

Meeting Point

Volume 34, Number 11, August 2010

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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to Editor or Deputy Editor by
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**If you think you are too small to be effective,
you have never been in bed with a mosquito.**

~Betty Reese

From the Editor

As some of you may be aware Question 10 from the Simple Quiz was omitted from last month, Oops. It was:-**How long did the 100 year war last?** Answer:- **116 years**

Feel free to send any riddles, sayings, inspirations or quotes you wish to share.

Our cover this month is by Peter Floyd

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

**Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory is online on the
Community Website: www.olvostonandaust.com.**

Olveston's Past

Eric Garrett

Transcribed from the Severn-Side Parishes Magazine October 1926:

The Old Font

The enquiry, "Where is the Old Font?" has been responded to by a parishioner who has written as follows: -

"When a small girl (about 50 years ago) I saw an old Font in a garden of one of the cottages near the Church, below the Inn. I was on a visit to an aunt, who lived where Mr. Thos. Hicks now lives. (*Currently the bakery*) I remember going with her to this cottage. There was a small square grass plot at the back or side of this house, and in one corner on the grass was the Font. It was filled with mould, and creeping plants were growing from it. I remember standing before the Font, wondering what it was; my aunt had gone inside to the kitchen, and when she came out, accompanied by the occupant of the cottage, an elderly man, she made some remark about it, and this old man said it was an old Font from the Church. This is very clearly impressed on my memory, because I thought it was 'very wicked' to use something from the Church to 'grow flowers in'. I cannot recall which cottage it was, only setting off with my aunt, who was holding me by the hand. She carried a small basket, and wore a crinoline. We turned down between the Inn and the Church. Vaguely I fancy the house was opposite the Church. The grass plot, which was bordered with gay geraniums, and the Font with creepers growing over it, are as clear as yesterday. Perhaps if I am allowed to see the back gardens of all the houses there I should recognise the place. My father thinks it may have been the house Mr. Selman now lives in, or the one where an old Mr. Vinnicombe lived.

The writer of this letter has since ascertained where the remains of the Font, with other stone fragments were (supposed to be a part of the old parapet of the Tower), and one who lived there 30 years ago distinctly remembers that, it being necessary to build an outhouse on the ground where the fragments were placed, they were removed in a cart (there were two loads), and cast in a gully by the side of Catherine Hill.

So there are the remains of the old Font, buried under heaps of rubbish, and if they could be recovered, it is most probable that it would be impossible to restore it.

The gully referred to at Catherine Hill, is now filled in. Before the village refuse collection in 1935 started, the gully (it being the original Catherine Hill road before 1800) was used by the villagers to dump waste. The gully commenced at the entrance to Port Farm and continued parallel to the road.

The Tower fragments would be from the slim pinnacle replacements of the 1880's.

The Norman Font was displaced in 1871 following a fall from its plinth and shattering its lid.

The old man may have been James Niblett who was in his late 70s and resided opposite the south gate next to Holly Cottage that has an enclosed front garden.

Workaid collection



Workaid tackles poverty in developing countries by supplying disadvantaged people with the tools they need to earn a living. All tools are renovated in the UK before being shipped in containers, mostly to East Africa. Apart from helping others, these unwanted items would only go into landfill sites.

We are collecting old sewing machines, knitting machines and typewriters (the heavier the better), garden tools, woodwork and leatherwork tools and sewing materials e.g

cottons, silks and lightweight fabrics.

If you have any items please contact Derek Glew, 613433 or Pat Thirkettle, 612084.

Local Pilates classes

If you would like to tone your core abdominal muscles and generally give your body an autumn boost, there are places available for beginners. Every Friday, starting September 5th, in the Wesley Rooms, Tockington at 11.15am. If interested, ring Maree Rice 01179 502411.

Thank You

Sharon Lapworth

On 20th June, Cream Tea was enjoyed on Tockington Green and raised £190 for St. Peter's Hospice. Many thanks to everyone who came and to those who contributed cakes and scones.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in this month's draw, held on 15th April 2010 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	190	Mrs. J. Williams, Pilning
£75	255	Mrs. F.M. Riley, Bitton
£25	264	Mr. & Mrs. I.A. Hughes, Olveston
£25	176	Mr. J. Hedges, Pilning
£20	160	Mrs. A.E. Williams, Tockington
£20	228	Miss. J.M. Davies, Olveston
£10	188	Mrs. J. Williams, Pilning

The prize winners in this month's draw, held on 6th May 2010 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	390	Mrs. S.O. Shaw, Tockington
£75	246	Mrs. C.K. Hickman, Olveston
£25	323	Mr. S. Roberts, Olveston
£25	389	Mrs. S.O. Shaw, Tockington
£20	207	Mrs. C.E. Black, Thornbury
£20	320	K.M. Hatchett, Olveston
£10	477	Mrs. C.M. Pitts, Olveston

The prize winners in this month's draw, held on 17th June 2010 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

