't cost you a thing!

FOOS have set up an account with the Giving-A-Bit website.

How does it work?

Go to the Giving-a-Bit website at [www.givingabit.com](http://www.givingabit.com)

Following the online instructions, set up your account, choosing 'FOOS' as your cause.

Click on the retailer you wish to shop with.

Shop online as normal. (Your transaction is directly with the retailer.)

The retailer makes a 'thank you' donation to FOOS for each purchase made - at no extra cost to you

It really is that simple!

You will also have access to discount codes and promotions.

# Open Garden: Sunday 10th June

2.00 pm – 6.00 pm

*By kind permission of Tom and Rose Brown*

At Tomorosa, Awkley Lane, Olveston in aid of Cancer Research and Wildlife Conservation. Look around our fish ponds and garden, also woodland walk to view wild flowers including orchids.

£5 entry to include a cup of tea/squash and a piece of cake. Extra refreshments available.

## Once Upon a Village *by Sandy Shaw*

This is a book of poems and prose written by Sandy that reflects the life and events of the village and other issues. It is both humorous and reflective and is supported by illustrations. The book was launched on 12<sup>th</sup> May and can be bought from St Mary's Church or from Sandy Shaw. It costs £8 and the profit will be toward church funds.

## Millie: 2000-2012

*Lynn Shelley*

She is at the end of my drive, waiting for me.  
She lies at the top of the steps by the kitchen garden.  
She hides behind every bush, she's under every green tree.  
I can't work in my kitchen. She is there.  
I can't read in the sitting room. She is there.  
She is there but not there. Out of sight unless I close my eyes.  
There is dog hair on the hall floor I cannot bring myself to clean away.  
The sound of her breathing is in every room.  
I knew it would be hard, but the knowing and the razor of reality are a world apart.  
I didn't know it would be like this.  
So when you see me in the street, don't ask me where she is.  
I can't answer.  
Don't ask me how I am.  
Talk about the weather or your children.  
Tell me about your holiday: how your grandchildren are.  
Tell me about the blossom on your tree or the daffodils in your garden.  
But don't ask me about my dog. She is gone.  
And all the sunshine with her.

# Charles Dickens

on a literary dog which he met in Washington DC while on a reading tour: "He came into the hall by himself, got a good place before the reading began, and paid strict attention throughout. He came the second night and was ignominiously shown out by one of the check-takers. On the third night he appeared again with another dog which he had evidently promised to pass in free ...." *They were both shown the door – Ed.*

## Community Kindness

*Andy Clarke*

Last February a routine health check revealed that a breathing issue was diagnosed as stemming from angina. A subsequent hospital visit for further checks culminated in the shocking news that I would not be allowed home until I had undergone a double heart by-pass operation. As this was so "out of the blue" both I and my family were quite stunned and our lives, temporarily at least, were thrown into chaos.

Well, how kind you all are. Apart from (much needed) messages of encouragement, there were regular newspaper-drops, books, sweets, fruit and smuggled beer to ease my condition. Since returning from hospital, I have met so many kind people on my meanderings around the Parish in my feeble attempts to regain some limited form of fitness, and how good it has been to see so many smiling faces on the way.

I'd like you all to know that without your help and support during this difficult time my life, and Lesley's, would have been very different indeed. We have a truly generous-spirited and wonderful community. Thank you.

## Plant sale, open garden and cream teas

**Hillside House, Haw Lane, Olveston on Saturday 9 June at 2.00 pm  
(under cover if wet)**

There will be a large range of good-sized plants including shrubs, herbaceous perennials and ornamental bedding plants for sale. Many of the plants are named varieties with some less common species. Delivery of the plants can be arranged. You can also win a raffle prize, enjoy a cream tea and look at the unusual poultry breeds. Contact: 01454 612312.



# St Peter's Hospice - Tea at Three

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to Tea at Three to be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> June in the garden of the Wheatsheaf Public House in Thornbury (by kind permission of Mr and Mrs R. Camp). Teas available between 3.00pm and 4.00pm. Raffle and stalls. Please come along and support St Peter's, your local Hospice.

## Olveston and Tockington WI

### Monthly Meeting

We meet every second Tuesday of the month at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. We have a varied programme and hopefully there is something to suit everyone. This month we are having a Social Evening with a quiz and on July 10th there is an informative talk by a Magistrate giving an insight into the workings of the legal system. All visitors will be warmly welcomed.

## Coffee Morning at Cromwell House, Olveston,

the home of Julie and Nigel Dawes

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June at 10.00 am** in aid of Multiple Sclerosis.

Cakes, raffle, bring and buy, plants and books. Everyone welcome.  
Olveston & Tockington W.I.

