

Meeting Point

Volume 34, Number 9, June 2010

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

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*It's nice to be important,
but it's more important to be nice.
~Author Unknown*

From the Editor

As you will see from June MP, there are numerous ways to celebrate the arrival of summer by either visiting one of the forthcoming fetes/events or by chatting with friends over a cup of tea and cake at various venues within the community.

It would be wonderful to have a variety of articles from all ages from within the community, so please feel free to drop me an email or write, if you have something you wish to share e.g. poem, recipe etc.

Our cover this month is by Pat Winstone
Meeting Point Founded in 1976 by the Anglican and
Methodist churches in Olveston, near Bristol

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

Village Person

Pat Thirkettle

Introducing Tim Pyper – clerk to Aust Parish Council

Tim and his wife Phyllida have lived at Stock Farm, Littleton for twenty five years. They moved to the Bristol area thirty seven years ago when Tim started at Lawrence and Co, a well established Bristol law firm. He has just retired after a distinguished career, culminating in being awarded the first ‘Lifetime Achievement in law for legal practitioner’ by the Law Society. The many facets of the nomination included being a Past President of the Law Society; playing a pivotal role in the development of the firm during his working life from thirty employees to seven hundred; being a long term member of the solicitor’s assistance scheme, which provides free help and advice to other solicitors on financial and partnership issues; being a member of the Bristol Chamber of Commerce and playing a central role in the development of three charities.

In 1990 Tim was invited by a client to visit a ninety foot cutter moored in Bristol, run by the charity Fairbridge. This works with young people aged 13-25, giving them the self-confidence and skills they need to change their lives. The charity helps young people facing issues ranging from school exclusion and homelessness to anti-social behaviour and crime and substance abuse, by offering them personal support and opportunity in the form of a wide range of challenging and structured courses and projects. The Bristol branch was about to close and Tim was so impressed that he helped to start a fund-raising committee, did six years as chairman and is still involved.

Tim was the fourth generation of his family to go to Cambridge University and his son George made it the fifth. His mother died when he was six and his father married a family friend who was widowed. His father died when he was sixteen and Tim says he was a poisonous teenager, but maybe he exaggerates! He and Phyllida were married in 1969 – she is an Oxford graduate so there’s always a row on boat race day. Tim and Phyllida have a daughter Zoe, who has two girls, and a son George who has two boys, all living in the Home Counties.

Tim has been treasurer of Littleton Parochial Parish Council for over ten years, and also represents them on Deanery Synod. Phyllida was deputy chairman of Aust Parish Council up to seven years ago and incidentally, since then, is just completing her second degree, in Italian! Having retired, Tim felt he hadn’t been involved enough locally, so has taken over the job of clerk to the Aust Parish Council from Tom Fothergill, who was ready to retire after twenty four years. Aust Parish includes Elberton and Littleton and the Council usually consists of three people from Aust and two each from Elberton and Littleton. Naturally Aust has a small budget, but Tim is looking forward to interesting planning issues in the offing, including Whale Wharf.



Volunteers' Week

Celebrate Volunteers' Week with Thornbury Volunteer Centre and enter our Photographic competition.

You could win £50 for your organisation!

Volunteers' Week (1-7 June) is the UK's annual celebration of the work volunteers do. During the Week events are held across the country to recognise, reward and recruit volunteers. It plays a huge part in raising the profile of England's 22 million volunteers while encouraging others to get involved.

This year Thornbury Volunteer Centre in conjunction with, and sponsored by, St. Mary Centre is holding a photographic competition for local voluntary and community organisations with cash prizes of £50, £30 and £20!

The competition is open to any volunteer-involving organisation which operates in Thornbury and its surrounding area. We would like you to submit a photograph which captures the spirit of volunteering featuring either, individuals or groups of people, the local community or the environment, anything which you feel shows the work of volunteers and the spirit of volunteering – it's up to you!

Cash prizes of £50, £30 and £20 will be awarded to the top three entries as judged by members of Thornbury Camera Club.

Colour or black and white unmounted, 6 x 4 or 7 x 5 photographs must be submitted together with the name, address and contact telephone number of the entrant and the organisation which they represent. Entries can then be posted to Thornbury Volunteer Centre at the address above or handed into the office. Entries will not be returned to the competitor but will be kept for publicity purposes only by the Volunteer Centre. Closing date for entries will be Friday 4th June.

The entries will be on display at the Volunteer Fair in St. Mary Shopping Centre, Thornbury on Thursday 17 June from 9am-1pm. Winners will receive their prizes at our AGM and Summer Garden Party on Thursday June 17th. After the Fair they will again be on display in the St. Mary Centre and the winning entries will be published in the Gazette newspaper. The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Football fun at QEH!

On Wednesday 31st March, a team of Year 6 went to a football tournament at QEH school with nine other schools. Each team had a name that was a country.

Olveston—England
Filton Hill—Germany
St. Peter's—Holland
St. Michael's—Spain (Team 1)
St. Michael's—Italy (Team 2)
Almondsbury—Portugal
Charborough Road—Brazil (Team 1)
Charborough Road—France (Team 2)
Severn Beach—Cameroon
St. Helen's—Argentina



The rules were 8 lots of 8 minute games, mixed boys and girls, 10 in each team with at least two girls on the pitch during each game.

