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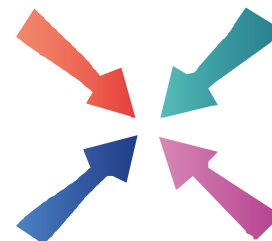
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Meeting Point

Volume 46, Number 3, December 2021

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 the Editor or Deputy Editor
by 6th December 2021.

From the Editor

The contents of this December edition present a picture of a community which is gradually returning to normal – whatever that is these days!

We have got details of several seasonal activities which will, I am sure, make people feel increasingly 'Christmassy' as the month goes on. You can buy your Christmas Tree from Olveston School, support Santa's Bike Sleigh as it travels around Olveston, follow the Elf Trail, complete our Christmas quiz, go to a Christmas Market and join in with Carol Singing in either the White Hart, Olveston, or St. Mary's (or both!). In addition, the lovely Advent Windows, placed around Olveston, will start to be lit from December 1st.

So, as 2021 draws to a close, all of us who work together to produce and deliver Meeting Point wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Marelin

The cover this month is by the late Kate Hickman, and a collage of all the year's covers is on the centre pages.

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**

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Santa's Bike Sleigh

Ruth Gale



On Sunday 19th of December, the Santa Bike Sleigh will be collecting locally for the North Bristol Food Bank. Last year (see above) Santa and his helpers collected 45kg of donations from Olveston residents and this year we hope to top that figure.

The bike sleigh will travel around Olveston to collect your donations. (Look out for a Facebook post on the Olveston village page, which will show a link to follow the progress live.)

Route

1. Start 17:30 from Olveston village hall
2. Down into the village and collect from The Green
3. Denys Court
4. Along New Road and The Street to Vicarage Lane
5. Up Vicarage Lane (halfway) and through the park to Laxton, Russet and Bramley (front of houses)
6. Up Orchard rise
7. Down Haw Lane

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The route may not take in all streets but has been designed to keep riders safe and cover maximum area in the designated time. If you're not on the route, please feel free to meet us at the start to donate. Donations can also be left in the designated donation box at 30 Orchard Rise, or 19 The Green.

Suggested items for donations include chocolates, festive crackers, sponge puddings, festive cake, tinned potatoes, mince pies, custard, stuffing, gravy, long life UHT milk, Christmas paper plates

Everyone is welcome to join Santa on their bike.
Safety lights and helmets are required, costumes and fairy lights are optional.

Many thanks
Santa x

Christmas Tree Sale

Nordman Fir Super Premium Christmas Trees, supplied by Frenchay Forestry, will be on sale at Olveston School on Friday 3rd December 2.30pm - 5.30pm and Saturday 4th December 9am -10.30am

Size cm	Size ft	Price
150-175cm	5ft	£35.00
175-200cm	6ft	£40.00
200-225cm	7ft	£45.00



Please pre-order your Christmas tree by emailing:
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Well Done Nick!

Hannah Cameron



1st Olveston Group Scout Leader, Clive Sandrey, presented Nick Gingell (or as we know him at Cubs, Shere-Khan) with his Wood Badge – a superb accomplishment. Since September 1919, volunteers in the Scouts have been awarded this badge once they have completed their leader training.

Nick completed his training and some additional rifle-shooting instructor training prior to the first lockdown so, although this presentation is much later than any would have wished, all of us at Cubs and 1st Olveston Scout Group are delighted his volunteer work has been formally recognised by Scouts.

More information about young people joining Beavers, Cubs, Scouts, or adults becoming involved in 1st Olveston Scout Group, can be found here:
1stolveston.scoutsites.org.uk

Stop Press: The Olveston Elves are back!

The Elf trail will once again be running from 4th December to 1st January. This year we are collecting cash donations for the Friends of Olveston School charity. Our St Mary's Church Elf will also be happy to receive any donations of food for the Trussel Trust Food Bank. Any questions, please email: elvesofolveston@gmail.com. Thank you.

