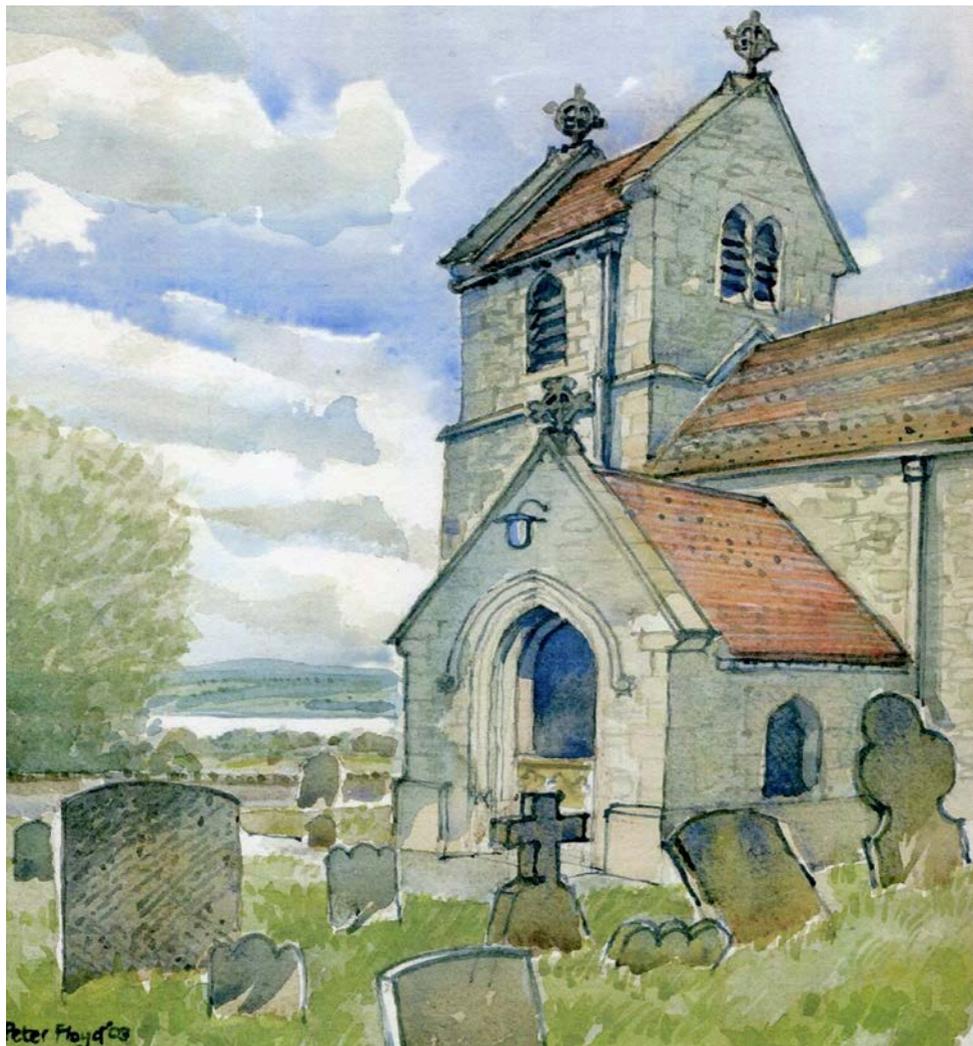


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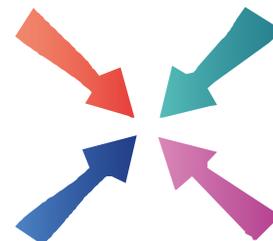
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Meeting Point

Volume 50, Number 7, April 2026

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

From the Editor

This month's magazine kicks off with a celebration of the Spring into Action event that took place last year. Two beautiful pieces of artwork that grew from that project now grace the walls of our Parish Hall and Olveston Primary School. Well done to everybody involved. There is also a review of My Fair Lady, the Parish Players 2026 offering, which celebrates all the hard work and talent that went into that show.

It was very timely to receive an item on behalf of one of the local U3A groups. At Meeting Point we have been considering a series on local U3A activities, and this will start us off nicely. Not all groups will be recruiting – as this one is – but it will be interesting to read about what they get up to.

There is welcome news from The Armstrong. The first events in the newly renovated Cossham Hall are happening in April. I am looking forward to my first visit after the long 'lockdown'.

Marelin

This month's cover painting of St. Mary de Malmesbury, Littleton, is by Peter Floyd.

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

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Artwork Inspired by Nature



Have you been to the Parish Hall in Tockington recently? If so, you'll see there's a new piece of art on the wall. Inspired by nature, the work is a collaboration of artistic effort by local children and Olveston Brownies as part of Olveston Parish Council's Spring into Action event held last March. Although the event was a year ago, we now have a permanent reminder of the day where we came together to celebrate the nature that surrounds, sustains and depends on us, and discuss how we might work together to help restore and protect wildlife and reduce carbon emissions in our local area.



Olveston Brownies with the nature-inspired artwork on display in the Parish Hall. With them are their leaders (l to r) Nicole Crompton, Charlotte Oates and Jane Sawyer; along with Parish Councillor Pat Savage (2nd from left), Paul Godwin from the MSFW Committee (3rd from left) and Atarah Ash, local artist (4th from left).

