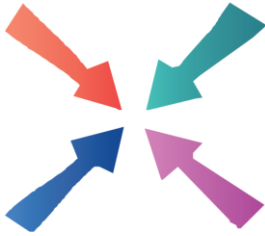


Meeting Point



June 2019



Meeting Point

Volume 43, Number 9, June 2019

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

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From the Editor

It is quite fitting that, for June, there's a large number of 'outdoors' events featured in this month's magazine. Look inside and you will find details of the Open Gardens in Littleton-upon-Severn, which I have already put on my calendar, the Olveston Village Treasure Hunt and BBQ, Elberton's Church Fete and the Folk Festival at Rockhampton. So much to choose from.

There is no shortage of evening entertainment either, with songs from the shows, a farce and an adaptation of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales all on offer.

This edition also features one of Nick Fear's interesting articles about local history and a rather worrying report on cuckoos – or rather the lack of them – from Trevor Cook.

Marelin

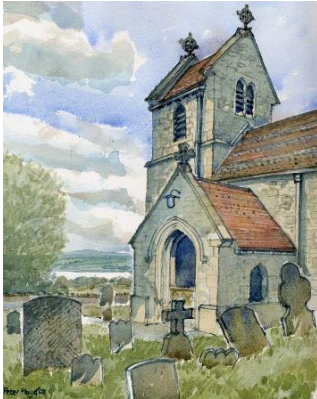
The cover is by Lisa Helyar

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

Meeting Point magazine and Meeting Point Directory are online at the Community Website: www.olvestonandaust.com

Littleton Open Gardens

Littleton-upon-Severn Sunday 9th June 2019 2pm – 6pm.



Come and visit our Open Gardens at Littleton upon Severn on Sunday 9th June. Various gardens will be open and there will be lots of easy free parking.

There will be stalls where you can buy foods that are "Made in Littleton", plants will be on sale and you can have a go at the raffle.

Traditional Village Teas will be available in the Village Hall and our Church, St Mary de Malmesbury will be open.

Entrance will be £4 (children free) with all proceeds going towards essential repair work to the Church and the Village Hall. Make a note in your diary and join us for a lovely summer family day out

Tea and Chat

Do you find it difficult to get out and socialise? Would you like to meet other people for tea and cake once a month? Transport is provided and it's all free. The June Tea and Chat will be on Friday June 28th at 2.30 at Rose Lodge, New Road, Olveston.

For details or to request transport if necessary, please telephone Lynn: 01454 612201

Table Tennis

Jeanette & John Treby

Olveston Parish Hall. Wednesday Evenings 7.00pm – 8.30pm

We are currently looking for adults to join us for table tennis. We have two tables and players of all levels. You will receive a warm welcome and have a fun evening with plenty of exercise. Please contact us on 01454 202319 or 07710 487327

News from St Mary's



Sunday 9th June 6.00pm Severnside Songs of Praise.

Led by Rev. Simon Edwards

A service of music and worship

Refreshments available, retiring collection.

Saturday June 15th Village Treasure Hunt and BBQ.

Hillside House, Haw Lane, Olveston 4pm – 10pm

A variety of BBQ food and salads.

Cash bar and Live Band

£10 Adults, to include a glass of Pimm's. £5 children, to include a soft drink.

For tickets please contact: Debbie 07870557961 or Julia 07966302762

Sow and Grow Appeal Update

On 27th April a Murder Mystery Dinner was held at the Parish Hall. Over 70 people came along, some from St Mary's, many from the village and a few from further afield. The evening was a great success, with a cast of local people doing the acting and excellent food served between rounds.



The event raised over £1300 for the appeal. A huge thank you to all those who came and supported it, as well as to all those who worked so hard to make the evening such a success.

This brings the total raised so far for the Sow and Grow

appeal to over £3460. Our target is £15000 to help a village in Rwanda become more self-sufficient and to provide a reflective outdoor space for Olveston School, so we are nearly a quarter of the way there!



JUNE PROGRAMME

Trevor Anderson

Brief details of our two films for June are given below. More information about these can be found in the leaflets which are on display just inside St Mary's Church door. Everyone is welcome to come along (you don't need to be a Movie Club member), admission is free and there is no need to book.

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

Mon 3 June: Inspired by true events, the film is a feel-good story about an unlikely but courageous British ski-jumper who never stopped believing in himself. With the help of a charismatic coach, he takes on the establishment and wins the hearts of sports fans around the world by making an improbable and historic showing at the Winter Olympics. *(2015, 1h 46m, Cert PG)*



Mon 17 June: When a country girl moves to Paris and marries a successful writer, he unlocks the door to the tantalizing artistic world of the Paris literary scene. She agrees to ghost-write a semi-autobiographical novel for him, and its phenomenal success soon inspires her to fight for creative ownership and overcome the societal constraints of the early 20th century.



