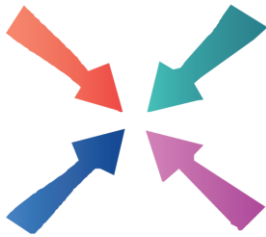


Meeting Point



February 2018



Meeting Point

Volume 42, Number 5, February 2018

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

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From the Editor

Those of you who read the (very) small print here on page one will know that the deadline for the next month's issue of Meeting Point is always very early. This can feel very strange - particularly this month when I have hardly finished clearing up the Christmas decorations before I am editing a magazine with details about the February half term!

It is good to report that there is a lot going on locally in February. For those with children or grandchildren to entertain during half-term we have, amongst other things, the Children's Movie Club in St Mary's, The Wizard of Oz in the Parish Hall and Dick Whittington in Thornbury as well as a mouse-hunt in Thornbury Museum. For adults, February options include an impressive selection of quizzes and, to get your toes tapping, a Valentine's Dance in Thornbury in aid of Cancer Research UK.

All this sounds like good fun in a month that can sometimes be rather dreary.

Marelin

The cover is by Lisa Helyar

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

News from St Mary's

Debbie Harries



St Mary's said goodbye to Revd Philip Rowe on the 31st December and we wish him well. Our loss is Pilning's gain.

We welcome Revd David Moss and look forward to his ministry with us.

Lent is fast approaching and, as has happened in past years, all the C of E and Methodist churches in Severnside are working together.

Ash Wednesday is on the 14th February, marking the beginning of Lent with a service of Holy Communion at 9am in the Chancel of St Mary's. There is also a Severnside Holy Communion at 7.30pm led by Revd. David Moss at St John's, Elberton, at which the Revd. Patrick Stonehewer of Pilning Methodists will speak.

Study Course

The study course 'All things are Possible' prepared by USPG (United Society, Partners in the Gospel) is offered for personal and group use. The themes are Prosperity, People, Planet, Peace and Partnership.

Do come and join us on any Sunday and /or pick up a leaflet to find out when and where the study groups are meeting and come along. You will be most welcome!

The focus for both 'giving' and 'giving-up' will be shared between USPG and Crisis Centre Ministries. For these charities a Coffee Morning will be held at Alveston Methodist Church Hall, Greenhill Road, on Saturday 10th February between 10am and noon.

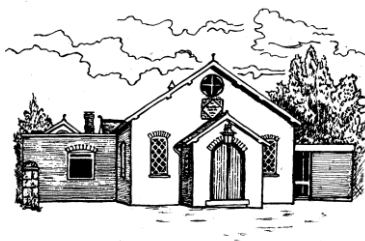
Quiz Night

A reminder our next quiz night is on Saturday 3rd February in the church at 7.30pm. Please contact Debbie at oboe-debbie@live.co.uk to book your teams. The menu is Coq Au Vin! We look forward to seeing you there!

From the Registers of St Mary's Olveston

28th December

Burial of Ashes of Cynthia Mary Tippetts



Parish Hall Management Committee

Geoff Chappell

You are invited to attend our AGM at the hall on Thursday 8th March 7.30pm start, followed by wine and cheese. I do hope you can find the time to come along and show support for your community building.

Parish Hall Fish and Quiz

The Annual Fish and Quiz will be held on Friday 23rd February.

Tickets are £8.00 to include a fish and chips supper. Doors open at 7.15 for a 7.45 prompt start. There will be a cash bar. Teams of four to six people.

For tickets contact Pat Savage: 01454 610388
or email pat@savageassociates.co.uk



Parish Matters

Play Area Equipment

Whilst the Council does everything to maintain the equipment, age is now playing a major part in its condition particularly the equipment at Old Down. Whilst some parishioners were keen to prepare a plan to replace the equipment this does seem to have stalled. If anyone is interested in organising a group, please email clerk@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Monthly Surgeries

The monthly surgeries changed with effect from January 2018. They will now be held on the third Saturday of the month at the Methodist Hall between 10.30 and 12.00 which coincides with the monthly coffee morning. It is still an opportunity to meet your Councillors and have a one to one discussion about matters which are bothering you or which you feel very strongly about.

Making Space for Wildlife Exhibition

Catherine Offer



January 5th 2018 dawned damp and chilly but nothing could dampen the spirits of the Biodiversity Committee. By 9am the stallholders for the exhibition were busily setting up in the Methodist Hall and Church in Olveston, the bunting was up and the kettle was on! Throughout the day a steady stream of visitors came to pick the brains of the stallholders representing the RSPB, Woodland Trust, Avon Wildlife Trust, Butterfly Conservation, Soil Association, Olveston Parish Countryside Group, South Glos. Beekeepers, Thornbury Garden Shop and A Forgotten Landscape. The Wild Place learning team also arrived for the afternoon. The Eco Council (a group of 14 children representing year groups 1 to 6) from Olveston School also visited during the morning, accompanied by Mrs Vizard. They enjoyed various wildlife related craft activities and visited every stall before returning to school in time for lunch.