## Movies at St Mary's: June

*Trevor Anderson*



**Movies at St Mary's Church Olveston** are proving very popular. Everyone is welcome – no need to book! Refreshments are available and admission is FREE.

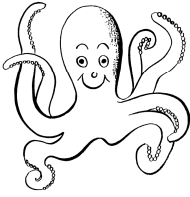
Only one movie in June because of Jubilee celebrations:

### **MONDAY MOVIES EXTRA: Mon 18<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm**

The ultimate 'date movie' of the 1960s about a man and a woman who meet by accident one evening at their children's boarding school. French with English subtitles. *Cert PG*. Doors open 7.00. Licensed bar and soft drinks.

For copyright reasons we can't name the film here, but if you join our **mailing list** we'll send you titles and full details by email. To join, contact: [trevoranderson@btinternet.com](mailto:trevoranderson@btinternet.com) or 613279.





**Octopus presents**  
***Blithe Spirit***  
**a comedy**  
**by Noel Coward**

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2012, 7.30 pm at Christ the King Church  
Hall, Castle Street, Thornbury**

Noël Coward's 1941 comedy *Blithe Spirit* centres on novelist Charles Condomine and his second wife Ruth who are literally haunted by a past relationship. When an eccentric medium, Madame Arcati, conjures up the ghost of Charles's glamorous first wife, Elvira, life - and the afterlife - begin to get extremely complicated. The play, directed by Shelagh Fagan, promises to be an evening full of fun and laughter.

Octopus is a friendly and well established local amateur dramatic group, based in Thornbury. The stage is set in a small but cosy hall and the performance is sure to bring a smile to your face and a bounce in your step.

Tickets: £6 (concessions £5) are available from R.A. Bennett, The Plain, Thornbury, at [www.octopus-thornbury.co.uk](http://www.octopus-thornbury.co.uk) or by calling 01454 413783

## **Orchestral concert**

*Angela Green*

Do come to Thornbury Orchestra's summer concert on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm. We shall be playing Schubert's 4<sup>th</sup> Symphony and Tchaikovsky Suite No.1 for orchestra, together with a short piece by a young local composer, Stephanie Williams.

The concert will take place in St. Mary's Church, Berkeley once again as there is no hall in Thornbury big enough for a full symphony orchestra and an audience. We are grateful to St. Mary's Church for the chance to play in their beautiful building.

The orchestra is made up of musicians of all ages, drawn from all walks of life and from across the area. It performs 2 or 3 concerts a year, in support of charity. Tickets at £6.50 (£5 OAP) are available on the door or in advance from S. Allen, tel: 260265 or N. Sargent, tel: 260376; children free.

# Old Down Cricket Club

## 150 Club Winners May:

£50 Richard Panes

£15 Olivia Maunder

£5 Diane Buckley

## Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

7th April Reg Purchase 14th April Tracey Jarvis 21st April Neil Cross

28th April Alex Grosvenor 5th May Tony Williams

## June Fixtures at The Park (2.00pm Start)

2nd June 1st XI v Phoenix West Indians

9th June 2nd XI v Almondsbury

16th June 1st XI v Coalpit Heath

23rd June 2nd XI v Bradley Stoke

30th June 1st XI v Long Ashton

Up The Down!!

*Tony Gardner 07889 727729*

# Tea and Tunes with The Trio di Brio

**Cossham Hall, Thornbury, Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup> 3.30 pm**

Come along and indulge yourself and your friends in an afternoon of sheer pleasure. The Trio di Brio will recreate the atmosphere of a Palm Court lounge with a concert of popular light classical music. The concert is part of the fund raising project in aid of the Armstrong Hall Backstage Development Appeal. Tea will be served mid way through the concert. Tickets at £8 each are on sale now at Thornbury Town Hall or by phone on 412272. Come and enjoy the tradition of afternoon tea with lovely music and still be home just after 6pm!

# Thornbury Summer Food Fair

**Castle Street, Saturday June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m.**

After a long wet and windy spring, hopefully June will bring some sunshine back and what better way to enjoy a sunny British Saturday than with a visit to our next Food Fair. We are expecting between 45 – 50 stallholders selling the best of the best of local foods with cheeses, meats, breads, ciders and beers alongside Spanish speciality products, Devon fishcakes and of course, the Mediterranean in the guise of The Real Olive Company.

# Yours Faithfully

Susan Winter

Aust Evangelical Church

As the weather warms, I am told that we are entering the 'wedding season', since many couples continue to choose to make their vows to love each other in marriage, during the summer months. It is a time of celebration and a culmination of time spent planning.