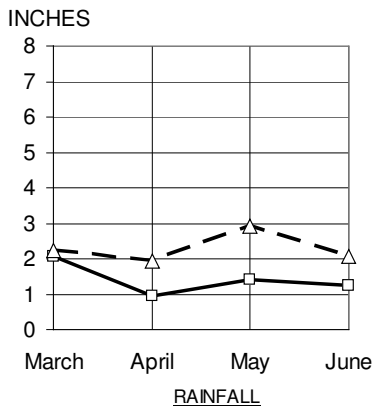
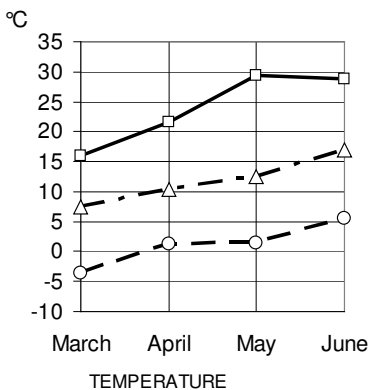
<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	417	J.T. & J.A. Graham, Olveston
£75	166	Mrs. E. Dobson, Rudgeway
£25	398	Mrs. G. M. Crossley, Tockington
£25	292	Mrs. I. Phillips, Olveston
£20	198	Dr. E. Saunders, Olveston
£20	248	Mrs C. K. Hickman, Olveston
£10	317	Mrs. Y. Williams, Olveston



Weather Record

April to June 2010

Marcus Bean



—□— Max. —○— Min. —△— Ave.

—□— Actual —△— Ave.

April

Rain and changeable conditions occurred for the first four days of the month, but then a large area of high pressure established itself over the Country and much of the Continent, bringing dry sunny weather. The last two days of the month brought a return to showery conditions.

We had twenty two days in the month with no rain and total rainfall was slightly less than half the normal. This was the driest April since 2007. Average pressure and temperature were both marginally above that expected at this time of year.

May

The first half of the month was cold; temperatures being well below normal with prevailing winds from the North to East quarter with little rain except on one day. Later in the month the temperature warmed up with more sunshine, and winds coming from the Atlantic caused temperatures to soar on the 22nd and 23rd with slightly cooler conditions at the month's end.

Rainfall for the month was just under half the normal and the driest since 2004. Average pressure was thus high, but average temperature was 1°C below norm making it the coldest May since 2003.

June

High pressure was the dominant feature with most Atlantic depressions forced to the North resulting in long periods of dry weather and in total twenty two days without rain. Sunshine levels were also high.

Rainfall for the month was just over half the average and for the first six months of the year was nearly five inches below average making this the driest start to the year, for England and Wales, since 1929. Average pressure was above normal and temperature was 0.75°C above that expected for this time of year.

Christmas Tree Festival

St Peters Hospice Severnside Support Group by kind permission of Thornbury Methodist Church will be holding a Christmas Tree Festival between December 10th and 12th. If you are interested in decorating a tree as an individual, club or society please **telephone Anne on 01454 416895 before the end of August**. This will be a very special occasion to celebrate 25 years of Severnside Support Group and we do hope you will be able to join with us.



Thornbury Camera Club

Thornbury Camera Club is holding an exhibition of members' photographs in Thornbury Library from Monday 2nd August to Saturday 4th September. Anyone inspired by the exhibition will be pleased to know that the Camera Club runs a Beginners' Course for people wanting to improve their photographic skill which is scheduled to take place this autumn, beginning on Thursday 7th October at 7.45 p.m. The following sessions will be on 14th, 21st and 28th October, then 11th and 18th November. It will be held at the Old Bakery Annexe, Chapel Street, Thornbury. The cost will be £44 (£72 for joint enrolment) which includes one year's membership of the camera club. The course will start with an introduction to digital cameras and an understanding of the menu system. It then moves on to picture-taking techniques and ends with basic manipulation and presentation. To register your interest in this popular course, please e-mail Andy Gillingham on secretary@thornburycamera.co.uk or telephone him on 01454 415015.

Fun, Fitness and Happiness

Did you know that Scottish Country Dancing comes out at the top of any list showing what makes people happy? You get the music, the activity and the friendly, social atmosphere and it is not restricted to Scottish people! Scottish country dancing, for both beginners and experienced dancers, takes place at St. Monica's Trust Hall, Westbury-on-Trym on Thursdays at 7.30 pm starting September. Come on your own or with friends and join our friendly club which already has members from this area. Contact Trish on 0117 9623775 or go to our web site www.rscdsbristol.info for more details.