The visit by Mike Dilger made the Logo Competition Prize giving in the afternoon a memorable event in itself. Unfortunately due to illness some young people could not be there to collect their certificates and prizes. Mike launched 'Making Space for Wildlife' by cutting the celebration cake in his typically energetic style. His short presentation was enthralling, inspiring and hilarious. He then presented every young person who had entered the competition with their certificates and prizes and took time to discuss their entries. The day ended with cupcakes and celebration cake for all the children and their parents and every competitor received a colouring book to inspire them further and a sunflower head (given by Riverford Organic Farmers) to hang up in their own gardens to feed the birds. If you missed Mike don't worry...he will be back. In the meantime see him on The One Show. He deserves a huge thank you for generously giving his time to support our event.

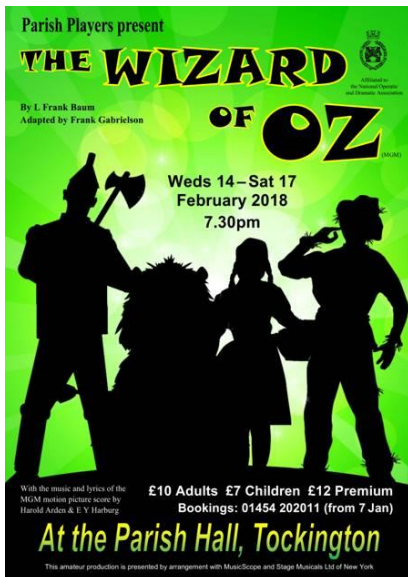
The Committee would also like to thank everyone who made the day possible, particularly the Parish Council, all the volunteers, the Methodist Church for their hospitality - nothing was too much trouble and the heating was on all day - and the Crusty Loaf for a great buffet lunch. Huge thanks too to everyone who came. The Committee will be in touch very soon with those who left their contact details. Congratulations to all 36 youngsters who completed 40 entries for the Logo Competition. All the judges commented on the very high standard. The parents, guiders, beaver leaders and school staff who assisted with all the entries did an amazing job. The three competition judges Angus Macaskill, Sally Challoner and Sally Pattison (biodiversity Officer for South

Glos Council) were also very generous with their time and the committee would like to thank them all.

It is very heartening that at least 160 adults and young people came to share the day.....a great start for Making Space for Wildlife but the best is yet to come. Watch this space.

catherine.offer@olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk

Follow the Yellow Brick Road...



Olveston Parish Players' 2018 musical production of 'The Wizard of Oz' opens on **Wednesday 14th February**.

Featuring the music and lyrics made famous in the 1939 film, this family show will transport you 'Over the Rainbow' to join Dorothy and her friends the Scarecrow, Tin Man and Cowardly Lion on their journey to the Emerald City.

If you haven't got your tickets already, seats MAY still be available for the Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday performances at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall, Tockington. Standard tickets are £10 for adults, £7 for children, while premium tickets are £12. There is also a preview evening on Tuesday 13th February.

Please phone Richard or Jenny at the Box Office on **01454 202011** for information, to check availability and to purchase your tickets.

'We're off to see the Wizard' - so don't miss your chance to come along too!

Alveston Gardens Association



'Colour in the Garden Twelve Months of the Year'.

A presentation by Jenny Bailey. 7.30pm in Alveston Jubilee Hall Monday 5th February

All welcome – Visitors £3 Full programme:
www.alveston.org

Sir John Dineley Goodere of Tockington Manor

Nick Fear

William Fitz Osburn is the first recorded owner of a manor at Tockington. After being killed in the Battle of Cassel in France in 1071, the manor became crown property and is mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086. The exact location of the manor is unknown today; likewise the lives of all of its owners, but none can be more tragic than that of Sir John Dineley Goodere.

Sir John was the middle son of three; their father was Sir Edward Goodere, of Burhope in Herefordshire. In around 1720 he married Mary Lawford the daughter of a wealthy Bristol businessman described as, 'an agreeable and well bred woman'. Her dowry brought him ownership of Tockington Manor. The couple were happy initially, but the marriage ended in acrimonious divorce. Sir John's relationship with his father was warm, but that with his younger brother Samuel bordered on hatred. Their older brother Edward was killed in a duel, which left John in line of succession.

Samuel like his brothers had experienced a gentleman's upbringing. Whilst at school he rebelled, coercing companions into illegal actions. He had visited his brother Edward's home and robbed it, pointing a pistol at his own mother. One family account felt he 'showed contempt for all laws both divine and human'. In 1705 the family arranged for Samuel to join the Navy in a subordinate rank, although he progressed, becoming a lieutenant. His career ended on the 24th of December 1719 with a court marshal and dismissal from his ship, 'having been very much wanting in the performance of his duty'.

Sir Edward died in March 1739; John succeeded him in the family title. The estate was divided although Samuel felt that his share was not enough, John that it was too much. Matters came to a head and a violent argument ensued between them. Samuel took six thugs to remonstrate with John, he brandished a loaded blunderbuss in defence and they fled. In November 1740 politics and influence found Samuel appointed to be the Captain of a Man of War, the Ruby. He joined his ship moored in King's Road at the mouth of the River Avon in Bristol. In January 1741 Samuel and John met at a friend's house in the city, smoking and drinking together, seemingly settling their differences.

On the 18th of January 1741, Samuel, with sailor accomplices, kidnapped John and forced him aboard the Ruby. Imprisoned, comforts were given to John and Samuel spoke with him. On the next day seamen Charles White and Matthew Mahony entered his cabin. Samuel stood guard outside the door with a cutlass. John was strangled using his collar and a rope noose. The plan to escape to sea was thwarted by lack of winds and tides. A lieutenant on board

discovered the terrible deed, Samuel and his accomplices were arrested. All three men were brought ashore to be taken to Newgate Prison, where The Galleries car park now stands.