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The prize winners in the November draw, held on 4th November 2021 were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	192	Mr P Phillips, Olveston
£75	369	Mrs E Screen, Rudgeway
£25	457	Mr S Webb, Olveston
£25	248	Mr M Huke, Olveston
£25	539	Dr M Wright, Olveston
£25	588	Mrs M Shurmer, Olveston
£20	169	Mrs K Hughes, Olveston
£20	565	Mr R Lloyd, Tockington
£20	224	Mr & Mrs R Panes, Olveston
£20	448	Mr M Belsten, Olveston
£10	221	Mrs S Pearce, Ingst
£10	409	Mr C Fairhead, Oldbury-on-Severn

If you are not yet a member and wish to join the lottery, please telephone Andy Phillips on 01454 614890 or email andisp28@hotmail.co.uk.

Don't forget, if you're not in, you can't win!



Monday Movies at St Mary's

Our next film*, to be shown on Monday 6th December, will be a "who dunnit?". Starring Daniel Craig and many other luminaries, this British film was made in 2019 and is in the Agatha Christie style with many suspects, lots of red herrings, twists and turns and is a very entertaining film.

Then, on Monday 20th December, there is a showing of a true British Christmas classic. Re-telling the story of Scrooge and starring Alistair Sim, the film was produced in 1951. There have been other, later, films which approach the subject in a similar way, but none gets anywhere near the original.

Everyone is welcome, admission is free. Doors open at 7pm and the films start at 7:30pm. There is a licensed bar, tea and coffee and a half time interval. If you want to leave a donation to help with our costs, it is always appreciated.

*We are not allowed to disclose the titles of films due to licensing restrictions.

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Alveston Repair Café

Peter Waller



Thank you to all those from the Olveston area who supported our Repair Café in Alveston on 16th October. Of the 55 items brought to us, we repaired or gave repair advice on 28 and have repaired a further 10 since then.

The next Alveston Repair Café is on 19th February 2022.
10am – 12noon at St Helen's Church, Alveston.

Severnside Wednesday Club (SWC)

For the past 35 years, a team of willing volunteers has run a Day Centre for the over 60s (in reality the over 80s), providing a hot lunch and an opportunity for socialising every Wednesday at Easter Compton Village Hall. The club closed during the pandemic and would like to reopen. For various reasons the club has insufficient volunteer helpers and is likely to close without a considerable boost to its helper numbers.

Can you help?

SWC runs from 8.30am to 1.30pm every Wednesday but assisting for, say, a couple of hours within that period would be a real help. No special skills are required, just an ability to help older members of our community, the hot lunch is provided by an external caterer. The role does not involve any form of personal care. If you are interested in helping and would like more information, please email severnsidewednesdayclub@gmail.com

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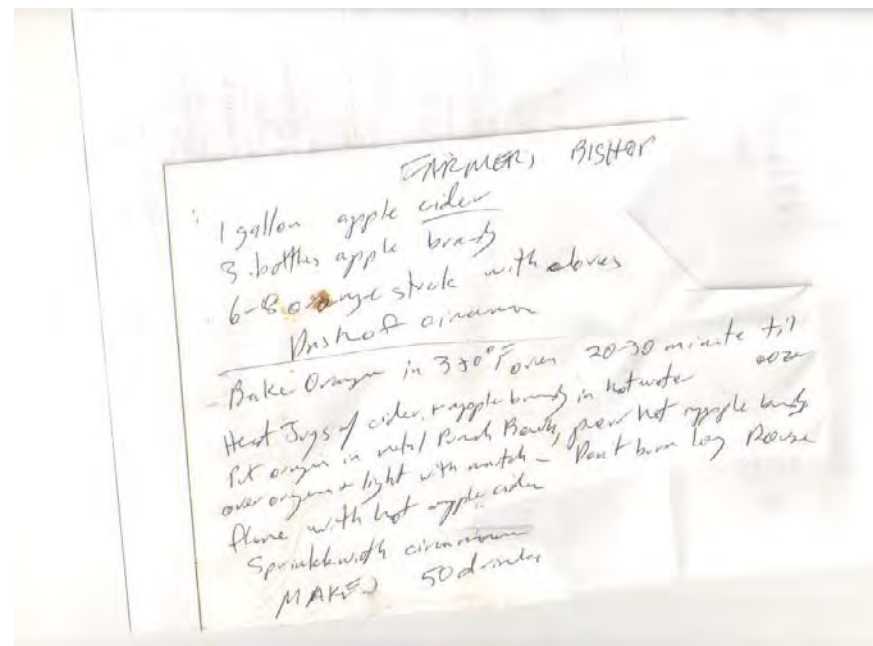
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Farmer's Bishop