The games only lasted 8 minutes and every squad member took part in a penalty shootout.

Olveston's first game was against Cameroon (Severn Beach). We won 1-0. Joe scored! Our next game was against St. Peter's. We won 3-0. David put us 1-0 up, then we got a corner and Luke took it and scored. Then to round off the win, Dan added a third!

We then played St. Michael's. This was a tough match. Tom B came off injured mid way through but then there was a moment of magic by Luke to give us the win that ended 1-0.

Our final game in our group was against Charborough Road Team 2. We won 1-0. Luke scored.

We made it through to the final but before we played in the final, we had a challenge where we had to try and hit the cross bar on a full size goal. Then we got a penalty shoot out. Only Tom B, Tom H and Holly J scored. We got through to the second round.

Then the final was against Charborough Road Team 1. We lost 3-0. Next we had the second round of the penalty shoot out. First Tom B missed then Tom H scored, then Holly... She missed so it was up to Tom... He also missed! Finally we had to collect our medals for coming second. We had a great day out and some of us even got our photo taken with Nicky Maynard from Bristol City Team. Thank you Miss Plews for supporting us whilst freezing on the touch line!

Written by Tom B – Year 6

Children's Hospice South West

A coffee morning in aid of Children's Hospice South West is to be held at **Cromwell House, Olveston (home of Julie and Nigel Dawes)** on **Thursday, 10th June from 10.30 a.m.** Please come and support this worthwhile cause, sit in the garden with a coffee and browse among the plant stall, bring and buy, cakes, books. There will be a grand raffle and a chance to win a local artist's painting. Everyone is welcome.

Thornbury Summer Food Fair

Castle Street, June 19th 10.00am – 2.00pm

BBQ in the garden, cream tea on the lawn, wine and cheese on the patio or just a nice home-made ice cream, - whatever your favourite summer treat, the next Thornbury Food Fair will be able to supply the best of the best of great local and seasonal produce.

With a growing reputation as a great family and community event, where you can browse amongst up to 50 stalls, meeting friends and family in a traffic free environment in the prettiest street in Thornbury, the next event is on Saturday 19th June, once again in Castle Street, between 10am and 2pm.

So come along and welcome the summer, do some shopping (and chatting!) and then round off your trip with a late breakfast/early lunch at one of the various food stalls or visit one of the many great cafés, restaurants and pubs Thornbury has to offer – a perfect summer Saturday!

Littleton On Severn Open Gardens

Littleton gardens will be open on **Sunday 13 June from 1pm to 5pm**. Parking, teas and an **Art Exhibition** will be at the Village Hall. Plants for sale and a "made in Littleton" stall will be in various gardens. Our village Church, St Mary de Malmesbury, will be open.

Entrance will be £3 per person (children free) and all proceeds go towards the upkeep of our village church.

We look forward to seeing you all in Littleton again on 13th June.



Car-Sharing

Trevor Cook

It's great living in our villages: escaping the noise and dust of the city, green fields, nature and fresh air. But, escaping comes at a price; commuting and getting to be where we need to be demands some transportation and for most of us

this means using a car

However, fuel prices are high and although things might change (we will have a new Government by the time you read this), I cannot remember any manifesto pledges to lower motoring costs. Meanwhile, at council level, South Gloucestershire, and the other former Avon councils, have teamed up with "Liftshare" and created a car-sharing website.

Might it work for you? Would you share a car or give someone a lift? It would help with costs, introduce you to new friends and (if you're ever coming back from Warmley) allow you to use the 2+ car lane.

Our community website, www.olvestonandaust.com has a link to the councils' site, it's on our home page under "Car-Sharing". This directs you (one more click) to 2Carshare.com

You have to register (well, you will want to know a little bit about who you are going to share your car with) but it's free. Once registered you'll be able to enter your own journey and see whether anyone else travels your route.

The scheme can be used for regular journeys or for one-off events. And you don't have to be a driver; you can be a passenger looking for a driver. Have a look and see whether it would be useful to you. It's free to join and the savings are yours. You can even calculate what your car is costing you just in case you need any more convincing.

If you don't have internet then South Gloucestershire's contact person is Rebecca McNally on 01454 864604

Emmaus Christian Choir

Emmaus Christian Choir will be performing at the Oasis, Old Down on Saturday 26th June 2010 at 7.30pm. Entry free. For enquiries call Mrs. Wonnacott on 01454 412141



Lunchtime Supervisor Vacancy

Olveston School are looking for a lunchtime supervisor to join their team. The post is Mon – Fri from 12 noon till 1.30pm. If you are interested in applying for this role, please contact the school directly on 01454 613299 to request an application form.

A Medieval Fayre will take place

on Saturday 26th June

at the Barn

from 11am to 6pm



Following last year's very successful event, "The Company of Chivalry" will again be re-enacting scenes from Plantagenet England – the period when the Barn was built and in use. There will be other stalls and activities with a medieval theme, as well as crafts, food and drink stalls.