Community website

Jenny Newley

The Meeting Point magazine and our local community website both cover the same geographical area: the **civil parish of Olveston** (made up of the villages and hamlets of Olveston, Tockington, Old Down, Ingst, Awkley and Lower Hazel) and the **civil parish of Aust** (made up of the villages of Aust, Elberton and Littleton on Severn). For that reason, the website is known as the **Olveston and Aust Community Website**. Most of the local clubs and societies have their details on the website. There is an Events listing which shows you what's coming up in the coming weeks and months. Both Olveston and Aust parish councils regularly update their web pages with minutes of recent meetings. There are links to websites giving details of local educational opportunities for all ages. You can find details of all the local bookable halls and meeting rooms, as well as the local churches. The online version of Meeting Point can also be found there.

The website has a large number of local photographs, shown on two separate web pages: the Aust Photo Gallery (<http://www.olvostonandaust.com/photo-galleries/aust-parish-gallery>), which has pictures of Aust, Elberton and Littleton, and the Olveston Photo Gallery (<http://www.olvostonandaust.com/photo-galleries/olvoston-parish-gallery>) which has pictures of Olveston, Tockington, Old Down etc. If, at any time, you take a good quality local photo which you'd like to contribute to the website, please do send it to web@olvostonandaust.com.

Spliced Surprise Major!

If you were lucky enough to be around Olveston on Sat 19th June, either in garden, allotment or walking around the village, you would have heard the Church Bells ringing for 3hrs and 1 min.

What you were hearing was something very rarely heard.

The Ringers, a visiting team from the Bath & Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers, rang a Peal. The particular peal they rang is called Spliced Surprise Major and has 5152 different changes (i.e. the number of different sequences on 8 bells) & contained within that were 23 different methods with names such as Bristol, Cornwall, Double Dublin, Cambridge and other towns. It is one of the most difficult peals to ring and requires 100 per cent concentration from all the team to ensure success and for that reason often fails. However on this, occasion, in Olveston, it was successful.

We hope you enjoyed the Bells that day. If you are interested in learning—it doesn't need to be this complicated but who knows, you may get hooked! - please phone Philip on 281444 or June on 617491.

Thank you to Christian Aid from Nairobi

From Prof. Edward Kairu, Exec Director of CA partner Maji na Ufahisi (MNU):
When I heard that you give your time freely, fundraising for organisations like ours, I could hardly believe it and I want to thank you directly. Here in Nairobi, you are helping us to reach new generations of young people like Elizabeth Waithera, Deputy Chair of Kiambu Youth Group, which runs one of the settlement's five water sanitation blocks and organises rubbish collections. She says 'We are changing the living standards of youth through doing something. That is what I divine in my heart - that the living standard of youth, women and whole community has improved....I am in a slum, but my mind is not in the slum. May God bless you in the work you do, as He blesses us in our work.'

Your efforts every Christian Aid week are genuinely changing lives. I see it for myself literally every day.

Toad invites you to tea!

ACT (Arts and Community in Thornbury) is delighted to offer a warm welcome to anyone and everyone from 0 to 90, to join Mr Toad at Toad Hall (otherwise known as Thornbury United Reformed Church) on **Sunday 12th September** for a musical version of his adventures, plus a sumptuous afternoon tea, which Toad's helpers will serve in the secret garden, weather permitting!

This costumed and narrated musical treatment of *The Wind In The Willows* was written by John Rutter and will be sung by a mixed barbershop

singing group called *Razor Sharp*, accompanied by Nigel Davies on the piano, with Barbie Davies as the *Magistrate* and a *Field Mouse*! This group was formed more than 25 years ago in response to a Church roof appeal and since then has raised many hundreds of pounds for worthy causes. The entertainment will be followed by a delicious picnic tea, with plenty of homemade treats, served in hampers from 'Toad Hall'.

Tickets are £8.00 and £7.00 for FACTs (Friends of **ACT**) and are available from Thornbury Garden Centre in the High Street. This is sure to be a popular event and places are limited, so tootle along, like Toad, and join in the fun!

To learn more about **ACT**'s exciting project to provide a theatre-based community complex, please go to www.ACTthornbury.org.uk and discover how to become a FACT!

ACT.Thornbury@yahoo.co.uk www.ACTthornbury.org.uk

Lyn Bedford, 35 Sibland Road, Thornbury, BS35 2EP

lynbedford@blueyonder.co.uk



**ARTS & COMMUNITY
IN THORNBURY**

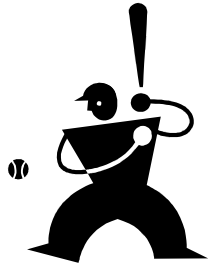
01454 884154

1st Olveston Guides v 1st Olveston Scouts- The annual battle!

On the evening of the 15th of June, Scouts and Guides came face to face to have their annual rounders match. As always they were told the rules and were raring to play. The first half was kicked off with Scouts batting and Guides fielding. The first rounder came from Henry. After a few more rounders by Stuart and Dan and a few half rounders, the Scouts and Guides swapped places.