Marelin Orr-Ewing

At our meeting to discuss this December edition of the magazine, somebody suggested a 'Festive Recipe' might be a good idea. Mincemeat and Christmas Pudding recipes were rejected as both of these should have been made last month..... however, a mulled drink to share with friends and family was considered a good idea. At this point, our Treasurer remembered a drink called Farmer's Bishop which was around during his 1950s American childhood. When he got home, he even found the recipe, which he'd written on the back of an envelope well over thirty years ago.



Now, bearing in mind that in America, apple cider is actually a non-alcoholic, unfiltered apple juice, this recipe for 50 drinks would still have packed a punch with its three bottles of apple brandy (known also as applejack) at around 92° proof.

The recipe, below, dates from 1951 and gives quantities for 24 people. As it is also of American origin, I'm guessing the cider referred to is the non-alcoholic version and Somerset Cider Brandy, or Calvados from France, could substitute for the Apple Brandy.

- 6 oranges
- around 4 dozen whole cloves

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- 1 bottle apple brandy
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1/2 gallon cider
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Stick each orange with 8 cloves and bake them whole in a slow oven for one hour. Place them in a heated punch bowl and prick them well with a fork. Heat the apple brandy in a saucepan until warm, be careful - especially if you're using a gas stove - and pour over the oranges then sprinkle with the sugar. While warming the brandy, heat the cider to almost boiling. Take 1/2 cup of the cider and mix the remaining spices in it, then set it aside. Carefully light the brandy using a sugar cube soaked with a bit of the brandy, place it in the bowl of a long-handled spoon, light it and then stand back while placing the burning cube in the boozy punch. Let it burn for a few seconds, then add the hot cider to extinguish the flames; stir in the cup of spiced cider.



Old Down Cricket Club

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The Octopus Pantomime is Back!

Oh yes it is! Octopus Drama Group is delighted to announce that we will be back treading the boards at Porch House (Christ the King Church Hall) in January 2022. We will be performing a brand-new version of the pantomime favourite, Aladdin.

Written and directed by the multi-talented Alison Bagnall (she also designs and makes the costumes), this will be a bright, colourful, full of fun production set in downtown Peking. Widow Twanky and her two offspring, Aladdin and Wishee Washee, who run The Squee-ki-Clean laundry, will help to 'Wash Away' the winter blues and bring you some 'Comfort' on a dark winter's night.

Of course, a panto wouldn't be a panto without the evil villain and Peter James as Abanazar will make sure there is plenty of opportunity to boo and hiss - he loves it! A beautiful princess, a handsome leading man, genies, comic policemen and cheeky villagers are all there to help make this production a wonderful winter tonic. We will also be introducing a baby dragon who, sadly, has no name. We're hoping the audience will help to find a suitable name for him.



Aladdin will be at Christ the King Church Hall, Castle Street, January 11th - 14th at 7.30pm and Saturday 15th January at 11am and 3pm.

Tickets will go on sale on 1st December at Thornbury Garden Shop on the High Street. Tickets will be £8 and £6 for children up to the age of 18 years.

This year we will be having an extra Tuesday performance as our seating numbers have been reduced due to Covid social distancing.

So, may I be so 'Bold' as to suggest that you get your tickets quickly, before they all 'Vanish'?