Entry £5 per person (free parking) Children under 16 free entry

Awards Evening

OLVESTON and District Royal British Legion recently held a Poppy Appeal awards evening at Olveston Sports and Social Club. Chris Aplin, the Community Fundraiser for Gloucestershire, presented the awards for the sterling service people have given in poppy selling each year at Remembrance time. Sixteen people were eligible for awards. Recipients who were able to attend the evening were:

Hazel Bennett and Cheryl Meredith who both received 10 years awards; chairman Peggy Oakhill, Illyd Hughes and June Hughes all 15 years; Mary Morey and Josie Drew both 20 years; 15; Arthur Robbins 30 years service. Certificates of appreciation were also presented to Joyce Parker and to Tomorosa Kennels for their support over many years. The recipients unable to attend the evening were: Angela Williams five years; Mary Griffith and Megan Scott both 10 years; Rita Hitchcock and Rosemary Trott both 20 years; Valerie Tutin 25 years; Brenda Pullin and Pat Thirkettle both 30 years service. Many thanks to everyone for their much appreciated and continual support.

It is hard to believe that in six months time they will be knocking on doors once again; we are looking for someone to collect in one small road in Olveston. Please contact Janice Jackson, Poppy Appeal Organizer, on 01454 418921 or email janice48@tiscali.co.uk, if you are able to help such a worthy cause.

Jubilee Sailing Trust - Lord Nelson & Tenacious

A Garden Tea Party at Peacehaven - centre of Olveston.

Sunday 13th June, from 2.30pm. Adults £3.00 inc. Tea. Children £2.00

After a three year break, we are having another "tea", with entertainment and music, various stalls and maybe our popular palm reader 'Mystic Anna'. Do come along to help us support our two magnificent 'Tall Ships', which provide off-shore sailing for disabled and able voyagers, sharing a great adventure – imagine steering with the wind filling the sails – an experience of a life-time – sailing around the U.K, to the Channel Islands, France and even the Canaries! Why not book yourself a voyage?

We look forward to seeing you and thank you for your continued support.

Peggy and Bristol Branch Members

Remember the race!

A reminder from ACT that on Thursday 10 June, rather than taking temperatures, Doctor Ed Coats will no doubt be raising them with excitement, when he reveals what it was really like to be racing to the South Pole alongside James Cracknell and Ben Fogle last year in the first ever contest of its kind.



**ARTS & COMMUNITY
IN THORNBURY**

This inspirational and humorous story will be told through words, video and pictures and there will even be an opportunity to enter a raffle to win a signed copy of no . . . not a prescription, but the thrilling book of this event, written by the three team members and containing plenty of illustrations of these fine physical specimens of manhood!

The event takes place at Thornbury's Cossham Hall at 7.30 pm and tickets are selling fast, so to ensure you don't suffer withdrawal symptoms, make sure you go along to Thornbury Garden Shop in the Courtyard, just off the High Street, to obtain your prescription for contentment at a mere £10 and £9 for FACTs. For more information on this event, please ring 01454 416291, or to discover more about becoming a Friend of ACT (Arts and Community in Thornbury) and its exciting project to put Thornbury on the map, with its own theatre-based arts and community complex, please visit www.ACTthornbury.org.uk.



Ask a busy person...

Have you ever considered becoming a Beaver Scout Leader? No, of course you haven't, it's not something that would cross your mind, is it? You work full time, you have kids to look after, meals to prepare, shopping to do...you're just too busy! Well, we understand because as Beaver Leaders ourselves that is exactly what Ian, Mark and I all juggle.

Now I'm not going to kid you here – it *is* a commitment, but working together we spread the load.

The job specification makes for pretty poor reading – an hour a week (make that two, once you have arrived, set up and then cleared up), training courses, church parades, CRB check and other forms (don't get me started on the forms), planning meetings, oh and the uniform (at least that's free) and the pay....nothing, zero, zilch!

So now you have read the pitch, have I sold it to you? Shame really, because take it from us it's a great thing to do and the rewards are priceless!

Beaver Scouts are aged from six to eight and a half and we currently have a group of 20. We desperately need to increase this to 24 to cope with just *some* of the demand. We provide a range of activities from crafts and sport to cooking and climbing. You don't need to have any previous Scouting or teaching experience just a willingness to have fun...and believe me...we *do* have fun!

We are looking for someone to join our team. We meet on Monday evenings from 6pm until 7pm during term time...no age, skill level, faith or gender preference, just the ability to be part of the team that expands children's lives with the most amazing results...have I sold it to you now?

Contact me – Nikki Clarke 614099 or by email Nikki@beavers.olvoston.com

St Peter's Hospice - Garden Party

St Peter's Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to Heneage Court, Falfield, to a Garden Party to be held on Sunday 11th July, 2.30pm – 5.00pm (by kind permission of Mrs Durston).

Entrance is £3.00 to include tea and cake.

Bring a picnic chair and listen to the music of "The Standing Stones" and enjoy the beautiful gardens.

Please come along and support St Peter's, your local Hospice.

Old Down Country Park

Victorian Fair: Sun 30th May

Step back in time at our Victorian Fair this May. There will be stalls galore, traditional games and a chance to feast on Victorian sweets in the walled garden. Don't miss out on our Punch and Judy shows throughout the day – a fantastic fun day out for the whole family.

