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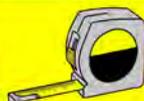
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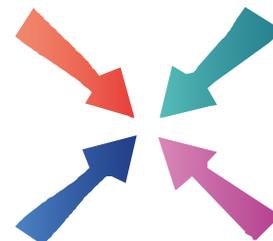
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Meeting Point

Volume 47, Number 10, July 2023

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 10th July 2023

From the Editor

This month's magazine begins with some excellent news from the Making Space for Wildlife project, with an update on the wildflower meadows they originally planted back in spring last year. They are apparently doing very well.

We are grateful to the two readers who responded to the article in the June Meeting Point about the wartime plane crash near Washingpool Hill. We now have a photograph of the aftermath of that awful event, and details of a similar tragedy that happened only a few weeks later, involving another young Canadian.

There are reviews for two local events that took place in May. Both the Murder Mystery Evening, held in St Mary's Olveston, and Marlwood's Got Talent, were clearly very successful. Congratulations to all those involved.

This month's cover photograph of two marbled white butterflies is by Ruth Gale

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.olvestonandaust.com**

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Making Meadows - the continuing story

Angela Hague

In support of the Parish's Making Space for Wildlife endeavour, in spring of 2022, a team of volunteers scarified areas of grass to sow a mixture of meadow flower seeds in the Vicarage Lane playing field and by the Old Down football pitch. In collaboration with the Parish Council's mowing team, the plan was to spare a larger area around these seeded areas from grass cutting to create mini-wildflower meadows.

Despite some promising foliage appearing among the grass, we did not see many flowers last summer. Therefore, a further plan was put into place in October 2022, when the areas were supplemented with yellow rattle seed. Yellow rattle is a semi-parasitic wildflower plant, which depletes nutrients that neighbouring grasses need. For this reason, yellow rattle is often described as the 'meadow maker' due to its ability to weaken vigorous grasses, allowing other wildflowers to flourish.



This May we were very excited to see yellow rattle flowering in all of the areas that had been seeded. The reduced grass cutting has enabled other wildflower plants to become established. While the yellow rattle is now busy producing its seed, a tantalising mixture of green leaf growth can be seen, and oxeye daisies are flowering.

There are 25 different species of wildflower in the original mix of seed that was sown, so keep an eye out for what might be flowering next!



Making Space for Wildlife is part of the Olveston Parish Council Biodiversity backed and funded initiative.

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**Oveston Parish
 Council**

Pat Savage

Council Elections

At the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 30th May, John Hughes was elected Chairman. The Councillors elected to chair the various Committees are as follows:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------|
| Finance: | Pat Savage |
| Planning: | Di Buckley |
| Recreation and Leisure: | Martin Gibson |

The Council continues to be two Councillors short. We do ask anyone who is interested in shaping the Parish's future to contact our Clerk please on olvestonparishcouncil.gov.uk. The Council will always welcome parishioners who have a particular expertise, but who do not wish to sit on the Council to get in touch. We would particularly welcome assistance with our Communications.

Annual Parish Assembly

Apologies are extended to Sue Farr who was not credited with her presentation on Green Force in the July edition of Meeting Point. Sue's presentation was informative in outlining the work of Green Force. The Green Force article in the June edition had the theme of 'Harmony'.



The Oveston GP Road Race

This was held on Sunday 28th May. The weather conditions were perfect. The race was incident free. This was the 30th year of the race and was re-named as a tribute to the villages involved. More photographs are available on the village Face Book pages.

(photo: Derek Baker)

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Murder Mystery Evening



In May, two very successful charity murder mystery evenings were held in the village hall. Both nights were sell-outs and all the teams had lots of fun trying to work out who did it, how they did it and their motive. Written by our very own Paul Harrod, the play provided comedy and lots of red herrings to challenge the 'little grey cells'. It was performed by members of Parish Players with an interesting twist to the plot at the end of the evening! The winning teams received a bottle of champagne. Delicious, home-made curries were served, and a team of hard-working helpers toiled away behind scenes.

It was fantastic that over £2500 was raised for the Nepalese charity, Aanandit, who do amazing work with underprivileged children and young people, making a big difference to their lives and future life prospects.

Thank you so much, to everyone who helped, made curries, and came along to take part in the evening.



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Olveston and Tockington WI

We had many great visits in June. We went to Highgrove - King Charles' Garden, a beautiful local garden, The Wave for a coffee, the Merchant Venturers' House in Clifton for a guided tour and to Hinkley Point to see the new power station. We were also impressed hearing from Angela Baker, a member's daughter, about her highly successful career in the RAF.