Jon Baskerville as Aladdin and Abi Baskerville as Princess Yasmine

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Where next for OPTA?

Like most other local organisations, OPTA has had an enforced break from regular activities due to the pandemic: a planned trip to France in spring 2020 was cancelled and there have been no fundraising events of any kind for nearly two years.

This pause has given the committee a chance to think about how to take OPTA forward into 2022 and beyond. We have been twinned with Bréhan, which is a village in Brittany, for over twenty years and there is no way that we want to change that. However, we need to consider whether we should carry on with our programme of annual visits to and from France or change the way in which we function.

- Should we make use of IT and keep our links with Bréhan alive by sending annual or bi-annual newsletters rather than visits?
- Could we facilitate links between the primary schools in Olveston and Bréhan?
- Is there a role for us to encourage, and where necessary support, homestays for young people from either village who wish to improve their French or English?
- Our fundraising events over the years have been quite popular, with the Annual Wine Challenge being quite a 'money-spinner'. Should we extend our twinning remit? For instance, we might 'twin' with a village in the developing world and use the money we raise to help with projects in this new location?

OPTA members will be contacted to gather their views on new ideas or developments, and we will be holding an AGM in early 2022, probably February.

In the meantime, if any readers would like to comment or make suggestions for the AGM to consider, please contact OPTA via:
meetingpointeditor@gmail.com.

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Robin Cole-Morgan on 01454 414281

He will arrange to pick up the tools and take them away at a time that suits everyone.

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Green Force

Did you know..... that methane is a gas made up of carbon and hydrogen?

It is a greenhouse gas and contributes to global warming. Cutting back on methane emissions is essential if COP26 is going to achieve its aim of sticking to 1.5% increase in global warming by 2030. At Glasgow last month the Global Methane Pledge was

agreed. Reducing methane is quicker than reducing carbon dioxide. Methane emissions arise from fuels agriculture and human food waste.

Have you thought ofcutting back on food waste?

With the Christmas Festive Season coming up perhaps it would be an idea to make an effort not to overstock our fridges and not to leave food on our plates. That will surely help to begin to repair our climate and planet. Every little effort adds to the whole. Action is better than words.

Members of the Green Force group wish everyone a Happy Christmas and renewed hope for our planet.

Free Flu Jabs for Carers

Local charity, Carers Support Centre, is keen to remind unpaid carers that they are entitled to a free flu jab. Flu is an unpredictable virus that can cause mild or unpleasant illness in most people. However, it can cause severe illness among vulnerable groups. If you are the main carer for an elderly or disabled person who may be put at risk if you fall ill, you should be offered a free flu jab.

GP practices have advised that they are offering flu jabs in the usual way, despite Covid-19. However, this year everyone over 50 will be offered a free flu jab and other categories of people also eligible for a free flu jab include carers, those who are pregnant and those with certain health conditions. Call your GP surgery to get your free flu jab.

Carers Support Centre provides support, information and advice to carers of all ages living in the Bristol and South Gloucestershire areas. Contact CarersLine on 0117 965 2200 or email carersline@carerssupportcentre.org.uk.

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Parish Players present Calamity Jane!

The Parish Players are looking forward to returning to the stage this February half term with their production of Calamity Jane. The show is based on the classic 1953 film starring Doris Day and Howard Keele, with its lively musical score and numbers such as 'Deadwood Stage', 'Windy City', 'The Black Hills of Dakota', 'Higher than a Hawk' and 'Secret Love'. The film was inspired by the life of American frontierswoman Martha Jane Cannary (pictured below) and was adapted for the stage in 1961.



Performances of this Parish Players' production will be presented over four nights from Wednesday 23rd to Saturday 26th February 2022. Once again, the show is the product of a creative team led by experienced and hard-working director Linda Evans. You are in for a treat, and we expect tickets to sell like hot cakes. So, make a note in your diary! This year we will be selling tickets for the show from the Methodist Church Hall, 2 The Street, Olveston. Tickets will go on sale on Saturday 15th January (9.30–11.00am) and after that will be available from the Box Office (details in the January issue).