World Cup Weekend: Sat 11th – Sun 12th June

It's football fever at Old Down this June when the park gears up for this year's World Cup. There will be a tasty BBQ in the walled garden, a football shoot out on the lawn and a spot the ball competition running over the weekend. A great family day out for all ages.



Annual Austin Seven Rally held at Park: Sun 20th June

A spectacle not to miss – this year's annual Austin Seven Rally will be held at Old Down Country Park with more than 100 cars on display along the tree lined avenue. This rare glimpse of these beautiful cars should not be missed! It will be a fun filled day for the whole family with live music and food served throughout the day.

Organ Recital

John Crossley

This popular social event could not be held last year because of the alterations in the church. This year it will be held, once again, at the Parish Church of St.Mary the Virgin, Olveston, on Thursday 10th June at 7.30pm by kind permission of The Rev. Philip Rowe and the P.C.C.

The Walker organ in the church was donated by John Henshaw Britton, industrialist and organist of repute, and was moved from a special small theatre at his home Shortwood Lodge to St.Mary's Church and dedicated in 1990 by Bishop David Cartwright. The wood carving on the organ casing depicts John Britton holding a shoe and Mrs. Nan Bernays, his sister, a much loved member of this parish, holding a bunch of flowers, as she was one of a group of those dedicated to providing floral arrangements for the church. Since the installation of the organ, there has been a recital given by distinguished organists each year in their memory.

This year David Bednall, Sub-Organist at Bristol Cathedral, will be performing works by a variety of composers. He has recorded a critically acclaimed CD of choral music and performed widely on cathedrals in the United Kingdom and France, and also as stunt organist in Dr.Who!

Tickets at £7.50 each, £5 concessions (which includes soft drinks or a glass of wine) can be obtained from Olveston Stores or June Robbins (617491) or at the door.

June Walks with the Severnside Ramblers

June is a wonderful month to get out and see the countryside. Your local Ramblers group has arranged a varied programme of walks. Non-members are very welcome. We are a very friendly group. Evening walks and Friday ambles usually end with an optional pub or café stop.



For more information about walks in June, pick up a programme at your local library, or log on to www.severnside-ramblers.org.uk. A contact name and telephone number is given for each walk. We meet at Aldi car park, Bradley Stoke, BS32 9DA at the times shown below and share lifts to the start of the walk.

Wed 2 June 6.30pm	Abbots Pond A pretty walk near Ashton Court	4-5 miles	Joy 01179 334998
Fri 4 June 9.30am	Compton Dando Friday amble –along River Chew	2 hours	Jenny & John 01179 570102
Sun 6 June 9.30am	Bisley & Upper Todmore Valley Medium hills	9 miles	Bob 01179 312711
Sun 13 June 10.00am	Talybont–on-Usk Stiffish climb with rewarding views!	8.5 miles	Jenny & John 01179 570102
Fri 18 June 9.30am	Frome Valley/Winterbourne Friday amble	2.5 hours	Chris 01454 618853
Sun 20 June 9.30am	Arlingham Flat walk. Pub and tea shop	10 miles	Chris & Andy 07799 576970
Thurs 24 June 6.30pm	Castle Combe Exploring village and countryside	3 miles	Bill 01179 870111
Sat 27 June 8.30am	Chepstow and Wye Valley Offa's Dyke and Tintern	12 miles	Ken 01179 315108

The World Cup

Barbara Lansdown

Olveston Sports & Social Club will be opening for the World Cup matches. Details of games will be posted at the end of driveway each day, so keep an eye out for your favourite team, then come and watch them on the Big Screen with us.

Everyone will be most welcome. Hope to see some of you here. We are now open 5 nights a week and run Darts, Pool teams who play in leagues, also a friendly group who play poker. Anyone welcome to join these activities.

Old Down Cricket Club

150 Club Winners May

£50 Ian Maunder
£15 Jeff Pullin
£5 Graham Clare

Latest £25 Bonus Ball Winners

17th April Diane Grosvenor

June Fixtures at The Park

Saturday	05-Jun-10	2nd XI	v	Knowle 'A'	2.00
Sunday	06-Jun-10	Club Sixes			2.00
Tuesday	08-Jun-10	15 'Yellow'	v	Pucklechurch	6.00
Thursday	10-Jun-10	U15 'Blue'	v	Thornbury 'Red'	6.00
Saturday	12-Jun-10	2nd XI	v	Frampton Cotterell	2.00
Sunday	13-Jun-10	U17	v	Cam	10.00
Saturday	19-Jun-10	1st XI	v	Pucklechurch	2.00
Sunday	20-Jun-10	Sunday XI	v	Olveston United	2.30
Saturday	26-Jun-10	2nd XI	v	Long Ashton	2.00

As in previous years, we welcome any support, so please come & join us!!

Diary Date:

Friday 25th June Race Night at Olveston Sports & Social Club 7.30pm
Come along & have a punt!!

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

Open Gardens for the NGS

Sunday 6th June 2010

Two gardens are open for the NGS in Littleton with refreshments at the Village Hall.


Gardens open:

The Lintels, with Award winning Japanese and cottage garden.

Sunnyside Cottage, with Roses, herbaceous plants and vegetables.