Based on a true story. *(2018 1h 47m, Cert 15)*

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

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



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

SUMMER BREAK. Monday Movies will be having a well-earned Summer Break from July to September. But no worries - we will be recommencing in October.

Friends of St Mary's

The Prize winners in the May draw, held on the 2nd May at the Friends' committee meeting, were :-

Amount	Number	Name
£150	379	Mr N Dawes, Olveston
£75	417	Mr & Mrs T Graham, Olveston
£25	179	Mrs J Davis, Olveston
£25	352	Mrs V Brown, Olveston
£25	541	Mr N Fear, Tockington
£20	332	Mr R Garlick, Olveston
£20	594	Mrs S Roos, Olveston
£20	369	Mrs E Screen, Rudgeway
£10	156	Mrs E Dobson, Rudgeway
£10	490	I J Lyons, Ingst
£10	556	Mrs S Chick, Olveston
£10	401	Mrs N Slaytor, Tockington

If you are not yet a member and wish to join the Lottery, please telephone
Andy Phillips 01454 614890

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



Elberton Church Fete

Saturday 22nd June in the grounds of Elberton Manor from 2.30pm

- Cream Teas,
- Cakes,
- Tombola,
- Skittles,
- BBQ,
- Children's games - and much more.

The Church will also be open.

Please come and join us.

Dog Care Buddies

Caroline Stoner

I'm wondering if there might be other dog owners in the locality who would like to be part of a group for the purpose of mutually beneficial dog care for days, weekend and longer periods when we sadly can't have our doggy friends with us? Broadly, I have in mind a group that functions rather like a baby-sitting circle, that we get to know each other and our dogs, and the dogs stay with the host for the agreed period - short tester stays first!

The group might also be of interest to dog-lovers without dogs but who might enjoy their company and caring for them for short periods.

If you're interested, please call me on 01454 632283 or 077 2077 3301 (you might have to leave a message with your name and contact number - or text).

If a few people respond, I suggest we meet to work out a more detailed proposal that we all like the sound of.

Old Down Cricket Club

Tony Gardner 07889 727729

150 Club Winners May 2019:

£50 Reg Purchase
£15 Tony Williams
£5 John Moody

Latest Bonus Ball Winners:

13/04/19 Neil Cross
20/04/19 Roger Riggs

Home Fixtures June 2019 (1.30 Start)

01/06/19 2nd XI v YMCA
08/06/19 1st XI v Backwell Flax Bourton
15/06/19 2nd XI v Bath Exiles
22/06/19 1st XI v Bristol West Indians
29/06/19 2nd XI v Stapleton

Up the Down!!

News from the Methodist Church

Cream Teas

A big thank you to everyone who supported our Cream Teas on a glorious Easter Monday afternoon, on Tockington Green. A special thank you to everyone who supported us after visiting the 'Open Garden' in the village. This resulted in the amazing sum of £1000 being raised for Jigsaw, the Thornbury based charity that helps children with special needs.

The Next Church Outing: South Wales Scenic Tour. Monday 8th July.

We travel over the Severn Bridge to Cardiff Bay for a coffee stop and then on to Mumbles for lunch. We then travel on to Rhossili Bay with time for further refreshments. We aim to be home by 7.00pm with a comfort stop on the way. Cost £16.00 including the driver's gratuity. Booking forms are available from Trevor Watkins on 01454 416528.

Flash, bang, wallop!



Thornbury Camera Club is celebrating its 50th birthday this year and, to mark the occasion, has teamed up with Thornbury & District Museum to stage an exhibition highlighting photographic developments of the last 50 years and beyond. The exhibition is in two parts. 'Thornbury Camera Club – The first 50 years' - displays equipment lent by members and

friends of Thornbury Camera Club and these items will bring back many memories - and provoke a few questions. For example, do you know what a 'Vest Pocket' camera is and why it was advertised as 'The Soldier's Camera'?

The Museum's own contribution to the account of local photography tells the stories of Thornbury's professional photographers, from the Victorian 'flash, bang, wallop' era to WW2. As the song goes: "*There's always been a photographer to record the 'appy scene!*" Discover what those professional photographers thought was worth photographing in their day.

From glass plate negatives to digital images, photography has come a long way. Take the opportunity to find out more and visit this new exhibition. Our volunteer-run museum is open from 1 pm to 4 pm, Tuesday to Friday and from 10 am to 4 pm on Saturdays. Admission to the new exhibition and the whole museum is free and there are activities available for young children.