Cont/.....

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A second piece of art was also created by pupils in Olveston Primary School at the same time, which is now on display in the school. For both pieces, children were asked to create colourful images of wildlife, which were then brought together as a collage by local artist Atarah Ash. One focusses on butterflies and moths whilst the other shows larger mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds. We think you'll agree that in both cases, the result is stunning. Well done to all our local junior artists.

A reminder that if you're interested in knowing more about the Olveston Parish Wildlife Group or the Parish's Local Climate and Nature Action Plan we'd love to hear from you. Keep an eye out for some upcoming events we are planning. Please get in touch via msfw@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk if you are interested or would like more information.

Making Space for Wildlife is a working group of Olveston Parish Council
www.olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk/climate-nature/

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner

50 Club Winners March 2026:

£50 Katie Finch
 £15 Helen Barnett
 £5 Lesley Clarke

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Olveston and Tockington WI

At WI this month we're going to be hearing about a very brave and enterprising American woman - a slave who escaped and then helped hundreds of others escape from the South to safety in the North and Canada. Helping slaves escape was, of course, forbidden by their powerful masters and very dangerous, and so had to be secret. The system became known as the Underground Railroad. Our heroine was called Harriet Tubman, and to tell us about her we have Margo Cevik, an expert on the subject. So, if you want to be inspired by a positive and worthwhile story, come to WI in the Parish Hall on Tuesday April 14th at 7.30. Ring Angela Green on 615222 for any further details.

Severn Vale Flower Club

Spring Open Meeting Monday 13th April. Andrew Lloyd, who is well known, will be our speaker and demonstrator. His demonstration is called On an April Day, and it will be held in the Olveston and Tockington Parish Hall. Doors open 6.30pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £12. For more information contact 01453 811089 or 01454 885213.

St. Mary's Music (Thornbury)

Our next Third Sunday concert is on April 19th at 4.00pm, when we shall feature the Dodington Parish Band, which is based in Yate. The band was formed in 1996, the idea being to create a band for the local community and the surrounding area. The band aims to enhance and widen the musical opportunities of all its members but particularly for the younger players. They perform at many local events and play a wide variety of music. I am sure this will be a most entertaining concert.

As usual, there will be refreshments after the performance. Entry is free and there will be a retiring collection, the proceeds of which go to St. Mary's Music.

Murder at the Margate Majestica

The box office for Octopus Drama Group's forthcoming original new murder mystery comedy 'Murder at the Margate Majestica' will open at Rosie & Rex gift shop at the top of Thornbury High Street on Saturday 2nd May.

Full details will appear in the May edition of the magazine.



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Olveston Parish Council

Cheese and Wine Social

We are hosting a cheese and wine social event on Friday 15th May 6.30pm-8pm. This will be the perfect opportunity to meet us, your Parish Councillors, as well as other members of the local community. If you have recently moved to Olveston, Tockington or Old Down, come along to meet your neighbours in a relaxed and friendly environment. Everyone is welcome!

Please RSVP to Amanda.Symonds@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

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Tockington & Olveston Community Events

Community Quiz Night

This year's Community Quiz is to be held on **Friday 24th April** from 7pm for a 7.30pm start in the Parish Hall. Bring your family and friends along for a fun and interactive evening, with something for everyone! The cost is £15 per person including fish and chips from the popular Caspian takeaway, or pre-order a veggie chilli instead.

Book your team of up to 6 people, and order your food in advance by emailing: tocs.friends@gmail.com or message Cath on 07740 870418

Bookings for food will close on Thursday 23rd April at midday to allow time to put in our order.

Feel free to bring your own alcoholic drinks, with soft drinks, sweets and snacks for sale. There will be a raffle and half-time games, so don't forget to dig out your cash. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Easter Egg Hunt in School Easter Holidays

Our local Girl Guiding unit will be running an Easter Egg Hunt from **April 3rd to 19th** to raise money for local girls to attend their next exciting international trip.

There will be around 35 Easter Egg pictures hidden in Olveston and Tockington villages. It will be similar to the Fairy Doors hunt that was run in Olveston over Christmas, with the 'eggs' hidden where entrants can hunt to find the name of each egg. The hunt will start at the Swan Inn, where participants can collect an answer sheet (and drop them off when finished).

We are asking for a suggested donation of £3 per entry sheet, available to buy from the Swan Inn, Tockington. In addition, successful entries will be put in a raffle to win an Easter prize basket!

This trail will be available for the two-week School Easter holiday, but all finishers on Easter Monday afternoon will win a small easter egg from Tockington Green. Swap a full answer sheet for a chocolate egg.



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Community Café

Monday 6th April 2-4.30pm Tockington Chapel

This month the Community Café will be moving from its regular first Friday and will be running on Easter Monday 6th 2pm - 4.30pm, in conjunction with the Family Easter Egg Trail.

May Community Café: Friday 1st May 10am- midday Tockington Chapel.

Come along and meet your friends and neighbours for a catch-up and enjoy tea, coffee and cakes.



