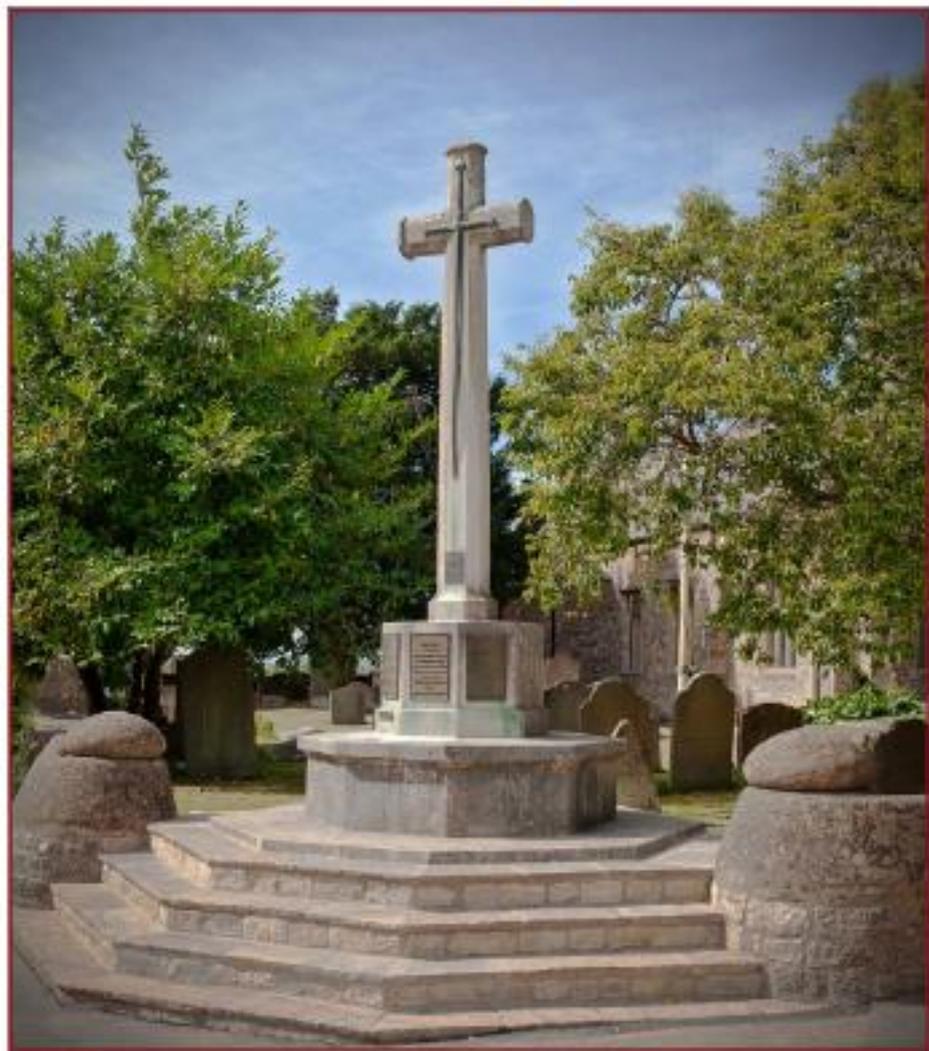
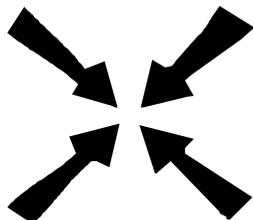


Meeting Point



November 2015



Meeting Point

Volume 40, Number 2, November 2015

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

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From the Editor

Following the completion last month of the series of profiles of Olveston Parish Councillors from our intrepid reporter, Pat Thirkettle, we now have a profile of a new Aust Councillor from Tim Pyper. Meanwhile, Pat has resumed her regular series, with an interesting interview with John Mason.

We also have a fascinating first-hand account from Ed Lovering of his trip to the Scout Jamboree in Japan.

If, in addition to your own Guy Fawkes and Halloween celebrations, you attend even half the stimulating events on offer to you in November, you will be very tired by the time December comes round!

This month's cover is a photograph by Peter Howarth.

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**

John Mason

Profile by Pat Thirkettle

John and Cora Mason moved to Hardy Lane, Tockington in 1990, as the open view from the house reminded John of that from his childhood home in Devon. He went to a local primary school in Devon, where he was influenced by an excellent history teacher (also an ex merchant seaman) to take the Common Entrance exam which, together with a bursary, enrolled him in the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth at the age of thirteen. In 1943, about five weeks before he started, the Naval College was bombed and pupils were evacuated to Eaton Hall in Cheshire for three years.



The Navy provided an excellent rounded education, obviously with a technical bias, but with attention to music, the arts and a foreign language. There was a choice of sports; John chose sailing, cricket and golf in summer, and hockey and shooting in the winter; for the latter he got his Marksman's badge and won several competitions. He also learnt to fly a Tiger Moth biplane.

The College returned to Dartmouth in 1946 in John's last term and then he was off to sea. His first year was in cruisers, when he visited the Caribbean, although initially very seasick. He was one of a party that sailed an old whaler up the Windward Island chain, camping overnight on beaches and learning to cook fish on an open fire and how to open a coconut for milk. They visited the US Naval College in Annapolis, where people in the street, on seeing the uniform, asked the cadets to speak so they could hear an English accent!