Jed from NEAT will be helping us with our phones and tablets at our IT workshop on July 11th and there will be a garden party to look forward to.

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Angela Green on 01454 615222. Olveston and Tockington WI meet on the second Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Olveston Parish Hall.

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner

150 Club Winners June 2023:

£50 John Peplow
£15 Barry Reeves
£5 Greg Welsher

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners:

13/05/23 Barry Reeves
20/05/23 Andy Rowen
03/06/23 Harry Kitchen

July Fixtures at The Park:

01/07/23 1st XI v Twyford House CC
08/07/23 2nd XI v Bedminster CC
15/07/23 1st XI v Bishopston CC
22/07/23 2nd XI v Carsons/Mangotsfield CC
29/07/23 1st XI v Chew Magna

1.00pm Start, All spectators welcome. Up the Down!

Alveston Gardens Association

3rd July: Richard Harvey talking about 'Gardens of Madeira'.

7.30pm at the Jubilee Hall, Alveston

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Aust Parish Council

Parish Council vacancies

At the last council meeting, Anne Wiseman was co-opted onto the council to fill one of the three vacancies left at the recent election. Thank you Anne!



This means there are still two vacancies for Parish Councillors. Anyone who thinks they might be interested in being part of the council is warmly encouraged to talk to one of the current councillors (contact details at bit.ly/austpc_main) or contact the Clerk to ask any questions they might have and find out a bit more about what is involved.

Parish councillors get involved in a broad range of village issues; in recent months the council have commented on planning applications, obtained funding for Coronation celebrations,

pursued National Highways for resolution of traffic congestion around the M48 bridge and the re-opening of Sandy Lane tunnel, identified priorities for South Glos. Council maintenance works across the parish and obtained Asset of Community Value status for the White Hart, amongst many other subjects. None of this would be possible without community representatives stepping forward to be Parish Councillors!

Coronation celebrations

The parish council was successful in obtaining a grant towards putting on events in celebration of the Coronation. Residents of Littleton enjoyed a coffee morning (although apparently some prosecco may have been consumed as well!) whilst Elberton held a community picnic. Luckily the sun came out at the right time and a great time was had by all!

The council has decided that any leftover funds, once costs have been covered, will be donated to the three village halls, which are such a great resource for community events throughout the year.



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White Hart, Littleton, receives Asset of Community Value status

We have just heard that our application for A.C.V. status for the White Hart pub has been successful. This is only given to properties which provide strong social and community benefits. It has no impact on the current operation of the pub but does mean that should the current owners ever decide to sell, there would be a period during which the community could look at possibly taking ownership or otherwise ensuring that the pub continues as a community asset. Hopefully it will never need to be used, but if the situation arises, then the legal framework is in place to give time for plans to be developed. Many thanks to all those who helped to gather evidence of the key role of the White Hart in Littleton village life!

Public rights to inspect council accounts

Following our recent successful audit, the council has published details of their accounts and governance processes for the past year, as required by the Transparency Regulations 2014. Anyone who would like to see these documents can access them on the council webpages (bit.ly/austpc_docs) or contact the Clerk.

Next parish council meeting

Our next meeting will be held on **Tuesday 11th July at 7:30pm** in Elberton village hall. Agendas for council meetings are posted on the village noticeboards at least five days before the date of the meeting and are also available on the council web page (bit.ly/austpc_docs). Residents are very welcome to attend.

Aust Parish Council

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St Peter's Hospice Garden Party

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to Grove House, The Street, Alveston (BS35 3SX) to a Garden Party on Sunday 16th July 2.30pm to 5.00pm by kind permission of Geoff and Carol.

Entrance is £5.00 to include tea and cake. There will be a raffle and books for sale.

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More on The Last Flight of Sgt. Harold Clinton Cotnam

Nick Fear

Following the article in June's Meeting Point, I was contacted by the knowledgeable local historian, Eric Garrett. He pointed me to his book, 'Olveston and Aust Parishes in the Second World War' published by the Olveston Parish Historical Society, which contains this photograph of the wreckage of Harold Cotnam's plane. If you look closely you can see about half a dozen people standing around and viewing the wreckage.



Wreckage of Hurricane at Washingpool Hill

Eric's book also includes a list of similar military related plane crashes in the area, including the one detailed below, which was sent to Meeting Point by another local historian.

The Last Flight of Sgt. Harold James Robinson.