We're hoping Covid-19 won't affect our plans, but we'll keep you up to date with any changes on our Facebook page at:
www.facebook.com/OlvestonParishPlayers.





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Rotary Club of Thornbury Celebrates 50 years

Adrian Dennis

This year marks a major achievement for The Rotary Club of Thornbury, as it is celebrating its 50th Anniversary, having received its charter from Rotary International on 31st August 1971. 50 years ago, the event was celebrated at a Charter Dinner held at the Ship Hotel in Alveston. The 2021 Gala Dinner at the Aztec Hotel was enjoyed by around 100 guests, including past members of the club, present members, members from several other clubs and their partners.

On behalf of his club, Paul Glover, President of Thornbury Rotary, welcomed all the guests and introduced the main speaker for the evening, Donna Wallbank, former RIBI President (Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland). Paul added that Thornbury Rotary was privileged to have two founder members attending the celebrations, Nigel Dawes and Maurice Stagg, both of whom are still active members of the club. Nigel and Maurice received a round of applause for their combined loyal service of 100 years.



L-R Maurice Stagg, Paul Glover, Nigel Dawes

Paul presented a brief picture of the club and its activities, including service to the two Thornbury Secondary Schools (Castle School and Marlwood) with public speaking competitions (in the early years), mock interviews, Young Musicians in both the Avon and South Cotswold Competitions, with several successfully going forward to the District and Regional stages, Young

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Photographers and Young Chef, again with local winners progressing to the following rounds. Up to twelve local Primary Schools have regularly taken part in Thornbury Rotary's annual Youth Speaks Competition. The club also actively supports and has had a long association with the annual 'Thornbury in Bloom' competition.

Internationally, the club has secured Rotary Matching Grants for water projects in Kenya, Nepal and Burkina Faso. In 1981 Thornbury twinned with the Rotary Club of Barbezieux in France and bi-annual visits were enjoyed for many years. The club has always been active on the End Polio Now campaign, even purchasing an Iron Lung for display, to raise awareness and funds at events.

Since the first Thornbury Rotary Swimathon in 1986 (the main fundraiser) the club has raised around half a million pounds to date. This has allowed the club to donate between £12,000 and £17,000 each year to various charities such as Alzheimer's Society, Carers Support Centre and Jigsaw, together with many other national and local charities over the years. When Swimathon 2021 had to be cancelled, the club created an alternative socially distanced fundraising event within the Thornbury Community, known as Thornbury Walkathon. This event raised over £10,000 to support charities and good causes. Thornbury Rotary hopes to hold the event again in the future. Recently, the club stepped in to run the Annual Welsh Choir Concert, a highlight of the social calendar in Thornbury.

The club has made several changes to make it more attractive for new membership and retention. It is now less formal, meeting just twice a month in Thornbury. Members can join meetings either physically or via Zoom. Looking to the future, Thornbury Rotary is keen to attract younger members, whatever gender and background. To that end, a satellite club has been formed called Thornbury Rotary Network (TRN), with the hope of attracting a more diverse and younger group of community members, who are still working, rather than retired.

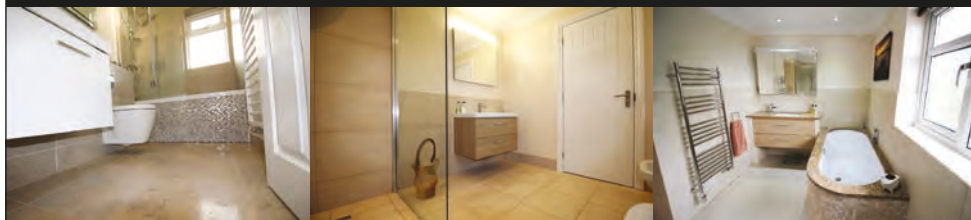
Rotary will continue to support the communities of Thornbury and surrounding villages for many years to come. The hope is that membership of Thornbury Rotary Network will become more and more established over time and very active in the community. Anyone interested in joining can contact Nico Sialelli via mobile: 07871 795846 or by emailing ThornburyRotaryNetwork@gmail.com. More details are available on the website: www.thornbury-rotary-network.org.uk.