Thornbury & District Museum, Chapel St, Thornbury (Free parking for 2 hours in St. Mary's Street Car Park, opposite the museum)

Tel: 01454 857774 email: enquiries@thornburymuseum.org.uk or visit www.thornburymuseum.org.uk

Aust Parish Council Matters

Kath Godden
austparishcouncil@googlemail.com

Annual Parish Meeting

The annual parish meeting took place on 9th April at Elberton Village Hall. Peter Tyzack, of A Forgotten Landscape, gave a presentation on the Severn Vale Festival, which takes place annually. The next festival is due to take place on 13th July 2019 at Severn Beach. Anyone wanting to have a stall or to get involved in the event should contact Kati at *katikoo83@googlemail.com*. The Chairman of Aust Parish Council presented the Council's report for the year and Councillor Riddle gave an update on progress made by South Gloucestershire Council. This was followed by an open forum, where local residents were given the opportunity to raise issues and ask questions. The full minutes of the meeting can be found on the village website.

Parish Council Elections

Aust Parish had an uncontested election, with six of the seven existing Councillors standing for re-election and no new candidates. John Pullin who has been a member of the Parish Council for over 30 years decided not to stand for re-election and will be greatly missed. This does leave a vacancy, and anyone interested in becoming a councillor, or would like more information on the role is encouraged to contact the clerk at the above email address.

£800,000 raised for CRUK!

Yes, £800,000 raised over the past 42 years, and all due to the magnificent generosity of the good people of Thornbury, Alveston and the surrounding villages, together with the local Cancer Research UK Committee and helpers.



To honour the achievement of this significant milestone, committee members and guests, were recently invited by Cancer Research UK Management to a celebratory afternoon tea at The Alveston House Hotel.

The local committee would welcome new members, willing to help them raise a further £200,000, to achieve the magic number of £1 Million before too long.



Oveston Parish Council

Pat Savage

Telephone Boxes

The telephone box in Tockington, affectionately named the Tockington Tardis, was originally set up as a book swap location and to leave donations of non-perishable foods for the local food bank. In recent times however its use has unofficially been for the delivery of ornaments, clothes and indeed a printer! Whilst we have a guardian who kindly tends to the box, we are always delighted to welcome new volunteers. The demise of the box at Old Down has yet to be resolved, although it is still the Council's intention to seek a replacement.

Monthly Surgeries

At present these are held on the third Saturday of the month in the Methodist Hall in Oveston from 10.30 to 12.00. As attendances have been low the Council are now considering whether the surgeries should continue. At present they are scheduled through to October.

Monthly Council Meetings

We would remind all Parishioners they are entitled to attend the monthly meetings which commence at 7.30pm at the Queen Alexandra Pavilion.

Redevelopment at the Queen Alexandra Pavilion

Work has now commenced on the redevelopment and refurbishment of the changing rooms and bar area. This is an exciting project which has been many years in the planning. It is hoped the work will be completed in late summer.

St Peter's Hospice - Tea at 2.30

St Peters Hospice Severnside Support Group would be delighted to welcome you to Tea at 2.30pm on Friday 14th June (by kind permission) of Thornbury Cricket Club, at the top of Alveston Hill.

Teas available between 2.30pm and 4.00pm. Raffle, Books, Stalls.
Entrance £3.00 to include tea, coffee and cake. Please come along and support St Peters, your local Hospice.

The Royal British Legion Women's Section, Olveston Branch

In May we enjoyed a fund-raising game of bingo. As ever the evening was fun-packed and entertaining, followed by a raffle and refreshments. But most important to us is the purpose of our fund raising, which is to support the Serving and ex-Serving Armed Forces community who are in financial hardship or in need of extra support.

In June we are looking forward to Phil Savage returning to talk to us about his travels to faraway places.

Rockhampton Folk Festival

Saturday 22nd June from 2.30pm



Friendly atmosphere, lovely countryside venue and top-quality music - this is what people tell us they love about the Rockhampton Folk Festival.

We've a great line up this year of top-quality artists from across the world including a BBC Young Folk Musician of the Year nominee, traditional folk and the exotic sounds of the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Kids love the activities tent and there will be music workshops with our artists. The festival field is compact so you can keep an eye on your little ones while enjoying the music, good food and locally brewed beer. There are no commercial stalls. It's simply about top-notch music in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere.

Get tickets at rockhamptonfolkfest.org.uk or from Surroundings in St Mary's Street, Thornbury. Early bird discounts available until 2nd June.



A group of 22 adults and ten children from our twin village of Bréhan, in Brittany, arrived at noon on Saturday 13th April. They were greeted in Olveston Parish Hall by OPTA members, many of whom were due to be hosting families that they had already met when we were in France last year. They had had a long overnight journey, so we kept the afternoon quite low key to let them recover. Nevertheless, some of the children (local and French), plus an assortment of Dads, got up an impromptu game of football which seemed to go well. Later there was a very noisy and enjoyable game of 'Killer Skittles' in the White Hart. That evening small groups of hosts and guests got together for informal suppers in different houses.