On promotion to Midshipman he was posted to HMS Nigeria based in Simonstown, South Africa. On one occasion they sailed for Antarctica to serve a protest notice on Argentinean fisherman who had landed on Deception Island, stating that they were there illegally. They then visited Argentinean or Chilean bases on other South Shetland Islands similarly. On the second of their visits to the Falkland Islands, John indulged his interest in Isambard Kingdom Brunel by sailing a dinghy across to Sparrow Cove to board the SS Great Britain. She was a sad derelict sight, and it was impossible to imagine her as she is today.

On promotion to Sub Lieutenant he reported to the Royal Naval College, Greenwich for a seven month naval education course. Initially John was tempted to specialise in submarines as the atmosphere was more relaxed and in bad weather the submarine submerged! Eventually he concluded it would be unduly restricting and elected to remain a seaman officer. This decision probably saved his life, as a submarine carrying officers in training, who were

John's contemporaries, failed to resurface and now lies off the Channel Islands. After gaining his final watch-keeping certificate while patrolling home waters, John was promoted to Lieutenant.

He was now on destroyers and one voyage took them away for two years going through the Suez Canal and visiting many ports in the Persian Gulf before he returned to Portsmouth on foreign service leave. The next step was being appointed First Lieutenant on an inshore minesweeper that was a mobile base for shallow water divers operating in coastal waters. He left to take up a shallow water diving course at Portsmouth as he thought he might use it as a career move. Initially this meant diving in a canvas suit with lead weighted boots and brass bell helmet, before using underwater swimming gear. However, although qualified, he again decided to remain a seaman officer. He had already met his wife Cora and they married in 1956 between various postings until John decided to take early retirement with a healthy lump sum.

Although giving an excellent education to university level, the Navy does not produce the certificates required for job interviews in civilian life. After several different jobs, John enrolled at Leicester University as a mature student for one year to train as a Probation Officer. He was then appointed to a job in Rugby, which was a happy time for them all. They bought a family house, their adopted son Giles was now at school and surprisingly their daughter Finola was conceived naturally.

Seeking promotion, John applied successfully to join the Bristol Probation service in 1972. The family moved to Redland and John became Senior Probation Officer for Knowle West for four years and then another four years as SPO for a team covering Yate and Thornbury Petty Sessions. He had followed the rescue of the SS Great Britain closely, and the family visited it in its dry dock two years after it arrived. In the 1970's the idea of Community Service, as an alternative to a prison sentence, started and John became Team Manager for the Community Service Team for four more years. Then he took on a new post as County Crime Prevention Officer, a multi-agency job which was breaking new ground. He travelled widely and particularly remembers visiting Northumbria Police Headquarters, as they were leaders in the field. After three years, having organised himself out of a job, John decided to take early retirement in 1992.

By now the children had left home and he and Cora were settled in Tockington. John set up and ran a Victim Support Group based in Yate Police district for four years. He was an early member of the U3A, and as a keen walker led walks within the U3A and the local group of the National Trust, as well as leading Severn Vale Probus's walking group for seventeen years. During that time he had a major heart attack in 1995. He recovered sufficiently by 2008 to resume leading walks, but sadly heart problems nowadays severely curtail his activities.

World Scout Jamboree 2015 - Japan

By Ed Lovering

My name is Ed Lovering and I'm an Explorer Scout at Endeavour Explorers in Olveston. Recently I took part in the trip of a lifetime across the world to Japan, to participate in the World Scout Jamboree.

I went to Japan with a group of 35 other scouts and 4 leaders. We embarked on our journey on the 25th July at a ridiculously early time. After lots of waiting and travelling we arrived in a province called Aichi where we met our home hospitality family. So these were Japanese families that let us (groups of 2 or 3) stay with them for a few days. This was an amazing opportunity to experience Japanese culture at its finest and for us to practice our Japanese.

Then a few days later and after a few train journeys we arrived at the Jamboree site. It was incredible to see the actual size of it. On this one site there were 33500-ish scouts camping, plus a couple of thousand adults, from over 150 countries from all around the world!! To experience and see such a wide range of cultures and nationalities from all over the world gathered in one place was astonishing, and somewhat hard to take in! During the ten day Jamboree we participated in loads of activities ranging from doing water sports on a beach: to hiking through caves; going out to local communities and a visit to the Hiroshima memorial park. My favourite activity was international day where you walked around to other countries' camp sites and participated in activities with them or had food from their country with them. The only bad part was the early starts (04:30 some days!) but it's not that much to sacrifice for an experience of a lifetime.

To round off an amazing trip, we travelled to Tokyo and spent a few days travelling around Tokyo seeing the main sites such as Sky Tree, and getting to go on an earthquake simulator.

The World Scout Jamboree really is something else; it's hard to put into words the experiences; the atmosphere; the opportunities that we had.

This experience has taught me valuable communication, leadership and teamwork skills that I will use in my future life. It was something I have never experienced before and probably something I won't get the chance to experience again, so I would truly encourage younger members of the Scouting Association to participate in the next Jamboree in 2019. Seize all the opportunities that you get in life!

Tockington Harvest Fayre 2015



The lovely warm weather on September 19th brought out the biggest crowd we've seen on Tockington Green since the first Fayre was held in there in 1969 (although there have been fairs there from the mid 14th Century). There were plenty of stalls and games for everyone, and the Femmes, a 1940's vocal trio, provided the main entertainment and also judged the brilliant children's Fancy Dress parade. The Rev David Bone opened the Fayre and crowned the Harvest Queen who this year was Milly Shrimpton with her attendants Laura Evan and Erin Baker.