Perhaps you are preparing for a special wedding, or attending one this year. Recently, I was present at a wedding where the weather was beautifully sunny, the setting picturesque and the couple obviously very happy indeed. It was a wonderful day! Watching the bride walk down the aisle, I could not help but smile at her delight and the love that she showed for the groom. It made me consider the day when we will meet our bridegroom in heaven. The Bible makes many references to the church being the bride of Christ. By 'church' I do not refer to a building or any one denomination; the Bible makes it clear that the 'church' is the body of Christ: the people who love and worship Him as their Lord and Saviour.

When we meet with Jesus, our groom, I wonder if we shall walk as the bride I saw earlier this year. Will we be filled with an overwhelming love that shines from our faces, not wanting to miss a second in His presence? Maybe you are wary of meeting Jesus. Perhaps your experience and understanding of human love has given you a different view. You may see Him as an angry, overpowering judge who only accepts perfection. If that is the case, then how can He love and accept me, a person who often gets things wrong and lets Him down? Yet I know that I am loved and accepted. I know that Jesus went to the cross for me because He loves me; even if I were the only one alive, He still would have died for me, so that I could be His bride. Knowing this fills me with a love and wonder at the grace that is given me; I am excited about meeting Him! No one can love me as He does, knowing my faults and failings He is still devoted to me. There is no danger of being shamed or rejected; Jesus died to take away my mistakes, so to Him I am pure and blameless in His sight. Yes, I know that I'm not perfect and so does He, but He chooses totally to forget my errors when I am sorry for them.

In a film that I watched recently the leading roles discover that they have something in common; instead of looking at the bride when she walks down the aisle, they like to watch the groom. They see the groom waiting with adoration on his face as his bride draws closer. The Bible refers to this too:

As a bridegroom rejoices over his bride,  
So will your God rejoice over you.

*Isaiah 62 v 5*

So when you next attend a wedding, look in to the faces of the bride and the groom. Consider your walk to meet Jesus and remember the love in the eyes of both. Accept the love and grace that He offers you and meet Him with gladness.

As the groom is filled with love, so will the face of Jesus be as He gazes at you, face to face. His heart is filled with love and compassion for you. You are His bride! He knows everything that you have been through, not a moment has He missed, and whether you know it or not, He has been beside you every step of the way. So smile, returning His love and thank Him for His amazing grace.

## Arthur Robbins' 90th

Arthur would like to thank everyone who sent him cards and many kind messages on his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. We all had an enjoyable day. Many thanks.

## From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

May 12th      Marriage of Toby Winston Harwood to Lisa Marie Roberts

## Friends of St Mary's

The prize winners in May's draw, held on 10th May 2012 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	383	Mrs. S. Bisiker, Tockington
£75	236	Mr. M. E. Scott, Rudgeway
£25	158	Mr. D. J. Talbot, Olveston
£25	351	Melinda Evans, Olveston
£25	183	Mrs. R. Hitchcock, Olveston
£20	439	Mr. D. Skinner, Olveston
£20	341	Mr. N. Poulton, Tockington
£10	473	Mrs. M. Setter, Olveston
£10	277	Rev. R. Bain, Olveston

# Church News

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Jun 3	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Breakfast Club Jubilee Evensong with Choir	Rev David Bone Revs T Fooks & D Bone Breakfast Club Team Rev Roly Bain & Very Rev David Hoyle
Jun 10	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Morning Worship with Choir Breakfast Club Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain Rev Roly Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev Roly Bain
Jun 17	8am 10am  10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir  Breakfast Club Evensong	Rev Roly Bain Rev R Bain & Mrs Janet McBride Breakfast Club Team Mrs Ann Lloyd
Jun 24	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Fourth Sunday Breakfast Club Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev David Bone Mr Denis Jones Breakfast Club Team Rev R Bain & Rev R Crew

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

### Contacts:

Rev Philip Rowe, 01454 613223; email: [office@stmaryssevernside.org.uk](mailto: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](http://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

## CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Jun 10	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Jun24	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Hon. Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Warden: Terry McLeavy 633680

## ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Jun 3	3pm	Diamond Jubilee Evensong	Rev David Pole
Jun 17	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jun 10	9am	Matins	Rev David Pole
Jun 24	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

Contact: Rev. David Pole 01454 414810; [www.sthelensalveston.org](http://www.sthelensalveston.org)

## OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Jun 3	10am 6pm	Tock Ch. Tock Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Rosalie Doyle Evening Worship led by Rev David Hardy St Andrew's Ch Filton joining with us
Jun 10	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Hennie Gray. The Breakfast Club join us later
Jun 17	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
Jun 24	10am	Olv Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams

**NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP:** This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> June. To book your lunch please ring 416528

**TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP** meets at 12.15 in the Swan Tockington on Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> June To book please ring 613241, or 612112

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

**CREAM TEAS** Will be served on Bank Holiday Mon. 4<sup>th</sup> June on Tockington Green or in the Chapel. O.P.H.S will have an exhibition in the Chapel