On Sunday we set off for St Fagan's Museum, just outside Cardiff. This open-air museum was a great choice for our 'Day Trip'. The weather was bright, but cold, and dry. In the evening we took them back to the Parish Hall for a splendid party. Music came courtesy of John Green, Hamish Orr-Ewing and Noel Clarke, plus a surprise turn from one of the French visitors who played some traditional Breton tunes on her accordion. This got the visitors singing and dancing and persuading us to get up on our feet and join in. Music and dancing continued right to the end of the evening, thanks to Noel's very well-chosen playlist.

On Monday morning we waved them goodbye as they set off in their coach for



Plymouth and the ferry home. It is fair to say that we were pretty shattered, the weekend had been extremely hard work, but great fun. And next year, we go to visit them!

If you'd like to find out more about Olveston Parish Twinning Association, maybe even come along when we go to Bréhan next year, watch out for articles in Meeting Point which give details of our fund-raising events. If you'd like to contact us please email: olvestonparishtwinning@gmail.com and one of the committee will get back to you.

Olveston and Tockington W.I.

Vicki Townsend

In May, the ladies of OTWI, together with some partners, enjoyed a visit to Portbury and Avonmouth Docks. Leaving the Parish Hall, we travelled to the docks where we were joined by a guide, who was very knowledgeable on all aspects of the business transacted in this large area. Cars in transit, both for import and export, aviation fuel transferred by underground pipeline to Heathrow and Birmingham airports, but strangely not to Bristol airport, and huge storage sheds for animal feedstock, waiting to be loaded on lorries for transport to all areas of the UK. The tour, which took one and half hours, gave us an insight into the 24/7 working and logistic organisation of this very important local employer. We followed our visit by a very enjoyable lunch at the Boar's Head in Aust.

Our speaker for the month was Amanda Prowse, the author of numerous very successful books, who gave us an entertaining and enlightening story of her life and her methods and inspirations in writing her books.

The speaker on June 11th, 7.30pm at the Parish Hall, will be Sarah Harris, giving us some ideas of 'Marie Antoinette's Guide to Farming', come along and learn more!

The Severn Ferry, a tale of a tail

Nick Fear

Although the Severn Ferry has long since drifted into history, it is still remembered fondly by many. People from all over the country affectionately remember journeys over the Severn on business or in the course of family holidays.

There are records of a ferry in the vicinity of Aust and Beachley in Roman times. In later years the franchise to run it was owned by the local landowners, the Beaufort family and their predecessors. The crossing was an important

one for the Royal Mail coaches, linking Wales to London. A ferry service at Old Passage seems to have been run until around 1862, when it became uneconomical. At this time The Great Western Railway inaugurated the New Passage Ferry further downstream, linked by a railway line to Bristol. This was largely superseded by the opening of the Severn Railway Tunnel in 1886.

From 1862 until 1926 no regular ferry service was provided at Old Passage. In 1926 the well-respected Mr Enoch Williams, a local legend, set up The Old Passage Severn Ferry Company. An inaugural trip was organised on the motorboat 'Silver Queen' with many local dignitaries including the Mayor and Mayoress of Bristol. The boat was full, almost overcrowded, but conveyed everyone safely to Wales and back, boding well for the future.

Enoch, his staff and board of directors, built up the business and in 1931 operated the first motor-car ferry across the Severn. As part of the publicity it was pointed out that the ferry saved a journey of 55 miles and took around 15 minutes. The caveat, 'subject to the weather, tide and circumstances permitting', appeared on impressive timetables to accommodate the vagaries of the River Severn. Many pleasant memories of voyages are connected to two principal vessels the Severn King and Queen. Trade was steady and although affected by the Second World War, continued. In May 1944 alone, 1500 American Army vehicles were carried without mishap.

One regular feature of the Severn Ferry, perhaps a blight on a hard-working company, was the many complaints from the public about the service. Copious files of ministerial deliberations prompted by public letters of complaint exist. Rare examples of cars leaving the ferry to the safety of a jetty only to then park in the muddy waters of the Severn can be found. By far the majority of the letters complain that the 15 minute journey had taken longer, two hours or more, or sailings had not been made at all. These instances masked the fact of thousands of safe car landings and timetables being adhered to. Fatalities do not feature in the paperwork at all, but historically these had occurred.

An assortment of vessels had been used as ferries over the years, many of these were sailing boats. In September 1839 The Monmouthshire Merlin and other local papers reported that a ferry boat called Despatch was crossing in high seas when the wind rose to a perfect hurricane. Being the Sabbath, the service would not normally have run, but a group of people persuaded the captain to sail. On board was a carriage, 5 horses, a dog, about 7 passengers and 4 crew, the vessel foundered, and all were lost. One person, a cattle dealer, was alleged to have had 300 gold sovereigns on his person, which must have weighed him down. He left a widow and 8 children.