On the 26th of March 1741 the trial of the accused took place and evidence given. Samuel was present on the day of the kidnapping disguised in a long cloak. On the journey to the Ruby he and John had argued. The crew had been told to ignore John as he was a lunatic. A doctor's mate had attended him to ease pains sustained in his kidnap. Pitiful cries for help, including shouts of murder from him, were dismissed as due to his mental state. White and Mahoney were seen taking money and a watch from John's body. They were interrogated at length and were candid as to their actions; both blamed each other for the deed, implicating Samuel from the outset. In defence he maintained his innocence: his brother, a lunatic, had strangled himself in a fit of frenzy. Two witnesses testified as to John's insanity, another that he was sane on the day of kidnap. Proceedings took nine hours; half an hour later the jury returned a guilty verdict. All three were sentenced to death and returned to Newgate Prison. Samuel continued to profess his innocence, but eventually admitted his involvement in John's death to clergymen who attended him.



At 11.00 am on the 15th of April 1741 a mourning chariot took Samuel to the gallows on St Michael's Hill. He behaved with decency and had the 'tranquillity of a true penitent'. Addressing the crowds he asked them to pray for his soul. He approached the gallows, meeting White and Mahony, apologising that he had brought them there. All three were placed in a cart which was withdrawn from under them, prompted by Samuel dropping a handkerchief. They were left for over an hour before being returned to Newgate. By tradition the bodies of executed people were given to medical science for dissection. Samuel's body however, was released to his family and taken home. Mahoney, a Roman Catholic, was hung in chains at the river.

For years, the blight on the Goodere and Dineley families remained. In 1782 Sir John's nephew Samuel Foote published an account detailing family history and describing the 'horrid murder'. After forty one years the historical facts may have been muddled by time, but the learned account of events is still in publication. The site of Tockington manor may be a mystery today, but the murder of one of its owners is not forgotten.

Olveston and Tockington W.I.

Vicki Townsend

Olveston and Tockington W.I. had an early celebration of Christmas, the December meeting was a social event, food and mulled wine supplied by members and several fun quizzes. Nothing was taken too seriously, but it was an evening enjoyed by all.

The February meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th, when the speaker will be Michael Malaghan telling us why 'It shouldn't happen to a writer'. This is a week early, as the regular second Tuesday of the month will be reserved for the Parish Players. Guests will be very welcome to attend on the 6th February at The Parish Hall at 7.30pm.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the January draw, held on 4th January 2018 at the Friends' Committee Meeting were:-

<u>Amount</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Name</u>
£150	231	Mr & Mrs A Gardner, Olveston
£75	377	Mrs J Jones, Olveston
£25	534	Dr M Wright, Olveston
£25	229	Miss J Davies, Olveston
£25	499	Revd D Bone, Tockington
£20	557	Mrs S Chick, Olveston
£20	343	Mr & Mrs B Arkell, Olveston
£20	366	Mrs P Halfyard, Birmingham
£10	447	Mr R Tovey, Haverfordwest
£10	412	Mr R Lloyd, Tockington
£10	506	Mr M Lewis, Olveston
£10	382	Mr J Cryer, Olveston
£10	461	Mr & Mrs R Smith, Olveston

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

Litter Pick

Rod Williams 612850.

Please meet at the Parish Hall car park at 1pm on Saturday 3rd February.

Simeon Bamfield

Pat Thirkettle

Simeon is a young man, born and raised locally; his Bamfield grandparents Tony and Norah farmed at Elberton Court, whilst Michael and Carol Spratt farmed Hazel Farm. Simeon was born in Littleton where his father Danny worked as a herdsman and his childhood here allowed for plenty of outdoor pursuits in fields and woods for him and his three siblings. The family moved to Elberton when Simeon was seven and he attended Olveston School, followed by Marlwood School which he left at sixteen to take up an apprenticeship at Berkeley Vale Motors.

However, his future did not lie in the motor industry and, in his holidays, Simeon completed a chainsaw course with the aim of joining his father, who by then was working as a landscaper and tree surgeon. Simeon became self-employed and took further courses involving chipping, rope and harness and the study of trees. He is now a licensed tree surgeon working with his father - they have a cherry picker, amongst other machinery, and have also started commercial log sales as advertised in Meeting Point. In his spare time, Simeon services ride-on lawnmowers and is doing up an old campervan.

In 2015, Simeon left home aged twenty one to marry Ruth, whom he had met at a Christian Venture Camp a few years previously. She grew up in Cambridge, moved to Bristol to study law and now works as a civil servant. Ruth sings with Bristol Choral Society as a soprano scholar, which aids in the cost of singing lessons and affords her the opportunity to sing in the smaller semi choruses with occasional solos.

Simeon and Ruth are active Christians and worship at Aust Evangelical Church with their family. They enjoy leading worship, and meet with others in an Olveston-based home group during the week. A lovely young couple, who will probably raise their family here and continue the Bamfield presence into the next generation.