The delicious cream teas were particularly popular and allowed many of the crowd to sit and enjoy the marvellous setting and spirit of this annual village event. The Brownies ended the event with a brilliant dance routine based on Toy Story. Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church would like to thank everyone for their support for this year's annual Harvest Fayre, especially all the helpers – we couldn't do it without you! Congratulations to all the prize winners - and the Fayre raised £2221, another record.



An Important Request

Aileen Havercroft

John Tovey lives in Almondsbury village and can often be seen in our area with Dez, his prize-winning guide dog. Dez is a beautiful black Labrador, and passers-by are sometimes tempted to stop and pet him. This causes John some anxiety as he relies entirely on Dez for his safety. When Dez is wearing his harness and leading John, he is a working guide dog and must not be distracted. Any break in his concentration could put his master at risk, so if you see them, please admire Dez from a distance. John will be very grateful for your understanding. Thank you.

Olveston Housing Needs Survey

All homes in Olveston will receive a copy of the Olveston Housing Needs Survey questionnaire by the 2nd November 2015. This is a confidential questionnaire undertaken in partnership between South Gloucestershire Council and Olveston Parish Council. The survey is being carried out to establish if there is a need for affordable housing in the parish as well as to identify demand in the private market for starter homes and homes for downsizing. The findings of the questionnaire will be available publicly during spring 2016.

Affordable housing is provided for people who are unable to resolve their housing needs in the open market because of the relationship between housing costs and incomes. Affordable housing can be for rent or shared ownership (where you buy a share of your home from a housing association and pay rent on the remaining).

If the findings of this local housing needs survey demonstrate that there is a need for affordable housing, the survey may be used to support a planning proposal for the development of a rural exception site within the parish. A rural exception site is a small area of land exempt from the normal planning policy which is normally adjoined or closely related to the settlement. The properties built on such a site would be affordable and priority would be given to those with a strong connection to the parish. A small number of market houses may be included in a rural exception site in order to make it economically viable.

Providing affordable housing on suitable sites creates balanced communities, breathes fresh life into rural villages and can help ensure that local people can stay in their community, whatever their age or circumstances. It allows for intergenerational support networks within families, a sense of history and continuity, and a parish with a good mix of ages and backgrounds which are inclusive and welcoming places to live. Thriving, sustainable communities will have viable facilities – schools, shops, churches and pubs.

A community consultation event will be held at Olveston Parish Hall, Upper Tockington Road, BS32 4LQ on the 12th November 2015. You are welcome to drop in between 3pm and 7pm when representatives from South Gloucestershire Council will be available to answer any of your questions about the survey.

You can also contact us by e-mail at housingenabling@southglos.gov.uk, or you can call South Gloucestershire Housing Enabling Team on 01454 865599.

News from St Mary's

Roly Bain

Remembering

We have both our usual services of remembrance in November. On Nov 1st at 6pm is our Memorial Service when we remember especially those who have died this past year but also everyone else as well, and David Bone will be leading that service. You are invited to bring a photo of your loved ones to put on the altar as well as light a candle during the service. On November 8th it is our Parade Service for Remembrance Sunday, organised by the British Legion, at 10am, when all the uniformed organisations take part, and Roly Bain is leading and preaching at that.

Different Services

Advent Sunday is on November 29th and in the evening we have our Service of Light, led by Denis Jones and featuring the choir. December 6th sees another Toy Service at 10am with Tockington Manor School Choir and Kingswood Puppets. Please bring Christmas presents for those less fortunate than ourselves for the Childrens' Society to distribute. They don't need to be wrapped! More news next month of all the Christmas services ...

Salvation Army Christmas Concert

Once again we welcome the Easton Salvation Army Band for a Christmas Concert on December 5th at 7.30pm. Apart from the bar profits, all the proceeds go to the Salvation Army to subsidise their very important work. Tickets at £5 are available from June Robbins on 617491 or on the door on the night.

Struggling at Christmas?

Don't forget that we can help financially if things are getting tight in the bleak midwinter. Get in touch with Roly on 616593 roly@rolybain.co.uk or Nita Slaytor on 612675 or lesslaytor@aol.com. All done with complete confidentiality.

Thank you

OLVESTON PARISH TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Thanks to everyone who joined OPTA, the parish twinning association, for the Local/Locale event in the school on Friday 2nd October. As well as having fun celebrating local food, drink and music from both the Olveston and Bréhan areas, we raised £150 to donate to the school to support the purchase of resources for teaching French.

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

New Councillor – Catherine Collinson

I thought readers would like a short profile of Catherine, who joined the parish council earlier this year.

Catherine moved to Littleton-upon-Severn four years ago from North Wales, although she is originally from Yorkshire. She is married to John and has two sons. She has a degree in Social Administration from Nottingham University and is a qualified Chartered Secretary.

Catherine spent nearly all of her working life in the public sector in what is now known as The Insolvency Service which is part of the Department of Business Innovation and Skills. She started as an Examiner in the Official Receiver's Office in Bristol, worked in London specialising in Company Investigations and was an Assistant Official Receiver in Southend-on-Sea.

Whilst in North Wales she worked mainly from home dealing with the regulation of Insolvency Practitioners which involved a considerable amount of travel across the United Kingdom. She finished her career working as a Policy Advisor based in London but was made redundant in 2013 and took early retirement.