Anyone interested in the Rotary Club of Thornbury can visit their website: www.ThornburyRotary.org or follow the Club on Facebook and Twitter, @ThornburyRotary.

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Alveston Gardens Association



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Art in Isolation

Sandy Shaw and Sue Farr

On the weekend of 16th and 17th October we had a wonderful exhibition of art in St Mary's Church, largely demonstrating how 21 people had occupied themselves during the lockdowns in 2020, and subsequent months. We had paintings, beautiful quilts (which quite stole the show), photographs (which we want to see more of), felt cacti and flower arrangements. A steady flow of people came to have a look and enjoy the talent displayed, raising £150 for St Mary's.

If we say we will do it again next year, will you start work now?

Christmas Market

Saturday 11th December
Dawes Yard - opposite the Village Shop
3pm - 5.30pm

Come and enjoy:

- Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
- Carol Singers
- Numerous stalls for last minute gifts
- Bran Tub and other entertainments.

Any offers of crafts that people have made and wish to sell all welcome.
£20 donation to Church funds for any stall booked.

Any questions? Please contact Sue Farr 614861 or Sandy Shaw 612781
To book a stall. Please contact Sandy Shaw

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News from St Mary's

Debbie Harries

Sunday December 5th 6pm

Please join us for a special service of Advent Carols and thanksgiving for the

tower restoration. This will be followed by wine and canapés

Toy Service

On Sunday December 12th at 4.30pm we will be holding our toy service. This will be led by the Easton Salvation Army Brass Band. You are invited to bring presents for children and teenagers who wouldn't otherwise receive any Christmas gifts. Please don't wrap them. They will then be distributed by the Salvation Army. This is always a wonderful event, and we look forward to seeing you.

Carols!

Our Village Carol Service is on Sunday December 19th at 6pm
 All welcome!

On Friday December 17th at 9pm the Christmas Carols singalong will be held in the White Hart, Olveston, led by St Mary's Choir. Come along and have a sing!

Christmas Tree Festival

We will be having a Christmas Tree Festival at St Mary's again this year. If you would like to donate and decorate a tree that would be brilliant! They can be erected from Monday December 13th and the display will be up until Christmas, so come and have a look! There is obviously no charge to visit the display, but donations to the charity 'Young Carers' would be appreciated. For more details contact Debbie on 01454 613273

Advent Windows

Our living advent calendar will start being lit from December 1st
 We hope you enjoy them!

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2. 19 The Green, Olveston
3. 19 Orchard Rise, Olveston
4. Travalan, New Road, Olveston

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5. Foxleaze, Haw Lane, Olveston
6. Holly Cottage, New Road, Olveston
7. Sedgley, The Street, Olveston
8. 3 Green Court, Olveston
9. The Wesley Rooms, Tockington
10. 12 Orchard Rise, Olveston
11. 47 Laxton Close, Olveston
12. Holly Cottage, Church Hill, Olveston
13. 9 The Crescent, Old Down
14. Churchill Cottage, Vicarage Lane, Olveston
15. Hawthorn Cottage, Haw Lane, Olveston
16. 24 Orchard Rise, Olveston
17. Little Grange, The Green, Olveston
18. Alma House, Tockington Green, Tockington
19. 14 The Crescent, Old Down
20. Corner Cottage, Elberton Road, Olveston
21. 30 Orchard Rise, Olveston
22. 13 Orchard Rise, Olveston
23. Ashley, Haw Lane, Olveston
24. St Mary's Church, Olveston

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1. In which year was the first Christmas card sent - 1743 or 1843?
2. In which ocean can Christmas Island be found?
3. In which Bond film does Denise Richards play Dr. Christmas Jones?
4. How many ghosts show up in *A Christmas Carol*?
5. 'Top to toe in tailbacks. Oh, I got red lights all around'. Song title?
6. Which Angel visited Mary?
7. Solve this Christmas Carol Anagram (2,4,4,1,8,5):


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8. *Viscum Albumis* is the scientific name for which plant?
9. In which pantomime does Buttons appear?
10. Bacalhau is cooked at Christmas in parts of Portugal. What is it?
11. What did the first SMS text message, sent 3 December 1992, say?
12. In the song *The Little Drummer Boy* who kept time?
13. The Queen's first televised Christmas speech was in what year?