Severn Valley Quilters Exhibition

Friday 23rd February 2pm-5pm and Saturday 24th February 10am-4pm
Thornbury Methodist Church Hall, Castle Court, Thornbury, BS35 2AQ
Sales Table, Tombola & Refreshments. Admission £3. Disabled Access.

Bedminster's Tobacco Women

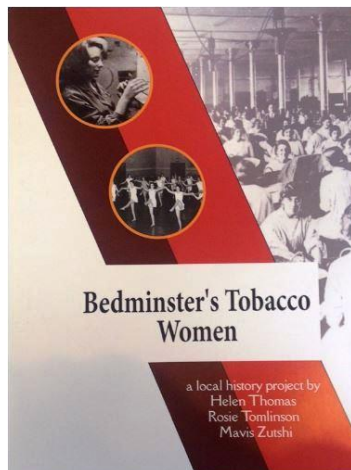
Olveston Parish Historical Society talk. Open to all. See you there!
£2 for visitors.

Wed. 7th February 2018, 7.30pm, Olveston Methodist Church, BS35 4DR

Helen Thomas, who has been recommended as giving "a really outstanding talk", will tell us what she and other project workers discovered when they recorded the memories of people who had worked at the Wills Tobacco Factory in Bedminster.

This is your chance to hear behind-the-scenes tales of the industry which at one time completely dominated South Bristol. At its peak, it employed 40% of the working age population of Southville, Ashton and Bedminster and in all kinds of ways it had a significant impact on the lives of the people who worked there.

www.olvoston.com/historical-society



Weekly Quiz

Steve's Quiz is run at The Ship Inn, Alveston, every Thursday from 8.15pm.

There are general knowledge questions, a picture round for a prize and a separate music quiz for a cash prize. We finish off with 'Play Your Cards Right' which has reached £30 before being won!

Entry to the Quiz is £2 per person. You are guaranteed to have a good time or your entrance fee refunded!! Call Steve on 01454 883450 or just turn up on the night.

Thanks from Alveston Singers

Thanks to everyone who supported them in 2017. Donations from generous audiences at the May and December concerts amounted to £2300 which will be divided between the 2017 charities, The Julian Trust and Off the Record.

Wildlife in the Garden

Trevor Cook

Although we are past the worst winter weather, it is a good time to start planning our gardens and if we are to entice birds and other creatures it is worth giving some thought to what we should plant.

For with a little forethought and by planting the right bushes, they can provide benefits to wildlife in the garden the whole year round. The blossom in spring is a magnet for bees and other pollinators, and the foliage provides a haven for many different insects and a hiding place/larder for birds.



Cotoneaster

Native species such as Hawthorn and Ivy fare well in the garden and provide a better insect habitat than some more exotic species. By observation Holly, Pyracantha and Cotoneaster provide good berries and, judging by the way the Redwings scoffed the berries from my Mum's Pyracantha, must be very tasty. But also, as an extra benefit, plants such as the Cotoneaster brought in so many types of bees that I really needed a dedicated book to identify them (there are 600 species of bee I was told).

Do be aware that some of the plants mentioned are prickly and although they suit the wildlife, they are not always human friendly (as I know from my Mum's Pyracantha). But you may console yourself with the thought that you have planted a beautiful plant and one that will create a space

and a larder for wildlife for years to come.

Lots more information than I can provide may be found on the RSPB website www.rspb.org.uk/birds-and-wildlife

News from Olveston School



We were delighted to see so many of you at one or more of our Christmas celebrations – such a special time in Primary Schools. In particular, we would like to thank everyone who supported our Christmas Fair and helped FoOS raise over £1500. This will be used to develop our outdoor areas.

Our Eco-Council was delighted to be able to attend the 'Making Space for Wildlife' exhibition and came back with lots of ideas for things we can do around the school to make it more friendly for wildlife. We are looking forward to becoming involved in the project and working with the local community. Look out for details our Big Spring Clean!

This term we are holding an 'Arts week' during the week commencing 26th February. If anyone in the community would be interested in coming in to school to share their artistic talents with the children we would love to hear from you.

There are many other ways you can help us too. We always welcome adults to come into school and hear the children read or share their talents/interests with us – cookery; gardening; sport etc, the list is endless.

We are still looking for a caretaker to open the school every morning and carry out minor maintenance tasks. Please contact us if you think you could fill this essential role.

Finally, as you will be aware from the news, school budgets are becoming increasingly stretched, and like many other schools, we are having to look to other sources of funding. We currently have two projects running: 1. To replace the cooker in the children's kitchen so they can continue cooking; 2. To develop our outdoor area to allow the children to spend more time learning outdoors. If you would like to support either of these projects please contact Nicola Hemming in the School Office on 01454 613299; olvestonschool@gmail.org.uk

OLVESTON PARISH TWINNING ASSOCIATION



Wine Challenge

Friday 16th March 7.30pm Olveston Parish Hall.

Please make a note in your diaries and join us for OPTA's annual Great Olveston Wine Challenge. If you have been to one of these before, you will need no further encouragement. If not, let us say, simply, that it involves a convivial evening tasting wines and trying to match them with their descriptions. There is absolutely no need for any wine 'expertise' at all; in fact sometimes we have had the best results from people who claim to know very little!

Plenty of delicious bread and a variety of cheeses accompany the tasting to complete the experience. The noise levels always rise as the evening goes on and great fun is had by all. Prizes (bottles of wine naturally) go to those who match most wines – you may be surprised how difficult it is!