Proceeds for the Community Café and Quiz will be used towards the running costs of Olveston and Tockington Church buildings. This can then support our community events, such as Teas on the Village Green, Tockington Harvest Fayre and our Brownies, Guides and Rainbows.

If you are interested in hiring any of these buildings for your own events, please contact tocs.hire@gmail.com or contact Maggie at 01454 610053.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the March draw, held on 5th March 2026 were:

Amount	Number	Name
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£75	363	Mrs J Hahn, Olveston
£50	468	Mr G Clark, Olveston
£25	261	Mr M Knight, Olveston
£25	688	Mrs P Savage, Olveston
£25	246	Mr & Mrs M Gibson, Tockington
£20	512	Mrs R Arkell, Olveston
£20	461	Mr & Mrs R Smith, Olveston
£20	292	Mr A Phillips, Olveston
£20	365	Mr G Clark, Olveston

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Aust Parish Council

Councillor vacancy

A vacancy has opened on the Parish Council, following the resignation of Jeremy Warren. Jeremy, who lives in Littleton-upon-Severn, has served on the council since November 2020, and the Parish Council would like to warmly thank him for his dedication and contribution over the past few years.

The vacancy is now advertised on the parish noticeboards and the council website. If you're interested in getting involved and would like to know more, please contact the Clerk for details. You're also very welcome to chat with any of the current councillors to get a feel for what the role is like in day-to-day parish life. Being a councillor is a rewarding way to support your community, and it simply requires an interest in local matters and a commitment to attend monthly meetings, usually held on the first Tuesday evening of each month (except August and December).

To help maintain a good geographical balance across the parish, the council would particularly welcome applications from residents of Littleton. However, anyone living in any part of the parish is welcome to apply.

Littleton saltmarsh plans update

EDF, the company building the new Hinkley Point C power station, has shared some encouraging news about its Acoustic Fish Deterrent — the system designed to stop fish being drawn into the station's cooling water intakes. Recent tests have gone really well, and EDF now believes the device will protect fish stocks in the Severn Estuary without the need for the large compensatory saltmarsh habitat that had been planned at Littleton-upon-Severn.

There are still a few regulatory approvals to get through, but the signs are very positive. If all goes as expected, the proposed saltmarsh scheme could be dropped altogether in the near future.

Annual Parish Assembly

Everyone is warmly invited to join us for the Annual Parish Assembly, on **Tuesday 14th April from 7pm** at Elberton village hall. It's a great chance to hear what's been happening in the parish over the past year, share your thoughts, and chat with fellow residents.

Steve Meredith, who has been Chairman of the council for the past year, will give our annual report and the local SGC ward councillors will also attend. Other speakers will hopefully include:

- the police neighbourhood team,



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- our local Village Agent about her role in supporting more vulnerable members of our community,
- Severn Area Rescue Association, who have received grant funding from the parish council towards their vital work on the estuary.

Look out for more information on the council website and noticeboards from the end of March. Whether you're new to the village or have lived here for years, your voice matters — we'd love to see you there.

Next parish council meeting

Council meetings are generally held on the second Tuesday of each month, except for August and December. Our next regular meeting will be on **Tuesday 14th April** in Elberton village hall, starting after the Annual Assembly.

Agendas for council meetings are posted on the village noticeboards at least five days before the date of the meeting and are also available on the council documents web page (austparishcouncil.gov.uk/meetings). Residents are very welcome to attend.

Emma Pattullo, Parish Clerk

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Venue: St Mary's church. Doors open at 7pm; film starts at 7:30pm. Free entry (though donations are always welcome). Licensed bar, tea and coffee.

Pilning and Severn Beach History Group

Thursday April 23rd, 2026, 2pm - 3.30pm Severn Beach Village Hall
Talk by Dave Cheesley: 'Crossings of the Severn'. The history and memories of the ferries, tunnel and bridges that have crossed the Severn. Entrance £5 to include drink and biscuits.

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News from St Mary's

We look forward to welcoming you to St Mary's over the Easter weekend.

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Thursday April 2nd

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Friday April 3rd

Good Friday 2pm The Last Hour

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Sunday April 5th

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Quiz Night

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Tockington's Hidden History

Martin Gibson and Tony Turnbull

In search of the lost chapel.

A church in Tockington was first documented in the records of the Worcestershire Diocese in 1194 AD with the appointment of a Rector. However, the wording used at that time said it was 'the custom' meaning that a church or chapel had existed many years previously. At that time it was described as a free church but before then it was a Parish church; parish being of the same status as St Mary's in Olveston. A free church meant that it was supported financially by tithes, or rents, received from lands which it owned.

A comprehensive list of all the appointees to the free church was compiled in 1888 by the renowned historian Sir John Maclean. Sir John prepared a number of exceptionally well sourced and documented treatises on Tockington's history and much of this article is based on research he compiled for the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, volumes 12 and 13. The free church was connected to the Lord of the Manor of Tockington via an advowson (the right to nominate a minister to a church) and there may well have been a connection to Tockington Stone Cross (the stone circle) on The Green.

In 1195 a dispute arose between the Lord of the Manor of Tockington and the Abbot of St Augustine's, Bristol. It was resolved principally by the two parties agreeing that each had the right to the advowson alternately. The churches in Olveston and Almondsbury were also involved in the settlement.