In April 1855 a sailing boat set sail from Beachley in a gentle breeze with a full cargo. This included 5 cattle, a horse, 20 sheep and lambs with 30 pigs. There were also around 16 passengers and crew. Three sails were hoisted to speed

the journey and all went well until about six yards from Aust pier. Here the vessel struck an underwater pile and sank immediately in fourteen feet of water. The crew managed to get ashore, but at least seven or eight passengers drowned, seven more were rescued. One lucky passenger managed to grasp the tail of a cow as they both floundered in the water. The startled cow bolted towards the shore bringing the man with her and saving his life.

In October 1862 the Severn crossing claimed a further 5 lives, 1 passenger was rescued. Many of the casualties of the disasters were never recovered and the condition of those who were are detailed in distressing depth at public inquests.



The long history of the early Severn crossings is marred by disasters which will never be forgotten. Perhaps it is good that when recalling memories today those most commonly mentioned are the halcyon days of Enoch Williams, his staff and the Severn King and Queen.

The picture shows The Silver Queen on the inaugural voyage of The Old Passage Severn Ferry Company, Monday July 25th, 1926.

Cuckoos

Trevor Cook



I can still remember a verse from William Wordsworth's poem,

*To seek thee did I often rove
Through woods and on the green;
And thou wert still a hope, a love;
Still longed for, never seen.*

However, I have to report that I haven't heard one this year; and thus there were none to seek. Or perhaps it's only me?



It is an unfortunate fact, however, that the cuckoo is in serious decline and the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) report that we have lost 50% of the numbers of 'our' cuckoos in the last 20 years.

The causes for this decline are not known; tracking their migration routes from Africa has revealed that those that choose

to travel through Spain (as against Italy) are suffering the worst losses. Some speculate about drought and wildfires in Spain, others that the problem may be that one of their favourite food sources, the hairy caterpillars of the Garden Tiger Moth, has also declined by 92% in this period.

Whatever the reason it is sad to think that our children might grow up without hearing the herald of the spring? We don't know all the answers to the losses, but we all know of some little gesture or change we can make to our landscapes that can make a difference to both the Tiger Moths and the Cuckoos.

Thornbury & District Stroke Support Group



Like many charitable organisations that exist to benefit members of our community, we rely solely on volunteers to support the victims of stroke in the Thornbury district. Although we have a reasonably strong volunteer base we need to plan for the future and attract new people so that we can continue to provide a vibrant group to help our Stroke Members now and into the future.

Full details of what we do can be found on our web site but, briefly, we run three activity groups that include swimming, art and indoor bowls as well as meetings every two weeks when we have guest speakers and fun events. We also organise several social events including a Christmas lunch, and, in the summer, we have outings to places of interest. In October each year we organise an annual holiday for our members. As a volunteer, you can elect to help at all or any one of the activities and don't forget you also get to enjoy the activities as well.

Strokes affect people in different ways; if you are concerned that you would be having to help severely disabled people, don't let that put you off as it is not the case. It is true we have some members in wheelchairs and others with mobility problems but most of them are a determinedly independent and just need a bit of help. Speech impediments sometimes make communication difficult but if you are prepared to listen, you can benefit from a wealth of experience and will hear some interesting stories from our members about their lives.

If you would like to become involved, can offer assistance, have administration, organisational or vocational skills, we would love to hear from you. Other than a small contribution to your own costs associated with our social events and outings, there is no other financial commitment.

For more information about the group, our web site address is:
<http://www.thornburystroke.co.uk/>

If you are interested in joining us, please contact Ann Cant: 01454 418772
anncant@freeuk.com (Registered Charity No. 1129777)

Broadway Lights, West End Lights

Armstrong Hall, Thornbury Friday 14th and Saturday 15th June at 7.30 pm
with a matinée on the Saturday at 2.30 pm.

With a mixture of songs from past and present theatre shows, 'Broadway Lights, West End Nights' will be sure to satisfy theatre buffs everywhere!

All tickets are £10 and are bookable at www.tmtg.org.uk or available from Lisa Costa Residential Sales and Lettings at 53 High Street, Thornbury (it's a very busy office so please be patient if they're not available the first time you call). There is also a discount of 10% on group bookings of 10 or more.

For any enquiries don't hesitate to call the Box Office on 07516 270140.

Thornbury Library

Storytime and Rhymetime for babies and pre-schoolers (Term Time Only)

Storytime Mondays 2pm – 2.30pm.

Rhymetime Fridays 10.30am -11.00am.

It's a great way to meet other local parents, new faces are always welcome – and it's free! No booking required, just turn up - we look forward to seeing you!

Sight Loss - Information, Advice and Support

First Thursday of the month 10.30am - 12.30pm

Vision West of England are offering information, advice and support to anyone living with sight loss. If you, or anyone you know would like more information on services for people with sight loss, then drop in any time between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

Craft & Chat

First Thursday of the month 2pm - 4pm

A chance for people who love crafting to get together and share inspiration.