Open 2.00pm until 5.00pm

Gloria and Ernie Baker
The Lintels
Littleton on Severn
Tel. 01454 412765



Totally-Locally

at the heart of the community

www.totally-locally.org

What a lovely morning we all had chatting, shopping, exchanging, tasting and eating at the last Totally Locally market morning on Tockington Green.

The next market day is on:- **Saturday 5th June 9.30 – 12.00.**

Highlights for June....

- Weather permitting, Jeff Bee will bring his bees with him to promote the understanding of how important bees are for pollinating within the food cycle.
- Jules from The Mumbleys Farmhouse will be bringing all her knowledge on chickens, ducks, pigs, and sheep. She will also be talking about her courses that have been developed as a range of days for practical beginners for smallholders and will show you how you can participate in producing your own food and keeping your own livestock, on a full time or part time basis.
- Ian will be bringing his freshly made bread.
- A new addition will be the introduction to promote Rapeseed Oil for culinary needs. Have you ever wondered what happens to all those vibrant yellow fields that adorn our local countryside? Come and have a taste and learn about the many health benefits AND it has less than half the saturated fat of Olive Oil.

Additionally as before we have the swap or buy plant stall, fancy cup cakes, fresh eggs, fresh rhubarb, local honey, homemade cakes, old fashioned sweets, hand-made jams and chutneys...

Looking forward to seeing you there, and thanks so much for all your lovely comments, please don't forget to participate on our web site...

www.totally-locally.org

If you have any comments, questions or plants or surplus to donate, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Jane Sunnucks, Old Down 01454 419931

May I also take this opportunity to thank Linela for the donation of the Totally Locally sign.

Can You Help?

Please save any empty jam jars with lids and bring along to the **Totally Locally market, Tockington Green on Saturday 5th June 2010**, 9.30-12.00, where you will be able to try Totally Locally jam and chutney.

Recipe of the Month

Focaccia Bread with Rapeseed Oil

30g yeast (fresh)

550ml warm water, plus more if needed

1kg strong flour

30g sea salt

118ml Rapeseed oil

For the Topping

1 tbsp fresh rosemary, chopped without the stalks

1 tbsp thyme leaves

1 tbsp fennel top, chopped

2 garlic cloves peeled and sliced

sea salt to taste

rapeseed oil

Crumble the yeast into the warm water and mix until smooth. Put the flour and salt into the bowl of an electric mixer with the dough hook in place. Start the motor and slowly pour in the yeast mixture, then the rapeseed oil. Knead until it becomes smooth and elastic. Don't be alarmed if it looks sloppy as it will pull together. Lightly grease a large bowl and turn out the dough into it. Cover with a clean damp tea towel and place next in a warm place if possible until it has doubled in size.

While the dough is proving (or rising), mix together the herbs, garlic, salt and enough rapeseed oil to slacken the mixture. When the bread has had its first proving, knock it back by punching the air out. Line a large roasting tin with a large piece of bake-o-glide and shape the dough in the tin, stretching it to fit. Pour over the herb oil and, using your fingers, press the oil and herbs into the dough, giving it a dimpled effect. Leave in the tin to rise again.

When dough has doubled in size, place the tin in a pre-heated oven to 220degreesC/ 425 degreesF/gas7 and bake for 30/35 minutes. Once out, move to a wire rack for cooling.

Rapeseed oil and Lemon dip

Juice of 2 lemons, 5 tbsp rapeseed oil

salt and pepper, 1 tbsp capers

2 garlic cloves, 2 tbsp oregano

Whizz all the ingredients together in a food processor and keep in a jar. It will last a week in the fridge.

Use as a cold dip for the bread and enjoy..

Wanted!

If you have any unwanted floral, stripy or checked material suitable for bunting please can you bring it along to the Totally Locally market, Tockington Green, Saturday 5th June 2010. We hope to make it into bunting that can be used by the community.

Police Report

We had the Safer Stronger Community Group meeting on 15 April at Aust where we had an interesting talk from a South Glos Council emergency planner. Priorities decided on were: unauthorised parking in the wide-load parking bay on the A403 Aust, the filling in of the lay-by on Redhill Lane and access/fly-tipping at Sandy Lane, Aust.

There were 7 reported incidents in the month to date. In one incident, a house in Olveston was burgled while the occupant was gardening. Please make sure you lock your door even if you're only out for a short while and only a little way away. Overnight in Olveston, a shed was broken into and power tools stolen. It is suspected that the offenders walked across an adjacent field to get into the shed. Over the Easter weekend, entry was forced into the pavilion in Oldbury but nothing was stolen which leads me on to my usual warning of locking up outbuildings and sheds. Please register your valuables on immobilise.com. On Friday 30 April, we are meeting local farmers to try to establish Farm Watch and I will update you next month with how this went.

Please pass on to your Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators any registration numbers or descriptions of vehicles seen in the early hours.

Roger Hope

PC 3404

Neighbourhood Beat Manager

DC 125 Severnvale

Phone: 0117 945 5959

Mobile: 07919628625

Fax: 0117 945 5981 (65981)

Thornbury Police Station, Rock St, Thornbury S Glos. BS352BA

E-mail: roger.hopes@avonandsomerset.pnn.police.uk

Celebrate Midsummer

with Tea on Tockington Green.