Batting first for guides was Sarah. Unfortunately, she ended up being out. Birdy dived to catch the ball but it turned into a failed catch. As the game carried on, Chaz was caught out by the bowler, Jacque, also Kathryn caught out by Coggie. Matt tried to catch the ball but missed. After that miss, the Scouts upped their game and Tristan managed to get Robyn out. After this the Scouts lost out on Emma who slid well into third base.

At the end of the first half of the game, the scores were 2.5 to the Guides and soaring ahead with 5.5 were the scouts. In the second half, the Scouts started off with batting again, which was going well until Lucy had an amazing catch that went sky high with a spectacular hit by Ollie. When the guides came to bat, some of the scouts started to sing and dance "Head, shoulders, knees and toes" to put the guides off but unfortunately this did not work. After the rowdiness came an extraordinary catch by Ed. He managed to catch Lucy out by catching the ball in between his legs. Lucy had managed to run to second base before she had realised that she was out. The Game ended with the final score being 9.5 rounders to the Guides but the winners with 12 rounders were the Scouts for another year.



Written by Oli Turner, 1st Olveston Scouts

Did You Know?

In days gone by, personal hygiene left much room for improvement. As a result, many women and men had developed acne scars by adulthood. The women would spread beeswax over their facial skin to smooth out their complexions. When they were speaking to each other, if a woman began to stare at another woman's face she was told, 'mind your own beeswax.' Should the woman smile, the wax would crack, hence the term 'crack a smile'. In addition, when they sat too close to the fire, the wax would melt. Therefore, the expression 'losing face.'

Swarm!



Sometimes, a colony of honey bees becomes too big for its existing home, which might be a hive, a disused chimney or a hollow tree. Then the queen and many of the bees leave to find a new home. This is a swarm. Whilst doing this, they may pause and hang in a large cluster on a convenient


tree, bush or post. They will not hurt anyone unless disturbed. Before leaving their old home, they fill themselves with honey and are quite docile. Swarming happens most commonly on a hot day in early summer. In almost all cases, the swarm will take off again within a day or two at most, to occupy a more suitable permanent home elsewhere. However, a bee swarm can be intimidating. It is important not to disturb the bees. You can ring the local council for advice on 01454 868000. They may be able to put you in touch with a local bee-keeper.

This is just what happened to local photographer, Peter Haworth. A large cluster of honey bees took up temporary residence in a cotoneaster bush in his Olveston garden. Peter made the most of the opportunity and produced a wonderful sequence of photos of an expert bee-keeper at work. You can find the resulting pictures in the Photo Gallery on the Olveston & Aust Community Website:



<http://www.olvostonandaust.com/photo-galleries/olvoston-parish-gallery>.

Information about bee swarms has been taken from South Gloucestershire Council's website: <http://www.southglos.gov.uk/> [Search for: bees]



Totally-Locally

at the heart of the community

www.totally-locally.org

Yet again we had another lovely morning and, as the Season starts to take off, with the support of local growers we **sold out** of gooseberries, blackcurrants, broad beans, new potatoes and redcurrants by 10.30.

Thanks to Scott for the tasters of Handmade Breakfast and Sundried and Basil Sausages which are available from Powells Butcher.

The persuasive reason for buying fresh locally is that commercial production aims for high yield, and many crops are raised on carefully planned fertiliser regimes of three main feeds, nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium and sometimes this can result in the nutrient profile of some produce being seriously eroded. So for those of you who were quick, we hope you enjoyed not only the taste of your lovely purchases but hopefully the extra nutrient value.

The next market day is on:-

Saturday 31st July 9.30 – 12.00 and thereafter 4th September

We are aiming to continue with the same stalls now on a regular basis ensuring where possible that there will be no duplication.

Totally Locally will now additionally offer a fresh deli selection with freshly made dishes to taste before buying:-

Extra Garlic Hummus
Couscous
Pasta Salad
Healthy Gluten-Free Rice Salad
Olives with Feta Cheese

With permission from the Parish Council, we will be creating our first communal herb garden behind the bench on Tockington Green.

If you have any comments on this project, please contact me before 31st August.

Jane Sunnucks
Old Down
01454 419931

Brownie Cycling Day

Lauren Williams

For our Brownie cycling trip, 21 brownies met up at Henfield on a sunny afternoon, with our bikes, helmets and rucksacks. In our rucksacks we had a water bottle, lunch, a waterproof coat, some money and a sunhat. When all the Brownies were ready, we walked our bikes around the corner to the cycle path. After Brown Owl had explained the rules to us, we were off!

We approached a few hills and fortunately at first they weren't very steep but later some of them were very steep! We cycled for about 4 miles until we got to Bitton Railway Station. We locked up our bikes and then we did a quiz about Brownies. There were lots of other Brownie packs doing this too.



After the quiz we were allowed to get an ice cream. We then did some plaiting and knotting on ropes. After a while we went on a Steam Train. In the train we were chatting and singing songs. All of the Brownies had to get out of the train while the engine had to move round to the back of the train, ready for our journey back to the Railway station, where we then got on our bikes and started our long ride home. 8 miles in total!!