John Stennard

When I read Nick Fear's feature 'The Last Flight of Sergeant Harold Clinton Cotnam' in last month's Meeting Point, it seemed very familiar. Some years earlier I had written a number of features for the Almondsbury Lich Gate magazine, articles which chronicled incidents occurring locally during WW II. One was of a remarkably similar and tragic event which also involved the fatal crash of a Hawker Hurricane fighter, piloted by a Royal Canadian Air Force pilot with the first name of Harold. It took place over Almondsbury just a few weeks after Harold Cotnam's crash.

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Sgt. Harold James Robinson of the Royal Canadian Air Force was a member of 87 Sqn, based at RAF Colerne, which was flying Hurricane IIC aircraft in a 'Night Fighter' role. In the late afternoon of 13th December 1941, Sgt. Robinson's Hurricane was seen to dive out of cloud at around 1500 ft. The Hurricane continued to dive until it hit the ground close to a farm on Tockington Lane. The aircraft was destroyed and the pilot killed on impact. It was thought Sgt. Robinson had lost control at around 10,000ft.

Sgt Robinson was 19 years old and the son of Henry James and Frances



Amelia Secord Robinson of St Catherines, Ontario, Canada. Sgt Robinson is buried in Canford Cemetery, Bristol, in the Commonwealth War Graves section. The inscription on his headstone reads, 'Yet, though thy smile be lost to sight, to memory thou art dear.'

Two 87 Sqn Hurricanes at Charmy Down airfield.

News from St. Mary's

Debbie Harries



Concert at St Mary's Olveston

We are delighted to welcome back the Bristol Sinfonietta Orchestra for a concert on Saturday July 15th, 7.30pm
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Tickets £8.50 available from
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David Shaw 01454 612781

Summer Quiz

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Olveston Church and Village Fete



The Olveston Church and Village Fete will be held on Saturday 19th August from 2pm to 4pm.

As usual, it will be held on the closed road at the top of Church Hill, with further activities, including the tea and cake stall, inside St Mary's Church.

We're still finalising the stalls, but hope to have, amongst others:

'Splat the Rat'; Giant Connect 4 and Giant Jenga; nerf-gun alley; Bric a Brac; Book store; Pimms stand; face-painting; Plant Sale; Hook the Duck; Lucky Dip; BBQ; chocolate coins game; Basketball Hoops, and the famous Bottle stall.....plus many more!

Please put the date in your diary. and we hope to see you there.

First Friday Community Café at Tockington Chapel

The next community coffee morning will be on Friday 7th July in Tockington Chapel at 9.00-11.30, and the following one on Friday 4th August. Please come along and invite your friends. Remember to spread the word to others who may not receive Meeting Point. Tea, coffee, squash and delicious cake will be available, cash payments only please.



If you could help us run a future coffee morning or do some baking for us, please get in touch via:

TOCS.friends@gmail.com.

Also, please let us know if you have any suggestions for ways to support the Chapel and the other local Methodist buildings.

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Green Force

Do you know what 'Net Zero' means? Net zero means not adding to and reducing by 1.5% the level of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere. Green House Gases include carbon dioxide (CO2) and methane (CH4) and the UK plans to reduce these gases to Net Zero by 2050.

CO2 is released when oil, gas and coal (fossil fuels) are burned. CH4 is produced through farming, and from landfill which is essentially our unrecyclable household rubbish. These gases cause global warming by trapping the sun's energy. Not all emissions can be reduced to zero, so those that remain need to be compensated for by removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere. This is known as 'offsetting'. Natural offsetting methods include planting trees and restoring peatlands, eating less red meat and utilising more renewable energy resources such as solar and wind power.

What will net zero mean for individuals? Individuals will have to adjust their lifestyle and make improvements to help meet the target.

Have you thought of.....starting literally 'at home' and checking your house has good insulation especially roof and windows? Light bulbs can be changed to LEDs which use less energy. However small the changes, in the long run your energy bills will be lower and your house will be warmer. Also, any small changes made individually will add to the nation's 2050 target.

Friends of St. Mary's

The prize winners in the June draw, held on 1st June 2023 were:

Amount	Number	Name
£150	531	Mr & Mrs M Scott, Olveston
£75	642	Mr & Mrs C Paterson, Tockington
£50	507	Mrs J Jones, Olveston
£25	316	Mrs Y Williams, Olveston
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£20	495	Mr & Mrs M Gibson, Tockington
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Men's Walk and Chat Group Kevin Wood

The Men's Walk and Chat Group is not about speed walking or endurance! We walk at a pace where we can enjoy a chat. We meet and walk every other Monday, departing 9.30 am from Tockington Green and sociable dogs are welcome. We have been meeting for a few months now and there are 8 'regulars'.