14



15



14. Which two Christmas films are merged in the picture above?
15. Name the festive song in the Dingbat above, which was a top 20 hit for Gracie Fields, the Beverley Sisters and Nina & Frederik in 1959.



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Olveston Parish Council

Pat Savage

Monthly Full Council Meetings

Monthly meetings continue to be held at Olveston Parish Hall in Tockington. As previously reported, this is to comply with social distancing requirements and to ensure that members of the public who wish to attend can do so in a safe environment. At no point has the Parish Council made a decision to vacate the Queen Alexandra Memorial Pavilion.

Local Community Grants

The Council is pleased to report that the following Grants were made during the six months ended 30 September:

• 1st Olveston Scouts.	£400
• Olveston United Football Club.	£810
• Old Down Cricket Club.	£850
• Friends of Castle School.	£1,560
• Friends of Marlwood School.	£1,350

Queen's Platinum Celebrations

Her Majesty the Queen will celebrate seventy years on the throne in June 2022. The nation will enjoy four days of celebrations at the beginning of the month. South Gloucestershire Council is making available a grant of £50,000 in total to fund the celebrations in the various Parishes. The Council, along with organisations within the Parish, is now compiling a list of events to take place over the long weekend. If you have any thoughts or ideas or indeed wish to get involved, please contact martin.gibson@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Village Bus Stops

Most of our Parishioners are aware that there are three bus stops in the villages - one at Old Down, on the Crescent, one alongside the Green in Tockington and one on the main road in Olveston. Whilst the Council is responsible for the overall maintenance, the job of cleaning and generally overseeing the condition of the stops rests with a very industrious caring trio of Keith Lazell, Ann Trott and Pat Ward. Both Keith and Ann are now stepping down having both given some twenty years of caring. We would now like to

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Olveston School

Whilst Remembrance Day will have been honoured with parades and wreath laying services, the school became very involved in showing their appreciation. The photograph below shows the very artistic decoration of the school gates.



Season's Greetings

On behalf of the Council, John Hughes, Chairman, and all Councillors wish our Parishioners a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year.



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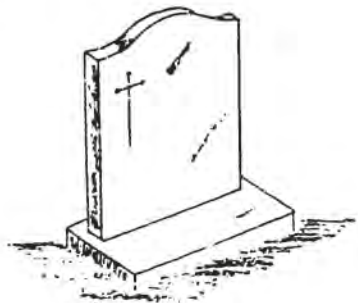
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Yours Faithfully

Christ the King, Thornbury
Father George Malecki

Things happen to people - moments in time that have the most profound of consequences for ever. Those moments may be the briefest of time, or they may last years, leaving us changed forever. One of the reasons life can never be the same again is that they force us to re-evaluate our priorities. It has been said that on their deathbed no one has ever been heard saying: "I wish I'd spent more time at the office". What has been heard, time and again, are the words: "I wish I'd spent more time with my family".

Some people manage to recognise the true priorities before it is too late. Those who were living in the time of Noah in the Bible were so caught up in their daily activities that they were neglectful of the inevitable consequences of the lifestyle they followed and were overwhelmed by those consequences. Had their priorities been different, they would have seen the warning signs long before and would have changed their ways before it was too late.

As each Advent comes around, marking the beginning of a new church year, we are challenged to look again at what is important to us and, in re-evaluating, to re-direct our energies and our focus on things of true importance. If we live our lives with a sense of purpose, and a wholehearted dedication to God's Kingdom, then we will be undaunted and unshaken should the unexpected catch us unawares.