Emma Gerrard on 07812 719948 is selling tickets and reserving tables (for up to 12 people). Why not get a group together for a really good night out? Tickets cost £15 or £13 for OPTA members.

This is always a very popular evening and so we encourage you to contact Emma as soon as possible to book your tickets.

Dick Whittington and his Cat

In this, its 50th Anniversary year, the Thornbury Musical Theatre Group will be performing the pantomime 'Dick Whittington and his Cat' during February half term at the Armstrong Hall in Thornbury.

Dick Whittington and his cat Tommy embark upon an adventure which takes them far from London and its streets paved with gold. Dick finds romance and strives to make good by seeking his fortune. Can the good Fairy Bowbells and some friends bring about a happy ending, despite the evil antics of King Rat? Come and celebrate TMTG's 50 years of performance by joining in the fun and frolics of this traditional pantomime. Complete with audience participation, hilarious comedy, catchy music, drama and romance, this is sure to be a family favourite.

Performances are from Wednesday 14th to Saturday 17th February at 7.30pm nightly and matinées at 2.30 pm on the Friday and Saturday. Tickets are bookable online at www.tmtg.org.uk with no booking fee. £12.50 Adults, £11.50 Senior Citizens and only £5 for children as a special 50th Anniversary offer price. Group discounts of 10% for 10+ seats.

For enquiries call the Box Office on 07516 270140. We are once again indebted to Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings for their generous offer to run our Box Office at 53 High Street, Thornbury. The staff are big fans of TMTG and are always delighted to meet our audience members, but remember it's a very busy office so please be patient if they're not available the first time you call.



FEBRUARY PROGRAMME

Trevor Anderson

MONDAY MOVIES (7.30pm on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month)

Mon 5 Feb: When two male musicians accidentally witness a gangland shooting in Chicago, they flee in an all-female band disguised as women. Billy Wilder directs this all-time classic comedy starring Marilyn Monroe, Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis. The film received a Golden Globe for Best Motion Picture (Comedy) with Monroe and Lemmon being awarded for their performances. (1959, Cert PG)

Mon 19 Feb: The extraordinary true story of a friendship in the later years of Queen Victoria's (Judi Dench) long rule. When a young clerk (Ali Fazal) travels from India to participate in the Queen's Golden Jubilee, he is surprised to find favour with the Queen herself and, as their friendship deepens, the Queen begins to see a changing world through new eyes. The cast also includes Eddie Izzard, Michael Gambon, Tim Pigott-Smith and Adeel Akhtar. (2017, Cert PG)

CHILDREN'S MOVIE CLUB (10.00am most Mondays in the school hols)

Mon 12 Feb: We won't be showing the film about a marmalade loving bear as publicized in our leaflet. Instead it will be about the retired villain Gru who decides to meet his long-lost twin brother for the first time with the mischievous Minions causing chaos and fun. Great family entertainment. (Cert U)

All the films are shown in **St Mary's Church, Olveston** and doors open 30 minutes before the start. Refreshments are available at all the shows, plus licensed bar in the evenings and popcorn and soft drinks in the mornings.



We make no charge for entry, but we do value and appreciate a small **donation** towards church running costs if you have enjoyed the show.

For copyright reasons we can't name the films here, but if you join the Movie Club we'll send you titles and full details by email. It costs nothing to join – just email me at trevoranderson@btinternet.com

February Puzzle

Below, 5 nine letter words have been broken into chunks of three letters. These chunks have been mixed up, no chunk is used twice and all 15 chunks are used. What are the five words?

ead	uti	spr
ful	pro	ock
nce	est	liv
ion	bea	ens
dim	bed	nou

January Puzzle – Answers

Here are the answers to the anagrams, along with the number of people (from the 100 who were asked) who gave a correct answer. The one that got the fewest correct responses was Slovenia with only 15.

A THIN LAD – THAILAND (49) GLIB AURA – BULGARIA (28)
POLAR TUG – PORTUGAL (59) ROMEO CAN – CAMEROON (24)
VINO SALE – SLOVENIA (15)

Aust Parish Council Matters

Tim Pyper (austparishcouncil@googlemail.com)

Mike Hawkins

Councillor Mike Hawkins has told the Council that he wishes to retire as a parish councillor at the end of the Council's current year in April after many years' membership, including 10 years as chairman. He represents the Elberton part of the parish. When Mike Hawkins' resignation takes effect in April, there will be a vacancy on the Council. This will be declared by the Council at its April meeting, and a notice will be put on the parish notice boards immediately after that. Any 10 electors may give notice to South Gloucestershire Council requiring a poll, in which case nominations may be made for an election. If no poll is demanded, the Council will co-opt a new member. The Council will set the procedure at its April meeting.

If you would be interested in serving as a Councillor, or would like more information about the process, please get in touch with me.

Broadband

I hope that, by the time this article is printed, Elberton will have received its superfast broadband. South Gloucestershire Council did say that both Elberton and Littleton would receive it, but we heard in November that three postcodes would be excluded. The chairman and I met with Councillor Riddle and officers at South Gloucestershire Council just before Christmas when we were told that a further 15 or so houses would not be covered. This is incomprehensible and very disappointing. The Council is actively working to try to get this decision reversed. Residents of Littleton are being informed using the village's email group.