With the numerous Bank Holidays in May our fortnightly dates have shifted slightly, so in July we will walk (& chat) on July 3rd, 17th & 31st. Walking dates will appear every month in the diary section of this magazine. I have also set up a WhatsApp group to keep everyone informed. If you would like to be added to the WhatsApp group, or have any questions, please email me at kevin.wood@prepit.co.uk with your mobile telephone number.

Olveston School's Reflective Space

Olveston CEVC Primary School has been celebrating the creation of their outdoor reflective space, which was funded by the 'Sow and Grow' appeal at St Mary's Church, Olveston and Olveston Parish Council.



The aim was to create an interactive, reflective outdoor space, to help promote children's mental health and well-being in a corner of Olveston School grounds which was little used. Children and staff were consulted about what they would like to see included in the space and eventually a design was drawn up from the ideas. Unfortunately, Covid then hit and everything had to be put on hold until it was

possible to build it. However, the reflective space has now been built, including a beautiful rainbow cross mosaic made by the children with Mrs Jo Baxter and one picturing swifts which visit the school every year. It has seating areas, one of which is covered, a small maze and a range of planting including herbs, lavender and other scented plants. Children and staff have welcomed the opportunity to enjoy this area where they can sit quietly, reflect and enjoy the natural surroundings.

On Tuesday 2nd May, representatives from both the church and council were invited to the school to enjoy a celebration of this space. This included song, poetry and prayer by the children and a blessing by Rev. David Moss. Mrs Amanda Luke, headteacher, then announced that the school wanted to respond to the generous gift from the local church and council, by the school twinning with a family in Kenya to create a kitchen garden for them. It was a very special occasion.

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Olveston Parish Hall Annual General Meeting

The rescheduled AGM will be held in the Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 6th July. Please come and support your wonderful local amenity and the people who run it. We need some new blood on our Management Committee, so if you feel that you may be able to contribute to our team then please come and find out more. Wine and Cheese will be served to further induce attendance.



Movie Club

The Movie Club is taking its annual break for the summer but will return in October. Full

details of the autumn programme will be published in the October edition of Meeting Point.

(As a member of the audience at many of these films, I would like to say thank you to all the volunteers who run this excellent village club. I, and the many other 'regulars', really appreciate your efforts. Editor)

Thornbury Art Club Summer Exhibition 2023

It gives us great delight to share with you the dates when we can welcome you back to the Thornbury Methodist Church Hall to see our Summer Exhibition. We aim to provide you with a great variety of media and styles. Items will be available for sale, and you will have the opportunity to vote for your favourite painting.

The Exhibition opens on Saturday July 22nd and runs until Sunday July 30th inclusive. Opening hours are:

Monday to Saturday 10:00 - 18:00hrs

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The exhibition is free, and everyone is welcome.

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Chasing Dragonflies

Paul Godwin



The broad bodied (see above) and four spotted chasers are dragonflies which feature in our local area from May to July. They are among the first dragonflies to be seen in summer and are a common sight on ponds, lakes and very slow-moving water such as our rhines. It is said that if you put a pond, however small, in your garden then a broad bodied chaser will be there in moments! We have a modest pond in our garden, and it was - along with red and azure blue damselflies - one of the first we observed. Each year since, we have had a male and female from the end of May into late June early July.

Identifying dragonflies and damselflies can sometimes be tricky so I thought as this species is one of the most identifiable, beautiful and common it may be of interest to Meeting Point readers. It also has some very distinct and recognisable behaviour. Writing on the 31st May, I was only going to write about the broad bodied chaser, but today on the 1st June, a four spotted chaser has now arrived in our garden. It is quite similar to the female broad bodied, so I will include both as I assume they will both be present in the area!

In very general terms, there are a number of species of large dragonflies (not including demoiselle and damselfly) these being hawkers, emperors, golden ringed, emeralds, club tail, chasers, skimmers and darters, each having a number of subspecies, far too many to discuss. In our area you can see some of these such as emperors, chasers, darters and hawkers. As with all insects





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some types of dragonfly are found in certain types of habitat so, locally, you should be looking for those which would be supported by lakes or ponds and very slow moving water.