Everyone is invited to enjoy Cream Tea, home-made cakes, and treats with tea or coffee - on Tockington Green, weather permitting or Tockington Methodist Church, if not. Sunday 20th June 2010, 2.30pm- 5.00pm.

Oveston School Summer Fayre

Saturday July 10th 2pm to 4pm

Oveston School will be holding their annual summer fayre in July and are pleased to announce that it is to be held on a Saturday afternoon this year, from 2pm to 4pm. Hopefully this will enable more of the village to join us in our annual event.

This year we are embracing a French theme, to celebrate the school's new and exciting connection with a school in France and introduce the children to some French traditions, food and games. We welcome you to join us celebrate, taste some traditional French treats and try your hand at a few traditional French games.



We look forward to seeing you there.

Friends of Oveston School

Google Map

Trevor Cook

Back in March you will remember that the villagers of Broughton, near Milton Keynes, were outraged to find pictures of their homes on Google maps and fought to have them removed.

Now you have the chance to form your own opinion because some of us are already on the site. Internauts amongst us can go to <http://maps.google.co.uk/maps> and have a look. You have to key in an address or a postcode into the search banner.

When the map appears, there is a link to "more" on the left hand side; if available there is an option for "street view" (otherwise 'greyed out') and clicking here will zoom you down to the street. You can navigate to and fro along the street, moving in the direction of the arrows or moving the viewing rectangle and zoom into points of interest.

My own 'investigations' showed that Oveston, Tockington, Littleton and Old Down can be seen but not yet our friends in Aust. Is it an intrusion or an interesting take on our villages today? I leave you to decide.

Problems with your computer?

South Gloucestershire Trading Standards would like to remind residents to be wary of unsolicited calls, whether by telephone or at your door.

Trading Standards have been made aware of a telephone scam currently in practice whereby the caller rings unsolicited, claiming to be from Microsoft. The caller then goes on to explain that there have been reports of slow computer connections in the area and that they can guide you through the steps necessary to combat this problem via your computer. The caller does not advise of there being any charge until the process has been completed and then they ask for a one-off fee of £100.

It is not clear whether the steps taken on the computer actually have any effect on the connection speed or are designed for any other purpose e.g. hacking to obtain personal information.

Instances such as this highlight the need for people to be vigilant when they receive unsolicited telephone calls. If you receive such a call, be suspicious. If they claim to be from Microsoft or another well known company, ring them directly to verify, using a number found in the telephone directory or their website. Never give out your personal or financial details over the telephone unless you are certain with whom you are dealing.

If you are at all in doubt, hang up!

If you feel you have fallen victim to such practices, or would like further advice, contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06.

War and Peace

Alveston Singers' next concert takes the theme "War and Peace". It consists of just two works, both Masses, but spanning 300 years. The first is "Mass in Time of War" by Haydn, written in 1796 as Napoleon's army was advancing on Austria, Haydn's homeland. Whilst ostensibly a politically-correct call-to-arms, some commentators point to passages which perhaps allude to the more tragic aspects of war. The second work is Karl Jenkins' "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace", initially dedicated to victims of the Kosovo crisis. This piece is far more openly critical of war and its terrible consequences. Starting with the eponymous 15th century French marching song, it ends with the words: "Ring out the thousand wars of old; ring in the thousand years of peace." – a sentiment which must be in all our hearts.

The Singers' concerts will be held at **Alveston Methodist Church on Tuesday 8th June and at Thornbury Baptist Church on Saturday 19th June; both starting at 7:30pm**. As with all their concerts, admission is free and there will be a collection in aid of The Willow Trust and Home Start Bristol.

Volunteering with a difference!

The numbers of people entering prison aged 50 and over has trebled in the past twenty years and Age Concern Older Offender Project was realised to address the particular needs of this group within the prison environment and towards release and resettlement.

The project aims to help reduce re-offending by offering rehabilitative type services and to develop social and awareness skills. The project is to be involved with the running of a centre at Leyhill, for all men aged 50 and over. We are looking for volunteers who may gain satisfaction from assisting such a group to develop new and lasting skills that promote health and well-being and ultimately help promote community safety.

We want to provide regular activities for those not able to work and also in the evening for the men who work all day. We are very much open to suggestions and the list is not prescriptive. However, to give some idea: you may have a skill in drawing, writing or reading poetry, craft making, games and puzzles such as sudoku, card making, life-coaching skills.

Could you give a talk on horticulture, wildlife, plants and/or trees?

Could you facilitate a group discussion?

Could you help deliver low-level health activities such as chair-based exercise?

You do not need to be highly qualified, just to have a genuine interest in helping prisoners to help themselves. In return, we offer mileage and material expenses and training opportunities. We can be flexible in times and frequency of volunteering. Regular volunteers will need to be CRB checked. Please call Teri Walker on 07766122160 to discuss further or e-mail teriwalker@acoop.org.uk
You can also find out more at www.acoop.org.uk

Tockington and Olveston Methodist Church

Once again we're making an early start in our appeal for good quality items to be sold at our annual Harvest Fayre on 18th September. Any household items, games, toys, books, ornaments (but no clothes or shoes please) that you could donate would be much appreciated. You can bring them to Olveston Methodist Hall on any Saturday morning between 10.30 and 12.00, to Tockington Wesley Rooms on Wednesday evenings between 6.00pm and 8.00pm or contact Maggie Spooner on 01454 610053.