Catherine wanted to continue her public service and contribute to the community of Littleton and took the opportunity when it arose in May of this year to become a Parish Councillor. She thinks the transition from Civil Servant to Parish Councillor will be an interesting one but she hopes that the experience she has of working within Central Government will stand her in good stead for what lies ahead within local Government.

She sees the major challenge as being the implementation of the Localism Agenda and the Government's ambition to devolve power to the local level particularly at a time when finances are stretched. Localism will devolve more power to the local community but with that comes choices as how we wish to shape our future. Catherine wishes to engage with and represent the views of all of the residents to ensure that Littleton remains the most fantastic place to live.

She will, of course, continue to lobby for Littleton to have access to superfast broadband!

King John and Magna Carta

Wednesday, 4 November 2015, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church



2015 is, of course, the 800th anniversary year of Magna Carta, the great charter drawn up between king and barons, which still has resonance around the world today. Jane Tozer will give an illustrated talk on King John and Magna Carta.

It was an action-packed reign even without the disputes with the barons. There was John's busy marital and extra-marital life. There was a complicated pattern of land-holdings in France, created by his father Henry II, which meant John had to carry out several military campaigns to defend them. Then he was in dispute with the pope over who should decide church appointments. This resulted in the pope

barring English clergy from conducting church services for several years!

Jane will touch on some of this in her account of the context in which Magna Carta came about. The illustration shows part of the effigy of John on his tomb in Worcester Cathedral.

This meeting is open to everyone and all are very welcome! **£2 for a single meeting**, payable at the door, or you can buy **annual membership for just £5**, also at the door, which entitles you to this and five more talks. You can see the rest of the programme on the website.

Olveston Parish Historical Society www.olvoston.com/historical-society

Murder in St Mary's

The suspects will be assembled in St Mary's Church in Olveston on **Saturday 14th November at 7.30 pm**. Can you guess 'who done it'? Pit your wits against the Red Herrings to find the killer in our murder mystery evening. With lasagne to keep the Little Grey cells refreshed included in the cost of a ticket, and a pay bar if you need more inspiration, will you be our Poirot or Marple? £5 for an evening to die for. Tickets from June Robbins on 617491 or Mariann Dale at marianndale@hotmail.com

Remembrance Day Rendezvous



The Olveston Parish Hall Committee invite you to join us on
Sunday 8th November 2015
after the Remembrance Day Parade
between 11.30 am - 2.30 pm
for a lunch of
Sausage & Mash, followed by Steamed Pudding and Custard
Adults £5 / Children £2.50
Licensed Bar
Everyone Welcome
Pay on the Day or to Book in Advance Ring 615806

Thornbury Choral Society's November Concert

Thornbury Choral Society will be performing Brahms's glorious German Requiem at **The Castle School, Thornbury on November 21st at 7.30pm.** The work was written in response to the deaths of Robert Schumann and Brahms's own mother and is a beautiful autumnal work with each movement ending in a mood of optimism. The Requiem will be preceded by Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer" including the solo "O for the wings of a dove" and the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in D by Stanford. The performance will be accompanied by Christopher Northam and Gus Tredwell in the exciting version on two pianos, the soloists will be Frances Gregory (soprano) and Samuel Oram (baritone) and the conductor will be Steven Kings.

Tickets cost £12 (£2 for under 16s) and can be obtained from any choir member or from Thornbury Town Hall from 1st November.

Movies at St Mary's: November

Trevor Anderson



Here at **St Mary's Movie Club** in Olveston we will be celebrating our FIFTH birthday at this month's Monday Movie on **November 2nd**. You are invited to come along to share the celebration and to watch what has been described as "*the best British film of the year.*"

As I'm sure all readers now know, everyone is welcome to all the films (you don't need to be a Movie Club member) and there is no need to book. Admission is free, although a small **donation** at the end towards expenses is always appreciated. We show films for the 'grown-ups' on the first and third Monday evenings of each month and for 'children of all ages' every Monday morning during school holidays

There will be two films in November. Two very different films, but each one chosen to reflect the November theme of Remembrance. Doors will open 30 minutes before shows start and there will be a licensed bar and refreshments.

MONDAY MOVIES (*Recent releases and ever-popular classics*)

Mon 2nd November at 7.30pm: During the darkest days of WW2, the British Government enlists the help of mathematician Alan Turing to crack Enigma, the 'unbreakable' German encryption device. A tense and gripping thriller featuring an outstanding performance from Benedict Cumberbatch alongside Keira Knightley. (2014, Cert 12).

Plus birthday cake!

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

Mon 16th November at 7.30pm: France 1940 and Hitler's armies descend upon Paris and bring total occupation to France. Lucille, living with her mother in a small town struggling to cope, has her life turned upside down when a handsome and charming German officer is posted to live with them. A gripping slice of history and an intoxicating love story. (2014, Cert 15).

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 your details to me at trevoranderson@btinternet.com.

Why do so many people come again and again? Opposite are just a few of the many reasons that people have given us.



Do you play Cribbage?

Does 'Fifteen 2, fifteen 4 and one for his hat' mean anything to you? If so, read on.

Did you know that Olveston has a cribbage team? We are based at the White Hart and play in a league between September and April visiting other local pubs. We play on Monday evenings at 8.30.

If you play cribbage (even if you think you're rusty) and would be interested in joining us, we have room for a couple more players in our team. We have the flexibility to only play on alternate Monday evenings so the commitment is not too demanding – and there's always the possibility of swapping if you're busy on a particular date.