Dragonflies are amazing insects and have exceptional powers of sight and flight. Their wings are very light but extremely strong, they can reach speeds up to 22 mph. They are also very efficient hunters and a fearsome insect to others. Their larvae, which live in water for up to two years, are also efficient hunters. Thankfully, the ancestors of dragonflies (Protodonata), which grew to have wingspans of one metre, are not present today or we humans may have had an insect chasing us around for a meal!

As you can see from the photograph at the start of this article, taken on the 25th May in our Olveston garden, the male broad bodied chaser is very identifiable. Perched on long grasses, his key identification marks are the broad blue abdomen with yellow edges and the dark wing bases attaching its wings to its thorax. The female also has a broad abdomen with yellow edges, dark wing bases but the overall colour of the abdomen is a yellowish brown. Their behaviours are similar to the four spotted chaser. So there are distinct differences but it is easy to confuse the two especially on first sight.



This four-spotted chaser was photographed on May 27th at Poors Allotment Nature Reserve, Tidenham, Chepstow NP16 7LY, which is only about 25 minutes away from Olveston.

It is very difficult to distinguish between the male

and female four spotted chaser, but I believe it to be male from its perching behaviour. There are a few key points regarding differences in its identification compared especially to the female broad bodied chaser. The abdomen is narrower and the final third of the abdomen is shaded black. And crucially there are four spots across its fore and hind wings. When you look closely you can also see on its wings there is not the dark wing base, it is more a shaded orange. The behaviours of four spotted and broad bodied chasers are quite similar so again with regard to the female broad bodied chaser it can be quite easy to confuse it with the four spotted in flight, so wait for it to perch or lay eggs is my tip!

Paul Whittaker

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The males take up territorial perches, defending their territories, searching for females and food. They all fly very quickly and erratically which, when seen, is a very distinguishing feature. They can be very difficult to follow, but the male especially will always return to its perch. If you have a pond of any sort in your garden it is worth making sure there is a good perching point very close to the water about hip height. This could be a garden ornament or other garden structure especially one with a point, or you could use twigs or branches. This will encourage them to perch and stay in your garden and around your pond.

Both species mate in flight and this lasts only a few seconds but is quite noisy with a sound I can only describe as rustling or bristling which I believe to be their wings rubbing together. Both females lay their eggs in flight over water plants, by flicking their abdomen and eggs into the water. It is typical for the male of the species to be hovering close by at this stage protecting the female from other males whilst this happens. I have read that the females may sometimes mimic this to stop being harassed by males.



On our recent visit to Poors Allotment nature reserve we witnessed a spectacular event. There was a beautiful but chaotic scene of broad bodied and four spotted chasers mating over a natural spring pond. Whilst these were the majority species, there were also emperors and I believe hawkers in

amongst them. A crude estimate would be around 50 dragonflies who were all trying to claim territory, mate and lay eggs at the same point. It was impossible to photograph them in flight but you could when they occasionally perched or whilst egg laying. I have never seen such a display of dragonflies before and it was rather special. The photograph above shows a female broad chaser laying her eggs in flight.

So, you will hopefully read this in June, which will still give you time to go and look for these wonderful dragonflies. I am sure if you do that you will also see other damselflies and dragonflies in our area.

There are many sources of information you can use to identify them. <https://british-dragonflies.org> or www.wildlifetrusts.org to name but two. All have online information, and there are also many good books and guides available.

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Salmon Fishing Exhibition

Jenny Newley



Thornbury and District Museum has revived a popular exhibition, Severn Salmon Fishing, originally curated a few years ago by the late Nick Large. It tells the story of salmon fishing in the River Severn, recording traditions and crafts handed down through generations. From the mid-1960s, Nick had been talking to the fishermen on the river, listening to stories of their tough working lives and taking many wonderful black and white photographs of them at work. The exhibition shows just a small part of his research into their unique way of life.

Following that exhibition, Nick was encouraged by volunteers at the museum to produce a book based on the large amount of material he had gathered over the years. 'The Glorious Uncertainty: Salmon Fishing in the River Severn' was almost completed when he died suddenly. Fortunately, volunteers Meg Wise and Tony Cherry were able to finish his work and the book was published in 2020, just before the first lockdown. It can still be purchased at the museum.

If you missed the exhibition the first time, do come and have a look at it now. We'd love to see you.