No charge and no booking required. Just turn up and bring your craft project with you. New faces welcome!

New! Repair Café

First Thursday of the month 2pm - 4pm

We are hoping to start a sewing workshop where a volunteer will be available to make repairs and minor alterations to give your clothes a new lease of life. Drop in between 2 and 4pm to find out more. Refreshments available.

Carers Support Centre Drop In - Supporting Carers into Employment

First Wednesday of the month 9.30-11am

Carers Support Centre are supporting unpaid carers and former carers who have been out of work for more than 12 months to move closer towards their employment and training goals. An Advisor from the Carers Support Centre will be here to give free advice and support.

Computer Support Volunteers

Drop-in without an appointment on Monday mornings 10-12 to see Mike, our computer volunteer who can help with quick enquiries.

If you need more intensive support, book in to see our computer volunteer Chris on Thursday mornings at 9.30, 10.30 or 11.30. Sessions with Chris must be booked in advance – enquire in person at Thornbury Library or email thornbury.library@southglos.gov.uk.

www.facebook.com/sgloslibraries

www.southglos.gov.uk/libraries

The Canterbury Tales

Friday June 28th at 7.30pm in the Armstrong Hall, Thornbury.

The Bristol Old Vic Theatre Company presents the Geoffrey Chaucer tales in an adaptation by John Hartoch, directed by Kirstie Davis and designed by Alex Berry.



A colourful cast of characters set off for Canterbury, competing to tell their tales of love, lust, adventure and chivalry. Brimming with verve and energy, Chaucer's well-loved stories are brought beautifully alive by students from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.

All of medieval life is here, with the wide range of social strata rubbing shoulders as the Miller, the Steward and the Wife of Bath (among others) all have their tales to tell. The Canterbury Tales is a touchstone of English

literature and has delighted readers for centuries.

As an Armstrong Hall redevelopment fundraiser, tickets are available from Thornbury Town Hall, High Street at £ 15 or £10 for students aged 14 – 18 (age guidance 14+) or ring 01454 412272.

Marlwood Really Has Got Talent!



Supporters of Marlwood School were truly spoilt at the first ever Marlwood's Got Talent event held on Friday 26th April. A mix of pupils, former pupils, staff and teachers competed in front of a very enthusiastic audience. The standard was extremely high with the audience wowed by pianists, singers, ballet and modern dancers, taekwondo, gymnasts, Mr Richards the PE teacher turned rapper, and even a world Champion Martial artist, former pupil Georgie Hilton.

The show was hosted by Heart FM's Paris Troy who was an excellent and very entertaining compere – who knew a raffle draw could be so funny? The team of judges, teachers Mr Turner and Mrs Morgan and former Marlwood pupils Sid and Sam, had the impossible job of picking the winner. The overall winner was Daisy from Y9 who sang Riptide accompanied only by the ukulele, which she also played. The audience vote went to Harry from Year 7 who opened the show with an amazing version of *The Greatest Show*.

Lucy Shrimpton, member of the Friends of Marlwood team who co-ordinated the event said *"We are bowled over by the level of talent at Marlwood. This was an amazing feel- good event, bringing together the school community to celebrate all that is positive about Marlwood after a tough few years."*

With mocktails, donuts donated by Greggs, a photobooth, red carpet and trophy for the winner, this was a high-quality event showcasing high-quality talent. Thank you to all who took part and helped in some way and to everyone who came along to support the event. Hundreds of pounds were raised, and every penny will benefit the school.



Judges and Paris Troy with Daisy, the eventual winner, and Harry, the audience vote winner.

Photo: Imogen Roberts

Marlwood School's next big event is the musical *Oliver!* to be performed on 2nd and 3rd July. For more information please contact the school on marlwoodscool@cset.co.uk or 01454 862525.

Rumours - Octopus Drama Group



As Ken and Chris arrive at a party to celebrate the 10th wedding anniversary of their friends Charley and Vivian, they find a dazed Charley, (a prominent government official), in his bedroom with a bullet wound. As the other guests arrive, each with their own problems, including whiplash, back spasms and marital disharmony, the friends' attempts to keep the story from each other and the

press, descends into total, hilarious chaos. A second accidental gunshot leaves Ken temporarily deaf, adding great comedic value and then the police arrive.....

Octopus Drama Group are well known for their ability to put on a good farce and are delighted to have the chance to perform the British version of 'Rumours'. Directed by Nigel Lane, and with a very strong cast, this will be a show that will lift your spirits and send you home smiling.

Wednesday June 12th – Saturday June 15th at 7.30pm Christ the King Church Hall, Castle St, Thornbury.