We had a lovely afternoon; so thank you Brown Owl and the other Brownie helpers!

August Walks with the Severnside Ramblers

August is a wonderful month for walking. Summer is full-blown, and our walks soon get away from the crowds. Your local Ramblers group has arranged a varied programme of walks from 4 miles around Dundry to 10 miles at Pen Y Fan. Do join us. Non-members are always welcome. We are a very friendly group. Evening walks and Friday ambles usually end with an optional pub or café stop.



For more information about walks in August, log on to www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk, or pick up a programme at your local library. We meet at Aldi car park, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA and share lifts to the start of the walk.

Tockington Harvest Fayre

Garry Phillips

The Fayre will be held, as usual, on the Green on September 18th starting at 2pm. Following the tradition of previous years, we will be having lots of stalls and amusements and of course delicious cream teas. During the afternoon there will be displays of dancing, our resident folk band will provide the music, and the Guides and Brownies will be entertaining us. We will also be having a competition for children and a fancy dress parade

We would be very grateful for any contributions for our stalls in terms of jumble, vegetables, cakes, books, etc. If you have any, then please bring them along to the Chapel before 12 noon on the 18th, or contact Garry Phillips, tel: 613241, Maggie Spooner, tel: 417942 or Jane Sawyer, tel: 618885.

This year we are also looking for any additional help on the stalls and in the preparations and clearing up - if anyone can help then please contact the numbers above.

This is our major fund-raising event and we rely on it to support the upkeep of our Methodist premises at Tockington and Olveston which are used extensively



by many other organizations (U3A, Guides, Brownies, Nursery School). We hope as many of you as possible will be there and we will try our very best to provide a warm and sunny day so that you can enjoy an afternoon at Tockington Harvest Fayre on the Village Green.

Police Report

In the month of June there were 48 calls to the police, ranging from false alarms to nuisance youths and 19 reported crimes, some of which were from the same incident.

There was an attempted theft of fuel from Tockington Manor School. In Olveston around the Church Hill/Common area, 2 properties were attacked. In the first, an attempt was made to gain access via the cat flap and, in the second, a high wall was scaled and a shed was forced open. The victim had chained the bikes securely and the offenders were unable to steal them.

There have been numerous incidents of damage to a vehicle in Tockington, theft of a pedal cycle from Pilning Street and theft of a locking post from outside stables in Moor Lane.

Please ensure that your property is adequately secured and marked. To register personal possessions log onto www.immobilise.com.

If you see anything that you believe is suspicious - vehicle or person(s) - please get as much detail as possible and then phone the police on 0845 456 7000.

Beat Surgery dates held in Olveston Stores are between 10.30 am – 11.30 am on the following dates:-

Thursday 12th August
Thursday 16th September
Thursday 21st October
Thursday 25th November
Thursday 23rd December

Please do not hesitate to contact PC 3404 Roger Hopes and PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery on 0117 945 5959 to discuss any issues. However, to report crimes, this must be on the non-emergency number 0845 456 7000.



A Second Year of Success

The sun was shining, the music was playing and the crowds arrived as around 12,000 people came to support the Carnival in its second year.

The parade was a rainbow of colour, costumes, classic vehicles and musical delights. We even had our first 'float' in the parade!

As people lined the streets, Thornbury was imbued with the community spirit at the heart of the day.

After the parade the crowds poured onto the Carnival Field to sample the stallholders' delights, watch some amazing displays and witness some outstanding musical performances both on the stages and on the field.

There were a host of gastronomic delights available, rides galore at Albert Rogers' Fun Fair and in the evening a fantastic production of 'Fat Shirley's: A Trailer Park Opera' performed by Bristol's very own The Three Chords Co.

We would like to say thank you to everyone who came to the Carnival, to all our volunteers and supporters and to the Litterbusters who returned the Mundys to their clean and tidy glory after the event!

The next Thornbury Carnival will take place on Saturday 2nd July 2011. If you would like to get involved, please get in touch, we would love to hear from you! For further information and pictures of the day visit www.thornburycarnival.wordpress.com

J.S.T. Lord Nelson and Tenacious

I would like to thank the many friends who came to our Garden Tea Party in June – we were so lucky with the weather and raised £480.50 for our special ships. Thank you so much for those who gave donations. Best wishes from Peggy and Bristol Branch members.



No Cold Calling Zones Launched in South Gloucestershire

Cold callers are being frozen out in Yate thanks to a new initiative between South Gloucestershire Council Trading Standards and Avon and Somerset Police.

'No Cold Calling Zones' have been launched in parts of the town in a bid to help reduce doorstep crime. They have been set up by Trading Standards officers with support from police and local Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

Doorstep crime can range from rogue home improvement firms, to bogus officials and charities.

The first No Cold Calling Zones are being introduced in the Walton Heath and Ferndown areas in Yate.