'Severn Salmon Fishing' is at Thornbury & District Museum in Chapel St. Tuesdays and Fridays from 1pm to 4pm, Saturdays from 10am to 4pm. Free entry. Tel: 857774. www.thornburymuseum.org.uk



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Marlwood Really Has Got Talent

The glittery, feel-good and brimming-with-talent Marlwood's Got Talent made an impressive return to the stage at Marlwood School on 12th May. We were delighted to welcome back the excellent and very entertaining Paris Troy as host for the night. The Marlwood Samba band set the tone from the start with an impressive piece of drumming teamwork. Then it was on to the main event with twelve acts vying to be the MGT winner for 2023. The packed audience was treated to a wide variety of performances, including vocalists, dance performers, piano soloists, piano and cello soloists, drummers, vocal duets and electric guitar soloists. Although not competing for a prize, the incomparable Teachers' Act was a joyous miscellany of music, costume and comedic hi-jinx silliness.

The team of judges, former pupil and teacher Mr Hulin and current teachers Mrs Berrington and Mr Sargent had the impossible job of picking the winner. However, at the end, Akira Paterson from Year 11 won the Judges' Vote, singing and performing on the piano "Somewhere only we know". Upon hearing he'd won the event, Akira said "I'm honoured to have won Marlwood's got talent this year, it was an amazing night that I believe everyone enjoyed so thank you to everyone involved in setting it up. Also I have to mention the amazing array of talent on show that night and it makes me very happy to see so many young musicians expressing themselves. I'm glad the judges chose me as their winner and even more glad that I made some people cry - my job is complete".

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Daniil Honcharuk, pictured left, won the Audience Vote performing a beautiful piece on the piano. Daniil said "I thank everyone for the support that I won, I was very impressed by it, especially the gifts and the atmosphere. I was a little nervous, but most people calmed me down. Thank you to everyone who voted for me". (Photo by T Holford)

It was also wonderful to see students supporting and encouraging each other throughout the evening, it's not easy to get up on stage and perform in front of a packed hall. And everyone went home buzzing with happiness and a smile on their face.

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Back left to right: Michael Hulin, George Sargent, Louisa Berrington (judges), and Akira Paterson (judges' winner). Photo credit: H. Birkin

Special thanks go to The Boar's Head, Wolfridge Alpaca, Hyde and Co., Foxhills Spa – Old Down, Soilfix, Mojo Active, Almondsbury Garden Centre, Matt Oliver-Village Care, Filton Golf Club, CHI Homes, Tesco, Morrisons and Village Gyms who all donated prizes for the raffle.

Thank you to Paris Troy for giving his time so generously, and to all the FOMS volunteers who organised the event, brilliantly led by Kelly J. Thanks too to the pupils who supported backstage; they did an incredible job. MGT really is a fantastic community event, and all monies raised will go towards funding the summer musical being held at the school. More information about FOMS is on our Facebook page: [@Friends of Marlwood School](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfMarlwoodSchool) or please email marlwoodfriends@gmail.com.



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Thornbury Choral Society

The Choral Society's 2022/23 season ended on a high note, with a very successful concert at St. Mary's church on May 13th. We had a large and enthusiastic audience who enjoyed an evening of music to celebrate the Coronation.

The choir were also involved in the "Sing for the King" event which took place in Bristol Cathedral. A massed choir of 650 voices joined together to sing Handel's Zadok the Priest, to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles, but also the 650th anniversary of the founding of the City of Bristol. We were also one of only three other choirs to be asked to perform another of Handel's Coronation Anthems, The King shall Rejoice. The entire programme was recorded, and a copy will be sent to the King in due course.

We are now enjoying our summer break. We resume rehearsals on Monday, September 4th at 8.00pm at the United Reformed Church. Our next concert is on Saturday, November 25th at St Mary's church, Thornbury and the programmer will include "A German Requiem" by Brahms and also pieces by Mendelssohn.

We are always delighted to welcome new singers and feel sure that with so many new residents moving into the locality, there must be some enthusiastic choral singers amongst them. Do come along and join us!

www.thornburychoralsociety.org.uk

Calendar Girls Box Office Open!

Calendar Girls is being performed by amateur group, Collaborative Productions, at Rangeworthy Village Hall from 21st to 23rd September, a charity event raising funds for BUST and Blood Cancer UK*.

Suitable for those 16 or over, there are three evening performances at 7.30pm and a Saturday matinee at 2.30 pm. Tickets will be on sale with effect from 1st July costing £12 and £10 (concessions), also group bookings of 10+ get one free ticket. Visit www.ticketsource.co.uk/collaborative-productions or ring TicketSource phone line 0333 666 3366 (for additional £2 fee plus regular 7% booking fee). Walk-in cash bookings also available at the Rose & Crown in Rangeworthy.