The last appointee to the chapel was Richard Berrie who was known to be in place in 1547/8 and who was then 58 years old. The dissolution of the monasteries under Henry VIII had recently occurred alongside the closure and/or stripping of countless churches. The chapel was described as being very poor and it closed. Thereafter it fell into disrepair through lack of funding, probably over a period of, say, 50 years, and by the first half of the 1600s it would have been in ruins.

Two sources in the records of Olveston Parish Historical Society suggest that the famous Quaker, George Fox, preached in the chapel on The Green, but these accounts are not contemporaneous. In any case, George Fox did not reach Olveston (or Tockington) before 1660, by which time the chapel would most certainly have been derelict.

There are questions still requiring answers, the first being, where was it sited? As it was a part of the estate of the Lord of Tockington Manor, it might well have been close to the manor house as was the practice in the Middle Ages. Again, in those times the Manor House was often located in the centre of the

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village, which in Tockington's case, was the village green. There are two independent references to the chapel having been on The Green, but both come from much later sources so are only hearsay. It has been put forward in the past that Tockington Manor was actually Tockington Park, by the A38 at Rudgeway. But this is unlikely as, a later Sir Nicholas Poyntz, (re)acquired Tockington Park shortly before 1581 at which time it was referred to as Tockington Lodge.

Another contender might be whatever previously occupied the site of the current Tockington Manor which was built around 1712. But again, there are valid reasons for discounting it. For example, if one accepts that the church was indeed on The Green, why build a Manor house so far away? In addition, there is suggestive evidence that if a building sat there before today's Tockington Manor, it was a farm. Research into the whole subject is ongoing. On the balance of probabilities, the chapel was most likely located close to The Green, probably in the area which was known as Must Hay (today as Musthay) Fields (the North side). OPHS folder no 8.



This archive photograph of Tockington shows the stone circle and the area that was known as Must Hay Fields.

The next question is what happened to the building stones and timber

from the chapel once it fell into ruin? Normally, local people would have carted away most of the building materials for reuse, as was the case when the tower of St Mary's in Olveston collapsed in 1604. Dressed freestone from the tower can still be seen in the cottages opposite the church and also built into the walls of The White Hart. The timbers, many of which would certainly have been of oak, were certainly valuable. A number of buildings were erected in Tockington around the early part of the 17th century. In OPHS files are two sources claiming that the stones from the derelict church were used in the building of three cottages on The Green, which have since been demolished. Whilst this is a possibility, no corroborating physical evidence has yet been found. Wherever the church was originally sited remains a mystery - for the time being at least.

And finally, what name did the Church have? According to Gavin Pitcher's grandfather, it was called St Michael's. That ties in with the well on the Upper Tockington Road known either as the Eye Well or St Michael's Well.

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A Grand Tour of the Wye Valley

Olveston Parish Historical Society

Wed 1st April 2026, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church

Jenny Newley

For our last evening meeting of the 2025/26 season, we're taking to the air!

We have invited along Kate Peake, an experienced drone filmmaker. Using the inspiration of William Gilpin, who in 1782 popularised the notion of the 'picturesque' for travellers by publishing an illustrated account of his tours along the River Wye, Kate will be screening films she has made which showcase the Wye Valley, from its source to Beachley.

Following a first short (8 minute) film about the source of the River Wye, Kate will show us her drone and explain the licensing arrangements for drone pilots and answer any questions people may have. Her next (4 minute) film will show Hay-on-Wye and then, in a 7-minute film, we'll see Hereford. We'll sometimes descend to earth and see Kate walking about and describing a place. Between each film she will say a few things and introduce the next film.



Chepstow Castle from the River Wye

Her final (35 minute) film follows in William Gilpin's footsteps through some of the most picturesque and inspiring landscapes the country has to offer, departing from Ross-on-Wye and the Prospect viewpoint.

We shall fly above the river to one of Gilpin's grand views, Goodrich Castle, then move on to the historic wharf at Lydbrook, the majestic loop of the river at Symonds Yat, and end this part of the tour at Monmouth, just as the early tourists would have done. From Monmouth, we'll accompany Gilpin on a popular excursion to Raglan Castle.



The Old Wye Bridge, Chepstow

We'll continue to follow the river south, passing Redbrook, Llandogo and Brockweir. As the grand ruin of Tintern Abbey comes into view, we'll hear how it sparked the imagination of the early tourists, encouraging the taste for picturesque ruins and inspiring writers and artists.
Cont/.....

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Continuing towards Chepstow, we'll pass Piercefield, visiting some of its viewpoints created for tourists in the 1700s. At Chepstow, we shall visit the Castle before joining the Severn at Beachley.

Kate will happily answer questions at the end. Do join us for what we hope will be a relaxing way to end the season. And maybe find out something about being a drone pilot!