Did You Know?

In the heyday of sailing ships, all war ships and many freighters carried iron cannons. Those cannons fired round iron cannon balls.. It was necessary to keep a good supply near the cannon. However, how to prevent them from rolling about the deck? The best storage method devised was a square-based pyramid with one ball on top, resting on four resting on nine, which rested on sixteen. Thus, a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked in a small area right next to the cannon. There was only one problem...how to prevent the bottom layer from sliding or rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate called a 'Monkey' with 16 round indentations.

However, if this plate were made of iron, the iron balls would quickly rust to it. The solution to the rusting problem was to make 'Brass Monkeys.'

Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently, when the temperature dropped too far, the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannonballs would come right off the monkey. Thus, it was quite literally, 'Cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey'. (All this time, you thought that was an improper expression, didn't you.)

And also

Early politicians required feedback from the public to determine what the people considered important. Since there were no telephones, TVs or radios, the politicians sent their assistants to local taverns, pubs, and bars. They were told to 'go sip some ale' and listen to people's conversations and political concerns. Many assistants were dispatched at different times. 'You go sip here' and 'You go sip there.' The two words 'go sip' were eventually combined when referring to the local opinion and thus we have the term 'gossip'.

Many thanks to Amanda Stagg for compiling the Did You Know? articles.

Parish Assembly

The annual Parish Assembly was held on Thursday 29th April – very many thanks to those who attended. The following is a précis of the Chairman's report:

The Chairman welcomed everyone, and advised that all the Councillors were wearing their new identity badges. We have a full complement of 9 Councillors and Mr Riddle, District Councillor, attended 8 meetings. All the Councillors remained on the same committees as last year, with the same Chairmen. Once again, the Council has not raised the precept, and has money in reserve. Some of

this will be used for the Tockington play area. The clerk's salary is in line with ALCA recommendations.

During the year, 5 parishioners attended our meetings, to discuss the proposed development on the Mill site, and the proposed refurbishment of the Parish Hall at Tockington for the Pre-School (who received confirmation of a grant of £350,000). We also had two speakers – Reehana Sayeed with some of the young people of the area to discuss a youth project, and the Chairman of the Standards Committee to discuss their role in promoting good conduct and minimise complaints against Councillors. We also had two visitors to observe our meetings.

I would like to thank all the local clubs who have leases with the Parish Council for their continued success.

Last year things went well: the Parish Council is becoming Holding Trustee for the Parish Hall at Tockington and is pleased to be involved with the new development of the Hall; three new notice boards have been erected in the villages and a donation given for the new notice board at the Parish Hall in Tockington. The Council was very impressed with the IT suite at Olveston School and awarded a perpetual shield and 2 medals and gift vouchers for excellence in IT work. The youth of the Parish benefited from a summer course in Vicarage Lane and a week away, plus the use of facilities in Turnberries; the Council hopes this initiative will continue. The Council is also considering new play equipment in the Tockington play area, which will entail seeking out grants. We also hope to renew safety surfaces under the play equipment

Parking at Olveston School and in general throughout the villages still poses a problem and the Council had a recent meeting with South Gloucestershire Council to discuss this. We also get complaints about dog fouling, and would ask dog owners to show more consideration and clear up after their pets.

The Recreation and Leisure Committee of four have monitored the play areas weekly throughout the year, maintenance work has been carried out as required and new signage installed, grass cutting has been monitored and leases for the Scouts and the Tennis Club renewed. Remedial work has been done between the Football Club and the Scouts land. Some dangerous trees at Old Down have been removed. The committee continues to work with the Police to ensure that the play areas are safe and not abused.

The planning committee of four has dealt with 47 planning applications, about 1/3 less than last year, and has attended site meetings, including the Scouts at Woodhouse Down, and the appeal for Windmill House car park. The committee has no further information regarding a suitable site for affordable housing.

Footpaths and the Environment: for most of the year the footpaths have been very wet and overgrown. Repairs have been carried out on stiles and kissing

gates have been installed. The chestnut trees on the Aust Road were pollarded as they were becoming unsafe, and new lime trees have been planted. The footpath by the Parish Hall has been cut back, and I would remind dog walkers that dogs should be kept on leads whilst walking through fields with cattle or horses.

Thanks are due to Footpaths Warden Peter Cabban, and to Rod Williams and parishioners who carried out two very successful "litter pickers" events, and those who co-ordinated the Village of the Year entries, as well as those who look after the bus shelters and planters and the Recreation and Leisure committee members who planted spring bulbs around the Parish. I also hope that more parishioners will use our footpaths and enjoy our beautiful countryside and remember to take their litter home.

On behalf of the Councillors, I would also like to thank Matthew Riddle, our District Councillor and the Police for all their help over the year, and Dave Webb who keeps our property well maintained and repaired. I would also like to thank the clerk for all her hard work and my fellow Councillors who give generously of their time, ensuring the Parish Council runs smoothly.

From the registers at St. Mary's

Funeral Service for the life of Peggy Joan Hawkins, formally Peggy Goodsell on 17th April 2010. Followed by cremation at Westerleigh Crematorium.