Precept for 2018/19

The Council will fix its precept at the February meeting. This is the amount which is added to the council tax bill that residents receive each year to cover the cost of running the council.

Museum re-opens after winter break



Thornbury and District Museum will re-open after its winter break on Tuesday 6th February.

The exhibition 'Curious Works and Stately Lodgings', on the art of Thornbury Castle, remains for a few more weeks in our downstairs exhibition room, while upstairs there is a new display of some interesting and unusual books in the Museum's collection. A wide range of subjects is covered – everything from hens to household

management, costumes to children's books. You can find recipes from a local baker, accounts from a Thornbury shop, and a ledger from Thornbury Railway Station, from the time when trains actually ran to Thornbury!

For our youngest visitors there are knitted mice hiding amongst the collection – find them all and you can claim a little knitted mouse of your own. A great activity for half-term week. (Hint to parents and grandparents!)

Open: Tues – Fri, 1 - 4pm and Sat 10am - 4pm. FREE entry.

www.thornburymuseum.org.uk

Cancer Research UK



The “Sip`n Sing” at St Helens Church Alveston on December 7th was another very successful evening, organised by Thornbury and District Cancer Research UK Committee (**CRUK**) raising over £900. The young quartet Betar Brass accompanied the singing of carols with gusto. St Mary's Handbell Ringers performed, which along with poems and stories, all made for a most enjoyable

evening.

A cheque for £10,000 was gratefully accepted from Lynda Fisher, our Chairman, by Nikki Collins a Senior Cancer Research UK Manager

Rock of Ages Dance

Come and join us and banish those winter blues! **CRUK** has the Rock of Ages band performing at The Castle School on Saturday February 17th commencing at 7.30pm. Those of you who came to our last dance will know that a great foot tapping night will be enjoyed by all, whether you like to dance or just listen to some ‘fab’ music.

Tickets are £12.50 which includes refreshments, there will also be a Bar and Raffle and they are available from Thornbury Town Hall, Owens the Florist on the Plain, The Garden Shop off the High Street or give Jennie a call on 01454 415856. We are sure that there will be a high demand for tickets so get in quick to secure yours!

Quiz Night

This is advance notice of our **CRUK** Quiz Night, with Fish and Chip supper, on Friday 9th March at Manorbrook Primary School, Thornbury, commencing at 7.30pm sharp - so please be there at 7.15pm.

Tickets are priced at £10 per person which includes both admission and a fish and chip supper. Don't delay since tickets for this event will be quickly sold out! Contact Gill Blackborough on 07866580608

Thank you everyone who supports our Cancer Research UK events and makes our fundraising so worthwhile.

Police Report

PCSO 9317 Kelly Dimery

There were 34 reported crimes for December 2017, of which just three occurred in the area covered by Meeting Point magazine:

Beat Surgery Wednesday February 14th

Easter Compton Village Hall 09:15am – 10:00am

Olveston Stores 10:30am – 11:15am

Thornbury Library

It's Spring Again!

Free half-term holiday craft session for children.

Drop in anytime between 11-12 noon on Monday 12th February for free family fun, aimed at primary school aged children. Adult supervision required, no child under 8 years to be left unattended.

Looking for opening times, service information or contact details?

See our website www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

St Peter's Hospice Quiz

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would like to invite you to take part in their annual quiz, to be held in the Armstrong Hall on Friday 9th March at 7.15p.m. Please come along and help us to support the vital work of the Hospice within our community.

Tables of four, to include a light supper, £28.00 per table. Excellent raffle prizes, bar available. For further information please ring Mary on 01454 412567. Thank you.

An Iron Lung in Thornbury?

Polio is a deadly paralytic disease on the verge of elimination by worldwide vaccination. Fifty years ago, however, as the chest muscles of victims became paralysed, patients were put inside an iron lung. An example will be on display outside Tesco's in Thornbury on Friday 16th and Saturday 17th February.

Today doctors use ventilators that operate through a hole in the windpipe; however, this relic serves as a reminder of many devastating diseases that will return if vaccination levels fall. Polio remains endemic in a few countries, but until the virus is completely eradicated, outbreaks are just an air-flight away.

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners January 2018:

£50 Ben Riggs

£15 Jenny Maunder

£5 Barry Reeves

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

16/12/17 Richard Panes

New Players:

The Club is always on the lookout for new players both Junior & Senior. If you fancy playing during our 175th Anniversary Year, please make contact for details of Pre-season Nets.

Our group of Tea Ladies also needs supplementing, so if you could spare a couple of Saturdays during the season to help, please let me know.

Up the Down!!

Music in Thornbury

Five Classically Trained Musicians led by Aaron Holmes Saturday 10th February in the Cossham Hall

Four post graduate singers studying for their Masters at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama in Cardiff led by Thornbury educated and concert favourite Aaron Holmes will be accompanied on piano by a fellow graduate at a concert featuring their favourite songs and recital pieces.

Phone 01454 412272 for advance information on this eagerly awaited concert.

Thornbury Choral Society's annual Workshop Saturday 24th February. Thornbury Baptist Church, Grovesend, Thornbury.