Tickets, £8 and £7 for concessions, from Chappell and Matthews on Thornbury High Street or call Karen on 01454 413783

Cats

*Jellicle Cats meet once a year
At the Jellicle Ball where we all rejoice
And the Jellicle Leader will soon appear
And make what is known as the Jellicle Choice*

This summer TMTG Juniors bring you 'Cats'. Based on T. S. Eliot's 'Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats', the show is set amongst a larger- than-life junkyard where the Jellicle Cats come out to play on one special night of the year – the night of the Jellicle Ball.

Our Juniors are very excited to be bringing this all singing, all dancing wonderful piece of musical theatre to Thornbury for all to enjoy. So, grab your tickets quickly for the purr-fect family treat.

11th -13th July 7.30pm. Matinee Saturday at 2.30pm. Armstrong Hall, Thornbury

Tickets: Children £9, OAPs £10, Adults £11 Family ticket £34 (2 adults/2 children or 1 adult plus 3 children) from www.tmtg.org.uk or 07896607653.

Thornbury Orchestra

Thornbury's local Symphony Orchestra - The Thornbury Orchestra - will be holding the latest in their successful series of concerts on Saturday 8th June 2019 at the Thornbury Castle School, 7.30pm.

The programme contains a number of 'sea-themed' pieces, including The Flying Dutchman (Wagner), The Onedin Line Theme (Kachaturian), Sea Pictures (Elgar), and Four Sea Interludes (Britten). The concert is in aid of the RNLI.

Tickets are available on the door or from any member of the orchestra, Adults £8, Children free. Full details of this and future concerts are available on the Orchestra website www.thornburyorchestra.org.uk

Yours Faithfully

*Fr. George Malecki SDS
Christ the King, Thornbury*

Over the centuries, a public execution was frequently a form of entertainment. The evidence for Jesus' death was brutal, public, unavoidable. Jesus' resurrection from the dead, however, does not take place in the public gaze. Like his birth into the world, it takes place in the quiet and in the dead of night. Perhaps those first visitors to the empty tomb did not quite know what they were looking for. To find the resurrection they had to search for it. The resurrection is not an event that can be witnessed at second hand. When they had seen their risen Lord, they could not convince their friends. They must go themselves and look.

And if we are prepared to look and to search, we will discover so much more. When we witness so much suffering in the world, it can be difficult to know where to look for the signs of hope, just as the women at the tomb did not know what they would find. The light in the darkness will be revealed to us by God if we search for it. The crowd may not notice. Our friends may take some persuading. But when we open ourselves up to God, in the midst of confusion, pain and loss, we will meet the Risen Jesus.



Church News

ST MARY THE VIRGIN, OLVESTON

June 2	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Helen Webb
	9.30am	Holy Communion	Revs S. Oram & A. Lloyd
	6pm	Evensong with Choir	Paul Harrod
June 9	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Steve Oram
	9.30am	Morning Worship with Choir	Rev S. Oram & Trevor Cook
	6pm	Severnside Songs of Praise	Rev David Moss
June 16	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Steve Oram
	9.30am	Holy Communion with Choir	Revs S. Oram & D. Bone
	6pm	Evensong	Trevor Cook
June 23	8am	Holy Communion	Rev David Bone
	9.30am	Fourth Sunday	Paul Harrod
	6pm	Evensong (BCP) with Choir	Rev David Moss
June 30	8am	Holy Communion	Rev Steve Oram
	9.30am	Morning Prayer	Rev Steve Oram
	6pm	Holy Communion (BCP) with Choir	Rev David Moss

Information on services correct at time of going to press.

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

Verger: Mrs. June Robbins, 01454 617491

www.stmarysolveston.org.uk

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

Morning Prayer: 8.30am daily ex. Wed

CHAPELRY OF ST JOHN, AUST

June 9	10am	Morning Prayer	Rev Ann Parker
June 23	10am	Holy Communion	Rev Ann Parker

Focal Minister: Rev Ann Parker, 01454 632329

e-mail annatdibley@btinternet.com

Church Wardens: Jon Burnett 633835 & Jenn Dickens 632035

ST MARY DE MALMESBURY, LITTLETON-ON-SEVERN

June 9	9am	Morning Prayer	Mrs Tracey Black
June 23	8am	Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact: Mrs Tracey Black 01454 417660

ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, ELBERTON

June 9	9am	Morning Worship	Judith Heybyrne
June 23	9am	Holy Communion	Rev David Moss

Contact: Mrs Judith Heybyrne 01454 616725

OLVESTON AND TOCKINGTON METHODIST CHURCH

June 2	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship led by Mr Ken Thomas
June 9	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship for Methodist Homes for the Aged led by Rev Simon Edwards
June 16	10am	Tock Ch	Morning Worship with Holy Communion led by Rev Stephen Newell
June 23	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Mrs Dorothy North
June 30	10am	Olv Ch	Morning Worship led by Mrs Hennie Gray

NORTHWICK LUNCHEON GROUP: This meets at 12.30pm on Wed. 12th June.