This talk is open to all. Visitors: £3 on the door (cash, or cheque to OPHS - no cards, please). Free refreshments. www.olveston.com/historical-society

My Fair Lady by The Parish Players

Caroline Brewser

For four days in February each year, the Parish Hall in Tockington comes to life with a full-blown musical, brought to lucky audiences by The Parish Players. This year saw the return, after 18 years, of one of the best-loved musicals of all time: Lerner and Loewe's 'My Fair Lady'. Playing to a packed house for every show, including an extra matinee performance, this year's production delighted onlookers from the first note to the final swish of the closing curtain. Based on the play Pygmalion by George Bernard Shaw, My Fair Lady challenges the audience to consider the nature of inequality, from the rigid English social class system of the early 20th century to the inferior position of all women at a time before universal suffrage. It is a tale of transformation, but one which doesn't neatly address all the issues it raises.



Experienced local actor Dan Phillips (Pictured left with Julia Taylor as Eliza) took on the gargantuan role of Henry Higgins, with his characteristic insightful sensitivity and flair for interpreting parts that are much more complex than they might initially seem. Higgins is a professor of phonetics and a self-confessed misogynist, but he cannot resist the temptation to show off his skills by

lifting flower seller Eliza Doolittle out of the gutter, to pass as a duchess. As Higgins himself says, "She's so deliciously low, so horribly dirty!"

Meanwhile, Eliza, played with great depth of feeling and energy by the talented Julia Taylor, is willing to be Higgins' pupil for the opportunities that "talking more genteel" might bring her, but she makes it clear to Henry Higgins

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that she “won’t be put upon”! And so we follow their journey, where Higgins perhaps learns at least as much about himself and about women as Eliza learns from him about language and etiquette.



The main characters were supported in style. Paul Harrod as Colonel Pickering (*pictured, left*) – the kind and considerate foil to Higgins’ brusque tetchiness – brought important gentle humour to his upper crust performance. David Proud, playing Eliza’s smooth-talking father Alfred Doolittle, entertained with his skilful singing and dancing, and slick comic timing, which the audience loved. Higgins’ long-suffering housekeeper Mrs Pearce, played by Kate Coyle, was as friendly and fair as it was possible for a very precise Edwardian housekeeper to be, when faced with a household full of night-time elocution classes and disobedient servants.

Cath Chappel played Higgins’ exasperated mother, earning the sympathy of the audience as she managed her son’s lack of regard for anyone but himself. Paul Dimery, in the role of Eliza’s potential suitor Freddy Eynsford-Hill, was convincing as the naïve and hapless would-be lover, completely besotted and just happy to wait outside her door. And who can forget Ray Hale as Higgins’ arch-rival, his former student Zoltan Karpathy, who is keen to reveal Eliza as “a fraud”!

It is impossible to mention all the talented performers by name, but the joy of The Parish Players lies in the gathering of actors of all ages as a warm and wonderful family, who bring a script to life and put their hearts and souls into delivering a show that is the best that it can be, for the benefit of those wise enough to buy tickets! The experienced backstage teams, providing excellent stage management, impactful scenery and costumes, and props and makeup in keeping with the era, play equally important roles.

Cont/.....

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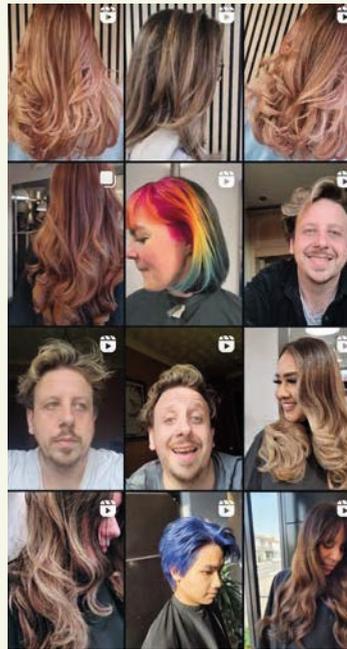
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David Proud (centre) as Alfred Dolittle

The many famous songs were all part of the storytelling. They were sung skilfully with great depth of feeling and superb harmonies, accompanied by the splendid music of Chloe Allsopp-Jones as Musical Director, supported by other members of her family as the orchestra. Once again, Esther Beales' elegant and engaging choreography seemed to make the stage feel much bigger than it actually is. Heather Collins, now having completed her third show as Director for The Parish Players, has set a very high standard to maintain in future years!

To keep in touch with The Parish Players, follow them at <https://www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers>

U3A Investment Group 1

Bill Woodruff

We are currently recruiting for our Investment Group, which is part of Thornbury U3A - an organisation of interest groups for retired people (<https://thornbury.u3asite.uk/welcome/>). You do not need to be a financial expert, just have an interest in investing.

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To learn a bit more, please send me a text or email and we can arrange a telephone call. If you are still interested after that, the best way forward is for you attend a meeting as an observer and decide if it is for you.

On a personal note, I find membership prompts me to keep up with economic and investment-related affairs at home and abroad and provides a thoroughly enjoyable forum for discussing them.