If you would like to support these two charities by seeing this wonderful play, make sure you secure your ticket early as it is undoubtedly going to be popular.

*More information about this event and the charities it is supporting nearer the date.

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Thornbury Orchard Group

The Thornbury Orchard Group cares for an old orchard, wildflower meadow, 'Bee Bank' and so much more. Our aim is to enhance the area for the local community whilst aiming to maximise biodiversity. We are part of Sustainable Thornbury and we have been rewilding the orchard since 2007. The wildflower meadow was created in conjunction with Buglife's B-Lines project in 2016, and we built a 'Bee Bank' in 2019 with support from South Gloucestershire Council (SGC) and GAPS local building suppliers. We partner with local and national organisations and we have won awards for our work, including the RHS SW in Bloom Best Native Planting (2017) and the WECA Bee Bold award in (2022).

You will find the orchard and meadow as you travel away from Thornbury on the Gloucester Road. It is just past the Anchor Pub and on the opposite side of the road. We hold a volunteer agreement with SGC, who own the land, and manage the area sustainably using scythes and electric tools where necessary rather than petrol driven. We normally meet in the Orchard on a Wednesday morning, but we are a very flexible and friendly group and do meet at other times. If you would like to visit, find out more or even volunteer please email thornburyorchard@sustainablethornbury.org.



July is a great month to get involved and there is plenty to see and do on site, with tasks great and small to suit everyone. We maintain the area, plant native plants to benefit local species and when safe to do so have been clearing the stream which is so important to biodiversity. There is a strong local bat population - an indicator of success- not to mention voles, mice and frogs in the meadow. You might see ground nesting bees and wasps on the bee bank, others visiting dead wood in the Orchard, a rose

chaffer on umbellifers (see photo above) and if you are very lucky - as we were last year- the red belted lacewing moth, known in the USA as the apple moth.

We'd love to welcome you to the Thornbury Orchard. For more information visit: <https://www.sustainablethornbury.org/orchard/>



Tel: 0117 980 7419
 Email: showroom@nbbsplumbing

Yours Faithfully

Janet McBride

Licensed Lay Minister, St Mary's Olveston

It's the Summer, hooray! A time of rest and relaxation. Do you go on holiday in July or August? If you are a school student, or a teacher, you do. If you have a young family, you probably do. If you just left school, you may not be on holiday so much as looking forward to a new stage in your life. When I left school, I was quite happy about it, but many of my friends were in tears! Even if you are happy about what's happening next, endings and beginnings can be hard. There is something comforting in the familiar, and change can feel threatening. They say that even going on holiday is stressful – I guess it's a change from the usual routine.

But life is change. It's inevitable. When you face change, how do you manage it? With optimism for the future or sadness for what you have lost? Some change can be awful. The most stressful life events are those involving huge change. None of us is immune to these sorts of major life changes. How do we ride out these changes? How do we come to terms with our new, changed lives? If the new life is full of happiness and excitement, it's easy. But what about those other times of grief? Unexpected or unwanted change? How do we deal with that? We go to a source of security. We find strength in familiarity and constancy. If we are lucky, our family, friends and neighbours come round and help us through the tough times.

Our best source of security is in God, our Father. He is changeless, ever faithful, ever sure. The One who is utterly dependable. Our Rock.

Paul wrote, in Romans 8:38 and 39 *"For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."*

What does that mean? It means that we are loved, forever and always, by God himself. That does not change. It cannot change. And we can rely on that certainty when life forces change on us that we would rather not face. When we put our hands in the hands of God, we can ride the storms of life in peace.



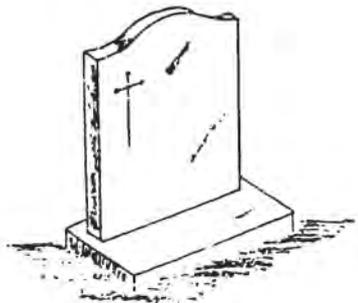
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Church News

ST MARY the VIRGIN, OLVESTON

July 2	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Evensong	Rev David Moss Rev David Moss
July 9	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion	Rev Lloyd & Rev Bone Rev Ann Lloyd
July 16	10am 6pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion	J McBride, Rev D Moss Rev David Bone
July 23	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Evening Prayer	Rev Ann Lloyd Janet McBride
July 30	10am 6pm	Holy Communion Taizé/Compline	Rev David Bone Rev Ann Lloyd

Every Saturday in Term Time, 'REFRESH', 4.30-5.30 - Fun, relaxed church for families, all welcome.