The Workshop will study Mendelssohn's great oratorio St Paul and will run from 10.30am to 5pm. At 4pm the public are invited to attend a run through of the progress the assembled singers have made during the day with soloists taking the three solo parts. All tea, coffee, biscuits and cake at tea-time are included and lunches are available. The cost of the Workshop is £13.50,

scores are available for hire at £2 and lunches are £7.50. For a booking form please contact Jos Gregson 01454 411652 email jos@josgregson.plus.com or one can be downloaded from the website thornburychoralsociety.org.uk.

Thornbury Jazz Festival

Saturday 10th March 2018 The Armstrong Hall Thornbury.

This is advance notice of an evening of exciting, exhilarating and varied jazz which will appeal to a wide variety of tastes in a relaxed Jazz Café setting. The evening starts at 6pm with Thornbury Swing Band. The evening will continue with the Mark Randall Six performing an eclectic mix of music including much Ellington, Strayhorn, and Basie. Next up, we are delighted to welcome back to Thornbury the velvet voice of Jessica Radcliffe in company with The Park Row Five with a selection of original arrangements of a wide range of jazz classics, blues and ballads. The evening will conclude with late night relaxed jazz with the Class Act Trio led by John Huggins.

Tickets for the 6pm Swing Band concert alone are £6. Tickets for concerts starting at 7.30 to include The Mark Randall Six, The Park Row Five with Jessica Radcliffe and the Class Act Trio tickets are £15. The cost of a ticket for all the musical events from 6pm onwards is £18. Delicious real hot food will be available for £5 each serving. A bar will be available and nibbles will be served. Tickets from Thornbury Town Hall or call 01454 412272.

Swimarathon 2018

Thornbury Leisure Centre. March 2nd, 3rd and 4th. All details, including team entry forms and sponsorship forms, are available on the website: www.thornburyrotary.org/swimarathon. Paper copies of the Entry Forms are also available at Thornbury Leisure Centre. To find out more please email Swimarathon@thornburyrotary.org or call the organiser, Stuart Hill, on 07913 241437

Thornbury Picture House

I, Daniel Blake

Friday 16th February at 7.30pm in the Cossham Hall, Thornbury, Cert 15.
Free to TPH Film Club members or £5 on door for non-members.

Much Ado About Nothing (Event Cinema Screening)

7.30pm on 2nd March in the Cossham Hall Thornbury, Cert PG. Tickets £8 or £6 for under 18 years of age from the Town Hall or by calling 01454 412272 or from the website: www.thornburypicturehouse.org

The Chantry Quiz Night

Thursday 15th February at 7.30pm Come and test your knowledge at our monthly Quiz. £1 per person and up to 4 to a team. Bar open.

www.thechantry.org.uk. or office@thechantry.org.uk or 01454 414268

Yours Faithfully

Revd. Pete Brazier

I remember once hearing a talk by Revd. John Bell of the Iona Community about music in Church. He asked us the question 'Why do people sing?' After some discussion he suggested that the primary reason was 'because we can'. There is an inherent joy in that ability we have, to come together and make music. We are not alone in making music, whether it be the nightingale or the whale, many creatures use songs to communicate. However, we are the only species who can compose a tune, write it down and give it to someone else to sing.

It is great to sing a song that someone else has written, but there is something very special about experiencing that from the other side; to compose a tune and to hear someone else play or sing it. As a songwriter myself I have had that experience, even on rare occasions having the wonderful experience of hearing someone inadvertently whistling one of my tunes. Of course, we can't all be composers all the time, otherwise we would never have time to learn songs together and sing as a community. We would end up only ever singing our own songs, but there is also something about learning how to write a song that helps us understand and appreciate better the songs that we hear. I learned to write songs by learning other people's songs, taking them apart and seeing how they were put together.

The same is true, I think, of stories and the words we use to communicate. We all tell stories to each other, about who we are, our lives, our news. We share news from the village, our families far away, or news from around the world told by journalists and other writers. Ironically in this age of information, it gets harder and harder to know which stories are true. Like song writing, I think we benefit from joining in the process of the story writing, not just retelling the stories that others have told to us, not just singing the song that others expect us to sing.

We can't all be journalists or published writers, but by understanding better how the stories are written, by learning to question and to correct the stories that seem a little out of key, we can gain a better picture of the truth, even in this age of too much information.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Feb 4	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. Helen Webb
	10am	Holy Communion	Revs D Moss & A Lloyd
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Mr Paul Harrod
Feb 11	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Mr Trevor Cook
	6pm	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd
Feb 14	9am	Ash Wednesday Holy Communion	Rev Ann Lloyd
Feb 18	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Revs D Moss & D Bone
	6pm	Evensong	Rev David Moss
Feb 25	8am	Holy Communion	Rev. Ann Lloyd
	10am	Fourth Sunday	Mrs Janet McBride
	6pm	Evensong (BCP)	Rev David Moss

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

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

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Chancel

WEDNESDAY HOLY COMMUNION: At 9.15am except 4th Wed when it is at Olveston Methodist Church

Morning Prayer 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Feb 11	9.45	Holy Communion	Revs A Parker/D Moss
Feb 25	9.45	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Parker

Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Feb 4	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss
Feb 18	9am	Morning Prayer	Mrs Tracey Black

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Feb 11	9am	Morning Prayer	Judith Heybyrne
Feb 14	7.30	Ash Wednesday Service	Rev David Moss
Feb 25	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Feb 4	10am	Tock. Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Peter Jones
Feb 11	10am	Olv.Ch.	Morning Worship led by Rev Sandy Williams
Feb 18	10am	Tock Ch.	Morning Worship led by Mrs Debs Brazier
Feb 25	10am	Olv. Ch.	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev. Patrick Stonehewer

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed. 14th February To book your lunch please ring 416528

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP Thursday 15th February at 12.15
To book your lunch please phone 613241

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

PRAYER MEETINGS Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

HOUSE GROUP Please see Church Newsletter for details

THE OLVESTON COMPUTER CLINIC Olveston Methodist Hall

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

Ring 07833 354672 or 07957 433091 for further information.