**CONTACT: Rev Sandy Williams tel 07841 752 941,**  
[Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com](mailto:Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com)

## THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and 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](mailto:thevine_awkley@hotmail.com)

**AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH** Family Worship 11.00am Evening Worship 6.30pm. For more details please phone 632564

## THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Jun 3	6.30pm	Tony McQueen
Jun 10	6.30pm	Calix Furus
Jun 17	6.30pm	Rev Colin Lewis
Jun 24	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Prayer Time every Thurs 7.30

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

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

## LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

Family Worship every Sunday at 11am

For details tel. 413247

**BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP** -Twice monthly meetings are held at 4pm at Thornbury Baptist Church (Youth Block)

Contact 0117 3050969 [www.bcfnet.com](http://www.bcfnet.com)

**RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING**, Thornbury -

Sat Vigil Mass 18.00 Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Tel 01454 412223 [www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk](http://www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk)

**SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**, Thornbury

Meeting for Worship Sundays 10.30-11.30: The Hanover Room, The Chantry, Castle St. Wheelchair accessible. Children welcome with prior notice.

**Local contact:** Ben & Candia Barman 01454 412603

National: [www.quaker.org.uk](http://www.quaker.org.uk) Bristol area: [www.bristolquakers.org.uk](http://www.bristolquakers.org.uk)

# Diary Dates for June 2012

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Fri			
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Picnic on Tockington Green Ceilidh at Littleton-on-Severn	10.30-12.00 12.00 6pm-late	MH
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sun	Quiz at Sports & Social Club	8.15pm	AP
4 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Jubilee Celebrations - see insert		
5 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00	WR DGCL
6 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Royal British Legion Women Octopus Players-9th	6.00pm 7.30pm	DGCL
7 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Beat Surgery Olveston Toddlers	9.00 1.30 10.00-12.00 10.30-11.30 2.00-4.30	OST OST MH
9 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Open Garden/Plant sale/Teas	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 2pm	AVH MH
10 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Open Garden at Tomorosa	2-6pm	
11 <sup>th</sup> Mon			
12 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Women's Institute- Social Evening Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR PH EVH
13 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Coffee at Cromwell Ho for M.S.	10.00	
14 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OST MH
15 <sup>th</sup> Fri	Tea at Three at the Wheatsheaf (SPH) Alv. Singers Fanfare for Elizabeth	3.00-4.00pm 7.30pm	Th Ch
16 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Church/School Fete Th Orchestra Concert at Berkeley Church	10.30-12.00 2.00-4.30pm 7.30pm	MH
17 <sup>th</sup> Sun	TMTG concert at Old Down Country Park	3.00 pm&7pm	
18 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Monday Movie extra	7.30pm	S+M
19 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women-Bingo Alv. Singers Fanfare for Elizabeth	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL S+H
20 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club Strawberry Tea Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	2.30pm 8.30pm	Chy



21 <sup>st</sup> Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers Th Volunteer Centre Fair in St Mary Centre	9.00-1.30pm 9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 9.00-1.00pm	OST MH
23 <sup>rd</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Th. Summer Food Fair Castle Street	10.30-12.00 10-2.00pm	MH
24 <sup>th</sup> Sun	Open Gardens Littleton-on -Severn Quiz at Sports & Social Club	2-6pm 8.15pm	AP
25 <sup>th</sup> Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club - Practice	1.30	AH
26 <sup>th</sup> Tue	Tockington Toddlers Olveston Parish Council Meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR AP
27 <sup>th</sup> Wed	Severn Valley Quilters	7.30pm	CH
28 <sup>th</sup> Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OST MH
30 <sup>th</sup> Sat	Coffee Morning Car Boot Sale at Marlwood School Olveston School Fun Run (New date) Summer Concert at Elberton Ch.	10.30-12.00 1.30-3..30  7.30pm	MH
<b>Looking ahead to July</b>			
7 <sup>th</sup>	Flowers Band at St Mary's Thornbury(ACT)		
21st	BCO Sinfonietta	7.30pm	StM

**KEY:** AC Aust Church; ACR – Almondsbury Church Rooms; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Alveston Methodist Church; AMH- Alveston Methodist Hall; AP – Alexandra Pavilion; AVH – Aust Village Hall; ; CH – Cossham Hall; Chy – Chantry ;CS Castle Sch. DGCL – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; EVH – Elberton Village Hall; LVH Littleton Village Hall MH – Olveston Methodist Hall;OMC Olv Meth Ch OS – Olveston School; OST – Olveston Stores; OV – Olveston Vicarage; PH – Olveston Parish Hall;StH St Helens Alv 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.olvestonandaust.com](http://www.olvestonandaust.com). If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: [meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com](mailto:meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com)

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