Contact: 07801 106750 or investment1@thornbury3a.org.uk



News from The Armstrong

This is an historic moment for The Armstrong - when the doors are opened again after 6 years of lockdown. The scaffolding is down and the new foyer and renovated Cossham Hall are ready for business! The Cossham has a new faceted curved grid ceiling which will enhance the acoustics and ambience at all future events. Visit the website to see videos and photos and better still, book up for the free tea and tour events which are planned for April 7th, 8th and 9th. Tickets are available at: www.the_armstrong.co.uk/whats-on

As visitors and bookers will find, the venue has been professionally restored, and the events team has already been inundated with enquiries and bookings for the upcoming year. If you have an event/party/occasion/workshop coming up, then please go to the website to view the specifications, our FAQs and how to book: bookings.thearmstrong.co.uk

The venue re-opens with a 2-weekend feast of events organised by Thornbury Arts Festival, now returning to its original home. Alfie Moore, ex-policeman, stand-up comedian and radio presenter will open the festival with his hilarious brand of humour, and the programme also includes a screening of The Audience with Helen Mirren, a brilliant production from The National Theatre. The streaming of iconic plays from The National Theatre will be a regular feature of the programme offered by The Armstrong as well as other cinema events. Note that the Thornbury Arts Festival events are booked directly with TAF on their website: www.thornburyartsfestival.org.uk

Cont/.....

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On Sunday April 12th there will be a Thornbury Charitable Fitness Festival, showcasing the many fitness and well-being classes in the area and on the same evening, the first of the Armstrong Sessions will feature Sophie Kingston leading a singalong musical theatre evening. Look out too for Easter Holiday Fun at The Armstrong from 13th - 16th April.

In May, JTP Theatre are staging a new play, It's What Matters, written by award winning author, Tony Domaille. JTP Theatre have won the Avon Short Play Festival in 2020, 2022 and 2025 and are also known for their Bite Size Play evenings. Keep in touch with what's on by visiting the website and social media posts: www.thearmstrong.co.uk

The Armstrong is also joining with Thornbury Town Council and others in a bid to be the first Town of Culture, a new government initiative to celebrate community and culture in towns across the country. The re-opening of The Armstrong will help significantly in this inspiring endeavour.

The fundraising efforts to raise sufficient funds to complete the project by bringing the 280-seater hall back into use will continue. The hall is now called The Lansdown in honour of Maggie Lansdown's generous donation. But for now, The Armstrong wish to thank everyone who has supported the project and helped in any way to make Phase One of the regeneration of this much-loved venue possible. It has been very heartwarming to receive so much encouragement from the community.

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Thornbury Arts Festival April 10th - 19th

Fair cop Alfie to help re-open Thornbury's Cossham Hall

Top comedian Alfie Moore will launch this year's Thornbury Arts Festival and help celebrate the re-opening of The Armstrong performance and community venue. The policeman turned stand-up comic will appear in the renovated Cossham Hall, within The Armstrong, on Friday, April 10th, making a welcome return to the festival after his sell-out show in 2023. Alfie has a big following due to his hit BBC Radio 4 series *It's a Fair Cop* and tickets for his show are expected to be in high demand.

The 2026 arts festival has been brought forward by five months so it can be among the first events in the previously named Armstrong Hall complex, which closed in 2020 but is being revived thanks to a major campaign. Volunteers

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behind the festival only wrapped up their 2025 event last October but, keen to return to their traditional 'home', swiftly devised a programme of four evening shows, a guided town walk and a science spectacular for families.

The schedule includes Cardiff Cotswold Opera, which aims to open the world of opera to new and less traditional audiences. It will bring the concert *Murder at the Opera* - an audience favourite of popular opera, musical theatre and fun - to town on Saturday, April 11th.

Mark Thompson's Spectacular Science Show on the afternoon of Friday, April 17th, is designed for both children and adults. It won the Best Kids' Show accolade at the Edinburgh Fringe and aims to show that science is not boring.

Later that day, audiences can experience National Theatre Live, where a play performed on stage in front of a theatre audience is filmed and subsequently screened at venues globally. In the first of what is hoped to be a regular The Armstrong event, *The Audience*, starring Helen Mirren, will be shown.

Bringing evening performances to a close on Saturday, April 18th, will be The Churchfitters folk band and their high energy show. As well as normal instruments, they also play others created from such items as saucepans, saws and scrap metal.

The final event will be a guided walk led by local historian Meg Wise on the morning of Sunday, April 19th, to feature places associated with the life of benefactor Handel Cossham.

Visit www.thornburyartsfestival.org.uk for full details of events and ticket information.

Thornbury Art Club

Club Night Tuesday 28th April



In this live demonstration, professional artist Oriane Pierrepont, will create a charcoal portrait from a photographic reference, focusing on the core principles behind a strong likeness. She will discuss tonal blocking, measuring and proportion, and mark making in charcoal, showing how a portrait develops from broad value masses into a more refined form. The demonstration offers insight into both technique and decision-making throughout the drawing process.

During the evening's demo, we will have a short break for free tea, coffee, and biscuits. This will give us an opportunity to chat with the artist, other club members and our visitors. Don't miss this fantastic chance to learn, socialise, and enjoy an evening of art, whether you're just starting out or looking to refine



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your skills. If you're interested in joining the Club, our membership secretary, Pat will be on the door to give you more information, or else contact us. (See below).

Members free, non-members very welcome - £6 on the door, cash or card. 7.15pm until 9.30pm.

St Mary's Church Hall, Eastbury Rd, Thornbury, BS35 1DR Free parking on-site.