Burial of Ashes in St. Mary's Church Yard on 4th May 2010.

Burial of Ashes on 7th May 2010 of Donald Hartland Parker.

From the registers of Olveston and Tockington Methodist Church

At Olveston on 19th April 2010 a Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Selwyn Jones followed by cremation at Westerleigh.

Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

Jun 6	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion	Rev.Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Mr Denis Jones
Jun 13	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Canon David Sansum
	10am	Morning Worship with Choir	Mrs Janet McBride
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Rev Philip Rowe
Jun 20	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Holy Communion with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong	Mrs Ann Lloyd
Jun 27	8am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Canon David Sansum
	10am	4 th Sunday	Rev Roly Bain
	10am	Breakfast Club	Breakfast Club Team
	6pm	Evensong (BCP)with Choir	Rev Philip Rowe

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

Contact:

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

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

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk/index.html

PRAYER GROUP: Mondays, 2.45pm in the Church

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

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

Jun 6	10am	Family Worship	Rev David Bone
Jun 13	10am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
Jun 20	8am	Holy communion	Rev David Bone
Jun 27	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev David Bone

Assistant Curate: Rev David Bone, 01454 614601

Church Wardens: Jo Jenkins, 01454 632838 and Janet Ford, 01454 633300

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

Jun 6	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole
Jun 20	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield

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

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

Jun 13	9am	Matins	Mr Don Streatfield
Jun 27	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Pole

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

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

Jun 6	10am 6pm	Tock Ch St Andrew's Filton	Morning Worship led by Mr Ken McNally Evening Worship led by Rev. Peter Mortlock
Jun 13	10am 6pm	Olv. Ch. Tock. Ch.	All Age Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney Breakfast Club will join us later. Evening Worship led by Rev Paul Edwards
Jun 20	10am 6pm	Tock. Ch. Daldry Gdns	Morning Worship led by Rev Peter Hatton. Evening Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney
Jun 27	10am 6pm	Tock Ch Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Glyn Varney Evening Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Sandy Williams

LIGHT LUNCHESES: Thursday 3rd June at 12.15 in the Tockington Wesley Rooms.

To book your lunch please ring 612112 or 613241.

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wednesday 9th Jun. To book your lunch please ring 416528

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

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

CONTACT: Rev Sandy Williams tel 07841 752 941

Sandy.williams48@btinternet.com

THE VINE, AWKLEY

The Vine, Pilning Street, Awkley

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

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

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLDOWN

Jun 6	6.30pm	Rev Colin Lewis
Jun 13	6.30pm	Victory Outreach GB
Jun 20	6.30pm	Steve Loader
Jun 27	6.30pm	Paul Ashford

Prayer Time every Thurs 8pm.

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

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

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

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Elizabeth Sidwell, 412975

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

Diary Dates for June 2010

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

1 st Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women - Caldicot Gdns	9.30-11.30	WR
2 nd Wed			
3 rd Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
4 th Fri			
5 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10-30-12.00	MH
6 th Sun	Open Gardens at Littleton-on-Severn	1-5pm	
7 th Mon			
8 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Women's Institute - RSPCA Aust Parish Council meeting	9.30-11.30 7.30pm 7.30pm	WR PH EVH
9 th Wed	Royal British Legion - Men	7.30pm	DGCL
10 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group Organ Recital	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30 7-30pm	OS+ MH StM
11 th Fri			
12 th Sat	Coffee Morning Music in the Church at Aust - Red Priest	10.30-12.00 8.00pm	MH AC
13 th Sun	Garden Tea Party, Peacehaven, Street, Olv.	2pm	
14 th Mon	Craft Group	7.30-9.30	MH
15 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers Royal British Legion Women - Bingo	9.30-11.30 7.30pm	WR DGCL
16 th Wed	Severn Vale Flower Club - Cream Tea	2.30pm	Chy
17 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OS+ MH
18 th Fri			
19 th Sat	Coffee Morning Bristol Cathedral Special Choir	10.30-12.00 7.30pm	MH StM
20 th Sun	Tea on the Green Tock (St Peter's Hospice) Austin 7 Rally - Old Down Country Park	2.30pm 10.00-6-00	
21 st Mon			
22 nd Tue	Tockington Toddlers Fibromyalgia Support Group-Aromatherapy & hand massage Olveston Parish Council meeting	9.30-11.30 7.00-9.00 7.30pm	WR AMH AP

23 rd Wed			
24 th Thu	Coffee Shop Olveston Baby & Toddler Group	10.00-12.00 2.00-4.30	OSt MH
25 th Fri			
26 th Sat	Coffee Morning St Mary's Church Fete at Church Farm St Peter's Special Choir Concert	10.30-12.00 2.00-4.00 7.30pm	MH ElbCh
27 th Sun	Car Boot Sale Marlwood School	9.30-1pm	
28 th Mon	Severn Vale Flower Club - Practice	1.30pm	AH
29 th Tue	Tockington Toddlers	9.30-11.30	WR
30 th Wed			

Looking ahead to July

3 rd Jul	Thornbury Carnival		
17 th Jul	Elberton Church Fete Music in the Church at Aust	2pm 8pm	
24 th Jul	Aust Church Fete		

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

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

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