We're a friendly team and would love to hear from you if you'd like to discuss playing. If you'd like to learn we could even perhaps start with a complete beginner who would like some lessons. Phone Jan Winter on 01454 612641 for a chat.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the October draw, held on 8th October 2015 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	215	Mr J Hahn, Olveston
£75	352	Mrs V Brown, Olveston
£25	263	Mr & Mrs A Bates, Olveston
£25	553	Mrs B Kingscott, Almondsbury
£25	151	Mrs H G Dangerfield, Olveston
£20	494	Mr J L Henniker-Heaton, Winterbourne
£20	262	Mrs A R Knight, Olveston
£20	173	Mrs B Morgan, Tockington
£10	591	Mrs P R Kerrison, Olveston
£10	537	Mr R A Hicks, Cornwall
£10	203	Mrs J Davis, Olveston
£10	194	Mr J C Brown, Alveston
£10	192	Mr D J Talbot, Olveston
£10	357	Mr D J Smart, Thornbury

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

Alpha Course Introductory Evening

Philip and Alison Rowe warmly invite you to an introductory evening for the Alpha Course on **Wednesday 4th November at 7.30pm** in Almondsbury Vicarage. The Alpha Course helps us to address the 'big questions of life' such as Who I am I? - Why am I here? - What happens after I die? After a meal together we continue with a DVD presentation which is designed to encourage conversation and explore the basics of the Christian faith in a friendly, open and informal environment. No question is out of bounds and everyone is free to discuss as much or as little as you wish. Do come along to this evening with no obligation to see if this might be for you. If you are coming it would be helpful for catering purposes if you could inform us on 01454 613223 or vicar@stmaryssevernside.org.uk. There is no charge.

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners October 2015:

£50 John Fox
£15 Alex Grosvenor
£5 Neil Cross

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

12th September Olivia Maunder
3rd October Barbara Binns

Diary Date: Re-arranged Club Dinner at County Ground now Sat 7th November. Please contact me for details

Up the Down!!

Olveston and Tockington Tennis

Club News

David Fielding

Having held our annual tournament for all club members at Tockington Manor School tennis courts, we are gearing up for our next social event, which is a **quiz to be held on Saturday November 14th at the Parish Hall at 7.30 pm.** Entry will be £16 for a team of 4 - including a tasty pie. There will also be a bar. To enter please contact David Fielding at fieldingstewart@yahoo.co.uk or phone at 614792. Payment will be on the night at the door, but we need to know entries in advance of course.

"Annie" Update

Parish Players are looking for a suitable dog to play, Sandy, the stray who is befriended by Annie.

Sandy sits by Annie's side as she sings the iconic song, "Tomorrow", and features in a number of other scenes. Your dog should be 'sandy' in colour, if possible, with a placid temperament and be at ease with children and must be available for performances from Feb 7th -13th, 2016 and for occasional rehearsals.



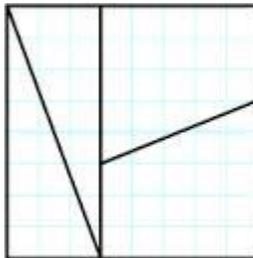
Please phone Linda Evans on 01454 413887.

Casting for the show is complete, but there are still opportunities to join the chorus and experience, perhaps for the first time, the thrill of taking to the stage. Just pop in to any of our rehearsals on Monday and Thursday evenings at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall or phone Linda for details.

How Many Squares?

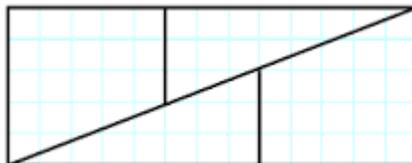
Jan Winter

Here is an 8 by 8 square, divided into 4 areas.



If you have some squared paper, try drawing this and cutting it out, following the measurements and cutting it out as accurately as you can.

Now fit the four pieces back together like this:



How big is the rectangle you have made? Can you explain what has happened?

Police Report

PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery

Reported crimes for September included:

- Burglary to a garage, Elberton Road, mountain bike stolen.
- Theft from a motor vehicle in Aust.
- Attempt burglary to an outbuilding in Hazel Lane.
- Criminal damage caused to a vacant premises in Oldbury.

With the darker nights drawing in, take a few simple steps to avoid becoming a victim of burglary:

- Set a timer switch to turn your lights on when it gets dark – unlit houses are a giveaway that no one is at home.
- Lock your doors, patios and downstairs windows – even when you are in. Make sure you double check them again before you go to bed.
- If you have a burglar alarm, make sure you set it when you go out and also when you go to bed.
- Don't leave car keys, ID cards or valuables near windows, doors or letterboxes, where burglars can reach through and steal them
- Lock your garden gates and side entrance. Don't leave tools lying around in the garden which could be used to break in to your home.

Beat Surgeries will be held at **Olveston Stores from 10:30-11:00 on Wednesday 25th November and Wednesday 16th December**

For emergencies dial 999. For non-emergencies dial 101. To report a crime dial 101.

Severn Vale Flower Club

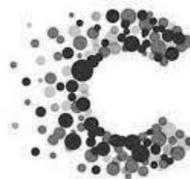
“A Christmas Wish”. This is the title of a floral demonstration to be given by Lorena Dyer. This will be held in the Armstrong Hall Thornbury on Monday evening the 2nd November. There will Refreshments, Raffle & Sales Tables.