FFI: www.thornburyartclub.co.uk www.facebook.com/ThornburyArtClub or email publicrelations.tac@gmail.com

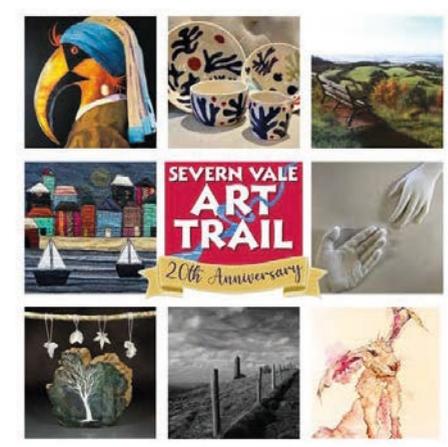
Collectors' Book Fair

Saturday 25th April, Easter Compton 10am to 12 noon

This annual Book Fair, at Easter Compton Village Hall, will be celebrating its 20th anniversary when it takes place again on Saturday 25th April. Now one of only three national events run by the Observer's Books Collectors' Society, it features thousands of vintage collectable books for sale. As well as Observer's books, others include Ladybirds, Beatrix Potter, Wayside & Woodland and many different book series on subjects like natural history, transport and militaria.

All book enthusiasts are welcome and admission is free. Advice and valuation on books can be gained from the expert stallholders who come from all over the country to attend.

Refreshments available. Call 07989 494159 for further details.



Severn Vale Art Trail

May Bank Holiday weekend:
Thursday 30th April to Monday 4th May.

For details of all the artists and venues (including accessibility, direction and opening hours) and to view the trail map, please visit www.severnvalleartrail.org. More information to follow next month.

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MEETING POINT

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2025

CHARTERED CERTIFIED ACCOUNTANTS

	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £	2025 £
Receipts				
Advertisements	14526		14825	
Donations	0		0	
Interest	0		0	
Payments				
Printing		13800	146	13800
Insurance		249	372	146
Postage		0	0	333
Stationery/Materials		0	0	128
Book Binding		0	0	0
Utilities		0	0	0
Photocopying		0	0	0
Subscriptions		0	0	90
Gratuities		0	0	0
Bad Debts Written Off		0	0	0
Charitable Donations		0	0	0
Miscellaneous		0	0	475
Staff Entertaining		0	0	158
Business Entertaining		0	0	25
Corporation Tax		0	0	80
Cheques Balances				
a) At Bank- Current Account	7301	0	7123	6431
b) At Bank- Deposit Account	0	0	0	0
c) Debtors	2185	86	2298	2389
d) Creditors	66	86	86	24
	24098	24332	24332	24093
AUDITORS REPORT				
We have examined the above accounts. In our opinion they are in accordance with the records and explanations given to us.				
Signed BURTON SWEET		Date 13/02/26		
Signed		Date 13/02/2026		
		Treasurer		

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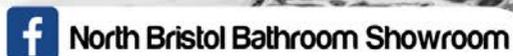


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Yours Faithfully

Danny Bamfield

Aust and Littleton Evangelical Churches

God says in Genesis 6 verse 3 - "my Spirit will not strive with man forever"
How long does it take to make a decision? If you have been putting one off for 25 years, what is the likelihood you may keep putting it off forever? Fairly high I should think. Isn't that why God puts a time limit on us responding to him?

In Matthew 16 verse 25 Jesus says, "for whoever wants to save their life will lose it but whoever loses their life for me will find it." It's a choice we all have to make - do we live our lives for ourselves and eventually lose it or do we live our lives for Jesus and keep it. The thought of eternity without Christ doesn't bear thinking about. This Easter you may go to church and hear the wonderful account of The Resurrection (which means the restoring a dead person to life) of Jesus. He beat death and came back to tell us. By believing and following him we need no longer fear death and what comes after.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3 verse 16

"For there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved." Acts 4 verse 12

Why put it off once more? Go and kneel somewhere by yourself and ask Jesus into your life. He is ready and waiting to receive you. Then tell someone. "If you declare with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead you will be saved"
Romans 10 verse 9 NIV (all other verses are from NKJV)



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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

April 5th	10am 6pm	Easter Holy Communion No Service	Rev David Lloyd
April 12th	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer - Choir Holy Communion	Rev David Lloyd Rev David Lloyd
April 19th	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer - Choir No Service	Janet McBride Rev Ann Lloyd
April 26th	10am 6pm	Holy Communion - Choir Reflective Evening Prayer	Rev Ann Lloyd Janet McBride

First Sunday of the month during term time, **Messy Church** 9am.
 Every Saturday (term time) '**REFRESH**', 4.30-5.30 - Fun, relaxed church.
 Every Wednesday, Holy Communion, 10am.

NB Clergy may change.