No Cold Calling Zones are identified by street signs and stickers on the front doors of houses. Residents are provided with advice on how to say 'no' to unwanted callers and also encouraged to report callers who ignore the zones to trading standards or the police.

If an area is interested in a particular area becoming a No Cold Calling Zone, they are advised to contact the council's trading standards department.

The No Cold Calling Zones scheme does not prevent all callers. Utility services staff, registered charity collectors and canvassing politicians can still do so. As can traders involved in door to door selling if they have made a prior appointment.

For more information on the No Cold Calling Zones scheme, contact Charlotte Allard or Kevin Evans at South Gloucestershire Council's Trading Standards department on 01454 864419.

Helsfest

Mary Slader

Fundraising for St Peter's Hospice

I am organising a charity mini music festival on Sunday afternoon 5 September in Olveston. If you are a local musician and would like to take part, please contact me for details and tickets on 07747 562264. More details in next month's Meeting Point.

Can You Help?

It has to be everyone's wish for a child to be part of a loving, caring environment, and there are various ways that people can ensure that happens by supporting Family Placement in South Gloucestershire.

Foster Care

Foster carers are always needed, in particular for teenagers and sibling groups. As the ultimate welfare of the children is this authority's responsibility it is in our best interest that the foster carers we recruit and, very importantly, retain are people we can trust and know will provide the best care for the children. In exchange for this we offer generous fees and allowances, structured training, interaction with existing foster carers and continuous, ongoing support.

Adoption

We always need adopters for children aged 1+ and sibling groups. Adoption is a way of providing new families for new children who cannot be brought up by their own parents. It is a legal process, which transfers all the responsibilities held by the child's birth parents to the new adoptive parents.

Family Link

This scheme is a way of providing regular short breaks for a child/young person with a disability. Family Link caring offers the opportunity for a person to forge a long term relationship with a disabled child/young person and their family. This sort of care suits people who can offer occasional short breaks and who feel positive about disabled children and young people. The Family Link Scheme always needs more carers and once approved they are carefully matched up with a child or young person through gradual introduction.

If you want to take that first step to finding out more about any of the above you can either contact me on **01454 866423** and I will answer any questions you might have, or you might prefer to read our very comprehensive information booklets which can be viewed online at www.southglos.gov.uk/ChildrenYoungPeopleFamilies/AdoptionFostering/ .

Tony Bray
Recruitment & Marketing Officer
Family Placement Team
South Gloucestershire Council

Friday Night Is Film Night

Thornbury Picture House is pleased to announce a super smart new venue for the new season of films starting on 3rd September 2010. As well as comfy seating, the hall offers a brand new large screen and a more intimate feel better suited to film acoustics. Once again, you will be able to enjoy the best of world cinema designed to provoke, entertain, and surprise in Thornbury at affordable prices.

All screenings are in the Cossham Hall at 7.30pm on Friday evenings commencing on Friday 3rd September with the powerful BAFTA award-winning drama, *City of God*, based on the true life characters who survive in the shadows of Rio de Janeiro.

Take the opportunity to join up for the new season now. Membership for 11 films will cost you £30. Brochures are now available in various venues around the town including Thornbury Town Hall and Thornbury Library. Phone 01454 412272 or email films@thornburypicturehouse.org. See details on www.thornburypicturehouse.org.

Build Project at the Parish Hall

Following the great news of the award of a grant and planning permission, build work is starting on the Parish Hall during the first week of August. For those of you who have not been following events, the grant has been awarded by South Glos to provide better facilities for Olveston Preschool which operates from the Parish Hall, and the plans have been drawn up to improve the hall for all users.

This fantastic opportunity to upgrade the hall facilities will inevitably cause some disruption while the build is in progress; however we are working hard with the contractors to keep this to a minimum. The footpath leading to the play area behind the hall will be temporarily rerouted through the third tennis court to ensure that access is maintained at all times. An area within the third tennis court will be securely sectioned off to allow the contractor to store materials and construction vehicles and there will also be further contractors' vehicles. There will still be plenty of parking at the hall, and the part of the third tennis court which does not form the contractor's compound will be available as usual. Access and use of the two main tennis courts will be unaffected.

In order to minimise the disruption for those wishing to book the Parish Hall, the work on the new kitchen will be done first. The hall and the Jubilee Room will be available for hire as normal for the entire duration of the project. The building will be finished by the spring and we look forward to the new and upgraded facilities being available to the entire parish. We are sure that the disruption will be worth it and thank you for your patience as the build takes place.

Can You Hear Me?

Richard Churchill

If you think about international calls, I'll bet you think of long numbers and high bills. If you have relatives that live abroad, it is a real pain, especially if you also have to think about time differences.

While it has been possible to talk to someone over the internet for at least 10 years, until recently it wasn't easy. Slow connections meant call quality was poor, even getting a connection seemed to require a degree in computing, certainly not for the general user. What we want is a service that is easy to use, tells us when our friends and relatives are available; it would even be nice if we could see the person we are talking to.