Every Wednesday, Holy Communion, 10am. NB. Clergy may change.
Contact: Rev David Moss, 01454 415190; email: mossds@gmail.com

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

July 9	10am	Morning Prayer	Trevor Cook
July 23	10am	Holy Communion	Trevor Cook

Contact: Trevor Cook, 01454 618442

Church Wardens: Jenn Dickens 632312 and Jon Burnett 633835

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

July 9	9am	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Lloyd
June 23	9am	Holy Communion	Tracey Black

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

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ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

July 9	9am	Morning Prayer	Judith Heybyrne
July 23	9am	Holy Communion	Judith Heybyrne

Contacts: Judith Heybyrne 616725 and John Gunnery 413225

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

July 2	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr F Maisokewadzo
July 9	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Rev Dr John Emmett
July 16	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship with Communion led by Rev Dr Simon Edwards
July 23	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr John Creech
July 30	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev David Hardy

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

THE VINE House of Prayer, Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Meeting at 11am every Sunday and on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month at 2.30pm.

Contacts: 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.

Contact: Neil Mobbs, cnmobbs@hotmail.com

AUST EVANGELICAL and LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCHES

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

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Mass on Sundays at 9.30 and 10.30am

Contact: 01454 412223, www.ctk-thornbury.org.uk

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Diary Dates for July

Information believed to be correct at going to press.

1 Sat	Thornbury Carnival	11am	
2 Sun	Almondsbury Gymkhana, Washingpool Hill, Tockington	11.30	
3 Mon	Men's Walk and Chat Group. Meet on Tockington Green	9.30	
4 Tues	Over 60's Coffee Morning every Tuesday Citizens Advice, every Tuesday, Town Hall Macular and Low Vision Group RBL Women's Section	10-12 10-12 10.30 7.30	DGCL TMH DGCL
5 Wed	Table Tennis every Wednesday	7pm	PH
6 Thurs	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop 'Good Afternoon Choir', every week Thornbury Art Club every Thursday Parish Hall AGM	9.30 9-12 1-3 1.30 7.30	S+M URC SMC OPH
7 Fri	First Friday Café Haven Memory Café	9- 11.30 10.15	TMC URC
8 Sat	Coffee Morning at Olveston Methodist Hall	10.30	OMH
9 Sun	Plant and Produce Sale	11.15	S+M
10 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club	2pm	SMCH
11 Tues	Thornbury Memory Café WI. Aust Parish Council	10.15 7.30 7.30	TMH PH EVH
13 Thurs	Coffee Shop Thornbury Farmers' Market	9-12 9.30	S+M
14 Fri	Haven Memory Café	10.15	URC
15 Sat	Coffee Morning at Olveston Methodist Hall Bristol Sinfonietta Orchestra	09.30 7.30	OMH S+M
16 Sun	St Peter's Hospice Garden Party, Alveston	2.30-5	p. 13
17 Mon	Men's Walk and Chat Group. Meet Tock Green	9.30	
18 Tues	Thornbury Memory Café	10.15	TMH
20 Thurs	Coffee Shop	9-12	S+M

22 Sat	Coffee Morning at Olveston Methodist Hall	10.30	OMH
24 Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club practice	2pm	SMCH
25 Tues	Thornbury Memory Cafe Olveston Parish Council	10.15 7.30	TMH PH
27 Thurs	Coffee Shop	10-12	S+M
29 Sat	Quiz Night	7.30	S+M
31 Mon	Men's Walk and Chat Group. Meet on Tockington Green	9.30	

Looking ahead to August

19 Sat St Mary's Church Fete, 2pm

28 Mon Cream Teas on Tockington Green 2pm

KEY: **AMC** - Alveston Methodist Church, **AMH** - Alveston Methodist Hall, **CS** - Castle School, **CTK** - Christ the King, **DGCL** - Daldry Gardens Community Lounge, **EVH** - Elberton Village Hall, **OC** - Oasis Church, Old Down, **OMC** - Olveston Methodist Church, **OMH** - Olveston Methodist Hall, **OPH** - Olveston Parish Hall, **QAMP** - Queen Alexandra Memorial Pavilion, Old Down, **S+M** - St Mary's Church, **SMCH** - St Mary Church Hall Thornbury, **TCC** - Turnberries, **TMC** - Tockington Methodist Church, **TMH** - Thornbury Methodist Church Hall, **URC** - United Reform Church

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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