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

April 5th	10am	Easter Service	Trevor Cook
April 26th	10am 11am	Morning Prayer AGM	Trevor Cook

Contact: Trevor Cook, 01454 618442

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 and Jon Burnett 633835

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

April 5th	9am	Easter Day Family Holy Communion	Rev David Moss
April 26th	9am	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd

Contacts: Church Wardens: Catharine Gunnery 413225 and Cheryl Meredith 411065

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

April 5th	3pm	Evensong	Tracey Black
April 26th	3pm	Evensong with Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd

Contacts: Tracey Black 417660 and Tim Pyper 416422 /07802 419451



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OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

April 5 th	10am	Tock Ch	Easter Morning Worship led by Miriam Sitch
April 12 th	10am	Olv Ch	To be arranged
April 19 th	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by D Edwards
April 26 th	10am	Olv Ch	Local Arrangement

Contact: Rev Dr Simon Edwards 418176
Simon.edwards@methodist.org.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer, Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL
Meeting at 11am every Sunday and on the 1st and 3rd Weds at 2.30pm.

Contact: 01454 612084, thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Services at 6.30pm every Sunday. All are welcome.

Contact: Neil Mobbs, cnmobbs@hotmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Service 11am every Sunday

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH Service 5.30pm every Sunday

Contact: esther@thebamfields.co.uk

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury

Mass on Sundays at 9.00 and 10.30am

Contact: 01454 412223, <https://ctkandholycross.org.uk>

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Contact: Chris Willmore, chriswillmore@blueyonder.co.uk

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Diary Dates for April:

Information believed to be correct at going to press.

1 Weds	Table tennis every Weds Olveston Parish Historical Society	7pm 7.30pm	OPH OMC
2 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market Coffee Shop every Thurs Good afternoon, Choir, every Thurs Thornbury Art Club painting studio Every Thurs	9-1pm 9.30-12pm 1-3pm 1.30 pm	StM URC SMCH
4 Sat	Park Run every Sat	9am	MPF
5 Sun	Litter picking	10am	OPH
6 Mon	April Community Café Monday Movies Alveston Gardens Association	2-4.30pm 7.30pm 7.30pm	TMC StM JHA
7 Tues	Citizens Advice, every Tues Thornbury Art Club painting studio, Every Tues WRBL meeting	10-12pm 1.30pm 7.30pm	TTH SMCH DGCL
10 Fri	TAF: Fair Cop Alfie	7.30pm	CH
11 Sat	Coffee morning TAF: Murder at the Opera	10-12pm 7.30pm	OMC CH
13 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club Spring open meeting	7.30pm	OPH
14 Tues	Thornbury Memory Café every 2 nd & 4 th Tues Aust Parish Assembly Olveston and Tockington WI	10.15- 11.45am 7pm 7.30pm	TMCH EVH OPH
16 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers Market	9-1pm	
17 Fri	TAF: Spectacular Science Show TAF: The Audience- Helen Mirren	2pm 7pm	CH CH
18 Sat	TAF: Churchfitters, feel good folk	7.30pm	CH
19 Sun	TAF: Town Walk St. Mary's Music	10am 4-5pm	Thorn StMT
22 Weds	Alveston Local History Society talk	7.30pm	AMC
23 Thurs	Pilning & Severn Beach History talk	2-3.30pm	SBVH

24 Fri	Community Quiz night	7.30pm	OPH
25 Sat	Collectors Book Fair AAG: Bristol Shanty Singers	10-12pm 7.30pm	ECVH The Ship
26 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club, Practise	1.30pm	StMCH
28 Tues	Thornbury Art Club Night	7.15pm	SMCH
30 Thurs	Severn Vale Art Trail until 4 th May		

Looking forward to May:

Friday 15th -Olveston Parish Council Cheese and Wine Social-6.30pm- OPH
-AAG: Mark Bennett, Magician - 7.30pm - CH

KEY: **AMC** - Alveston Methodist Church, **AMH** - Alveston Methodist Hall, **AOSH**- Almondsbury Old School Hall, **AVH** - Aust Village Hall **CS** - Castle School, **CH** - Cossham Hall **CTK** - Christ the King, **DGCL** - Daldry Gardens Community Lounge, **ECVH** - Easter Compton Village Hall, **EVH** - Elberton Village Hall, **FVH**-Falfield village Hall, **JHA** - Jubilee Hall, Alveston **LVH** - Littleton Village Hall **MSch** - Marwood School **MPF** - Mundy playing fields **OC** - Oasis Church, Old Down, **ODE** - Old Down Estate **OMC** - Olveston Methodist Church, **OMH** - Olveston Methodist Hall, **OPH** - Olveston Parish Hall, **OTF**-Olympus Theatre Filton **OPS**-Olveston Primary School **PHT** -Porch House, Thornbury **QAMP** - Queen Alexandra Memorial Pavilion, Old Down **RHVH** - Rockhampton village hall. **StH** - St Helen's Church, Alveston. **StHSc** - St Helen's School **StM** - St Mary's Church, **StMB** - St Mary's Berkely **StMT** - Thornbury St Mary's Ch, **SMCH** - St Mary's Church Hall **SBVH** - Severn Beach Village Hall, Thornbury, **TGC** - Thornbury Golf Club, **TCC**- Turnberries, **TMC** -Tockington Methodist Church, **TMCH** - Thornbury Methodist Church Hall, **TTH** - Thornbury Town Hall, **URC** - United Reform Church **WADCA** - Winterbourne & District Community Association

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. If you would like to update your organisation's details, please email: meetingpointsecretary@olvestonandaust.com

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