CONTACT: Rev Pete Brazier Tel 01454 418176,

e-mail pete@thebigfishcafe.co.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer

Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Designated as a 'House of Prayer for all Nations' in August 2005 we continue to meet in a relaxed atmosphere seeking, with God's help, to find ways to influence the world in which we live through prayer and relevant actions. This also includes sharing our own personal situations and praying for one another and the communities of which we are a part Times of worship(in various forms),applying Biblical Truths and a time of remembrance of the death and resurrection of Jesus in sharing Communion are essential in our meeting together. We meet, on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm We also visit other Churches and events so please check our Notice Board or contact .

Mike and Barbara Matthews, tel. 07512 917229 or email:

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

Feb 4	6.30pm	Tony McQueen
Feb 11	6.30pm	Stuart Heap
Feb 18	6.30pm	Dr John Hall
Feb 25	6.30pm	Ceri Morgan-Davies

Each Thurs at 7.30pm Prayer & Praise Time

For further information please contact Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@gmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Family Worship 11.00am

For more details contact Ann Roberts 632564.

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

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Roger Howell rog3er2@gmail.com 01454 415035

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

Diary Dates for February 2018

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

1 st Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9.00-1.30 9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30	OS+ MH
2 nd Fri	Haven Memory Café Thornbury Carers Support Group Computer Clinic every week	10.15-11.45 1.00-3.00 7.00-9.00pm	URC Chy MH
3 rd Sat	Coffee Morning Litter Pick Quiz	10.30-12.00 1.00pm 7.30pm	MH PH StM
5 th Mon	Computer Clinic every week Monday Movie	2.00-4pm 7.30pm	MH StM
6 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Tea/Coffee & biscuits 50p Monthly Raffle	10.30-12.00	MH
7 th Wed	Computer Clinic every week Holy Communion followed by Tea & Cake Table Tennis O.P.H.S. The Bedminster Tobacco Women	10.00-12.00 2.30pm 7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	MH DGCL PH OMC
8 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Craft Session at Littleton	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30 10.00-12.00	OS+ MH LVH
10 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00 10.30-12.00	AVH MH
12 th Mon	Children's Movie Club	10.00	StM
13 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café Aust Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	DGCL TMH EVH
14 th Wed	Beat Surgery Wizard of Oz	10.30-11.15 7.30pm	OS+ PH
15 th Thu	Thornbury Farmer's Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Wizard of Oz Iron Lung Display at Tesco Thornbury	9.00-1.30 10.00-12.00 9.30-11.30 7.30pm	OS+ MH PH
16 th Fri	Haven Memory Café Wizard of Oz Iron Lung Display at Tesco Thornbury	10.15-11.45 7.30pm	URC PH
17 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH

	Wizard of Oz Rock of Ages Dance for C.R.U.K.	7.30pm 7.30pm	PH CS
20 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12.00	DGCL
21 st Wed	Table Tennis Jazz at the White Hart Olveston	7.00-8.30pm 8.30pm	PH
22 nd Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup Craft Session	9.00-12.00 9.30-11.30 10.00-12.00	OS+ MH LVH
23 rd Fri	Parish Hall Fish and Quiz	7.15	PH
24 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12.00	MH
25 th Sun	Aust Quiz Night at Boar's Head	7.30pm	
26 th Mon			
27 th Tue	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Memory Café Olveston Parish Council	10.30-12.00 10.15-11.45 7.30pm	MH TMH AP
28 th Wed	Table Tennis Alv. History Barber Surgeons in the 14 th & 15 th Centuries	7.00-8.30pm 7.30pm	PH AMC
Looking ahead to March			
16 th	OPTA Wine Challenge	7.30pm	PH
27-31st	N.Y.T.C. Les Miserables	7.30pm	AH

KEY: **AC** Aust Church; **AH** – Armstrong Hall; **AMC** – Alv Meth. Ch.; **AMH**- Alv Meth. Hall; **AP** – Alexandra Pavilion; **AVH** – Aust Village Hall; ; **CH** – Cossham Hall; **Chy** – Chantry ; **CS** Castle Sch. **CTK** Christ the King **DGCL** – Daldry Gardens Community Lounge; **EVH** – Elberton Village Hall; **LVH** Littleton Village Hall **MH** – Olv.Meth.Hall; **OMC** Olv Meth Ch **OS** – Olv. School; **OS+** – Olv. Stores; **OSH** Old Sch. Hall Alm; **PH** – Olv Parish Hall; **StM** St Mary's Church, Olv.; **StMA** Almondsbury Church **StMTSt Mary's Thorn** **TCh** Tock Chapel; **TBCh** - Thornbury Baptist Church; **TMH** – Thorn. Methodist Hall; ; **WR** – Wesley Rooms. **URC** United Reform Ch Th

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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