To book your lunch, please ring 416528.

TOCKINGTON LUNCHEON GROUP: will meet in the Swan at 12.15 on Thursday 20th June.

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

PRAYER MEETINGS: Tuesdays 9.00-10.00 in Olveston Methodist Church.

CONTACT: Rev Simon Edwards Tel 01454 418176,

email: simon.edwards@methodist.org.uk

THE VINE House of Prayer

Pilning Street, Awkley BS35 4HL

Designated as a 'House of Prayer for all Nations' in 2005 we continue to meet in a relaxed atmosphere seeking, with God's help, to find ways to influence the world in which we live through prayer and relevant actions. We meet, on Sundays at 10.30am and Mondays and Wednesdays at 7.30pm We also visit other Churches and events so please check our Notice Board or contact.

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

thevine_awkley@hotmail.com

THE OASIS CHURCH, OLD DOWN

June 2	6.30pm	Mike Dorgan
June 9	6.30pm	Steve Loader
June 16	6.30pm	Neil Mobbs
June 23	6.30pm	Brian Miller
June 30	6.30pm	Mike Ogbourne

Each Thurs at 6.30pm Prayer & Praise Time

Contacts Jenny Parfitt jennyparfitt@ymail.com

Sue Tett stett56@hotmail.co.uk

AUST EVANGELICAL CHURCH Family Worship 11.00am

For more details contact Danny Bamfield 01454 419324.

e-mail danny@thebamfields.co.uk

LITTLETON EVANGELICAL CHURCH

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

RC CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING, Thornbury -

Sun 8.30am Mass 11.00 Family Mass

Monday-Friday Daily Mass at 10am

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

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS), Thornbury

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

Local contact: Brian Hawkins, hawkinsb863@gmail.com 01454 854867

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

Diary Dates for June 2019

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

1 st Sat	Coffee Morning Litter Pick	10.30-12 1pm	MH PH
3 rd Mon	Monday Movie	7.30	StM
4 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Tea/Coffee & Biscuits 50p Monthly Raffle Macular & Low Vision Support Group British Legion, Women's section: Phil Savage - Hiking through Jordan to Petra	10.30-12 10.30 7.30	DGCL TMH DGCL
5 th Wed	Holy Communion followed by tea & cake Table Tennis every Wednesday	2.30 7-8.30	DGCL PH
6 th Thur	Thornbury Farmers' Market Olveston Playgroup every Thursday Coffee Shop Methodist Church outing to Torquay & Brixham. Tel 416528	9-1.30 9.30-11.30 9-12	MH OSt
7 th Fri	Haven Memory Café Thornbury Carers' Support Group Tockington Archers: Have-a Go session by arrangement: email secretary@tockingtonarchers.co.uk	10.15-11.45 1-3 6-8pm	URC Chy TMS
8 th Sat	Coffee Morning Coffee Morning MoMac'nMe Thornbury Orchestra concert	10.30-12 10.30-12 7.30 7.30	MH AVH CH CS
9 th Sun	Open Gardens at Littleton upon Severn	2-6pm	
10 th Mon			
11 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Thornbury Memory Café W.I. - Marie Antoinette's Guide to Farming Aust Parish Council	10.30-12 10.15-11.45 7.30 7.30	DGCL TMH PH EVH
12 th Wed			
13 th Thur	Coffee Shop	9-12	OSt
14 th Fri	Broadway Lights & West End Nights, TMTG	7.30	AH
15 th Sat	Coffee Morning Parish Council Surgery Broadway Lights & West End Nights, TMTG	10.30-12 10.30-12 2.30 & 7.30	MH MH AH

	Village Treasure Hunt & BBQ	4-10pm	
16 th Sun			
17 th Mon	Monday Movie	7.30	StM
18 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning	10.30-12	DGCL
19 th Wed	Jazz at the White Hart, Olveston	8.00-10.30	
20 th Thur	Thornbury Farmers' Market Coffee Shop Olveston Playgroup	9-1.30 9-12 9.30-11.30	OSt MH
21 st Fri	Haven Memory Café	10.15-11.45	URC
22 nd Sat	Coffee Morning Elberton Church Fete at the Manor	10.30-12 2pm	MH
23 rd Sun			
24 th Mon			
25 th Tues	Friends of Daldry Gardens Coffee morning Thornbury Memory Café Olveston Parish Council	10.30-12 10.15-11.45 7.30	DGCL TMH AP
27 th Thur	Olveston Playgroup Coffee Shop	9.30- 11.30 9-12	MH OSt
28 th Fri			
29 th Sat	Coffee Morning	10.30-12	MH
Looking ahead to July			
6 th Sat	Thornbury Carnival		

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

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

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