Doors open at 6-30pm for 7-30pm. Lorena is a National Demonstrator so this will be a demonstration not to be missed. For tickets and enquiries the numbers to ring are 01454 885213 or 01453 811089.

Also, on Wednesday 25th November there will be a Charity Coffee morning in aid of the Stroke Support Group. This will be held in the Excell Room Armstrong Hall Thornbury. Doors will open at 10.30 am. Friends and visitors are welcome to come and join us.



with



CANCER
RESEARCH
UK

Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee are holding a wonderful evening of music with "The Thornbury Orchestra" on **Saturday 28th November at 7.15pm** for a 7.30pm start. The venue is The Castle School, Park Road, Thornbury. The programme is as follows:

Sibelius 5th Symphony

Vaughan Williams Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis

Richard Strauss Wind Serenade

Piers Lichl Thornbury Tango

There will be no charge for attending this evening event, but it is hoped that everyone will make a generous donation to Cancer Research UK.

Light refreshments will be available, and we look forward to seeing you there.

"I'll Get My Man"

Thornbury Methodist Players

Take a lonely parson with a domineering sister, a famous TV actor pursued by an ardent rock star, a husband-hunting widow and an irate bishop, mix them together and all sorts of comic consequences abound.

This typically hilarious Philip King Farce is being performed by Thornbury Methodist Players from **Wednesday 18th – Saturday 21st November, 2015.**

Performances begin at 7.45pm. Tickets £7. Contact for tickets Tel : 01454 414749/ 01454 600503 or available on the door.

St Peter's Hospice

COFFEE MORNING

A coffee morning will be held in the Methodist Church Hall, Alveston on Wednesday 4th November between 10.30am and 12noon. Entrance to include tea/coffee £1.00. Stalls, Bring and Buy table, Christmas Cards and Raffle. Please come along and support St Peters, your local Hospice.

Bristol Theatre Supremo Visits Thornbury

One of the longest serving members of Bristol Old Vic Theatre is visiting Thornbury on **Tuesday November 17th** in support of the Armstrong Hall Re-Development Project.

Andrew Stocker will give an informative and entertaining talk with slides entitled 'Bristol Old Vic – Then & Now' describing the extraordinary history of the theatre since its foundation in 1766 illustrated with fascinating archive images of the theatre and of the many wonderful productions dating from the 1940s onwards and featuring such famous actors as Peter O'Toole, Jeremy Irons, Daniel Day Lewis or even Harry H. Corbett from TV's ground breaking comedy Steptoe and Son.

Andrew will recount his incident-packed life and times in the Bristol theatre and at The BOV Theatre School and will give inside information on the almost completed improvements to the theatre as well as the exciting celebrations planned for the 250th Anniversary of the BOV in 2016.

Don't miss this chance to hear of the Bristol theatrical heritage while at the same time supporting the local community hall refurbishment which itself has welcomed over the years many famous thespians to Thornbury!

Bristol Old Vic – Then & Now starts at 7.30pm in the Cossham Hall after Andrew has switched on Thornbury's Christmas Lights in the High Street at 7pm. Tickets £6 (to include a welcome drink) from Thornbury Town Hall or phone 01454 412272.

The Severnside Art Club

Are you interested in joining an art group?

The Severnside Art Club meets at Easter Compton Village Hall on Tuesday afternoons from 2 to 4.30pm during school terms. Some members are experienced artists and others are beginners, but we all enjoy the opportunity to learn from each other in a very friendly atmosphere. Members use a variety of materials including water colours, acrylics, oil paints and pastels, and we choose our own subjects or a selected theme for the month. Experienced tutors come about once a month to hold a workshop to impart their skills. There is a subscription charge of £ 30 twice a year.

New members would be very welcome and you could come for a free trial session first to see if it would suit you. If you are interested, get in touch with Jeanette Pruett : severnbeach2@gmail.com

Don't Take the Gamble with Lottery Fraud

South Gloucestershire Council Trading Standards would like to remind residents to stay vigilant when receiving letters indicating they have won a lottery, whether it is from the UK or abroad.

The National Fraud Intelligence Bureau is warning people about two new Lottery Fraud letters and emails using the 2016 Rio Olympics as a theme.

The scams try to trick people into believing they have won hundreds of thousands of pounds or a trip to Brazil to watch the Olympics or the Rio Carnival. The letters and emails go on to ask the recipient for a fee to process their winnings.

Another fake lottery recently reported to Trading Standards is one purporting to be the People's Postcode Lottery. Every letter says the recipient has won £825,000 and asks for an upfront fee of hundreds of pounds to process their winnings.

The advice being offered to protect yourself from lottery fraud is:

- Never respond to any such communication. If you have not entered a lottery then you cannot have won it.
- Official lotteries in other countries operate in much the same way as the UK's National Lotto.
- Official lotteries are unlikely to contact people to tell them of their win.
- Lottery operators who ask for fees to collect winnings are a good indication that it is not a genuine competition.
- Never disclose your bank details or pay fees in advance.
- Genuine lotteries thrive on publicity. If they ask you to keep your win a secret, it is likely to be a fraud.
- Many fraudulent lotteries have bad spelling and grammar – see this as a warning that fraudsters are at work.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone 0300 123 2040.

For advice on this or any other consumer matter, please contact the Citizens Advice Consumer Helpline on 03454 04 05 06 (Mon-Fri, 9am – 5pm).

Olveston & Tockington Methodist Church

Looking ahead to Christmas Specials:

Saturday 5 December, 10am to 1pm:

Festive Christmas Coffee Morning in Olveston Methodist Hall;

Produce stall & Fair Trade; other goods in the Chapel.