Funnily enough as I'm writing about it, now you can. Broadband has inspired a sudden advance in technology. Skype was the first service to allow everyone to make free calls over the internet easily and at very high quality. There are now many services competing with Skype from the likes of Microsoft and Yahoo. They work in a very similar way, although of course they don't work with each other (when is technology ever that easy?).

In general these services are worked in a similar way; you add friends and colleagues to a contacts list. The contacts list allows you to see who is available, then all you have to do to make a call is click on the contact's name and press call. By clicking on additional names, you can start a second call or a conference call. You can open text chat windows, useful for leaving messages or sharing website links. You can also send files to the person/people you are talking to.

There is one obvious snag in that you're stuck at your computer. So the more recent innovations have been phone-sized handsets, and software for mobile phones, the ability to call standard land line numbers (worldwide) at very good rates, and finally to get a real phone number for your PC so you can be called from a normal phone.

While calling from your computer is not for everyone, it can be invaluable if you need to talk to someone in a different country, or collaborate with one or more people over the internet.

I welcome any ideas or questions you may have, you can call 01454 616365 (ask for Richard) or email articles@yourpcguru.co.uk. Visit <http://yourpcguru.co.uk/articles/> for past articles and more information.

Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners July

£50 Chris Northover
£15 Bill Finch
£5 Reg Purchase

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners

12th June Greg Welsher
19th June Diane Grosvenor
26th June Jean Panes
3rd July Richard Panes



June Fixtures at The Park

Sunday	1st August	Sunday XI v Bristol Indians	2.30
Saturday	7th August	1st XI v Lympsham	2.00
Saturday	15th August	1st XI v Frampton Cotterell	2.00
Saturday	22nd August	2nd XI v Pucklechurch	1.30
Saturday	29th August	1st XI v Patchway	1.30

Please come along & support Old Down Cricket in The Park!!

Diary Date: Annual Dinner & Dance in The Park Saturday 4th September.
Please contact me for tickets.

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

Coffee, cakes and charity at The Loans Garden Party Morning

What better way to spend a summer's morning than enjoying coffee and cakes with friends in the garden of The Loans, while also having the opportunity to browse a variety of interesting and varied stalls, with items including cards and prints, plants, fresh vegetables and flowers, recycled items and information, specialist books and gifts, home-made cakes and much much more. Food, music and merchandise at The Loans, Forty Acre Lane, Alveston, BS35 3QU, opposite St Helens Church, from 10am onwards on Friday 6th August. (Indoors if wet).

All proceeds to the Armstrong Hall Dressing Room Appeal. Tickets £5 each (£3 for Senior Citizens), to include entry into a draw for an original painting, from The Town Hall or phone 01454 412272 or on the morning at The Loans.

Yours Faithfully

Right At The Centre

One of the fascinating things about being a Christian is that we see all that goes on around us from a different perspective. Belief in an eternal, all-knowing, all-powerful God means that we should have (and hopefully do have) a longer-term, less 'human-centric' view of the world. This is in stark contrast to the trends in the world itself, where thinking is becoming ever more short-term and ever more driven by human needs and wants.

These diverging positions have led many to assume that religion in general, and Christian belief, in particular, are now less relevant than they once were. In our proudly post-Christian society, many would say that Christianity has been outgrown and that we move on to this 'brave new world' on our own. However, what intrigues me is that, whichever way we turn, we find that there are issues that refuse to conform to this model that 'man is in control of his own destiny'.

Apart from the obvious impacts of the natural world (earthquakes, volcanoes, floods, droughts etc.), we see that mankind is unable to muster the collective will to address the primary injustices of our age such as poverty, resource degradation and child exploitation in all its guises. We even struggle to identify and implement technological fixes for our misdemeanours, as witnessed by BP's vain attempts to cap an oil well in the Gulf of Mexico. Of course, the thing that we are all best at is blame, and there has been no shortage of that flying around in recent weeks.

So, if we must conclude that 'man is not in control' then who is? Well, the Christian answer is, of course, clear....but the outworking of God's hand is not always as obvious as we might expect it, or like it, to be. Paul notes, in his letter to the Ephesians, that there is still a battle on-going in the world. He notes that it is not a battle against '*flesh and blood*', but against the '*principalities and powers of this dark world*'. Indeed, as we look around, this is exactly what we see. God is working the victory out that has already been won in Christ. However, He is doing so according to His timetable not ours.

As unpalatable as many find it, I see the Biblical narrative of the world-order as far more compelling an explanation for what we see around us than any other commentary. Far from seeing Christianity marginalised, I see it moving to centre stage. If only many Christians would believe that too!