Saint Paul, in his letter to the Romans, gives us the wake-up call we need as we begin this season of Advent. Now is the time, he urges us, to wake up from our lethargy and laziness - to get up out of the ruts we get in to. Now is the time to be alert. If we do not continually change and re-direct our focus, then when tragedy does strike, the effect is all the more painful and devastating.

This time of preparation for the coming of the Christ-child at Christmas is a wonderful opportunity for us to rediscover what our lives are really all about. In our workplaces, in our homes, in our communities, let us reflect and again ask ourselves: what are the things dearest to our hearts? And let us this Advent, re-focus our lives and initiate the necessary action in the light of what we discern.





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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Dec 5	9.30am 6pm	Holy Communion Advent Carol Service, Dedication of the Church Tower, followed by wine and canapés.	Revs Bone & Lloyd Rev David Moss
Dec 12	9.30am 4.30pm	Matins BCP Salvation Army Toy Service	Rev David Moss Rev David Moss
Dec 19	9.30am 6pm	Morning Prayer Carol Service	Paul Harrod & Janet McBride Paul Harrod
Dec 24	4pm 11.15pm	Christingle Midnight Mass	Rev David Moss Rev Ann Lloyd
Dec 25	9.30am	Christmas Gift Service	Paul Harrod
Dec 26	9.30am	Carols and Communion. No sermon.	Rev David Moss

Also, every Wednesday at 10am, Holy Communion usually with Rev Ann Lloyd.

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Dec 12	10am	Morning Prayer	Trevor Cook
Dec 24	11.15pm	Midnight Mass	Trevor Cook, David Bone

Contact: Trevor Cook, 01454 618442

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 & Clive Roberts 632238



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ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Dec 12	3pm	Carol Service	Mrs Tracey Black
Dec 25	9am	Christmas Gift Service	Rev David Moss and Mrs Tracey Black

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

AUST EVANGELICAL and LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCHES

Contact: Danny Bamfield 01454 419324 e-mail danny@thebamfields.co.uk

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Dec 12	9am	Morning Prayer	Mrs Judith Heybyrne
Dec 14	7.30pm	Carol Service	Mrs Judith Heybyrne
Dec 25	9am	Christmas Gift Service	Rev David Bone and Mrs Judith Heybyrne

Contacts: Judith Heybyrne 616725 and John Gunnery 413225

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Dec 5	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Colin Blenkinsopp
Dec 12	10am	Olv Ch	Carol Service led by Rev Simon Edwards
Dec 19	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Mrs Rosalie Doyle
Dec 25	10.15am	Tock Ch	Short Christmas Day Celebration Service led by Mr Adam Biddlestone
Dec 26			No Service

Contact: Rev Simon Edwards 418176, email:
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 Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm.

Contact: Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07512 917229 or email:
thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Services at 6.30pm every Sunday. All are welcome.

Contacts Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@ymail.com & Sue Tett
stett56@hotmail.co.uk

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury

Mass on Sundays at 9.30 and 10.30am

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

Contact: Brian Hawkins, hawkinsb863@gmail.com 01454 854867

Events in December.

Monday 6 December, **Monday Movies at St Mary's**, 7.30pm

1st and 3rd Thursday 9.00-1.30, **Thornbury Farmers' Market**.

Monday 6 December, **Severn Vale Flower Club social event**, 2pm, St

Mary's Church Hall, Thornbury.

Saturday 11 December, **Christmas Market, Dawes' Yard**, 3pm

Tuesday 14 December 7.30pm **WI Christmas Party**. Contact: Angela on
615222

Sunday 19 December, **Santa Bike-Sleigh in Olveston** from 5.30pm

Monday 20 December, **Monday Movies at St Mary's**, 7.30pm

Coffee Morning every Tuesday at 10.30 at Daldry Gardens lounge.

Coffee Shop every Thursday at St Mary's Church Olveston, 9-12 in Term
Time and 10-12 in school holidays.

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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