Sunday 13 December:

2.30: Festive Tea in Tockington Chapel in aid of Caring at Christmas, which helps the homeless and rough sleepers.

"There are few hours in life more agreeable than the hour dedicated to the ceremony known as afternoon tea" - Henry James.

6pm: Methodist Carol Service in Olveston Chapel

Tuesday 22 December, 6.30pm - 8.00pm:

Tockington Carols and Nativity Tableau

Starting on the Green (weather permitting) and in Tockington Chapel: Carol singing, concluding with Nativity Tableau in the Chapel. Light refreshments afterwards; further details to follow.

Olveston & Tockington WI

Tom Farmer gave an interesting and very entertaining talk at the September meeting on Beekeeping. He explained that a hive could consist of 50,000 bees, one queen bee and the majority worker bees, female, needless to say, who did all the work of the hive. There may be 200 to 400 drones, males, whose only purpose is to fertilise the queen. He explained how the hive is set up and the numerous diseases which can affect the hive and the treatments needed. It was obvious that the work of a beekeeper was endless, with his busiest time being from March to September. Members were able to purchase the fruits of Tom and his bees labour, honey from different areas and flowers.

The November meeting will be The Annual General Meeting for members only.

Bowl Inn: Open after Refurbishment

The Bowl at Lower Almondsbury has re-opened after a major refurbishment which includes renewal of the kitchen and bar as well as a new, wheel-chair friendly guest room on the ground floor.

Thornbury Library

CHATTERBOOKS READING GROUP for children aged 9-11 years.

Are you in Year 5 or Year 6 at primary school? Do you love books? If so read on....

Our Chatterbooks group meeting monthly on Saturday afternoons from 2pm-3pm in Thornbury Library. There is no cost to take part. Please register your interest either by visiting Thornbury Library in person or by email: thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk Don't forget to include your name, age and a contact telephone number in your message.

HAVE YOU TRIED THE FREE LIBRARIESWEST MOBILE APP?

Manage your library account on-the-go. Renew books, place reservations (no charge for U18s) and much more. Available from Google Play or App Store. You will need your borrower number and PIN (ask at the library if you don't know what these are).

HAVE YOU TRIED eBOOKS, eAUDIO BOOKS and eMAGAZINES?

These free digital library services are available 24/7 with your library membership number and PIN. Find out more and find online help guides at www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries and select "Library e-resources". For support from library staff drop-in to Thornbury Library on a Saturday afternoon from 2-4pm – bring your device with you and we will help to get you started.

BOOKSTART BEAR CLUB STORYTIME AND RHYMETIME FOR BABIES AND PRE-SCHOOLERS

Storytime Mondays 2.15pm – 2.45pm Rhymetime Fridays 11am-11.30am (term-time only). We welcome new members – these activities are FREE and no booking is required. Breast-feeding welcome.

NEW - we now offer nappy disposal with our nappy changing facility – please ask any member of library staff.

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER 11-11.30 FAMILY RHYMETIME (MONTHLY)

For families with a child under 5 years. No booking required. We invite you to wear a hat on this date.

Yours Faithfully

Rev Ann Parker, Chapelry of St John, Aust

Is the past ever the past?

Just before I left home this morning, Sunday, to take a baptism in Aust Church, I had a phone call from the editor. He had just realised that I was due to write this month's "thoughts", and had I forgotten? The answer was "yes", I had and then my mind went a complete blank...not unusual I hear you say! Unfortunately I am, at the moment, suffering a great deal of pain. I will explain why.

About 30+ years ago I was on my way to work, sitting at a red traffic light, singing along to "Mull of Kintyre" when BANG, I was hit from behind. The lady apologised and we swapped insurance details. According to my garage she had actually hit me so hard that she twisted the chassis of my car, and it was unfit to drive. I went off to work and gradually over the next few days I began to develop neck ache, so I went to see the Doctor, who sent me off to a consultant and I was diagnosed with whiplash. I was signed off after a year and told that, although I felt fine, there was a chance that it would recur. This is the second time it has recurred and, I guess because I am older, it's incredibly painful, so I'm stuffed up with painkillers and rubbed with gel on the affected part.

But it got me thinking about emotions and faith and all sorts of things. How many times in our lives have we had physical or emotional pain and just not dealt with it so that it recurs over and over again? I wasn't going to do anything about my neck ache but a friend persuaded me to get it seen to, otherwise it would have lasted longer and possibly never really gone away.

It's the same with sin, the things we have done wrong, anger, bitterness, a cross word, a turned shoulder, a refusal to help.-.to name a few. It can eat away in our souls and cause far more damage to our inner selves than my whiplash causes me now. I know it will get better, hopefully soon, because I am doing all the things I can to get rid of it. Why not consider how to get rid of those nasty emotional things that are eating away at you?

From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

13th September: Baptism of Henry Dashwood, son of Nicholas & Charlotte Thurston.

20th September: Baptism of Georgina Grace Chippindale, daughter of Oliver & Elizabeth Murray.