Paul Ashford – The Oasis Church, Old Down

From the Registers at St Mary's

Baptism on 11th July of Charles George, son of Matthew and Talia Slade

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Aug 1	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone Canon David Sansum Mrs Ann LLOYD
	10am	Holy Communion	
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	
Aug 8	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Canon David Sansum Mrs Janet McBride Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	
	6pm	Evensong	
Aug 15	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe Rev Philip Rowe & Rev David Bone Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	
	6pm	Evensong	
Aug 22	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Canon David Sansum Rev Roly Bain Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	4 th Sunday	
	6pm	Evensong (BCP)with Choir	
Aug 29	8am	Holy Communion	Canon David Sansum Mr Denis Jones Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Morning Prayer	
	6pm	Holy Communion(BCP) with Choir	

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Contact:

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

Please contact Philip about Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals or other matters at any time, but please try to avoid Thursdays except in an emergency.

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.00am led by the Rev. Roly Bain

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Aug 1	10am	Family Worship	Rev David Bone
Aug 8	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Aug 15	8am	Holy communion	Rev David Bone
Aug 22	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone
Aug 29	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone

Assistant Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Terry McLeavy, 01454 633680 & Janet Ford, 01454 633300

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Aug 1	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole
Aug 15	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Aug 8	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield
Aug 22	9am	Holy Communion	Canon David Sansum

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Aug 1	10am 6pm	Tock Ch Olv. Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Colin Blenkinsopp Evening Worship led by Rev. Ajay Singh
Aug 8	10am 6pm	Olv. Ch. Tock. Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams Evening Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams
Aug 15	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. Daldry Gdns	Morning Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney. . Evening Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams
Aug 22	10am 6pm	Tock Ch Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Miss Kitty Barrett Evening Worship led by Rev John Emmett
Aug 29	10am 6pm	Tock Ch Olv. Ch	Morning Worship led by Miss Rosemary Clews Evening Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney

LIGHT LUNCHESES: No lunches in August

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 11th

Aug To book your lunch please ring 416528

PRAYER MEETINGS: Thursdays at 2.15pm in the Olveston Vestry.

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

Cream Teas on the Green Mon 30th Aug 3pm -5.30pm

CONTACT: Rev Sandy Williams tel 07841 752 941,

Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

We meet in a relaxed, informal manner for worship, prayer and conversational Bible studies and incorporating Communion, normally on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm. As we also visit other Churches and events please check our Notice Board or contact .

Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07840 793772 or email:

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLDOWN

Aug 1	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies
Aug 8	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies
Aug 15	6.30pm	Paul Ashford (followed by half night of prayer)
Aug 22	6.30pm	Brian Miller
Aug 29	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Prayer Time every Thurs 7.30 for 8pm.

For further information please contact **Olwen Wonnacott**, 412141 or **Paul Ashford**, 07774 110814 or email: Paul@CalebGroup.net

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

BRISTOL CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP -Our Sunday morning meetings are held at The Grange School in Warmley at 11 am
Contact 01454 613305 www.bcfnet.com

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury - each Sunday
8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass 6.30pm Mass

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: Elizabeth Sidwell, 412975
National: www.quaker.org.uk Bristol area: www.bristolquakers.org.uk

Diary Dates for August 2010

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

1 st Sun			
2 nd Mon	Thornbury Camera Club Exhib - until 4 Sept		Th. Lib.
3 rd Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
4 th Wed	Royal British Legion Women-Ploughman's Lunch	12.30	DGCL
5 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10-00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
6 th Fri			
7 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
8 th Sun			
9 th Mon	Craft Group	7.30-9.30	MH
10 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
11 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club—Coffee Morning Royal British Legion - Men	10.30am 7.30pm	10.30 DGCL
12 th Thu	Coffee Shop Police Beat Surgery Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 10.30-11.30 2.00-4.30	OS+ OS+ MH
13 th Fri			
14 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
15 th Sun			
16 th Mon			
17 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
18 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club-Let's have a Party Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	2.00pm 8.30pm	AH
19 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
20 th Fri			
21 st Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
22 nd Sun			
23 rd Mon			
24 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Olveston Parish Council meeting Fibromyalgia Support Group-Flower Remedies	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.00-9.00pm	WR AP AMH

25 th Wed			
26 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
27 th Fri			
28 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
29 th Sun	Car Boot Sale—Marlwood School	9.30-1pm	
30 th Mon	Cream Teas on the Green, Tockington	3.00-5.30pm	
31 st Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR

Looking ahead to September

4 th Sat	Totally Locally Market, Tockington Green	9.30-12.00	
18 th Sat	Tockington Harvest Fayre, Tock. Green Music in the Church at Aust	2pm 8pm	AC

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **ACR** – Almondsbury Church Rooms; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alveston Methodist Church; **AMH**- Alveston Methodist Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; **CCCP** – Castle Court Car Park; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry; **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **MH** – Olveston Methodist Hall; **OMC** Olv Meth Ch **OS** – Olveston School; **OSI** – Olveston Stores; **OV** – Olveston Vicarage; **PH** – Olveston Parish Hall; **StM** – St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; **URC** - Thornbury United Reform Church; **WR** – Wesley Rooms.

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

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