17th September: Funeral service followed by burial in the churchyard of Margaret Scarborough.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Nov 1	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Memorial Service with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe Rev A Lloyd & Rev P Rowe Rev David Bone
Nov 8	8am 10am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Parade Service with Choir Breakfast Club Holy Communion	Rev Roly Bain Rev Roly Bain Breakfast Club Team Rev Philip Rowe
Nov 15	8am 10am 3.45 6pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion with Choir Back to Front Evensong	Rev David Bone Rev P Rowe & J McBride Paul Harrod Rev Roly Bain
Nov 22	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) Fourth Sunday Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev Roly Bain Rev Roly Bain Rev P Rowe & P Harrod
Nov 29	8am 10am 6pm	Holy Communion Morning Prayer Service of Light with Choir	Rev Roly Bain Rev R Bain & Elveen Mead Mr Denis Jones

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

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

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

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

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

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

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

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

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

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Nov 1	9am	Matins	Mrs Tracey Black
Nov 15	9am	Holy Communion	Rev Ian McColl

www.alveston.org/alveston/sthelens-church-alveston

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Nov 8	9am	Matins	Sandra Edgerton
Nov22	9am	Holy Communion	Rev B. Lane

www.alveston.org/alveston/sthelens-church-alveston

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Nov 1	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship - Mr Ken McNally Evening Worship led by Rev Nigel Young
Nov 8	10am	St Mary's	Remembrance Sunday Service
Nov 15	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Debs Brazier
Nov 22	10am	Olv.Ch.	World Missionary Anniversary Service led by Dr David Bolton
Nov 29	10am	Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Pete Brazier

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

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP meets at 12.15pm in the Swan on Thurs 26th Nov. 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 GROUP: Thurs 19th Nov at 10.30am at 7 The Green Olveston

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC Olveston Methodist Hall

Monday 2-4pm Wednesday 10-12 Friday 7-9pm

Ring 07833 354672 or 07957 433091 for further information.

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176,

e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

THE VINE, 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

Nov 1	6.30pm	Anthony Gillard
Nov 8	6.30pm	Steve Loader
Nov 15	6.30pm	Steve Mills
Nov 22	6.30pm	Paul Ashford
Nov 29	6.30pm	Mike Jenkinson

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & PraiseTime

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

Paul Ashford, 07774 110 814 or email: **Paul@CalebGroup.net**

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH

 Family Worship 11.00am

For more details contact Ann Roberts 632564.

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

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am

Tel 01454 412223 www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Roger Howell at **rogerhowell2@talktalk.net** 01454 294367

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

Diary Dates for November 2015

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

1 st Sun	Bingo every Sun at Sports & Social club	7pm	
2 nd Mon	Mobile Library Orchard Rise & 16th & 30 th Mobile Library Daldry Gardens) Mobile Library Old P.O.- L-O-S Computer Clinic every week Monday Movie Severn Vale Flower Club Open Meeting	11.10-11.25 11.30-11.50 12.00-12.15 2.00-4.00pm 7.30pm 6.30for 7.30	MH StM AH
3 rd Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning RBL Womens Section Poppy Bingo	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 7.30pm	WR DGCL DGCL
4 th Wed	Computer Clinic every week Holy Communion at Daldry Gardens Table Tennis OPHS, 'King John & Magna Carta'	10.00-12.00 2.30pm 7.00-8.30pm 7.30	MH DGCL PH OMC
5 th Thu	Thornbury Farmers' Market (also 19 th) Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-1.30pm 9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
6 th Fri	Thornbury Carers' Support Group Computer Clinic every week	1.00-3.00pm 7.00-9.00pm	Chy MH
7 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
8 th Sun	Remembrance Sunday Parade & Service Remembrance Day Rendezvous Lunch	11.30-2.30	PH
10 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café W.I. A.G.M. Social Evening Aust Parish Council	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR DGCL TMH PH EVH
11 th Wed	Table Tennis	7.00-8.30pm	PH
12 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers S. Glos Ladies Lunch Club Thornbury & District Flower Club Olveston Housing Needs Consultation	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15 12.15 7.30pm 3.00-7.00	OS+ MH OSH TMH PH
14 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning Tennis Club Quiz	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00 7.30pm	AVH MH PH
16 th Mon	Monday Movie Extra	7.30pm	StM
17 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR

17 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
18 th Wed	Table Tennis Thornbury. Methodist Players- until 21st Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	7.00-8.30pm 7.45pm 8.30pm	PH TMH
19 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
21 st Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
22 nd Sun	Concert & Afternoon Tea	4.00pm	StMT
24 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee Morning Memory Café Olv. Parish Council meeting	9.30-11.30 10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	WR DGCL TMH AP
25 th Wed	Severn. Vale. Flower Club Coffee morning Table Tennis Bosom Buddies meeting Swan Thornbury Alv. Local History Soc Bristol Suffragettes	10.30 7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	CH PH AMH
26 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Toddlers	9.00-12.00 1.45-3.15	OS+ MH
28 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
30 th Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Practice	1.30pm	AH

Looking ahead to December

3rd	Late Night Shopping in Thornbury & Music	'til 8pm	
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KEY: AC Aust Church; AH – Armstrong Hall; AMC – Alv. Methodist Church; AMH- Alv. 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 – Olv. Methodist Hall; OMC Olv Meth Ch OS – Olv School; OSt – Olv. Stores; OSH Alm. Old sch. Hall OV – Olv. Vicarage; PH – Olv. Parish Hall; StM St Mary's Ch. OSH Old Sch. Hall Alm, Olv.; StMA Alm Church SMH St Mary,s Ch. Hall Thornbury StMT

St Marys Thornbury; TCh Tock. Chapel TBCh - Thornbury Baptist Church; TMH – Th. Meth Hall; ; 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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